



**A MINISTRY OF BISHOP TODD
& REVEREND PATSY McGREGOR**
EVANGELISM, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FALL 2015

WWW.PEOPLEREACHING.ORG

Transforming Lives, Making Disciples of Jesus Christ and Serving God's People through Spiritual, Pastoral, Financial and Professional Support

SECURING THE FUTURE – BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

A Mission Team Shares God's Love

Jesus' love is bubbling over, Hallelujah! That was the theme song for the weekend Bible Camp in Mahabo, Madagascar as "Team Fitiavana" shared God's love and joy with children and adults from the Chapel of Santa Andrea. Our short term mission team included the Pittman Family (Joan, Todd, Jackson (14) and Josie (12)), Will and Cheryl Harman, Rev. Patsy McGregor, Bishop Todd McGregor, Rev. Victor Osoro and his wife, Nolavy.

Balloons and rocket launchers started the camp off with lots of laughter and excitement. Everyone joined in on *Keep the Balloon in the Air* game. If ever you need to restore your faith in the simple things in life – play with balloons in Mahabo – what joy!!

Will and Jackson kept the beat rolling on the guitar and piano, while the rest of the team sang and danced. Everyone was so eager to learn the songs and dances.

The camp included 85 children from the Chapel of Santa Andrea and 20 children from surrounding churches who walked many miles to spend the weekend and also sleep in the church with us. One of the amazing things about the weekend was how well behaved and grateful all the children were to be there. The Christian community in Mahabo worked seamlessly together to prepare meals, help with translation, prepare sleeping arrangements, organize teams, and much more. We felt there were many important lessons for us to learn about working together.

Soccer, three-legged races, duck-duck-goose, red light green light, beaded bracelets, god's eyes, jump roping, and paper airplanes were some of the many activities in the weekend Bible Camp. The joy and eagerness to play, learn, create, and worship was inspiring. We wrapped up the weekend with a super charged church service that included singing, worship, 6 baptisms, 17 confirmations, a wedding and the signing of the partnership agreement between the Chapel of St. Andrew in the Diocese of Southeast Florida and the Parish of Mahabo in the Diocese of Toliara. Children from the weekend joined us on the altar to sing and give thanks for – *Jesus' love that was bubbling over, Hallelujah!*



A balloon toss game – everyone participates



Having fun playing soccer



Singing a joyous song

SISTER CHURCHES: A PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

By Rev. Victor Osoro



Signing of the Agreement: Rev. Victor Osoro (Mahabo Church), Bishop Todd, Cheryl and Will Harman (Chapel of St. Andrews)

When the Chapel of St. Andrew in Boca Raton, FL expressed an interest in partnering with a sister church in the Diocese of Toliara, I spoke with our Parish and they became very excited at the prospect of this relationship. When I informed the Parish Council about the formal signing of our Partnership Agreement, they kept it in prayer and were eager to see the day arrive. The official signing came after a four-hour service filled with joy. Cheryl and Will Harman represented the congregation of St. Andrew at the signing. This is a turning point in the Mahabo Parish. I see a long working relationship in which ideas and experiences will be shared.

We started an English class this fall to help our Christians learn and speak English with the understanding that the entire church can be in contact with the Chapel of St. Andrew. Listening to each other first will be a huge step forward. It will help us to keep each other in prayer as issues arise and we try to understand different contexts and experiences. It will also create a forum for us to share our highs and lows as we both strive to expand the kingdom of God.

The Diocese and PRP have made it a priority to set up parish links outside of Madagascar. Would your church like to partner with one in the Diocese of Toliara?

Contact: Bishopmctodd@yahoo.com



The SAMS Team reach the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro

THE CLIMB UP MOUNT KILIMANJARO

In September, as part of the SAMS 40th anniversary, a team from the SAMS community endured a physical, emotional, and spiritual challenge in order to highlight the Society's global vision. Bishop Todd and the team climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, "the roof-top of Africa." Each team member climbed to draw attention to a special cause. Todd's cause was for the construction of the Women's Center in Toliara. The team made the full ascent to the top and the return safely.

Thanks be to God!

MEN'S CONFERENCE

The Men's Conference in Toliara began with a one mile march before the church service where the Rev. Ian Montgomery spoke. Over 100 men attended the 5 day session which included clergy and laity from throughout the Diocese. The theme was Ephesians 2-19, "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." Bishop Todd and the Men's President addressed the group but the majority of time was spent on teaching and encouragement. The focus was on a commitment to Christ, teachings on the Holy Spirit, obstacles to the work of the Spirit, and an introduction on healing from the Gospels and Acts. The last sessions were on the role of the Christian husband and the practice of the Daily Christian Life by men. Tragically the joy of bonding together on the soccer fields on two afternoons was brought to a halt by one participant's sudden heart attack.



Over 100 men participated in the Men's Conference



A morning teaching session



The beginning of the Men's March

PEOPLE REACHING PEOPLE – ANNUAL MEETING

The PRP Board held its annual meeting at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Delmar, NY, October, 4-6, 2015. This year the Board's emphasis was on strategic planning for the future of the Diocese of Toliara.



2015-2016 Board Members

THE MCGREGOR FALL FUND APPEAL SECURING THE FUTURE—BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

This newsletter officially kicks off the Fall Fund Appeal. You are invited to partner with the McGregors in their amazing ministry in SW Madagascar. The Diocese is truly growing with approximately 7000 followers and 65 churches. Praise God! None of this great work is possible without the tremendous support all of you have put forth. We thank you for that from the bottom of our hearts. We have a lot of goals to accomplish. We want to complete Santa Patrick's Cathedral, train more evangelists, offer school tuitions to clergy families, continue the Diocese economic programs, complete the women's center to give women skills to earn income, and further the men's ministry to bring more men actively into the church. All of these important things will secure the future. We ask for your prayers and if you wish we ask for your financial partnership also. Thank you and God Bless You.

Bishop Todd and Reverend Patsy McGregor

PRAY WITH US

Prayers for the new Christians in Madagascar and for continued leadership development for the Diocese of Toliara.

Prayers for funds to support Todd and Patsy's ministry.

Prayers for the McGregors as they travel and explore partnership development opportunities and parish companionship links.

Prayers for funds for economic development and growth within the Diocese of Toliara, and for future projects such as the Women's Community Center.

Prayers for the future of the musical, "Miaraka: A Time to Dance", written by Patsy and Collette Maurel. This musical has been translated into Malagasy and will be performed in the Cathedral in Toliara on March 12, 2016.

Praise for a successful climb up Mt. Kilimanjaro for Todd and all seven SAMS participants.

Praise for receiving funds for five economic development parish projects.

Praise for the building of Santa Patrick's Cathedral and its dedication on March 13, 2016.

Praise for growth in ministry and new Church plants.

Praise for the many partners who make it possible to serve and make a difference in Madagascar.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? PRAY! • PARTICIPATE! • DONATE!

Partner with us by donating to our work:

Mail checks to SAMS-USA

Attn: Denise Cox, PO BOX 399, Ambridge, PA 15003

MEMO: McGregor Ministry or Diocese of Toliara

By credit card or monthly electronic fund transfer at www.peoplereaching.org

WE HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER BECOMING A MONTHLY GIVER – IT'S EASY:

Just go on the web site at www.peoplereaching.org and click on the Donate on-line button. Follow the prompts and sign up for a reoccurring gift. Thank you so much for your support both financially and spiritually. We could not do our work without you.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO INCLUDE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS AS IT WILL HELP US ELIMINATE THE COST OF PHYSICALLY MAILING THE PRP NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU!