



A MINISTRY OF BISHOP TODD & REVEREND PATSY MCGREGOR

Engaging Partners in Evangelism,
Education & Economic Development

www.peoplereaching.org

Famine in Southern Madagascar

By Corbi Sandoe

In my parents' diocese, the famine in Madagascar continues to be a problem. A three-year drought affecting over 1.3 million people, specifically in the southern area of the Diocese of Toliara, has persistently resulted in no harvest. People are dying and rice prices have doubled but even in tragedy hope remains. The Diocese of Toliara has partnered with USPG, the International Mothers' Union, and individual donors to distribute rice and beans to over 4,000 people. Furthermore, 167 women and their children at high-risk of malnutrition have found hope through an additional distribution of nutritional supplements. The women were not only grateful for the generosity of tangible food but were equally touched that someone cared. The power of the gospel continues to move in spite of this heart-breaking reality. Rain has come. However, in some of the most desperate areas, it is still lacking while in others extreme flooding has resulted. There is still much needed for famine interventions. Our hope is that people will come alongside the Malagasy community in prayer and support to fulfill their responsibility in showing God's children that we are people reaching people and someone still cares.



YOUNG
CHILDREN
ARE
STARVING



FAMINE
RELIEF.
FOOD
DISTRIBUTION
BY THE
DIOCESE
OF TOLIARA.

Child Education Sponsorship

By Shelly Ostric

May the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you." –1 Thessalonians 3:12



CHILDREN WANT TO LEARN. LET'S GIVE THEM A CHANCE.

In Madagascar, only 2/3 of children are enrolled in primary school and only about 1/3 in secondary school. In the Diocese of Toliara, where PRP is actively assisting with education, these figures are even lower than the national average. Education, in other words, is not a given. Motivated by this reality, PRP is working to establish a child sponsorship program.

Moving to Madagascar to direct this program along with training in the Women's Center is a new missionary, Jackie Lowe. Jackie's career has been in teaching and she feels called to shift her work from her classroom in the US to the

mission field in Southern Madagascar. She is motivated and excited, knowing firsthand the potential of education to change lives.

Please visit SAMS website. See how you can help.

Ministry Update

By Patsy McGregor

In November, the Diocese of Toliara was significantly impacted by the decisions approved in the 2nd Diocesan Convention Synod. The Synod meets every three years and this year marked stepping stones for transformation in the local communities. The four days of the Synod were spent in prayer, studying God's word, fellowship, and approving strategies. Those attending were very excited about the newly approved decisions and are eager for its future implications. The following strategies have been approved by the Diocese of Toliara:

1. Women's ordination
2. New Liturgy (Morning Prayer and Holy Communion)
3. Appointing an assistant bishop in the diocese, hopefully beginning in 2018
4. Miarakaka Community

Everyone is enthusiastic about these new developments and feel encouraged by what God has done through the last three years. We are eager to see what He has in store for the next three years.

Dearest Donors,

Words cannot express the gratitude we feel for your support in our ministry. Thank you for caring for the Malagasy community, a group that is all too easily forgotten by most of the world. Your generous monetary contributions have allowed churches to be built, families to be fed, children to go to school, and student evangelists to spread the gospel.

You might believe that your donations are minuscule but I (Patsy) want to reassure you otherwise by a story. The other day a local priest came up to me and thanked me so genuinely for a clerical collar I had given to him years prior. I was astonished he was still able to remember the small gift that I had completely forgotten. He proceeded to tell me how the collar was damaged by a electrical fire that destroyed 300 homes in his village. His eyes were sad and you could tell the importance of the collar to his heart. I proceeded to go up into my closet and get another extra collar to give to the man. His eyes twinkled as he saw the gift. He was so grateful. To him this was a great treasure to possess for his calling and a reminder of hope in his life.

This priest's story is an example of how even a small and seemingly unimportant gift to us can change the trajectory of another human. I was only able to give to this local priest because of the sacrificial donations from people like you. Someone first gave me extra collars and subsequently I could give collars to those in need. May the Lord bless you all and guide you as you continue to be a blessing to others. Thank you for changing peoples lives and being people reaching people in Madagascar.

With much appreciation,
Todd and Patsy McGregor

PRAY WITH US

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

Prayers for the funds for ministry support for Todd and Patsy.

Prayers for funds for economic development and growth within the Diocese of Toliara.

Prayers for additional parish links, connecting parishes inside and outside the Diocese of Toliara.

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

Praise for the unity experienced at the recent Synod and the decisions made to go forward.

Praise that Corbi was able to make a surprise visit to spend time in Toliara with her parents and the people of the Diocese.

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

Partner with us by donating to our work:

Mail checks to SAMS-USA Attn:

Denise Cox, P.O. 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 to the website at www.peoplereaching.org and click on the Donate-On-Line Button.

Follow the prompts and sign up for a recurring 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!

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DONATE
ON-LINE