



A MINISTRY OF BISHOP TODD & REVEREND PATSY MCGREGOR

UP COMING SPEAKING EVENTS:

Join the McGregors...

APR 22: ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Services: 8 AM, 10 AM, 6 PM

Address: 100 NE Mizner
Blvd. Boca Raton, FL

MAY 13: ST. HUGH OF LINCOLN EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Services: 8 & 10:30 AM

Address: 36W957 Highland
Ave. Elgin, IL

MAY 13: ST. MARK'S

Services: 8, 9, & 10:30 AM

Address: 320 Franklin St.
Geneva, IL

SHAMAN'S DAUGHTER TO U.N.

Just imagine living in a shack, using the pit latrines, cooking on the charcoal grill, and hand washing your own clothes. This was Nolavy's childhood. Growing up in the slums of Toliara, Nolavy never imagined that someday she would be selected as a United Nations delegate.

After the McGregors moved to Toliara in 2008, Nolavy started attending the local Anglican church and became discipled by Patsy. She desired to be an evangelist but her father, the local shaman, forbade her. After her persistent prayers, her father finally gave his blessing for her to go to theological college in Kenya. Upon graduation, Nolavy became the first Malagasy woman of the Diocese of Toliara to receive her bachelors in Divinity. She now serves in the Diocese of Toliara as an Evangelist and the Diocesan Children's Ministry Coordinator. In recognition of her persistent service to the church and her strong female leadership, Nolavy has been selected to be the United Nations (UN) delegate for the Anglican Communion of the Indian Ocean Province in the 62nd Commission of the Status of Women. The UN session will take place in New York on March 11-23. It will primarily focus on the challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls. We are excited to see how God will continue to use Nolavy as a UN delegate to spend his love to the world.

PROJECT UPDATES



CHURCHES

The Fenoarivo Church is still under construction. The walls are completed and the roof is currently being built. The church is scheduled to be finished in April.



NEW MISSIONARY

Jacky Lowe is a new SAMS missionary who will be arriving in Toliara this month. She will work with the local women for the next three years to develop workplace skills in order to provide for their families.



GUESTHOUSE CONSTRUCTION

The construction of the Cathedral Complex Guesthouse began on January 15th and is progressing on schedule. The project will cost approximately \$24000 and currently we have raised \$12000.



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Education & Economic Development



LANDSCAPING THE CATHEDRAL

By Betsy Tracy, Northfield, IL

In February, the McGregors welcomed Glen and Betsy Tracy (St. James the Less, Northfield), Eric Robison (St. David's, Glenview), and Irma Solorzano (St. Mark's, Glen Ellyn) to lead the landscaping of St. Patrick's Cathedral. Glen, a landscape architect, led the US team along with 11 Malagasy men. The team spent 6.5 days working under the hot sun. Each day would start in prayer followed by digging out paths around the Cathedral, transplanting palm trees to frame the Cathedral entrance, and/or mapping out a gazebo as a future Sunday School area. The team also participated in the Ash Wednesday service, Stations of the Cross, and traveled with Bishop Todd to a small village for a Sunday service. One path constructed by the team lead directly from the complex entrance gate to the Cathedral. Ten truckloads of gravel were dumped and spread by hand using shovels and wheelbarrows! The harsh, rough dirt that both plants and people must adapt to in order to flourish in Toliara, demanded hard work. These paths will be used for the first time in the Palm Sunday procession. Overall, the team felt it was a very successful mission trip.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

DIOCESE OF TOLIARA

- Continual leadership developmental
- Transition for Bishop Samitiana and family
- Nolavy in her travels and role as a UN delegate

PERSONAL

- Healing for Patsy's injured knees

MINISTRY

- Increase in financial support of McGregor's Ministry since it was especially low last year
- Revival during the Easter season



“DONA NOBIS PACEM”

By Beverly Wirth

Step, step, step, step. I am marching with Youth Fellowship friends on retreat at Kenyon College in Ohio. It is dark. I carry a candle. My heart is on fire for service to Christ. I want to be a missionary. I want to go to Africa! Fast forward sixty-five years through college, marriage, the birth of two sons, five grandchildren, and an art/writing career blessed with international missions to magnify the Person of Christ. Today is January 16, 2018. I am at my computer. A letter from Patsy McGregor appears. She is spring-cleaning her files and finds a note from eight years ago. I wrote, “I’d love to do a work of art for your new center.” Patsy now asks if my offer still stands. YES! Thank You, Lord, for this opportunity to serve You. In three days, I made “DONA NOBIS PACEM”, (Latin for “Grant Us Peace”), the tapestry now hanging in St. Patrick’s Cathedral (picture above). Through my art, I am in Africa! You, who also march in fellowship, carry a candle and burn in your heart for Christ, may you hear Him say to you, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” Amen.

CONSECRATION OF REV. SAMITIANA

On February 24, Rev. Samitiana was consecrated Assistant Bishop to the Anglican Diocese of Toliara (picture above). It was a fabulous occasion filled with excitement, celebration, tears and joy. Bishop Todd said the event reminded him of the joy of his own consecration and also the overwhelming anxiety of fulfilling God’s calling. The ceremony lasted 4.5 hours and the cathedral was packed full. Outside the cathedral, 200-300 people sat watching the ceremony on a large screen. Visitors from all over the world came including England, USA, and Austratralia and 50+ representatives from the Diocese of Toliara. Afterward, there was a big reception filled with beautiful decorations, delicious food, harmonious songs, and traditional dances. It was a glorious occasion in which God’s goodness was clearly shown.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

PRAY:

See prayer requests above

VISIT:

If interested in a short term mission trip to Toliara, contact Corbi at cmcgregor07@gmail.com

DONATE: (VIA UNDESIGNATED FUNDS)

- Furniture for St. Paul's Primary School: \$2500 for 90 desks and 90 chairs
- Cathedral Complex Guesthouse: \$12000 to complete construction
- New Guesthouse Construction: \$25000
- Educational scholarships for 57 students (pre-school to seminary): \$25 monthly per student
- Salaries for 36 clergy, evangelists, and staff: \$110 for evangelists and \$160 for clergy per month
- Health, pension, and rice benefits for employees
- Student evangelism training program
- Training/development of economic programs



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TEACHING EVANGELISTS

Bishop Todd & Rev. Patsy McGregor spent much of January through March teaching the new evangelists. Teaching topics included: reproducing Christian leaders in the context of evangelism, discipleship and leadership, and spiritual growth through the six disciplines. There are currently nine student evangelists. Their training includes two years of coursework and one year of internship. Thank you for those who sponsor these students!



END IT MOVEMENT

This was the second year that the Diocese of Toliara participated in the End It Movement. Every year, on February 22nd, people all over the world write a red X on their hands to raise awareness for the millions of people trapped in slavery. Toliara is no exception as men, women, and children are forced into labor work and human trafficking. We invited you to join the Malagasy as they help shine a light on slavery.



MEETING THE PRESIDENT

This month the bishops of the Anglican church met to discuss strategies for education, evangelism, development, and intentional leadership in order to create a Christ-centered community in the Province of the Indian Ocean. They also had the pleasure of meeting with President Hery Rajaonarimampianina at the Presidential Palace to discuss reconciliation in the country.

HOW TO DONATE:

ONLINE VIA CREDIT CARD OR ELECTRONIC TRANSFER:

visit <http://www.peoplereaching.org/how-can-i-help/donate/>

MAIL CHECKS TO SAM-USA:

Attn: Denise Cox or Julie Kirk, PO BOX 399, Ambridge, PA 15003
MEMO: McGregor Ministry or Diocese of Toliara or Toliara Endowment

MAIL CHEQUES TO CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY (P.MG001):

Address: Church Mission Society, Watlington Road, Oxford, OXF 6BZ

