



## A MINISTRY OF BISHOP TODD & REVEREND PATSY MCGREGOR

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

#### DIOCESE OF TOLIARA

- Continual leadership developmental
- New clergy for vacant parishes
- On going security issues in Southern Madagascar
- Famine due to crop damage

#### PERSONAL

- Travel to Europe and US

#### MINISTRY

- PRP board meeting (September 20-22)
- Increased financial support of McGregor's Ministry

## DAYS FOR GIRLS TRAINING

Days for Girls is an international non-profit focusing on creating a more dignified, free, and educated world through increasing access of feminine hygiene products. Unfortunately, women all over the world miss school, are stigmatized, and live with economic barriers due to menses. Madagascar is no different! Frequently girls miss school because they have no hygiene products to use. In some places, women are forbidden to receive communion when menses. Others are required to wear ribbons to symbolize their uncleanness. Therefore to counteract these problems, Days for Girls offers affordable and sustainable female hygiene kits. The Diocese of Toliara has held multiple Days for Girls trainings. We are proud to announce that Ms. Harisoa has been appointed as the Days For Girls Assistant Coordinator at the Women's Center. She has done a great job teaching the trainings. She even demonstrated the ease of running and dancing while wearing the product. We are excited to see how this partnership grows.

For more information on Days for Girls visit: <https://www.daysforgirls.org>

# PROJECT UPDATES



## NEW DEACON

On September 16, Nolavy (on the left) was ordained as the first deacon in the Diocese of Toliara. Her ordination to priesthood is planned for next year. We are excited for female leadership in the church.



## SHORT TERM MISSIONS

Graham and Sherry Smith just led a clergy, evangelist and spouse retreat in Mangily. 46 attendees came for the 3 day retreat focused on "The Life of Jesus."



## EVANGELISTS

17 students, from a combination of four dioceses, continue their evangelism training. 4 more students will start their training this year. Soafiavy, is finished his training and was commissioned on Sept 16th as an evangelist.



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Engaging Partners in Evangelism,  
Education & Economic Development



## RAIN, THE SIGN OF BLESSING

By Rev. Patsy McGregor

It rained! No it didn't sprinkle or shower, it rained! Now that was just amazing. We live in the spiny desert and it barely ever rains. The last time I saw rain was April. Unlike how many Americans think of rain as a nuisance, in Madagascar, rain is a blessing. Rain is God's way of showing how He still takes cares for our most basic needs. Rain is what allows the plants to grow and the flowers to blossom.

So there I was standing at the pulpit in front of 350 people giving the sermon for the official welcoming of Bishop Samitiana. My sermon started out with a story of two men who started praying together daily in 1991. These two men were Bishop Todd and Bishop Samitiana. Even before we knew it, God was creating their relationship. And this relationship created a Diocese founded in prayer. I then proceeded to show the congregation the documented Prayers in Color for specific churches and parishioners.

It was an amazing service. You could feel the Holy Spirit blessing the Diocese. You could feel God looking down on his humble servants, Bishop Samitiana and his family, and sense His satisfaction. You could feel the encouragement from the congregation that prayer really does create miracles. Rain, God's symbol of blessing and contentment was exactly what we need. God, thank you for the rain!

### UP COMING SPEAKING EVENTS:

*Join the McGregors...*

#### **SEPT 22: ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**

Services: 5 PM

Address: 7 Rue Auguste  
Vacquerie, Paris, France

#### **SEPT 23: ST. MARK'S VERSAILLES**

Services: 10:30 AM

Address: 31 Rue du Pont  
Colbert, Versailles, France

#### **SEPT 30: ALL SAINTS HERAULT (ST. PARGOIRE)**

Services: 10:30 AM

Address: Rue du Temple  
St Pargoire, France

#### **OCT 7: ST. MARY MAGDALENE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Services: 8:00 & 10:00 AM

Address: 400 Riverside Dr.  
Coral Springs, FL

#### **OCT 28: ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Services: 8:00 & 10:00 AM

Address: 14260 Old Cutler  
Rd, Miami, FL





## SHORT TERM MISSIONS WITH SIMON & SUE BABBS

This summer, Simon and Sue Babbs, from St. James the Less Episcopal Church in Illinois, took their 4th mission trip to Madagascar. Sue focused on Days for Girls training and distribution, while Simon taught bookkeeping and lead philosophy discussions. It was an exciting time to see God work through their visit.

In 2016, Sue created the Days for Girls Program in Madagascar. This year's trip allowed her to reinforce the already established program through hygiene training and product distribution. Female health lessons were translated into Malagasy. 35 women were trained to teach hygiene to the local community and explain the benefits of the washable feminine hygiene kits. Over 900 women and girls were educated on personal hygiene. 437 female hygiene kits were distributed in churches, villages, medical clinics and one school.

Simon spent his days working with the diocesan accountant on bookkeeping. He also lead two philosophy sessions for the clergy. The first session focused on the relationship between faith and reason and the role philosophy can play in thinking about Christian doctrine. The second session was a discussion of seven different understandings of the Eucharist. Despite the conversations occurring in a combination of languages (Malagasy, French and English), they were filled with contemplative and thought provoking ideas.

### 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](mailto:cmcgregor07@gmail.com)

#### DONATE: (VIA UNDESIGNATED FUNDS)

- Cathedral Complex Guesthouse: \$7,800 to complete construction
- Fenoarivo Church: \$2,500 to finish construction (floor, walls, and paint)
- New Guesthouse Construction: \$25,000
- 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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### ROOTED IN JESUS

On Sept 9th, Rooted in Jesus, an intentional discipleship program, was launched by Rev. Derek Waller, a CMS missionary in Toliara. He spoke to the clergy, evangelists, synod committee, and Mother's Union. The program focuses on Bible studies and memorization of God's word to transform a person's life. In the near future, Rev. Derek will train all the parishes in the program. The goal of the Diocese is that every church will have Rooted in Jesus by 2020.

### DIOCESE IS GROWING

We thank God that He continues to work and the Diocese of Toliara continues to grow abundantly. One of the biggest challenges for the Diocese is the shortage of clergy. With 87 churches, there are only 6 parish priests. As growth continues, the need for leadership is abundant. There are currently 4 vacant parish priest positions. Please pray for strong God-fearing leaders to fill those positions.

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

We want to specifically thank those who have supported the student scholarship program. Evangelist Gaston, one of the scholars, is starting his final year studying for a Bachelors of Theology at the Roman Catholic University. Antsa and Zafy (in picture above) will begin their studies in Theology in October. These are just a couple examples of people whose lives have been changed through the program.

### 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 Kirik, 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

