



A MINISTRY OF BISHOP TODD & REVEREND PATSY MCGREGOR

A GLIMPSE OF HEAVEN

By Corbi Sandoe, the daughter of Bishop Todd and Rev Patsy

It was a special moment. Seeing my son, only 13 months reach out and touch the hand of a Malagasy grandmother. His pale white skin, blue eyes, and strawberry blonde hair against her dark brown skin, hazelnut eyes, and curly midnight black hair. She put out her hand cautiously hoping he would accept the invite. He "high fived" her hand vigorously and smiled largely. Her heart melted as her joy filled her face. They had connected!

It has always been a dream of mine to share my home, my upbringing and my culture with my son and this summer we were finally able to do that. Joe, Jabin, and I traveled with other family members to Madagascar in order to visit my parents. We spent one week in Toliara visiting old friends and experiencing the new ministries in the Diocese. It was so exciting to see how many women now gathered to make newspaper beads. Their craft had become so impressive over the years. It was encouraging to hear the personal life changing stories and upcoming projects. It was great to see my parents and spend time back in the Malagasy culture. But most of all it was amazing to sit calmly in the small mud church packed with people and see my 13 month old clap to songs, dance to the music, and interact with people I love so much. It was a moment I will never forget. it was what i picture heaven to be like.

PROJECTS UPDATES



JESUS FILM

We are excited to announce that the Diocese of Toliara has been given all the portable equipment to show the Jesus Film. The compact size and solar battery allows it to be ideal in traveling to rural villages. Thank you Dean Noel for your hard work in making this possible.



DAYS FOR GIRLS

Days for Girls is currently working vigorously on a large order for Project Jeune, a youth organization focused on reproductive health. The women are meeting almost daily to sew kits and provide education to the local communities on female hygiene.



CLERGY TRAINING

This month Rev. Nolavy, with the help of an educational scholarship, went to England. She is at the Anglican Center at Canterbury Cathedral receiving training for newly ordained clergy.



CHILD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

People Reaching People board members and Mme. Holy have been working for the past year and a half to develop a child sponsorship program in the Diocese of Toliara that will help support the education of local students. Chapel of St. Andrew (Boca Raton, FL) parishioner Marcy Allen is serving as the statewide coordinator. This program needs to be self-sustaining because established child sponsorship programs were unavailable to partner with us. Since September 2018 a trial phase of the Child Sponsorship program has been in place with several children receiving monthly support for their education.

Recently, PRP Board member Joyce Fletcher applied to her parish's Mission and Outreach Committee (St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Glen Ellyn, IL) to sponsor five children for a year. When her grant application was approved in full, St. Mark's sent \$1500 to SAMS (\$25/mo. for 12 months, supporting 5 children). The church received a profile and picture of each child, who range in age from 7 to 16. Various Sunday School classes at St. Mark's will partner with a child to write letters, send pictures, and communicate with these children.

Soon, we believe the Child Sponsorship program will be available for others who wish to have a role in making education more widely available and affordable for the children of Toliara. Look for more details in future newsletters!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

PRAY:

See prayer requests below

VISIT:

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

DONATE: (VIA UNDESIGNATED FUNDS)

- Bishop Todd and Rev Patsy McGregor Diocese of Toliara Endowment Fund
- Educational scholarships for 67 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

HONEYMOONING IN TOLIARA

By Kevin Wenzel, PRP Board Member

Honeymooning in Toliara with new in-laws probably wasn't the first destination that came to mind when my new wife, Christine, imagined the luxurious setting awaiting us after enduring months of wedding planning. Come to think of it, Toliara wasn't the first place that came to my mind either! But after some consideration, we agreed that visiting Madagascar would be an unforgettable adventure for our first trip together after tying the knot. Upon arrival, we weathered the expected, yet unpleasant side effects of third-world excursions as best we could, accepting long stretches of unpaved roads, bouts of traveler's diarrhea, jetlag, and of course, unpredictably changing plans.

However, as Christine and I left the McGregor's home for some secluded time on the beach, we also left behind our interpreters of language and culture. We fumbled through communication attempts and were left on more than one occasion with a profound sense of helplessness and guilt that we could not understand. You see, Christine and I both happen to be psychologists, and if there is one thing that our training and careers have taught us, it is how to connect with and understand other people. Suddenly, we were crippled! I considered the experience of Todd and Patsy as they moved to Madagascar almost 30 years ago without knowing the language and culture of the island. How difficult it must have been to move across the world for the sole purpose of helping others, only to arrive and not be able to converse. Patsy referred to Madagascar as the "forgotten island" during our time in Toliara. Thank you to the McGregor's ministry, and for taking the decades necessary to connect with and understand, and to not forget the needs of this incredible country. Christine and I were honored to catch a glimpse of the McGregor's ministry by participating in a less traditional honeymoon adventure!



PRAYER REQUESTS:

DIOCESE OF TOLIARA

- Leadership development
- Upcoming ordinations, synod, and trainings
- Upcoming Miraka: A Time To Dance event in August
- Day of Prayer on July 5th
- Bishop's Garden Party local fundraiser

PERSONAL

- Praise for a good family vacation
- Bishop Todd as he travels to remote towns in the diocese

MINISTRY

- Discipleship trainings
- Family coming for missions trip in July
- Completion of the Fenoarivo Church



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Engaging Partners in Evangelism,
Education & Economic Development



THY KINGDOM COME VIDEO

Thy Kingdom Come, a global prayer movement, posted a video of Bishop Samitiana talking about how prayer has impacted the Diocese of Toliara. His message is filled with stories and encouragement of how God is moving through prayer to impact the local Christians. Check out the video at <https://youtu.be/fjxtXG-6iHQ>



YOUNG LEARNERS

In Morondava parish, there is a school that was built with the support of PRP donations about 2 years ago. This school has grown and currently has 50 children between preschool and 1st grade. All the staff are volunteers. All the children receive a free meal weekly. They are looking to expand the school by adding a second floor and providing a second weekly meal. Consider donating to this cause by giving undesignated funds to the PRP ministry.



VISITORS FROM ENGLAND

This month, John and Jane Griffin, from England, visited the Gathering Place. John is a vice-president of PRP and used to live in Madagascar. While in Toliara, they have been meeting with the Diocesan staff members, preaching at the local churches, teaching the laity, leading a workshop on finances, and upgrading the computers. They thoroughly enjoyed their visit and look forward to deepening relationships with the Diocesan partners in the future.

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, OX4 6BZ

