



A MINISTRY OF BISHOP TODD & REVEREND PATSY MCGREGOR



FULL CIRCLE

The Resource Center is open!!! On Nov 17 the Diocese of Toliara celebrated the dedication of the new Resource Center at St. Patrick's Bible College. Available resources include CDs, videotapes, DVDs, sports equipment (soccer, volleyball, croquet, table tennis and parachute games), and all different kinds of books (including theological books, magazines, children's literature, and education texts) in Malagasy, French, and English. The dedication service was filled with excitement as over 40 people danced and praised God for his marvelous provisions. Bishop Todd, the new school Chaplain (Rev. Noel) and part time secretary for St. Patrick's Bible College (Saintia, one of Rev. Patsy's first disciples) spoke during the service. It was a special moment for Todd and I (Patsy) as we reminisced on our very first project in Madagascar. In 1991, we organized and upgraded the library at St. Paul's Theological College in Ambatoharanana. Now, I felt like we had come full circle. Our first project of renovating a library is also one of our final projects.



PROJECT UPDATES



NEW GUESTHOUSES

The new guesthouse for the Cathedral parish is finished! The second double story guesthouse should be finished in January.

BENCHES

Thanks to a SAMS Global grant, we have 10 new benches placed around the Cathedral Complex. This allows small groups of people to gather, worship, and pray outside in God's nature.

FAMINE RELIEF

Severe famine and drought has affected 1.5 million people in southern Madagascar. The Diocese of Toliara has distributed water tanks and food to parishioners but there is still great need.



**CLICK HERE TO
DONATE FOR
FAMINE RELIEF**



THE WINDOW OF MY SOUL

“Hi laly! How was your vacation?” “Ummmm. So, so.” laly answered. Towards the end of the Diocesan meeting, laly was welcomed back after two weeks of being on vacation. Todd asked about his time visiting family members in the southern town in the Diocese of Toliara. A sadness fogged his eyes. “It is quite difficult in the area of Ambovombe,” laly began. “Due to the harsh weather, dust storms, drought and famine, there is very little food and water. Goats now sell for 5,000 Ariary (\$1.75). Cattle can be purchased for 50,000 Ariary (\$16) [1/4 of what they normally sell for]. Because of the lack of rain, cattle are dying on the side of the road. People are starving.” laly continued. “My aunt, who lives in the main town, was concerned that she had not heard from some family members who live 60-70 km away from the town. She decided to take an ox-cart and help move her daughter, son-in-law, and three children back to town. When she got to their hut, she found the family of five had all died of starvation three days prior.”

Just a few hours before laly shared this story, I (Patsy) was on countdown. Only 22 more days before we fly off to America, well hopefully, as the international flights were still not flying yet. I was feeling pity on our situations because that would mean no Christmas with our family. And yet, my whole perspective changed within a moment. As laly shared his story with the staff, the breath was taken out of my lungs. As he sat next to me, telling his vacation story, I cried. Sadness overwhelmed me. His despair became mine.

No longer was I focused on planes or the joys of upcoming holidays. His perspective brought reality. The world is in so much turmoil. It is suffering. Holy Spirit, come be with us. Lord Jesus, give us your eyes of compassion. Father God, bring healing and comfort in the midst of painful situations. And even when we leave Madagascar, may I never forget the struggles and hardships the Malagasy deal with daily. Thank you Lord that I can be reassured these people and the country I love, are in your hands of Your protection.

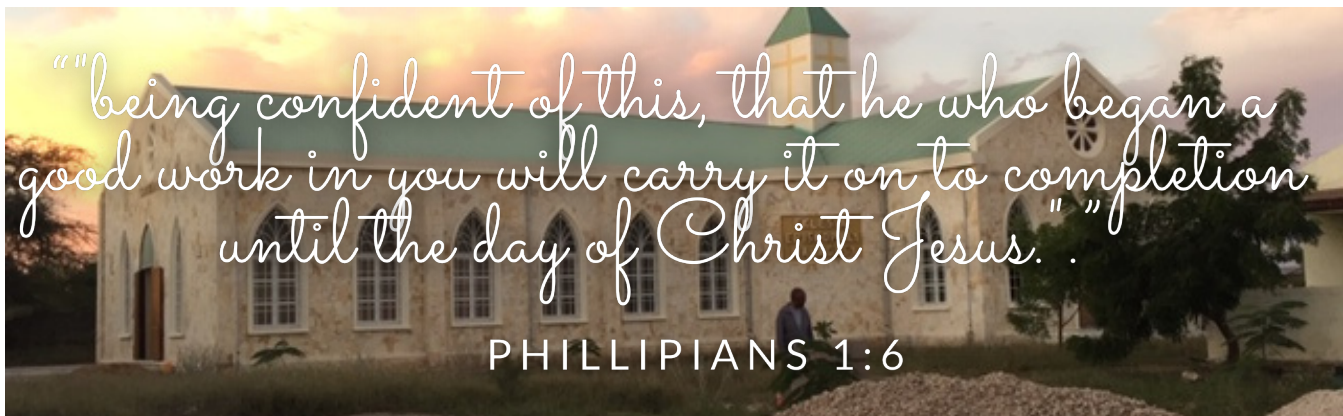
PRAYER REQUESTS:

DIocese OF TOLIARA

- Upcoming election for the new diocesan bishop
- Severe famine and drought
- Health of the Diocese
- Spiritual Renewal
- Servant leadership development
- Financial support with extremely high food prices due to COVID
- Creation of the Friends of Toliara

PERSONAL

- Transition and adjustment to the USA
- Joy during difficult situations
- International flights back to US in Dec
- Protection against COVID as we travel
- Praise for finding a house
- Logistical items - household items, car, etc.



BREAKING UP IS HARD TO DO

Lyrics of the love song “Breaking Up Is Hard to Do,” by Neil Sedaka, keep rolling around in my head. Leaving the Diocese of Toliara and moving to an unknown role in the USA, I (Todd) feel like I’m breaking up with my marriage to the Diocese. I feel great pain in leaving and not being here with the Malagasy people. I feel the pain of handing over leadership and no longer being responsible for the Diocese. I feel the pain of ending my calling in Madagascar and the pain of saying goodbye to our friends, colleagues and families. Breaking up is hard to do. My emotions have been like a yo-yo, up and down up and down. One minute I’m fully excited and next minuted I’m completely angry for no apparent reason.

It reminds me of the story of Elijah and Elisha. Elijah was a chosen leader by God. He had finished his work and completed the task God had chosen for him. Elisha had been Elijah’s follower and disciple for many years. As a role model and teacher for Elisha, Elijah had to move on - ascend in a chariot - so that Elisha could fulfill the calling in his life. As Elijah handed over his leadership to Elisha, a double portion was given to him; Elisha went on to perform twice as many miracles. As a faithful follower of God, Elisha's leadership blossomed, blooming into the person God had chosen him to be. But first, Elijah had to complete his task in order for this to happen.

We are in our final stretch towards finishing well in Madagascar. The Diocese has good leadership in place and many more clergy candidates are in the pipeline. We have now said goodbyes via Zoom to all of our clergy families and each parish. We have tearfully completed our farewell service. Now it’s time to let go and let God. Part of finishing well is letting God do whatever he wants in my life and in the life of the Diocese of Toliara. God is the one who began this good work and I am certain that he won’t stop before it is complete.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

PRAY:

See prayer requests section

VISIT:

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

DONATE:

- Bishop Todd and Rev. Patsy McGregor Diocese of Toliara Endowment Fund
- Educational scholarships (pre-school to high school): \$25 monthly per student
- Salaries for 40+ clergy, evangelists, and staff: \$110 for evangelists and \$160 for clergy per month
- Health and pension for employees
- Training/development of economic programs
- \$30,000 for famine relief
- \$2,000 for clergy motorcycles
- \$10,000 for the construction of two parish rectories



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Engaging Partners in Evangelism, Education & Economic Development



GOODBYES

Due to the COVID pandemic, the McGregors are not able to say goodbye in person. Instead, they are zooming in for church services so they can say goodbye to every parish within the diocese. The McGregors have also had prayer sessions with all the diocesan priests and their wives. Patsy is making 44 farewell praying in color cards for diocesan staff, clergy and friends and they are distributing 300 prayer cards to churches in the diocese as a small goodbye gift.

Email Preference Update

If you would like to receive future emails from either the McGregors' Ministry, the Friends of Toliara, or both please fill in the form below. It is very important to submit this form in order to be a part of the continual partnership we have in Christ. If you do not submit this form, then you will not receive any future emails.

IF YOU DON'T GET A CONFIRMATION EMAIL WITHIN A FEW MINUTES OF SIGNING UP, YOU HAVE PROBABLY MIS-TYPED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE CHECK YOUR INBOX. THANK YOU

* Email

* First Name



ZOOM EVENTS

Thank you again to all our supporters who joined us on for our zoom session on Nov 28th. We had a great discussion about our farewell from Madagascar and came away feeling comforted by the immense support we have from so many people around the world. For those who missed it, please click [HERE](#) to view the event.

UPDATING RECORDS

We are updating our email list! Despite the McGregors leaving Madagascar, their ministry as People Reaching People continues. If you would like to receive future emails from the McGregors and/or Friends of Toliara, please click [HERE](#). It is very important to resign up in order to be a part of the continual partnership we have in Christ. If you do not click on the link then you will not receive any future emails.

HOW TO DONATE:

ONLINE VIA CREDIT CARD OR ELECTRONIC TRANSFER:

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

MAIL CHECKS TO SAMS-USA:

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

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

Address: Church Mission Society, Watlington Road, Oxford, OX4 6BZ

