

Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities



The children of Koinonia Baptist Church and surrounding communities are anxiously awaiting the start of this year's Bible Camp which begins on December 1.

Team Members Still Needed For VBS Week In Kenya

The theme for this year's Vacation Bible School at Koinonia Baptist Church in Ruaka is "Helpers In God's Plans...Being The Best You Can Be." It is based on 1 Corinthians 3:9—"For we are laborers together with God."

And we're still looking for those who are willing to be all they can be by heeding God's call to serve and joining the Teleios Team in going to Africa Nov. 29-Dec. 10.

Cost is \$2,500 and includes airfare, hotels, all meals (except at airports), and a safari. While the cost may sound like it's beyond your reach, remember that nothing is impossible for God. He tells us to trust in His plan for our lives.

Please pray, search your heart, and commit to making a difference in the lives of these children. We look forward to hearing from you and to sharing in the blessings of this life-changing experience in Kenya. For more information, call Teleios at 864-322-9775.

A Tale Of Two Countries And One God-Given Vision

By Adrian Giorgiov
From Romania

"Little is much when God is in it" - says one of my favorite songs. This is what we are experiencing with the Pro-Africa project that started just a few months ago with a vision from God, and we can see how He is shaping it in so many wonderful ways.

We are amazed to see how people—both Hungarians and Romanians, young and old—respond to the invitation to participate in a ministry that wants to help displaced and orphaned children in changing their lives to be in harmony with God's will.

Many feel that it is a way of imitating what others did for us over the years after the fall of Communism in Romania. Even though it is not exactly the same type of help, the spirit is the same, and we rejoice seeing it as a display of a Christ-like character.

It is also exciting to see how each month we are able to sponsor more and more children. A special type of sponsorship that keeps growing is the symbolic "adoption" of children. We receive various calls and e-mails with

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By Bernard Kabaru Mwangi & Robert Muteithia
From Kenya

In pursuit of our vision and mission, Koinonia Baptist Church entered into partnership with the Fundatia Umanitara ITM Romania (ITM Romania Humanitarian Foundation) to reach out to the orphans and vulnerable children within the church, the Ruaka area and its environs, giving them hope and a foundation for a better future.

Ruaka is in the Kiambu West district in Central Kenya, and while the area is not considered among the nation's poorest, the poor in the region are on the lower scale of

poverty as compared to those below the poverty line.

Due to its proximity to the capital of Nairobi, this area has become prime real estate for development of housing for rent, a major income source.

Therefore, more division of the land is continuing, and the area is busy with construction of buildings as apartments. The cost of land and rent has skyrocketed. Unemployment is over 50 percent. Alcoholism,

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Pro-Africa Project brings two cultures together in Christian love.



Ministry Partners Seek Participation Of Teleios Teams

Current Ministry Partners have requested Teams for 2009.

IN ROMANIA

Evangelistic Outreach — February 2009 (*Trip of 7-10 days*)

Roma/Gypsy Youth and Children's Camps — July or August 2009 (*Trip of one or two weeks*)

Camps for Children and Youth — July or August 2009 (*Trip of one to two weeks*)

Business Conference for Christian Leaders — February or March 2009 (*weekend conference and evening small group meetings*)

Men's Conference — Date Open

IN KENYA

Camps for Children and Youth — Nov. 27-Dec. 8, 2009

IN TANZANIA

Evangelistic Crusade for Starting New Church — June 2009

Leadership and Discipleship Teaching Week — Anytime in 2009 (*10-Day minimum with two weeks preferred*)

Children and Youth Camp in Villages and Children's Home — Anytime in 2009 (*10-Day minimum*)

Medical Team — July or August 2009 (*Flexible dates*)

Construction* and Farming Team — March 2009 (*Two weeks*)

**Construction Team will be dependent on Team schedule, preferably in June or July, just after the rains.*

Please pray for the Lord to work in the hearts and minds of those He is calling to serve, that they may be led to offer their talents, skills, gifts, resources and love to others. For more information, you can contact Floyd Parker at 864-322-9775 or floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org.

KENYAN BLESSING

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including illicit brew, and drug abuse are escalating. Slum-type sections are on the rise for the poor. School dropout rates after year eight are increasing since most parents cannot afford the fees for secondary school.

Single mothers are also a common trend among the poor as the result of unplanned

ROMANIAN BLESSING

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some parents telling us how they lost their child and they want to "adopt" one from Kenya; or another couple with a boy and a girl and expecting another little boy, so for the sake of balance they are interested in "adopting" a girl. So many exciting stories that really bless our lives!

I think God allowed us - those administering this project here in Romania, and Bernard Kabarú Mwangi and his team in Kenya - to have the deepest and widest insight into all these stories, something that is a special blessing!

Let us continue to pray for the ongoing efforts and widening of this ministry to God's glory!

pregnancies and separation of many young women from their uncommitted men partners. The number of orphans are on the rise due to the HIV-AIDS crisis, too, yet their poor relatives are helpless and cannot add any more burdens on themselves.

All these factors, among others, have created many orphans, classified as total orphans - those who have lost both parents; orphans - those whose mother has died and are left with a poor or careless father; and vulnerable children - due to poverty; parents engaged in alcohol or drug abuse; abusive parents; etc. With the efforts of Koinonia, we have been able to slow the increase of street boys in the Ruaka center. However, in the neighbouring Banana and Limuru towns, street boys are common.

From the planting of the Koinonia church in 2005, reaching out to these needy children has been part of our ministry, but our efforts, though worthwhile, were a mere drop in the ocean. We have, therefore, aspired to do more, to reach out beyond Ruaka with a commitment that no child should go hungry; drop out of school for lack of fees or any school item;

or roam and sleep in the streets for lack of housing.

ITM is an answer to our prayer for God's enablement to accomplish this dream. Through this partnership, we now have 49 children in our support program!

These have been classified into three groups: MH - meals, school fees, school uniform, other school needs and housing; M - all others except housing; and Adopt A Child - same as MH.

We have 14 children in the MH category, 31 in the M category, and three in the Adopt-A-Child category. To date, a total of \$9,298 has been received from ITM in support of the child sponsorship programs, plus projects such as a child feeding program and a well digging project.

Certainly, this is journey of success, empowering these children with quality education, food, clothes, and living environment.

The hungry we have not turned away; the unclothed, we have not left in the cold; the unsheltered, we have not left vulnerable, but we have given hope and a future—the fruit of the Gospel. Praise God!



God's Love Transcends Even Language Barriers

By Katie McClung

In July, I was able to travel with Bonnie Parker and Anna Horne to Romania to work with children from the Gypsy village of Apalina.

Our first days were spent visiting the churches that Attila Toth pastors, sharing prayers, songs, and Scriptures with the members while experiencing the blessing of their heartwarming hospitality. We visited the homes of several believers from the Gypsy community and got to see where some of the children live whom we would be bringing to camp the next day.

My job was to teach English during afternoon sessions. I was amazed by how well the children were able to retain the knowledge of words they learned from day to day. Though the children grew toward a simple knowledge of basic English words, Anna and I agree that one of the most challenging aspects of our trip was the language barrier between we three Americans and the rest of the Hungarian- and Romanian-speaking world around us. Not being able to speak to the children without a translator was frustrating at times. But through this frustration God showed me that cross-cultural communication is so much more than words.

Smiles, hugs and kisses translate easily into any language, and the love of Christ has never depended on words to be powerful. I learned that to *serve* the children is what I was sent to do. Translators were still a blessing for important instructions, but by no means did Anna and I leave camp with stunted relationships due to a language barrier. God showed us how to transcend language with love.

Anna and I have begun to pray about returning to Romania for an extended visit next summer. We have the sense that our work with the Gypsies is not done. I have so much more I want to share with them — time, love, knowledge, resources — because of all I have been given by God and because of all these children have given me.

I'm reminded of Mordecai's words to Esther: "*For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place...who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?*" (Esther 4:14) May God bless the work of His children to the advancement of His kingdom and to the glory of His name.

By Bonnie Parker

Thank you, partners, for making possible the Gypsy Children's Camp for the children of Apalina. Like children all over the world, summer camp was a highlight that will always be remembered. Most importantly, for some it means eternal change because several older children made commitments of their lives to the Jesus Christ.

Katie McClung and Anna Horne, students at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee, Johanna and Marta Borzasi, mother and daughter, student and women's leader and members of a pastor's family from Pericei, Romania, Csilla and Tihemier, university students from Reghin, Romania, and I teamed with Attila Toth to be on mission with our Lord. Various ages, different roles, living in a number of locations around the world, made one by the grace of God partnered with you for the experience of a lifetime!



Anna Horne, center, and Katie McClung share their testimonies with the Gypsy children as Attila Toth translates.

By Anna Horne

In July, I traveled to Romania with my Aunt Bonnie and my friend, Katie McClung. I left the United States feeling the most unprepared for anything I've ever undertaken; and when I say unprepared, I speak as a super-organized, control freak. I was terrified, which seems funny now because God had placed me exactly where He wanted me. Someone once told me that "God doesn't call the equipped. He equips the called."

We went to work with Attila Toth, a young pastor who started a ministry with the Gypsies in Apalina. Our main purpose was to work at the Gypsy Children's Camp, held outside of Sibiu, but our ministry started earlier as we were able to visit and speak at several churches the day after we arrived. We also got to visit with parents in Apalina and pray with them. In spite of the hardships they endure every day, they readily opened their homes to us.

The children's camp was unlike anything I have ever experienced, and as cliché as it sounds, it truly changed my life. One of the most humbling things I felt was how unconditionally the children accepted and loved us. There is something about the love of a child that nothing else in this world compares to. I think it is the closest, most tangible thing to the love of God that you can experience here on earth. What a joy it was for me to have the privilege of listening to little voices pray in their beautiful language.

Traveling to a country where you cannot speak a word of the language is incredibly daunting, and I know if Katie and I have any regrets, it's that we didn't know Hungarian before going. However, if the relationships we established can be made without being able to communicate beyond two or three important words (yes, no, thank you), then think of how strong they will be if when we go back we can actually communicate?

We both feel our work there is not done, and Lord willing, we hope to go back next summer. I have experienced what it means to be a servant in every sense of the word, and I know it is not meant to stop there. I am reminded of Jesus' words in Luke 12:48: "*To whoever much is given, of him will much be required; and to whom much was entrusted, of him more will be asked.*" And I have so much more that I need to give.

[Related photos on page 4.](#)



Summer Camp Smiles '08



**GYPSY CHILDREN'S CAMP
IN ROMANIA**

*See related articles
on page 3.*

This Just In...

From Kenya...



Peter Kamau and his new bride, Elizabeth, were married August 2. He is pastor of the Nyeri, Baptist Church. Congratulations and best wishes Peter and Elizabeth! Pray for them as they build their life together.

From Tanzania...

- A monetary gift has been given to the Daily Bread Life Children's Home for the purchase of a new bus. This will allow the children to take field trips, but more importantly, it provides the opportunity for them to travel together to attend church to worship each week. Praise God for the generosity of such a gift! Ask His blessings for safety each time the bus is used.

- DBL children have a new sister! Six-week-old Baby Bonnie joined the family last week. Pray for her health and growth. Ask God to give Neema Mwaisumbe and the other workers at the Children's Home all that is needed to take care of such a little one at the Children's Home.



From Romania...

- David Borzasi, son of Gyula and Marta, graduated from Transylvania University of Brasov, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science with the highest honors and the award as Number One in the class! He is employed full time with Siemens in Brasov. Congratulations David! Thank God for this milestone in David's life.

- Daniel Pusok has accepted a call to the Hungarian-speaking Baptist Church of Toronto, Canada. The date for the move will be determined by how soon visas are granted for he and Adina. He asks that we pray for the official government paperwork to be done in a reasonable timeframe as the Canadian church is currently without a pastor. It can take as long as a year for this type of visa to be granted. Ask God's protection over them and their adjustment to the move when it occurs.

From Greenville, S.C. ...

Floyd and Bonnie Parker are in Alabama and Florida this week meeting with churches and individuals about possible partnerships with Teleios. Ask God for His leadership and wisdom regarding these potential opportunities. Pray for the Parkers' safety as they travel.



The children and instructors at the Kidetete Preschool are excited about the new workbooks they received. Praise God for the generosity of His servant who made it possible for the children to have the materials they need to study and learn.

Fall Trip To Romania Shaping Up To Be Quite Exciting

Floyd and Bonnie Parker and Ron and June Davis will be traveling to Romania in September and October, and the schedule is already filling up fast. In addition to the Roma Women's Conference and teaching at the seminary, they will be attending baptism services in Otto Kis' Sacele Mission Church; witnessing the ordination of the first Gypsy Leadership Team in Acas; and meeting with Mary Beth Broadwater, a U.S. graduate student in Austria for a year who will fly to Romania during the next year to work with Attila Toth's Gypsy ministry.

Please be in prayer for the many facets of this trip as plans continue to be made. Pray also for the Lord to go before this Team and prepare the way so His name to be glorified in all that is said and done.

SONGS OF JOY BY CHILDREN OF JOY

Now you, too, can hear the voices of those you've heard so much about! That's right, a CD of 21 songs of praise to the Lord sung by children of the Daily Bread Life Children's Home in Iringa, Tanzania, is now available. Not only will you have the pleasure of hearing them sing, but your \$5 donation for a CD will support continuing efforts at the Children's Home to provide for praise and worship equipment. To order your CD, contact Meg Hunt at mhunt21@msn.com or call Teleios at 864-322-9775.



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Reflections From the Green Chair.....

One of the most famous stories in all of Scripture is the story of David and Goliath (*1 Samuel 17*). At first reading, we get the idea that David shows up, sees the problem, takes the initiative, and slays Goliath. What a confident young man! What allowed David to do this—to have the brash and misunderstood confidence (look at the criticism he receives from his brothers for his confidence).

First, his confidence begins with God. David looks at this giant and says, “Who is he that he defies/taunts the armies of the Living God?” Goliath was a God-sized challenge. David quickly realized this was not about two armies or two men fighting. This was about God’s honor, God’s glory, God self-revealing. Even the armies of the Living God needed to know that they were the armies of the Living God and not just any old army.

Second, his confidence is built on past experiences with God. “*And David said, ‘The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.’ (1 Samuel 17:37)*

David’s confidence was battle-tested even as a young man. He had faced bears and lions, and God had delivered Him. He was confident because of God’s prior

activity in his life which David knew He would deliver again. David had prepared for this day, if you will, so the challenge came as no surprise. His confidence was based in God’s capacity to deliver and not on his own skill or ability to fight. David even refuses the best fighting equipment. His confidence is not in the capability of equipment but in his past experience with God.

Third, his confidence was centered in God. It was not based in what he possessed but in who he served. *Then David said to the Philistine, ‘You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. This day the LORD will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down and remove your head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the LORD does not deliver by sword or by spear; for the battle is the LORD’S and He will give you into our hands.’*

David’s confidence never wavered because it was based in and centered in

God. Look at David’s “testimony” to the Philistine: *“I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts..., This day the Lord will deliver you up into my hands....all the earth will know that there is a god in Israel...all this assembly may know that the Lord does not deliver by sword or by spear; for the battle is the Lord’s and He will give you into my hands.”* This is no arrogant boast by a prideful young man trying to prove himself a man or a king. This was an arrogant boast in the capacity of God to deliver. David said with boldest confidence, *“He will give you into my hands.”*

How we face God-sized opportunities or challenges is based upon our confidence in God. Today’s confidence is built upon yesterday’s deliverances by God.

Confidence is not something manufactured at the moment. Confidence is something that grows/is built up as we serve the Living God revealed in Jesus Christ. The real challenge for us is to face life’s battles with the enemies of God with confidence in Him and not ourselves.

Living this life is not built or based upon our capacity but in God’s ability.

Love In Christ,
Floyd

