

Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities



Children in the Tigoni/Limuru community are looking forward to Vacation Bible School this December.

New VBS Opportunity Awaits In Kenya

It seems like only yesterday that plans were being made to hold the first Vacation Bible School at Koinonia Church in Kenya. Now, after three years of witnessing God work among His people and in the lives of the children there, He has opened another door of opportunity for a similar endeavor in the Tigoni/Limuru community.

Yes, Teleios has been asked to bring a team Nov. 27-Dec. 8 to lead Vacation Bible School at Happy Day Academy for the children in that community.

The cost is only \$2,000 if paid by Aug. 30 and includes airfare, hotel, food, in-country transportation, travel visa, and a one-day safari. After August, the cost is \$2,250 if paid before Sept. 30. After Sept. 30, the cost is \$2,500.

If you've been part of a previous VBS team to Kenya, please prayerfully consider joining us in this new venture. If you've ever felt led to participate in a team effort like this, please be in prayer seeking God's guidance for you. If you have any questions, call us at 864-322-9775.

God's Love Reaches Across Continents, Cultures

By Bernard Kabaru Mwangi

The 20 days in March that I spent in Romania amongst Hungarian Baptists, Romanian Baptists and Roma Baptists could only best be regarded as a God-thing. How I ended up connected to Romania and the fast-growing partnership between brethren there and us in Kenya is definitely a God-thing.

The opportunity to teach at the Hungarian Baptist Seminary in Oradea; speak to a class at Emmanuel University and bring greetings to the entire school during a school assembly; preach in revival meetings, as well as Sunday services – out of which souls came to Christ and others rededicated their lives to Christ and His cause; make multiple visits in the homes of these lovely and graciously hospitable brethren and enjoy delicious meals in plenty - of course, adding some weight; have a radio interview on the realities in Kenya, especially with the Orphans and Vulnerable Children Support (OVC) through Pro-Africa, that was broadcast widely, as well as a published interview in the Hungarian Baptist Convention Newsletter; meet and chat with individual sponsors of some of the 180 OVCs; walk through two Gypsy villages; attend the Hungarian Baptist Convention AGM and the Barnabas session; and visit some great landmark areas in Romania as we traveled across the region, was

more than I had expected. Of course, this means that I had a very tight program, speaking to at least two churches most days.

I returned home to Kenya physically exhausted but overflowing with a great sense of fulfillment resulting from the following:

a. Divine opportunity to do Christian missions in the West, thus confirming my dream that Africa has a place in impacting the West and the rest of the world with the Gospel.

This opportunity must be seized with the promptness it deserves. It affirmed again and again the realization I arrived at as a teen-ager that Christianity was and is not a religion for the West to enslave Africa, but rather, Jesus is the way to shalom – true peace that all humankind craves for.

The hugs and kisses I received from many to whom I was the first African to hold hands with them and have in their village, and the brotherly connection without any strains caused me to adore Christ even more and increased my desire to serve Him as He calls and grants opportunity.

My conviction that there is a place for Kenyans to help reach the Gypsy people with the Gospel was affirmed over and over.

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In Buying One Door, Another Can Open

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” – Matthew 7:7

Over the past three years, Koinonia Church in Kenya has been opening its doors to those in their community who have knocked seeking to find the love of Christ and the salvation He offers.

Earlier this year, as a result of much prayer and faithful involvement within the church and the community, Koinonia was able to break ground on a new permanent auditorium designed to serve as the church sanctuary. The dream of establishing a life-empowering center that will allow Koinonia to be intricately involved in bringing God’s love to the community is on the verge of becoming a reality.

Construction on the sanctuary has been progressing and is nearing the final stages. What remains to be done is the installation of doors and windows and the laying of the floor.

You can help complete the construction by purchasing a door or window, or even contributing to the laying of the floor. Listed

below are the costs of each. Please prayerfully consider giving so that the finishing touches can be put on the sanctuary.

Doors

Set of Double Doors = \$225 – need 2 sets

Single Door = \$125 – need 5

Windows

Window = \$125 each – need 13

Floor

Cement, rebar and finish = \$4,300

To purchase a door or window or contribute to the laying of the floor, mail your check to Teleios Ministry, 28 Eula St., Greenville, S.C. 29609. If you have any questions, call 864-322-9775 or e-mail floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org.

We praise God for His faithfulness to these believers and for those who through prayer and partnership help bring glory to His name in Kenya.

GOD’S LOVE

Continued from page 1

It was exciting one evening as we walked through the village after a revival meeting to hear the Gypsy kids singing as they walked home the Swahili song I taught them during my first visit in 2006 (which they still remembered but sing now with a Gypsy style). The song is “Hakuna Mungu kama Wewe” (“There Is No God Like You”). The revival meetings were packed and many were saved.

b. Confirmation that Christian Missions is mutual in its effect. Visiting with Pastor Joseph Simon, Pastor Adrian Giorgiov and lovely Johanna Borzasi, who have had an opportunity to come for short-term missions in Kenya, and listening to them as they retold their transformative experience and blessings from their trip while also seeing the passion and conviction for missions they have and are “infecting” others with was so reassuring.

The consequent growth in personal faith is certain. One pastor shared with me that since they began supporting the Pro-Africa Project of OVC, they ceased hav-

ing any deficits in their church budget. What a great lesson! The growing connection of the Pro-Africa Project is very reassuring. Never underestimate the power of connections. Thank God for Teleios Ministry.

c. Recognition of Macedonian reality in Missions. All those churches and homes that I visited and the OVC sponsors that I talked to were giving not necessarily out of their bountifulness, but out of their giving of self to Christ and His cause.

It was evident in the tears that were shed as I shared the Gospel and the realities in Kenya. It was evident in the prayers that were voiced with conviction of and submission to God’s purpose. It is not what we have or who we are that counts in Christian missions, but who God is and where we are in joining His mission.

d. Seeing the beauty of interdependence. Does Africa still need Western missionaries? This is a question that some modern missiologists would like to ponder. However, this is not a relevant question. In fact, such a question does not encompass

the true Biblical reality of the Church and Missions.

The Church, whether East, West, North or South; Black, White, Pink or Yellow, is the body of Christ and each organ needs the other. We all need God first, but we also need each other. Cross-cultural and cross-continental missions or any other form of missions is an opportunity to manifest and enjoy this reality. Even in eternity, the saved will need each other.

Of course, I had a slight opportunity to be a star as kids, and even adults, felt my skin and my hair (some did not believe my hair is natural). Of course, I scared some kids because some were not sure why I look different and were scared that this could transfer. Ha!Ha! This was payback time for the Mzungu (Swahili word for a white person) calls that my Caucasian friends have to bear with when they visit with me across Kenya.

e. Beauty of a little heaven on earth is a small shadow of what heaven will be, and thus, a longing for it.





You Are Invited To A Teleios ...



FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION



Saturday, July 4 from 6:30 p.m. until...

28 Eula Street, Greenville, SC

Barbecue—Homemade Ice Cream—Fireworks

*Please RSVP to 864-322-9775 or
floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org by July 1.*

Bring your own lawn chair.



New Kindergarten Opens At Daily Bread Life

With an initial enrollment of 15, the Daily Bread Life Children's Home has opened a kindergarten for the children of the Iringa area.

Wanting to maximize use of the DBL facilities, Mpeli and Neema Mwaisumbe determined that the tutoring room used by the children after school would be ideal for a kindergarten class during the morning and early afternoon.

Thus, the process began to establish a kindergarten. Licensed, registered and staffed with a qualified teacher, the kindergarten presents an exciting opportunity to extend the ministry of the Children's Home to the surrounding area. The teacher is also available to work with the DBL children.

And thanks to the generosity of Teleios partners in their Christmas Catalog purchases, the kindergarten classroom has been supplied with desks and teaching tools.



The children of Iringa, Tanzania, now have more of an opportunity to go to kindergarten thanks to the continued faithfulness of those associated with Daily Bread Life Ministries.





Anna Horne, left, and Katie McClung followed God's call and are spending the summer serving among the Gypsy people in Romania, teaching English and participating in worship at the different churches in the region.

Using Their Gifts To Serve

With God, No Language, Cultural Differences Too Great To Overcome

Two weeks working at Gypsy camp in Romania last summer just weren't enough for Anna Horne and Katie McClung. So this year, they decided to embark on a nine-week adventure that includes teaching English, singing, and working at Gypsy camp!



Yes, these two Lipscomb University students left on May 21 and hit the ground running once they landed. Despite the rainy – and cooler – weather, both Anna and Katie are finding that each day presents a new and exciting opportunity to use the gifts and talents God has given them as they work among the Gypsy people.

What follows are some excerpts from their blogs about what they've experienced since they've been there. You can read their full reports and keep up with them for the remainder of their trip by going to www.teleiosministry.org and linking to their individual blogs on the right-hand side of the home page.

Anna Blogs...

These children are teaching me - I came here to teach, and I am being taught. I have learned more about prayer after listening to them pray, more about joy after playing with them for an hour, and more about peace every minute that I spend in their presence. Every day that I am with them, I love them all a little bit more.

One thing that I have loved about the Bible studies here is the music. Everyone sings these Hungarian songs so loud and passionately, it's really powerful! I almost cried last night at one point, because Zozo started to play these really familiar chords on the guitar and everyone broke into "Shout to the Lord" in Hungarian. Katie and I sang in English and all of a sudden these two cultures came together as one, united by our Savior.

At almost every church service that we have been to while we're here, everybody has asked us if we would sing a song. There have been times when I felt like a traveling performer, and I have really been wrestling with it. I have come to the conclusion that as much as I want to tend to feel guilty about seeing it as a performance and being afraid of showing off, it really is a blessing to these people. If God has given me a voice, then I should use it for His glory and not be ashamed of what I have been given.

I cannot believe that we have already been here for two weeks. It is going by so fast! I cannot even begin to express how much we

have been blessed by this trip so far. Even when things have gone wrong, God has pulled us through in marvelous ways, and has sent us blessings we could never have imagined.

Katie Blogs...

Today, while I was praying before my class, God showed me how even the time after class when my students are teaching me Romanian is just as important as the time when I'm teaching. I'm very thankful for their enthusiasm and grateful to God for giving me more time to interact with them.

I got to have some free time to sit on the church porch, reflect and pray. I want to tell all of you who are praying for me how powerfully I can feel the prayer support. In some quiet times of prayer and meditation here, I can't explain it, but I have felt carried by you.

A special moment at Zozo's house on Monday came when we started to try to find some songs that we had in common. Anna began to hum "Shout to the Lord" and Zozo looked up quickly and said, "You know that?" Later that evening, at the church meeting in Zozo's house, he led their version of the song, and as Anna and I sang along in English, we were overwhelmed by the connection we felt to the people, the song, and to God. That was a great moment!

I'm so thankful for an incredible partner in ministry here. God has blessed Anna and me with a special friendship. We constantly gain strength and encouragement from each other.

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 5



Two Roma Women's Conferences On The Horizon

Faithfulness, Prayer And Outreach Leading To These New Possibilities

By Bonnie Parker

This year as we look at making plans for the fall, there has been a request by the Gypsy Women of Gornesti and Apalina for Teleios to help them host a Roma Women's Conference in their area of the country.

Over the last few years during October, we have participated in the Roma Women's Conference in Acas and conducted by women of the Hungarian Baptist Association.

During last year's visit, a small group of the women (along with two men) approached us and Attila about the possibility of having a similar meeting in their area. They felt that the Gornesti church could serve as the conference location, thus those who are believers could invite women from their villages to come. The day's events would be a chance for believers to worship and learn together and could be used as outreach to their non-believing friends and neighbors. The men volunteered to cook and help with setup and any other things for which they might be needed.

The distance women from this area would

have to travel in order to attend a conference in Acas would require an overnight stay somewhere along the journey. Due to the expenses, family responsibilities, time and, basically, all the logistics of traveling that far, we agree that a separate conference would better serve their needs at this time. A separate conference would also create the opportunity they desire to use this type of meeting for local outreach.

After much prayer and discussion with Attila, we believe the vision of this small group is of God, and it is our desire to help it become a reality. We need your help for this to happen.

While I am in Romania in July, Attila, the women and I will finalize the plans for the conference itself and put together a budget. Will you pray and seek God's will about being a part of this new endeavor?

Perhaps God is calling you to make a commitment to be a partner as an intercessor in prayer specifically for this second conference. Maybe you would like to actually go and use your gifts to sing, speak or just be a part of the work. If so, please contact me at 864-322-9775 or by e-mail at bonnilynhp@charter.net.

I also share the need for financial partners, However God calls to you, I, along with the women in Gornesti and Apalina, welcome you to come alongside us as we have committed to be on mission in this way.

PLANS FOR THE SATU MARE CONFERENCE UNDER WAY

Teleios Ministry once again will be partnering with the Hungarian Baptist Church in Satu Mare to help conduct the Roma Women's Conference tentatively scheduled for October. This conference has proven to be one of the highlights of our year!

Floyd and I have begun to pray for God's leadership in the ways He has for those of us in the U.S. to participate. Already we know we'll be attending and participating on the program. You are welcome to join us at this level of participation if you feel led to serve in this capacity.

Some of you have helped fund this conference in the past. If God is leading you to help in this way again, please contact us. Now is the time to commit to be a part!

More Photos From Romania...



From greeting the Gypsy children to teaching English classes to students of all ages, Katie, left, and Anna realize the opportunities the Lord has given them this summer.



‘Follow Me Because I’m Following Jesus’

God-Orchestrated Beginning Lays Groundwork For Inspired Partnership

This is the first in a periodic series of tributes to the different Teleios partners who exemplify a life of service and commitment to following the Lord’s call on their life as together we “help turn God-given visions into present-day realities.”

By Floyd and Bonnie Parker

Everything about our relationship/partnership/friendship with Zoltan and Elisabeth Vekas has been unique and our life with them a constant awareness of God’s work in all our lives. They were first introduced to us during Bonnie’s August, 1999, mission trip to Romania. This initial meeting laid the groundwork for a great partnership and friendship with the Vekas family.

Bonnie and I were struggling in January, 2000, with a decision regarding where we would invest our lives on a mission trip. We had, in fact, decided to go to another country, but were not comfortable with the decision. We prayed and said, “Lord, if there is somewhere else you want us to go, we will go, just show us the way.”

That was a Sunday night. On Monday morning, we received a card from Zoltan and Elisabeth. Zoltan invited me to come to Satu Mare, and Elisabeth presented Bonnie with the opportunity to be a partner in the Hungarian Baptist Convention



Zoltan, left, learned that Floyd was a man of many talents, especially in cleaning, dressing and cooking trout.

of Romania Women’s Annual Meeting in May. This invitation changed the course of history, so to speak. We accepted the invitation, and in May, 2000, I met Zoltan Vekas for the first time.

Gyula Borzasi, (our longest Romanian partner) was to meet us at the Bucharest airport, and we were going to spend a few days with him and his family at the beginning of the trip in Romania. While we were flying to Romania, Gyula’s mother died. Gyula had called Zoltan and asked him to go to Bucharest to meet us.

Zoltan drove to nearby Baia Mare, flew to Bucharest and arrived in time to meet our flight. I will never forget seeing Zoltan for the first time. He had a bright smile and an even brighter yellow shirt!

Our plans were changed in a moment from Brasov to Satu Mare. God had a plan in mind for us to spend more time with Zoltan and Elisabeth. From that God-orchestrated beginning, a deep relationship was born, along with a joint passion for mission.

From the moment we arrived in Satu Mare on that first trip, we were immersed in mission, from ministering in the local prison to preaching at the Acas Roma Church. Over the years, the Vekas home and the Satu Mare church has become our home away from home.

Zoltan continually demonstrates his passion for leadership development, “the mission,” and the Roma (Gypsy) people. Along with the Satu Mare church, his groundbreaking work among the Gypsies has earned him the moniker “the Gypsy pastor.” His and Elizabeth’s mentoring of Bonnie and me in Gypsy ministry has been invaluable as we have partnered with others working among Gypsies in various locations.

During our first trip, Zoltan discovered that I was a “farmer boy” when we went to the mountains for a picnic. We got



Taking advantage of their time together, Floyd and Zoltan are able to share the gospel with the inmates of the Satu Mare prison.

some fresh trout and had to clean, dress and cook the fish. Zoltan learned that I could do all three. He also learned that I knew how to build a fire.

He and Elisabeth gave Bonnie and me one of the most memorable days of our life in mission and marriage. Interestingly enough, Zoltan was wearing that same yellow shirt.

The stories we have from the past nine years are too numerous to count or tell. Ironically, time and time again we have followed that yellow shirt into the Lord’s field to work because the man wearing that shirt was following Jesus!

From battling cancer and heart issues to sharing the gospel in Roma villages and Satu Mare, we have served together. From Zoltan and Elisabeth, we have learned so much about “the mission,” how to “feel the pulse” of Romania and other cultures, and the true meaning of partnership.

Thank you my “twin” brother and sister Elisabeth for your investment in Bonnie and me and for helping make our God-given vision of partnering with others to share the gospel in an international field a reality. Most of all, we are eternally grateful for your prayers and friendship.



This Just In...

[From Romania...](#)

Daniel and Adina Pusok's plans to relocate to Toronto, Canada, to serve the Hungarian Baptist Church there have had a slight change. As of press time, Daniel had received his work visa and arrived in Toronto. Adina and baby Salome will remain in Romania until late August as things continue to be worked out with her paperwork. Daniel will return to help her make the move at that time. Please pray for them as they are apart and that the appropriate legal issues be resolved so they can be together.

Zalau—Congratulations to Magdi Papp and Arpi Suto on the birth of a son, Arpad Gehza. Weighing 9 lbs., 3 oz., the baby was born on March 31. Ask God's blessings on them and guidance for Magdi and Arpi to be Godly parents. Pray for baby to grow to become the young man of God that the Lord has created him to be.

Reghin—Attilia Toth has asked Adel Fekete to be his wife, and she said yes! Their formal engagement will take place later in the summer with plans being made for a Nov. 7 wedding. Pray for these two as they commit to one another and a future together serving the Lord through a Christian marriage.

[From Tanzania...](#)

Iringa—Derrick Miller of Greenville, S.C., is spending eight weeks working with Mpeli Mwiasumbe. As he works alongside Mpeli, pray for the Lord to guide Derrick to the plans He has for his future. Thank God for Derrick's willingness to serve this summer and his obedience to God's call on his life in the months and years to come. Pray also for good health and safety in travel for the duration of Derrick's trip.

[From Kenya...](#)

Central Area—Pray for the Grace Church team as they partner through Teleios with Bernard Kabaru Mwangi and FOBOCK. They are in Kenya now conducting leadership training conferences among the churches.

[From USA...](#)

Greenville, S.C.—The 2008 Teleios Christmas Catalog won First Place in the Direct Mail Marketing category of the Media Women of South Carolina communications contest.

Support For Gypsy Camp Embodies Spirit Of Partners

By Bonnie Parker

The outpouring of support for the Gypsy children's summer camp in July has been unbelievable, and the generosity of Teleios partners continues to be overwhelming!

After an article in the last newsletter expressed the need for a second camp, many of you contacted the office and immediately sent help. Sponsorships for all 80 children, as well as for supplies for both weeks of camp were given within days! Thank you!

Twenty-five different people have given for sponsorship of the children and/or supplies. The number of partners contributing for the support of Anna Horne and Katie McClung and the two camps makes this project one of the largest partnerships in our nearly 10 years of work in Teleios Ministry.

God has worked in the hearts of various people in many geographical locations (at least seven different states), occupations and denominations to make possible partnership work in Romania and the two camps for 80 Gypsy children this summer. Anna and Katie had many contributors help fund their nine-week stay and work in Romania. Four churches in two different states and at least 21 family units contributed to the girls' summer adventure. The camps in July will be the highlight and culmination of their work there this year.

Only God knows the number of prayers being offered on behalf of the girls and camp. Thank you! Our hearts overflow with gratitude for your willingness to join together in the work of the Lord to make a difference in so many lives through this project.

Check It Out! New DBL Library Opens!



Yes, in His time and in His way, the Lord brought about this reality through the generosity of a Teleios supporter wanted to help meet a current need listed on the web site, www.teleiosministry.org.





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HELPING GOD-GIVEN VISIONS BECOME PRESENT-DAY REALITIES

We're on the Web! Check us out — www.teleiosministry.org



Reflections From the Green Chair....

In 2 Samuel 7, David is King of all Israel (and Judah) and “the LORD had given him rest on every side from all his enemies.” There is that inevitable lull that comes after a great accomplishment and before the next great adventure. This seems to be a problem time for David. David looks around and his eyes are opened to the reality that he lives in a house of cedar, but God’s “house” is a tent with curtains. He decides he should upgrade God’s house in the new capital of Jerusalem. He asks the prophet Nathan what he thinks. Nathan, without thinking, says, “Go ahead with your plans.”

That night, Nathan has an encounter with God, who says: “Go and say to My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Are you the one who should build Me a house to dwell in?”’ In short, God says to David, “Who told you to build me a house to dwell in? Did I say to you, ‘David, build me a house?’”

Speaking again through Nathan, God says more, “The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you.” God is not talking about a house of bricks, stone and wood. He is talking about building a legacy of kings

to rule forever over His people.

David responds to God in one of the most beautiful prayers of Scripture: “Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that You have brought me this far? And yet this was insignificant in Your eyes, O Lord GOD, for You have spoken also of the house of Your servant concerning the distant future. ...for You, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made a revelation to Your servant, saying, ‘I will build you a house’...”

Brief recap: David decides to build something great for God, but God did not ask David to do it. David thought this was something that he could do for God. Instead of David building God a house to dwell in, God promised David a house—a dynasty of kings that would never end. David repents and says, “You have revealed to me that you build a house.” No surprise that David’s son, Solomon, in the Psalms writes: “Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.”

At the very heart of understanding God’s plan/purpose/will for our lives is who initiates the plan. What David wanted to do was a great idea. In fact, David gath-

ered the material for building the temple, but it was his son who was chosen to build the Temple of God in Jerusalem.

This is powerful lesson for us. The focus of our lives, the focus of the mission, is never what we want or can do for God. The focus is always on what God is doing through us and with us. This may not sound like a big difference, but it is a huge one, as David learned. We are followers. We are not the ones who build for God. God builds us.

Reflecting on this is heavy stuff—this is about obedience. We don’t get to head off in our own direction in our own time. God has a plan that He is working out in our lives. We must wait on Him. We must follow Him.

God does not need us to do something great for Him. He is great, and whatever He leads us to do is greater than anything we can plan or do. The great struggle for me is to make sure that a dream or a plan is not the creation of my mind but the revelation of God for what He has prepared for us to do.

With Love In Christ,

Floyd

