

# Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities

## Teleios Web Site Getting A New Look

By Meg Hunt

A new year...new projects...new partners...and a new web site to keep you posted on all that's going on with Teleios.

OK, maybe not a completely new web site, but a new look and new features to help us share with you more regularly all God is doing through relationships He has brought together through Teleios.

Recognizing how important it was to keep folks up to date in a more "real-time" way, the next question was to determine what would be the most effective vehicle to do so. In short, the obvious answer was our web site. Because of the immediacy with which we can share news, information, photos, and opportunities available for personal involvement, we opted to look at how we could better utilize this tool for information sharing.

Over the next few weeks, we will continue to tweak and enhance the site as needed in order to maximize the opportunity our web site affords us. Our web address is still the same, and the focus is, of course, to continue to share all that is being done to glorify God through the many projects and partnerships He brings together in His way and His time.

So, check us out—[www.teleiosministry.org](http://www.teleiosministry.org). But most importantly, keep an open heart to God's call on your life as you read through the features and look at the photos.

We are all God's servants. He created us with many different talents and skills, all of which can be used to His glory. None of us can say we have nothing to give. God can do all things with each and every one of us if we'll only let Him.



**Attila Toth, church planter in the Reghin area of Romania, leads the singing for the standing-room-only crowd who came to the evangelizing services held in Gornesti.**

## Nothing Is Impossible For God

By Attila Toth

Gornesti is a parish center in Romania inhabited by 2,000 people. Most of the villagers are Hungarian and members of the Reformed Church.

These two factors – Hungarian nationality and the Reformed denomination – belong together in the thinking of the people here. In 2001, a group of Reformed people gathered together to study the Bible, since they were not satisfied with the simple religious practices which generally meant the religious life in their environment. They wanted something more than that.

In turn, these people committed their lives to Jesus and were baptized. Thus, the Baptist mission started in this village.

As neither the Reformed Church nor their families, were pleased with the



**Many responded to God's calling during the evangelizing services in Gornesti.**

repentance of these new Believers, each of them had their share in a big fight and great suffering for Jesus. Currently, the Baptist church in Gornesti has 13 members who passionately love Jesus and pray and labor for the repentance of the people.

We annually organize services for outreach to the villagers, but since

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# The Miracle At Gornesti

By Floyd Parker

“It’s a big miracle!” announced Miklos, church leader of the Gornesti mission church.

On March 2-4, the Gornesti Baptist Mission held evangelistic meetings in the village cultural hall.

Last year, only four or five people came each night. This year, the church began praying a month before the meetings. They hand delivered personal invitations to all the homes of Gornesti inviting their neighbors. A group of young men from the Salaj district (about five hours away) came to be a part of the meetings as a mission team. The group was organized by Attila Toth’s brother. A 14-member brass band and young men’s chorus came. Dr. Floyd Parker was the speaker for the three nights along with testimonies by the mission members and the young men.

When the doors opened on Friday night, over 100 people came. The members of the mission church said, “It’s a miracle.”

On Saturday night, over 150 people came. With great joy, Attila said, “Oh, I never would have believed so many people would come.”

On Sunday night, all the chairs at the cultural hall were filled with more than 20 people standing along the walls.

On the first night, 10 people made public decisions to follow



**A brass band and young men’s chorus helped lead the music during the Gornesti Baptist Mission evangelistic meetings.**

Jesus Christ. The second and third nights, the decisions were not counted. People were asked after the service to come and talk with Attila or the church leaders if they had made a decision to follow Jesus Christ. Saturday and Sunday nights brought people coming to Attila, Floyd, and others to talk about their commitments to Christ.

Please continue to pray for the spiritual awakening that is happening in Gornesti. Pray for the mission leaders and for Attila, the pastor.

What is hard for most Americans to understand is what a movement of God this is. In the Hungarian village culture, this type of spiritual movement is rarely seen.

## NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE

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they look upon us with prejudices, very few of them have come to church so far. At the beginning of this year, when we were making plans for 2007, most of our little congregation thought there was no use having a special mission campaign; instead each member should be engaged in personal evangelization.

However, when we learned that our Brother in Christ, Dr. Floyd Parker, was going to visit and stay with us for a few days, the Holy Spirit prompted us to organize a series of evangelizing services, and we asked our Brother Floyd to preach the Gospel in these services.

It was then that we started to experience the truth that God’s thoughts are not human thoughts. While delivering the invitations to the evangelizing services, God

surpassed us, and we were ashamed of our previous doubts because, against our expectations, many families welcomed us affectionately. A few even asked us to pray for them and their sick.

Beginning with the first evening, many people came to our services and listened to God’s Word very carefully. The work and presence of the Holy Spirit was really tangible from evening to evening. It was God’s special grace that many responded on the spot to God’s calling. The members of the small congregation were only surprised to see what miracles God can perform even today, and we couldn’t do anything else other than thank God after each occasion with joy for the good will God expressed to us.

Each of us has gained new impulse and energy. We can see now again that there

is nothing impossible for God. He can open up new doors, and He can use us as instruments in saving people.

We can also see that we still have a mission in this village. These occasions confirmed us in the hope that if we do our little share of the work, God will also do His part.

It’s a great joy for us to see God’s Word coming true, for as it is written in Isaiah 43:19, “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.”

With Love,  
Attila

*Attila Toth is a Church Planter in northern Romania.*

## ‘My Life Is Changed!’

Cine Anna described herself as a “poor” Apalina Gypsy. She shared how her life had changed since Attila Toth brought the Gospel to her street.

“Before Attila came, I was bad to my children and said many bad words to them,” she said. “Now I am different in how I think, how I treat them and other people. I am praying everyday and reading the Bible. My life has changed.”

Every week, Attila goes to Apalina Roma village on the outskirts of Reghin, as many as five times. “I love these people,” says Attila. “I come whenever I have free time during the week.”

And they love him. As he walks down the street of Apalina, children, young people, and adults call out his nickname, “Ati.” He knows their stories and some of their special Roma language. He visits in their homes that are everything from horse stables to four-room houses.



Throughout Apalina, many are familiar with the work of Attila and his mission.



Cine Anna has a new outlook on life since she has begun to pray daily and read the Bible.

Always with his guitar, Attila leads three house group meetings at least every week. The Roma ask him, “Ati, rent a house and live here with us.” Currently, over 50 children and 40 adults gather for one of the house group meetings.

Attila is now trying to find space to rent so that all the people can come together for worship. Prayer partners are needed for this ministry. Also, partners are needed to help provide space for the gatherings.

“Ati” invites those who will come and assist in the ministry through short-term mission teams.

## First-Ever Roma Children’s Week Proposed For Harghita Camp

Attila Toth, Church Planter in the Reghin area, and Istvan Borzasi have a dream: that Roma (Gypsy) children from their area can go to a real camp.

This would be a first if partners can be found for the 120 children to attend.

While Gypsy youth have attended the camp at Harghita before, and some Gypsy children have attended with a church group, there has never been a whole week of camp specifically for Gypsy children. In fact, Attila said, “This would be a miracle.”

For only \$40, you can sponsor a Roma child for camp. The cost for the entire week of camp for all 120 children is just \$4,800.

Please pray that God will lead people to become sponsors so these children can have an opportunity to share in His creation and love in a beautiful camp setting.

For more information on how you can sponsor a child or children, you can contact Floyd Parker at [floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org](mailto:floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org) or Meg Hunt at [mhunt21@msn.com](mailto:mhunt21@msn.com).

## Could We Interest Your Church In A Cemetery?

“I never thought that you would have to consider a cemetery when beginning mission work in a village,” Zoltan Vekas said, shaking his head.

Over the past three years, the Tiream mission has grown into a church. One year and a half ago, the Tiream church building was purchased, renovated, and dedicated to the glory of the Lord. In recent months, two members of the church have died.

These members’ families, and the Tiream and Satu Mare churches discovered that

Baptists were not allowed to be buried in the local church cemetery. In fact, the pastor/priest of that church stood in the gate of the cemetery and refused entrance—even though the families and church were willing to pay for the space.

The church of another denomination is the dominate church among the Hungarian speaking people. Basically, if one is born as Hungarian-speaking, then one is considered a member of that denomination. The Tiream and Satu Mare churches were praying about what to do.

The Satu Mare church took the bold and expensive step of purchasing approximately 100 burial spaces from the local Romanian Orthodox church for the Tiream church. So, while the crisis is over in Tiream, the Satu Mare church may have to deal with the same issues in another village.

Who would have thought that establishing a cemetery went hand in hand with establishing a new church? New Christians and new churches mean new cemeteries.

## Phase 1 Construction At Happy Day Complete

*From Bernard Mwangi*

Praise God the journey is about to be completed for Phase 1 construction at the new Happy Day Academy. The much-awaited move will take place in April and the May-August term will begin in the new facility. Praise God for this success. It is a dream come true.

Mary's joy cannot be concealed. What an accomplishment. The final stages of fitting the doors and windows with grills for security purposes. A steel gate and a stone block front wall have also been added for security.

Grating and landscaping has been done to prepare the playing grounds for the children. The lawn is growing.

Praise God for the accomplishments, thus far—He is certainly Yahweh Jireh. We can testify to this. Thank God for Teleios and their lovely partners.

We pray for:

- Continued Holistic development of the children—especially that they will come to know Christ and grow to serve Him.

- Strength and grace to Mary and the teachers.
- Final Completion of the Phase 1 of the academy—wiring, painting, playground, etc.
- Continued provision for the needy and desperate kids.

Praise God for He has been with us and is so faithful.

Again, let me thank you greatly for the support. The government has published new rules for Early Childhood centers and is doing site checks.

They visited the location where Mary is currently this week. First, they were impressed with the running of the center and the neatness and quality of the kids. They were not thrilled by the current facility. They were, however, very impressed with the new structure.

What an answer to prayer. Amazing how all this is falling together in such a timely manner.

Praise God for He is the Lord over time, too. Amen.



**The May-August term for Happy Day Academy is set to begin in this newly finished facility.**

## Hands-On Approach Building A Firm Foundation

Otto Kis and his wife, Elisabeth, are serving the people of the Seven Villages area near Brasov, Romania, as church planters. Through true hands-on ministry, Otto has reached out in Jesus' name in the community by painting houses, repairing fences, digging potatoes, and helping with all kinds of problems.

Through this type of ministry, he has also been able to establish the Hope Group, which brings together more than 17 physically and mentally challenged individuals in a loving and caring environment. Overlooked by many, Otto and Elisabeth have reached out in love and seen some of them come to faith in Jesus Christ.

In addition, every week their home is



**The Hope Group reaches out in love and care to physically and mentally challenged individuals.**

filled with children. Two rooms of their four-room flat are filled with 15 children in each room. They reach out to couples through marriage and family enrichment home groups, while individual ministry to

neighbors, cashiers at stores, and friends always keeps someone calling or coming by to talk about life issues.

Different areas require different strategies for developing relationships and starting new churches. Otto and Elisabeth have found that building strong relationships takes time but is vital to a firm foundation for beginning a church in this area.

Please pray for Otto and Elisabeth as they are close to having their first meeting as a church in the area. Pray for them as they bring together the Hope Group, the children, the home groups, and their relational contacts to form this new community. There is always the opportunity to join them as part of a short-term mission team.

# This Just In...

## From Romania...

### **Transylvania area...**

The Hungarian Baptist Women of Romania are planning the second annual conference for the Gypsy women in the Roma churches across the Transylvania area on October 3. Please begin to pray as they prepare for this meeting. Bonnie has been invited to be the keynote speaker.

### **Zalau**

Work on the Agape Hotel is in the final stages. Daniel Pusok tells us that the projected opening is slated for this summer, with a wedding celebration as the first event to be held there in June.

## From Kenya...

### **Koinonia**

Partnership details are now being worked out with a Greenville-area church which has committed to working with Fellowship of Baptists in Central Kenya (FOBOCK) and Koinonia Baptist Church in leadership development. Floyd will lead an exploratory team to Kenya in May to introduce the partners.

Also, Koinonia Baptist Church has, after much prayer and persistence, found another piece of property for the church. And just in time because the lease on their current site had expired. God is truly at work in that area.

## From United States...

### **New York City**

Floyd and Bonnie, along with Teleios Board member Anne Hitt, are in New York City this week (March 31-April 6) with a team conducting Spring Camp at Greater Restoration Baptist Church in Brooklyn.

## Annual Women's Conference At Harghita June 1-3

The Hungarian Baptist Women of Romania will hold their annual conference at Harghita Christian Camp on June 1-3. The theme of this year's conference is "The Spiritual Growing..."

The registration fee is \$25.00 per woman. Because of the generosity of Teleios partners in the past five years, the fee has been held to this reasonable amount making it possible for many desiring to attend to do so.

If anyone or any group is willing to partner with us to assist HBWR again this year, please make your contribution designated accordingly as soon as possible.

## Teachers Needed *Spring Valley Girls Want You!*

A growing student body. A greater focus on a more encompassing curriculum. A deep desire to learn.

All of these, combined with a #1 ranking among the 68 accredited schools in Tanzania, have helped make the Spring Valley School for Girls a teacher's dream.



**The young women at the Spring Valley School are waiting for you to share with them.**

*"But I'm not qualified," you're saying.*

*"Not true," we say.*

What the students at Spring Valley want – and hope for – is knowledge and exposure to that which will provide them with learning opportunities they never before imagined could be theirs. Most of what each of us defines as our skill set qualifies us to provide such a learning opportunity.

*"I don't have enough vacation time to go on a weeks-long mission trip to teach," you're saying.*

*"Give what time you can," we say.*

A week to two weeks can be turned into an effective learning opportunity for the students. The small Spring Valley faculty and staff work with us to adjust, facilitate and coordinate adequate time for the course of study you'd like to teach.

*"I don't know the language," you're saying.*

*"You do," we say.*

Yes, the students, faculty and staff at Spring Valley speak very good English and understand even some of our unique colloquialisms. Keep in mind, though, that through Christ, we all speak the same language.

And truly, it is He who is working through so many to continue to make Spring Valley School for Girls the tremendous blessing of hope for the young women in Iringa, Tanzania.

Please search your heart and open your mind to the idea that "Yes, I have something to teach." Once you say "Yes" to God, everything else will be worked out.

For more information on how you can make a Spring Valley student's dream come true, contact Bonnie Parker at [bonnilynbp@charter.net](mailto:bonnilynbp@charter.net) or Meg Hunt at [mhunt21@msn.com](mailto:mhunt21@msn.com).



## Reflections From the Green Chair...

Jesus said, "I have come that you might have life and have it abundantly." Paul wrote, "Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new." (CEV)

As we celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord as Easter approaches, we reflect upon many things. One thing that has captured my reflections is the New Testament understanding of life. How do we live this life in Jesus Christ?

In John 12:23-33, Jesus describes His own decision to live through dying. I am going to ramble through this passage and just give you a few reflections for Easter.

The parable of the grain of wheat: "unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." (24). Jesus was talking about His own death, but even more, He was talking about His life. A grain of wheat was born to die. Or, we might soften this and say change. Another word is transformed. No matter how you look at it, the old seed passes away and the new plant comes.

The truth is that the grain of wheat was created with the purpose and intention of becoming a plant. When God created us, we became grains of wheat, and inside each one of us is the purpose and intention of becoming a plant. We only have to die to the fact we are a grain of wheat. We only have to die in order to really live.

Notice that Jesus said the destiny of the single grain is being alone—Wow! Loneliness is a real issue today. This transformation results in a new life but also a life of replication—producing a lot of fruit.

Jesus described what the parable meant for His followers: "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him."

With space at a premium, I am just going to list the reflections: Dying is serving and following Jesus. Jesus never leaves us or forsakes us. Jesus is with us always, not because He follows us around as we do what we want; but, because we follow Him.

This is new life. This is losing your life. This is being a new creation. This is one of my great pet peeves—the idea that Jesus follows us around. NO! We are His servants—we follow Him—as we follow Him, then we are never separated. Notice that the Father will honor him.

"Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 'Father, glorify Your name.'" Here is the true prayer of a plant, a servant, a new creation, an abundant liver of life.

Jesus, in another great statement of purpose, said, "This is why I came—Father glorify thy name."

As we reflect upon this Easter, as we celebrate forgiveness, the sacrifice of Jesus, and the resurrection of our Lord; why did He come? That we might have life, that we might be new, that we might be transformed by dying so that we might, by trying, live.

With Love In Christ,  
*Floyd*