

# Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities



The vision of a self-sustaining farm for the Children's Home, as well as a water well on the property are now becoming reality because of the faithfulness of many.

## The Growth Of A Vision

By Floyd Parker

Jesus said, "The one who is faithful in small things will be given more." I have often wondered about that statement. Since Bonnie and I began living our vision/dream of Teleios Ministry, that statement from Jesus has been proven true time and time again.

In our newsletter, we share the visions and dreams that God has given through His Spirit to men and women of faith. You have read and heard of their faithfulness in those visions and dreams.

For some, the vision started small, and they were faithful. Thus, God gave and has given larger visions and dreams. Let me share with you some big visions and needed resources for their fulfillment

**Location:** Iringa District, Tanzania

**Vision:** Secondary School with primary emphasis for young women.

**Needed Resources:** \$150,000 to purchase land and build initial buildings. Scholarships of \$1,500 per year per young woman.

*Continued on page 5*

## A Tent Full Of People Witness The Joy Of Baptism

By Attila Toth

I want to share in a few words of what God is doing here at this time. As I told you, the time arrived for Zozo's family to be baptized. While we prepared for the baptism, the idea came that we could do a few evangelistic meetings before baptism. The church agreed with that, and we started the preparation.

We prayed a lot, made invitations and invited the whole village. Because we didn't have baptism pool in the church building, we planned to do the baptism in the Mures river. The Foundation from the Gypsy mission that gave me the car to use offered us a big tent (300 people can sit under this tent), and a baptism pool we can use on the bank of the river.

People from two of the Gypsy missions came to help us in these evangelistic meetings and with the baptism. I invited my good friend Dohi Zoltan and a musician from Sarma-sag named Miklos. So, last week we had two evangelistic meetings and had baptism on the third day.

God blessed us in a special way. Even though the weather was not too nice, almost every night the tent was full with people. We rented a bus and some people from Apalina came to hear the Gospel and to see Zozo's family baptized. I was very touched when I saw that more than 20 people



Attila Toth, center, stands with newly baptized believers in the Gornesti area.

went forward to pray and to receive Jesus after the preaching. This was my first baptism service, and I will be happy if the others will be so blessed like this was.

A lot of people from the area came to the baptism service. My good friends pastor Totos Janos from Sangergiu de Padure, pastor Kelemen Sandor from Targu Mures, and pastor Doczi Gyorgy were also there. Doczi brought three women who were baptized at this time, too. So together there were eight people in white.

Since the baptism service more people are coming to Gornesti church, especially to the meetings at Zozo's house. Praise the Lord! Just yesterday, a young man came to me at Gornesti church and said that a few

*Continued on page 5*

*A Teleios Team went to Iringa, Tanzania in June to assist in the development of a hog farm and supplemental water resources for the Daily Bread Life Children's Home and Kidetete community. They also built a drying shed for the Home, and led Vacation Bible School for the children. Frank Strickland from Marion, S.C., and Tricia Miller from Greenville, S.C., share highlights of their experiences during the trip.*

## Having A Small Part In A 'Great Big Dream'

*By Frank Strickland*

What a great trip! This kind of trip is a life-changing experience for anyone who goes. The kids are wonderful. Mpeli and his family made me feel welcome and part of their family. I wondered about Floyd, though, when he sent me off all by myself. I arrived in Dar and did not know a soul in the whole country, but Frank and Mpeli soon made me feel like I had known them forever.

Tanzania is a beautiful country, numerous scenic views and wildlife, but the greatest natural resource is its people. I met some of the most wonderful people there. And I was able to have a small part in a great big wonderful dream, a dream that will come true in God's own time.

I saw people who had so little themselves, but were willing to share what they had with others; a church family that was poor by our standards but rich in the spirit of God.

As we visited the farm, I saw the beginning of another dream, a dream of feeding the children at the Children's Home with home-grown pork and vegetables. But it is also a dream of helping the village and the farmers by providing them with a new source of income, of having a model farm and production



**Frank Strickland, left, works with Caleb Owen, center, and Kip Miller as they begin to construct a drying shed at the Children's Home.**

system that we can replicate in other villages and for other homes or schools.

I saw people who were strong in their faith. They know that life is hard, but have faith that God cares for them and will, in His time, answer their prayers.

I thank God that I may have a small part in His plan for these children. I see the future of Tanzania when I look into the eyes of the children at the Children's Home. I believe we will see many of these children as leaders in their churches, in local government, and, yes, even at the national level. The small part we play today can and will be a big part of the future of Tanzania. I plan to go back soon. Will you come and go with me?

## Living To Serve And Honor Christ Daily

*By Tricia Miller*

My family began our trip to Africa on June 4. We went from Greenville to Detroit to Amsterdam and then to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. We arrived in Dar on Thursday night and stayed in a hotel. The next morning we started on our long trip to the Children's Home in Iringa, Tanzania. We arrived there Friday night and were welcomed by the children with song. Joy filled my heart, and I had a peace in my heart knowing the trip was going to be successful.



We stayed at Mpeli and Neema's house that week. It was great. In the mornings, we got up and went to the dining hall to have breakfast with the children.

Following breakfast,

the men began to work on building the drying shed while the rest of us started to prepare for Bible School with the children. Our week of Bible School was based on Psalms 139:14, "I will give thanks to Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Each day focused on one of the five senses and how God works through our senses and how God made us so wonderful.

My mom, Kim, and sister, Meagan, taught the Bible lessons, and Bonnie Parker, Becky Wood and I taught the academic lessons. Each day we had crafts and recreation. The children loved the games "Tricia Says" and Musical Chairs. We also taught them a song on how they should be careful what they do with their eyes, ears, nose, mouth, hands and feet.

This experience helped me realize how blessed my family and I are, and how we should share with others. All the children have a servant's heart and want to help with anything. This trip really changed my perspective on how I should live my life and serve Christ daily to honor Him instead of always wanting to honor myself.



# The Children's Home Has Special Friends

By Floyd Parker

On June 9, the Teleios Team had the opportunity to meet the government leaders of the Iringa area. Kip Miller and I had the privilege of meeting and praying with the Honorable Elaston J. M. Mbwilo, Iringa District Commissioner. He represents the President of Tanzania in all matters related to the Iringa District. The commissioner is a very strong personal supporter of the Children's Home.

At lunch, the Honorable Mayor A.S. Mwamwindi and Deputy Mayor S.T. Mgusa of Iringa City, along with the local Councilman and Area Leader joined us, the children, and staff for a celebration lunch on campus.

The Deputy Mayor is a very strong personal supporter of the Children's Home. The mayor, who is Muslim, is an encourager of the work of the Children's Home. They shared with us their commitment to the future of the Children's Home. They also shared with us their dream for a high school for young women. This high school, as well as a secondary school which focuses on teaching young women is a future desire of Mpeli and Neema Mwaisumbe.

## FREEDOM TORCH COMES TO CHILDREN'S HOME

On July 9, the Freedom Torch of Tanzania was at the Children's Home. This torch is a symbol of freedom of the Tanzanian people and an object of great pride. It was first lit atop Mt. Kilimanjaro in 1961 to symbolically shine across the country and across the borders to bring hope where there is despair, love where there is enmity and respect where there is hatred.

Hosting the Freedom Torch is a great honor. The Children's Home was selected from a great number of places to receive



During the June trip to Tanzania, Kip Miller and Floyd Parker met the Honorable Elaston J.M. Mbwilo, Iringa's District Commissioner, at left, and the Team had the pleasure of meeting the Honorable Mayor A.S. Mwamwindi and Deputy Mayor S.T. Mgusa of Iringa City, photo above.

the torch. With the arrival of the torch also comes more national exposure for the Children's Home resulting in additional visits by national and district leaders. Other benefits include a new and improved road leading to the Children's Home.

God continues to bless the Children's Home with favor. We celebrate the partnership of the Home, Teleios partners, and the Tanzanian government leaders of the city, district, and nation.

# DBL Children Have Adventure Of A Lifetime

*The children of Daily Bread Life Children's Home have just returned from an exciting new adventure! They were able to take an overnight field trip to Ruaha National Park! The Park provided lodging and the cost of the game drive. Teleios Ministry partners funded transportation to and from Iringa and food costs. Mpeli Mwaisumbe wrote us about their trip and sent pictures.*

Neema Mwaisumbe and four staff members traveled to Ruaha with the children. None of the children had ever experienced a safari, nor had they seen most of the wild animals.

## On Safari

"The children are happy and told me all about the new experiences they have in their lives," writes Mpeli. "They told me to say thank you for giving them this kind of experience. They told me how powerful God is to create these kinds of animals

and to let people enjoy looking at them!"

Before this trip, not a single child had traveled in a vehicle for more than 30 minutes. "They always dreamed about being in a bus and traveling on a long trip like that one. I was happy also to see them having this opportunity because they have been at the Children's Home for long time without going outside the Children's Home," added Mpeli.



# Mpeli Comes To America



**May 2008**



# This Just In...

## From Romania...



Adina and Daniel Pusok announce the arrival of their baby daughter, Salome. She was born May 30 weighing in at 7lbs., 7 oz. and measuring 21.3" long. They report that she is a "perfect baby" – sleeping well and crying very little. Mother

and daughter are doing well! Pray for continued good health for them and for Adina and Daniel as they seek to be Godly parents.

- Joseph and Adina Mike will be moving from Brasov to Beius July 15-16 to begin their new ministry. Adina is also considering furthering her education. If she decides to continue, she will sit for the entrance exam on July 17. Pray for the Mike family as they move and settle in their new field of ministry. Pray for Adina as she listens for God's direction in educational endeavors.

- Last year, Teleios partners assisted Otto and Elisabeth Kis, church planters in Sacele, in taking 15 children to Harghita Christian Camp. This year, members of the Sacele Mission, along with others from the Brasov Hungarian Baptist Church, provided the financial resources for the children to go to camp. We celebrate the growth of the mission in developing local resources and support for the mission. Continue to pray for Otto and Elisabeth as they serve in Sacele and Seven Villages area.

## From Kenya...

- With funds provided by Teleios Ministry partners, Bernard Kabaru Mwangi has been able to purchase a new vehicle for his ministry. The vehicle is a 1999 Pajaro. Praise God for this blessing!



- Robert Mutaithia, the young man from Koinonia Church who Teleios partners are sending to college, has just completed his first semester. Exams were June 30-July 2. Praise God for the opportunity given to Robert to make his God-given dream become a reality.

## From Tanzania...

A group from Covenant Community Church in Elba, Alabama, led by Suzanah Raffield, is in Iringa. Some are working with women in the Kidetete area on a Women's Health initiative. Others are helping paint the dorm at Daily Bread Life Children's Home. Pray for their work and traveling safety.

## Teleios Team Has Full Camp Schedule With Gypsy Children

Bonnie Parker, Anna Horne and Katie McClung are traveling to Romania to meet and work with Attila Toth and the Gypsy children during their week of camp. Please pray for safety in travel and for the experience of sharing with the children to be a blessing to all.

- July 11** – Bonnie departs Greenville; Anna Horne & Katie McClung depart Nashville. Team departs Detroit.
- July 12** – Team arrives in Amsterdam; travels to Romania and be met by Attila Toth and drive to Reghin.
- July 13** – Visit & speak in Attila's churches in Reghin, Gornesti and Apalina.
- July 14** – Meet with Attila & Romanian Team members to review & finalize Gypsy children's camp plans.
- July 15** – Travel with children by bus to camp in mountains near Sibiu.
- July 16-21** – Conduct Camp for Gypsy Children from Apalina.
- July 22** – Visit Sigasora; travel to Brasov.
- July 23** – Tour Brasov; travel to Bucharest.
- July 24** – Team departs Romania for Amsterdam; Anna & Bonnie depart for Detroit; Katie departs for Minneapolis/St. Paul; Anna departs for Nashville; Bonnie departs for Greenville

## BAPTISM

*Continued from page 1*  
weeks ago he cut himself with a knife because his wife left him and because he was an alcoholic, so he wanted to commit suicide. He had received an invitation to the evangelistic meeting and decided to attend. God touched him there and now he wants to be a serious believer.

The children can hardly wait for summer camp to start. They are looking forward to Bonnie and the Team coming.

Thank you very much for your prayer. I have exams at this time, and I am very busy with that, but I am trusting in God, that He is helping me through.

## VISION

*Continued from page 1*

**Location:** Iringa District, Tanzania

**Vision:** High School for young women

**Needed Resource:** \$150,000

**Location:** Kidetete, Tanzania

**Vision:** A tractor for the Children's Home Farm.

**Needed Resource:** Donation of the tractor or funds to purchase a tractor and shipping costs.

**Location:** Kidetete, Tanzania

**Vision:** A long-term partner to provide support for the Kidetete Nursery School teachers and materials.

**Needed Resource:** \$1,000 per year

**Location:** Tigoni, Kenya

**Vision:** A guesthouse and home.

**Needed Resource:** \$150,000 to start the project; total cost for completion will be \$250,000.





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## Reflections From the Green Chair.....

Over the past few years, I have heard a lot about living a balanced life. Something has always bothered me about "living a balanced life." A balance is a scale that has a focal point and objects of various weights are placed at different distances from the focal point depending on their weight in order that the scale will be balanced.

What bothers me is that each time I hear about a balanced life, the elements or objects of one's life are treated as separate, unique entities of life. Usually Luke 2:52 is used, "Jesus increased in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and man." The teaching on balance usually leaves it up to me to put everything in its proper place in order to live a balanced life. The truth is I spend a great deal of time trying to figure out how much "weight" or what is the proper "weight" for these areas of my life. You know, the routine of church, family, work, rest, etc.

As I sit reflecting, (now I must ask myself how much "weight" should be given to reflection verses family, ministry, etc.), I do not find the idea of balance in the Scriptures. It seems to me that Jesus said, "Seek first kingdom and

God will handle the rest."

The verse that really hits me is Matthew 5:48: "For you are to be perfect as your father in heaven is perfect." Actually, I translate that "For you are to be complete, whole as your Heavenly Father is complete."

The word used in that passage of Scripture is a very familiar one and one of my very favorite Greek words, Teleios. It means to be whole, to complete, or to accomplish what one sets out to do (to finish). I cannot see God trying to "balance" His existence. I do see God as whole and complete.

When I hear Luke 2:52, I do not think about four competing or distinct aspects of life but parts of a whole. Rather, I see parts that cannot be separated from one another. How can I separate favor with God from favor with man?

I have chosen to abandon a balanced life for an integrated life. I cannot separate business from church life, church life from rest, family from church life, or even family from business. We were not created to be balanced but to be complete or whole.

I have chosen a different word, integrated. Everything in my life works together under the Lordship of Jesus Christ in order that I might be the person that He created and called me to be. I cannot separate one aspect of my life from another.

Paul wrote of the church—"many parts but one body..." In my attempt to balance my life, I, in fact, created separation in my life that God never intended. God created me and He recreated me in Jesus Christ to have an integrated life with everything working together. I now see Romans 8:28 with new eyes: "We know for those who love God He causes all things to work together for good to those who are called according to His purpose."

An integrated life allows me to focus on God in Jesus Christ following Him, confident that every thing in my life will work together for the best of life which is God's purpose. I am more concerned about living the full life that Jesus intended and letting him direct the way to a whole, complete life.

Love In Christ,

*Floyd*

