

Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities

God Is Good All The Time

Access to clean water is not to be taken for granted. Auraria in Kenya is grateful every day for the new water line and tap that makes it so much easier to get water. (See story on page 3.)



The Spirit of the Lord is moving in a mighty way in Tanzania. While in country to teach at the Cornerstone Bible Institute, the Reverend Robert Muteitha from Kenya participated in baptism services in Iringa. (See story on page 5.)



The wait is over! The New Life Children's Home in Peris, Romania, is now open! (See story on page 2.)



Water access improvements continue in Kenya. Newly installed solar panels are providing a viable source of power for the tanks at Birisha. (See story on page 3.)

MORE PHOTOS AND RELATED STORIES ON PAGE 4

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Sustainability In A Changing Business Climate

By Floyd Parker

Now, still in the midst of our COVID world, I am asked, “How are things going? Has anything changed?” My response, “Things, they are ‘a changing.’”

At the foundation of Teleios partnerships around the world is sustainability. Over the past 20 years, we have learned that getting a vision up and going is hard work; but the hardest part is making a vision sustainable.

In the end, Teleios’ goal is that every vision comes to life, grows in its life, and is able to sustain its life (like baby, to child, to adolescent, to adult). Teleios and its partners are having to adapt and make significant changes due to the long-term impact of COVID.

TANZANIA

In Tanzania, the sustainability plan has been heavily invested in tourism with Masoko Safari Tours, café, executive car rental (with driver), and garage. Two years of nearly zero tourists has crippled these businesses. They provided 90 percent of Daily Bread Life Children’s Home Tanzanian financial support.

With those revenues gone, we are transitioning to develop more reliable alternatives by tripling the size of our farming operations and shifting focus to basic commodities (like bread).

ROMANIA

Sustainability in Romania has been the least affected by COVID. The main plan was investment in agriculture with polytunnels (greenhouses), the secondhand furniture and clothes shop, and farming.

The first two have been successful beyond anything we could have imagined. The farm is struggling because it has a special breed of pig, Mangalitsa. Due to COVID, livestock markets have been closed. As they began to reopen, an African pig disease emerged. While our herd is not infected, the market

remains closed, thus reducing the opportunity to sell the pigs. When this is resolved, the vision in Romania is sustainable.

KENYA

Kenya, like Tanzania, has had a huge impact of COVID. Kenyan leaders have been more aggressive in restrictions on public gatherings, tourist requirements, and even church attendance. The good news is that the churches have grown. The sustainable issue that has impacted our partners is with the shutdowns, specifically that agricultural markets have been significantly impacted and restaurants have restrictions that limit the number of customers, just like in the United States. In addition, a local restaurant that produced a significant income has seen business reduced so it’s just able to pay salaries.

To increase sustainability, our partners are making a shift from selling locally to now getting produce to larger cities which means developing a transportation business.

LOOKING AHEAD

I realize that these are the same issues that hit us here in the U.S. In Tanzania and Kenya, especially, there is NO government intervention – no loan programs, unemployment benefits, or other assistance. This has been the great challenge. At the same time, COVID has opened our eyes to take a much longer and broader look at sustainability.

Even as I write this, I want to be clear that God provides for His people and the visions that He gives them. He is providing.

My point in writing is not to diminish God’s provision. My point is to ask for your prayers as we, Teleios and our partners, seek the wisdom, discernment, and understanding to follow our Lord’s vision in developing sustainable ministry.

If God gives us insight into the challenges above or if you know someone who knows someone, please contact us. You can reach me at 864-230-3223 or floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org.

A 10-Year Dream Now Reality

By Attila Toth

On January 10, I started to cry because of happiness. After 10 years of dreaming and five years of construction, we finally received the authorized paperwork from Romanian government officials in Bucharest with the approved licensing for the New Life Children’s Home in Peris.

It’s unbelievable and the best start of a new year, new chapter in the work that has been taking place with our partners in that area. Two children have already moved in and are receiving needed care in an environment of love.

Thank you, God, and all of you who were involved in this project.



The New Life Children’s Home in Peris, Romania, is now open!

Joy Comes From A Variety Of Sources

Though unwell, Auraria, who received a water tap connection and tank last year, could not hide her joy of having her piece of land fenced. She is so happy that now her crops will not be destroyed by her neighbor's cows and goats that were wandering onto her farm.

Through support from her father, she was able to purchase the piece of land in 2011 after her in-laws chased her out of her matrimonial home when her husband died. She fled with nothing after a neighbor tipped her off about a plot by the in-laws to kill her.

For over 10 years, her farm was not connected to tap water, she did not have storage tank, and there was no fence around her farm. Today, she is a happy woman and always thanks God for connecting us together - this is the doing of God. Thanks so much for helping put a smile on her face!



The source of joy comes in a variety of shapes and forms, and for Auraria it is in knowing that her crops are now protected with a fence.

Solar Panels Provide More Viable Power Source



The LEFTI/LCI/Gatawagra Water has started the next phase of bringing water to the Kieni West area.

The first step has been taken with the solarization of the Birisha borehole which can now provide a consistent water supply to the area and expand the number of households in the area that can be served. This water source supports two of the 60,000-gallon tanks built in 2020. The solar panels replace a diesel generator which had become cost-prohibitive, thus rendering the borehole basically useless.

The second step has been taken as construction of another 60,000-gallon tank in the Bellevue area is under way. When completed, this tank will provide a consistent water supply in that area.

These steps are just the beginning of a three-year plan to develop and provide for a consistent water supply in this large area where most did not have access to a reliable water supply, and none had access to consistent, clean water.

The bigger news is that the partnership is addressing the ongoing maintenance challenges of the Gatawagra Water System. One of the most critical issues of addressing water needs in Africa is maintenance of the water systems and wells. Too often, they work until they break, and then they are finished.

The good news is the commitment by LEFTI/LCI, Gatawagra Water, and Teleios partners in developing practical solutions to a sustainable water system.

Ensuring that people have access to reliable, clean water continues to be a top priority for Teleios and partners.



And All The Time God Is Good



Prayers and praises of thanksgiving for the new ACTS Fellowship church in the Uyole community of Mbeya, Tanzania. The Reverend Seme Rodgers is pastor and looking forward to seeing how God will be at work in this district.



Supervisors at the Gatwagwa Water System in Kenya study the power control board for the new solar panel source of the Birisha water tanks. (See story on page 3.)



Miriam and her grandson are all smiles as they give thanks to God for the new siding and roof on their house. Teleios partners recognized this need and provided for the work to be done so she and her family would have a livable place to call home.



Everything's coming up green in Tanzania! The Daily Bread Life Farm has started planting new crop varieties with much success. Eggplant and green peppers are growing quite well and providing positive returns.



Bread Of Life Students Making The Grades In Tanzania!

Great news! Bread of Life Secondary School in Kidete, Tanzania, had the most students ever on the A/B list of the National Exam with 34 students making A's and B's!

Three of the students were in the top level of the Iringa District. Under the Tanzania school structure, students who pass the exam are ranked in divisions. This means that the three BLSS students are in the top level.

Everyone is so excited about this, especially

the teachers! In fact, they held a celebration at the school.

Heavy Rains Impact Students

Now that the heavy rains have started, travel to and from school is difficult. At times, the school transportation cannot get to Daily Bread Life Children's Home to pick up the children meaning they have to walk through extreme muddy conditions. Teleios partners have helped provide rain boots and umbrellas for this rainy season.

Bible Institute Focus Is Preparing Church Leaders

Emphasis Is On Innovative, Practical, Hands-On Ministry

Cornerstone Bible Institute got its start in July 2021 at ACTS Fellowship Church in Iringa, Tanzania, under the leadership of Dr. Mpeli Mwaisumbe and Dr. Floyd Parker.

Teleios Ministry is partnering with Dr. Mwaisumbe and the church to develop the Institute in order to provide resources and volunteer teachers.

During that July launch of the Institute, Bonnie Parker taught Church Leadership and Floyd taught New Testament Introduction.

Currently, the Bible Institute has 14 students. The purpose of the Bible school is to prepare church leaders for innovative, practical, hands-on ministry leading their churches to impact their communities in everyday, transformative ways in Jesus Christ. The Institute's purpose extends beyond pastoral leadership to all church leaders.

The Reverend Robert Muteitha, LEFTI/Shalom Church Pastor in



The Reverend Robert Muteitha from Kenya traveled to Tanzania to teach Evangelism at the Cornerstone Bible Institute.

Kenya, traveled to Tanzania to teach Evangelism at the Institute in November. As part of this course, the leaders were introduced to practical evangelism in the local villages.

The Institute uses the facilities of ACTS Fellowship church in Iringa. The next step of development is to build a two-room building which will serve as a dorm and classroom for the Bible Institute, as well as a nursery and a room for children's classes on Sundays.

If you're interested in becoming a partner in the development of transformative church leaders, we look forward to hearing from you. Please contact Floyd at floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org or call him at 864-230-3223.

Floyd Parker led a New Testament Introduction session at the Bible Institute last July.



Making A Difference In Lives Of Kenyan Women

Women's Empowerment Program Provides Opportunities In Key Areas Of Growth

By Grace Mbugua

Kenya is mainly a patriarchal society. This has greatly contributed to the historical marginalization of women and girls, hence denying them access to social, economic, and political opportunities.

Over the years, effort has been made by the government and non-governmental organizations to try and empower women so that they can have equal access to the opportunities.

Life Change Investment LTD (LCI) through the Women Empowerment Program has come alongside these other organizations to help ensure that women and girls are empowered.

KEY AREAS OF FOCUS IN 2022

Personal Development - Helping develop each participants' capabilities and potential to help in the realization of their vision and aspirations.

We will offer formal training for those who aspire to enter the job market and do not have the necessary training to help them fit into the job market.

The focus is on those interested in joining Technical and Vocational Education & Training (TVET) courses and who have met the minimum requirement to join the program. Already, five young women from my community and beyond who have come to me requesting this support.

More Technical Training - In effort to embrace industrialization, the Kenyan government is encouraging youths to take up technical courses. The government through the county leadership is working hard to expand and equip technical colleges and to encourage students to join technical schools, it is offering 53% fee subsidy to all TVET students.

Seminars - Group learning either for knowledge or development skills. These are need-based and will vary from community to community.

Business Support & Mentorship – This focus will target small business owners and will depend on participants' business and business need. They will be conducted on individual and group levels.

Some opportunities will include:

- Planned group meetings for business, spiritual and psychosocial support.



Connecting water lines to established water sources is key to ensuring access for all, thus making it more conducive for women and families to continue to find opportunities to improve and grow.

- Financial support to facilitate growth and development of individual businesses.
 - ◇ The plan is to financially support 10 families who lost business in the Geta fire tragedy to get back to business.
 - ◇ In addition, we hope to offer financial support to five women who are already in small businesses to help grow their businesses.

Water Accessibility and conservation – This is to ensure that each household has access to clean water and are willing to conserve it. This will be done through:

- Provision of water storage tanks and installing gutters to houses to facilitate water harvesting.
- Tap water hook ups. This will be done to those households with water tanks. This is mainly because the area receives low rainfall and sometimes can take four to five months before it rains. In addition, we are planning to hook up 26 more homes who will benefit from water tanks, but their homes are not connected to tap water
- Seminars on water use and conservation. This will also include growing drought tolerant or low water need crops.

If you would like to help support these women's empowerment initiatives, please contact Teleios by calling 864-322-9775 or emailing Floyd Parker at floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org.

Faith~Led Giving Leads To Faith~Fulfilled Dreams

As in years past, the Christmas Catalog presented specific needs relative to various projects in Kenya, Tanzania, and Romania, but unlike years past, it noted more prevalently how, despite dealing with the ramifications of a global pandemic, these projects evolved in full because our partners continued in their faithful obedience to serving as God called them. As a result, the support demonstrated by this year's giving illuminates a powerful testament to faith-filled and faith-led lives, even in extraordinary circumstances.

GIFTS GIVEN THROUGH THE 2021 CHRISTMAS CATALOG

<u>NAME</u>	<u>GIFTS</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF / IN HONOR OF</u>
Ed & Patsy Arnold	Goat Uniforms & Sheets New Child Needs	IMO Jake & Helen Bishop IHO Bernard & Peggy Murden IHO the Kool, Murden, and Allen Families
Janice Bird	Best Use	IMO Roger Bird and Fred & Ola Ouzts
Terry & Debbie Boyter	Rain Catchment System	IHO Danielle Boyter, Brittany Slatton, Corey Boyter, Shanon Jackson
Sarah & Mike Buntele	Apalina Afterschool Needs	IHO Floyd & Bonnie Parker
Allen & Linda Burdette	Vegetable Bags, Spools, Seeds, Germination Trays	IMO Kent Burdette
Doris Burdette	Goat, Study Bibles	IMO Kent Burdette
John & Anne Davis	OVC School Uniforms Books, Pencils & Paper	IHO Houston, Kathryn, Luke, Christy, Tyler, Clairissa IHO McKenzie, Presley, Clay, Emma Grace, Curran, Sullivan
Elliott & Liz Wall Dodds	Greatest Need	IHO Charles & Jane Wall
Joseph & Cathy Dority	As Needed	IHO Jack, Ben & Luke Dority

Continued on page 8



<u>NAME</u>	<u>GIFTS</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF / IN HONOR OF</u>
Chris and Jeni H. Dover	School Scholarship Fund Study Bibles Apalina Afterschool Program OVC School Uniforms As Needed Gift – Peris Children’s Home	IMO Jim & Barbara Horne IMO Ross & Jo Ann Dover IMO Johnny Honeycutt & IHO Kay Honeycutt IHO Dan & Janet Daigrepoint IMO Siobhan Dover
Ed & Jane Farr	New Child Needs, Children’s Clothes, Study Bibles	IHO Floyd & Bonnie Parker
Lyman & Carol Golden	Goat	IMO Callie Golden
Jesse & Leah Hartke	School Scholarship Fund	IMO Jim & Barbara Horne
Mike & Michal Hudson	Water Catchment System Children’s Clothes Afterschool Supplies Apalina After School Snacks	IHO Chris Dover Family, Jesse Hartke Family & Joshua Dover Family IHO Victoria & J J Pearson IHO Abigail Dover, Sarah & Mike Buntele IHO Jordan Hudson
Donald Hunt	Study Bibles	IMO Kathryn Hunt
Meg Hunt	Women’s Empowerment: New Business Startup	IHO Upcountry History Museum Colleagues
Harold Kaye	New Business Startup Water Access for Homes	IMO Carlene T. Kay
Bernard & Peggy Murden	New Child Needs	IMO Jake & Helen Bishop
Theresa W. Myers	Study Bibles Shoes	IHO Dot Ward IHO Bella & Madyson Evans, Haleigh Godwin & Kainan Floyd
Frances Owens	Study Bibles	IMO Jim Horne
Bonnie Parker	Feminine Hygiene Kits	IHO Ann Yelton
Zell Skinner	Water Access for Homes Rain Catchment Systems	IHO Floyd & Bonnie Parker



With Grateful Appreciation: Teleios Ministry thanks Karen Dover for her invaluable assistance in helping get the 2021 Christmas Catalog printed.



<u>NAME</u>	<u>GIFTS</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF / IN HONOR OF</u>
Nancy Stacy	Goats	IMO Joe Ware
Robbie & Elaine Taylor	New Child Needs	IMO Rodney S. Taylor
Barbara Ware	Women's Empowerment: New Business Startup Water Access for Homes	IMO Jim & Barbara Horne
Rebecca West	New Child Needs	IHO Tolli & Froso

DESIGNATED GIFTS GIVEN THROUGH THE 2021 CHRISTMAS CATALOG



<u>NAME</u>	<u>Designated GIFTS</u>
Emmogene Britt	New Child Needs
Ron & June Davis	Best Use
Dan & Janet Daigrepoint	New Child Needs, Romania Needs, Sheetrock for Barn
Glenda Gilbreath	New Child Needs, Children's Clothes & Shoes, Feminine Hygiene Kit
Julie Hornback	Africa - Best Use
Kristina Hornback	Spools of Twine, School Uniform, Shoes
Pam Jones	Children's Clothes & Shoes
Dean Kaufman	Best Use
Jamie Roberts	Kenya - Best Use
Danny & Beth Shaha	Twine, Trays & Vegetable Bags, Sheet Sets
Ann Yelton	As Needed

Editor's Note: These pages list donations designated in memory or honor of others or for specific items/projects highlighted in the 2021 Teleios Christmas Catalog. It is not, however, inclusive of all gifts made to Teleios Ministry in 2021.



28 Eula Street
 Greenville, SC 29609
 Phone: 864-322-9775
 E-mail: missions@teleiosministry.org



HELPING GOD-GIVEN VISIONS BECOME PRESENT-DAY REALITIES

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



Reflections From the Green Chair.....

Fifteen months ago, we celebrated together the 20th anniversary of Teleios Ministry. Twenty years ago this January, the commitment Bonnie and I made to the vision called Teleios Ministry became a reality for us.

We left Augusta Road Baptist Church in 2001 guided by Hebrews 11:8, *"By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going."*

As Teleios became that "place," we were driven by a confidence born of hope from Philippians 1:6, *"...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion (Teleios) until the day of Christ Jesus."*

Two days before my birthday on January 10, 2002, Bonnie and I found ourselves unable to pay our rent or cover the other expenses of our life. Events, commitments, and emergencies had quickly eaten away at the funds we had to sustain us as Teleios began. I tell people that "my goal in life was to be

47, broke, and homeless." I remember praying and saying to our Lord as I tried to understand, "We are sure that you brought us here; but, Lord, you know we are in need. We are desperate."

Later, I received a call from a man Bonnie and I knew, actually knew his family and wife's family better than we knew him. He asked if he could come by to meet with us.

When we met, he gave me a check that covered our living expenses for several months. God let us come to the end of our resources to teach us a God-given vision happens with what He provides - that mine and Bonnie's faith, trust, had to be tested if we were to lead others to be faithful to God's vision in their lives.

Visions only become real as He provides. We have to be willing to wait, even struggle, for the dream to become real as He brings His people together.

That brings me to the last point of this Green Chair message. What I have learned, what I've come to trust, is the

wisdom that God has granted over these 20 years – *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."**
 (Note, the verse says "straight," not "easy.")

Teleios means that we meet people in whom God has planted a vision in their lives. We know that the vision is only realized by faith, by trusting Him. The starting point is simple: Do I trust the Lord as I take the next step? Do I know and understand that I am where I am because the Lord Jesus led me here because I needed to walk in this way, His way?

A God-given vision begins in faith, grows by trust, and is realized by faith. Teleios Ministry – Helping God-given visions become everyday realities (by faith).

Trusting God,

Floyd

* Proverbs 3:5-6