

Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities

Apalina Church Opens Doors For Worship



Phase II Now Under Way

One year ago, there was no church. We were just finding and purchasing property. There was no approval to build a church. God is an awesome God. He makes the impossible a reality.

While Attila Toth was showing the Teleios team from Gypsy Camp the building on the Saturday before the first worship service was to be held there, church members and people from the community kept coming by. Attila and the group began to sing. Soon, there were over 40 people there. Attila took the opportunity to share the Gospel with them and thank God for His providing the church.

On that Sunday, July 24, the doors of the newly constructed church were open and the villagers of Apalina and the surrounding area were filling the

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Gypsy Camp '11 Illustrates The Beauty In Change

By Bonnie Parker

Once again, Gypsy Children's Camp was filled with laughter, joy and lots of blessings and challenges.

The first week of this year's camp 44 Apalina children and a team of 12 adults made their way to the mountains just outside the village of Subis du Sus. The second week, 51 children from the village of Glodeni arrived and a new contingent of chaperones joined the five of us Americans and Zozo to conduct the second camp.

Bible study, prayer time and discussions took place in the mornings and evenings. Afternoons were filled with craft time, English lessons, music and drama. For the most part, the weather cooperated so lots of swimming, hik-

ing, soccer and recreation took place during the two weeks.

From the description above, camp sounds the same as it has been for the past five years we've partnered with Attila Toth to provide Gypsy children with a summer camp experience. But as I reflect on this year's camp, one word just continually comes to mind. It is the word "change." Many of you who know me know that often I struggle with change, but not this time. Praise God for the changes that have taken place!

From the first moment we saw the children we could not believe the physical changes in so many of them. Some are no longer children but have

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ACTS Fellowship Tanzania Bringing Believers Together

From Mpeli Mwaisumbe

It was with the power of God that we have been able to fulfill our vision of worshipping freely as the body of Christ without any rules and laws. Neema, I, Scout and his wife, and Sadiki cried thanking God for allowing us to be one body in Him.

Since June 10, God has continued to bless our worship with those seeking to be a part of this fellowship. From government officials and Tumani University students to local citizens and their children, word is spreading about the inspired worship, Bible study and Sunday school. For the second time since we first met as a church, "there were no more chairs." Yes, every seat was filled with those wanting to hear more about Jesus.

We praise the Lord with much blessing and joy for His guidance as we seek to lead others in knowing Him.

Please continue to pray for ACTS Fellowship Tanzania as they follow God's call to serve.



APALINA CHURCH

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seats to praise the Lord.

Phase II of construction is now under way and plans are designed to provide a two-story addition that will house a kitchen, bathrooms and housing for visiting mission workers.

Please continue to pray for the work in Apalina – the construction and the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Gypsy people there.



In His time and way, God brought to reality the vision of a worship center for the village of Apalina. On July 24, voices were raised in praise and glory to the Lord during the first service in the new church building.



The Lord Opening Many Doors In Sacele Area

From Otto Kis

Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus. We are working hard this summer as the Lord has opened many doors for us.

A team with the “Joni and Friends” organization (www.joniandfriends.org) in the United States was with us August 8-12. They came to distribute 150 wheelchairs for the disabled who live in Brasov and the surrounding areas. This was made possible through their “Wheels for the World” project and is also connected with personal evangelism. Please pray for this endeavor as we reach out to those in need.

Our ministry to couples continues to provide opportunities to share His love. We ask your prayers for this outreach.

August 18-26 will find us at Harghita Camp with the HOPE Group. Our time at the Barnabas House there is always special

as we experience the movement of the Holy Spirit.

We ask special prayers for Hope Group member Ildiko Jakab. She had her leg operated on last month and won't be able to come to camp with us this year. Please pray for her two-month recovery. She also shared with me that while she was in the hospital, God spoke to her and she understood that it is very important to follow Jesus in baptism. So she has decided to follow Jesus through baptism after her recovery time. Pray for her and for her relatives because they are against her taking this step.

Much is going on in the name of the Lord here. We are still searching for a place, a mission house, where we can run these mission activities. Please remember this in your prayers.

We are keeping you in our prayers and in our hearts. We love you and thank you for your help and faithful partnership.

BEAUTY IN CHANGE

Continued from page 1

quickly become adolescents. This would be their last year of camp. My how they have grown over the years!

Their behavior had changed, too. We had no real “wild” children this year. For the most part, all of them were attentive and cooperative in every way. The older children even helped with the younger ones when they were not paying attention or were talking during story time or worship. They were the “extra” hands when needed at meal times and bedtime. My, how far they have come!

The physical structures at the camp had changed, too. The major construction that was under way last year was now complete. Only some superficial work was taking place this year. Men were painting the outside of the buildings, sealing the windows and foundations. Each of our rooms had its own bathroom with running water! We were able to shower whenever we liked. Oh my, what luxury!

Near the end of the first week the best change occurred – eternal change.

During the evening worship time, five of the older boys (15 year olds) repented and committed to follow Jesus as Lord and



‘The Spirit of the Lord will come upon you in power, ... and you will be changed into a different person.’
1 Samuel 10:6

Savior of their lives. It was a wonderful and exciting evening as the Spirit moved among us.

There are several others, specifically two

older girls, who are very close to making decisions of commitment. The desire is real; they are still weighing the demands of such a decision on their lives. Please pray for them in the coming days as the Spirit continues to call.

As these teen-agers grow in their relationship with the Lord, not only will change take place for them as individuals but think of changes that will come in the village of Apalina!

A generation of young adults committed to the ways of the Lord. As they marry and start families, they will begin with a commitment to having Christian homes. As they participate in corporate worship. As they become leaders who look to the Lord to make their community a better place. Apalina is becoming a place of hope with a bright future.

Thank God for making change possible through the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ! Thank you for your prayers and financial contributions that made summer camps possible. Praise God that He has allowed us all to partner in His work in the lives of these children so their lives might be changed now and forever.

MORE ON GYPSY CAMP—PAGE 4

Gypsy Camp '11

Standing Amazed In His Presence

By Katie McClung

It was such a gift to return to Gypsy Camp after a long two-year absence! The kids have grown up so much, but their cheerful spirits were as alive as ever!

All of the staff members were in awe of what God did among the campers and staff while we were there. As is tradition, camp came with its share of difficulties, but we also had no shortage of joyful moments to rest and rejoice in the Lord. In all things God was glorified, so we praise Him for the good and tough times!

One new activity we did this year was Creative Response time in which the children used visual arts to tell about God's work in their lives. Each day after the Bible lesson was taught, we divided the children into small groups with one or two leaders who led them in a discussion about the Bible story. Then, the children were encouraged to think of an example from their own lives about how God has worked in a similar way to how He worked in the Bible story.

They used various visual art mediums, such as crayons, watercolor paints, and modeling clay, to create a visual representation of that example so they would remember what they'd learned and have a way to tell others about it. After the children finished their artwork, they shared their stories with their group members.

In the evening, several students even shared with the whole group! It was thrilling to see the kids feeling proud about what they'd created and excited to share about how God was working in their lives!

Both in the camp and back "at home" in Reghin and surrounding villages, it was amazing to see God growing and expanding our knowledge and understanding of His incredible plan for Romania and the ministry of Attila and Adel Toth. Please consider joining us next year for camp!



Gypsy Camp '11

Seeing Great Blessing In The Midst Of Burden

By Sarah Dyer

This summer, God blessed me with the opportunity to serve Him in a new and exciting way by traveling to Romania (my first time ever!) to help with two, week-long Gypsy Children's Camps.

After spending my first day with the Gypsy children from Apalina, I cannot explain the burden my heart felt as I witnessed the extreme prejudice and poverty these sweet kids and all Gypsies face in Romania. I was both convicted and broken by how much I had in comparison to these children who likely would continue to live in a state of poverty their entire lives.

My perspective was completely changed, however, after spending two weeks at camp with a total of 97 children and a wonderful adult team of Hungarian, Romanian, Gypsy, and American believers.

In those two weeks, God reminded me that the most valuable thing anyone can ever have is a personal relationship with the Savior of the world, and that this relationship is absolutely free and accessible

to every tribe, nation, and child!

It was such an encouragement to know that the precious little children I met and grew to love in Romania could have the most valuable thing I've ever had and the only thing that truly matters in life and could therefore experience a joy and peace that surpasses all understanding (Philippians 4:7) in the midst of their economic poverty and physical suffering.

I have never in my life seen more clearly and personally experienced the unity we as believers have in Christ than I did during my stay in Romania. The love of Christ transcended all of the language and cultural barriers our team faced during our time overseas.

Through the genuine hospitality, prayers, and love the believers from Apalina, Reghin, Gornesti, and Filpisu Mic dem-



onstrated towards me having never met me before, God touched my heart deeply and gave me just a small glimpse of how glorious the fellowship in heaven will be when all God's children are called home.

God changed my life through the genuine joy, beautiful testimonies, and uninhibited love I witnessed in my brothers and sisters in Romania this summer! I can hardly wait to see the faces of my precious new friends again and to further be a part of the beautiful ministry God has blessed there through the selfless work of Attila and Adel Toth, Zozo, Zoli and so many others.

My prayer and desire now is that God will make a way for me to return to Romania next summer if it's His will. I am so grateful to God for the many friends and family who supported our team financially and prayerfully this summer and made our trip and ministry possible. May God richly bless you and your families for the beautiful sacrifices you made to help further His Kingdom!



Give The Gift Of Life And Learning This Christmas

Peter asked if we could bring a Teleios team to his area in the Central Highlands of Kenya this December to share the gift of life through Bible School and to let his people work alongside the team and learn how to do Bible School.

Then, imagine that this one Bible School will be repeated by those who learn in at least eight other areas throughout the Central Highlands.

What a gift to give at Christmas! It is truly the gift that keeps on giving! Bernard Kabaru will be hosting us along with Peter and his church.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

1. Pray now for those who are called to go. Pray for Peter and the church as they make preparations.

2. Go and serve on the team.
3. Make it possible for someone else to go.

The first time Bonnie and I went on an overseas mission trip was to Kenya. The cost of the trip was funded by someone who always wanted to go overseas on mission but could not. They gave so I could go. In fact, that first mission trip began my relationship with Bernard Kabaru Mwangi, our Kenya partner.

'Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others...'

1 Peter 4:10

Out of our going, the vision of Teleios Ministry was birthed. Not only did we serve to meet a need in Kenya; but God had even larger plan in mind...all because someone who couldn't go made it possible for me to.

If you would like to be a part of this life-changing need, contact Floyd Parker at floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org.

DATE:
Dec. 2-12, 2011
(The return date can be adjusted if necessary for U.S. work schedules.)

COST:
\$2,500

INCLUDES:
Airfare, baggage fees, lodging, transportation, travel visas, and one-day safari.

NOT INCLUDED:
Passport cost *(if you do not have one)*, vaccinations for travel, and preventive malaria medication.

Congratulations, Graduates!



It was a great day in June for FOBOCK and our partners. Eleven graduated from Laikipia West Bible School in Kenya.

The graduates send their gratitude for your prayers and support. Blessings and thanks for partnering with us in this experience.

Hungarian Bibles Still Needed For Indigenous Peoples

The great challenge in planting strong Roma churches is developing mature leaders in areas where the ability to read the Bible is very limited.

The Satu Mare Hungarian Baptist Church has a dream of teaching every Roma adult how to read using the Bible. A retired school teacher has volunteered her time to teach in the Tream church weekly.

The critical need is Hungarian Bibles. The Hungarian Bibles chosen are \$15 per Bible, and currently 30 Bibles are still needed.

Teleios Ministry is seeking partners to pray for the teacher and the Roma who are learning to read and to provide the gift of a Bible. If you would like to be a part of meeting this need, contact Floyd Parker at floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org or Meg Hunt at mhunt21@msn.com.



This Just In...

From Romania...

- Adel and Attila Toth have shared great news! They are going to have an addition to their family. A new little Toth will make his or her arrival in March 2012. Pray for Adel's health during the pregnancy and for the healthy development of the baby. Ask God to guide and direct Attila and Adel as they prepare for parenthood.

Apalina – Florin Pusak, the 12-year-old Gypsy boy who has been so deathly ill is now under the care of private physicians in Tirgu Mures. He is recovering from rubella contracted while in the hospital as doctors attempted to diagnose and treat multiple abscesses in his kidneys and infection in his liver. The new doctors think the illness may be a severe case of tuberculosis of the kidneys. Thank God for partners who've made finances available for Florin to have the best medical care available in Romania. Pray they will be able to correctly diagnose and treat the illness and that Florin will understand the need to follow the treatment procedures the doctors outline for him.



- Please begin praying for the Gypsy Women's Conference scheduled to be held this fall. Pray for guidance as plans begin to be made; for partners to join in support of this endeavor; and for the Lord to be glorified in all aspects of this conference.

From The United States...

Leesburg, VA – Floyd and Bonnie Parker traveled to Leesburg on July 30-31. They led worship services at Leesburg Community Church and met with church leaders to discuss aspects of the first mission trips of the new partnership. The church is partnering with Attila Toth to aid work in his churches. Ask God to guide and direct as the plans for trips by teams from Leesburg are completed. Thank God for the financial contributions already given and those that have been committed to for the future.

North Charleston, SC – Paul Crook has returned home after spending the summer in Reghin, Romania. Watch for an article in the next newsletter about his adventure-filled summer. Thank God for his safe return to the United States. Praise Him for Paul's contribution and investment in the Lord's work in that area of the world. Pray for him as he waits for God's timing placing him back in Romania for long-term service.

Tee It Up...

at the Second Annual
Teleios Golf Tournament!

Thursday, Oct. 20
at The Preserve at Verdae
in Greenville



To register or for more information,
contact Meg Hunt at mhunt21@msn.com.

Fourth Of July Celebration Equals Food, Fun And Fellowship

Approximately 60 people gathered to celebrate a Teleios Fourth this year. From the newborn to the octogenarian, we had a delightful time!

As we celebrated our nation's birthday over a plate of delicious barbecue, homemade ice cream and an awesome fireworks display, we had the opportunity to



share with one another how God has called us into partnership.

This annual picnic is a good time for Teleios partners to get to know one another. God has brought together a group of diverse people from varying geographical locations, different denominational backgrounds and vocational walks to partner in His work through Teleios Ministry.



Teleios Team Heading North

The Teleios Team of Floyd and Bonnie Parker, Pat Reid, and Mady Bricco will be leading Vacation Bible School for Gypsy children at Camp Rama outside Toronto, Canada, Aug. 18-24.

Please pray for the team's safety in travel; for their work with the

children during that week; and that the Spirit of the Lord will be at work in the lives of all who participate in camp.

Pray, too, for Floyd and Bonnie as they will be staying through Aug. 28 to lead a "Marriage Enrichment Seminar."



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Reflections From the Green Chair.....

This “Green Chair” is actually a reflection sitting on the green riding lawnmower. While in Romania, Bonnie had sent me pictures of the Apalina mission center. She texted me details of an impromptu worship service that was taking place as we were texting. As I read, tears were running down my cheeks. I could not contain my praise and thanksgiving to God for allowing us to be a part of what He is doing in Apalina.

I think back to the first time I went to Apalina with Attila. Literally, the police would not go into that community, but Attila and I were visiting in homes, sharing the Gospel, and building relationships. I remember Attila worked for two years in Apalina before the first baptism.

The stories in this newsletter bring to mind a passage of Scripture that I have reflected on many times over the past 11 years. In Philippians 1:1-11, the central part of that passage in verses 3-6: *“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”* This

passage is the foundation of Teleios Ministry.

What God starts, God brings to completion (Teleios). We can be confident in our investment, our partnership in the Gospel with Him and through Him with each other. In these strained economic times, investment returns are all over the place. Time and funds to invest have become more valuable and restricted.

In 2010, we saw another 20 percent drop in Teleios contributions. This was in addition to a 20 percent drop in 2009. Yet, God continues to finish what He started. I am more confident today than I was even last year that God has brought you and me together to change lives in Jesus whether in Romania, Canada, Tanzania, Kenya, or the United States. Who knows where He will lead in the days ahead?

This I know: You can invest your life with confidence in the work of God. Not confidence in me, not confidence in Attila, but confidence is in God. Because what God starts, God finishes. God does not quit. Our confidence comes because we believe, we trust, that what God starts, God finishes. That is true in your life, true in my life, true in our partnerships together.

How do we know? God sent his Son, Jesus, to this earth that He created and we messed up. He was crucified/dead/buried because of our sin. He took all of it on Himself for our forgiveness. God in Jesus Christ is committed to finishing what He started in creation. He rose from the dead so we could have life, fulfillment and a transformed relationship with Him. That transforms our lives and allows us to be a part of what He is doing in this world and secures our life with Him forever. God invested in us. Our partnership with each other in, with, and through Him is our return on investment.

The basis of this partnership is not a document, not even our relationship with each other. The basis of this partnership is that God brought us together. He started His work in us through His Spirit in Jesus Christ. Moving us, shaping us, investing in us, growing us—then, when the time was right— He brought us together.

I am asking you to invest with confidence in the partnership God has given you. He will complete it.

In Christ's Love,

Floyd

