

Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities

Greenville~Kenya Bond Stronger With New Partnership

By Floyd Parker

On May 25, I and four leaders from Grace Church in Greenville, S.C., left for Kenya to explore partnership opportunities arranged through Bernard Kabaru Mwangi.

The team visited Koinonia Baptist Church and the Ruaka area to become acquainted with the area, the people, the culture, and the church. Kabaru led the team on a walking tour of the area.

The great excitement was British Airways handling of the luggage – which enjoyed a two-day, all-expense paid vacation provided by BA in London. Our luggage finally caught up to us on the third day to the great relief of the team and their hosts. A word of personal testimony is that you can carry much less than you think and still manage. We want to express many thanks to the Kentmere Club for their gracious hospitality.

The team traveled to Nyeri to tour that area with Kabaru and Peter Wanjohi and to visit the Nyeri Baptist Church. The team was exploring partnership opportunities with FOBOCK leaders. FOBOCK is an indigenous association of Baptist Churches in the Central Highlands of Kenya. Other groups also participate in leadership training opportunities.

The Nyeri church has a great ministry with children and street youth on Saturdays. Each Saturday, they provide a nourishing meal for about 500 children and 120 street youth. During the meal time, there are Bible stories, and members interact with the children and youth. The church

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These Roma (Gypsy) children proved that, even though this was their first camp experience, the excitement of attending Summer Camp is universal.

Roma Children Enjoy First Summer Camp Experience

By Attila Toth

Thanks to God and the Teleios ministry, we spent a wonderful time together with Gypsy children from Apalina at a camp near Sibiu.

We took 35 persons from Apalina and with Istvan's family, Tihamer, Geri and I, we were together 43.

My opinion is that this camp meant a lot for the mission and it was a very great thing. Now, the children's parents are coming to me and are saying they really can see that we love their children and are trying to do a lot of good things to help them.

The children from Apalina have never been at any camp before. So they were very excited, and now every child is wanting to go back!

This was not an easy camp. The first day, it was really hard because the children were not used to any order and system. It was not easy for them to learn that here we have to do everything together at the same time.

But even that first day God started to work in their hearts because before sleep, we had a good conversation, and after that, they prayed and invited Jesus into their hearts. The second day and the next days were easier.

So, to God be the glory that we had a wonderful camp.

I want to share with you how I spent the money that you gave for this camp. I know very much that I have

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All Across The Globe, Our Redeemer Lives!

By Kevin Jones

From Grace Church

In May and June, I had the privilege of joining three other men from our church on an exploratory trip to Kenya. This trip, led by Floyd Parker of Teleios Ministry, was the result of God moving our church to expand ministry efforts off our campus and to begin ministering in other areas of our community, country and world.

Our eight-day stay included visits to several small Baptist churches that are part of the Fellowship of Baptist Churches of Central Kenya (FOBOCK) and participating in a semi-annual pastors conference. We looked at churches in need of leadership training, medical resources, and building support.

One of the poorest areas we saw was in the town of Nyeri. Nyeri Baptist Church overlooks a valley filled with 15,000 people living in a shantytown of makeshift shacks. Every Saturday, the church attempts to feed 500 children. This may be the only real meal they get each week.

Although the poverty is extreme, we met some church members who live in this community and their love for the Lord

was clear. Several small groups meet weekly where approximately 25 to 30 people will gather in one of the small 200-sq.-ft. homes for a time of prayer and Bible study. It's amazing to see the joy of the Lord evident in the lives of people experiencing a lack of physical comfort and material possessions.

We spent the last three days of our trip at a Pastors Conference in Makuria. Most of the attendees traveled miles by foot to gather for this semi-annual conference. Most of these men are bi-vocational, so time working in their churches is limited.

It's interesting that even though environments change from place to place, people are still the same. Unfortunately, our sin nature develops core struggles that reach to every part of the globe. How much more evident it was to me that we need a Redeemer and that the grace we have been so freely afforded is alive and well in America and in the remotest area of Africa.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to spend time in Kenya and meet the people. I look forward to returning and working with our church and other leaders to develop a course of action that will allow us to move our individual and corporate resources towards these special people.



The slum area in Nyeri.



Grace team member Mike Collins, left, speaks at Koinonia Baptist Church.



Bernard Kabaru Mwangi shares with Floyd Parker and the team from Grace Church.

GREENVILLE~KENYA BOND

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property overlooks a growing slum of 15,000. The team visited church members who live in the slum area and walked through the area to discover partnership opportunities.

Also during their time in the area, they visited Kabaru's home and another church in the area. The visit to this church, founded in 2001, provided a first for the team, as the inside of the church is lined with cardboard walls. This church also sits adjacent to the growing slum. Actually, a road and bridge divide the Nyeri slum into two areas. The slum

appears to be about the same size as the Nyeri slum and growing rapidly.

The team then visited the Muranga area churches and pastors in preparation for the December 2007 Church Leaders Conference and 2008 Leadership Training Conferences.

After a long journey through the southern Central Highlands, the team provided leadership training at the FOBOCK Pastor's Conference for three days.

Trivia Question: What music is played and sung at the Friday night disco at the

Blue Post Hotel until 5:30 a.m.? *Answer:* Good ol' Country and Western with some Soul.

The team then returned to the Ruaka area and a final worship time with Koinonia. After a wonderful lunch, a brief time of shopping, the team, minus Floyd, left for the USA.

A Follow-Up

Please pray for the Grace Church, FOBOCK, and Koinonia Baptist Church as they enter into long-term partnerships for the growth of the Kingdom in Kenya and Greenville.

Services Begin In New Gornesti Chapel

Villagers Witness God's Goodness Despite Challenges And Accidents

By Attila Toth

Let me start with Gornesti. We are very thankful for our new Chapel. God did a great thing when He put together all things for this church.

As I told you, the American team arrived on July 6, and we spent a wonderful week together. We worked a lot, and next to physical work, we prayed together. There was prayer walk mission. Every day as a group we visited families; we had a Vacation Bible School for children and a daily meeting for women. That was a great week.

First, the people from the village were cold and closed, but we saw the change in what God did during this week, and for devotion meetings, a lot of people came to church. We realized very soon that in that week, there was a special spiritual war, and that is why we put accent on prayers.

Two accidents happened that week. A woman from the American group broke her leg, and Miklos, the elder of the church in Gornesti, was thrown from a moving horse-drawn cart while taking materials to the new chapel.

The horse was disturbed by a truck, and begun to run. The cart hit an electrical pylon, and Miklos felt between the cart and the horse! Because his leg got stuck in the front of the cart, he didn't fall off, but was drawn by the horse about 30-40 meters, where the cart hit another pylon! In this moment, Miklos fell



down, and was left there. I tried to stop the horses, and finally did after they ran through three other streets. The situation was so serious, I thought I may find Miklos already dead when I returned.

It didn't happen so! Through the grace of God, he didn't die. His femoral bone was broken in two places. He has already had a successful operation and is recovering in the hospital. Please, pray for him, for his quick healing! We miss his enthusiasm and dedication very much in the mission work!

We cannot understand everything, why things happen to us, but we give praise to the Lord in every situation.

I just visited him today at the hospital and we had a very good conversation. He is looking better. He has peace in his heart, and knows that God has His good plan even with this. He is talking with a lot of sick people about salvation and he did testify even for his doctor. I was very happy today when I saw his faith and his strength.

Because his sickness will be for long term, they had to sell their cows as there is nobody to take care of them. That was one of their sources for living, but even in this Miklos is seeing God's hand at work. He said to me that he already had in his mind to sell the cows to be able to spend more time in mission. So we miss him and we are praying forward for him, but at the same time, I am happy because God is using him in hospital.

ROMA CHILDREN

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accountability before my God, but I know that I have responsibilities before you, too.

As I told you at first, the camp offered for free the place we stayed and the food. The bus company said that the transportation will cost \$2,200 lei, but when the proprietor saw we were bringing poor children to camp, he discounted the price.

The poorer children had no clothes to come to the camp, so we helped to buy clothes for these.

Because the food at the camp was not so good, and more children didn't eat, we had to buy more for other meals and

for some other stuff.

A lot of young people wanted to come with us to the children's camp, so I promised them that I will bring them with us to Harghita Camp for young people. Just today, I chose five young people who will come with us to Harghita.

I rented a minibus this Sunday to go to Mures to a baptism service.

All together I spent \$3,250 lei. You gave \$1,400 (U.S.) which is \$3,220 lei.

So that's how I used your money and I thank you very much for helping us and thank you very much that you are trusting in me.



Istvan Comes To America

God Is Amazing In How He Works

By Floyd Parker

Can you imagine experiencing the thrill of cutting grass with a riding lawnmower or a gas-powered trimmer for the first time? What about learning how to barbecue pork in a pit? Or, participating in a Fourth of July fireworks extravaganza as one of the main pyrotechnicians? Or, seeing New York or Washington, D.C., for the first time?

All this and more describes Istvan Borzasi's trip to America.

Teleios Ministry arranged Istvan's travel to San Antonio, Texas, and Greenville, South Carolina. The events that led to Istvan going to San Antonio are too many to describe here, but briefly, Istvan's cousin and family, Valentine and Agnes Mate, moved in mid-June from Chicago to San Antonio; Cammid and Marianne Arrendell had contacted Floyd and Bonnie about work in Romania, so, Istvan, Bonnie, and Floyd traveled to San Antonio as guests of the Arrendells to introduce Istvan to them. We also were guests of the Mate family.

Marianne and Cam hosted a gathering of friends on Friday night, June 29, to introduce them to Hungarian Baptist needs in the area of church planting and of the Hungarian Baptist Seminary of Romania.

Also at the meeting were Lidia, Becky and Mircea Oprean, Romanians living in San Antonio and have a ministry called Becky's Hope - www.beckyshope.org.*

Lidia's father is a Romanian Baptist pastor. He and Istvan are friends, but Istvan had never met Lidia or knew she was in San Antonio. The evening proved to be a great reunion of Jesus followers – the Mate and Oprean families, Istvan, and Marianne (East Germany) – who lived under Communist rule.

Saturday lunch at a Mamasitas restaurant was amazing. One of the owners of the restaurant is from Cuba and is a Muslim. So at one point, there was a Hungarian-speaking ethnic Romanian talking to a Cuban Muslim in Russian at a Mexican restaurant in America!

The purpose of Istvan's trip was to share the need for church planters among Hungarian-speaking ethnics in Romania, including Gypsy/Roma people who speak Hungarian, and for assistance with the Hungarian Baptist Seminary's relocation efforts. Attila Toth is one of the church planters working with Istvan in the Tirgu Mures area.

When Istvan went to Tirgu Mures in 2000, he was the only pastor with two

churches and two mission points. Today, in Tirgu Mures there are seven pastors/evangelists and 22 churches and mission points! Even now, Attila leads two churches and four mission points in his area. God is truly at work in Romania!

You can be a part of this great movement of church planting through prayer, going, or supporting a church planter. The annual average cost per church plant family is \$6,000-\$8,000. Attila is supported in prayer and financial resources by five different Teleios partners. You will also read of other ways to be involved in the work in this newsletter.

Istvan Borzasi has a big God-given dream of establishing a permanent Hungarian Baptist Seminary of Romania in Cluj, which is the geographical center of the Hungarian-speaking Romanians or better known as Transylvania.

Though the seminary began in 1992, it has continued without a permanent home since then. To date, 28 pastors have graduated from the seminary. Currently, eight students are studying in seminary.

The dream is for a building that will house the seminary, a missions training center, a church leader training center, and seminary housing. The unique aspect of this building is that it is designed to have businesses occupying the bottom floors to provide ongoing support for the upkeep of the building.

The immediate need is to raise \$50,000 by December 31 in order to obtain the government approval needed for the building and for drawings. Land has already been purchased and given for the building. Hungarian Baptists are committed to assisting with the building. The total cost will be close to \$500,000 with volunteer labor.

Please pray that God will lead people to help the Hungarian Baptists in turning this vision into reality.



BECKY'S HOPE

**Becky's Hope is a ministry to special needs children and their families living in Eastern Europe. Becky is a special needs person who has taken what many consider a handicap and under God's leadership turned into a vibrant ministry. Her mother, Lidia, leads the organization and organizes retreats and ministry for the families of special needs children. To learn more, visit www.beckyshope.org or contact Floyd Parker at floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org.*

A Teleios Fourth!



Women's Conference Draws More Than 200

Event for Hungarian Baptist Women of Romania Brings Together Women Of All Ages

For three days in June, more than 200 women from different parts of Romania joined together to worship and praise God during the annual Hungarian Baptist Women of Romania Conference held in the beautiful Carpathian Mountains at Harghita Christian Camp. Programs and worship focused around a theme of "The Spiritual Growing..." The keynote speaker was Ildiko Kovacs from Hungary. Jozeph Mike was the worship leader. This year's conference saw a more age-diverse group of women participate, which was exciting for many in attendance. Continue to pray for these women as they grow in their walk with the Lord.



This year's conference, held at Harghita Christian Camp, saw record attendance and a more age-diverse group of participants.



Children's Ministry In Sacele Having An Impact

By Otto Kis

We are greeting you in the name of Jesus! We are so thankful for your helping and for your praying.

We were at the Harghita's Camp from June 26-July 4 with 135 children and 15 teachers from whole Transylvania. We had to be the leaders for this children group. There were 10 children from Sacele, 4 from Tree Villages (Tatrag, Zajzon, Purkerek), 3 from Brasov, and 1 from Krizba.

Thank you very much for the money sent for the children (\$500). We got some money also from brothers and sisters from the Purkerek and Brasov Churches. We could pay for 16 children at the Camp rate, and we bought some things for the hand works and it remained \$255 RON.

On July 8, we had a special service in Sacele. We invited the children who were with us at camp and also their parents. About 35-40 people were in that service.

Six children accepted Jesus in their life. They shared with us how they invited Jesus in their hearts so they experienced God's love and forgiveness. Their par-



ents were so thankful when they saw how their children worship God.

In the service, Lee Wisdom shared from Matthew 7: 24-27 about the good foundation of our life. We know that God will continue His work in these children and their parents. We will keep the relationship with them and help them to grow in faith. Please keep the children and their parents in your prayers.

From July 9-14, we had mission work in Sacele with Xtreme Missions. As last year, they came and helped us in mission work. Joe and Dalma from Brasov Church are members of Xtreme Missions and through them they keep the relationship with us.

From Monday to Friday, we were doing

mission work with Hope Group and with the children. At 11 a.m., we had Bible study at Katica's garden with the Hope Group. After that we had a meal together. Afternoon, usually, we did hand work. Three of the Hope Group members I brought with my car every day for the meeting. So it was a good time for the fellowship and to grow in faith.

In the evenings, we had a program with the children at 6 p.m. Many children came to play with us and after that to listen to the Gospel. Please pray for the Sacele children who heard the Gospel.

On Friday and Saturday evening, we had Film Club with youth from Sacele. We don't yet have regularly scheduled youth meetings, but we would like to and we pray for this.

In Purkerek Church, we have regular meeting with 3 women (Irenke, Rozsika and Gyongyi) who want to be baptized. Elizabeth has meeting with the ladies (10-11 ladies) from Purkerek Church in every second week.

We are keeping you all time in our prayer and in our heart! Thank you very much what you are doing for us and for the Seven Villages area Mission.

This Just In...

From Romania...

First Baptist Church of Chester, S.C., has again partnered to help sponsor the Pastors' Family Conference for the Hungarian Baptist Convention of Romania to be held at the end of August at Harghita Christian Camp. The Rev. Clay Waldrip is pastor of the church. Please pray for a fun, safe and refreshing time of renewal for the families as they worship, pray and play together.

From Kenya...

Sharing Jesus' Love With Our Neighbors - The World is the theme for the children's Bible Camp at Koinonia Baptist Church in December. The Bible verse for the week will be taken from Galatians 5:14. The Bible stories will be the story of the Good Samaritan, and then other examples of those who know the love of Jesus and his salvation sharing it with those who have not heard it and are different from them. Please pray for the Teleios Team as they develop materials for Biblical application, academic teaching, crafts and recreation. Pray for each member's personal spiritual preparation for the work.

From Tanzania...

Fourteen computers with new monitors, science books, and encyclopedias for Spring Valley Girls School, tennis shoes for older children and other items for children at Kidete and the Children's Home is on its way. Pray for the quick, safe arrival of this shipment and for the condition of its contents. Praise God for the donations of the items and for God's blessings on those who are so generous in investing in the dreams and lives of others.

From Walhalla, S.C. ...

Over a year ago, Teleios partnered with a group whose dream was to develop a piece of property into a teen/young adult center in a mostly low-income, Hispanic area in Walhalla. In His timing, the Lord has called Tyler Wilkie to be the leader of this work. Tyler is a 2007 College of Charleston graduate and will work as a Christian businessman in Walhalla. Recently, Tyler shared with the youth and youth leaders there that God had called him to lead in developing the center. He began with, "I want to tell you how I'm going to invest my life....." Clean up at the site has begun. Pray for him, the business aspect of his life, as well as the center's development, Teleios and all others God brings into this work.

BAPTISM SERVICE IN TIRGU MURES



It was a great joy that Zozo arrived here and now he is a member of our church. In my heart the joy was double because God used me in Zozo's life. I was there since the beginning and I saw how God can change a man's life. It is a great joy, too, that we can see God is working in his family, too. Please pray with us for his family.

*You Brother In Christ,
Attila Toth*

Your Gifts Help Teleios Turn God's Visions Into Realities

The following is the 2006 Financial Summary drawn from Teleios Ministry's 2006 Form 990: Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax filed with the Internal Revenue Service.*

2006 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Receipts from all contributors: \$273,121

Expenditures: \$277,102

- Tanzania: \$145,652
- Kenya: \$52,053
- Romania: \$49,962
- USA Ministry Development: \$13,731
- Other Expenses: \$15,704 (*Office, newsletter, Web site, utilities, postage, etc.*)
- Salaries: \$00

Total Financial Partners: 158

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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.....

Actually, this column is a continuation of the previous Reflections from the Green Chair when we recognized that we are missions, that missions is in our DNA.

We cannot be who God has called us to be apart from missions. We cannot do what God would have us to do without being missions. Again, missions is not a program, process, or a trip that we take – it is a part of who we are that is expressed in what we do.

Reflection brought about this definition of missions/mission: Missions is the active, visible expression of God's purpose in the world.

God has been seeking to make us serious about being the mission since Adam and Eve sinned.

When God called Abraham to leave his homeland and go to the place that He would show him, He followed that call with these words found in Genesis 12:1-3: "And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a bless-

ing; And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

God called Abraham to be the mission and the blessing. We cannot escape the fact that Abraham's embracing of being the blessing is the heart of mission. Verse 2 makes this quite clear – "...you will be a blessing."

Notice the focus of this passage. Look at how many times we see the pronoun "I" in reference to God. God will "make you a great nation," "bless you," "make your name great," "bless those who bless you," "curse those who curse you." None of these things were Abraham's to accomplish—grab a green chair and reflect on this. Abraham was to be the active, visible expression of God's purpose in the world. God is the primary focus in this passage.

Abraham was the blessing, not a conduit of the blessing but the actual blessing – "You shall be a blessing." You are the active, visible expression of God's divine purpose in the world.

Isaiah 49:6 says "...he said, It is a light thing that thou should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel. I will also give you for a light to the Gentiles, that you will be my salvation unto the end of the earth."

THE MISSION – "I will give you as a light to the nations. You exist to be my salvation unto the end of the earth." Jesus singled out this concept and applied it to His disciples/followers when He said, "I am the light of the world." He also said, "You are the light of the world."

Jesus did not say that through you the light would be revealed. He said, "You are the light of the world." You cannot separate the mission from you.

You are the visible, active expression of God's redemptive and divine purpose in the world. We cannot escape that reality and its implications for us.

With Love In Christ,

Floyd