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Dear Friends and Churches,

Christmas season is a busy time of year for everybody. This year that is especially true for us. We have been working long hours to get a new not-for-profit mission organization off the ground so we can get back to Africa.

We are happy to announce we are now up and running! The new routing method for contributors to give to our future missionary work is:

*Joy in the Harvest
PO Box 496
Lansing, IL 60438*

Claudia and I are excited about returning to Africa. God has blessed us this past 12 years. Even Kimberly and Luke are expressing their excitement at going back "home" to Africa. I hear them speaking Swahili to each other in their bedroom.

As we prepare to return, we invite you to join with us. We know how important you have been to this work. As we stand at this crossroads in our ministry, we ask for your prayers and financial support to enable us to go forward.

When I reflect on the opportunities and great potential for God's work in Africa, I know that dangers and political uncertainties are very real too. Why go back? The harvest is ready. God loves Africa! Africa needs the Lord Jesus.

My prayer is that each person who participates or benefits from *Joy in the Harvest* will be blessed by God. The greatest joy and blessing of all is to know Jesus.

May God's richest blessing be yours now and in the New Year,

Love,

Joy in the Harvest



"...SO THAT THEY MAY KNOW JESUS..."

A New Mission Organization is Launched

Our place of service is Zaire and Tanzania, our challenge is excellence, our tears are for the suffering, our method is love, our goal is to make disciples, our dream is for many, our hope is in Christ alone.

---Lowell Wertz

Joy in the Harvest off to an excellent start

After a flurry of activity and filing of forms in Illinois, *Joy in the Harvest* is an incorporated not-for-profit mission organization. Things are on track for the June, 1993 departure of the Wertz family to resume their mission work in Africa. The announce-ment of the formation of this new mission organization has been most encouraging. I

have been very impressed by those individuals who are volunteering to serve in various capacities. Although we are new, I believe we can develop the finest staff anywhere. There is a commitment that this mission organization's activities must be a blessing to people and a form of worship of God.

Commitment to Excellence and An Open Administration

Starting a new organization is an involved process. The leadership has declared it's intention to seek membership in the *Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability*. Their stringent rules are providing guidance in establishing financial and administrative structures within the new organization. ✕

→ CHECKLIST →

☉ **Statement of Purpose:** To provide expertise and resources needed by the church in Africa for making Christian disciples.

☉ **Mailing Address** for *Joy in the Harvest* is P.O. Box 496, Lansing, IL 60438. We're waiting to hear from you!

☉ Some things don't change-- **our motto:** "...so that they may know Jesus..."

☉ The political **situation in Zaire** remains tense with reports of deaths due to riots, protest, and tribal fighting. Pray for the missionaries and our African friends.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

In future editions we will be introducing people who are working to make *Joy in the Harvest* a successful ministry.

Lowell & Claudia have been missionaries to Zaire, Africa for 12 years. Lowell has a Master of Divinity Degree in World Mission and his work has included flying, printing, carpentry, radio communications



Lowell, Claudia, Kimberly, & Luke

and evangelism. Claudia has a B.A. in Elementary and Special Ed., worked 7 years as a special ed. teacher, ran a school for African women, and guest house. Kimberly & Luke were born in Africa and speak Swahili. Kimberly is 8 years old and Luke is 7. The Wertz family is rejoicing to be returning to Africa under *Joy in the Harvest*. ✕



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Tanzania: Land of Wonders and Need

Tanzania, in East Africa, is a land of the spectacular.

Snow covered Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest point, soars 19,565 feet high. On Tanzania's northern boarder is the 2nd largest lake in the world, Lake Victoria, while on the western boarder is the 2nd deepest lake in the world, Lake Tanganyika. Considered to have the best animal herds with its game parks and Serengeti Plain, it is also the home of Jane Goodall's chimpanzee research. It's Olduvai Gorge has yielded the fossil remains of ancient humanoids. Tanzania is the place

where Stanley met Livingstone.

Tanzania's people live in hope of a better tomorrow.

With a per capita income of \$270, Tanzania's 23 million people saw their income decrease by 30% between 1978 and 1984. Drought, a population growth rate of 3.5%, trade deficit and corruption were contributing factors. On the bright side, literacy rose from 15% in 1965 to 85% in 1983 -- the highest in Africa. 82% of the people live in a rural area and 90% of the population work in agriculture. The main products are coffee, tea, sisal for rope, and cashew nuts. ☾

TANZANIA FACTS

Area	364,900 sq. mi.
Population	23.5 million
Capital	Dar Es Salaam (pop. 1 million)
Density	64.4 pers /sq mi
Government	One party state
Religions	Approximates: Muslim- 30% Christian- 40% traditional- 30%
Life Expectancy	Men 50 Women 53
Infant Mortality	111 per 1,000 live births
Physicians	1,065 (1984)
Official languages	Swahili English



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

"How Can I Help?"

I am glad you are returning to Africa. How can I help?

Because of people like you, we will be able to return to our mission work in Africa. *Joy in the Harvest* is a not-for-profit mission organization that will enable us to continue our African ministry. Financial support is necessary to achieve this goal. We are asking our contributors and supporting churches to send their support, made payable to: *Joy in the*

Harvest, P.O. Box 496, Lansing, IL 60438. A container will be shipped to Tanzania with supplies. A "needs list" is being developed of needed items. Also, we are encouraging folks to become volunteers.

**What is *Joy in the Harvest*?
How did it come into being?**

Joy in the Harvest came into being when the stateside advisory committee to the Wertz ministries voted to incorporate.

Joy in the Harvest has a Board of Directors that controls issues of policy and finance. There is no association between *Joy in the Harvest* and the World Division of the General Board of Global Ministries. Our United Methodist heritage is evident at all levels. Lowell is an ordained UM pastor and will continue the work of planting UM churches in the North Shaba Annual Conference. The volunteers and supporters of *Joy in the Harvest* are mostly United Methodists. ☾