

*Lowell & Claudia Wertz
P.O. Box 1344
Kigoma, Tanzania*

July 9, 1994

Dear Friends and Family,

We just finished our first year in Tanzania and it was our best year ever. How the Lord has blessed! Please be encouraged by the great things God is doing because of your faithfulness.

Rwanda continues to make the news. Let me share one story with you.

Fifty-six Zairians were trapped in Rwanda by the war. They escaped into Tanzania, but the United Nations did not consider them refugees because they wanted to return to Zaire. We found these people without food, shelter, or money.

Twenty-eight young children had not eaten a decent meal in weeks and many were sick. *Joy in the Harvest* provided food, soap, salt, and other things until they were able to board the boat to Zaire a week later. We treated them all to a meal with meat -- something they had not had in a long time.

Jesus taught if we help the least of all people, we do it for Him. *Joy in the Harvest* can minister to the needy because of your commitment to Christ and His Great Commission. *Joy in the Harvest* recently assisted a school for Burundi refugee and Zairian children, funded a trip into Burundi to find orphaned children, and helped start a church in the refugee camp.

Our “personal evangelism / discipleship” class continues it’s outstanding work of presenting the Gospel, “catching fish”, and discipling new believers. Jesus is the only hope -- the only Savior. **People need Him.**

The Lord is touching His people’s hearts so that African hearts can experience His love. Thank you for enabling us to serve Christ in Africa.

Joy in the Harvest



500,000 DEAD IN RWANDA

Rwanda War Refugees Flood Into Tanzania

“Jesus never trusted human nature, yet He was never cynical, never suspicious, because He trusted absolutely in what He could do for human nature.”

Oswald Chambers, My Utmost for His Highest

Over 250,000 Rwanda Refugees fled across the Ngara bridge into Tanzania before the Rebels closed it. Tanzania’s second largest city was instantly created.

This is the largest mass exodus in any 24 hour period in history. Lowell, his District Superintendent, and seven Christian workers sponsored by *Joy in the Harvest* were there within four days to pray with refugees. They found a river flowing with dead bodies and thousands of traumatized people.

The stories are shocking.

Soldiers are offering a quick death with bullets if people can pay — a slow death by being hacked with a machete if they can not. Orphans are being executed for “looking like” the other tribe. Patients are killed in their hospital beds — Christians massacred in churches. The horror of the inhumanities is beyond imagination.

We slept in the Refugee camp. The night was filled with fear and screams.

Armed murderers and the innocent were in the camp together without police protection.

Please pray for the killing to stop in Rwanda. The survivors, who must overcome their hatred and

→ CHECKLIST →

☺ Mailing Address:

Joy in the Harvest
P.O. Box 496
Lansing, IL 60438

God bless each of you who have given to support this ministry in Africa.

☹ **About Three Quarters of a Million People have been killed within 240 miles of Kigoma, Tanzania since last October.**

☺ **Bishop Ngoy Wakadilo of Zaire made his first visit to Tanzania on June 16th. He was warmly received by the UM church and had a nice visit with the Wertzes.**

WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

Rev. Glen Beck is one of United Methodist’s greatest mission statesmen. *Joy in the Harvest* is honored to have him on our Council of Advisors.

Starting in 1958, Glen and Myrna Beck spent 31 years in United Methodist pastorates. In 1979 Glen’s church was the first to begin supporting the Wertzes



Myrna and Glen Beck

mission work in Africa. Glen has made 13 mission trips to India, Haiti and Africa. Since “retirement”, Glen has helped about 100 congregations to begin mission conferences. Over 1.2 million dollars have been given to missions as a direct result of these conferences. Glen and Myrna celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary in June of this year.

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GOD IS AT WORK

Many Won to Christ by Evangelism Class!

The *Joy in the Harvest* Personal Evangelism Class is having phenomenal success in sharing the Gospel.

After several weeks of classes, 15 students went out to "catch fish" for Jesus. Some of these students were new Christians who had received the Lord as their Savior in class. Sharing the Christian faith was a new experience for almost all of them.

Each day in class the students told the stories of those who had accepted Christ.

People from all walks of life were receiving Christ: Govern-

ment officials, Muslims, businessmen, market women, and family members of the students. Many people were responding to the Gospel.

Graduation certificates were issued to the students but they insisted that the class continue. They had won dozens to the Lord and the students wanted help in disciplining them.

A new class was started to teach the students how to help disciple new believers. This class is training "student teachers". These students hold small satellite classes with their new converts. The new class in

Lowell's yard swelled to over 50 students with 63 satellite classes being held in the greater Kigoma area.

230 new believers are receiving help in their new Christian life in these satellite classes.

56 former Muslims are among those receiving discipleship training. Several churches in the area are reporting numerical growth. What started out to be a 4 day seminar has now been going for 5 months.

Rejoice with us! Pray for these new Christians that we might all grow in the Lord. And that together we might "catch more



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What Help is Available for Our Missions Program?

Q. Our church is having a mission emphasis this Fall. Does *Joy in the Harvest* have anything available that would help our church with it's missions program?

A. In response to requests, *Joy in the Harvest* has developed some exciting materials for local churches. We now have available a display and information kit that can be mailed to your church. This kit contains photos, handouts, and display items. Going to the

printer now is a threefold brochure describing the ministries of *Joy in the Harvest*. For bulletin inserts we have available African palm crosses from Tanzania along with a mission information sheet. We have outstanding speakers who can present the needs, opportunities, and challenges of missions in Africa. Please book your requests early through P.O. Box 496, Lansing IL 60438.

Q. Are the Muslims who are

accepting Christ experiencing persecution or difficulties.

A. In some cases — yes. The biggest problem usually occurs when the wife accepts the Lord but the Muslim husband does not. It is not unusual for the him to threaten divorce. We encourage the wife to try to remain in the marriage and win her husband. We have seen whole families become Christians this way. Jesus is able to reach the hardest hearts.

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light... they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest." Isaiah 9:2,3