

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

March, 1996

Dear Friends & Family,

The last time I felt this way I was ten years old standing on the end of a very high diving board. Full of both apprehension and anticipation -- I gathered my nerve to jump.

Launching this fund raising drive fills me with the same emotions. How can I ask our friends who have done so much -- to do more? What will happen if people direct their gifts into the building fund that would have gone into our general fund? Will current ministry and outreach programs end for lack of money? Are we "over reaching"? Apprehension.

Against these concerns, the leadership of *Joy in the Harvest* has decided to take this step of faith. I asked, "Should we tackle this in 3 phases -- over time? \$185,000. is a lot of money." The Building Committee felt we should explain the entire plan right from the start. The Committee answered, "We need to 'move forward in faith'. If we don't present the need, how can people respond?" They have faith in God and you.

So we now present our plan for *Joy in the Harvest's* new mission station. God has provided land -- a beautiful site. This plan is the result of months of careful consideration and work on the part of many. Everyone involved is excited about how these facilities will be used in the Lord's work. The proposed facilities will be tools for ministry -- plain and simple. Anticipation.

We are appealing for **special gifts** -- "over and above giving". Current ministry must not be curtailed. We invite you to join with us in this faith stretching endeavor. If God is moving you to make a special gift, mark it clearly and your gift will help build this new mission station for His glory.

Perhaps you follow the news of *Joy in the Harvest*, but have not been a financial supporter. Would you consider making a special, one time gift? It is going to take many people "digging very deep" to make this new mission station a reality.

God has called His followers to a great and important task. The value of these buildings will be seen in lives changed by the Great News of Jesus Christ. Christ is calling all of us to this work. Never before have the opportunities been greater or the Gospel more urgently needed in Africa. We want you to be a part of what God is doing.

May the love of Christ guide us. Let's get this done for His kingdom's sake!

Love,

Lowell, Claudia
Kimberly & Luke

Joy in the Harvest



FUND RAISING BEGINS

Plans for New Mission Station Announced

"I place no value on anything I have or may possess, except in relation to the kingdom of Christ."

from David Livingstone's journal

Construction of a mission station is being proposed to enable the work of *Joy in the Harvest* to continue and expand.

Joy in the Harvest is currently renting a house from a Muslim, for it's base in Africa. To have a stable, expanding ministry, the Board of Directors has approved plans to begin fund raising for a mission station in Kigoma, Tanzania. We are excited about how God is using *Joy in the Harvest*. These facilities will be a giant step forward for this ministry.

Planned construction will include visitor facilities, office, ministry center, and missionary residence.

The total project cost is estimated at \$185,000. The visitor facilities will comfortably accommodate short and long term volunteers. The multi-purpose ministry building will provide needed space for a wide variety of mission activities. The missionary residence will stabilize the housing situation and save rent money. It will also contain a classroom for home schooling.

Only special gifts, over and above current support, will be used to fund this new mission station. Will you consider making a special gift to help fund its construction? ✕

→ CHECKLIST →

☺ **Mailing Address:**

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

Special gifts, over and above regular support, are needed for construction of the new mission station.

☺ **First Tanzania UM Laity Conference**

Joy in the Harvest sponsored the first ever Tanzania wide UM laity conference. For five days in Feb., delegates from churches across the nation gathered. Lowell taught three of the afternoon sessions on evangelism and church growth.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

Pastor & Mrs. Maasch are the founders of a ministry in South Africa called *Aid to the Aged*. *Joy in the Harvest* is proud to help sponsor their ministry to the impoverished aged.

Walter Maasch has served five pastorates and as the General Secretary for the Leprosy Mission. While doing research for an advanced degree in Social



June & Walter Maasch

Work, he discovered great human need among the forgotten aged in Johannesburg. *ATTA* now provides food, small gifts, delightful newsletters, fellowship, and the Gospel of Christ. Walter says, "this is last ditch evangelism... two minutes before midnight." Some find Christ only hours or days before eternity. Prayer support is needed as they seek to minister to these seniors in Christ's name. ✕



NEW MINISTRY DRAWS CROWDS

Video Evangelism for Refugees

Tanzania has over 600,000 refugees from the Rwanda and Burundi wars. *Joy in the Harvest* has launched a new effort to minister to these refugees.

Because of the danger at night for outsiders in some refugee camps, a new method of doing daylight movie evangelism was needed. A combination TV/VCR and small generator was purchased through the generosity of churches in Indiana. *Joy in the Harvest* is now showing the *Jesus Movie* and other Christian video tapes during daylight hours. Where it is safe, showings are extended into the evening hours as well.



Heri, Lowell, and Luc doing an operational check on the equipment.

Crowds of people line up to attend these "standing room only" showings.

Videos in both Swahili and French are being used.

In addition to the *Jesus Movie*, we are showing a series of seven Bible teachings in French by UM Pastor Ntambo Nkulu. These were video taped by Orv Wertz on his recent visit to Kigoma. Also being used is a series of children and Gospel music programs in Swahili. An occasional cartoon or a short newsreel adds more variety to the programming. Commitments for Christ are being made. All those making decisions for Christ through this ministry are given the opportunity to attend follow-up Bible study classes. ✠



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What Is The Situation With The Refugees?

Q. We continue to hear on the television news about the refugees in Africa. What is the current situation in your area and what is *Joy in the Harvest* doing for refugees?

A. The refugee situation in Tanzania is still serious. With hundreds of thousands of refugees, Tanzania is straining under the load. The political situation in neighboring Burundi is tense and could result in mass slaughter at any time. The Rwanda Hutu refugees are afraid to return because the government & military is under Tutsi control.



Refugee Children Received Teddy Bears

Joy in the Harvest has been involved in a number of efforts to assist refugees. Activities have included distributing gifts of food, clothing, Bibles (in three languages), and children's toys. Funds and medicines have

been provided for medical assistance. A farm project started in one camp has enabled the Christians to finance their church through their own hard work. We continue to have one employee working full time among the refugees. We have assisted in the construction of a church for refugees. Currently, we are undertaking a project to translate and publish Bible study booklets into Kirundi, the language widely spoken by the refugees. All of this is being made possible by those of you supporting the ministries of *Joy in the Harvest*. Thank you! ✠

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