



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



December, 2000

Dear Friends and Family,

Elections. As I write this, Florida recounts are keeping the world guessing who will be the next President of the U.S.A.

Tanzania just held its elections — including its Presidential election. This is a former Socialistic one-party state. It has had two-party elections only twice. Opposition to the ruling party is a new thing. Kigoma, along with Zanzibar, were hotspots.

The tension was very real. Truckloads of military and police arrived ahead of the vote. The contest for the parliamentarian's seat had caused riots, deaths, and the jailing of the opposition candidate. Rumors of an attempt to steal the election and violent protests abound.

Voting occurred on a Sunday. Our church service was cancelled; we were advised to stay indoors. There was a sense that just about anything might happen. We had arranged for extra watchmen for our yard. Fear was in the air.

Some polling stations opened very late. As night fell there were still long lines of people waiting to vote. Suddenly the power was cut to the entire town. I looked out the windows and I could not see a single light anywhere. Absolute blackness. The feelings of isolation, uncertainty, and danger gripped me.

Then suddenly, our generator started. The yard lights came back on. I could see our watchmen doing their job. Light filled the inside of our house. Fear melted away.

Isaiah prophesied “The people walking in darkness have seen a great light... they rejoice before you...” Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world.” Let us rejoice that Jesus came to us that first Christmas and we walk in His great light.

Love,

*Lowell, Claudia
Kimberly & Luke*

Joy in the Harvest



225 STUDENT APPLICANTS FOR NEXT CLASS

Computer Students — Brilliant Successes

“... here is the field for your energies. Bring with you your highest education, and your greatest talents. You will find scope for the exercise of them all. You men of God, who have resolved to devote your lives to the cure of souls of men, here is the proper field for you!”

Alexander Mackay, 1849-1890
Pioneer missionary to Uganda, Africa

On Nov. 4th *Joy in the Harvest* graduated 20 students from our second computer class. Four students from our first class were employed as their teachers.

After ten months of hard work, each student received two certificates of achievement — one for Basic Computer which

included learning computer fundamentals and how to type and another for Intermediate Computer which included more advanced operations and word processing.

Friends and family members of the students gathered for the graduation ceremony.

Lowell explained our purpose in teaching is to express the love of God for each student by helping them. The students surprised us with a long speech. Here's an excerpt:

“ ... pass our thanks to the Headquarters of *Joy in the Harvest*... nothing we can do would pay for all we have acquired concerning Computer technology... we all say — LONG LIVE *Joy in the Harvest!*” ☩

CHECKLIST

✧ **Address:**

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

Africa e-mail Wertz@MAF.org

Merry Christmas everyone!

✧ **Envelope** included as a convenience for contributors.

✧ **Be in Mission!** A video about the work of *Joy in the Harvest* was sent in October to our mailing list. Our thanks to producer Steve Moga & Wheatland Salem UMC of Naperville IL for the videos and First UMC of Woodstock IL for shipping them. Will you join their efforts to help increase prayer and financial support of God's work in Africa? Show it to friends!



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

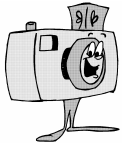
The success of any program is related directly to the people who do the work. *Joy in the Harvest* has been blessed with a driver for our truck, and he has become an important part of the work and ministry in Tanzania.

Of the dozens of people on both sides of the ocean who make the ministries of *Joy in the Harvest* happen, Livingstone's role as truck driver / mechanic has been



Livingstone Kanywa

one of the most crucial. From hauling sand & rocks for construction work, to helping transport sick people & refugees, Livingstone has faithfully served the Lord and furthered the work of *Joy in the Harvest*. Livingstone is 34 years old, is married to Amelia, and they have one daughter named Joyce. He has a technical school certificate in welding and a commercial driver's license. ☩



IF A PICTURE IS WORTH MANY KILOBYTES...

Digital Images from Africa



Lowell speaking at the graduation service for computer students.



Fishing and cargo boats are a significant part of Kigoma's culture.



Our graduates with their certificates of achievement and smiles.



The new church in Gungu has its roof and cement floor. Just a few finishing touches remain to be done.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Can we name your boat?

Q. "What would you think if our Sunday School kids had a contest to name your boat?"
from Ontario, Canada

A. Luke's Answer: What a great idea! People all over the world love the idea of being the one to name a boat. Even some of our employees have Swahili suggestions! We will announce the name in our next newsletter.



New boat is nearing completion

Oh! I forgot to mention, there's a reward being offered for the winning name—a fishing trip on Lake Tanganyika.* You would probably get one anyway if you come out here; something tells me that Dad and I are going to be looking for excuses to go fishing!!

*You have to come to Kigoma to collect your prize!!

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