

*Lowell & Claudia Wertz  
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Lansing, IL 60438  
~ 1-708-889-1315 ~*

August, 2002

Dear Friends, Family, and Churches,

Getting ready for furlough is always a huge job. This time was different. Four of us are going on furlough but three of us will return to Africa. Kimberly is leaving Africa to begin her college studies.

As I went through the food in the pantry sorting out what wouldn't keep for the time we'd be gone, Lowell was mapping out the work projects for Mwenge for the next ten months. With the house buzzing with preparations, Kimberly was trying to pack for college.

Kimberly was putting much thought into her packing. I was pleased she was taking the blanket I crocheted for her many years ago. I frowned as she packed her Muslim dress that was a gift from one of her friends. "She won't need that," I thought. We have packed hundreds of boxes to go to Africa and now Kimberly had to pack 18 years of her life in Africa into just one box she will bring to Asbury College. She wanted to know if her room would be used as a guest bedroom. What should we do about her piano? "And what do I do with all these stuffed animals?" We put them tenderly into a plastic box and marked it 'Kim's' "Don't you want just this special one?" I asked.

When you have home schooled your children for 12 years you just can't imagine what it would be like for them not to be there. That is why we planned our furlough to coincide with her first year away at college. Lowell is teasing her saying he's thinking about getting his doctorate in Missions at the seminary at Asbury so they could have lunch together everyday. Luke thinks it might be great -- like being an only child. And he loves the idea of not having to share the back seat of the car with his sister all furlough!

So when we come to your church this furlough, you'll understand why Claudia is carrying a box of Kleenex and Lowell might have a far away look. For me, it seems like it was just last furlough when Kimberly and Luke were strapped into their car seats!

See you all soon!

*Lowell, Claudia  
Kimberly & Luke*

# Joy in the Harvest



## NEEDIEST RECEIVE CARE

## Thank-You for Your Love!

Jesus Christ  
turns  
life  
right-side-up  
and  
heaven  
outside-in.

Carl F.H. Henry

the *Kigoma Committee for the Poor*, there was joy and relief among the committee members. A letter of appreciation was written expressing the heartfelt thanks of the committee to the supporters of *Joy in the Harvest*.

**The needs of those living in the Destitute Camp will be met for at least two more years because of this giving.**

As we begin this furlough to America, it is with a sense of gratitude to God for you. We know that when we return to Tanzania next year we will not find the awful situation in the camp we found after our last furlough. The needless deaths and unimaginable human suffering won't return to the camp because of you.

**God bless you and thank-you!** ☩

**In response to our last newsletter, 47 gifts were given totaling \$7,205. designated for the Kigoma Destitute Camp. These funds will enable our continued support of the disabled destitutes.**

When I announced the results of your giving at a recent meeting of

## → CHECKLIST →

### ☺ Address:

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

Thank you for your support of the Lord's work!

### ☺ Wertzes Contact Information for Furlough:

PO Box 364, Lansing, IL 60438  
telephone: 1-708-889-1315  
email: wertz@africaonline.co.tz  
website: joyintheharvest.com

### ☺ Fall Women's Retreat

Will be held at *Marco's* in Lynwood, IL on November 2nd. Come and have a great day!

For information & reservations contact Sandra Shelby at 708-895-2897 or Joan Weaver at 708-836-4121.



## WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

We are pleased to introduce Rev. Isaya Ntagato. Isaya works part-time in the *Kigoma Destitute Camp*. He is a constant source of help and encouragement and a wonderful witness for Jesus to the disabled people there. His small monthly stipend comes from your donations to help support the destitutes.

Born in 1952 into a pagan family with a witchdoctor father, Isaya



**Pastor Isaya**

found Christ at age 14. He began teaching Sunday School in 1970 and was elected by his church to be an assistant pastor in 1975. He became a full pastor in 1995. Marrying his first wife in 1970, they had 8 children together. He lost her when she died in 1987. He married Judisi Tumbo in 1992. Isaya serves his Lord as the pastor of the Kikungu Swedish Free Pentecostal Church. ☩



FOUR YEAR TERM COMPLETED

# Furlough Begins!

## We are starting our 6th furlough in September!

Since 1979 we have enjoyed visiting our churches and supporters. We often pull our little trailer behind our car as we travel the country so we can get to as many churches as possible.

## Since word went out in our March newsletter of our upcoming furlough, many of you have contacted us.

Thank you for all the invitations to come visit your churches! We are including our initial speaking schedule in this newsletter.

## We hope that many of you will still contact us with a date you would like us to visit you.



Last furlough — 1997. The Wertzes are welcomed by the United Methodist Church in New Palestine, Indiana

The Sundays were snatched up quickly but there are many other open dates and we'd love to come see you.

Please look over the schedule and see when we will be in your area and contact us for a date.

## A special event is planned for the Indianapolis area churches.

On Friday, March 21, 2003 we will be at the Jonathon Byrd Restaurant at the Greenwood exit for an evening of sharing and a meal. Since it's impossible to get to every church we hope many of you will be able to join us there!

It has been an extraordinary four years since we saw many of you. We look forward to sharing the exciting things God is doing in Africa because of your prayers and support of *Joy in the Harvest*.

**See you soon!**



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## Have You Found a New USA Office Manager?

### Q. Have you found a new stateside office manager yet?

A. Not yet. Pray with us that the Lord will bring the right person for this important work!

Here is a chance for someone to serve the Lord in a mission support role — right from their own home. The work will include answering mail, banking, staying in close communication

with Lowell & Claudia and being the stateside contact person for churches. This position is vital for the ongoing ministry of *Joy in the Harvest*.

The work load is part-time. Remuneration is being offered. Transition training into the job will be available.

Here is our description of the ideal candidate. A Christian with people skills, willing to serve

Christ with dedication. Able to start as soon as possible but no later than January 1, 2003. An organizer, willing to work from their own home or nearby rented office. Basic computer skills are necessary. All equipment will be provided. The candidate should view this position as a missionary ministry, not just a job.

Contact Lowell Wertz for more information.