

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

July, 2004

Dear Friends, Family, and Churches,

What happens when the money runs out?

Some things I have done I would not recommend to others. The year 1980 was our first as missionaries. Responding to the invitation of the African church, we cashed in Claudia's teachers' pension and bought one-way tickets to Africa. We were faith missionaries with no salary. Having figured how much money it would take to keep us going, we watched as month by month gifts came in. I excitedly told one old missionary that our support was coming in at 110% of the needed level. He told me to save the extra – we might need it. Then summer hit. I had never been a missionary in the summer. Giving didn't just drop – it went to zero. For three months it stayed at zero. That "extra" was soon gone.

I wasn't sure what to do. We were in the middle of Africa without food or money. Yet I knew we were exactly where God wanted us to be! We were happy, but we did have a problem.

When the first gift in months arrived, it was a check for one thousand dollars from a supporter in Pennsylvania. My fears and doubts melted. Let me tell you, there was great rejoicing at our house. What a moment! When the contributor asked what we were going to do with the money, I told him it meant we could buy food. He thought I was joking. I wasn't.

Each summer brings back that memory. It is a good memory of how God taught us He can provide. We have seen God bless and grow this ministry. The budget is larger and the financial needs are greater. Summer still brings challenges. It is then I remember the lesson of a summer long ago when the money ran out. God provides – through His people – for His work. His Spirit touches hearts and He leads His people.

Thank you for providing the finances for this work. You are God's provision and the source of great happiness in Africa. May God's richest blessings always be yours in Christ Jesus.

Love,

*Lowell, Claudia
Kimberly & Luke*

Joy in the Harvest



65 RECEIVE CHRIST DURING ONE TRIP

Boat Ministry Reaching Remote Villages

*"I know
that the experiences
of our lives,
when we let God use them,
become
the mysterious and perfect
preparations
for the work
He will give us to do."*

Corrie ten Boom
The Hiding Place

What started out as a "father and son" fishing boat, built in our yard, has turned into an important vessel to reach isolated villages on the shores of Lake Tanganyika.

In the past month, our boat, *Safina*, has made three trips. The first

outreach was a journey of seven and a half hours down the lake. It was a medical and evangelistic mission carried out by *Southern Baptist* missionaries. On next trip, a group of 16 mission volunteers from *Youth With A Mission* went to a remote village near the border of Burundi. They spent four days in the village. The third trip took a group of ten people to a distant village to visit Christians who had constructed a new church. Many were won to Christ as a result of these boat trips.

Tanzania has over 350 miles of shoreline dotted with isolated villages accessible only by water. The *Safina* is enabling the Gospel to reach these remote areas. We are thrilled to see it being used in the work of "fishing for men". ☩

→ CHECKLIST →

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The Wertz family will be in the USA from the end of August through September, 2004.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

Luke Wertz is off to college! He has been accepted to *Asbury College* near Lexington, Kentucky.

The time has now come for Luke, who was born in Africa, to leave for new adventures. Packing his computer books and buying new clothes, he is headed to the USA and college freshman orientation.

A self-admitted computer geek,



Luke teaching 63 students at our Computer School in Kigoma.

Luke has kept the missionary community in western Tanzania in the computer age. He will be greatly missed by everyone. In fact, there is fear that the outside world may never hear from the missionaries in this area again!

Luke will also be given "orientation" to the USA by his older sister, Kimberly, who will be a junior at *Asbury College*. ☩



THE CHURCH IN AFRICA REJOICES...

Visitors Advance the Work of God

Joy in the Harvest has been blessed with visitors this past quarter. Each volunteer has made a significant contribution to the work.

Jim and Lonnie Bone flew our single engine Cessna from the USA to Tanzania nine years ago. Back to help with the work, Jim was soon at the controls of our airplane again. However, Jim spent most of his time in the computer school upgrading and fixing computers. He laughingly says he has done enough Windows '98 installations to last him the rest of his life!

The Bones came with their friends, Martin and Audrey Wagenaar, who are Canadians living in Kenora, Ontario.



Martin & Audrey Wagenaar and Jim & Lonnie Bone at the David Livingstone Memorial.

Lonnie and Audrey untangled a small mountain of yarn, sorted fabric, and taught a knitting class for African ladies. They also worked at the destitute camp and assisted our 'Friday People'. Martin, a carpenter, worked on the new guest houses by installing

doors and kitchen cabinets. We greatly appreciate all the work they did and a great time of fellowship.

Also visiting us is Leah Roper from Florida. A former missionary kid in Zambia, she came for a month's visit and fit right into the work program. ☩



Leah Roper helping get the envelopes ready for this mailing.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Did Kim Get Home?

Q. Did Kim get home?
(asked by friends from Indiana)

A. Kimberly has returned to Tanzania for the summer after spending the second semester of her sophomore year studying in Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan. She studied the region's politics, history, religion, and language. We love hearing her stories and seeing photos of her new friends and the interesting places she visited.



Kim with village kids in front of their church where she teaches them about Jesus.

She continues to seek the Lord's leading in her life and hopes to return to that region someday.

Since being home in Kigoma, Kimberly has started a children's ministry in two villages, helped take care of a group of elderly street people, and sorted donated clothing. For fun, she competes against her Mom in *Scrabble* (and usually wins). She returns to *Asbury College* in the fall. ☩

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