



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



December, 2004

Dear Friends, Family, and Churches,

Those following our missionary work for twenty five years know that we do not make many financial appeals. I feel that we should trust God for our needs and live within our income. However, sometimes it is important to inform our supporters as to the needs of the ministry.

We have seen God's blessing and the continued growth and success of *Joy in the Harvest*. Financially we have been operating in the "lean" mode for sometime and need to increase our operating income by about 15% (\$36,000.) over the next year.

God has been faithful in finance and in every other way. Our churches and supporters have stood shoulder to shoulder with us in this work. I believe it is right to inform you of this need rather than curtail the work. Our current projects and evangelistic efforts are bearing spiritual fruit. Exciting opportunities await our response. It is a wonderful time to be in ministry in Africa.

Please prayerfully examine your financial involvement with our ministry. Maybe you have been reading our newsletters for years. We now invite your participation in the ongoing financial support of *Joy in the Harvest*. Many of you are already giving beyond what we could ever ask. Some might be able to do more. God bless you all.

One very important way everyone can help is by expanding our support base. Sharing with other churches and friends about *Joy in the Harvest* could push God's work in Africa forward for years to come. Stewardship of opportunities could be your important gift to this mission work.

Finally, we ask for your prayers. Only with prayer support will the harvest be brought home. As we serve Him together, may Jesus Christ always receive the glory!

Our prayer for each of you is that this Christmas is a blessed one. Merry Christmas from the whole *Joy in the Harvest* staff!

Love,

*Lowell, Claudia
Kimberly & Luke*

Visitors' Photos



Organizing and cataloging books for



Dave giving gifts at Destitute Camp.



Vaunceil demonstrating the treadle sewing machine at Ladies' Sewing Class.



Lowell dropped the guests off to see chimps and went fishing.



Sunday Morning Worship in the Burundi Refugee Camp.



Fishing kits and a Gospel tract from Sunday School kids in Naperville, IL.

Joy in the Harvest



NINE BOXES OF SUPPLIES AND THEMSELVES!

Six Visitors Bring Blessings To Africa

HE BECAME
WHAT WE ARE
THAT HE MIGHT MAKE US
WHAT HE IS.

SAINT ATHANASIUS, 295-373

They arrived in Tanzania full of enthusiasm and ready to work.

The team of six people from Illinois arrived with supplies in hand. They couriered 5 boxes for us and brought 4 more boxes including tooth paste and brushes and children's fishing kits.

Two new ministry projects were started while they were here.

Funds were raised by the team to purchase sewing machines and supplies. The African ladies loved this new class! They each sewed a skirt and blouse.

They also brought library supplies to begin the massive task of cataloging the books sent out in the last container.

The team leader, Steve Moga, took video footage and pictures to prepare a new JOY video for our churches.

Through their presence and work, their attitudes and personal testimonies of what Jesus means to each of them, they gave a strong and powerful witness for the Lord. They touched many lives. ☩



CHECKLIST



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* **Website**

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* **Envelope Enclosed**

A remittance envelope is enclosed as a convenience for those wishing to make a contribution to this ministry.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

A team of six came from two United Methodist Churches in Illinois. We enjoyed their visit so much. This group knew how to laugh.

From *Wheatland Salem United Methodist Church* in Naperville, IL came Steve Moga (college sports assistant and videographer), Arlene Johnson (retired from Sprint and prayer



The Illinois Work Team sporting their newly made African clothes.

partner), Paula Traviolia (mother of four and organizer extraordinaire), Scott Tannenbaum (home remodeling businessman) and David Miech (purchasing agent and a future pastor). From the *Erie (Illinois) United Methodist Church* came Vaunceil Stephenson (retired school teacher and excellent seamstress). ☩



DOING GOD'S WORK IN AFRICA

Anatomy of a Mission Trip

Every mission trip is unique. Here is a brief schedule for the Illinois team's activities.

Day 1. Arrival, customs, guesthouse, Dar city tour, dinner.

Day 2. Flight to Kigoma, airport welcome, church welcome, guesthouse, dinner & sleep.

Day 3. Orientation. Tour: JOY's work sites and facilities, Livingstone Memorial, Baptist Hospital, Bible College. Rest.

Day 4. Begin work projects: Ladies' Sewing Class, cataloging library books, guesthouse construction projects, organizing used clothing, video production. Evening: Missionary Bible study (guest to speak.)

Day 5. Work projects. Missionary Ladies' Bible study (guests to speak).

Day 6. Distribution of children's fishing kits with Swahili Gospel tracts. Ladies' Sewing Class.

Day 7. Shopping at the market. Work projects. Assist poor people. Ladies' Sewing Class.

Day 8. Trip to Refugee Camp for Sunday service. (Guests to speak)

Day 9. Continue work projects. Ladies Sewing Class. *Jesus Movie* evangelism after dark.

Day 10. Four hour boat trip and five hours of hiking to see wild chimpanzees in Jane Goodall's *Gombe Stream National Park*.

Day 11. Assemble distribution packs for Destitutes. Visit Destitute Camp. Ladies' Sewing Class. Evening: Missionary Bible Study (guest to speak).

Day 12. Work Projects. Photographic trip. Missionary Ladies' Bible Study. Boat trip.

Day 13. Work Projects. Assist poor people. Swimming. Dinner at Hotel.

Day 14. Aerial tour of Kigoma area. Depart for Dar es Salaam.

Day 15. *Mikumi Game Park*.

Day 16. Return to Capital. Shopping for sovereigns.

Day 17. Depart for USA.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What's New In Wertzland?

Q. Is there news in Wertzland?

(Emailed question from a former missionary to Kigoma.)

A. Kimberly and Luke are doing fine in college. For the first time we will be separated by an ocean this Christmas. But we know that Grandma and Grandpa Wertz will take good care of them in Florida over the holidays. We are grateful that



Don Reed and Tori Rasmussen, mission volunteers, are drilling a water well for JOY's ministry site.

we can keep in close touch with them via the internet.

In Africa our evangelism work and all the ministry programs are going full speed ahead. The construction program is in full swing, too. We expect the first guest house to be ready in January. Two volunteers are drilling a water well for the guest houses. We are looking forward to Claudia's Mom being with us in Kigoma for Christmas. ✕

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