

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

March, 2005

Dear Friends and Churches,

I was a college student when I made my first trip to Africa. At nineteen years old, I was eager to learn and experience life. The kind invitation of missionaries was opening the Congo to me. Believing this trip was of God, my parents borrowed money to buy the airline ticket.

Departure from Chicago's O'Hare Airport was different in 1969. There was no baggage screening. My hand luggage was filled with electrical transformers for missionaries and it weighed so much I could barely pick it up. There were no skyway tubes for passengers – just a portable stairway on the asphalt going up to the door of the BOAC airliner. This was my first airplane trip. I was nervous and excited. My sister burst into tears as I left.

God used those weeks in Africa to call me to be a missionary. I already loved the Lord Jesus, but now I was falling in love with Africa and her people. My experiences changed me. After returning home I knew God was calling me to missionary service.

My life was changed by that mission trip. Thirty six years later I still love being a missionary. Monday is my favorite day of the week because I have a whole week ahead to do what I love. God has blessed me greatly through His call on my life.

This summer six students from Asbury College will join us in Tanzania. They are an outstanding group of young Christians with so much talent and so much potential. God calls each generation to take the Good News to every corner of the world. Will this summer's experiences be used by God to help them find their place of service? Maybe, just maybe, Africa will be getting some new missionaries!

And yes, I have transformers I need them to bring to Africa.

Love,

*Lowell, Claudia  
Kimberly & Luke*

# Joy in the Harvest



HELPING PROSPECTIVE MISSIONARIES

## Internship Program Launches!

*“The invitation to discipleship is the most thrilling ever to come to mankind. Just imagine being a working partner with God in the redemption of the world!”*

**Billy Graham**

***Joy in the Harvest* is developing its first internship program to train young people in the practical realities of mission work.**

Knowing it is an honor to help the next generation of missionaries, we have started an internship program for college age young people. This internship program will be six weeks long and these interns will be involved in running every aspect of *Joy in the Harvest*.

Kimberly Wertz was appointed by our Board of Directors to be the coordinator of the Internship Program. An application and reference process was developed and each applicant was interviewed by two of our directors.

All applicants certified their willingness to give their lives for full time mission service. Thirteen applied for the six positions. It was difficult to choose only six as all applicants were outstanding. An Asbury College grant will fund three of the interns. The other three interns are mission majors and are not eligible for the grant as they are getting academic credit for serving as interns.

**Departure date from the USA is set for May 11. Please pray for our interns this summer!** ☩



### CHECKLIST

✉ **Postal Address:**

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

✉ **E Mail Addresses:**

wertz@joyintheharvest.com  
usaoffice@joyintheharvest.com

🌐 **Web site:**

www.joyintheharvest.com

🌸 **Spring Women's Retreat**

When: April 16, 9AM – 3PM

Where: Benny's, Lynwood IL

Theme: “In the Garden”

Speaker: Carol Rischer

Info & Reservations:

Joan Weaver 219-836-4121



### WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

***Joy in the Harvest* received news of the passing of our dear friend, Mr. Robert G. Burnside. With sorrow for ourselves and joy for him, we commit him into the hands of the Lord he loved.**

Mr. Burnside was an attorney practicing in Vandalia, IL until his 90th birthday. He was an avid pilot with a love for flying, and he used his airplane to make fishing trips to Canada. Losing his aviation medical certificate in 1993, he decided to



**In Memory of  
Mr. Robert G. Burnside**

donate his beloved Cessna 182 for use on the mission field. In 1994 his plane was registered in Tanzania as 5H-JOY of *Joy in the Harvest*. Mr. Burnside was an active member of the First United Methodist Church of Vandalia and a benefactor of Kaskaskia College of Centralia, IL. Mr. Burnside was 91 at the time of his death. Whenever we were in the States, we would stop and visit Mr. Burnside. Our family will always treasure our times spent with him. ☩



**OUR NEIGHBORS**

# Meet Three of Our “Friday People”

In our culture, Friday is the day of the week beggars can ask for assistance. We have developed a program to help the poorest people in the Kigoma area. Our “Friday People” are very special to us. All receive the Good News and we usually help about a dozen people per week. Meet three of those we helped this week....

Milluku John says he is 102 years old. He is alone as his wife and children have died. He has asthma and is frail. During a recent rain-storm his hut collapsed.



His needs included food, medical treatment, and help rebuilding his hut.

Madua Moshi is six years old. He started developing this tumor four months ago. Two different doctors saw him but his family did not have any money for treatment. We provided transportation to a hospital located 250 miles away (20 hour road trip) and funds for treatment.



Paulo Ruhomwa is alone with no living relatives. He has been totally paralyzed on one side of his body for seven years. He can barely walk and has to beg to stay alive. He needed medical attention and food. ✕



**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

## What is the situation at the Baptist Hospital there?

*We have received many questions about this hospital . Here is an update....*

A. The Kigoma Baptist Hospital closed its wards last year when the Southern Baptist mission board (IMB) ended its funding. The hospital is owned by the Tanzania Baptist Convention which does not have the funds to operate it. The IMB ceased its funding due to its change of mission emphasis — not due to problems at the hospital.

One of our visitors, Parker Wayland, has felt led of the Lord to try to help the hospital reopen its wards.

He has developed a PowerPoint presentation and is approaching Southern Baptist churches and organizations. He is currently seeking more opportunities to show this presentation to Southern Baptists in the USA.

[If you can help provide contacts among Southern Baptists who might be interested in seeing this presentation, please email me.](#)

The two great needs of this ministry are \$200,000. per year in financial support and medical professionals to volunteer.

I have been heartened by the many enquires and offers of service by American doctors, nurses, and others. God seems to be at work in this situation.

With this great ministry hanging in the balance, pray with us that hearts in the USA will be touched, so that many lives here can be saved and suffering eased in the name of Jesus Christ. ✕