

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

May 29, 2007

Dear Churches, Friends, and Family,

Ask for money? Missionaries Hudson Taylor and George Muller didn't do it.

Hudson Taylor, an early missionary to China, made a commitment never to ask for funds. George Muller, founder of orphanages in Great Britain, did not reveal their needs. Both missionaries had great ministries that showed God's ability to provide. I am haunted by the legacy of Taylor and Muller.

Is there a deeper realm of faith that needs to be explored? Do I believe that God can supply every need? Does God want me to share our needs with other Christians? Is this a lack of faith in God? Should I remain silent when confronting human suffering every day? What is the right thing to do?

The Bible teaches that money is one of life's necessities. Jesus paid taxes. If we cannot escape money, we at least need to keep it from having an importance in our lives that only God deserves.

How does *Joy in the Harvest* do its fund raising? Primarily, we depend on God moving in the hearts of His children. We provide information and let the Lord do the rest. God is capable of supplying needs and enabling a big work to go forward.

Do we keep quiet about the ministry's needs? Because we don't think the Lord wants us to do that, sometimes we share them. But we try to keep a proper balance while doing this. More than money is at stake. God told us to take the Gospel of Christ to the nations. All Christians need to be a part of this. Obedience is critical to our spiritual health and reaching the lost.

When believers pray and give to missions, they give of themselves to God. *Joy in the Harvest* can do its work because those at home labor and give generously. God honors us with opportunities, and blesses obedience.

Furlough is almost here. Oh, by the way, we don't talk about money when we visit churches on furlough unless a question is asked. We look forward to being with you to share the wonderful things God has done.

Love,

Lowell + Claudia

Wertz USA Speaking Schedule: August, 2007 – June, 2008

(for church location and time contact the Wertzses)

AUGUST, 07

- 1 Marshalltown, IA
- 12 Kenora, ONT Canada
- 26 Richland Center, WI

SEPTEMBER, 07

- 2 Milledgeville, IL
- 7-8 JOY Board meeting
- 9 Attica, IN
- 15 Kingwood, TX
- 16 AM Kingwood, TX
- PM League City, TX
- 19-23 Montgomery, AL
- 26 Crossville, TN
- 30 Elyria, OH

OCTOBER, 07

- 7 Waterford, PA
- 9 Steelton, PA
- 12 Johnstown, PA
- 13 New Park, PA
- 14 Felton, PA
- 20 Moorestown, NJ
- 21 Collingswood, NJ
- 28 AM Cape May Ct House, NJ
- PM Lawnside, NJ

NOVEMBER, 07

- 3 Bath, PA
- 4 AM Bath, PA
- PM Woxall, PA
- 11 Sayville, NY
- 16 Franklin, PA – **Area Meeting**
- 17-18 Harmony/Zelienople, PA
- 25 Palatine, IL

DECEMBER, 07

- 9 Rensselaer, IN

JANUARY, 08

- 20 Naperville, IL

FEBRUARY, 08

- 3 Batesville, IN
- 10 Downers Grove, IL
- 17 Woodstock, IL
- 24 Indianapolis, IN

MARCH, 08

- 1 Indianapolis, IN
- 2 Indianapolis, IN
- 9 Winter Park, FL
- 12 Greer, SC
- 15 Indianapolis, IN
- 16 Linden, IN
- 29-30 Indianapolis, IN

APRIL, 08

- 6 AM Zionsville, IN
- PM Indianapolis, IN
- 13 Kokomo, IN
- 20 New Palestine, IN
- 25 Greenwood, IN -- **Area Meeting**
- Jonathan Byrd Cafeteria
- 27 Fishers, IN

MAY, 08

- 3 Lansing, IL -- **Women's Retreat**
- 4 Indianapolis, IN
- 10-11 Wilmore, KY – **Luke's Graduation**
- 18 West Terra Haute, IN
- 25 Erie, IL

JUNE, 08

- 29 Hanover, IL

If you are not on our calendar yet, many open dates are available.

Email Claudia at wertz@joyintheharvest.com



Joy in the Harvest



I HATE TALKING ABOUT MONEY

The Financial Challenges Ahead

“The noblest thing a man can do is, just humbly to receive, and then go amongst others and give.”

Dr. David Livingstone

first missionary to Kigoma, Tanzania

As we prepare for furlough, we realize this ministry will be facing some large financial challenges in the year ahead.

Furlough is an important time to reconnect with friends and churches. However, the work in

Africa must go forward at the same time. Blessed with an excellent staff, projects such as the computer school, destitute camp, street people feeding, and refugee work will be able to continue. Our evangelists will keep sharing the Word of God. We are happy to know the spiritual harvest can go forward while we are stateside.

Furlough year brings many added expenses and unique opportunities — such as the possibility of shipping a container of supplies to Africa. We anticipate a higher level of expenses than normal.

God works through the lives of His servants. He touches hearts and gives both the burden and the blessings. Let's watch God meet these needs and worship Him! ✕



CHECKLIST

☺ **USA Contact Info.**

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☺ **Africa Contact Info.**

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☺ **Our Website**
www.joyintheharvest.com

☺ **Soccer Tournament**

32 teams are completing in our soccer tournament running in May and June, 07. This tournament is used to provide HIV-AIDS education.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

We are pleased to provide summer internship training for Tanzania's first United Methodist to attend Africa University — Levi.

Before becoming a student, both Levi and his wife worked for *Joy in the Harvest*. Although he received a scholarship for his studies, he had no way to provide for the support of his wife and



Levi Nyasinde Rashid

five children. We continue to support Levi's family so he can study in Zimbabwe. During his six week internship with us, Levi is receiving training in preaching, teaching, pastoral care, administration, and working with the poor. He wants to become a United Methodist pastor. ✕



HOSPITALITY MINISTRY...

Who Else Is Using the Guest Houses?

Meet some of the “locals” who have used our guesthouses.



Mikos was one of Lowell’s students at the *Lake Tanganyika Bible College*. When he married his new bride, Neema, they used our guesthouse for their honeymoon. Mikos is now a Bible teacher at the college and their daughter is named Mboni.



The missionary ladies of Kigoma held a three day spiritual retreat. Beth Moore materials were used.

They enjoyed being “locked in” the guesthouses.



Abdi is a famous *National Geographic* photographer. Born in Somalia, he is a naturalized American citizen. He is the greatest expert on the Shoebill Stork and lives all year in a swamp to do his work. He was bit by a hippo but luckily didn’t lose his arm. When he comes to Kigoma, our guesthouse

is his little “home away from the swamp”.



The US Consulate staff recently stayed with us when the US Ambassador to Tanzania visited Kigoma. They were great folks.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How Bad is the AIDS Epidemic?

Q. How bad is the HIV - AIDS epidemic in Tanzania?

A. The adult infection rate is about 9%. Tanzania ranks 4th in the world for the actual number of people infected (1.6 million). It ranks 10th for all nations in terms of the percent of the population infected.

In the 15 to 24 age group, women have more than twice the infection rate of men. There are



“A disease more common in Africa than the common cold.”

more than one million AIDS orphans in Tanzania. Primary infection route is heterosexual sex.

The scale of the problem is hard to imagine. Every family in Tanzania has been impacted. Every day we are helping children and adults whose lives have been shattered by this disease. We have found the Gospel contains both comfort for the grieving and the best plan I know to halt the AIDS epidemic. Its transforming power is desperately needed in Africa. ✕

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