

*Lowell & Claudia Wertz
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June, 2008

Dear Friends, Family, and Churches,

We proudly watched as Luke, and many others, graduated from Asbury College. Each student has plans and dreams. These impressive young people are gifted, brilliant, and godly. They will change the world.

All over campus that morning, we saw boxes being loaded into cars. The graduates were ready to move on. God is always taking people from where they are and moving them to new places. Abraham, Moses, and Paul got their heavenly "U-Hauls" packed for them. As followers of Christ, they are about to be shown the door into a world of need, challenges, and blessings. They are called to be servants.

As they begin their lives of service, I can't help but have a sense of excitement for them. Look at the God we serve! Knowing Him sets our spirits soaring -- joyous and free. We never face a problem alone because He is with us wherever we go. We live for His purposes -- larger than self or life. We never suffer anything without the full attention of heaven on us. We have unlimited call time on a direct line to the One in charge. Nothing evil can happen to us that God can not fix. We live every day forgiven. We have opportunities to do great things. Our service brings eternal benefits -- health care without hospitals, retirement housing with Jesus as the Builder, and investments that hold their value forever. All who are called to serve this God will have lives filled with meaning and purpose.

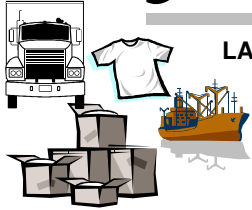
Are there problems, heartaches and sorrows waiting? You bet. The cross is not a fun thing to pick up and carry! Jesus told us to count the cost. Alumni from this school have been martyred for the faith -- one, a dear friend of mine. Yet we have every reason to rejoice, be optimistic, and encouraged. Christ gives us victory.

A new generation of Christ's servants has been launched into this world. There are fields to be plowed, harvests to be brought in, songs to be written, and discoveries to be made. Seeing these new servants, well prepared and ready to work, gives great optimism that Christianity's best days are still to come.

Love,

Lowell + Claudia

Joy in the Harvest



LATE CONTRIBUTIONS STILL ACCEPTED

Update: Container Project 2008

"Every time we love,
every time we give,
it's Christmas."

Dale Evans

1912-2001
writer, movie star, singer/songwriter,
wife of Roy Rogers

Donations for the container going to Africa are arriving daily at the five drop-off points in NJ, PA, SC, IL, and IN.

As I am writing this, we are just days away from the May 31st deadline to receive gifts at the five drop-off locations. The folks

tending these locations are sending word of a good response. In some cases, more storage units have been rented. During the first week in June, most of the donations will be brought to Lynwood, IL and the process of inventorying and packing the donations will begin. We are thrilled with each item given in Christian love for the ministry of *Joy in the Harvest* in Africa.

We will still be able to receive late donations in Lynwood, IL until June 30, 2008. Contact us to arrange your drop-off.

So far we have received \$8,092. in financial donations toward our goal of \$12,000. to cover the costs of shipping and clearing customs on the container. Thank you! ☩



CHECKLIST

☺ **USA Contact Info.**

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Lansing, IL 60438

Tel: 1-708-418-1083
usaoffice@joyintheharvest.com

☺ **Wertz Furlough Info.**

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

☺ **Wertz's Return to Africa**

Lowell & Claudia plan, Lord willing, to return to Africa on September 17, 2008.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

Luke Wertz, *Joy in the Harvest's* webmaster, graduated from Asbury College on May 11, 2008.

As a "missionary kid" in Africa, Luke was home schooled and spent his free time learning computer programming. The *Joy in the Harvest* website was one of his first projects. At Asbury



**Luke Wertz,
B.A. in Media Communications**

College, he majored in media communications. Luke feels called to return to Africa to use his skills as a missionary. He plans to work for a time in the states while he continues preparing for the mission field. Pray for the Lord's continued direction for Luke as he seeks to serve Him. ☩



GOD AT WORK IN AMERICA

Furlough News!

Do You Want To Be A Missionary?

The Board of Directors of *Joy in the Harvest* has adopted an application policy for approving new missionary candidates. Do you feel God is calling you to serve Him as a missionary? Are you considering serving Him in Africa? *Joy in the Harvest* would be happy to discuss it with you and provide you with information about our policies and procedures, qualifications to serve as a missionary, and application forms. We know from first hand experience this is an important, life changing decision. We will pray with you as you seek the Lord's will.

Prayer Needed:

Medical Meeting to Be Held July 7, 2008

Faced with unimaginable human suffering and believing that God is asking us to do something, *Joy in the Harvest* has compiled an email list of people who have expressed an interest in medical work in Kigoma. We have scheduled our first face-to-face meeting for July 7, 2008 at 9 AM at the First UMC of Lansing, IL. Please pray with us as we seek the Lord's will. We need to know what role God has for each of us concerning the lack of good medical care for the poor in central Africa. Do you know someone who should be on this list or attending this meeting? Please contact us. Please pray!

Mr. Mwenge To Visit America

Mr. Mwenge, our chief of staff, is coming to the USA for the first time. A "light refreshment" reception will be held for him on July 6 & 7 from 2 to 5 PM at the First United Methodist Church of Lansing, IL. Anyone wanting to meet him at O'Hare in Chicago — he arrives on British Air flight 295 on July 2 at 1:55 PM.



Mr. Mwenge



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How Is Furlough Going?

Q. How has your furlough been going? (asked dozens of times)

A. It has been amazing. We have been on the road since July, 2007 — pulling our travel trailer some 38,000 miles so far. We have been in 22 states, speaking in 16 of them and Canada; spoke in over 100 churches and at many special events, to groups as small as 5 and as large as 5,000. We have been on TV and radio. We have visited with



**Lowell & Claudia Wertz
being welcomed in
West Terre Haute, Indiana**

many individual contributors of *Joy in the Harvest*. Our camper's door froze shut once, the water pipes froze once, and our dump valves froze many times. We had no flat tires, accidents, or tickets. We enjoyed wonderful church meals. We slept in beautiful campgrounds and driveways. Also in church, Flying-J, and Wal-Mart parking lots. We loved full time RV'ing this past year. We do look forward, however, to our return to Tanzania. ☩

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