

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

April, 2009

Dear Friends, Family, and Churches,

Much has been happening this past quarter, and we have had more visitors than ever before. We thought we would share a few pictures of some of the visitors and work.

We appreciate the prayers, support, and the many kinds of involvement people have with this ministry. Good things are happening. Let's praise God and give Him the glory.

Love,

Lowell + Claudia



Steve Ulery helped with designing systems for the Community Center and his wife, JoAnn helped make cushions for the guest houses.



Donna Trinko and Janai helping dish up the food at the feeding center. We are averaging over 350 people at each meal.



The medical team of eight volunteers provided care for the ill and saved lives while being a living testimony of the love of Jesus Christ.





John Myers taught an Excel computer course while Cindi brought Biblical teachings to the missionaries ladies.



Kimberly and Daniel and the Block family arrived for Christmas from the Middle East.



Kay Woods distributing supplies at the Destitute Camp.



Kevin Smith did wiring for the radio station. Julie sorted used shoes.



Terry Miller did design drawings for our construction projects and plumbing work. Ruth Ann sorted medicine for the pharmacy.



Our two containers arrived just after Christmas. Everything arrived in excellent condition. Thanks to all who gave so God's work can go forward.



Neil Trinko, a massage therapist, treated Paulo. He was suffering from muscle atrophy from a stroke.



Joy in the Harvest



OVER 1,500 PATIENTS TREATED

Medical Team Helps Hundreds!

Once Christians fall out of love with materialism and in love with Jesus, I won't need to talk mission: they will become missionaries.

Dr. Helen Rosevere
Missionary Doctor in the Congo
1953 to 1973

Eight volunteers came from Kingwood, TX to Kigoma to help the sick of Tanzania.

The trip was two years in the planning. Three doctors, two nurses, two emergency medical technicians, and a pastor ran a free

medical clinic, for eight days, to treat the poor. Many African and missionary volunteers joined them.

Joy in the Harvest's Computer School was converted into a clinic with five exam cubicles, a pharmacy, and a laboratory.

Most of those treated had no money. Exams, lab work, and medications were provided without cost. Many of the cases were serious. It was amazing to watch people respond to the medical treatments. Prayer and spiritual counseling was provided.

The destitute camp, the street children, and hundreds of other people were blessed by this effort. The medical needs of the poor in our area were heartbreakingly evident. ☩



CHECKLIST

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☺ **The Super Snowbird**

Claudia's mom, Pat Wiesner, just completed another three month visit in Kigoma. This was her eleventh trip to Africa.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

It is with sadness we share the news of the passing of two dear friends of *Joy in the Harvest*.

Baba Dastan started working for us our first week in Tanzania. For 17 years our guests enjoyed his cooking. He was a friend and faithful employee who is greatly missed. He died Jan. 18, 2009.



Baba Dastan & Rev. Walter Maasch

For 17 years we partnered with Walter and June Maasch's ministry in Johannesburg, South Africa called *Aid to the Aged*. Walter was an outstanding Bible teacher and pastor. In 2004 and 2005 he came and taught our seminars in Kigoma. Walter passed away on March 9, 2009. ☩



GUEST HOUSE BLESSINGS

Visitors Push Work Forward!

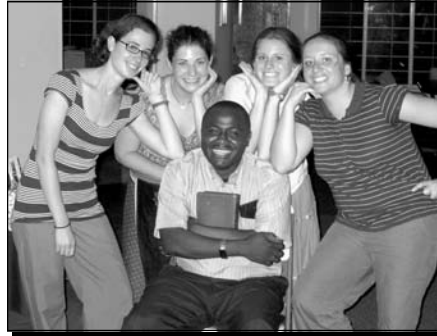
“Trees for Tanzania” Project

We are starting a new forestry project to help the very poor. They gather tree limbs to be sold for firewood and to make charcoal. Deforestation has caused the Tanzanian government to put restrictions in place, depriving them of this modest income. We plan to plant trees, and provide seedlings, education, and technology to assist the poor.



Mary Schott is the key person for the “Trees for Tanzania” project.

International Teachers Visit Joy in the Harvest



The teachers clowning around with Mwenge, our Chief of Staff.

Four American teachers working in China and Vietnam came to Kigoma for a visit. Their visit was arranged by Kendra Fisher, one of our former interns from Asbury College. We had a great time together and they helped out with various work projects.

Radio Station for Kigoma?

A dream of ours has been to have a Christian radio station in Kigoma. Dr. Doug Walker, Professor of Broadcast Communications, came with his family. He conducted a valuable seminar for our staff covering issues involved in starting a radio station. The antenna, tower and studio equipment have arrived in our containers. We plan to apply for a broadcast license this year.



Dr. Doug Walker with his wife, Marilyn and son, Johnny.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is Luke doing?

Q. “Tell us about your son. What is Luke doing?”

A. Luke is getting married! It was just seconds before midnight on New Year’s Eve when Luke popped the question and Kara McNeel said “yes”! We all cheered as they rejoined the party and Kara showed us her beautiful Tanzanite stone. Another missionary coming to the party in Kigoma hand carried



The Gungu United Methodist Church in Kigoma dances with joy over the engagement of Luke & Kara.

it several hundred miles. Kara came out for the holidays to see where Luke grew up and get a feel for life in Kigoma. It was her first trip to Africa but probably won’t be her last. Everyone here thinks they are a perfect match and hope to see them both back in Kigoma for more than a visit. The wedding date has been set for August 8, 2009 in Cincinnati, Ohio. We plan to be there! ☩

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