

*Lowell & Claudia Wertz
Joy in the Harvest
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October 17, 2009

Dear Friends, Churches, and Family,

You who have followed our ministry over the years know I don't make many special appeals. We don't like making every "bump in the road" a crisis. In thirty years I have never sent a letter like this before.

After praying, I feel it is right to let you know we have a shortfall in the *Joy in the Harvest* General Fund. Our General Fund is the backbone of this ministry. All salaries, general expenses, and every project depend on it. It is crucial to the health and future of the work.

We have cut expenses, but it is clear that unless we receive a "bump up" in giving for this year, and an increase in future income of about 15%, we will have to curtail important programs. That will impact the poor and I do not want to see that happen!

If you are led to do so, please join Claudia and me in making a **one-time special gift** to the *Joy in the Harvest* General Fund. In the future, we will be considering ways to increase our general income by at least 15% so the ministry remains strong and vibrant.

Our Christmas newsletter will carry a report of the response to this letter.

Despite this financial shortfall, we have never before seen such opportunities and accomplishments in the Lord's work here in Africa. It is clear that God is blessing this ministry. Even as we ask for help, God can bless and show Himself to us in new ways.

Blessings,

Lowell + Claudia