



Christmas 2010

Dear Friends and Family,

“Almost” is what I heard the doctor say as I came out of anesthesia. “Well, I *almost* got that kidney stone.” It became my least favorite word.

The disappointment of “almost” reminds us how much we need the One who does not need a Plan B. He will never *almost* work everything together for good.

It is written, “In the fullness of time, God sent His Son.” At the perfect time, a perfect plan for a world of *almost*. It was not an easy plan, but it was a perfect one. The Father sent the Son. And Jesus came. It would change everything.

What was the joy of the first Christmas? The Heavens could barely be contained. Angels singing, a star shining, wise men seeing signs. Jesus is coming! Suddenly hope is alive, forgiveness possible, and life everlasting is His promise.

Joy was the theme of Jesus’ life. The Bible says that “for the joy set before Him, He endured the cross.”

What was His joy? You and I. God loved us so much that He was willing to do the hardest things imaginable to save us from the penalty of sin. What Jesus did, starting that first Christmas, wasn’t *almost* enough. It was enough.

Love,

Lowell + Claudia



Joy in the Harvest



50 FAMILIES HELPED IN OCTOBER

Helping Those in Crisis — in Jesus' Name

**Unless someone
like you
cares
a whole awful lot,
nothing
is going to get
better.
It's not.**

Dr. Seuss, 1904–1991
author of 44 children's books

Our "Friday People" program helps desperate people. Here are three cases from October...

Riziki Jakkson: A 35 year old woman with 6 children, doing manual labor for pennies a day, found her hut burnt down by neighborhood children. She lost everything she owned. JOY provided food, five mosquito nets,

clothes, a cooking pot and a bucket.

Hamza Makoba: A 15 year old boy with only one parent, they get a little money by collecting rocks for builders. A disease caused swelling and wounds all over his legs, even to the bones. JOY provided funds to send the boy to a hospital 650 miles away.

Mwamini Kasimu: A 48 year old woman's husband and daughter were in a truck accident. He was killed instantly, and the daughter's limbs crushed. She was sent to a hospital for treatment, but couldn't pay the bill. The hospital wouldn't release the girl until the bill was paid. JOY paid the \$120 bill so the girl and her mother could be reunited.

On behalf of all those who have been helped — THANK YOU — in Jesus' name. ☩



CHECKLIST

USA Office Address

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

New USA Phone Number:

 **219-365-7908** 

website: joyintheharvest.com

Lowell & Claudia Wertz Africa Address

Joy in the Harvest
P.O. Box 1344
Kigoma, Tanzania

e-mail address:
wertz@joyintheharvest.com

Christmas Envelope

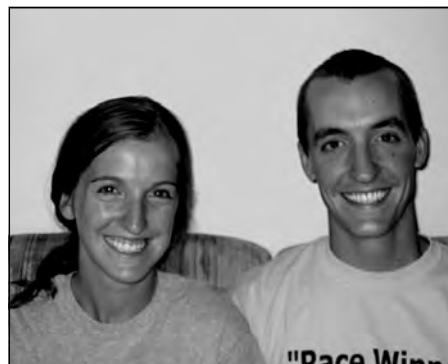
An envelope is enclosed if you would like to financially help *Joy in the Harvest*.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

We are thrilled to have our first short term missionaries serving in Kigoma. Meet Paul and Sarah Zdroik.

Sarah heard about *Joy in the Harvest* through her uncle, who is a UM pastor in Northern Illinois. After a year long application process, they arrived in Kigoma just 5 weeks after their wedding!



Sarah and Paul Zdroik

They will be with us for 6 months. Sarah has tackled organizing JOY's Africa office, while Paul works construction projects. Both help to serve over 1,200 meals per week to the poor. More assignments are coming, too.

Isn't it a great way to begin a marriage — serving the Lord in Africa! ☩



Meet Our Newest Missionary!

The Board of Directors has approved Rev. Marti Troyer as a missionary candidate of *Joy in the Harvest*. Marti is now raising her personal support so she can serve as a full time missionary.

Many years ago, after hearing Claudia speak at a women's meeting, Marti decided to visit Tanzania.

When she arrived in January of 1999, she said, "I must warn you, my idea of adventure is camping in my back yard!" But she was game for anything and just wanted to help.

A few years later, Marti led a group from the Zionsville IN UMC to Tanzania. Africa was now in her heart!

Marti has served many years on



Rev. Marti Troyer is available for home meetings, UMW and other groups, pulpit supply, mission conferences, or just to share over a cup of coffee.

Joy in the Harvest's Board of Directors. At one of our meetings, Lowell expressed the need for someone to help us stay in closer touch with our supporting churches. Marti said,

"I think I can do that."

In Marti's words, "When I think about what God has in store for my involvement in this ministry, my heart starts pounding. I'm very glad for the opportunity to serve God and the people of Tanzania by being JOY's representative in the United States."

Marti will divide her time between the USA and Tanzania. She is available for speaking. She will also bring work teams to Tanzania.

Are you or your church interested in connecting with Marti?

You can contact her at:
marti.troyer@joyintheharvest.com
or through JOY's USA office.

We are thankful for the Lord's call on Marti's life, and we believe many people will be impacted for Christ through her service. ✠



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How Do You Get Supplies?

Q. How do you get your supplies?

A. Some things can be bought locally, but many supplies must be brought from overseas. We have two main ways of getting supplies from outside of Tanzania. They are:

- **Ocean Freight Containers**
- **Boxes, trunks, and suitcases brought as airline luggage.**

We usually ship an ocean freight container (about a truckload) of



Microphone cables going into boxes for the Batesville IN UMC mission team to bring in January.

supplies while on furlough, which is about once every five years.

Used clothes and other items for the work are most economically shipped this way.

Also, visitors donate one or two pieces of their luggage allowance to courier vital supplies.

Terrorism and pirates can cause complications. For example, the recent prohibition on transporting toner cartridges by air from the USA necessitates finding a new source of cartridges to print our next newsletter. ✠

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