

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

April 2011

Dear Friends and Family,

Yesterday was the *Joy in the Harvest* Computer School Graduation. Eighty seven graduates received certificates. At graduation I shared my witness about Christ to three hundred people, many of whom are Muslim. I also spoke about the followers of Christ in America who provide this education. I said they want our students to experience Christ's love and all the blessings of God.

Something unusual happened after the ceremony. One student gave me a personal gift – a beautiful embroidered African shirt. The graduating class had given me a gift of cloth, but this was the first time an individual student had personally given me a gift. His demeanor showed appreciation for the education he received and the new opportunities open to him. The beautiful shirt -- an expression of his love -- touched me. It once again made me grateful to be a missionary.

The Computer School is just one of many ministries of *Joy in the Harvest*. All our work depends on folks back home supporting these ministries. It doesn't just happen. It takes work to inspire folks to follow God's will concerning missions. We all need to be challenged and encouraged in our faith so those at the ends of the earth may know Jesus.

The Rev. Glen Beck recently went to be with the Lord. He was the greatest Mission statesman I have ever known. His ministry, *Mission Interpretation*, raised awareness and support for the mission of Christ all around the world. In Africa, thousands have been significantly helped, because this one time farm boy permitted his heart "to be broken with the things that break the heart of God."



I loved this man. Glen lived for Christ and other people. He was a grandfather to my children, a friend and pastor to me, and an inspiration and joy to all who knew him. He loved challenging Christians to have greater faith in God so others might have Christ. In doing so, Glen helped all of us become better Christians.

One African man's chance for a better life, his hearing the Gospel of Christ, and his heartfelt gratitude are a part of the legacy of Glen Beck.

Love,

*Lowell + Claudia*



# Joy in the Harvest



OUR FIRST SHORT TERM MISSIONARIES

## Paul & Sarah: 6 Months in Africa

**So nigh is grandeur to our  
dust,  
So near is God to man,  
When Duty whispers low,  
Thou must,  
The youth replies, I can!**

**Ralph Waldo Emerson  
1803-1882**

**Married only a few weeks before their arrival, Paul and Sarah Zdroik spent six months with JOY working hard and making major contributions to God's work in Africa. Here is their story, in their own words!**

"We'll forever be grateful for Joy in the Harvest's open-arms, patience,

and guidance during our stay here. When asked to describe our time here, we first thought about all the experiences we had and the wonderful opportunities with which we were blessed. However, these pale in comparison to the joy we received when we had the blessing to teach children about Christ's love during a three week period of Children's Ministry. We also found it very rewarding to develop close relationships with the youth during work, church, and other activities, and we were happy to encourage our peers in their faith by being positive role models and friends. It's difficult to describe the amount of gratitude we have for Joy in the Harvest for giving us such an amazing opportunity. God bless all those who work for and support Joy in the Harvest." ☩



### CHECKLIST

☺ **USA Contact Info.**

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☺ **Africa Contact Info.**

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☺ **Our Website**

www.joyintheharvest.com

☹ **Lowell's Kidney Stone**

It took three procedures and ten weeks to get it finally resolved. Ouch!



### WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

**Five members of the Batesville Indiana UMC came to Kigoma, Tanzania ready to work!**

Led by their missions chairperson, Ted Harshorn, the team worked on construction, accounting, and sewing. The ladies had a sewing machine set up in their room, and they made all the curtains for JOY's new Community Center.



**Ted Harshorn, Kent Nettay, Nance Widdowson, Carlene & Bill Bate**

They traveled to visit the UMC in a refugee camp, served meals to 1,200 people each week at our feeding center, and visited the folks at the Destitute Camp. For two of the five, it was their first trip to Africa.

One joy was worshipping in the Gungu United Methodist Church, which their church helped build eleven years ago. ☩



PRAY FOR JOY IN THE HARVEST

## Ministries in Africa Are Moving Forward!

### Open Air Evangelism Campaign

The youth at our Gungu UMC did something different this year for their annual Youth Day. They added a four day evangelism effort, invited a nationally known evangelist, and saw 70 decisions made for Christ. We are thrilled with the spiritual dedication of our young people. JOY helped sponsor this youth program.



### Women's Seminar at the Refugee Camp



When the refugees asked Claudia to hold a Women's Seminar, she took our guests from Indiana to the refugee church building made from mud and sticks.

We worshipped with these strong ladies who fled terrible violence in the Congo. They continue to protect and care for their families.

### Committed to Fighting AIDS:

#### Soccer Tournament 2011

This was the fifth year we have sponsored the *David Livingstone Memorial Soccer Tournament*. Thirty-two teams played. Every player received teaching about personal conduct designed to prevent the spread of HIV-AIDS.



**Ujiji Football Club wins the David Livingstone Tournament for 2011 in an overtime shootout. Great soccer!**



### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## We want to honor Glen Beck—any ideas?

**Q. Shortly before Glen passed away, his pastor asked, "What can we build in Africa to honor Glen?"**

**A. A guest house in Tanzania named the "Beck House!"**

Glen's passion was missions. He brought people to see what God is doing here. Glen knew the value of serving side by side with Africans and missionaries.



**The proposed "Beck House", would be built in honor of Glen and Myrna, and would be similar to this one.**

A comfortable, clean place to stay is a haven. Hundreds of people have come, and more guest rooms are needed. It is a blessing to be used by God to change someone's life forever.

Grace UMC in Franklin Indiana is now collecting funds for the "Beck House" to be built by *Joy in the Harvest* in Tanzania. You can contact Rev. Andy Kinsey at 317-736-7962 for more information. ✕

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