

*Lowell & Claudia Wertz
P.O. Box 496
Lansing, IL 60438*

June 2012

Dear Friends and Family,

Our belief in the goodness of God starts with His gift of life. The life He gives us is filled with goodness. Every day we experience it in things great and small. In the core of our being, we know that life is a blessing.

Life will have its problems, too. There are deep waters and shadowed valleys that need to be navigated. But the promise of the Giver of Life is that we need not face any crisis alone. And at the end of this life, because of Jesus, awaits the greatest gift of all -- eternal life.

As the day of surgery approached I felt uneasy. It wasn't fear, exactly. It was just disturbing to imagine someone taking a knife and cutting me open, putting his hands inside of me, and trying to fix what is wrong. Thinking about the pain and how miserable I would be, and how long it would take to feel normal again, did not inspire tranquility. While the intelligent part of me knew it must happen, another part of me seemed not so sure.

Many friends let me know they were praying for me. I was deeply touched and will always be appreciative. But even the knowledge of those prayers did not give me peace. Even my own prayers did not bring calm. I realized the only thing that could encourage me was the **Word of God**.

On the internet I searched for *Scriptures for Surgery* and came up with a website called "Hyster Sisters", for women who were having hysterectomies. Not at all sure I was in the right place, I read on. One woman asked for Scripture to help her through and her "hyster sisters" poured out dozens of Scriptures for her. I copied more than eight pages. As I read through God's promises, His peace came to me.

Though the surgery was a physical experience, it was also a spiritual one. The surgeon was a strong believer. We knew God's presence would be in the O.R. In the depth of my pain in the I.C.U., God came closer to me than ever before. Nurses, a doctor, strangers, and people from local churches that I did not know, came to pray for me. Several people asked me to pray for them, after they shared their needs and overwhelming problems. Finally Claudia asked, "What's going on here?"

God's promises met my needs. When God promises, He keeps His Word. His love fills our lives with His goodness. His promises bring peace.

Love,

Lowell + Claudia

Wertz Fall Speaking Schedule

August	26 AM PM	Cape May Court House, NJ Tom's River, NJ
September	2 8 9 10 11 15 16 22 23 30 AM PM	Sayville, NY Lawnside, NJ Collingswood, NJ Elwood, NJ Moorestown, NJ Felton, PA Prospect, PA Bath, PA Bath, PA Atlantic, PA Westford, PA
October	2-4 7 AM PM 9 10 14 AM PM 15 17 20 21 28	Franklin, PA Mount Pleasant, PA Madison, PA Corry, PA Corry, PA Sandy Lake, PA Oil City, PA (tentative) Bradford, PA Wesleyville (Erie), PA Zelienople, PA Zelienople, PA Woodbury, NJ
November	4 10 11 12 14 16 18	Woxall, PA Naperville, IL Naperville, IL Elkhart, IN Crossville, TN Greer, SC (tentative) New Palestine, IN

Mid-November 2012 – summer 2013 is still being worked on and will appear in our September newsletter.



Joy in the Harvest[®]



STILL TIME TO PARTICIPATE!

Matching Fund A Success!

- To laugh often and much;
- To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children...
- To leave the world a better place...
- To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.
- This is to have succeeded.

Ralph Waldo Emerson 1803-1882
American Essayist

When we received news of the offer of a \$20,000. matching gift for JOY's general fund, we had just one day to produce a note and include it with the last newsletter. We are thrilled with the response!

As of this writing, we have received

86 gifts totaling \$13,239.70. Many first-time contributors sent in a gift. We praise God for all those who have contributed and had their gifts doubled by this generous family. We have wonderful people reading our newsletters. Thank you!

While we have seen many give to this matching fund appeal, there is still an opportunity to have your special gift doubled!

We can still receive special gifts for another \$6,760.30 and have them doubled by this donor. Let's go over the top.

We all know that it takes funds for the work of Jesus Christ to go forward in Africa. This program is a big help in providing the needed funds for the work of the Gospel. ☩



CHECKLIST

☺ **USA Office Contact Info.**

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Office phone: 1-219-365-7908

usaoffice@joyintheharvest.com

☺ **Our Website**

www.joyintheharvest.com

☺ **Lowell & Claudia's contact info.**

Email us at:
wertz@joyintheharvest.com

Since we'll be coming home this summer, it would be best to send letters to our USA office address noted above rather than to Tanzania.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

Kingwood United Methodist Church near Houston, Texas has been an extremely important part of the ministry in Tanzania. We were thrilled to have the fourth work team from this church come to help.

Hal, Sue, and Judy worked in the new library. They also sorted many boxes of clothes and organized a



Hal and Sue Hoege, Pastor Judy Tefteller, and Dr. Purvis Harper from Kingwood UMC in Texas.

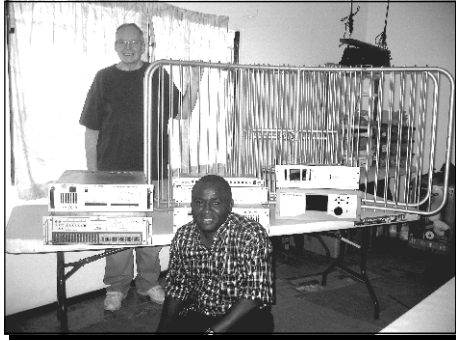
clothing distribution for about 55 JOY workers and their families. Dr. Purvis is a pediatrician and treated sick children in Kigoma. In anticipation of the new radio station, Lowell and Purvis made the first ever radio program in JOY's new recording studio. This medical program provides critical information about infant care from birth to 3 months of age. ☩



WE'LL BE IN THE USA SOON

Here's What's Happening!

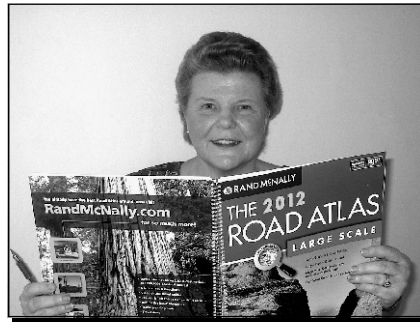
'Radio JOY' FM Update



The *Radio JOY* FM broadcast license application has been filed with the Tanzania government. They are seeking more information from us in six areas. A station in South Africa sold us their old equipment at a very good price. It has now arrived in Kigoma. We need to acquire more equipment but we are closer to having a signal on the air.

Furlough Schedule

Claudia is hard at work on our speaking calendar. We are excited about the invitations we are receiving! We will be living in our travel trailer the entire furlough year so we can visit as many of our supporting churches and individual contributors as possible. Please pray for our safe travels as we come visit you.

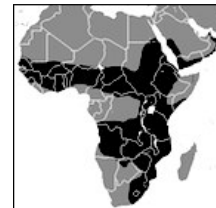


"How long does it take to drive to..."

What is it? Here's the Answer!



It was first identified by Pastor John Whitaker of Church of the Cross in Dayton, OH. "*(It) is a White-tailed Mongoose, the largest mongoose in the world.*" Many tried and several others successfully identified it. Here is a map of where it is found.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How is Lowell?

Q. How is Lowell doing?
(asked dozens of times!)

A. Medical testing in South Africa showed that the right ureter (the tube from the right kidney to the bladder) was completely blocked by scar tissue, probably caused by the nine procedures during the last year and a half. This blockage caused swelling and damage to the kidney and was deemed an

emergency, so the next day an operation placed a drain tube through the back into the kidney.

Major surgery was then performed on April 2, when three surgeons performed a six hour operation which removed the damaged section of the ureter and rebuilt the tube using part of the bladder. A very senior surgeon said it was one of his most diffi-

cult surgeries. Eleven days were spent in the I.C.U. and most of April was spent in the Pretoria Urology Hospital in South Africa.

The prognosis is excellent and we have returned to our work in Tanzania. I felt the presence of the Lord throughout this time. Claudia and I wish to thank all who prayed, expressed their concern and love, and sent their best wishes. ☩

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