

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

September 2013

Dear Family and Friends,

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9

Weariness is a fact of life: too much, too long, too intense. The hard-pressed are the most vulnerable. While tiredness is a physical condition, weariness stems from emotional exhaustion. Weariness can prevent us from doing the right thing, and can bring unhappiness even if we are doing the right thing.

I just spent a week in Nairobi at a conference. I am not a conference kind of guy and meetings aren't my 'thing'. I had managed to avoid Nairobi for three decades because one weekend there, a long time ago, I had witnessed violence and three deaths. So to get me to leave America two weeks early, to stay in freezing cold Nairobi while suffering jet lag – well, this conference had better be good.

Geniuses and geeks gathered to talk about missions, the Lord, media, and Africa. They came from across the whole continent and beyond; eighteen African nations and eight non-African nations were represented. Young and old came from many different organizations, committed to their faith and to Africans living in remote villages and sprawling urban areas. *Africa by Radio* is what the group call themselves. And that is exactly how they intend to reach every African with the Gospel.

I was mesmerized session after session. Dying of jet lag, I was grateful for every prayer pause so I could close my eyes for a few seconds. The teachings were beyond good -- they were cutting edge and brilliant! Ideas flowed, contact info exchanged, inspiration was everywhere. *Africa by Radio* has set out to change Africa forever. And they are doing it! Struggling to stay awake in the day, and not sleeping at night, my thoughts turned to the people I wished could be with me. This was a fantastic experience. God is doing something very special through these folks.

It had been a long furlough. Many miles, people, and dreams for our next term. I painfully pulled myself out of bed to get to the next session. If I missed it, well, I just couldn't. Weariness and tiredness were there, but something more important was there. The future harvest was being planned and planted.

The Bible says not to sacrifice the harvest because of weariness. No matter what, don't sacrifice the harvest.

Love,

Lowell + Claudia



# Joy in the Harvest®



THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS

## Furlough's Over — Back Into Africa!

**“A man’s home is his wife’s castle.”**

**Alexander Chase** (1926- )  
American journalist & editor,  
*The Courier*, Tipton, Nebraska

**What a furlough this has been! Our fourteen month furlough is over and we are back in Africa. Our hearts are filled with love, appreciation, and gratitude, for which we cannot find words.**

It was the longest furlough we ever have taken and the most speaking

we have ever done. We lived in our 23 foot Sunline travel trailer the whole time. We drove 57,627 miles spoke in 108 churches, including four new churches. We were blessed with thousands of acts of kindness shown to us. We did major purchasing for the new Beck guesthouse and radio station. We packed and shipped a 40 foot container and a pallet of hazardous goods. It was a busy year.

**This furlough has been a maximum effort for us — one we will be unlikely to repeat. We are tired but joyful at all that has been accomplished.**

There is also a ting of sadness because we didn't see everyone. It is our prayer that we will be able to see anyone we missed next time! ☹



### CHECKLIST

☺ **USA Office and Wertz USA Furlough Contact Info.**

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

USA Office: 1-219-365-7908

Email addresses:  
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☺ **Our Website**  
www.joyintheharvest.com

☺ **Container Update**

The container has made it to Tanzania. We have processed most of the paperwork and we are waiting for it to clear customs and then be shipped by train to Kigoma — about 650 miles.



### WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

**There are always key people who God uses in fantastic ways, but they are never in the spotlight or given recognition. Mindy is one such person.**

Mindy Bendle may be a part-time office manager for *Joy in the Harvest*, but she carries an over-time work load. She processes the gifts that you send, does the



**Our USA Office Manager for the past 12 years,  
Mrs. Melinda Bendle**

accounting, keeps the paperwork up-to-date to keep Uncle Sam and ECFA happy, and tends to the thousand and one other important issues to enable the ministry to function.

In addition to her work with JOY, she is a wife and mother of the two most wonderful girls. God blessed us when He gave us this terrific servant of His. ☹



THINGS ARE HAPPENING

## News from Africa!

### Lowell Attends the 3rd Continental Conference of 'Africa by Radio' and 'Africa Media Trainers' Conferences.

Held in Nairobi, Kenya from September 9 to 13, 2013, 18 African countries and 8 non-African countries were represented. The goal of these broadcasters is to enable every African to hear the gospel on radio in a language and way they understand. The theme was "Expanding the Vision". Training of personnel, programming, using social media, children's programs, appealing to people of other faiths, and many technical forums were offered. It was a great time and Radio JOY will profit greatly.

### Beck Guesthouse Ground Breaking

Rev. Glen Beck, and his wife Myrna, were used greatly by God for world missions. We are extremely pleased to build a guesthouse in Tanzania in their honor.

Within 24 hours of our arrival back, construction began.



Ground breaking for the new guesthouse to honor Glen and Myrna Beck.

### Homecoming



The Wertzes and their luggage arrive safely home.

Greeted at the Kigoma Airport by bus-loads of church people, our arrival back in Kigoma was a joyous event.

Having spent more years in Africa than in the USA, there is a strong sense of being back home, to where God has called us to invest our lives. It is good to be home.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## What Do You Do With The Trailer?

### Q. What do you do with the trailer and truck when you go back to Africa?

A. Basically, we store them. They are our "toe-hold" in America, so they provide us with some security if we had to return for a health emergency or other reason. The normal things we do include putting RV anti-freeze in the water system, sealing outside openings on the heater and water

heater with aluminum foil, and putting mouse poison and traps down. Because the trailer is getting a bit older, this time we had to do more to get it ready for storage. We had to wire brush and paint the trailer frame and had to reseal the rubber roof to prevent leaks. Lot's of work.

The truck is easier to store. We change the oil, fill the tank with

high octane gas, and put a gasoline stabilizer in the tank. We also make sure the window washer fluid and antifreeze are good to at least 25 below.

This time we are storing them at a campground in Illinois who offered us a reasonable price.

Lowell is going to miss the trailer; Claudia not so much. ☺

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