

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

March 2014

Dear Friends,

The labeling of Africa as “the Dark Continent” goes back to the book written in 1878 by Henry Stanley (the man who found David Livingstone) entitled *Through the Dark Continent*. The term had nothing to do with the color of the people living there, nor their so-called primitive ways. So little was known about the interior of Africa, early mapmakers would leave large areas of their maps dark. Dark meant unknown.

Flying over Africa as a bush pilot, the aviation maps I used had large white areas where the terrain data was unknown. One hundred years after Stanley, much about Africa was still unknown and wild. If Stanley had used my aviation maps, his book might have been entitled, *Through the White Continent*.

The first map to show the very rough shape of the African continent was drawn in 1554. Within thirty years they had gotten the outline of the continent correct. Yet three hundred years later the interior was largely unexplored. Maps of the mid- 1800’s had dark stretches across the African continent to acknowledge the mapmakers’ ignorance.

Maps are tools that help people define and navigate their way through the world. Maps are only as good as the truthfulness of their information. The fiasco with Apple maps giving false information and directions is a recent example of “maps gone bad”.

In some sense, the Bible is a map from God to help people navigate life. For thousands of years its truth has guided, informed, and instructed. The Bible speaks truth to every generation and every person. The excellence of this “roadmap for life” points us to the Only One who can show us the way.

As a student pilot, on my first solo cross-country flight, I accidentally flew off the edge of my aviation map. Lost, scared, without hope of finding my own way, only the guidance of an air traffic controller got me to the runway. As Christians we know that the Master Controller is on full alert for those who are struggling to find their way. Perhaps they are following inferior “life maps”, or perhaps just their inattention has brought them to the wrong place in life. His help is always just a call away.

Love,

Lowell + Claudia



Joy in the Harvest®



AFRICA NEEDS YOUR HELP

2014 — The Year of the Volunteer!

**I always wondered
why somebody
didn't do something
about that.**

**Then I realized,
I was somebody.**

Lily Tomlin
comedian

The ministries of *Joy in the Harvest* are continuing to grow and expand. God is using His people to come and help with His work. 2014 looks to be the "Year of the Volunteer".

Here is a partial list of the volunteers working January through March at JOY in 2014.

- **Melissa and Andy Mohler** came to set up our recording studio. In June they will bring a team from their church.
- **Lonnie Bone** came and ministered at the Destitute Camp almost everyday she was here. She renamed it "Victory in Jesus Camp". They know she loves them. She is coming back in May.
- Claudia's Mom, **Patricia Wiesner**, is here for 5 months to be our prayer warrior and help in the kitchen.
- **Luke Wertz** came for five weeks to do advanced programming of the *Radio JOY* computer network.
- **11 volunteers from Kingwood TX** are coming in March to do a free medical clinic for the poor.

Many more are coming in 2014. Future newsletters will have the details. We are grateful for these servants of God. ☩



CHECKLIST

☺ **USA Office and Wertz 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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wertz@joyintheharvest.com

☺ **Our Website**
www.joyintheharvest.com

☺ **New Mailing Labels**

Luke has managed to liberate us from our 1980's vintage mailing list program. Please glance at your label and let us know if there are errors. Thanks!



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

Lonnie is a combination of Amelia Earhart and Mother Teresa.

Melissa and Andy represent a new generation committed to the Great Commission.

Lonnie Bone surprised her late husband, Jim, who was an airline captain, by secretly getting her pilot license. They delivered over 30



Melissa and Andy Mohler in the Radio JOY studio ~ Lonnie Bone speaking at a women's group

airplanes all over the world, to missionary pilots — including one to us. She spent most of her time on this trip to JOY ministering to destitutes.

Melissa recently received her college degree in Music Technology. Andy is a Corrections Officer and works the audio board at their church in Indianapolis. They were the first to record choir music in the new studio! ☩



FROM AFRICA TO YOU

Update from Africa!

JOY's Newest Missionaries! Hal & Sue Hoege

Our newest volunteers have come for two years. It's great having them here from Kingwood, TX. Hal is a retired administrator from ExxonMobil. Sue is a graphic artist, has run her own business, and is a "people person". Both are gifted in many ways.



Check out the Hoege's new blog: <http://onamissionblogdotcom.wordpress.com>

Radio JOY FM "Presents" to Tanzanian Regulators

The last step in the application process for a radio license is to do a presentation to the Tanzanian Regulators. Our new missionaries, Hal & Sue, produced a PowerPoint presentation and it went very well. Now we have to wait for about three months.



Lowell & Mwenge and Professor John S. Nkoma, Director General - Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority

Family Reunion in Kigoma



With our family living on three continents, this is a rare photo.

We enjoyed having our family in Kigoma for a month. We got to meet our newest grandson, John. We made a playground for 1 year old Levi and 3 year old Eva. Eva painted the trim on our boat PINK, her favorite color. Luke worked for Radio JOY programming our computers. Grandma enjoyed being with three of her great-grandchildren.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What's the Latest with the Radio Station?

Q. What's the latest news with the radio station?

A. We have been told by the Tanzania government that with our presentation to the top regulators in Dar es Salaam, our application is now complete. It will go to a management committee, then the Board of Regulators, then to the Minister of Communications. So we must wait for all this to happen — perhaps three months.

The station construction is finished at the JOY headquarters site where our studio is located. We still have to build the hilltop transmitting site, but have been advised to wait for our construction permit from the government before starting it.

We are hard at work acquiring music and programs for the station's digital library.

Would you like to help? We still need donations of original CDs of music. Used CDs, even with some scratches, are fine. Also, we can use LPs. Almost any type of music will be good. You can mail them to:

Mrs. Kara Wertz
Radio JOY - USA Music Manager
8345 Curzon Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45216

Thanks to all who have helped! ✠

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