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SPECIAL UPDATE

Dear Friends,

A few days after our March newsletter went out, the shut down began. Our furlough speaking was put on hold and we had to cancel two and a half months of speaking engagements. Our return to Tanzania has been postponed.

Like so many, this has been a turbulent time for our family. Our family members in Africa made it out on the last flights available for their country. The virus was spreading. Now flights there have been stopped. Back in the USA, they had to quarantine for 14 days.

At the end of March our son Luke, strongly suggested we come to them. They thought if any of us got sick, we could help each other. We headed to a remote campground in Georgia with our truck and camper. (We are so blessed by God to have this truck and camper which is our home on wheels.) We spent a month camping next to our son's family with the first 14 days being self-quarantined with social distancing.

After a month in Georgia, we needed to get back to Illinois. With plastic bags on my hands at gas stops, and practicing safety precautions, we made it back to our home campground in Illinois. Being at high risk, we are careful. We are working alone at the public storage unit getting packing done for the container shipment to Tanzania.

The whole world is experiencing sorrow at the death of over a quarter million people. And this virus isn't done. Our hearts break at the thought of so many families mourning. And so many are out of work and suffering. Perhaps you are experiencing this. We love you and want to pray for you. Please jot us a note so we know how to pray.

We are in constant communication with our staff in Tanzania. Parts of our ministry are locked down by government order -- no group gatherings. *Radio JOY* is broadcasting 24/7. As the only local radio station, hundreds of thousands of people are receiving information about the virus and how to avoid it. Even special devotionals in light of the virus are being aired. The Gospel of Jesus Christ -- needed by so many -- is being proclaimed over the air. With many lives at stake, we are proud of our staff. God has given *Joy in the Harvest* critically important ways to serve. Thank you for helping make this possible!

Love,

Lowell + Claudia



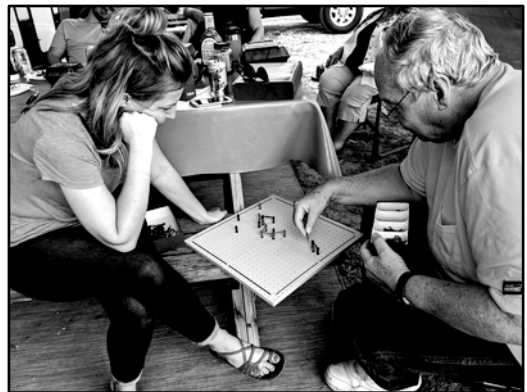
Three year old granddaughter, Julia, self-isolating with warning cones.



It is time for haircuts.



The Wertz clan celebrating granddaughter Eva's tenth birthday.



The only board game Lowell likes is Twixt. He is beating daughter Kimberly in another good match.



Radio JOY's main studio making programs about the Covid 19 virus. We are the main source of information for the population about this threat.



Josephine, our *Radio JOY* journalist, interviews the head government official for the Kigoma Region.