

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

October 2021

Dear Friends,

At last, we are planning our return to Africa! We hope to return to Kigoma in November. The *Johnson & Johnson* vaccine is now available in Kigoma and our key workers are getting vaccinated. We plan on getting our booster shots before departure and have bought N95 masks for the trip out. We are very excited to return to our mission work in Tanzania.

We marvel at how God has provided for us during this pandemic. We were speaking during furlough in the USA when the churches closed. Unable to continue furlough and unable to return to Africa, we found ourselves a bit stranded. We had purchased a travel trailer to use during furlough and it became home. Our *Arctic Fox* trailer was the perfect "bubble". It was able to handle winter weather, and we have been safe and comfortable.

The little trailer became "nerve central" for *Joy in the Harvest*, allowing us to remain in close contact with our staff in Kigoma. We provided purchasing and technical support, put together the repeater project for *Radio JOY*, and shipped a container. Although, understandably, financial support dropped, we were able to secure two PPP (forgivable) loans. That allowed the work to continue unhindered. God provided for us and the work in difficult times. Here are some current news items:

- The container has arrived in the capital of Tanzania, has been inspected, and is awaiting final customs release. We received an exemption from duty taxes.
- The American ambassador, Mr. Donald Wright, visited *Radio JOY* in September for an interview and a tour of the work of *Joy in the Harvest*. He was pleased and impressed.
- The 150 foot tall tower for the repeater project is ready to be imported from Kenya to Tanzania. Mwenge is headed to the border to help the process along.
- *Joy in the Harvest* won our 25 year long legal battle for land at the *Tanzania Court of Appeal* (Supreme Court). We are hauling dirt to the site to repair erosion damage.
- We were able to spend family time together with my son Luke, his wife Kara, and our grandkids, Levi (8) and Julia (5). For overseas missionaries, such time is treasured.
- *JOY's* finances are in the red. So many churches and friends have suffered financial loss during Covid. We deeply appreciate those who have sacrificially given. Please pray with us in this time of financial need.

As we prepare for our return to Africa, we cannot find all the words to express our love for all of you who make it possible for us to be missionaries for our Lord Jesus. So I will just say, THANK YOU!

Love,

Lowell & Claudia

Photos



American Ambassador to Tanzania,
Mr. Donald Wright, at *Radio JOY*.



The container contents being inspected by
Customs in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.



Erosion washed away much of the soil on our
land plot during 25 years of litigation. We are
hauling soil to level the plot.



A week's fishing trip to Canada with
the grandkids. Sorry, no fish...



We needed to renew our driver
licenses in South Dakota.
Look where we ended up!