

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

September, 2004

Dear Friends, Family, and Churches,

Kindness slipped in. It blessed me.

My ministry and life in Africa depend on the kindness and generosity of others. It is a river of kindness that keeps the mission work going. This time, however, we are experiencing kindness in a very personal way.

Kindnesses came in many ways from many different people. Gifts of money were given to my kids so they could come home to Africa on their vacation. A Christian mission stored our car behind their headquarters building for months because we had no place to park it. An OMS missionary at Asbury is teaching my kids to drive in the USA. A Baptist church gave us the use of their fellowship hall so we could have a family reunion. A couple in Indiana gave us the use of their new house and then stocked it with food. Friends are receiving our packages because we have no street address. Our board of directors is making many uplifting and positive decisions. The list goes on and on.

These different acts of thoughtfulness carry a common thread. People weren't doing these things just out of obedience to the Great Commission, but out of hearts overflowing with God's love.

Experiencing your many kindnesses has been a meaningful experience for me. I am grateful to you whose kindnesses continue to flow so we can serve in Africa. We love being missionaries. I am also grateful to those who have been used by God, these past several months, to target kindness toward us in such personal ways. As your kindnesses slipped into my heart, God blessed me.

Love,

*Lowell, Claudia
Kimberly & Luke*

Joy in the Harvest



THOUSANDS TRACK PROGRESS VIA EMAIL

United Methodists Bring Seminar to Africa

**There is not
a single pessimistic note
anywhere
in the New Testament
after
the resurrection.**

Andrew W. Blackwood
Christian author and teacher

After years of planning, a team of nine American United Methodists from Aldersgate Renewal Ministries taught two "Life in the Spirit" seminars in Tanzania.

Working with *Joy in the Harvest* and at the invitation of the UM

Bishop of Tanzania, the team taught 108 United Methodist leaders from Tanzania and Burundi, and then took the same seminar to 100 Congolese refugees in the Lugufu Refugee Camp.

The team's lessons and testimonies were well received by the African delegates. Many African pastors invited the team to return to present their teachings to their churches and districts.

All of the seminar's written materials were translated and printed in Swahili. *Joy in the Harvest* hosted the team and facilitated the seminars.

Aldersgate Renewal Ministries is an officially recognized ministry of the United Methodist Church Board of Discipleship. ✠

→ CHECKLIST →

☺ USA Contact Info.

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☺ Website

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☺ Fall Women's Retreat

Will be held in Lynwood, IL on Nov. 6. Contact Mindy Bendle at 708-895-1083 or Joan Weaver at 219-836-4121.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

They came from all over the USA to Tanzania to minister to the African church. We were honored to have this team bring important teachings concerning the work of the Holy Spirit.

This team went through long hours of teaching, bumpy roads, three days and nights of poor living conditions at the



The "Life in the Spirit" team singing during worship time at Kigoma seminar.

refugee camp and they never grumbled or complained once! They demonstrated their teaching with their lives. The team consisted of Frank and Peggy Billman (PA), Claudia Steigler (MA), Diane Althouse (PA), Maryanne Ditter (PA), Parker Wayland (TN), Ted and Audrey Newton (PA), and Carol Argo (DE). ✠



REFUGEES FLED WAR IN BOATS

Evangelistic Outreach to Refugees

At the Lugufu Refugee Camp, the mornings were given to presenting the "Life in the Spirit" seminar to 100 delegates of the United Methodist church. During the afternoons, Joy in the Harvest held open air evangelistic services for everyone to attend.

About one thousand people attended each afternoon to hear the Word of God preached. These refugees fled from the war in the Congo and many have lost everything and have lived in extreme poverty for six years.

On the last day of the services many adults responded to an invitation to accept Christ as their Lord and Savior. It was wonderful to see many children come to accept the Lord during a special invitation for them. ✕



Twenty refugee pastors attended the services to support this effort to reach people for Christ.

Some children climbed trees to be able to see and hear the message.



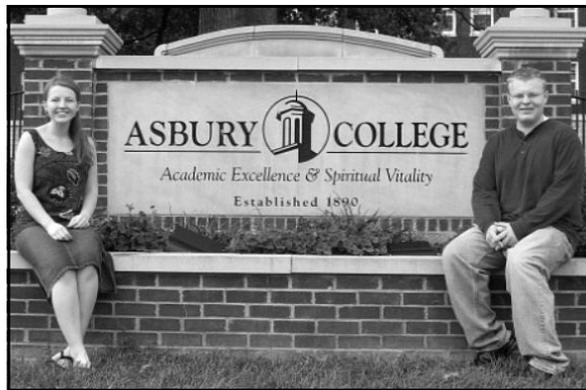
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How Does Luke Like College?

Q. How does Luke like Asbury College?

A. The Wertz family arrived back to the USA to get Luke started in college. The college offered a special three day orientation time for missionary kids and international students before the usual new student orientation. That was great!

Luke's roommate, Jay, is a



Kim is a junior majoring in English. Luke is a freshman considering a communication major.

junior in pre-med. Luke says he is a great guy. It didn't take Luke long to find that there were many Apple computer users on campus and, even more important, lots of geeks!

Luke loves his classes and seems to really be enjoying Asbury College.

Lowell and Claudia are headed back to Africa on October 6th. ✕

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