

Jensen Missions

George and Joy
Jacob, Luke and Lindsey

December 2010



Moving Date: Jan. 3

Our new mailing address:

George and Joy Jensen
P.O. Box 594
Iringa, Tanzania
East Africa

Our website:

jensenmissions.com

Our travel blog:

www.mytb.org/George-and-Joy

Journey to Iringa

On Thursday, December 9, we -George, Joy - along with Carey Samford, headed to Iringa in order to search for housing. It was a 14-hour trip with very few stops. After a week of searching, which meant driving the streets from morning till night, looking, knocking, and asking, we were able to secure housing for our two families.

Since we were there over the weekend, we had the opportunity to worship with the congregation. We were favorably impressed with this little group of Christians. Half of those in attendance were children, and one of the men taught a children's Bible class. The congregation has been waiting for news about when we would actually move there. We were finally able to tell them that we are coming soon. After worship everyone was warm and friendly.

As we took care of several item of business during the course of our week, we found the town to be very pleasant. Prior to our trip, we had been told by several people who were familiar with Iringa that it is a nice town: crime is much lower compared to the bigger cities, and the people would be friendlier, generally speaking. We certainly found that to be the case.

We will have some other challenges. It seems that there isn't as much available when it comes to groceries, toiletries, etc. but we will adapt.



Charles Mwakalonge

Let us introduce you to Charles Mwakalonge. Charles, age 32, is a recent graduate from ACSOP. He is moving with us to Iringa to work as a translator. Charles is planning to marry in February, and we are looking forward to meeting his bride and working with this young couple.

Our Iringa Home

After searching high and low for a week, we found houses for both our family and the Samford family. One of our biggest desires was to find houses close in proximity, so that we don't feel isolated, especially when the guys are gone with the vehicles. Amazingly, we were able to find two houses 600 meters apart, out a ways from the main part of town. Both will require some TLC and lots of scrubbing, but we can do that!



On the premises we have two mango trees, two banana trees and one orange tree. We are anxious to find out how well they produce.

Something that might take a little adjusting to are the pigs next door! While looking at our house, we stopped and said hello to the youth living next door, and he was kind enough to give us a personal introduction to his pigs. Carey thought this was all very funny, until later we discovered that he, too, has pigs living next to his house! The good thing about it is that we will likely be able to have some fresh pork to put in our freezer, for a very reasonable price.

We met some of the neighborhood children, who were very curious about us, though quite friendly. In fact, the little girl across the street from our house is the one who actually told us the house was available when we were driving around looking for a house to rent.

We will definitely miss some things about Arusha, but we are anxious to get moved and settled and to once again make the house our home.

Meditation...

One of the definitions for meditation is “devout religious contemplation or spiritual introspection.”

Living in Africa, in a world foreign to my upbringing, provides a stimulus for meditation. Our very purpose for being on this continent is to offer the best spiritual service possible. In my quiet moments of prayer and contemplation, I find myself pouring out my heart; asking my Heavenly Father to use me as his tool.

I have long been humbled and intrigued by the whole interrelationship of providence and evangelism. Long ago Paul challenged the Athenians to ponder the truth that God “is not far from each one of us” (Acts 17:27). God is near and concerned with mankind.

A survey of the Book of Acts reveals how the Lord repeatedly made use of the human vessel to convey the saving message. Think of the 3,000, the eunuch,

Lydia, Felix, etc. Some were obedient and others rejected the message. Are you putting forth the effort to be a messenger to those in your circle of influence? Give some dedicated time to prayer and meditation concerning your service for your Master.

Joy and I had a home study with our neighbors upon our return from furlough. The wife had a baby the day we had a second class scheduled and it seemed that we had come to the end of our studies. However, one day Jacob was on one of his exercise runs and met the mother. She told him she was ready any time to have another study.

Lindsey has accompanied me on two additional studies. Please keep this family in your prayers, especially that they will continue seeking truth, even though we will no longer be neighbors.

I believe that proper meditation can stimulate deeper dedication. GJ