



St. Nicholas Children's Centre Kemondo (NCK)
Bukoba Catholic Diocese

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Dear Friends and Supporters of St. Nicholas,

This past July and August, I was able to spend four weeks at St. Nicholas. In this newsletter I like to share with you some impressions and a few recent photos from my time there.

A New Home For The Adults

In January 2025, the first four young adults from the children's home were able to move into their new house. Although it is still located on the same grounds, those adults who, because of their disabilities, cannot live on their own, now have their own living space at "St. Stephen."



It is amazingly quiet there compared to the noise level at the girls' and boys' houses! The first months of settling in have gone well. Soon more residents will be moving in.

While I was there, the house was blessed and we had a small housewarming party. The center for the adults is managed and financed by a foundation, separate from the children's home.



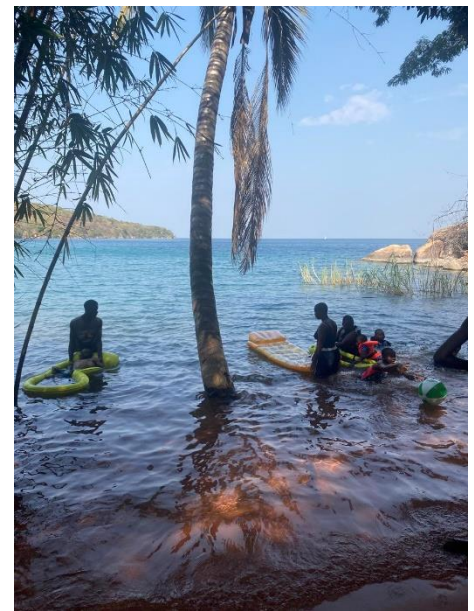
On Holiday In Kigoma

Our holiday trips to Lake Tanganyika have become a tradition. Every year I take a group of children there. Of course, I keep a list to make sure that over time everyone gets a turn to join. By now, some of the older youth take on responsibility as helpers during the trip.

We go swimming twice a day, cooking and dishwashing teams take turns – and no one is allowed to complain about overcooked pasta! Sometimes we treat ourselves to French fries in town. The children truly enjoy themselves. The holiday does them so much good!



One highlight is “Zebrastian” - the resident zebra is a trademark of our guest house.



A New Vehicle – A Big Blessing

In April 2024, our leadership team was involved in a serious car accident. A bus crashed into our vehicle. Some were injured, but thankfully no one lost their life – and no children were in the vehicle. The vehicle however was a total loss, and the insurance payout was minimal. While we were still considering whether to buy a used car locally, a religious community in Germany heard about the accident – and immediately offered to donate a new vehicle for us!



This allowed us to order a Toyota Landcruiser from Japan. It arrived at the port in Dar es Salaam in May, spent a few weeks in customs, and was finally delivered to St. Nicholas in July.



What a blessing! We are so grateful to once again have two large vehicles to manage shopping trips, school runs and doctor's appointments for our large family.

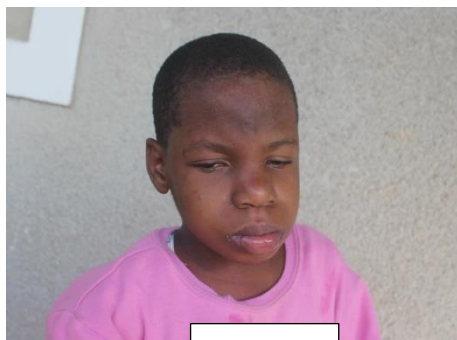


New Children – We Continue To Grow

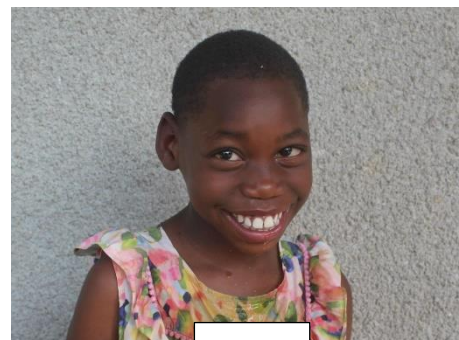
The youth welfare office continues to bring new children to us. It is hard to say “no,” as there are so few facilities that care for children with disabilities. In fact, in the entire Bukoba region, we are the only institution of this kind.



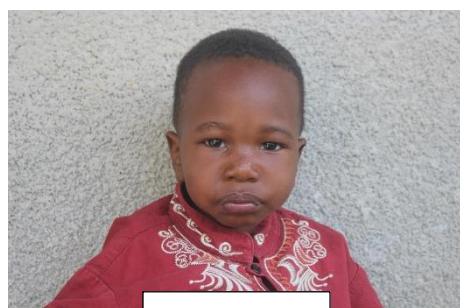
Dativa, 11



Agnes, 9



Lilly, 9



Prince, 1,5

We are looking for sponsors for the new children! Please feel free to take a look at our website and do not hesitate to contact me about sponsoring a child:

👉 <https://www.nikolaushaus.com/die-kinder/>

Self-Defense Course

During the holidays in June, we were able to organize two special courses for our children and teenagers:



The girls took part in a self-defense course, while the boys attended a program focusing on topics related to puberty. Both programs ran in parallel over the course of one week. Two female trainers worked with the girls, and two male trainers with the boys.



and teenagers was consistently positive. We

The feedback from the children had offered these courses in the past, but not for several years. Now we were once again reminded of how important it is to regularly teach young people and to give them the opportunity to exchange ideas on such fundamental and sensitive topics.



The Next Generation



Two former children of St. Nicholas who are now grown up and building their own lives, have started families. In June, I became a “grandmother” twice within a few days! I was so happy to meet Beatrice and Aetius during my visit!

So now – 14 years after St. Nicholas started – a new generation has begun!



Many of you have been walking alongside us since the very beginning in September 2011. Some of you have even visited us in person and know the children and staff firsthand.

We cannot thank you enough for all your support – without you our work at the St. Nicholas would not be possible! *Asante sana!*

Stefanie Köster, the leadership team, the children and caregivers

Stay Connected

Together with a few dedicated volunteers, I keep our website up to date, and we also post regularly on Instagram and Facebook. Please feel free to stop by – it’s worth a visit!

 www.nikolaushaus.com

 [Instagram](#)

 [Facebook](#)

