NIKOLAUSHAUS

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First Christmas Celebration at St. Nichlaus in 2011

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Prepare the Way for the Lord, Make straight paths for him!

Matthew 3:3

Advent 2012

Dear Friends and Supporters of St. Nicholaus Children's Center,

We have begun the Advent Season. We are expecting the arrival of Jesus, the incarnation of God. At this time in 2009 I left Germany to return to Tanzania in order to begin the building of St. Nicholaus Children's Center.

By now it has been more than a year since we moved into the center. We are looking forward to our second celebration of the feast of St. Nicholas and another Christmas together. Victoria, our volunteer is stitching the numbers on the Advent Calendar that we still have to fill and hang up.

Advent is a season to look forward to the promises God has made us. Our children are a sign that none of us was made by his own achievement but that all of us are created as God's precious gifts.

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9 of our 15 children attend the local elementary schools. The school year closes in December and starts again in January. Unfortunately, most of our children have learning problems and need special help.

The new building of the so called "Outpatient Clinic" is ready. Every Saturday we offer a free clinic for therapy and counseling to the families of disabled children who live in the surrounding villages of Kemondo. Since October we are using the same building during the week. A young Montessori kindergarten teacher gives special lessons to Christoph, Mtagwaba, Steven and Maria. Maria just celebrated her 16th birthday but she is still fond of her dolls and excited when she can go to "school".

Because of your support we can do this work. We are able to welcome more children into our center, to give special training to our staff and to offer therapy and professional help to families of disabled children who live near Kemondo.

We the children and staff of St. Nicholaus Children's Center give you thanks for all your prayers and support. We wish you a blessed Advent Season, a Merry Christmas and a good New Year

Stefanie Köster