

**Discover News-sheet
for colleagues in Africa
Christmas 2019**



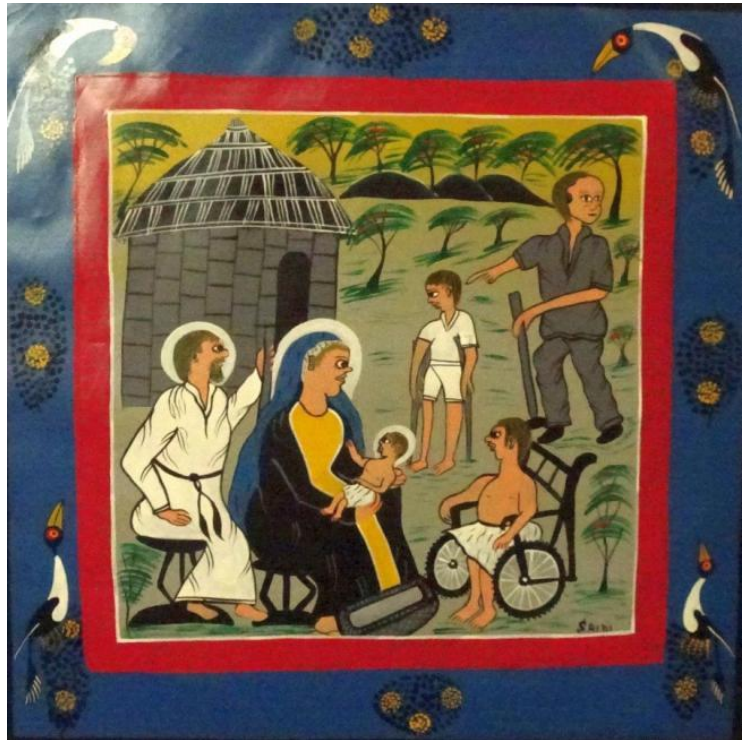
Dear Friends

The Discover team here in Germany and the UK wishes you, your families and your communities a very happy and blessed Christmas.

In the New Year we wish you success in all you do in, and with, your communities.

Our countries suffer from selfishness, greed and jealousies which lead to corruption and conflicts. The world is suffering from an urgent climate crisis and national leaders who are lacking the vision and will to respond effectively. Internationally, the money that is spent on arms could provide the entire world with food and clean water several times over.

Two thousand years ago, Jesus was born into the same sort of situation, though in those days the issues were not so serious for the entire world. The values that Jesus taught and that were reflected in his daily life are illustrated in this nativity scene from Tanzania. Born into



very simple conditions, he was visited not by three wealthy “kings”, but instead he was honoured by three disabled people – one dependent on walking sticks, one in a wheelchair and the third, a blind man. Also significant are the healthy trees in the local environment!

In our recent conference of Ugandan Discover partners, we identified some of the distinctive features of Discover. These included being non-hierarchical, being compassionate and generous, working with all - irrespective of status, tribe or religion - valuing locally available resources, helping families with conflict resolution, and lastly “unity in diversity”. Jesus came as a helpless baby, but when he grew up, he challenged both the religious and secular conventional ideas of the time and created the basis of a better society which works for the well- being of all. By looking at Jesus’ life and teaching, may we gain valuable insights for more ways in which our work could be distinctive!

With our best wishes for the health and happiness of your families and communities in 2020.

Keith, Barbara, Christa, Jutta, Pamela, Sally, Simone, Eilert, Hans-Herbert, Martin (Staiger) and Walter