Discover News-sheet Christmas 2019

Dear Friends

We thank you all for your moral, practical and financial support this year. Every cent received is used directly to support our colleagues and their communities in Africa.

Throughout the world, countries suffer terribly from greed, selfishness and jealousy, which lead to corruption and conflicts. In Africa, the climate crisis impacts severely. Just now, our partners in East Africa report floods which have washed away roads, bridges and borehole pumps. In Zimbabwe the present drought is expected to give way to another cyclone, such as the one that caused havoc in Mozambique and Zimbabwe last year. Both droughts and flooding cause hunger.

It is tragic, that world leaders lack the vision and will to respond effectively. Much of our work is designed to

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enable communities to adapt their lifestyles (including by planting trees) so that the cycle of droughts and floods no longer causes such hardship.

In our recent conference of Discover partners in Uganda we identified some of the distinctive features of Discover. These included being non-hierarchical, compassionate and generous, working with all irrespective of status, tribe or religion, valuing locally available resources, helping families with conflict resolution and "unity in diversity".

The values that Jesus taught and that are reflected in his entire life are illustrated in this nativity scene from Tanzania. Born into very simple conditions, 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! Maybe from Jesus' life and teaching we could learn even more clues for our work in Discover!

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

With best wishes

Keith Lindsey on behalf of our entire Discover team