

Dear Honored Guests,
dear friends of Salem Uganda,
dear Madame Principal and teachers of the new school,
dear students, ladies and gentlemen:

I am sending my best regards from Duesseldorf, the lovely German city by the Rhine river.
Special regards from all members and friends of the association "LICHTzeichen aus Düsseldorf",
"messages of LIGHT from Duesseldorf".

Today you are celebrating an important moment in the life of many people in Uganda: The grand Opening of the Nursing School, which we will improve the future life of many of you.

Therefore in this moment, we feel especially connected to you regardless of many thousands of kilometers. We are also thankful that we have been able to realize this first big step together with Salem Uganda, Christina Pohl and Professor Peter Schmieg and their team.

We contributed our part in cooperation with the foundation Help and Hope. Help and Hope's main focus is a better future for children. Please always consider, with all your actions, this better future for the children of Uganda.

May our messages of LIGHT always guide your daily activities, especially your work.

The artwork that we would like to present you as our gift was created by Curt Beckman, a well-known artist in Duesseldorf and surrounding area. The original is located on the outside of a church in Duesseldorf. The artist's son Malte is Alumni-chairman of the Max-Planck-Gymnasium; the school which plays a significant role in financing this project. The grandson, John, will be graduating in a few days. In short, the entire family is happy that their contribution will accompany you in Mbale, Uganda.

The artwork shows a boat on a rough sea and Jesus with arms wide open looking at the observer. Boats have always been a sign for life. We sail through the waves of life. Marcus, the evangelist, describes a boat ride of disciples in 4,35-41 where they face a storm. The disciples were pulled back and forth, but not Jesus.

We can be disconnected from Jesus in our life but we can alternatively experience Jesus as our guidance and goal in ourselves, who then becomes the true self in us.

Dear friends in Uganda!

The original artwork in Duesseldorf is located – as I mentioned before – on the outside of a church called Immanuel Church. Immanuel means "GOD is with us".

It is my deep hope beginning today, but also in the coming days and years, that your work is in God's hands, especially in your goals and ideas for your great country and its people.

My hope and wish for everybody here in Uganda and in Germany is, that the message of LIGHT may always be in our hearts. With this message we aim to contribute to a better future.

Thank you.

Messages of LIGHT from Duesseldorf

LICHTzeichen aus Düsseldorf

Carl-Wilhelm Bienefeld, Chairman

May 12th, 2010