

Nairobi, March 2010

Dear Friends,

with a few raindrops and in between some warm rays of the sun I send you today again my greetings with a "Thank you!" from the depths of my heart.

This is just the right kind of weather to make our newly-planted young trees all over our compound grow. You may remember that after the great storm in January we had to cut about 25 trees, because the heavy rain had uprooted some trees, and with others, big branches were broken off. As Kohelet says already in Chapter 3: „There is a time for planting, a time for cutting, and again a time for planting anew.”

In our community it was not different; postulants left, one of them came back, and five new young women now dare to find out with the community if the missionary-Benedictine life corresponds to the call which they had received from God.



Our students in SSA are now so far familiar with their new computers that they can press the keys with a certain independence and be happy about their success.

At the back of this picture you can see -not quite clearly- Sr. Emily, the directress of the school, with one of the teachers.

Another grand event is, that after 30 years of missionary service in the far distant Kerio-Valley, our Sister now have received the connection to the electric line, after having worked during their first years with only lamp light, later with a generator and much later with solar energy. Of course, with this progress come naturally also ideas for missionary work.

We owe this to the generosity of Mr. Merkel and his team – through Linux4Afrika (see more under www.linux4afrika.de) - that after the 46 computers for our SSA, we shall receive now also 2 computers for the Health Service in Endo and 12 for the ongoing training of women in Chesongoch. However, these computers are still standing in Freiburg. In case you know of a possibility to pack these computers into a container for Nairobi, I would be very grateful. With these computers, not only important Internet technologies can be carried to the classroom, but also extensive offline Wikipedia for passing on information or also a mail server to make use of these important techniques. For this, Linux forms the ideal computer platform, stable, hardly virus-prone, and moreover free from any software licenses. You surely understand that we are very, very grateful for this help.

Very soon there will be an article in the Würzburger Sonntagsblatt where I learned for the first time about Linux and we then immediately got into successful contact with them.

Just one more week separates us from Holy Week and the high Feast of Easter. Hence I wish you – in the name of our entire Prioory and especially Sr. Michael Marie, our Prioress – grace-laden days of preparation and then a triumphant, hope-filled Feast of Easter.

Your

L. Christiane Spambauer OSB