



Capstone Ministries



Restoring Children! Strengthening Families!

"The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone" Psalm 118:22

A prayer letter from Dan and Patty Schmelzer, Kisumu, Kenya

January, 2013 Volume 8 Issue 1

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**The number of street
boys reconciled with
family by Capstone
Ministries to date:**

240



Check out Capstone on Facebook.



Capstone participates in Savemart/Lucky Supermarket's SHARES program in N. California. You only scan your card before purchasing your groceries and SaveMart donates 3% of your purchase. To date Savemart has given Capstone **\$3,533.81**...because of you.

"Capstone Camp 2012"

"I am making everything new" Revelation 21:5

"To call alongside!" That is the literal translation of the word in the New Testament for "encouragement." That is exactly what takes place at Capstone Camp. Young boys from 13-16 are invited to come for one week of encouragement. They are boys who once lived on the streets. Now they are at home thanks to the intervention work of Capstone Ministries. However, challenges remain. Challenges with school, family, community, and peers. During the week of Dec. 9-15 20 boys were "called alongside". God worked to encourage them through the staff and volunteers of Capstone.

***Theme for Capstone Camp
2012: "All things new"***



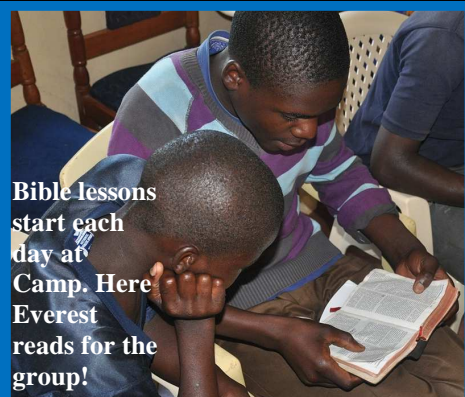
Every moment of the six days is planned with an objective. From the Bible teachings, games, community service projects, scout activities and discussions, the boys learn spiritual lessons, teamwork, and giving of self to others. The week's climax is the Friday morning Baptismal ceremony. God's grace in Jesus Christ flowed through the Baptismal waters calling 8 of the 20--who had not yet been baptized--to the throne of the Father, welcoming them alongside.

There are so many stories from the week to tell. From the joy of watching a room-full of 20 boys at rapt attention as Pastor Isaiah shares the wonders of God's grace! Listening to the boys discuss the painful realities of their history on the street! The exuberance of competition in tug-of-war, carrying water in your hands, and sack races! Sweeping the streets of Mbale town and watching the community reaction! The laughter in watching a movie for the first time: "Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"! The inner transformation that is visible through the exposure to the disciplines of scouting! The tears of joy shed by parents who testified to the change in their family because of God's work through Capstone.

May the pictures that follow tell the story. And may God be glorified. Thanks also to the Swayne family from Bethany Lutheran in West Hartford for underwriting the cost of this year's camp once again.



Group picture of 20 boys, staff, volunteers and parents at Camp on Saturday just before all the boys go home.



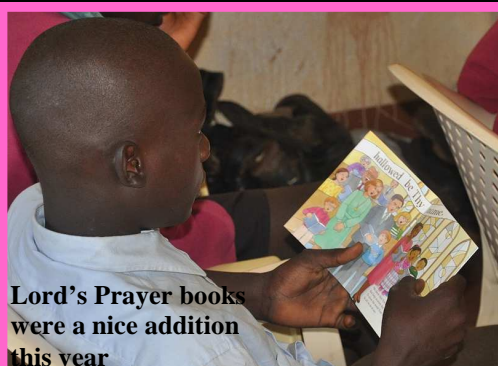
Bible lessons start each day at Camp. Here Everest reads for the group!



Camp Flag



Maxwell is carried off by his team as they celebrate a win in games competition!



Lord's Prayer books were a nice addition this year



Filling a bottle just with your hands takes teamwork



GOOOOOAL!



High School boys also attended Camp, were tutored in Math & Science and mentored younger boys



Tie-dye T-shirts! It takes focus!

Cont. on p. 3

SaveMart S.H.A.R.E.S. benefits Capstone

SaveMart Supermarket in Northern California has a program that benefits various non-profits organizations. When you shop at SaveMart, you only need to present your card before purchase and 3% of the value of your purchase is kept in the account you have designated, in this case Capstone Ministries. Capstone receives a check quarterly from all those who have participated by taking the extra 5 seconds to hand the cashier your S.H.A.R.E.S. card. To date

Capstone has received \$3,533.81 from this program.

Do you live in Northern California? Do you shop at SaveMart? Why not help Capstone while you shop! Ask for your card on the form on p. 4 of this newsletter!



School Sponsorship and Spiritual Support Project (SSSS)

Would you like to sponsor a Capstone boy in School? We are developing a way for you to support the essentials a boy needs to stay in school and grow spiritually. Your monthly support would provide the following:

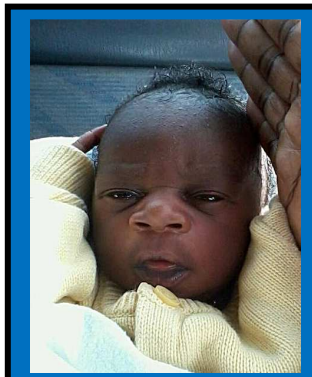
- School uniform and shoes
- Bible and Luther's Small Catechism
- Ongoing counseling and spiritual support

Capstone support staff work hard to encourage self-reliance, parental responsibility and independence. This program enables you—through Capstone—to help a boy to remain in school, connected spiritually to his Lord and receive regular spiritual counseling from a Capstone staff. A program description is available upon request. Just write to Dan and Patty at Capstoneministries@gmail.com You can select one or more boys to support at \$25/month. What a great way for your children, grandchildren, or Sunday School kids to make a difference in the life of a child.

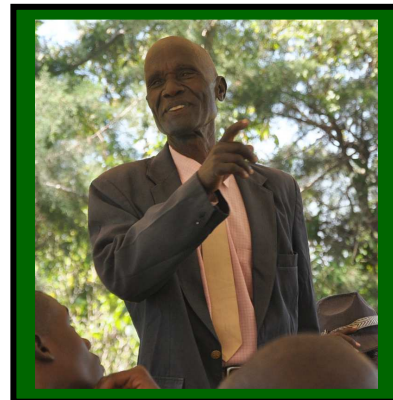
New baby born to Pastor Isaiah Apiyo

We are happy to announce that Pastor Isaiah and his wife Sophie have welcomed their first born son into the world on Dec. 28th.

Daniel Adams Apiyo ➡
...now that's a preacher's face!



Parent testifies during the gathering on the last day about the change in his boy. This feedback says a lot about the community impact of Capstone



8 boys baptized on Friday morning!



Nicholas, Everest with Mom. Family reconciliation is the vision of Capstone Ministries! What a joy to see it fulfilled!



Egg races teach the boys about the precious nature of life. Be careful, focus, work efficiently! Each game taught a valuable lesson....and they had fun too!

Prayers, Praises

1. Capstone is upgrading its registration with the Kenyan government. Our application as a Society is pending in Nairobi. Pray it is approved.
2. Pray for all the Ambassadors of Capstone who spread the word in their churches.
3. Pray for peace in Kenya. In March a new president under a new constitution will be elected along with new a parliament.
4. In early August Capstone applied for RSO status with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. We have completed all necessary documentation. Pray it is well received and approved
5. Capstone has been accepted as a mission partner with LCMC, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.
6. Pray
7. Pray we find the right couple to assist in Kenya while we travel in the states fund raising for Capstone.
8. We are interviewing candidates to replace Mihezu, our guard at our home. Pray God sends us the right person.
9. Pray for the recovery Pr. Jim Keuerleinen, former district president of the New England District of LCMS.
10. Pray for new President of the New England District: Pastor Tim Yeadon
11. Many people spoke with us about the issues of reconciliation among families during our time in the US this past fall. Pray that God intervenes in families to bring peace and reconciliation.
12. Pray for those battling cancer and life threatening illnesses. Prayers for God's peace!
13. Praise for our mothers, Josey and Chrysta, who are both strong and active in their 80's.
14. Praise for the wonderful 2012 Capstone Camp.
15. Pray for the new program that gives supporters the opportunity to sponsor a boy who has been reconciled with his family. This new program, called School Sponsorship & Spiritual Support (SSSS) provides a school uniform, a Bible and Luther's Catechism and to pray regularly for the specific needs of boy in Capstone's Program.

The Call to Missions

Have you felt a tug on your heart to enter the mission field? Has God been preparing you?

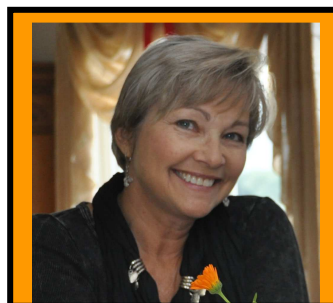
There are many avenues to fulfilling that call to God's service. We are looking for a couple interested in helping with administration during the time Dan and Patty are in the USA. The commitment would be for 3-5 months in the latter half of 2013. This short term service may lead to a more full time opportunity to serve in Kenya with Capstone.

If you'd like to talk with Dan or Patty please send us a note at Capstoneministries@gmail.com We'd love to help you explore the possibilities. God bless you as you consider that step of faith.

We also welcome inquiries about being an Ambassador for Capstone in your congregation.

Volunteers that help in the USA

Delanna Kennedy and Paula Coates recently started volunteering with Capstone in the USA. They receive and record your donations, send acknowledgements and keep financial records. We want to thank them for their dedicated service to their Lord and to Capstone.



Delanna Kennedy

"If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides" 1 Peter 4:11

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ (Include if you are not currently receiving the newsletter via email)

Donation Amount: _____ Send me a S.H.A.R.E.S Card for use at SaveMart _____

Designation if other than operational budget: _____

Make checks payable to Capstone Ministries. All donations are tax deductible.

CapstoneMinistries@gmail.com

Send to: **Capstone Ministries, P.O. Box 2080, Oakdale, CA 95361**

(Please cut and include with your donation)