



Capstone Ministries



Restoring Children! Strengthening Families!



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

A missionary update letter from Dan and Patty Schmelzer, Kisumu, Kenya

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

278

2 went home in Dec.



Check
out
Capstone
on
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Part of your premium can be donated to Capstone. Learn more about steps you need to take to ensure you can take full advantage of this program and continue your support of Capstone Ministries through this program. Go to

www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice

2013 Year in Review

Outreach and Reconciliation: The vision of Capstone Ministries is the reconciliation of street children with their families. Capstone staff strive to accomplish this by having an ongoing presence on the street, conducting a weekly outreach at the ELCK compound and working together with the Juvenile Detention Center. At every level the staff strives to minister to the spiritual, psychological and emotional needs of the boys with the goal of reconciling them with family and God. In 2013, 39 boys were rescued from the street and reconciled with their families.



Boys at the Capstone Youth Center listen as they enjoy a small meal of bread and juice.

Bible Study Groups. 2013 marked the year that we established the 10th Bible Study Group. These groups meet every few weeks and are ministered to by Pastor Isaiah and Zadok.



All 10 Bible Study Groups gathered for the 2nd joint gathering of the groups in August at the Kisumu ELCK Lutheran Cathedral.

School and Spiritual Support Capstone works to strengthen families in their rural home not only through the Bible Study Groups but also through primary and secondary school sponsorship. The “4S” program provides a school uniform, Bible and Luther’s Catechism as well as ongoing counseling. The High School sponsorship provides for a uniform and school fees.



Everest proudly displays his Bible and Catechism with his Mom.



Richard in his new uniform.



The seven 2013 sponsored high school boys at a mentoring day sponsored by Capstone.

WWOP Every year Capstone coordinates with ELCK local congregations to host the World Weekend of Prayer for Orphans and Vulnerable children. For the second year Rarieda Parish hosted this event. The climax is the Sunday worship service led by the children. More than 300 children attended this



Children engage in a race to carry water in their hands to fill a small coke bottle.



Kisumu Cathedral choir raised the roof with their rousing traditional spiritual songs.



Dan preached on the theme “The Lord lifts us from mud and mire” Here he holds a small child after lifting him from a bucket of mud.

Christmas Gifts Once a year Capstone provides a Christmas gift to some of the poorest of the families with a reconciled son. Many of these families shed tears when our staff shared the modest package of food stuffs with them.



Smiles of appreciation and joy

Moringa Groups Capstone works with 3 groups in the rural area to grow moringa. The expanding income generating program is helping the rural poor to earn an income and is supplementing the local budget of Capstone as well.



The wildly successful Maseno HIV+ women's group proudly display their Christmas bonuses.

Day of African Child Every year Capstone participates in the government sponsored "Day of the African Child."



.....Patty's Post-It.....

Long Term Missionaries

Is God calling you to the mission field? The process of understanding where God wants you to serve in His kingdom is often much like understanding your spiritual giftedness. Here is how that vague sense became concrete for Dan and I. We came to Kenya in early 2002 for a three week short term mission trip. It was a typical experience, at least that was what we thought. Shortly after we got home we felt a tug to return and take the position of being administrators of a children's home for street children. We didn't make an immediate decision. Rather we said we would pray about it. This is what we did but we also hesitated as we thought of all the "ifs" If the support would come through. If we could work out our current jobs so we were assured of a job when we came back. If we could find someone to live in and care for our house. *If, If, If.* A wise friend asked us to consider "*faith*" in all of this. *IF* we waited until all our ducks were lined up perfectly in a row, then we would never go. So, like the Children of Israel waiting to cross the rushing Jordan River, we just stepped in with faith. Was it hard to do?? Yes!! Was it worth it?? Beyond our wildest dreams!

So, I ask again. Is God tugging on your heart to "step in the river" in faith? Of course the mission field is not for everyone, we need senders as well as those who are willing to go. Is that you? Capstone is in need of a committed couple who is willing to step out in faith and see what God has prepared for them. If this might be you, then come for a visit. Write to us at CapstoneMinistries@gmail.com

The needed spiritual gifts would be the following:

Major: Leadership, Administration, Shepherding and Faith.

Minor: Teaching, Wisdom, Service, and Knowledge.

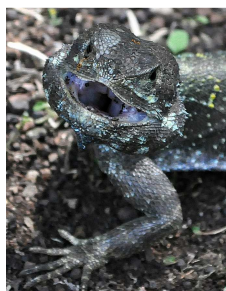
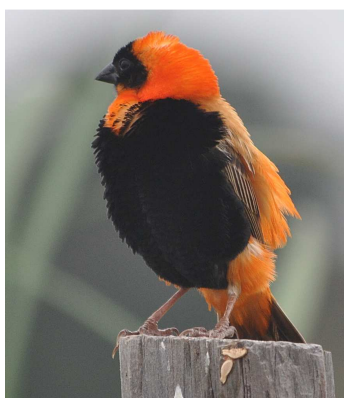
Talk to your pastor about your spiritual gifts and your desire to serve, then write to us.

If you think you don't fit perfectly, please consider that it starts with a willing heart and an exercise of faith!!

Prayers, Praises

1. Praise God for the safe travel from the USA to Kenya at the end of November. We returned just before Thanksgiving
2. Praise for an effective sharing of Christmas gifts with needy families the week before Christmas
3. Pray that our application for renewal of a work permit goes smoothly. We applied back in August and have not yet heard news of approval.
4. Recent communication from St. Louis indicates that our RSO application will come before committee soon. Pray that all is approved and we can move forward with plans upon approval of this significant step.
5. We offer the following names for intercession, trusting the Lord knows their circumstance: Jennifer, Pat, Barry, Eunice, Chrysta, Gabriel, Christian, Troy, Phil, Liz, Mary Anne, Mike, Jim, Joel, Jen, Jan, Susan, Landon, Ernie, Lori, Rod, Andy, Alexa, Bob, Curt, Delanna, Joel, Jennifer, Mary Anne, Steve, Pastor Tim.

A few personal pictures:



Visitors Capstone received several visitors in 2013 who were a blessing.



Erin Sumner visited Capstone in April and led the staff in counseling techniques.



Delano and Linda Meyer visited from Minnesota and will return in 2014 to teaching the women's groups in improved agricultural techniques.



Joel and Jennifer Cundiff served Capstone for 4 months, filling in for Dan and Patty while they were in the US.

Donation: For Capstone & Dan and Patty Support

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

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Email: _____

Donation Amount: _____

Specific Designation? _____

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