



Capstone Ministries



Restoring Children! Strengthening Families!

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

Monthly Newsletter of Capstone Ministries, Kisumu, Kenya

June, 2014 Volume 11 Issue 6

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USA Address:

Capstone Ministries
P.O. Box 2080
Oakdale, CA 95361

Kenya Address:

Dan and Patty Schmelzer
P.O. Box 3962
Kismu, Kenya 40100

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

286

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“The Prayers of Children”

Few scenes are more touching than listening to and watching a young, poor, African child pray for the circumstances of a vulnerable child in America. The paradox of that scene is also startling. As American missionaries we tend to think that it is we who are the blessed ones because of our “plenty.” But “plenty” is not always a blessing. A child who knows he or she is loved by God and family is truly the blessed one no matter the amount of material advantages.

On the second weekend of June, Capstone Ministries will join with 13 Lutheran congregational Sunday School choirs in the rural area of Rarieda Lutheran Church and School for two days of teaching, games, worship, songs and prayer.



Children at the 2013 WWDP enjoy cheering on their friends in sack races. Simple games! Joy! Mutual support! Good lessons!

Saturday will be filled with morning lessons on how children are vulnerable all over the world. Knowing you are not alone in the challenges of life creates solidarity, compassion, awareness and ultimately, strength. The morning is also filled with lessons on family life: the role of children and parents, the rights of children in Kenya and the importance of confessing your failings to the one you have hurt as well as forgiving those who have hurt you. “Bitterness—they say—is the poison pill one swallows hoping one’s enemy will die.”

The afternoon is filled with games and activities for all ages of children, from the 3 year old who attended with his mom to the teens who want to show they can “bend it like Beckham”. Competition and sportsmanship is encouraged and practiced. It teaches children that life takes effort, teamwork and compassion.

Prayers, Praises

1. Dan returns to Kenya on June 4. Pray for safe travels.
2. Pray for all the Ambassadors of Capstone who spread the word in their churches.
3. We are still looking for a missionary couple or individual to volunteer to spend the spring or fall of 2015 in Kenya which will allow Dan and Patty to travel together. Pray that God makes his plans known to us.
4. In early August, 2012 Capstone applied for RSO status with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. We have completed all necessary documentation and significant progress has been made. Dan has visited St Louis and completed the interview process. We expect the final papers to be signed very soon.
5. Pray for good health and safety for Patty as she keeps the gears of Capstone moving in Kenya alone while Dan travels in the US.
6. Praise for our mothers, Josey and Chrysta, who are both strong and active in their 80's.
7. Thanksgiving for those who hosted Dan on his travels. They are already too many to mention.
8. 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.
9. Pray for sponsors for Capstone Camp. We still need \$500 for this project. \$2500 is the complete budgeted amount. This camp will be held at the Kima International School of Theology. The missionaries there are good friends and have given us a good rental rate on the facilities
12. We offer the following names for intercession, trusting the Lord knows their circumstance: Jennifer, Pat, Barry, Eunice, Gabriel, Christian, Troy, Phil, Liz, Mary Anne, Mike, Jim, Joel, Jen, Jan, Susan, Landon, Ernie, Lori, Timothy, Curt, Alexa, Nicole, Elisabeth, Rod, Donna, Delanna, Bob, Daniel.

In the evening on Saturday, all the children will watch a Christian children's movie. In the past we have watched one of the Narnia movies.



For weeks the choirs have been rehearsing the poem written by Pastor Isaiah of Capstone. It will follow the theme of the weekend, "Jesus Cares About One", based on the parables of Luke 5. But it doesn't stop there. There will be songs, dramas, prayers and Scripture readings, all done by children.

When worship finishes 3 hours later—that's right these children actually rejoice in worship for 3 hours—all depart for their homes, enriched, strengthened, encouraged, and loved.

We still need support for this special project with the children of the Lutheran choirs in and around Kisumu. Your gift of \$500 will cover this special non-budget project of Capstone Ministries.

Dan's trip to USA

Dan traveled alone to the USA this spring. He is finishing his tour at this writing and will return to Kenya on June 4. Thanks to all those who heard the message of this vital work of God and support Capstone Ministries. We praise God for his safe travels and friends who housed and transported him for the past two months. God is good....all the time, and all the time....God is good!

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