



# 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, 2017 Volume 12 Issue 1

### In this Issue

- Page 1: "New things"
- p. 2: "New things" photos
- p. 2 Photos of the month, News on health
- p. 3 Board member in Kenya,
- p. 3 Donor slip, Prayers needed
- p. 4 Parent Orientation, Photos of Month



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

# 376



Check out Capstone  
on Facebook.



### "SHARES" CARD HOLDERS

For those in California who use the "Shares Card" with Savemart supermarket, the program has changed to an E-Scrip Program. Easy instructions on p. 3

## "New things!"

*"See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you." Isaiah 42:9*

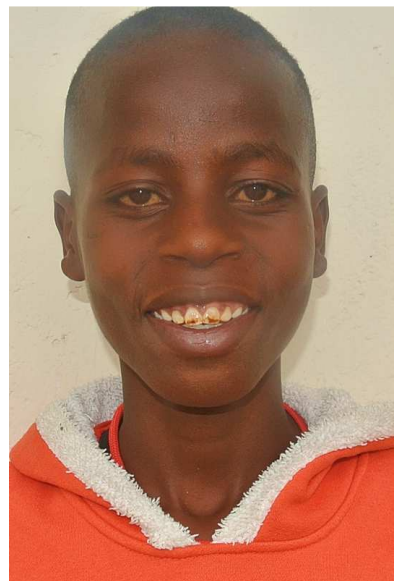
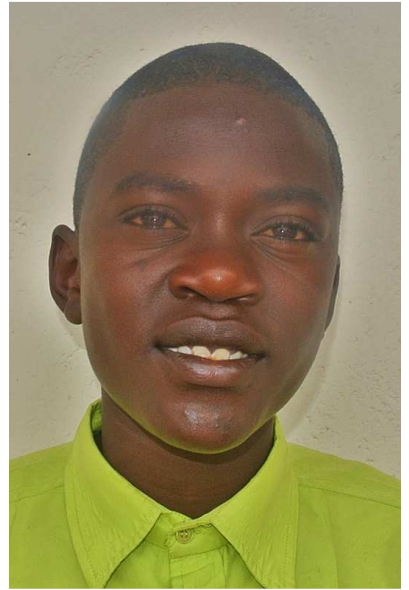
SWOT is an assessment tool many organizations use to examine programs and projects just completed. The acronym stands for the four words: **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities, and **T**hreats. Capstone staff uses this to examine honestly the many aspects of the ministry as we look forward to another year. We take an entire day to discuss in detail all activity in the past year.

Isaiah does something similar on a spiritual level in chapter 42 of his prophetic book. When he speaks of "*the former things*", he is alluding to the idol worship God's people had practiced in the past. His assessment? "*Bring in your idols to tell us what is going to happen....tell us what the future holds, so we may know that you are gods.*" Is. 41:21-23 Idol worship is certainly a "weakness" in the SWOT analysis of Israel. But as Isaiah looks forward some 600 years he sees Strengths and Opportunities grounded in what the Lord is planning. Speaking of the coming Messiah his heart is filled with hope: "*In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth.*" 42:3-4

The "*former things*" in the lives of the boys Capstone has reconciled with family are dark and dirty! Rebellion, disrespect, selfishness, theft, manipulation, physical abuse and sexual depravity....to name a few.

But "*new things I declare!*" They are grounded in what God has been doing and is still planning. "Justice, Freedom, Release, Life. Light" these are just a few of the words Isaiah uses to describe the "*new things.*"

We are overjoyed to report some specific new things God has brought about. Nine boys who sat for their KCPE (Kenya Certificate of Primary Education) exam passed and exceeded the standard Capstone has set for qualification for sponsorship in High School. This almost doubles the number of boys sponsored by individuals like you through Capstone. Pictured on p. 2 are the nine boys who will enter Form 1 (First year in High School) on Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>. I invite you to "*Sing to the Lord a new song*" 42:10 just like Isaiah did for the new things he has done and is doing among us through Capstone and because of your support!





## Do you use the “Shares” Savemart card when shopping?

### Attention: Program Change

The Shares card is being changed to an e-scrip program. Savemart has made it easy for you to make this change from scanning your card. Here are the easy steps the next time you are shopping in Savemart in California or Nevada:

### It’s as simple as providing your phone number at checkout:

1. Sign up for the NEW\* Shares program by registering your phone number or Save Smart Rewards Card with eScrip.
2. \*You will no longer use your S.H.A.R.E.S. card (effective April 1, 2016). Register your phone or your Save Smart Rewards card number (this will not be your S.H.A.R.E.S. card)
3. Shop at Save Mart Supermarkets and provide your registered phone number or card at checkout.

You can also go to the follow web address to make the switch:

<http://www.escrip.com/merchants/identity/savemart/index.jsp>

Donation: For Capstone and support for Dan & Patty

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Designation? \_\_\_\_\_

## Capstone Board member to visit Kenya

Delano and Linda Meyer will once again be ministering to God’s people in Kenya. They will arrive in mid Jan and stay until the end of Feb. They have been assigned to the Lodwar area (extreme Northern Kenya) to ascertain the viability of an agricultural development project there. It will be a challenging trip as they will be coming from Minnesota where average low temps are 0 degrees F. in winter. Lodwar has average daytime high temps of 95-97 degrees in Jan and Feb. .During their time in Kenya they will also be visiting with us for a few days in Kisumu as well.

## Board Member Peter Kelm battling cancer

Please keep Pastor Peter, Angie and his family in your prayers. Peter serves at First Immanuel in Cedarburg, Wis and recently joined the Capstone Board. This is his second battle with cancer and the oncologists are trying to find the right cocktail of drugs to defeat the cancer. Below: Pastor Peter, Angie and family on a recent trip to Door County, WI. Please keep them in your prayers!



## Dan’s Progress with Infected Arm

Dan suffered a relapse on his infected right elbow and on New Year’s Day visited his personal physician at Aga Khan Hospital. New stronger antibiotics were prescribed and new procedures for twice daily cleaning of the wound from surgery more than a month ago were recommended. Pray for Patty too as she is the one caring for the grumpy and impatient patient.

## Photos of the Month

Patty and I spent Christmas at Rondo Retreat Center again and saw some great birds. The white spotted fluff tail (first one below) was a new addition to the collection. Rondo has a wonderful Christmas Eve Carol Service and the wonderful staff always treats you like royalty.



## Parent/Student Orientation

The nine new Form 1 (freshman) students came with their parent(s)/guardian(s) for an orientation on the Capstone Sponsorship Program. The morning of Sept. 12 was spent on various topics related to parental roles, student responsibility and the role of Capstone as the student participates in high school. All nine students attended with their parents and all parents signed an agreement to obtain the necessary documents from the “calling” High Schools. This is the most students to qualify for sponsorship under the Capstone High School assistance program since it was initiated six years ago. Capstone now has 20 former street boys attending High School and sponsored by friends of Capstone Ministries.

