



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

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In this Issue

Page 1: "2022 in Review"

P. 2 Two University graduates, 17 Bible Studies, 3 rescued in December

P. 3 Reunion of "old boys", Tourists

P. 4 Babies, Christmas food packages



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The number of
street boys
reconciled with
family by
Capstone
Ministries since
2005

655

***Rescued to date
3 rescued in Dec.***



**Check out Capstone
on Facebook.**



Capstone Ministries is an RSO of the LC-MS (Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

"Remembering the Blessings of 2022"

"Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits." Psalm 103,1,2

One of the hidden temptations for goal-oriented people is that as time moves on, one continues to look forward and forgets to thank God for his blessings of the past year. There were certainly enough reminders on TV on Dec. 31 from the multiplicity of "2022 Shows in Review" dominated many channels. Allow me to add one more, if you please.

David recalls God's blessings personally in the opening verses. He speaks of forgiveness, healing, and redemption. Then he speaks for all God's people and recalls God's mercy, compassion, and love. You know the life of David well. If I write the names of Saul and Bathsheba, you will remember times of persecution and temptation David went through. Yet David knew protection and forgiveness through it all.

As David looks back on the years past, he begins with praise. He had hard times, disobedient times, and good times. In it all he has words of praise for the Lord.

How about you? Were there some tough times, some disobedient times in days gone by or just good times? I'm pretty sure, you experienced all of the above. Use David as an example and begin your remembrances with "Praise."

Capstone Ministries continues to serve the Lord by working with some of the most vulnerable in the society in Kenya: street children. These are mostly (90%) young boys who have either experienced challenges at home from family or community and oft times they themselves have been disobedient or rebellious. The staff have been faithful in meeting these children where they eek out a living by begging and stealing on the streets, sleeping in parks or on the veranda of shops in town. In 2022, Capstone has reconciled 43 street children. We praise God for the power of his grace in the words and actions of Capstone staff.

The heart of the ministry is in the Word, words of grace from the staff as they demonstrate kindness and the lost dignity these children so desperately crave, words of mercy and compassion when they confess their sins in counseling sessions, and words of reconciliation when they are reunited with family.

And finally, the Word of God is taught in many follow-up visits on families and in the 17 small group Bible Studies that take place every month. In the pages that follow, I'd like to share some of the blessings of 2022 in the work of Capstone Ministries. God bless you for your generous support of Capstone Ministries in 2022. Look below for how to donate in an easy and safe way.

Two boys finished University in 2022



Steve Ochieng



Austin Odhiambo

17 Bible Study Groups meet every month



New Bible Study at Katito this year!



New Bible Study in Muhuroni



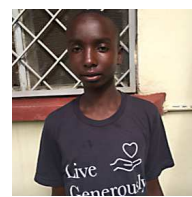
Prayers and News

Keep these individuals in your prayers:

- Dan and Patty as they travel to Phoenix to present at the Best Practices Conference in Feb.
- The LWML grant process. We have not yet heard if we have been selected.
- Pray for Capstone Board member, Delano Meyer who will go home from rehab shortly
- The following by first name: Robert, Roger, Michael, Delano, Tom.

Rescues: 3 boys were rescued in Dec.

Blum, Jackson, and John





While our visitors were in Kenya, we took them to the Maasai Mara on safari. Of course, we were properly outfitted. (See below)

We hosted a reunion of boys who are now independent and stable. More than 30 boys came and spent the day praising God, enjoying a reunion with old friends and giving very powerful testimonies. Guests of honor included Dave Hudon, Capstone Ministries Board Chairman, his wife Shari and her brother Richard, Bishop Titus of the ELCK, Lake Diocese. Here Patty and five boys enjoy mugging for the camera.



Most of the group who came for the Alumni Event. It was a day of joy and celebration!



Capstone Staff received their Christmas gifts before going on Christmas leave. They all say, "Thank-you and God bless you."



Eunike, Capstone accountant had her first child: Baby Angel



Pastor Isaiah and Sophie had twins: Edwin and Ellen.



Baptizing the twins



Christmas food packages for needy families.