Mr. Dave Lux will be our guest presenter for the Shoah Commemoration Service on May 1, 2016 at Samuel Lutheran Church, corner of 8th Street and Muskegon Avenue, Muskegon Michigan. The Service begins at 3:30 pm on Sunday May 1st. Dave will also be presenting to a select group of high school students from various high school in Muskegon County as part of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies program at Muskegon Community College (MCC). The Muskegon Area Intermediate School District, MCC and what was formerly the Shoah Remembrance Committee, formed the Center in 2012.

On Monday evening May 2nd, 7:00 pm at First Evangelical Lutheran Church North Muskegon there will a reception for Dave Lux and his wife with lite food and desserts. **There is no ticket charge**, however you may make a donation towards CCHGS-Muskegon for its programs and let us know my emailing your name and the number of people to: chgs.muskegon@gmail.com.

DAVE LUX was born Isidore Pinkasovich on April 12, 1933 in the small village of Negrovic in Czecho-Slovakia. In 1939 Slovakia was made a separate country and almost immediately the fascist storm troopers under the leadership of a man by the name of Tiso, began to attack Jewish homes and businesses. Dave’s home was broken into and looted. His parents packed up and moved along with other Jews. He was 6 and his brother was 7 when workers asked the various families being held if they would send their children to England. Dave’s mother and father let their children go. They were the only ones of that group to do so. With emotional farewells, and his mother hysterical in crying, let her boys go. This was the last time they saw their parents who were taken to Auschwitz-Birkenau where they were murdered.

David and his brother were taken to Prague and arrangements were made to take them to England. It took a month, but they finally entered England and placed in a boys refugee home in Ely, England with about 40 other children from various European countries ranging in age from 6 to 17. Dave and his brother stayed very close and spend 10 years in the refugee home. After the war the boys moved to London and at the age of 16 Dave went to Israel to create a new kibbutz in the Negev, Saad. When he was older he joined the Israeli military to serve with an airborne unit. In the late 1950’s Dave came to meet his relatives in the United States with whom he made contact. It was difficult leaving his brother and Israel. After two years he met his wife Helene and ended up staying in the US. He and Helene have three children and five grandchildren. He shares his story with visitors to the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles “to honor my brave parents” and dedicating his presentation in their honor.

Dave was one of 669 children who boarded trains arranged by a young stockbroker named Nicholas Winton. He was on his way to go skiing when a friend called Nicholas from Prague and told him to come and see the situation and do something. Upon arriving, Winton saw the conditions of refugees in the camps and especially the children and began to work and build a way to get children out of Czecho-Slovakia. Eight trains carried 669 children to safety and life in England. Two hundred and fifty children, the largest number to leave on a Winton train, was loaded up and when it was due to leave the station on September 1, 1939, the German borders were closed when Germany invaded Poland. The train and the children on board disappeared never to be seen or heard from again.