

# Agape Connection

*I Can Only Imagine...*

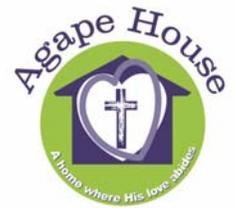
February 2019



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**“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him.” ~ 2 Corinthians 2:9**

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## **I Can Only Imagine**

*By Pam Patterson, Executive Director*

Sometimes we go through difficult seasons filled with trials and tribulations. These past two months have been hard for me personally and at Agape House. Personally, we are facing some difficult decisions regarding Ben's heart health issues. At Agape House we have had some tough situations to work through with our girls. It seems like every year the depth of their pain, and therefore their behaviors, runs deeper and deeper; some days it is overwhelming!

During my quiet time one day, I cried out to God while I was looking out over my backyard. It was a dreary, cloudy day when there was no snow on the ground, and I was thinking how brown, desolate and barren everything looked - it was depressing, which matched how I was feeling in the moment. Suddenly, I had a vision of the grass being lush and green, the trees full of leaves, flowers blooming in the gardens, birds flying overhead and rabbits jumping around in the yard. I was imagining how the yard looks in the summer. Then God spoke to me and said "just like your back yard looks desolate and dreary now, so do your circumstances, but this is only for a season.

In the winter everything looks dead, but there is still life. The roots of the trees are growing deeper, the grass is dead but the sod beneath is alive, and the perennial flowers are gone, while the bulbs are lying dormant waiting to bloom again. So, while things look dark, desolate and dead on the surface, they are living and growing beneath the surface. The same goes for me: I am alive and growing. Soon spring will come with new life, new growth, and summer will follow blooming with much fruit. And so it will be in our lives and the lives of the teens at Agape House."

Some days or seasons are harder than others, but in the midst of it we need to remember that God is good (Luke 18:19), that He is always at work (Exodus 14:13), and that He works all things together for good to them that love Him (Roman 8:28). I encourage you that whatever season you are in, to count it all as pure joy because God is doing a perfect work, even when we cannot see it (James 1:2-4), and He promises to complete the work that He has begun (Philippians 1:6).

***I can only imagine*** what God is going to do this next season, as I trust Him to bear much fruit in 2019.

# GOD'S LOVE at Agape House

By *Kassandra, Student*



I knew that I was coming to Agape House 6 months before I actually moved in, but when I finally did move in, I felt as if God was punishing me. I felt abandoned and rejected by Him. So I did what I do best; I ignored and rebelled against Him. I thought I didn't need Him and that I could make it without Him.

Boy, was I wrong! He saw my pain. He wanted to help but I wouldn't let Him. Then on October 17th I opened up about a subject that was consuming me, and when I finished, I felt the weight pressing on my lungs disappear and a warmth filled me. It was the most amazing feeling I have ever felt. I could feel His love pulsing through my body, reaching the darkest parts of me. He grabbed the pain in one hand and held me in the other. At that moment I

knew how horribly wrong I was, I knew that He loves me and He has never left me.

The next day when I walked into school and sat down for morning devotions, I didn't scoff when the teacher was 'ranting' about how amazing our God truly is. I sat and listened quietly, talking to myself, saying that He is amazing and He is perfect. Just because I accepted God into my life didn't mean my life became perfect. I had one of my worst break downs just a week or so after getting saved. But it didn't take as long to recover from it like it used to, because I know that God loves me and He will always love me no matter what.

I still have hard days where I just want to give up, but then I remember how many people love me. And God is at the top of that list, rooting me on right next to my Mom. ❤️

Volunteers  
Needed:  
Let  
**His LOVE**  
be your  
motivation!

## Work Days in Full Force at Home and School for Boys

We're happy to say that we have received final approval from the state to move forward with our renovation plans! We are looking for groups or individuals to help with this task so that we can keep the costs to a minimum. We are especially in need of **licensed plumbers, HVAC and electricians**, as well as those that have a working knowledge of these skills. Contact **Bob Milliman** at **(815) 404-1629** if you are able to help in any way.

**Our goal** is to have this project completed by August and ready to open for the new school year. Applications are currently being accepted for boys ages 12 to 16 for the day program. Call (262) 275-6466 for more information.



*“And My God Will Supply All Your Needs . . .” ~ Phil 4:19*

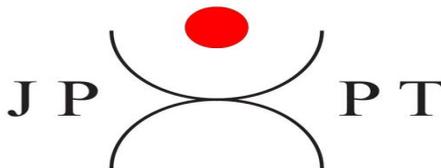
**His LOVE** is shown in many ways at Agape House. We are blessed to see all of our needs met in one way or another at Agape House! We are grateful to all of you who continue to respond to God’s call to meet our needs. These pictures depict some ways that many of you have showed **His LOVE!**



There was an abundance of **Christmas gifts** under the tree, donated from those of you who wanted to portray **His LOVE** in this way; just look at those smiles! May you all be blessed by **His LOVE**, too.



Thrivent partners utilize their Live Generously campaign to show **His LOVE** with items needed. John Bradley used his funds for **donations of noise cancelling head phones and sound machines**. These are very helpful for the teens to be able to focus on tasks, and thus, they see **His LOVE!**



Thank you to John Palmer and his clients, who started the new year out with a **Boot Camp Fundraiser** for Agape House at 7 am on a Saturday morning, showing **His LOVE!**

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:  
Can you help meet these goals for the Home and School for Boys?**

- ◆ **\$50,000** - renovations to meet code and fit our needs
- ◆ **\$30,000** - fire sprinkler system per code
- ◆ **\$10,000** - start up operating costs

All donations can be sent to the address on the back page or made online at:  
[www.AgapeHouseHeals.org](http://www.AgapeHouseHeals.org)

*Thank you!*

*Thank You for Showing **His LOVE!***



The **Santa Cause** was a successful fundraising event that provided fun for all who participated!

Our package theme, generously donated by friends of Agape, was **Disney Family Fun**.

The Grand Prize winner’s package included:

- Luxury Condo in Florida w/2 bedrooms for 1 week;
- \$2,500 cash to use for airfare, tickets to Disney Land, etc.

**Congratulations to Alanna Congdon and her family!**



**GRAB THE WHOLE FAMILY AND JOIN US FOR OUR  
"I Can Only Imagine"**

Advance Registration: \$20  
(By 4/9/18)  
Day-of: \$30  
(includes lunch & t-shirt)

**5k**

- Registration fee waived for anyone who raises \$100 or more in sponsorship donations.
- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prize for those who raise the most in sponsorships.

(See below for more details.)

Register at [www. Agapehouseheals.org](http://www.Agapehouseheals.org), or  
call Agape to register at (262) 275-6466

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

- ♦ See inside about home and school for boys
- ♦ Mentors for the teens.
- ♦ Lunch providers 1x/month
- ♦ Periodic office help.
- ♦ Tutors

Please contact us at  
[office@agapehouseheals.org](mailto:office@agapehouseheals.org)  
for more information.



**Agape House, Inc.**  
262.275.6466

215 S. Main St.  
P.O. Box 68  
Walworth, WI 53184

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



**I Can Only Imagine**

**Race Time**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**Starting line:**

**Agape House for Girls**  
**215 S. Main Street,**  
**Walworth, WI**

**SAVE THE DATE!**



**I Can Only Imagine**

**5k Run Walk Stroll**



**April 27, 2019**

[office@agapehouseheals.org](mailto:office@agapehouseheals.org)

