

# Agape Connection



May 2020

## love never fails

1 Cor. 13:8

### Climbing the Mountain With God *By: Pam Patterson, Executive Director*



This past year has been a tough year. As we began the new school year in September, our school receptionist was not able to return due to a serious health issue with her liver. In October, our house manager was diagnosed with cancer. Another house staff person needed to take a leave of absence for health reasons. And our office manager's husband was diagnosed with a brain tumor, which required her to be out with him, off and on, for 4 months. In November, another house staff person needed to take a leave of absence because of a death in her family, and our lead teacher had to resign for personal reasons.

In January, I cried out to God and asked Him to please move the mountain, something I pray often when I hit a hard situation or season, and many times He has moved the mountain. However, this time I heard Him say, *“No, I am not going to move this mountain, I want you to climb it.”* I cried out and said, “But it is too big”, and He said *“Not if you take one step at a time with Me”*.

He reminded me about the mountain in Hawaii that Ben and I were climbing last year so we could see a 120-foot waterfall. As we climbed, it began drizzling and the path became slippery, and at times it was very steep. Half way up we stopped to rest, and thought about whether or not we should turn around and go back down. At that time, a couple came walking down the mountain, all wet and muddy, and they encouraged us saying: “Don’t stop now, you are half way there and it is worth the effort.” So we continued climbing. We took it slow, helping each other and taking breaks. When we got to the top it was BREATH TAKING and we were so glad we had pressed on to get to the top of the mountain! God then spoke to me and said, *“When you need Me to go before you, I will offer you My hand to help pull you up. When you need Me to walk alongside you and encourage you, I will. And when you need Me to walk behind you and gently push you, I will. When you need to sit and rest, I will rest with you. And at times, I will even carry you. But I need you to climb this mountain. I need to strengthen your faith, I need to teach you some things. I need you to see things that you can only see from the top of the mountain, and I promise it will be worth it.”*

Even though climbing a mountain can be hard, there have been many beautiful moments, blessings and strengthening taking place. God has been faithful every step of the way. As we continue to climb, while now dealing with COVID 19, I am excited to reach the top because I know there is something beautiful that awaits us, and that God is going to do above and beyond what I could ever imagine!

I pray that whatever mountain you might be climbing right now, that you can trust Him to get you to the top and that the journey will be rewarding as you find your promised land (destiny).

**Please pray for the hearts of the students and families to come in September.**

Blessings . . .

Pam Patterson

**“I need you to see things that you can only see from the top of the mountain, and I promise it will be worth it.”**



## God's Favor, Provision and Blessings While Climbing the Mountain

We want to share with you some of the many blessings God has provided during this difficult journey through COVID-19.

God continues to minister His truths and healing touch to the girls, boys and families.

God provides just the right staff member at the right time to meet the need, in spite of the reduced number of staff on site.

Lakeland builders donated the rest of the materials to finish the boys home at half price.

A gentleman has donated his time to lay all the flooring to finish boys home.

The boys home will be completed by July.

We have house parents, a resident assistant, intern and counselor for next Fall for boys home and will be ready to welcome a full house in September.

We have had numerous donations of needed items, including toilet paper, sanitizer, beef, furniture, art supplies, and more.

All of the staff with health issues are healing and doing well now.

Donations continue to come in despite the uncertainty of the economy. Our heart was touched by an 8 yo who made bookmarks with positive messages , then she donated to Agape the \$410 people gave her!

A past student made Agape House the benefactor of her senior project and collected almost \$1,000.00, as well as personal items for the teens.

New timbers were donated to replace the ones that were rotting at the boys home.

And in the midst of not having our full staff present, we have still been able to keep the doors open and serve four girls and two boys in our program, while staying in touch with those at home, including offering counseling services.

This is just a sampling of how our faith is being strengthened and we are filled with joy!

**"I have told you this so that My joy may be in you . . ." J n. 15:11**

## Many Hands Make Light the Work

The Agape House Boy's Home and School has been under construction for the past 2 years. While limiting teens to the completed space (the living quarters and school area), we opened the doors for 2 students this school year. We are so thankful to finalize the completion to make the entire facility fully operational for the 2020-21 school year. Because of the help of so many amazing, gifted people and businesses, we will be ready to open the Home and School for Boys in September at full capacity! Here are the names of some who have given of their time, talent and gifts:

All Spec Flooring	AO Bauer Glass
Belan Construction	Brian Vance
Brooklife Church	Calvary Church
Chucks	Cosentinos
Darrin Deja	Dwight Smith
Elsa Merlino	Forget Me Not Floral
Four Seasons Flooring	Home Depot
Gotcha Covered Painting	Home Design
Iseli Mfg.-Apex	JC Plumbing
Marble & Granite Fabricator	Jones Insurance
O'Leary Plumbing & Heating	Micah Kerr
Respace Design	Sherwin Williams
Scott Schulz	Steve Valentine
Summit Drywall	

**THANK YOU ALL!**

### Seeking to Fill These Positions

*with people who have a heart for helping troubled teens:*



House Parents , RA for Boys' Home,  
Live-In RA for Girls' Home ,  
Teacher and Teacher's Assistant

For more information please visit:  
[www.AgapeHouseHeals.org/Employment](http://www.AgapeHouseHeals.org/Employment)

## ***Learning to Bless Others Along the Journey***



### **LOVE BOMBS, PICKING UP GARBAGE, SEWING FACE MASKS...**

The students have been coming up with creative ideas to bless others, while maintaining a social distance! They made 'Love Bombs' (posters) for Inspiration Ministries and Golden Years, delivered with big, beautiful smiles. They picked up trash along the road, made face masks for health professionals, participated in a parade to thank employees at Lakeland hospital, made cards and baked goods to bless others and they continue to pray for our community and our country during these uncertain times.



### **VIRTUAL 5K IN 2020**

We did not want to cancel our annual 5K as this cause is too important, so we chose to go virtual and what a success it was! Registrants Walked, Ran & Strolled with family and friends, from a distance. Bringing awareness to child abuse and the prevention needed by carrying signs and wearing blue ribbons, people took to their neighborhoods, lake paths and woods to make a stand against child abuse. We are so grateful for your continued participation in these creative times. And we look forward to gathering together in Walworth for 5K 2021!



**Mark Your Calendars  
for these Upcoming  
Events:**

**Annual Give  
Them Hope  
Evening**

**Thursday, October 29th**



**Agape House, Inc.**

262.275.6466

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

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

***Please Help Us Thank Our 5k Sponsors:***  
**Event: Kunes Country**  
**Corporate: WW Trucking**  
**Friends:**  
**Knead 2 Relax**  
**John's Disposal Service**  
**Godfrey, Leibsle, Blackbourn & Howarth, S.C.**

NON PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
WALWORTH, WI 53184  
PERMIT NO. 4

## **Now Accepting Applications for 2020-21**

Do you know a teen who is hurting and stuck in a hard place?

We are already preparing a place for him or her at Agape House for the 2020-21 school year. Agape House is a therapeutic residential school for teens who need hope and healing. We offer a safe home, biblical counseling and academic recovery while teens learn to walk in the fullness of who God created them to be.



For more information, visit [www.AgapeHouseHeals.org](http://www.AgapeHouseHeals.org) or call 262.275.6466.

*PS: See inside: [Seeking to Fill These Positions](#)*



