

# Agape Connection



## *Press on For The Prize Set Before You*

**“Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?” - Matthew 6:26**

*By Pam Patterson, Exec. Director*

Agape Connection

June 2021



Every one of us was created for a purpose, and with a destiny set before us; the question is will we reach it? The answer is up to us!

I have often wondered how someone can train to run a marathon, compete in a triathlon, climb Mt. Everest, or compete in the Olympics. I have asked myself what motivates them to push so hard, to sacrifice so much and to never give up. God spoke to me and said it is because the prize at the end of it is worth it for them. No matter how many times they fall, how many blisters they get, or how often they get injured, they keep getting up, training and pressing on for the prize set before them because the end goal is worth it for them.

I have asked myself many times what pushes someone to run 20+ miles and end up with bloody, blistered feet when I can't motivate myself to run even one mile. God showed me that my marathon for 20+ years has been helping people find hope and healing through Agape House; this is where I am able to make a commitment that I find to be worthwhile. We are all running the race called life, with the end goal of reaching our destiny. Of course, there is the ultimate destiny of reaching Heaven, and for those who know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, John 3:16 assures us that "...whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



Thank you to all who have helped us make this a successful year. We are so grateful for all the support, encouragement and donations received in what has been a most unusual year! We know that God is greater than any obstacles that could stand in our way!

As with any home or business, we have ongoing projects to maintain and improve our facilities. We have been waiting for a few years to redo the parking lot at 215 S. Main, a much needed project, and we are finally moving forward with that now. It will be exciting to see the changes we are making to allow for some "green space" instead of all blacktop, while at the same time decreasing the amount of space that requires snow plowing. We have received a grant and some donations for the blacktop renovation. If you feel led to donate to the "green space" portion of the project, it would be greatly appreciated. Simply write "green space" in the Memo line of your donation. Blessings....



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*Pam Patterson, Exec. Director*

But we also have a destiny here on this earth, a race to run for the prize set before us. Many will grow weary, get injured, get sick, or become disillusioned and quit the race. The enemy is out to kill, steal and destroy us; he will come against us to try and discourage us and get us to say, "this is too hard, I give up."

The question is, will we put our eyes on God, the author and finisher, and trust Him and His truths to get us across the finish line? Will we press in and run toward the prize set before us no matter how difficult it becomes? Will we believe that even if we fall down, break our leg, or get some disease, that He will help us get there? What is the destiny for which you were created? Where are you in the process of reaching it? If you are walking forward, God is there to hold your hand and encourage you! If you are tired and weary, He is there to grab your hand and pull you forward or gently guide you from behind, calling you by name. If you are stuck on the path, He will sit beside you and wipe away your tears. If you are injured or sick, He will carry you and heal your wounds. Remember, God has a purpose and plan for your life, a destiny. He longs for you to enter into your promised land and to whisper "well done, faithful servant" as you bring it to completion. For me, I am pressing on for this!

This past year was a very hard year for Agape House in many ways, from Covid, to the loss of volunteers, and staff health issues as well. But we continue to count it all **JOY** as we press into Him that is able and we continue to run the race He set before us. We trust that He will complete the work He has begun and that one day each of our students will reach their destiny, their promised land. I pray that each one of you continues to do the same, with the goal of reaching your destiny!



**5K**



**5K**

**IN-PERSON &  
VIRTUAL**

It was exciting to be able to host our annual 5K both in-person and virtually this year!

The support we received from the local and surrounding communities, as we all gathered together to bring awareness to Child Abuse Prevention, was very encouraging for us at Agape House. It was a beautiful day to be outdoors and enjoy fellowship with all who participated.

**Praise the Lord for  
He is good, ALWAYS!**

## SEEKING TO FILL THESE POSITIONS

with people who have a heart for the mission of  
walking alongside troubled teens...

**TEACHER** Part time for both the girl's and boy's schools

**RA** Part time/Full Time for girl's home  
Part Time for boy's home



## Congratulations Graduates 2021



***"The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." Deuteronomy 31:8***

**The Word of God will always go with you! Rick did an amazing job with the charge to our graduates at our Year End Ceremony! He spoke of praying for the families to rewrite their stories and seeing the Love of Jesus come to fruition. Serving God, letting Him shape the students' gifts, and letting God lead....What life advice would Jesus give? To love!**

***"Love your neighbors as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."***

**Mark 12:31**

**Dan Mirkes also closed us in a beautiful benediction. He shared of the journey of life and its seasons. We are so grateful to have been able to help the graduates through this last season and to help lead them as they step into their next season of life! God is so good, always, and we look forward to seeing how He continues to work in all of the teens' lives!**

**Here are some tidbits on our graduates' plans moving forward, please join us in prayer for them on their new journeys!**

**Jack Grajek shared that one thing he has learned since being at Agape House is self-confidence! Praise the Lord! He will be looking for a job, has strong loyalties to his birth country and has interest in working in Border Patrol.**

**Mallory Vogelmann shares that when she started at Agape, she wasn't sure if she would be able to get her life back together, or even graduate at all. She is so grateful to Agape, her family and**

**friends for helping her through her "rough patches" and growing into the beautiful person she is today.**

**Macie Matchett has plans of going to community college next fall for her general education classes, and the following year to attend college majoring in business with a minor in communication, with the goal of going into pharmaceutical sales. She is very thankful to Agape for the growth she experienced while here, and the positive effect on her family as a whole.**





Save the date for  
our upcoming  
event:

## Annual Give Them Hope Evening

Sept. 30, 2021

Please help us thank our **5K**  
**Sponsors!**

**Event:** *Kunes Country*

**Corporate:** *WW Trucking*

**Friends:** *Knead 2 Relax,  
John's Disposal, Fat Tire Ride,  
Lake Area Insurance LLC*



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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



## Now Accepting Applications for 2021-22

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

We are already preparing a place for him or her here at Agape House for the 2021-22 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 called them to be.

For more information visit [www.AgapeHouseHeals.org](http://www.AgapeHouseHeals.org) or call 262-275-6466.





