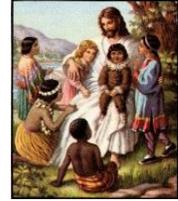




# **THE AGAPE` CENTER NEWSLETTER**

**Agape Christian Children's Community Center**  
**4605 Fleming Rd., PO Box 155, Horntown, VA 23395**



**A Mission of the Eastern Shore District of the United Methodist Church  
 Virginia Conference Advance Special #5020**

**MAY 2022**

**Doris Cropper, Director 757-824-0072**

**Barbara Mason, Editor 757-336-6436**

## **AGAPE IS STILL OPEN**

It was brought to our attention that when you searched for Agape Christian Children's Community Center using Bing, it was marked in red that we were "permanently closed." This fraudulent information could seriously affect our financial support and enrollment. The Eastern Shore District immediately put a notice on the site that we are still open and are in ministry here.

Mr. Jim Ramsbotham from Dahlgren UMC came to our rescue and contacted Bing and Microsoft on our behalf. It took some time, but the "permanently closed" statement has been removed. We are so grateful to Mr. Ramsbotham for his diligence in solving the issue.

If anyone ever sees something on the internet they question about Agape, please contact the Center.

## **PANDEMIC DOESN'T STOP AGAPE**



## **NEW ROOF IN PROCESS**

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Roof Fund and a generous anonymous donor, our 23 year old roof is being replaced. We are so grateful to each of you! God has truly blessed Agape through you!



## **2022 FREE SUMMER PROGRAM**

Agape will once again step out in faith and offer a **free** Summer Program for ages 3-9. Hours are 9:00 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Friday. It begins June 27 and ends August 29<sup>th</sup>. Regular pre-school begins Sept. 06, 2022.

We provide a nutritious lunch and snack. The program includes vacation bible study, free play and special summer activities.

If you would like to support our Summer Program, please indicate it on the memo portion of your check.

We encourage your prayers for our children and staff for a healthy and safe summer.

## **HELP WANTED**

Pre-School teacher/aide needed for the morning shift from 7:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday through Friday. If you love to work with children ages 3-5, or know someone who does, please contact the Agape Center at 757-824-0072.

Pay is commiserate with experience. We are an equal opportunity employer. Please call Agape for further details and an application.

**"No man stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child."—Abraham Lincoln**

## HEARD IN THE CLASSROOM



- Little Jamari decided he was ill and needed to go home. Ms. Doris & Ms. Robbin decided to check his temperature, which was 97.2. Ms. Doris inquired as to how he was feeling and Jamari's response was, "Well the doctor told me that if I was sick, I needed to go home and rest, so I need to go home and rest." When asked if he was in pain or hurting anywhere, the answer was "No, I just need to rest because I'm sick." Ms. Robbin then said, "Children you may get your toys out for playtime." At this point, Jamari dashed off and never complained again. (Amazing how quickly he became healthy)
- One of the pictures from craft day was falling off the wall. Ms. Doris and Ms. Yvette are not the tallest at Agape, so they were told to leave it for Ms. Breanna, "Cuz she's super tall!"
- Ahmad arrives daily at 7:20 am. He puts his coat away and his backpack, gets his temperature checked and begins his day—NON-STOP TALKING AND ASKING QUESTIONS. Some days Ms. Doris asks him, "Do you every get tired of asking questions?" His answer was "no, do you get tired of talking to me?" (Wrong question, Ms. Doris)
- Each day Ms. Doris tells the children during Circle and prayer time, they must sit criss- crossed so no one will trip over their feet. When little Ellie was new and learning the teachers' names she heard this many times. In a couple of weeks, when asking the children what the teachers names were, Ellie identified Ms. Robbin, but Ms. Doris was identified as "Ms. Criss-Cross."
- Lunch time can be tricky, especially if you ask what they would like to have. One cold day, it was decided to have soup and crackers with a fruit cup or applesauce. The entire class said the soup was good, but Ms. Robbin needs to pick the orange stuff out next time. (carrots)
- Agape may have to hire a doctor to join the staff. Little Armani knows how to work her family and the staff. After doing health checks, Armani looks at Ms. Doris and holds her chest and tells Ms. Doris to listen as she breathes quite hard. (She is putting on an act so her mother can be called.) When Ms. Doris said she couldn't hear anything, she said, "Wait, it's coming again." Armani took a couple of days off and came in laughing on Friday and said, "I'm back." When asked where she'd been she said she'd spent 2 days with Grandma Addie. (Guess Grandma rates higher than Agape some days!)

### MINIMUM WAGE INCREASED IN VIRGINIA

Thanks to your faithful and generous financial support, Agape employees received a \$1.50 per hour increase to comply with Virginia's new minimum wage as of January 1, 2022.

## THANK YOU FOR FOOD AND SUPPLIES



Ms. Claudia Johnson, grandparent of a student shared her blessings with Agape



Pallets of food donated from "Love Thy Neighbor", a local food pantry in King George, VA and transported and delivered by the Dahlgren UMC Mission team led by Steve Boyle and Rev. George Warner.

### THANK YOU FOR THE CHRISTMAS LOVE

Yorktown UMC-\$50 gift cards for each child (A parent said, "Now we can have Christmas!")

Ocean View UMC- Gift bags for each child

Williamsburg UMW-Large stockings filled with goodies for each child

Franktown UMW, Calvary UMW, and Market Street UMW came with supplies after the holidays.

A huge **THANK YOU** to all who have visited and brought gifts & supplies since the July 2021 Newsletter!!



## A NOTE FROM DIRECTOR DORIS CROPPER

Many times as Christians and individuals, we have a tendency to take God for granted. We also take our way of life, which is a blessing, for granted as well, not realizing that change can come in the blink of an eye. Three situations come to mind as I thought about 2 of my older sisters. One who has been suffering with cancer for almost 2 years and is still confined to bed and just recently one of my sisters, who is a twin, found out she too has cancer. I thought about how quickly life can change, one day your health is fine and in a moment, change can come. I thought also about the people, families, children, and leaders of Ukraine. Their lives have been changed due to a senseless war, not of their choosing. They have had to flee their homes and shelters. Then there are the children, the babies I see each day, not knowing or realizing the chaos that's going on when they leave Agape. I pray for the Staff, the Children and the Board daily that God in His infinite wisdom will cover each of them, Ukraine, and the leaders of this nation daily with grace, mercy and love. Life is so fragile. It requires "praying without ceasing." Praying daily for not only our families, but those abroad, those in our neighborhood, communities, churches, and one another. Change happens so quickly, there is no time to handle life as though we have forever. No, my friends, time waits for no one. Be Blessed.

### SUMMER MISSION TEAMS

Dahlgren UMC is sending 2 mission teams to Agape. The work team will arrive June 20<sup>th</sup> and do repairs and upkeep inside the building. Other projects are: mulch the playground, repair swings, replace landscaping ties (if needed), repair the shed door, screen in the Pavilion, and put down Pea Gravel in it. They have raised money to pay for all of the materials, most of which will come from local sources. A big thank you to Mr. George Young of Church St. Supply, who is acquiring all the materials and providing free delivery, as well as a discount!

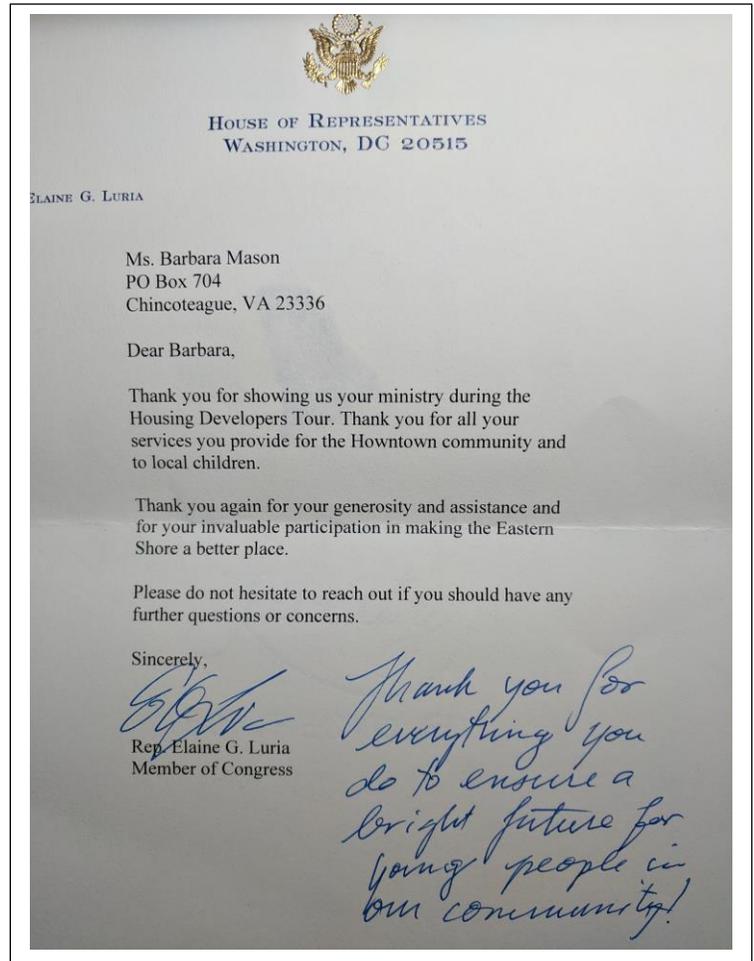
The second team from Dahlgren UMC will arrive July 11<sup>th</sup> and provide VBS for the children that week.

Youthworks teams will be here in July to help with the children for 2 weeks.

We are so blessed to have the "Body of Christ" reaching out and sharing in our ministry.

## CONGRESSWOMAN ELAINE LURIA VISITS

While on a Housing Developers Tour, the Congresswoman came to Agape. The note she wrote Agape is below.



When Greenbackville Fire Company came to visit, the children had their own "fire trucks."



**FOR A SPEAKER TO SHARE THE MIRACLES OF AGAPE**

**CALL:**

**BARBARA MASON 757-336-6436 or 757-894-3208**

**(cell)**

## AGAPE CCCC FINANCIAL UPDATE

### JANUARY 01-MAY 21, 2022

2022 Income all sources                 \$44,950.78  
2022 Expenses                             \$56,348.54  
2022 **EXPENSES OVER INCOME**   **-\$11,397.76**

We thank each of you for your financial gifts to the Agape Center! As you can see, our expenses are greater than our income so far in 2022. Please prayerfully consider how you can support Agape. God's little ones and their families need your support and help.

Please make checks payable to **AGAPE CCCC** and send to: Mrs. Barbara S. Mason, Treasurer  
PO Box 704  
Chincoteague Island, VA 23336-0704

## WAYS TO HELP

Advance Special #5020  
Budgeted Mission  
Benevolence  
Advent/Easter Offerings  
Bazaar Proceeds  
Penny or Coin Collection  
Second Mile Giving  
Memorials &  
Honorariums  
Sunday School Classes  
Alternative Giving Events  
Youth, UMM, UMW, VBS  
Fundraisers



We pray God will richly bless you and fill you with His Grace.

To arrange for a visit or a mission trip, please call Mrs. Doris Cropper, Director 757-824-0072 before 2:00 p.m. or you can email her at [agapecccc199778@yahoo.com](mailto:agapecccc199778@yahoo.com)

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