

THE AGAPIAN

May 2013 — Agape Church of the Brethren

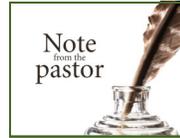
Bring a Friend Sunday: May 19

May 19 we are inviting Agapians to bring a friend to church. Perhaps you have a friend at work whom you are pretty sure doesn't attend church anywhere; invite them to join us on May 19. Maybe its someone who waits on you where you buy gas, or does your hair, or figures your taxes and you're pretty sure that they don't have a church; invite them to join us on May 19. Perhaps it's a cousin, or an in-law, or even a sibling whom you know has drifted away from any church involvement; invite them to join us on May 19. We will be delighted to help make them feel welcome that day; and who knows, perhaps we can influence them towards a more consistent relationship with Christ and the Church.

The responsibility for reaching unchurched people is one that all of us as Christians share together. It's not just something the minister handles. Peter wrote in his first New Testament letter, "Always be prepared to give answer to everyone who asks you to give reason for the hope that you have," (1 Peter 3:15/NIV). He did not write that to a select few Christians. His letter was

directed toward, "God's elect," (1 Peter 1:1) wherever they might be, or whatever their status in the church. So we hope that all Agapians, between now and May 19, will give some thought to those in their normal network of relationships whom they might influence for Christ.

I've shared with you before that it's important that we remember that the Christian faith is not an exclusive club that is intended only for the fortunate few, but rather it is a promised kingdom designed for any and all who will believe. In another of his New Testament letters Peter pointed out that God does not want "...anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance," (2 Peter 3:9). If that's what God wants then obviously it should be our desire too. So let us recommit ourselves to the mission of reaching people for the kingdom. Think of whom you could invite for May 19. An invitation can be a very powerful thing. **Think about it!**



-Pastor Jeff

VBS 2013: Something for Everyone!

Plans for Agape's **2013 VBS** are underway, and we could use some help in the planning stages as well as when we get closer to the actual event. Continuing last year's theme of "In the Beginning God Created. . . PLANTS," we will be focusing on the growing plants and final products grown. Last year was all about seeds; this year we will have evenings with themes of **trees, flowers, fruits, and vegetables.**



Watch the bulletins for details of **planning meetings** in May and June along with the actual Monday/Tuesday evenings of **June 17/18** and **24/25** when we hope to see **everyone** present to either help with the children's area or participate in the adult group.

Contact Becky M., Joan S., Deb W., or Rick and Becky F. if you'd like to share some good ideas or help in any way.

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Agape Juniors

will meet next in June.
Look in the bulletin for updates!



Spring Cleaning!

Calling all men and women

- * On **May 18**, we'll refresh the mulch around the church. We'll meet at **9:00 a.m.**—please bring your own tools (mulch will be provided). Come early or stay late for a cup of coffee and homemade cinnamon roll.
- * The windows at Agape need a good washing! Select your own windows from the narthex and select your own time during the month of May. Bring your own equipment and cleaner.

See the stewards with questions.

Free Garage Sale—Help Others!

Time to clean out the closets, attics, and basements: Your chance to de-clutter is here! That was the original goal of this event sponsored by the Service/Mission Nurture Group, but **it has grown into so much more!** This is your opportunity to help yourself and those in need!

Bring your items to the church anytime after Mother's Day, **May 12**, and put them in the Wood's Room. We will be **sorting and setting up** on Tuesday/Wednesday, **May 21 and 22**. We'll need help, so you're welcome to join us!

The actual **Free Garage Sale** will be from **9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. on Thursday and Friday, May 23 and 24**. Sign up sheets to give you an opportunity to help for a few hours or all day will be on the announcement board soon. We hope that clean up is minimal, as all leftover items will be donated to a local agency.



Tin Caps Baseball



Thirty-three tickets are being held for Agape at Parkview Field on **Sat., July 20** for a fun night of baseball, entertainment and fireworks.

- * **Tickets are \$9.00**
- * **Section 107** (close to the top and in the shade).
- * **An amazing show by QuickChange** will take place right after the game—they were finalists on *America's Got Talent*!
- * **Special fireworks** that night will be not on the field, but off the bank building downtown which will close out the Three Rivers Festival.

We would like to collect the money, pay and get the tickets ASAP just so we have what we need and can release the rest. **Express your interest or sign up** and pay Vicki or Becky M by **May 5!**

Women's Hobby-Brunch



Agape women, friends, and family are invited to May's special hobby event and brunch in Agape's Fellowship Hall. The event is on **Sat., May 4 at 9 a.m.**

- Bring items from your hobbies to display (though no hobby is required to attend).
- * If you have a crafty talent that you would consider sharing and maybe give a mini lesson to someone - that would be wonderful!
- * We are also having a book swap, so bring books you've read to trade with someone else.
- * **R.S.V.P. to Joyce Musser (or if you have questions) at joyce@themussers.com by Wed., May 1.** Joyce is making brunch, so it's important to R.S.V.P.

Congratulations, Graduates!



The following Agapians have completed a new phase of their high school or college life with a degree, and we will be honoring them during a worship service in June.

- * Kayla Fox received her high school diploma from Leo High School
 - * Peter Klopfenstein received his high school diploma from Snider High School
 - * Kaleb Wagner received his high school diploma from Garrett High School
 - * Kendra Morris received her Master's of Science in Education, School Counseling, from IPFW
- If there are others we missed, please let Becky M. know so we can recognize their achievements.*

Happy Mother's Day

COOK'S CORNER

By: Joyce Musser

A mother told about the day her three-year old son was on her heels wherever she went. "Whenever I stopped to do a chore and turned back around, I would trip over him," she said.

"Several times I suggested fun activities to keep him occupied, but he would just smile and say, 'That's alright Mommy, I'd rather be in here with you.' He continued to follow me and after the fifth trip, my patience wore thin and I asked him why he was following me constantly." He said, "My Sunday school teacher told me to walk in Jesus' footsteps, but I can't see him so I'm walking in yours." The greatest way we can teach our children about the love of Jesus is through the example of how we live, and how we model his love in our everyday life.

"The moment a child is born, the mother is also born. She never existed before." From young mother, Joanna Eastes: **1.** As much as you try to be strong for your kids, take time to be vulnerable in front of them. They need to see you as a human being. **2.** A hug from a child is like hugging God himself. **3.** A dirty house is a sign of a happy family!

"Regardless of whether you are famous or not, you will never have a bigger fan than your mother." From *Connie Copp*: Becoming a mother truly is a lifelong responsibility and joy! From their young age to now with all four of my children being thirty-something, they continue to make me so proud of them and the lives they are leading. The best advice I have is: giving each child their roots and wings at the same time is hard to do, but so rewarding. I am blessed!

A quote from Toni Morrison: **"Grown don't mean nothing to a mother. A child is a child. They get bigger, older, but grown?"**

From *Judy Cormany*: As a young mother, I thought my children could do no wrong. I have learned that is not true. I used to think I needed to fix everything for my children, I have learned that is not always the best way to help my children. I am so grateful that I have had the opportunity to watch my sons grow into manhood and to see what fine people they have become.

Even the most mundane tasks can be rewarding when people know that they are appreciated. So, husbands and children, never take your wives and mothers for granted, but express your gratitude for everything they do—from laundry, to cleaning, and preparing meals day-in, day-out, year-in, year-out. And show this appreciation by helping—all the time!

"If I never said 'Thank you' for bringing me into this world, I'd like to do that now."

SIMPLE PINEAPPLE ANGEL FOOD CAKE

Combine a box of angel food dry cake mix with a 20 oz. can of crushed pineapple in its own juice.

Pour mix into a 9 x 13 sprayed pan, and bake at 350 degrees for 30 min.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS!

Each week we have a number of opportunities for Christian learning during the 9:00 hour.

- * Adults can take advantage of 3 classes:
 - Right side class led by Beth G for a few more weeks and then by Mary E and Char S.
 - Left side class led by Ron S, Chuck M and others
 - Overflow room class studying the book *Vertical Church*
- * Youth class led by Becky M and Peg R for grades 6-12
- * Children's class for age 3-grade 5 led by Vicki W, Diana S through May and Joyce M for the summer. Additional hands are usually needed for supervision and/or extra help.



Talk to somebody who attends to see what's happening and why they attend - who knows, you just might learn something!

MAY 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 6:45-7:15 Piano Lessons	2 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30 B4G 6:30 Aerobics	3 7am Men's Breakfast*	4 8-12 Women's Fellowship Hobby Brunch
5 Council Meeting following Worship Service	6 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 4:30-7 Piano Lessons 6:30 Aerobics	7 12 Senior Moments 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:28 Youth 6:30-7:30 Scouts	8 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 6:45-7:15 Piano Lessons 7:30 Choir	9 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30 B4G 6:30 Aerobics	10 6:30 Service/Mission NG*	11 12-3 Piano Recital
12	13 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 4:30-7 Piano Lessons 6:30 Aerobics	14 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:28 Youth 6:30 Crafty NG* 6:30-7:30 Scouts	15 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 6:45-7:15 Piano Lessons 7:30 Choir	16 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30 B4G 6:30 Aerobics	17	18 9 am Mulch Day
19 Bring a Friend Sunday Deacon Mtg following Worship Service	20 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 4:30-7 Piano Lessons 6:30 Aerobics	21 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:28 Youth 6:30-7:30 Scouts -Set up for Garage Sale-	22 10 Daytime NG 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 6:45-7:15 Piano Lessons 7:30 Choir -Set up for Garage Sale-	23 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30 B4G 6:30 Aerobics -Free Garage Sale 9-4 -	24	25
26	27 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 4:30-7 Piano Lessons 6:30 Aerobics	28 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:28 Youth 6:30-7:30 Scouts	29 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 6:45-7:15 Piano Lessons 7:30 Choir	30 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30 B4G 6:30 Aerobics	31	

* Denotes an event held outside the church. Contact the person in charge of that event for details.

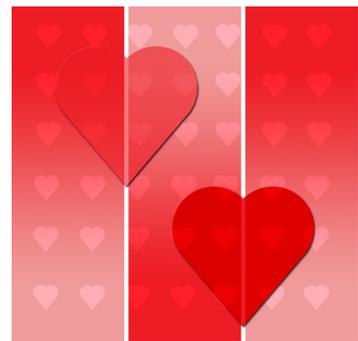
May Birthdays

- 1 Laura LeMay
- 2 Kayla Fox
- 6 Cameron Shipe
- 11 Randee Robison
- 12 Bill Barnhart
- 14 Bonnie Roebel
- 23 Lowell Black
- 24 Rick Flickinger



May Anniversaries

- 1 Kyle & Kendra Morris
- 2 Gene & Mary Jo Wort
- 8 Duaine & Bette Scribner
- 13 Tim & Christine Scroggs
- 17 Jim & Deb Wetzel
- 20 Lowell & Rose Black
- 23 Joe & Charlotte Schafer
- 27 Brian & Martha McComas





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Sent to our friends at:



Continuing the Word of Jesus—Peacefully. Simply. Together.

Senior Moments

- * The next Agape Seniors meeting is on **Tuesday, May 7** at **12:00 noon**.

Love Fund Report

The Love Fund, which is managed by Pastor Jeff and the deacons, was established as a quick monetary resource available for those who need assistance for food, shelter, utilities, transportation, or other situations deemed worthy. **Through the years we have helped hundreds of people through our association with the Community Harvest Food Bank where we supply a \$19 voucher and they choose 100 pounds of food.** We have also established a **Walmart gift card system** for helping those who need fuel, groceries, or supplies at **\$25 per family. Additional needs** are granted upon a decision by the pastor and deacons when a **larger amount is needed for rent, utilities, transportation, etc.** A limit of **\$100 per family per year** was established so that we could help as many different people as possible.

Our income is through **donations**, through both offering designations and the Quarter Bank. Since the beginning of 2013, we emptied the Quarter Bank for a total of \$129.44. We have helped 3 families at the Community Harvest Food Bank for a total expenditure of \$57. We have a balance of \$853.43 in our account. **Thanks to those who contribute to this fund.**