

OCTOBER 2014

FLIGHTLINE

A PUBLICATION OF AGAPE FLIGHTS
Serving Christ by Serving His Missionaries

From the Inside Out

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed...” 2 Corinthians 3:18

God’s transformational love, it’s a matter of the heart, from the inside out.

At first glance, Agape’s most visible transformation this summer might be the outside of the building. In an effort to care for the ministry home that God has provided, the outside of Agape’s hangar received a much needed facelift. The leaky downspouts were repaired, the rusty building was primed and painted, the torn awnings replaced, the overgrown bushes and trees trimmed and the parking lot sealed.

The funds used to complete the work were raised last March during the “Pie in the Sky” pie auction, and earmarked for the purpose of building repairs.

Because it’s so important to keep the aircraft in top notch condition, the “house for the aircraft” had waited its turn for this much needed upkeep.

The outside of the building has been transformed to more closely mirror the excellence of God’s work, but where Christ’s transformational work

truly matters is at the heart, the “inside” of the mission work, to “Serve Christ by Serving His Missionaries” in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and the Bahamas.

God’s transformation is a continual process. Last year, Agape celebrated the successful completion of the safety audit and adoption of values driven governance principles.

Agape met another of one of its “heart related” strategic goals just a few weeks ago when we gained accreditation by the Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability (ECFA). We have taken the ECFA accreditation process seriously to further

demonstrate our commitment to our core values of Service, Integrity, Excellence and Shared Purpose. These values continue to remind and inspire the Agape staff and board to stand accountable, reflect our mission, purpose and beliefs in all that we do.

“We are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man.”

Our sincere thanks to our business partners who completed the building refurbishment with excellence:
 -Anderson Asphalt & Concrete Service
 -BBG Landscaping & Design
 -Bishops Aluminum
 -Burnett Painting
 -Gulf Coast Awning & Design



2 Corinthians 8:21
 (read more about ECFA accreditation page 3).

For a closer look at God’s work being accomplished through the hands of the 375 missionary families we are privileged to serve, we invite you to read more...



Agape Staff
 (from left to right)

Back: Jeff Yannucciello, Greg Haman, Allen Speer, Abby Duncan, Tracy Rih
Middle: Janet Aldrich, Jennifer Ellingsworth
Front: Rod Aldrich, Carole Leman

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Dear Agape Family,
I can't explain what God has done...

Recently I was sitting at a table with CEO's from multi-million dollar companies and listening to everything from profit-sharing incentives to return on investment strategies, then out of the blue, one of the gentlemen said, "Allen, tell us what's going on at Agape Flights." Those who know me would tell you that I am seldom at a loss for words. But for just a moment, I thought: *I can't explain what God has done.*

I shared the Agape story of our early beginnings, and of how we are privileged to *Serve Christ by Serving His Missionaries*. I spoke of our vision and mission, and then I reflected on the many times over the last three and one-half years I have had the joy of serving Agape's missionaries. I reflected on the times of bringing encouragement, and gaining encouragement, times of praying for the missionaries, and then hearing them pray for me and Agape Flights.

The gentlemen beside me said, "It sounds to me that you enjoy what you do, and obviously you are passionate about your customers." Indeed I am passionate about our missionary affiliates, and I am passionate about the direction God is moving Agape Flights toward.

It is *from the inside out* that God is leading us; and it takes all of us -- the Agape Flights Staff and Volunteers, the Board of Directors, the Missionary Affiliates, and it takes you, the Agape Flights Family who financially invest and prayerfully partner with us.



And so my prayer for you is taken from Ephesians 3:16-19 (NASB):
that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Airplanes are composed of numerous parts. Each part is connected to and dependent upon the other. If a fuel control unit fails, it will ground the aircraft. You guessed it, we are much the same. We need each other. You need someone, and someone needs you. Isolated islands we're not. To make this thing called Agape Flights work, we must lean and support, relate and respond, give and take, confess and forgive, reach out and embrace, release and rely.

I can't explain it, but I can tell you it is happening. God is working *in* and *through* Agape Flights (all of us) to accomplish His purposes.

I challenge you to increase your partnership in prayer and as always, thank you, for your faithfulness in financially sharing your resources.

My prayer is that you might experience the fullness of His unconditional love,

“Missionary in the house”

It's always a blessed day when we hear over the intercom, “Attention all staff, missionary in the house.” Agape has been privileged to visit with and pray for several of our missionary families over the summer.

The Thompson family headed back to Les Cayes, Haiti in August, and brought things to the hangar in preparation for their return to the mission field. The kids had a blast checking out the aircraft and exploring the hangar.

Billy Oram is another missionary that visited us with a load to bring back to the mission field. He planned to return to Haiti with his wife and three young boys in late August.



The Thompson's youngest son, Braden, “taking a load off” and reading in the hangar

We love to visit with and hear how God is working in and through the missionaries we serve.



The Thompson Family having fun in the Agape hangar



Agape Staff praying with and getting to know more about Billy Oram & Genesis 2:15 Ministries



ECFA Accreditation

from the August 19, 2014 press release:

Agape Flights Accredited by National Financial Accountability Organization

The ECFA (Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability) announced today the accreditation of Agape Flights of Venice, FL.

ECFA accreditation is based on the ECFA Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship™, including financial accountability, transparency, sound board governance and ethical fundraising.

Agape Flights joins a growing number of Christ-centered churches and ministries across America that

have earned the right to display the ECFA seal. When an organization is accredited by ECFA, it demonstrates its willingness to follow the model of biblical accountability.

“We are pleased to accredit a ministry committed to supporting the work of missionary families living on the mission field throughout Haiti, the Dominican Republic and the Bahamas,” said Dan Busby, president of ECFA.



Agape Flights has signed up with AmazonSmile...find out more below:

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to AmazonSmile to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select Agape Flights to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you need to select “Agape Flights” to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Your selection will be remembered, and then every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation.

Moving Forward: Girls ER home closes

From HIS Home for Children serving in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti:

Following the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, HIS Home developed the Earthquake Relief (ER) program and opened a home for girls who had suffered trauma in the tent cities of Port-au-Prince. This home has provided

security for about 50 girls in the past 4 years, as well as an opportunity for the girls to receive evangelism, education, emotional support, medical care, and love in a family atmosphere.

Since opening the ER home, many girls have been reunited with biological

family members or become independent. With the closing of this home, the remaining 14 girls have moved to join the girls in the main house.

We praise God for the success of this program in restoring lives and preparing girls for a positive future in Haiti! In the main house, the girls will continue to receive the same services that they've experienced in the ER home.

Through the Haiti relief grant program Agape donors funded \$15,000 to provide 1 year of housing/rent from September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2014.



Missionary Chris Nungester with girls from the ER home



Summer Savings: VBS a success

an update from: Ben, Samantha and Sophia Jordan serving in the Dominican Republic

At the end of July we had our annual Vacation Bible School. We had a great week with a high day of over 200 kids. Through the week there were over 20 children that accepted Christ as their personal Saviour. It was a huge blessing to pick up many of the kids for VBS. In the 12 passenger van, we had up to 34 kids and adults in there at one time. It was a little crazy, but very fun getting to interact with them and build relationships with many of the kids. We had a closing ceremony on Sunday night and had over 100 kids come back for that time with many of them bringing their parents.

Also that same week we had an evangelistic Youth Conference. Because we recently took over the youth group this was a very good opportunity for Samantha and I to encourage our teens and reach new young people. During the week, we had 40 teens with 2 salvations. Since that week, many of the teens that had visited are now coming to church.

Chikungunya Update... *from Steve & Nancy James of American Baptist Intl. Ministries*

"We left Haiti in mid June during an outbreak of Chikungunya Fever that quickly spread from other Caribbean islands to the Dominican Republic and then across the border to Haiti...Before leaving Haiti, we became well acquainted with "Chik Fever" as many of our friends and co-workers fell prey to this outbreak. We were able to spread the word about treatment and prevention in our local community and help care for some who had come down with the illness. The best treatment is rest, hydration, and acetaminophen tablets for pain. The best prevention is avoiding mosquito bites by applying repellent or sleeping under nets as well as eliminating standing water and mosquito breeding plants such as bromeliads. Although cases have decreased in Haiti, it is still a problem and leaves some with painful joints that can last for several months."

Course Load: School in the field

Hundreds of pounds of school supplies have come in and out of the hangar gearing up for the school year. Let's see what missionaries are saying about school in the field....

Project Mañana's School Is Ready To Open!



After learning that there was no school in the community of San Pablo, located in Villa Gonzalez, Dominican Republic, and that the closest school was a dangerous 30-minute

walk on a busy freeway, Project Manana announced in January 2014 that it would be building the very first school in the community.

Faced with up to three generations of illiteracy and a severe lack of education, many of the nearly 1,000 children living in San Pablo spend their days roaming the streets as -- up until now -- they had little opportunities to go to school.

After six months of hard work and a visit from a volunteer team of 22 people from Cincinnati, Ohio, we are very pleased to announce that Project Manana's School is ready to open with an initial enrollment of 63 children!

Brian and Nebraska Berman, serving in the Dominican Republic



Helping Kids Go to School

Dear Loved Ones,

Greetings. The opening of any school year is always a headache for many parents around the world. It becomes a nightmare for most of the parents in poor nations with no saving, no loans and no bank accounts.

We have seen it year after year parents going up and down with the same song on their lips: school money, uniforms money, books money, note books, backpacks money.

This year is no exception. Here is a family of 5 children with a father who has been out work for years. The mother has become the breadwinner of the family by selling anything she can sell on our local market.

In spite the fact that Kihomi is on deputation, her entire heart is in Haiti where she would like to be and assist some of those in need. This family has benefited from the school supplies and backpacks that Kihomi shares. What a relief!

Also, for the first time in this family, the girl who will enter her 10th grade of high school has a chance to have a computer which she does not know yet how to open and close. Kihomi has a few that she can give away.

Thank you all for caring about mission which makes this assistance possible. May God continue to bless you all.

*Serving the Master in Haiti,
Nzunga & Kihomi*



*From Jason and Pamela Hilgeman, Freedom Int'l Ministries, Inc.
...serving in the Dominican Republic*

You can see a few of our first graders in the picture to the right in a reading center. The picture captures some of their personalities as they look at some books...Marcia is correcting Osbaldo...Osbaldo is hiding from her correction under his book...Nicol is engrossed in the pictures...Edward can't sit, but still stays focused on his book. I love the uniqueness of each one and am glad they are back in school.



“That’s why we’re here...”

notes from Jim and Margie Glynn, HaitiRevival

Using what was in the house, Margie made a mango-banana pie. Then she said, “Let’s take it to Pastor Manès and share it with his family.” Manès is one of our ministry disciples and lives about five minutes from us. They have a church and home in a former tent camp converted into a subdivision of minute wood-frame houses. “Papi Jim, Mommi Margie and Rebekah are here!” the four children shouted in unison. The pie was a treat like nothing they ever get to eat, and being the first time she ever made it, we all confirmed, “it’s a repeater.” Suddenly a turn in the conversation changed a simple social visit into a teaching opportunity, and I was sharing the latest revelations concerning the road to revival in Haiti that I knew would be go deep into the heart of these dear disciples and be transferred into their hungry church members. **That’s why we’re here!**



I sat outside one evening with Jean-Michèl, our house-keeper (a dear friend who takes care of us, our house, our yard, our cars...). The church down the street was blasting the neighborhood with screaming repetitions they call worship. Jean-Michèl (we call him Misha), a man with a tender heart but not yet committed to Jesus, asked, “Why don’t you like what they do in that church?” I asked, “When you hear that worship, without even seeing their faces, what kind of spirit do you hear?” He answered, “Anger.” And from there we had a wonderful teachable moment. **That’s why we’re here!**



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Loree Andersen makes a smile here at Agape.

On Thursdays Loree is the front desk face of Agape, greeting anyone who stops by, answering phones, directing calls, and really helping out in any way she can.

Loree works full

time for Wal-Mart, and on her day off, comes and volunteers here at Agape. Answering phones is just a small part of her job at the Wal-Mart distribution center; she is part of a team responsible for safety, logistics, and compliance within Wal-Mart. Agape is a change of pace for her; she goes from a very corporate, structured

workplace to a place of ministry and fellowship.

“This is so different from my job, which is a very corporate setting, this is outside the box,” Loree said.

She has been volunteering at Agape since last December, bringing smiles, inspiration, and joy to everyone she comes in contact with. The Wal-Mart foundation encourages their employees through their VAP (Volunteer Always Pays) Grant Program to volunteer by contributing \$250 for every twenty-five hours volunteered to an organization of the employee’s choice.

“I have always tried to use my time to some good, and when Wal-Mart said they would give money if you find somewhere to volunteer, well that’s what I set out to do,” Loree commented. So far this year, Wal-Mart has contributed \$1,250 in support of Loree’s volunteer work at Agape.

Every Good Gift Comes from Above

Together, in service and ministry, the mission flights continue to depart every week. Thank you for your part in it all. We are continually humbled and upheld by your prayers, notes of encouragement and generosity. We praise God for every giver and gift, and pray that above all, His name will be glorified through this ministry!



A letter of thanks...

Agape Flights board member, Dan Manningham, recently wrote the following message to one of Agape's faithful financial partners. Here is a portion of the personal message meant for everyone who invests their time or monetary gifts in this ministry...

Dear (insert your name here),

We haven't met but we have mutual interest in Agape Flights. I am honored to be one of the board members and am very proud to represent Agape as I am able. I know that you have been faithful and generous supporters and I wanted to thank you as a board member.

I have a background in flying (Navy, United Airlines and Missionary Aviation Fellowship -MAF) and I am very excited about what I see at Agape. The leadership, the staff and the board have grown into a very Godly and synergistic group which makes Agape's mission even more effective...

...Thanks again. I am happy to report that I am confident that your support will be well and wisely used.

Blessings from the Agape Family,
Dan Manningham

Engine overhaul update

As of this writing, the needed engine overhaul is expected to begin the first week of January, 2015. We thank God for His provision as we continue to prepare for the major work and expense.

These numbers are as of August 31, 2014:

Estimated expense: \$160,000

Current fund balance: \$77,800.17

Still needed: \$82,199.83



Agape mechanic, Greg Haman, replacing an engine air intake screen

Every gift, no matter what the amount, is a huge blessing!

Ways to Give

Mail (use the enclosed envelope) or phone 941-488-0990

Online at www.agapeflights.com

For gifts of stock, annuities, IRA, beneficiary of an insurance policy or your will:
Ministry Name: Agape Flights, Inc. EIN # 59-2057436

When you make a financial investment in Agape Flights, your gift supports 375 missionary families and their ministries; reaching more than a million people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and humanitarian aid in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and the Bahamas.

Questions? Contact Carole Leman, Director of Development, Ph: 941-488-0990 or Carole.Leman@agapeflights.com

To make a gift to assist with current needs, please specify General Fund (where funds are needed most) or Aircraft Fund. To make a gift toward the current engine overhaul, please specify the "Engine Overhaul Fund," and/or "Thanksgiving 2014" to contribute to the Missionary Thanksgiving Dinner Project.



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Missionary Thanksgiving Dinner Project 2014

Let's help bring a taste of "home" to the mission field. Please consider stretching your Thanksgiving guest list to include a missionary family.

Your \$80 gift helps deliver a turkey and all the trimmings to one missionary family* in Haiti, the Bahamas or the Dominican Republic.

*The suggested donation covers the entire cost of the meal and a portion of the cost of transportation.

To Donate:

Send a check to Agape Flights (note "Thanksgiving" in the memo line), or

Make an online donation at www.agapeflights.com. Look for the "Thanksgiving" icon, and follow directions to donate.



Voting ends midnight, **Oct. 31!** The top 8 beneficiaries receive grants of \$2,000-\$10,000. Please help us spread the word, because the higher our rank, the larger our grant! Go to our website for directions on how to vote!

Rank Finalist Organization

- 1 Pilots N Paws
- 2 The Ninety-Nines
- 3 New Tribes Mission
- 4 Academy of Model Aeronautics
- 5 Mission Aviation Fellowship
- 6 Civil Air Patrol
- 7 **Agape Flights**
- 8 Missionary Flights International
- 9 Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum
- 10 Patient AirLift Services
- 11 Sun 'n Fun
- 12 Los Medicos Voladores
- 13 Whirly Girls International Fund
- 14 Angel Flight West



Thanksgiving dinners are carefully boxed by Agape volunteers and delivered by our pilots.

A big THANK YOU to our 2014 Thanksgiving Flight Sponsor, Regulator Marine, Inc.