



"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21 (NIV)



"To God be the glory, great things He has done!" We are praising the Lord for all He is doing at Agape. It is such a joy to be on the campus and to hear our Agape children laughing and playing and to sense that they are happy and joyful because they are in a place where they can just be children. They are safe. They are cared for. And they are learning how much Jesus loves them. God is good!

We are especially praising the Lord that the Page family is finally here. After a little over a year of support raising and preparation for a whole new life in Africa, Chris and Tammy and their four children arrived on August 8. We don't have the words to adequately tell you how thrilled we are to have them here.

The way they have settled in and begun to feel at home is amazing and a true blessing from the Lord. Every member of the family seems to have already realized that this is where they belong.



Sutton Page

Their children are a delight. Sutton (who will be 10 in October) loves being on the Agape campus and playing with the boys. Connor, their eldest daughter (just had her ninth birthday), already has a couple of special girlfriends she hangs out with. They are daughters of two of our Agape staff. Seth (five) has more energy than you can imagine and is a charmer. All of the girls love Seth. Lyla (about to be three) is a blond-headed pixy who can charm your socks off. Needless to say, we have been captivated by them.



Connor Page

The Pages moved into the apartment on the Milimani compound while the house they are renting could be painted and while they shopped for appliances, furniture, and all the other things they need to set up their home here in Kenya. As we write this newsletter, they are waiting for delivery of their refrigerator. Unfortunately, their stove may take a few days more. (This is Africa...delays are a normal part of life here!)

Until the Pages move into their new place, we are living in the "dorm" room downstairs. It is a nice, cozy place for us with a little kitchenette in the corner (sink, stove, refrigerator, and all important microwave), a nice bathroom with shower, and a view into our tree shaded backyard from a large window. We are grateful to the Lord for all of the blessings He has so generously provided for us.



Seth Page with friends Rachel and Kenya Grace



Lyla Page

In addition to getting their place ready, Chris and Tammy have jumped right in on the ministry side. They are attending our Management Team meetings getting caught up on all that is happening with Agape and are already constructively contributing their thoughts and observations. Chris has also been leading some of our devotion and praise and worship times with the boys. We know that as they settle in and as they assume more and more of the responsibilities of leading the ministry on the Kisumu campus, that they will have an enormous impact on the spiritual lives of the boys and of our staff. We are very excited about

how the Lord is going to use them over the months and years to come.

September will be another busy month for us. We continue to work diligently on the many facilities projects on the campus. Our container based shop and crafts building is nearly complete. A new coat of paint on the containers has them looking, as the Kenyans would say, "very smart." Hallways into the dorms have also been painted.

The floor in our new dining hall is still not finished, but is progressing (painfully slowly, but once again, this is Africa!).

We've even experimented with making a concrete table with the goal of providing a nice place for the boys to play table games (checkers is a favorite) or do their homework while at the same time making it as indestructible as possible. It is unbelievable how quickly 90 boys can destroy almost anything. Not purposefully, but just by being boys!

Steve and Betty Bishop are arriving the first of the month to take up overseeing operations at The Farm for the next three months. They will spend a week or so with us before they travel to Matoso. We thank the Lord for their willingness to serve in rotation with Don and Hughena Brenneman, allowing us to keep our vocational training center going.

Steve and Dianne Warn will be returning early this month after a six-month leave in the States. It will be nice to have them back. Dianne will focus much of her attention on supplementing and enhancing the curriculum in our first through third grade Primary School classes as well as continuing her work with our Orientation and Foundations classes. Steve will spend the majority of his time doing what he does best, mentoring and discipling our boys individually and in small groups. We are looking forward to seeing their gifts and talents impacting the lives of our Agape children.

From September 17 to the 25, Paul Bahn and Bob Rosenbaum will be visiting us. For the first few days, they will be working on a video project for LifeWind International in the village on Maseno, not far north of Kisumu. After that, they will be filming for Agape. There is a great deal that has changed since the last time



Paul shot any footage for Agape. It will be good to have new footage for our website and to show to individuals, churches, and groups interested in the ministry.

Ashley Davis, one of the young people who was a member of the last team from Shelter Cove Community Church, will also be arriving in September. She will be with us until early November and will be helping with work in the office, on the computer, and on some of our facility projects as well.

Thank you for your prayers and your faithful financial support. We are working hard, but are still having the time of our lives. Thank you for making it possible.

We love you. Blessings to you,

Blake & Esther Gibbs

We are praising the Lord for:

- The Page family's safe arrival
- How well the boys are doing
- Our wonderful Kenyan staff
- The progress that has been made on our many facilities projects

Please be praying with us for:

- The Lord's continued hand on the Page family as they settle in and move into their new home
- The Kjeldgaard family as they raise support and begin preparing to come to Kenya in December and for their on-going ministry with Agape as they return to the States at the end of next year.
- Successful completion of our many facilities projects (especially the dining hall floor!)
- Agape's growing financial needs

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