



“...Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him...”  
Jeremiah 17:7 (NIV)



reintegrated, day students and community students attending our Primary School, children who have graduated from our program, and a few who have come into our program but who have run back to the streets.

Time is passing rapidly for us here. When you receive this newsletter we will only have about six weeks before we head back to the States. We are looking forward to seeing friends and family, but it is difficult for us to leave. There is so much more to be done!

We are grateful to the Lord for his care and protection and for His generous mercy in keeping us well and healthy.



September brought more visitors. Ashley Davis, a young lady from Modesto who was a member of the Shelter Cove work team in June, is with us. Our boys love her. In addition to playing and interacting with our boys, she is very

involved in gathering and coordinating information about our children as we continue building our new computer database and really begin utilizing it as a management tool and as a means of better coordinating our efforts to help the children.

Special thanks to Justin Bahn and David Warn who have devoted many hours to developing the database system. A great deal has been accomplished, but much more remains to be done. For any of you who have been through the process of trying to convert hundreds of paper files into neat, orderly, accurate computer files, you know it is a mammoth task. Esther, Ashley, Dianne, Chris, and our entire office staff here in Kisumu are working diligently to make it all come together. Since we began inputting data into our system a little over two years ago, we have dealt with more than 700 children. These include boys living at Agape, children who have been



Pouring concrete

We've also pressed Ashley into service with some of our work projects as well. Most recently, that meant helping us pour a concrete slab to support water storage tanks for our rain water collection system. Thanks to a number of donors and the generosity

of one particular supporter, we have the funds to complete the system and are working very hard to get it finished. When finished, we will be able to capture up to 25,000 liters of rain water to use for watering our garden and for our boys to wash their clothes and bathe.

Paul Bahn and Bob Rosenbaum have also been here. They have donated a week of their time to shoot video footage of Agape. They were able to film boys on the streets, our ministry to children at the Remand Center, activities on our main campus, our Agape Primary



School, and a day with two members of our Reintegration Team as they conducted follow-up visits with some of our reintegrated boys and girls. While we may not be able to do so immediately, our plan is to have Paul edit the footage so we can have various clips available on our Agape website.



Our new Dining Hall and Kitchen Project is moving forward. The saga of the floor seems to be mercifully coming to an end. Hopefully by the time you read this newsletter, the terrazzo floor will be completed. (It hasn't turned out as well as we would have liked aesthetically, but we are grateful the Lord has provided us with a smooth, hard, cleanable surface that should serve us well for a long time.) Thanks, again, to generous donors, we have been able to order our new stainless steel kitchen equipment. We are very excited about it. It will be wonderful to have durable, long lasting equipment we can keep sanitary for food preparation. God is good!

We have some sad news to share. Agape had sent one of our older boys, a young man really, named Maurice, to teaching college. He successfully graduated and had been working as a teacher for some time. Unfortunately he became very ill and his family took him to his rural home for treatment with traditional medicine. However, his condition worsened and he was brought to Agape by his father. His was critical. We immediately took him to the Provincial Hospital. However, three days later, Maurice passed away. It is difficult to accept that a young man with such promise could be taken away so quickly and probably so needlessly if he had been taken to the hospital sooner. But the Lord is in charge and we rest in the knowledge that He does all things well, even when we don't necessarily understand His plans and purpose.



Agape Church Service

The happy news continues to be the Page family. It is wonderful to have them here. It is particularly

gratifying for us to see Chris moving into his position of leadership so well. The Lord has truly prepared and gifted Chris and Tammy for ministry with Agape. We are grateful to Him for that and are excited about how the Pages will impact Agape's future growth and ministry.

It is difficult for us to adequately communicate the privilege we consider it to be to be here and to be serving the Lord through Agape. Each day brings new challenges, new opportunities, new things to learn, and new children to help. We are grateful to the Lord for the joy of being here. Thank you for your prayers and your faithful financial support. They make it possible for us be here and to experience the joy we have in serving Jesus.

Bless you,

*Blake & Esther Gibbs*

**Praise Reports**—We are grateful to the Lord for:

- Bringing the Page family to Agape
- Providing funding for our many projects
- How well our boys are doing
- Our talented, dedicated national staff

**Prayer Requests**—Please pray with us for the Lord to:

- Meet Agape's growing General Fund financial needs (to pay salaries for our national staff, food and clothing for our boys, medical care, operation of our school, and so much more)
- Help us complete our Dining Hall and Kitchen project (before we return to the States)
- Monthly financial support for the Kjeldgaard family as they join Agape on a full-time basis and head for Kenya in December

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