

WE'RE BACK! We started to say we're "home," but having spent 14 of the last 17 months in Africa, the exact location of "home" has blurred a little. The old saying that "home is where the heart is" is very true for us. "Home" is here in America because it is where our dear family and friends are. Our children and grandchildren are here. It is the land of our birth, the land we love. Our hearts are always here.



children, their spouses, and all five of our grandchildren will be celebrating Christmas together here in Modesto. Thank you for that special gift, Lord!

There is a great deal going on with Agape as we settle in here. Plans and budgets for next year need to be finalized. We will have an Agape Board meeting the beginning of the month. We appreciate the dedicated Board members the Lord has provided for Agape. They have all been to Agape in Kenya, so they know and understand firsthand what Agape is all about. They are committed to the Lord and to missions. We are grateful for their hearts for Agape and for the wisdom, insight, and perspective they bring to the ministry.

But our hearts are in Kenya, too. Because the Lord has called us there. Because we love the children the Lord has placed in Agape's care. Because we love and enjoy our Kenyan staff and our missionary friends there. Because the Lord has given us the overwhelming joy and privilege of being missionaries, of doing something with meaning and worth, of making a difference, we are grateful to Him for that!

From Kenya, we arrived via London, in Los Angeles on November 14 and got to spend a number of days and nights with our son, Tyler, his wonderful wife, Kris, and their two children, Connor and Ireland. We even got to enjoy one of Ireland's soccer matches.



We hope to see and get caught up with as many of you as possible in the limited time we will be here. We haven't set the precise dates, but we anticipate returning to Kenya in mid-February and expect to stay there until sometime in July.

In Kenya, things are moving forward during our absence. We received an update from Chris Page this morning. We have 95 boys living on our campus and approximately 30 of those will be reintegrated during the December school break. We are very excited about this because not only is it better for the 30 boys to be with their families or extended families, but their departure will open up beds for many more boys to come in off the streets over the course of the next several weeks.

On Sunday, November 20, we rented a car and drove to Modesto, arriving in time to join our daughter, Kristin, and her husband, Jon, and their three kids, Davy, Raegan, and Kendall, for a game day at Shelter Cove Community Church. What a joy to see them all.

We are looking forward to spending as much time as we can getting caught up with friends and enjoying being with family for the holidays. Both of our

Many of our work projects are continuing while we are away. Steve Warn already has a crew working to remodel the old kitchen on the main campus,



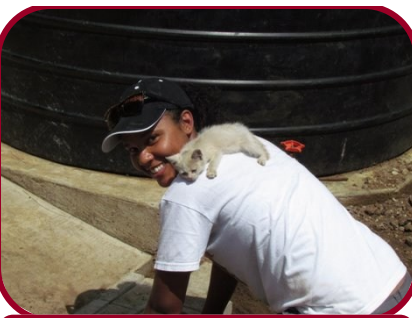
Lunch in the new dining hall

Thank you to all of you who have prayed for us, encouraged us, and supported us with your finances. We are grateful to you and to the Lord for you. We wish you and your loved ones a very special Christmas. May you experience Christ's love and peace and forgiveness in greater measure than ever before.

We love you,  
*Blake & Esther Gibbs*

converting it into badly needed office space for our Reintegration Team.

Eric and Lisa Kjeldgaard and their eight children are busily preparing for their departure for Kisumu. Please pray for them. We are asking the Lord to take care of all the logistical issues involved in moving 10 people half way around the world for a year. Please join us in praying He will give them traveling mercies all the way to their Agape home and they will settle in well and quickly when they arrive in mid-December.



Ashley Davis and friend

As we look back on the year, we are grateful for all of those who visited us in Kenya. (During this past six months, there were only two days when we didn't have at least one visitor, frequently two or three, and as many as 19.) It was a joy to have each one of you with us. Thanks for your help and encouragement and for loving our Agape kids. We hope you'll come again.



Fish pond on The Farm



Release of 1,000 tilapia fingerlings



**They have arrived!** Agape's 2012 calendars are here! These beautiful 12-month calendars feature the transformation the Lord brings about when boys come off the street, and begin to accept Christ's love for them as they make their home at Agape. Agape is using the calendars to raise funds for the ministry; they cost just \$10 per calendar. If you would like to order your calendar, please indicate on the response card how many you would like to receive and Agape will promptly mail the calendar(s) to you \*Due to IRS regulations, the purchase of a calendar is not tax-deductible.\*

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# Agape's 2012 Calendar!



**Agape**  
*Children's Ministry*

**Mailing Address:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Calendars (\$10.00 each)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Calendars x \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Type**

Cash

Check Please make checks payable to:

**Agape Children's Ministry**  
PO Box 5062  
Modesto, CA 95352-5062

Credit Card

Visa     Mastercard

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ V Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ministry Support for:** General \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Kitanda Project \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Partners for Hope \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Steve & Betty Bishop \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Blake & Esther Gibbs \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Eric & Lisa Kjeldgaard \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Chris & Tammy Page \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Steve & Dianne Warn \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_**Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_**Payment Type:** Check Money Order

Please make payable to:

Agape Children's Ministry

PO Box 5062

Modesto, CA 95352-5062

 Credit Card Visa     MastercardSee reverse for Credit Card Information  
or to set up Automatic Payments.*Can we pray for you? Please use the  
back of this form for requests.***Mailing Address:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Automatic Bank Debit (ACH)

Bank Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Transit/ABA No. \_\_\_\_\_ Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Please deduct \$ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly on 5th / 20th (circle one) Effective date: \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) hereby authorize Agape Children's Ministry to initiate charges and to initiate, if necessary, adjustment entries for any errors to my (our) card/bank account listed here. This authority is to remain in full force and effect until Agape Children's Ministry has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford Agape Children's Ministry and me (us) a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

## Credit/Debit Card Authorization

Visa  Mastercard

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ V Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please deduct a one time gift of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please deduct:** \_\_\_\_\_ **monthly**

**Recurrence:**

Monthly on the 5th or 20th (circle one)

For \_\_\_\_\_ months

Until I contact you to discontinue

**Effective date:** \_\_\_\_\_