

AGAPE CENTER NRV

AUGUST 2021



SCRIPTURE FOCUS

2 Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

DIRECTOR'S MINUTE - SERVANTHOOD

This, however is not the way it shall be among you. If one of you wants to be great, he must be a servant to the rest; and if one of you wants to be first, he must be your slave - like the Son of man, who did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life to redeem many people. Matthew 20:26-28

The very heart of the Agape Center ministry is "servanthood." Jesus said that we should love our neighbors just as we love ourselves. It's a good thing to develop a loving attitude towards others, but Jesus didn't stop there. He showed that love is more than an attitude it's an action. We don't come as "experts" with all the answers. We come as Christians - the family of Christ, who love even the unlovable. We love not because we are so great, but because Christ is! Agape is God's gift of love and through our service to others we have the opportunity to share Christ's unconditional love with a broken world.

Kim Bowman, Executive Director

PRAYER MINISTRY

Please join us in prayer.

- Pray that God would provide a building for the Agape Center, a place to house all of our various ministries in one location.

- Pray for refreshment and renewal for all of our leaders and volunteers.

- Pray that our clients and volunteers who don't yet follow Jesus, would understand the gospel and know the love of Christ.

MEMBER CHURCHES

Blacksburg First Church of God

Cambria Baptist Church

Christian Growth Center, Inc.

Dwelling Place Christian Fellowship

Hope Valley Church

New Life Christian Fellowship

New River Fellowship

The Bridge

The River Anglican Church

Tried Stone Christian Center

Victory Restoration Center



VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

FREDRICK QUINLAN



After a life crisis and divorce, Fredrick Quinlan found himself homeless. His situation led him to seek food from local soup kitchens and food banks. In 2018, Fredrick had a personal encounter with Christ. That's when things began to change! Fredrick shared his testimony at a Feeding America event hosted by his church. After that he realized that he could volunteer and thought that it was something he would love to do. Fredrick started volunteering at Park View Missions in Lynchburg, that's where God developed his heart to serve. God showed him that he could give to others what had freely been given to him. Fredrick has been volunteering at food banks ever since. He has been an important part of our volunteer team at Agape Center NRV from day one.

In his spare time, Fredrick loves working with discarded scrap pieces of granite and marble. His favorite pieces are crosses, hands and hearts, as they are a reflection of God's love for us.

Fredrick has also remarried and shares a home with his wife Mary and his stepson Grant, who also volunteer alongside him. Thank God for redeeming broken lives! He turns our tragedy into triumph when we surrender our lives to Him. We are so grateful for Fredrick, not only does he serve faithfully, he does it with so much joy!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Chosen Community Hour

New River Fellowship, Fridays, August 6 – August 27, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

We are super excited to announce our first "Community Hour" at Agape Center NRV!

We invite you to bring a friend and come join us for some light refreshments and casual conversation while we watch Season 1, Episode 2 of the highly acclaimed series "The Chosen" that everyone is raving about. Come see what all the buzz is about. You can see episode two Fridays from 3:30-4:30PM starting Aug 6-Aug 27. Episode 3 will follow in September. We hope that you will come out and join us.



Thank you!

NORTHSTAR'S YOUTH



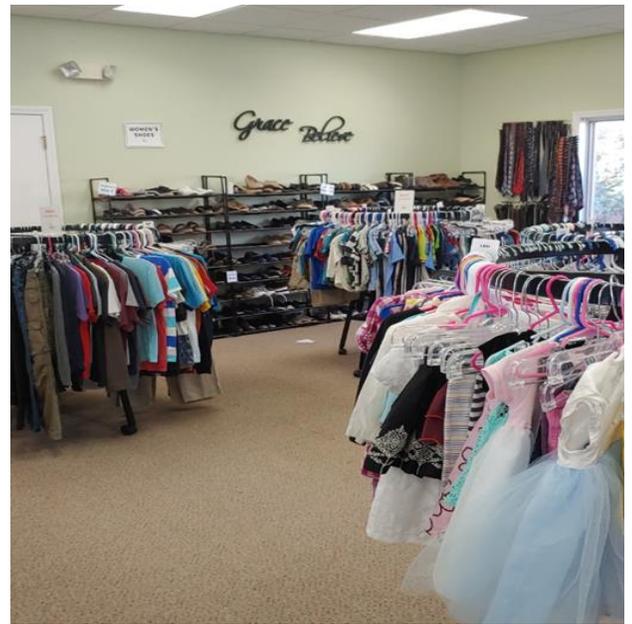
Christmas bulbs made by some Northstar Youth



Northstar Youth working on our Angel Tree Christmas Program art work

AGAPE CLOTHING MINISTRY

We had another successful Clothing Ministry Open Day on Saturday, July 24th. We were able to serve 143 people (85 Adults and 58 Children). While I wasn't able to talk with each person that came to find clothing for their family, I did get to help quite a few and also was able to talk and minister with some at length. This is what is special about helping supply needs for others, God allows those special appointments that we are able to reach out to a few as they are being blessed. It is so wonderful to hear how grateful they are that we are able to give them a blessing of clothes to help them feel good about themselves and also see their children blessed. So many said thank you to us for having this available. We take so much for granted, and to see them rejoice over a pair of shoes, the perfect color shirt or blouse, it just warms you all over to see how much God cares about the right color, the right size, that perfect something that was just waiting for them.



Just a short story --we had two mothers come in toward the end of the opening. One mom has five children and one has four. They both came in and immediately went to the children's section looking for things for their children. Because things had slowed down, they had some time to go to the adult section and look. God just blessed their socks off with some clothes – not only used ones, but new items. Talking about the ever present, overwhelming love of God --I thought I I I was going to "Raise a Hallelujah" right there. It was very humbling that they weren't even thinking of themselves and didn't want to take too many items.

Thank you God for the opportunity to be your hands and feet while we are doing life with others and also glorifying Him in the NRV.

Linda Bland, Agape Clothing Ministry

FOOD DRIVES AND DONATIONS

Virginia Tech - 188 pounds of fresh eggs
The Glean Team - 880 pounds of fresh squash and cucumbers
Newman Catholic Ministry- 147 pounds of sandwiches
Joe and Mike Frazier- 472 pounds of head lettuce



FOOD PANTRY REPORT

MONTH OF JULY 2021

	Pounds of food
Agency Partner Pickups	2,530
Food Drives	<u>2,853</u>
Total	5,383

Families Served	96
Clients Served	265

Year to Date 2021 Jan 1 - July 26

Agency Partner Pickups	31,878
Food Drives	<u>12,461</u>
Total	44,339

Families Served	807
Clients Served	2245

MEMBER CHURCH HIGHLIGHT – NEW RIVER FELLOWSHIP



With great joy, the congregation and leadership of New River Fellowship welcomes our new pastor, Jordan Secrist, his wife Abigail and their children, Charlotte Jean and Jeffrey Emerson.

In Jordan's own words: "God has taught us a lot about the value of family (both our biological and our church / extended families, too). We do a lot of things together: hiking / exploring, rooting for VT, eating ice cream, playing games, drinking coffee (just Abigail on that one, though): but we try to do as much as we can with our family. The language of family is used all throughout scripture to describe our relationship with God and one another, so we've tried to integrate our little family and our church family into our daily lives and walks of faith as much as possible."

So we look forward to Jordan and his family being part of the New River Fellowship family for many, many years to come.