

# THE AGAPIAN

June 2013 — Agape Church of the Brethren

## Our Challenge to Discern & Commit

The German theologian, Karl Barth, wrote in his book *The Christian Life*, about a problem that can confront the church. He called it the “church in defect.” Of it he wrote, **“The church in defect is the church which looks anxiously to its Lord but even more anxiously to everything else...it is distracted and therefore the chattering church”** (Eedmans, pp. 137-39).

His words present a **sharp challenge to Christians** in our ever more complex world. There are now so many “other things” that can command our attention besides the work of the Lord: the internet and its electronic revolution, the overwhelming variety of amusements and special interests available, the economic and political realities of our day, our own personal struggles for staying afloat.

**All of these things, and others I have not mentioned, can press constantly upon us.** In the midst of such a discordant clamor, the “still small voice” of God can too often be missed. The result, though unintended, is distressing: in our personal lives it’s the danger of **drifting from our faith**, and

**collectively it’s the specter of the “church in defect,”** as

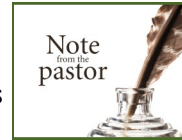
Barth put it.

**The challenge for us as Christians is to combat the phenomenon by endeavoring to reduce the clamor in our lives.** We simply must not allow every distraction to capture our attention. We must discern, and sort out, the voices that count, verses the voices that simply make noise.

Such a process requires **steady commitment**, for the noisy voices are numerous and persistent. But if we will give ourselves sincerely to the effort, we can have **hope of maintaining a more consistent Christian focus in our personal lives**, and of **facilitating a stronger focus in the church on God’s kingdom and his righteousness** (Matt 6:33). How much better that sounds than being reduced to a “distracted” and “chattering” church! Don’t you think?

*Think about it!*

*-Pastor Jeff*



### Inside this issue:

Agape Juniors	2
Free Garage Sale	2
Quiet Corner	2
Free Garage Sale Update	2
Sunday School	2
Camp Mack Corner	2
Cook’s Corner	3
Agape Youth Update	4
Graduates Article	5
June Calendar	6
June Birthdays/Anniversaries	7
Senior Moments	8
VBS!	8

## The Agape Grounds Shine

Thanks to the following people we have fresh mulch and newly lined parking lot: Tania F. Rhonda H., Dale A., Nick F. Ron S., Randee R., Jim W., Dean M., and Jack G.. Also thanks to anonymous people for making our windows shine. **It takes all of us to keep our church looking good.**



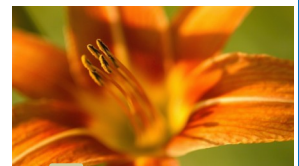
### Village at Winona Getaway

The annual women's getaway at the Village at Winona will be **May 31 - June 1**. We'll have a sleepover on Friday night at the Robison's lake home, Peg will make breakfast on Saturday morning, and then we can shop and visit the Art Fair in the Village at Winona.

(Hours for the Art Fair are 10:00am to 6:00pm on Saturday.) Call Peg Robison if planning to stay overnight or come up!

Visit Agape online at

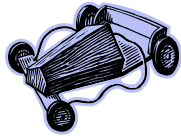
[www.agapechurchfw.org](http://www.agapechurchfw.org)



# June

## Agape Juniors

Let's meet at **8:00 a.m.** at Cindy's Diner for 'Garbage' on **June 15**. Space is limited, so we will dine at the outside tables.



Last year we had so much fun playing Putt-Putt and racing go-karts that it is worth repeating. We'll meet at **7:00** at Putt-Putt and follow our games with fellowship at Arby's.

Again we have tickets for \$2.00 each. **This is open to all Agape family and friends.**

## Free Garage Sale 2013 - Success!

An idea at a nurture group gathering 3 years ago as a way to de-clutter our lives has again successfully enriched the lives of many. Those of us who donated things we no longer needed should find some empty space to enjoy (or fill up again) in our homes. Those who came and carried

out the treasures that filled our fellowship hall found usable items to use or wear.



Those who donated to our Food Bank Collection Jar gave to help feed others. Those who will come to the food bank in the next few weeks will find more on the shelves. Everybody is a winner in this endeavor, and we thank those who participated in any way.

The following individuals helped in some way during the past week, and a "\*" means they were working multiple days.

*Connie C.	*Becky F.	Joan S.
*Ann P.	Lynn S.	Mary Jo W.
*Chuck M.	*Rhonda H.	Martha Jane R.
*Becky M.	Ron S.	Vicki W.
*Beth G.	*Diana S.	and Doug W., Kaleb W., and Joel B. who carried food in or out.
*Jack G.	Peg R.	
*Rick F.	*Gene W.	

## The Quiet Corner



Mark your calendars for

**Saturday, July 13** when the ladies will travel north of Churubusco to the **Quiet Corner** for a morning of relaxing, eating, and visiting. We will meet there at **10 a.m.**, and if some would like to carpool from the church or from the Morris/Welch homes let us know. Look for a sign-up sheet mid-June so we know who's planning to go.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9 AM

Join those of us who get the **most** out of our Sunday mornings by getting to church for **Sunday School time**. There are classes offered for **all ages**, and we thank those who have taken the responsibility for leading and preparing a lesson each week.

- \* **Children's class:** Ages 3-grade 5 - Joyce Musser and helpers when needed
- \* **Youth class:** Becky Morris and Peg Robison
- \* **Overflow Room Class:** Studying the book *Vertical Church*
- \* **Left Side Fellowship Hall Class:** Gene Wort leading a study of articles in the *Messenger* magazine.
- \* **Right Side Fellowship Hall Class:** Mary Ebert and Char Schafer leading a study of *Women of the Bible*, using a quilt block each week representing one of them.

**New people are welcome to all the classes!**

## Camp Mack Corner:

### Highlights

Camp Mack needs **support staff volunteers** and **camp counselors** -

visit the website (<http://www.campmack.org>) for more information and for an application.

- \* The summer theme is "God Makes All Things New"
- \* Save the date for the **October 5 Camp Mack Festival!** If you want to **donate items for auction** on behalf of Agape, contact Kendra M. and she will forward you the information she has!

If you'd like the **full version of Camp Mack Corner**, ask Kendra M.!



Happy Fathers Day

## COOK'S CORNER

By: Joyce Musser

### Winning Broccoli-Cheese Soup, Recipe from Kendra Morris

The recipe was one I saw on America's Test Kitchen's PBS show, and I wanted to make it because I love broccoli and I also love cheese! I was interested in making that broccoli cheese soup particularly because it was healthier than other broccoli cheese soup recipes I've tried. It has a nice, nutty flavor with a hint of cheese - and it's bright green! Here's the recipe, copied from their website. *I made it in a stock pot instead of a Dutch oven with no problems, and if anyone is interested in making the soup, I think the key is getting the broccoli so soft it's almost mashable with a fork. (Interested persons can watch a video of the chefs making the soup on America's Test Kitchen's website by signing up for a free account.)*

#### Dad

by Karen K. Boyer

He never looks for praises  
He's never one to boast  
He just goes on quietly working  
For those he loves the most  
His dreams are seldom spoken  
His wants are very few  
And most of the time his worries  
Will go unspoken too  
He's there.... A firm foundation  
Through all our storms of life  
A sturdy hand to hold to  
In times of stress and strife  
A true friend we can turn to  
When times are good or bad  
One of our greatest blessings,  
The man that we call Dad.



#### Broccoli-Cheese Soup (From America's Test Kitchen Season 12)

##### Serves 6 to 8

To make a vegetarian version of this soup, substitute vegetable broth for the chicken broth.

##### INGREDIENTS

Pinch cayenne pepper	Ground black pepper to taste
1 teaspoon table salt	2 tablespoons unsalted butter
3-4 cups water	2 pounds broccoli, florets roughly chopped into 1-inch pieces, stems trimmed, peeled, and cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices
1/4 teaspoon baking soda	1 medium onion, roughly chopped (about 1 cup)
2 cups low-sodium chicken broth (see note)	2 medium garlic cloves, minced or pressed through garlic press (about 2 teaspoons)
2 ounces baby spinach (2 loosely packed cups)	1 1/2 teaspoons dry mustard powder
3 ounces sharp cheddar cheese, shredded (3/4 cup)	
1 1/2 ounces Parmesan cheese, grated fine (about 3/4 cup), plus extra for serving	

##### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Heat butter in large Dutch oven over medium-high heat. When foaming subsides, add broccoli, onion, garlic, dry mustard, cayenne, and 1 teaspoon salt. Cook, stirring frequently, until fragrant, about 6 minutes. Add 1 cup water and baking soda. Bring to simmer, cover, and cook until broccoli is very soft, about 20 minutes, stirring once during cooking.
2. Add broth and 2 cups water and increase heat to medium-high. When mixture begins to simmer, stir in spinach and cook until wilted, about 1 minute. Transfer half of soup to blender, add cheddar and Parmesan, and process until smooth, about 1 minute. Transfer soup to medium bowl and repeat with remaining soup. Return soup to Dutch oven, place over medium heat and bring to simmer. Adjust consistency of soup with up to 1 cup water. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve, passing extra Parmesan separately.

# Agape Youth Update

Thank you, to all of you that stayed for rotini pasta luncheon on May 5<sup>th</sup>. I heard many very positive comments about the lunch. Thanks to all that contributed by making, baking, serving, and cleaning. Many hands make big jobs seem so simple.

We will continue to collect monies towards our National Youth Conference (NYC) goal. These monies will come from luncheons after church, aluminum recycling (BRING IN YOUR ALUMINUM CANS, ink cartridge recycling (WE HAVE FOUND A DIFFERENT PLACE AND WILL GET A BETTER PRICE FOR THE CARTRIDGES...SOOOOOO...BRING IN THOSE USED CARTRIDGES) AND buy pop in the kitchen refrigerator. PLEASE don't forget about buying Scrips... what an easy way to help the youth fund and really not pay any more than you would be spending anyway in any of the many, many businesses or restaurants. If you have a few odd jobs you think the youth group could handle...please let Rick Flickinger know about them.

The discussion topics for the last month been on facing hard questions, self-esteem, cussing, and possessions. What GREAT topics!

Several individuals have asked about our Rada knife sales. We are willing to place another order as long as we meet the minimum that we must include in an order. If you are interested in any of the Rada items, knives, kitchen utensils, soups, dips, sauces, candles, etc,... if you have an interest in ordering additional items, PLEASE let Rick Flickinger know and we can get an order together. There are catalogs on the counter in the kitchen. I need the orders ASAP.

**June 11 and the rest of the summer, the youth are changing their meeting place to Rick's place. We will still meet at 6:28 but will end closer to 8:00.**

Thank you so much for supporting the youth group.

NYC HERE  
WE COME!

\$8,000.00

Our goal

**We have approx. \$4,700 now!**

THANK  
YOU!

The youth group needs to reach this goal of \$8,000 by January 5, 2014:

7 months from now!

You can help:

- Buy more Scrips
- Support the youth luncheons
- Bring in all empty aluminum cans
- Bring in all empty ink cartridges
- Order more Rada supplies
- Drink more pop from the kitchen frig!
- Work projects that the youth could do
- Just donate to the youth group.

# CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

By: Joyce Musser

Life is filled with defining moments and challenges. Some are unpredictable, some are anticipated. The following young people will be celebrating their graduations soon.

**Peter Klopfenstein** will be attending Ball State University and majoring in music media production. At Snider, his main areas of study were music and mathematics. Peter's dream job would be anything where he'd get to play music.

After graduating from Leo High School, **Kayla Fox** plans to study foreign languages at IPFW for one year before moving to Ball State. She hopes to work in translations.

**Kaleb Wagner** will be studying computer engineering at IPFW. He is graduating from Garrett High School with honors.

**Sara Shipe** earned a master's degree from IPFW.

This June, **Kendra Morris** will officially receive her Masters of Science in Education in School Counseling from IPFW. She hopes to get a job as either an elementary, middle, or high school counselor in the next few months. If she doesn't get a job right away, she can always keep her job at IPFW that she has had for almost 4 years, or she'd love to get some experience working with students at Crossroads or clients at an institution like ACJC or Park Center. She feels so blessed to have Agape as her church family, and has felt that way since she started coming with Kyle 4 years ago. "The simplicity and humbleness of Jesus and his teachings are so apparent in the way Agape as a church presents itself, and I feel connected with the church's values and goals. I'm really enjoying the Sunday School class a few Agapians have started in the overflow room, and I look forward to seeing everyone at choir and Sunday worship each week. Since I've become a member, I like how I can get involved with actual decisions that the church makes, and I like being able to help out with Women's Fellowship and with the Agapian Newsletter each month!"

As you each begin this new season of your life, may you gain experience, perspective and wisdom that can help you navigate the twists and turns in the road of life ahead for you. No matter where you find yourself on this journey of life, your Agape family will be there supporting you.

CONGRATULATIONS!

# JUNE 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					Winona Lake - Women*	1 Winona Lake - Women*
2 Bread & Cup Service	3 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 4:30-7 Piano Lessons 6:30 Aerobics	4 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:28 Youth 6:30-7:30 Scouts	5 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 6 Executive Mtg 6:45-7:15 Piano Lessons 7:30 VBS Planning Mtg	6 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30 B4G 6:30 Aerobics	7 7am Men's Breakfast*	8 Mary Ebert Birthday: Agape's Pavilion
9	10 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 4:30-7 Piano Lessons 6:30 Aerobics	11 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:28 Youth* 6:30-7:30 Scouts 6:30 Craft NG*	12 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 6:45-7:15 Piano Lessons	13 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30 B4G 6:30 Aerobics	14	15 8am Agape Juniors*
16	17 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 4:30-7 Piano Lessons 6:30-8:30 VBS	18 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30-8:30 VBS 6:30-7:30 Scouts	19 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 6 Board Mtg 6:45-7:15 Piano Lessons	20 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30 B4G 6:30 Aerobics	21	22 1-4 Wagners FH
23 10-2 Greens, Agape Pa- villion	24 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 4:30-7 Piano Lessons 6:30-8:30 VBS	25 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30-8:30 VBS 6:30-7:30 Scouts	26 10 Daytime NG 2:30-5:30 Tutoring 6:45-7:15 Piano Lessons	27 4:30-7:30 Tutoring 6:30 B4G 6:30 Aerobics	28	29
30						

\* Denotes an event held outside the church. Contact the person in charge of that event for details.

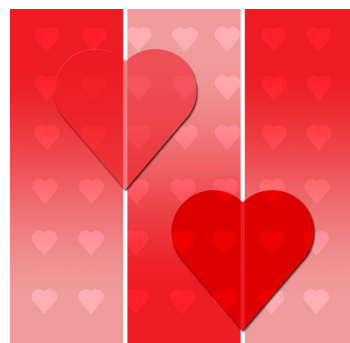
# June Birthdays

4	Dale Warner		
5	Robert Musser		
10	Shirley Anderson		
11	Mary Ebert		
11	Ryan Spurgeon		
14	Mark Welch		
19	Doug Welch	24	Gene Wort
22	Sarah Spurgeon	27	Terron McCoy
23	Janis Burroughs	28	Maura Furry
24	Yvonne Hunt	30	Betty Eriks



# June Anniversaries

1	Al & Anna Glick	
4	Ray & Becky Imhoff	
4	Dale & Jody Warner	
7	Roger & Mary Hauptert	
16	Chuck & Becky Morris	
21	Gerry & Sandy Charvat	
21	Randee & Peg Robison	
25	Rob & Melissa Robison	





Agape Church of the Brethren

11610 Lima Road

Fort Wayne, IN 46818

Phone: 260 489 6908

E-mail: [agapefort@frontier.com](mailto:agapefort@frontier.com)

*Sent to our friends at:*



**Continuing the Word of Jesus—Peacefully. Simply. Together.**

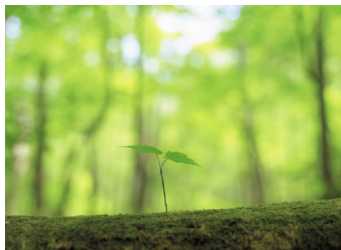
---

---

## Senior Moments

- \* The next Agape Seniors meeting is on **Tuesday, June 4 at 12:00 noon.**
- \* **Bring a side to go with sandwiches!**

## VBS: In the Beginning, God Created . . . PLANTS!



"In the Beginning, God Created. . . PLANTS" of all kinds and for all purposes. We will be exploring trees, flowers, fruits, and vegetables in our world, the Bible, and how we use them during our four night VBS, **June 17/18 & 24/25.**

Each evening will begin at **6:30** with an opening session of songs, a skit, offering for our project, and a time of sharing the theme of the evening. Children will then go to a variety of activities: stories, crafts, games, Bible activities, and snacks. Adults will remain in the sanctuary for a speaker who will share expertise in some area of our community and how it ties into our theme for the evening. Each evening will close by **8:30** with a short session for everyone back in the sanctuary.

Watch your bulletins for details as we get closer to **June 17**, watch the fellowship hall as we transform a wall, and watch the announcement board to sign up for ways you can participate. Many helpers will be needed to work with the children, we need adults to learn and share with our speakers, and we will be asking for donations of some supplies. Start now to invite friends and neighbors to join us. A flyer and registration forms will be ready soon with all the information you'll need to make these four nights a highlight of the summer.