



# WELCOME TO AGAPE THRIFT STORE & FOOD PANTRY



### Thrift Store Hours

M-F: 9-5pm  
Sat: 9-3pm  
Sun: Closed

### Donation Drop Off Hours

M-F: 9-4:30pm  
Sat: 9-2:30pm  
Sun: Closed

### Food Pantry Hours

Tue: 12:00-4:30pm  
Thu: 12:00-4:30pm



## *School is Back in Session*

The smell of fall is in the air and that means only one thing...school is back in session. We had a very successful summer here at Agape Ministries, Inc. With the generous donations by our community we purchased 150 school supply kits and were able to help our client's children with back to school supplies during the months of July and August. We did our program differently this year and it went very smoothly for all involved.

Our summer Feeding Program bags were distributed to our clients during their pantry time and we served 179 bags to feed 339 children at a cost of \$2,792.40.

## *People are Tightening Their Belts at the Stores*

We are seeing it all around us from high income to low income families. Everything consumers need is rising in cost across the board from groceries to clothes and everything in-between.

Agape Food Pantry is also seeing these results from January 2022 to August 2022 compared to January 2023 to August 2023. Households served by Agape Food Pantry is up by 294 (37%), people served is up by 723 people (34%), new families is up by 21 (18%) and pantry price of clients served is up \$38,915 (70%).

"Hunger exists in every community across our region," he said. "The hunger looks a lot like you and me, and it lives just down the street." said Mike Hochron, senior vice president of communications of Mid- Ohio Food Collective as published in the Columbus Dispatch.



## *Do You Know a Senior In Need?*

Food boxes are packed full of nutritious shelf stable food, toiletries, hygiene and cleaning supplies and delivered to seniors who are homebound the first week of every month. Agape Ministries, Inc works in collaboration with the Auglaize County Council on Aging in getting these boxes delivered to the senior's homes.

If you know a homebound senior in need who would benefit from this service, contact the Auglaize County Council on Aging at 419-394-4217.

Seniors who are not homebound and able to get out are encouraged to attend our Food Pantry here at Agape Ministries, Inc. They will receive shelf stable nutritious food, perishable items like meat, dairy and produce, hygiene and cleaning supplies.





### It's Chili Season at Agape

Cooler weather is upon us and what better way to kick it off than a nice warm bowl of chili. For the month of October we are stocking the food pantry with Chili Kits. What does this mean? It means we are on the hunt for tomato juice, onions, chili mix seasoning packets, chili starter cans, chili seasoning, saltine crackers, cheddar cheese, sour cream, etc. to give to our clients who visit our food pantry.

Should you find yourself in the grocery store picking up some items to make chili at home, please consider picking up some extras to donate to the Agape Food Pantry.



### Agape Thrift Store News

Fall is in the air, the kids are back in school, and "Friday Night Lights" are lighting up the skies once again. Stop in and check out our selection of team sports apparel featuring: area schools, OSU and NFL, along with jewelry to match it all!

Fall décor and warmer clothing has also hit the sales floor, and Halloween will be added soon.

After Labor Day, begins our Agape "Gold" Rush Event, where we will be featuring all of our gold tone jewelry along with a few pieces of real gold.

Watch our Facebook page for updates and featured items!

### August Shout Outs

- Thank you Auglaize County Junior Fair Board for hosting a "Stock the Trailer" food drive during the fair and donating 554 lbs. of food to us.
- Thank you Classic Delight for your donation of over 23,000 breakfast sandwiches.
- Thank you Rotary-St. Marys for you annual donation of pork to the Food Pantry.
- Thank you Holy Redeemer for your donation of bulk food to the Food Pantry.
- Thank you Auglaize County Job & Family Services for your generous new underwear donation for our Slumber Fun Program.
- **At the food pantry, we see first hand the issue of hunger in western Auglaize county and the compassion our community has to help others. We thank every business, family and individual who donates time, food or money to the food pantry or items to be sold at the thrift store to help ensure our clients have access to programs and nutritious food when they need it most.**



### August Stats

- Agape Food Pantry served **518** people in **183** households.
- Agape Summer Feeding Bags were disbursed to **103** students.
- Senior Boxes were delivered to **14** people.
- Clothing vouchers were issued to **5** people.
- Household vouchers were issued to **2** people.
- Financial Aid was disbursed for **5** people.

### Employee Spotlight



Mark

Meet Mark, retired from Honda, works part time for Agape Ministries, Inc. for Client Services as the Pantry Assistant/Driver, for the past 2 years.

Mark enjoys spending time with his family and grandchildren in his spare time.

Mark's favorite thing about working for Agape Ministries, Inc. is: "Picking up deliveries and donations for the community in need."

"not all who wonder are lost. some of us are just thrifting and looking for a shopping cart"

Thank you to all who shopped with us on August 17th , National Thrift Store Day! Our five \$10 gift card winners have been notified by phone so check your voicemail. Congratulations! We are grateful for your support of our mission.

