



Mission Engagement Team

Western North Carolina Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

<https://www.wnccumc.org/project-agape>

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North Carolina Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

<https://nccumc.org/outreach/project-agape>

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“Your positive impact on the lives of so many
is obvious everywhere we turn. All along,
you’ve been right there with them. Thank you
for your incredible support. I couldn’t be more
thankful for the caring individuals like you,
who make our work possible.”

- Nara Melkonyan



American Greater Armenian Partnership Efforts

A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT OF THE

NORTH CAROLINA

AND

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
CONFERENCES

OF

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Humanitarian Partnership: 6,000 Miles; Countless People

Project AGAPE is the collaborative effort of both United Methodist conferences in North Carolina, who have worked in cooperation with the Armenian Apostolic Church since 1993/1994, some 6,000 miles away in the Euro-Asian part of the world.

This ministry of the Western NC and North Carolina Conferences served the Kashatagh region as the sole humanitarian aid partnership licensed by the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) government. Long-standing, multi-layered conflict had prevented any other humanitarian group from working with the people of this area, until the third and the worst war in the last 30 years forced these people to become refugees for the second time in their lives.

In more than two decades of ministry, Project AGAPE has shared the love of Christ by continuing early projects and adopting new efforts for and with the people of Armenia and Artsakh. At the present, this ministry serves the displaced families of Kashatagh and in border villages.

It isn't a matter of the conferences just giving time, talents and money. Project AGAPE efforts help the people learn and grow into better lives for individuals, families and the communities.



Essential Ministry Grows

The ministry of Project AGAPE is multi-tiered:

- Humanitarian aid items are dropped off/collected from all over the state. They are sorted at the Response Center in Terrell or the MERCI Center in Goldsboro, then shipped to Yerevan in Armenia.
- The Project AGAPE Country Director coordinates the customs clearance and transportation of the items from Yerevan to the new AGAPE Center in Vayk, where they are distributed.
- We have started providing vocational training such as cosmetology, manicure, hairdressing, which are much in demand, to help the displaced families become self-supporting. This vocational program is not limited to these vocations and has a potential to be extended to other areas, like carpentry and bakery, if someone has skills and lacks appropriate tools. Monetary gifts are welcome toward this program.
- Mission building teams rebuild houses and help displaced families find hope in their new places of resettlement. At least one building team from each conference, and often more, work each year, missionally engaging the community.
- Donations help support the former Berdzor priest of the Armenian Apostolic Church who now serves in a village not far from Stepanakert, provides the AGAPE staff salaries, and pays operational costs, such as utilities, warehouse rental, insurance, office space, vehicle repairs, fuel, etc.



Participate: Take Your Pick

Humanitarian aid:

Encourage individuals, churches and groups of any size to support this WNCC and NCC United Methodist ministry of humanitarian aid for the children, women and men of Armenia. See the websites below for current information.

WNCC Mission Response Center in Terrell:
wnccumc.org/mission-response-center
NCC MERCI Center in Goldsboro
nccumc.org/outreach/project-agape/

The downloads on the sites feature current information for all of your gifts and/or donations to Project AGAPE:

- Christmas Shoe Box lists
- Current humanitarian aid needs/packing instructions
- Locations/dates/hours for drop-off/collection points

Other ways to contribute:

- Contribute on Project AGAPE Sunday and/or any time of the year through your local church or mail to the conference of your choice (back panel). One-time or regular monetary gifts are welcome all year round.
- Fellowship of 1000: Donate \$100 per year. 1,000 gifts total \$100,000 toward prior budget shortages and making all Project AGAPE operations a reality.
- Families will be provided again with animals through the Agricultural Development Project, getting cattle and chickens, along with tools for gardening. Monetary gifts are welcome for this project.



Project AGAPE Gathers, Gives

Don't know what humanitarian aid is needed and/or being accepted for Project AGAPE? The list below offers suggestions.

Bedding (new/used)	Household Items
Clothing (new/used)	Infant Items
Clothing Accessories	Kitchen wares
Carpentry Tools	Office Supplies
Coats (new/used)	School Supplies
Children's Christmas Boxes	Shewing Supplies
Health/Hygiene Items	Shoes (new only)
Uniforms	Toys (new only)

Helpful Tips:

- Recommended box size for humanitarian aids 16" X 12" X 12" as they can be reused as part of a shipment (**not** Christmas boxes -see individual website for Christmas box instructions)
- List the contents on the outside of the box.
- Pack the boxes as full and tight as possible.
- If possible, avoid using plastic bags.

No longer accepted for Project AGAPE:

- Food (including candy and gum)
- Medicines
- Electrical items and large appliances
- Any items with batteries included
- Clothing that is worn, torn, or dirty
- Anything that is broken or needs repair

See the conference websites for current information.

