

The Agapé Center: *who we are*



CHAD FREY

Director of the Agapé Center for Service and Learning
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CELEBRATING EIGHT YEARS OF SERVICE

Reflections from the Director

Since its inception in 1909, service and learning has been central to the institutional vocation of Messiah College. During the first decade of the College's history a group of students began serving in the community under the leadership of C.N. Hostetter Jr. Among other things, they raised funds for the financial and medical needs of local families. Historically, the College has observed a campus-wide Service Day whereby classes were suspended in order for students, faculty, and administration to work together on major campus maintenance and beautification projects. Over the years, service as a theme was embraced by Messiah administrators at the highest levels. By 1991 Messiah's first part-time Director of Service-Learning was appointed and only a few years later, President Rodney Sawatsky dedicated the newly-renovated Agapé Center for Service and Learning. Since that time, the Agapé Center has been a catalyst for local, national, and international service and learning. On June 1–3, 2006, under the leadership of John Eby, Messiah College hosted the fourth Biennial National Faith-Based Service-Learning Conference for educators with more than 150 faculty and administrators attending from across the country. This past year, our own students propelled Messiah College onto the national and international stage by hosting the International Rural Development Conference in February 2007. At the state level, students like Amanda Arbor were recognized by Campus Compact as being among the best and brightest emerging service-learning scholars in Pennsylvania. At the local level, hundreds of students were sent in regular service to the greater Harrisburg area. I consider it a privilege to continue this legacy of service at Messiah College with students, faculty, and community partners as we build upon our distinctives of excellence, hospitality, engagement, and hope.

Sincerely,



Chad Frey
Director of the Agapé Center for Service and Learning

MISSION STATEMENT

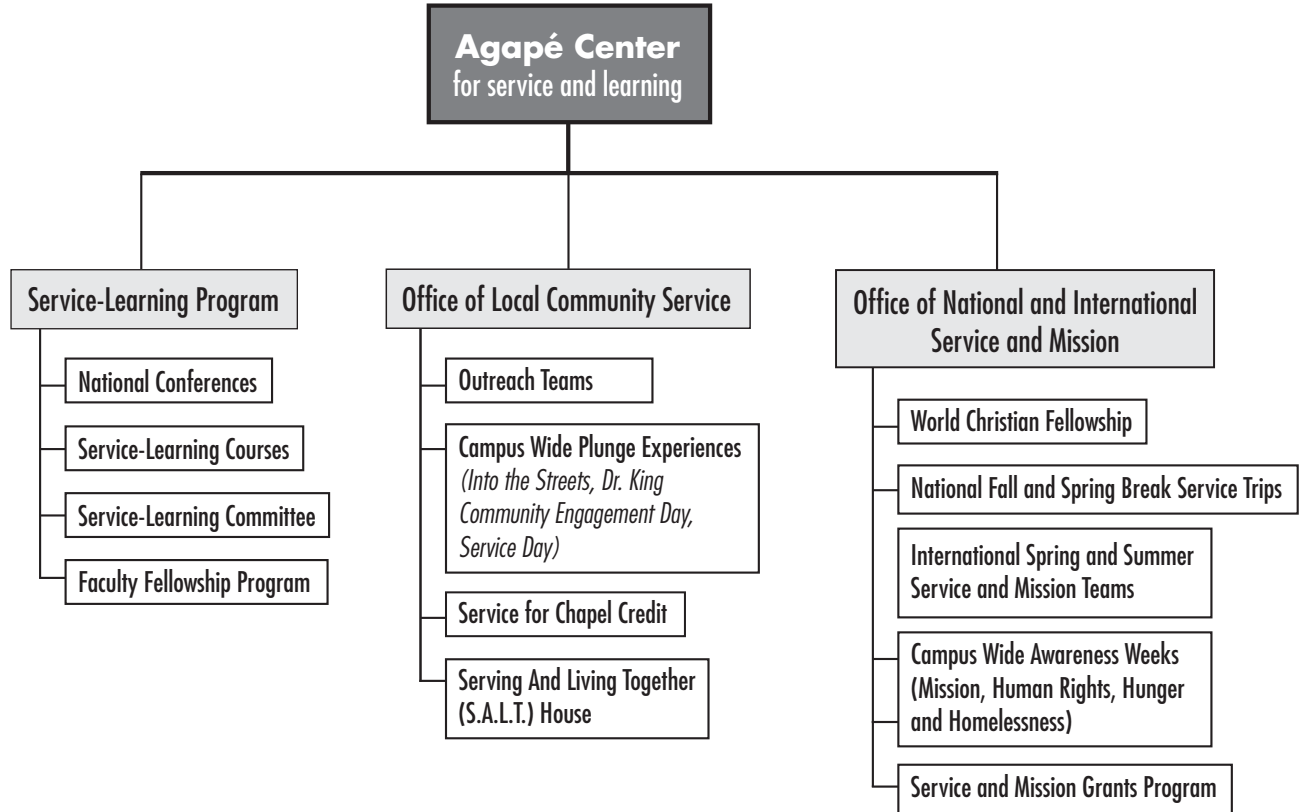
The Agapé Center for Service and Learning develops, administers, facilitates, and coordinates programs of service-learning, community service, and mission, contributing to the mission of Messiah College to “educate men and women toward maturity of intellect, character, and Christian faith in preparation for lives of service, leadership, and reconciliation in church and society.” Students, faculty, and staff work with community-based partners in local, national, and international settings to address community needs, to provide holistic learning opportunities for students, and to encourage students toward an ethic of discipleship, service, and civic engagement.

Excellence • Hospitality • Engagement • Hope

2006–2007 Agapé Center Highlights

- Coordinated Messiah College's Service-Learning program for over 2,800 students and 170 faculty
- Equipped nearly 70 student leaders, who in turn, regularly took close to 500 of their peers each week into the greater Harrisburg area for service.
- Donated the equivalent of almost \$400,000 (calculated at minimum wage) during the course of the year to the community by giving over 50,000 hours of community service to more than 100 different community organizations
- Sent approximately 100 students abroad to 20 different countries in summer service and mission
- Directed a biennial national conference for students and educators across the nation
- Awarded more than \$50,000 to students for service and mission scholarships
- Provided campus-wide resources, best practices, and risk management training for service and learning experiences
- Organized three Service Plunge Days that involved up to 1,500 Messiah College volunteers at a time.
- Educated the Messiah Community on local, national and international service, mission and justice issues by facilitating three Campus-Wide Awareness Weeks
- Offered a course orienting students to the Foundations of Service, Mission and Social Change

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



AGAPÉ CENTER STAFF 2006–2007

Service-Learning

Chad Frey Director of the Agapé Center for Service and Learning
Office: Agapé Center, ext. 7218, CFrey@messiah.edu

Pat Olcott Agapé Center Assistant
Office: Agapé Center, ext. 7255, POlcott@messiah.edu

John W. Eby Agapé Center Fellow for Service-Learning
Office: Boyer Hall, ext. 7142, JEby@messiah.edu

National and International Service and Mission

Greg Anderson National and International Service and Missions Director

Local Community Service

Rebecca Owen Local Community Service Director
Office: Agapé Center, ext. 3891, ROwen@messiah.edu

Agapé Center General Hours of Operation

Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Agapé Center, ext. 7255
AgapeCenter@messiah.edu
www.messiah.edu/agape

Student Leaders

Outreach Teams

Outreach Teams Director: Jenna Ness '07
Creative Arts Ministries: Tiffany Gay '08
Elder Ministries: Alex Becker '09
Harrisburg Grant: ArtsSmarts: Becky DeRosa '08 (fall),
Christine Neumann '07 (spring)
Health & Special Needs: Jessica West '08
Housing and Development: Lindsey Piker '07
Hunger and Homelessness: Jamie Harvey '07
Latino & Migrant Partnerships: Paula Ortiz '08 (fall),
Morgan Moore '07 (spring);
Mercy & Abstinence: Courtney Zimmerman '08 (fall),
Vikki Kieffer '09 (spring)
Prison Ministry: Jessanna Hall '09
Sustainable Agriculture: Amanda McMillian '08
Treasurer: Matthew Nissley '09
Tutoring & Literacy: Amanda Arbour '09
Youth Mentoring: Natasha Miller '07
Youth Ministries: Ashley E. Cole '09 (fall),
Harmony Robinson '08 (spring)
LCS Office Assistant: Melinda Raynor '07
Human Rights Awareness: Jennifer O'Conner '07

Service Teams

Fall '06:

Director: Kristine Harvey '07
Agency Coordinator: Dhenin Brock '08
Education Coordinator: Kelsey Henkel '09
Participant Coordinator: Katie Stewart '09

Spring '07:

Director: Kristine Harvey '07
Education Coordinator: Samuel Pironi '10
Leader Coordinator: Ulysse Toussaint '08
Agency Coordinator: Kimberly MacVaugh '08

World Christian Fellowship

Director: Ian Holland '07
Treasurer: Steve Brubaker '07
Worship Leader: Dan Pratt '07
Fundraising Coordinator: Allison Petry '09
Missions Awareness Week: Heather Bruyere '07
and Ashley Billard '07

THE BARNABAS SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Barnabas Servant Leadership Award is associated with the prestigious Barney II and Moore Foundations. The program serves as an effective instrument to the entire educational community by promoting the ideals of service that substantially benefits others. This year this award was presented to two students, Jenna Ness '07 and Jeanelle Austin '07, who have demonstrated the qualifications associated with the award:

- A high level of spiritual maturity and commitment to ministry and community service
- An integration of ministry and community service with academic work, faith, and sense of vocation
- The impact of the ministry and community service on the community served and the ability to work well with co-workers

Each recipient receives \$500 and chooses a charity to receive \$500 for a total of \$1,000 per award. Each year, candidates are nominated because they have demonstrated significant contributions in the areas of ministry, community service, and leadership. Listed in the next column are the recipients of the 2007 Barnabas Servant Leadership Award and a brief description about their volunteer commitments.



Pictured (L to R): Randy Basinger, provost; Jenna Ness, award recipient; Jeanelle Austin, award recipient; Kim Phipps, president; and Chad Frey, director of the Agapé Center for Service and Learning.

"Jenna and Jeanelle are two women that
embody the mission **of Messiah College.**
While the selection process was extremely difficult,
Jeanelle and Jenna **were unanimously**
chosen for this award from amongst their peers."

—Chad Frey

JENNA NESS '07

Service

Summer 2006	Burmese Childcare Center
Spring 2006	Marrow Donor Registration Drive Planning Team
Spring 2006	Unlearn Week planning team
Fall 2006—Spring 2007	Director of Outreach Teams
Fall 2006	Planning Team of Migrant Education Retreat (on campus)
Fall 2006	Multicultural Council
Fall 2006	Justice Panel
Fall 2006	Urban Promise Weekend Retreat (on campus)
Fall 2006	Paxton Ministries/Best Buddies
Fall 2005	Church of the Advocate Youth Program volunteer, Philadelphia
Spring 2005	Home for Boys Thailand
Summer 2004	Bolivia Youth Ministries
Fall 2004, fall 2006	Student Forum
Fall 2004, Fall 2006	MICAH committee
Fall 2004	Allison Hill Tutoring
Spring break 2004	Service Trip to Rescue Mission, Syracuse, N.Y.
Fall 2003—Fall 2004	Silence of Mary House

Organization Jenna is giving to: The Lower Eastside Girls Club of New York

JEANELLE AUSTIN '07

Service

Fall 2006	Participated on the Migrant Education Retreat Panel
Fall 2006	Program Director of Reality Check
Fall 2006	Preaching Chaplain for the Ministry Leadership Team of the Student Government Association
Fall 2005—Present	Coordinator for the God's Kingdom Steppers
Fall 2005—Present	Justice Panel student representative
2005—Present	Community Covenant Task Force
Summer 2006	8-Week mission trip to Mexico City through Latin America Mission
Fall 2004—Spring 2006	MICAH committee
Fall 2005	Peer group Leader
Spring 2005—Fall 2005	Schaffner Juvenile Detention Center prison ministry
Fall 2003, Fall 2005	Urban Promise Weekend Retreat
Fall 2004	Panel Representative for Urban Promise program
Spring 2004—Spring 2005	Student Government Association
2004—2005	Coordinator for Cultural Explosion Spring
Fall 2004	Coordinated trip to the National Christian Multicultural Student Leaders Conference in Seattle, WA
Fall 2005—Present	Office of Multicultural Programs
Spring 2005—Spring 2006	Harrisburg School Enrichment Program Research Project

Organization Jeanelle is giving to:
 Schaffner Youth Center, Steelton, Pa.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

International Rural Development Conference

The Agapé Center hosted its first International Rural Development Conference February 22–24, 2007. The purpose of this conference is to motivate college students to pursue faith-filled international service by providing them with a solid understanding of the needs, experiences, and skills required for work in the two-thirds world and by networking them with other individuals and organizations who are involved in international work.

This student-led conference focused on the relationship between faith, culture, public policy, economic development, appropriate technology, and international health. Keynote speakers included Kent Hill of USAID (in partnership with the Messiah College 2007 Humanities Symposium) and Jim McDonald of Bread for the World. Workshop speakers including Terrance Jantzi of Eastern Mennonite University, Peter Greer of Hope International, Ryan Keith of Forgotten Voices, Robert Reese of World Mission Associates, Stan and Beth Doerr of Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization, and representatives of Jars of Clay Blood: Water Mission all contributed to an atmosphere of critical thinking and compassion for worldwide issues. Other scheduled highlights were a comic performance by Timmy Morgan, a non-governmental organizations fair, intentional networking opportunities, worship, and prayer.

Fifth Biennial Faith-Based Service-Learning Conference

The Agapé Center will host its fifth Biennial National Faith-Based Service-Learning Conference at Messiah College May 30–June 2, 2008. This conference is designed for both veteran and newcomer faculty who teach service-learning courses, directors of service-learning programs, student life staff working in service-learning, and community partners. Workshops and plenary sessions will again cover a wide spectrum of topics, including successful service-learning in various academic schools, building effective community partnerships, the role of service-learning in academics, and designing and sustaining a service-learning program.



Volunteers build mentoring relationships with kids in after school programs in Harrisburg, Mechanicsburg, and Dillsburg.

STATS AND SUCCESSES 2006–2007 BY THE NUMBERS

759	served on Into the Streets	19	countries served
1441	served on Service Day	8	states served
61	Dr. King Community Engagement Day	34	local community partners
128	served on national service trips	713	students doing regular local community service
62	served on international and mission trips this spring break and this summer (56 students/6 staff)	36	student leaders (WCF—7, service trips—7, outreach—21, service and mission teams—6)
24	classes involving service-learning	6	work-study students
382	students in service-learning classes	26	to the Jubilee Conference
18	service-learning professors	58, 893	total hours of service

2006–2007 AGAPÉ CENTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS



AUGUST

- Fall Student Leader Training Week
- Into the Streets (fall orientation)
- Student Leader Commissioning Service



SEPTEMBER

- Ice Cream Social (introduce service opportunities)
- Begin weekly local service for service-learning, Outreach Teams, and service for chapel credit participants
- Volunteer Development Day



OCTOBER

- Canoe-a-thon
- Fall Break service trips
- Community Partner Appreciation



NOVEMBER

- Service and mission teams selected and begin meeting
- Mission Awareness Week
- Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week



DECEMBER

- Agapé student/staff Christmas party
- Wrap-up of local service, service for chapel credit, and service-learning for the semester
- Operation Christmas Child and Angel Tree



JANUARY

- Dr. King Community Engagement Day
- J-Term break service trips
- Limited J-Term local service and service-learning



FEBRUARY

- Begin weekly local service for service-learning, Outreach Teams, and service for chapel credit participants
- Agapé Center student/staff spring retreat
- International Rural Development Conference
- Human Rights Awareness Week



MARCH

- Spring break service and mission trips
- Spring break international service and mission teams CD sale



APRIL

- 30 Hour Famine
- Orientation retreat for summer service and mission teams
- Service Day
- Ducky Derby



MAY

- Wrap-up of local service, service for chapel credit, and service-learning for the semester
- Community Partner Appreciation



JUNE–AUGUST

- International service and mission teams in service
- Individual grant recipient summer service and mission

WHERE WE'RE GOING

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

In 2006–2007 the staff at the Agapé Center had many occasions to celebrate our work with faculty, students, and community partners. Whether it was unanimously passing foundational service-learning documents through college governance, hearing hundreds of student stories that came from serving alongside community partners each week, or just having stimulating one-on-one conversations with tremendously gifted student leaders preparing to lead their peers in service abroad — all of us at the Agapé Center consider it a privilege to serve the Church and society. Perhaps that is why it is so difficult to say goodbye to Greg Anderson as he moves to Huntingdon, Pa., with his wife Jesse to pursue their dreams of starting a Christian coffee shop. While he will be deeply missed, we are excited to welcome Matt Hunter back to campus as the National and International Service and Missions Director. As alumni, Matt ('97) and his wife Beth ('96) are no strangers to Messiah's commitment to educate men and women toward lives of service in Church and society. As he finishes his doctorate in Religious Studies at Temple University, Matt will not only be a gifted facilitator in the field but in the classroom as well.

As I look ahead, I look forward to continuing to build upon our distinctives of excellence, hospitality, engagement, and hope as the Agapé Center:

- Develops a coherent and cohesive college-wide service-learning and learning-guided community service program;
- Prepares for the fifth Biennial National Faith-Based Service-Learning Conference;
- Coordinates service and learning initiatives in Harrisburg to help students, alumni, and faculty empower local at-risk communities;
- Partners with other colleges and universities to facilitate national and international conversations on Christian service-learning; and
- Plans for the 2009 centennial celebrations.

If you would like to be involved in the service and mission of the Agapé Center, please don't hesitate to visit us online at www.messiah.edu/agape or contact us at (717) 796-1800, ext. 7255. I look forward to partnering with you as we respond to our vocation of educating men and women for service to Church and society.

Sincerely,



Chad Frey
Director of the Agapé Center for Service and Learning

AGAPÉ CENTER TEAM



Director
CHAD FREY



Assistant to the Director
PAT OLCOTT



Assistant to the Director
FAITH MINNICH
Summer



National and International
Service and Mission Director
MATT HUNTER



Local Community
Service Director
BECKY OWEN



Agapé Fellow for
Service and Learning
JOHN EBY



AGAPÉ CENTER

For Service And Learning



AGAPÉ CENTER FOR
SERVICE AND LEARNING

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