A black and white photograph of a prison hallway. The hallway is long and narrow, with a series of cell doors on the right side. The doors are made of metal bars. The floor is dark, and the walls are light-colored. The lighting is somewhat dim, creating a somber atmosphere.

**“TRULY I TELL YOU, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.”**

**MATTHEW 25:40**

## LOVE’S WORK BEHIND BARS: STORIES OF REDEMPTION IN CARIBBEAN PRISONS

In the sun-kissed Caribbean, where azure seas meet golden sands and bustling markets hum with life, lies a world often unseen—a realm behind prison walls, where hope flickers faintly and redemption seems a distant dream, swallowed by the relentless tide of despair.

Amid these shadows, three remarkable mission affiliates of Agape Flights shine brightly: Andy Faller of Haiti Prison and Rehabilitation Ministry (HPRM), Brian Berman of Project Mañana, and Mary Davis of Haiti Evangelism in Action. They embody the spirit of Matthew 25:35-40, serving the incarcerated with unwavering compassion and commitment. These ministries not only provide food, medical care, Bibles, and rehabilitation programs but also restore dignity and hope to those often cast aside by society. They are beacons of compassion, transcending cultural boundaries to touch lives with kindness and empathy. In the vibrant tapestry of Caribbean cultures and landscapes, these stories remind us of our shared humanity and the transformative power of Jesus’ love. They urge us to look beyond prison bars and see individuals worthy of compassion, second chances, and the promise of a brighter tomorrow.

### Andy Faller, Haiti Prison & Rehabilitation Ministry

Since 2022, Haiti Prison and Rehabilitation Ministry has operated in four major Haitian prisons. They conduct weekly and monthly evangelization services while providing meals, medicine, water, and hygiene supplies to the inmates. Despite the enormity of the crisis, they find solace in their efforts, inspired by Mother Teresa’s belief that even a small action

matters. Andy shares a touching story: “One inmate, who had spent years watching our church services from afar, handed me a note one day, asking, ‘Can someone lead me to Christ?’ His transformation from observer to active evangelist among his peers is a testament to the power of hope and faith.”

### Brian Berman, Project Mañana

Project Mañana seeks to bring joy and family unity to prison yards with its annual Returning Hearts Celebration. Held in a maximum-security prison in the Dominican Republic, this event transforms a stark yard into a carnival-like atmosphere of love and restoration. “More than just rides and games,” Brian explains, “it’s a day where inmates reconnect with their children—playing, laughing, and sharing cherished moments despite the confines of prison walls.”

### Mary Davis, Haiti Evangelism in Action

Guided by her deep faith, Mary dreams beyond bars: “God has placed a burden in our hearts,” Mary reflects earnestly, “to provide a haven where former inmates can find refuge, meals, continue their spiritual journey, and learn skills for a new beginning.” Her vision is a testament to the enduring belief that every soul deserves a chance at redemption and renewal.

As Andy, Brian, and Mary continue their tireless work, they exemplify Matthew 25:35-40—not only clothing the naked and caring for the sick but also visiting those in prison with a message of hope and healing. Their dedication resonates, illuminating even the darkest corners of the Caribbean with rays of hope made possible through Jesus Christ.



Allen Speer CEO

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## FROM THE CEO

### SERVING WITH LOVE: ANSWERING THE CALL OF FAITH

#### MATTHEW 25:35-40 NLT

In my early days as a pastor, I struggled with the scriptural mandate for God's people to care for the poor and needy worldwide. My travels abroad on mission trips were pivotal experiences that deeply affected my understanding of poverty. While poverty exists in America, confronting its stark realities overseas convicted me and revealed areas where I needed to grow personally.

Poverty is a harsh reality in the areas where we serve. Through my experiences in Caribbean nations, I have witnessed firsthand that many people in the world, even within the Western Hemisphere, still struggle to meet their basic daily needs. As my dear friend and Agape affiliate, Eris Labady, once said to me, **"Haitians aren't thinking about next week's meal; they're hoping for something to eat today."**

This brings to mind a mission trip to Cuba that I took in November 1992 that shifted my perspective forever. I recall getting into a clean, well-kept van as we rode through one of the poorest areas of Havana, and it felt like I was in some kind of an air-conditioned bubble riding through a sea of poverty. It became a metaphor for my comfortable American Christian life. It was then that I realized I had a choice: remain isolated in my comfort or engage with those in need. Thirty-two years ago, **I refused to remain in that bubble of isolation** but chose to interact and invest in the lives of the hurting and the hopeless.

Agape Flights exists to provide resources to mission partners throughout the nations of the Caribbean so that the unconditional love of Jesus Christ might be felt. Today we stand at a crossroads of opportunity. As always, it takes financial resources to support the work of ministry. God has repeatedly proven Himself more than faithful, and I believe He will always provide for what He is calling us to undertake. More than anything else, I think He is listening for our simple response to those words from Matthew 25. **Will you clothe the naked, will you care for the sick, will you visit the prisoners, and will you give water to the thirsty? Will you share the unconditional love of Jesus Christ?**

As you read this amazing edition of Flightline please ask God to use you in some way. Ask Him to enable you through this ministry to become a World Changer! To say, God, I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. Together we can impact nations for the Lord Jesus Christ! Help us be faithful dear Lord!

The challenges before us are enormous, but God says we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us!

### I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOU!

Allen T. Speer, CEO

# FROM THE MISSION FIELD

The Hope Seeds project, a collaboration between Agape Flights and Hope Seeds International, enters its second year with significant impact and growth. This initiative provides missionaries with essential seed kits tailored to local climates, capable of feeding up to 250 families per kit for a year. This year, missionaries have ordered 106 seed kits, highlighting the project's expanding reach and effectiveness in combating food insecurity. By empowering communities to grow their own food, the project promotes viability and resilience, breaking cycles of poverty and dependency. The partnership underscores a commitment to humanitarian aid and sustainable development, fostering local solutions to global challenges. The collaboration between Agape Flights and Hope Seeds International exemplifies the power of partnerships. Together, we are paving the way for a more sustainable and food-secure future, one community at a time.



Nick Troutt's Drop in the Bucket initiative provides essential meals to children in Haiti, symbolizing hope amidst vast need. Witnessing the lineup of children with empty bowls, Troutt reflects on the analogy of a drop in a bucket. This effort, though small compared to Haiti's widespread hunger, signifies a meaningful contribution, one meal at a time. Troutt emphasizes the profound impact even a single meal can have for these children. Approximately 90 children from Sou Wòch receive nourishment—a modest portion of black beans, rice, and chicken.



Rebecca Jacobs, alongside TIME Missions in Santo Domingo, have been actively engaged in a summer of service and ministry. Since early June,

they've hosted four separate groups, ranging from 3 to 42 individuals each, who have dedicated themselves to various projects. These included constructing five chapels, organizing three vibrant Vacation Bible Schools (VBS), running a Women's Ministry, and facilitating two impactful Sports Ministries. The highlight of their efforts came with the largest VBS to date, where Rebecca was deeply moved by the overwhelming attendance of children. One of her team members offered a perspective that resonated deeply: "WOW!! 293 children heard about Jesus today!" This simple statement served as a powerful reminder of the impact being made for Jesus in the Dominican Republic.

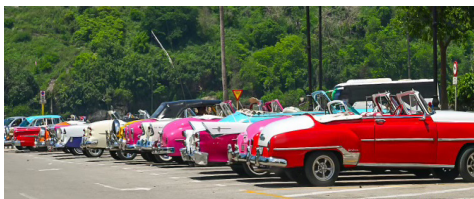


## FROM HEART TO HAVANA: SHARING LOVE IN CUBA

*Federic Garcia Lorca, the Spanish poet once wrote to his parents these words, "If I get lost, look for me in Cuba," and that was what made Ernest Hemingway want to stay in Cuba forever.*

In October 1959, Fidel Castro spoke to the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) convention, held that year in the old Blanquita Theater (now the Karl Marx) in Havana. "We have sea," said Castro. "We have bays, we have beautiful beaches, we have medicinal waters in our hotels, we have mountains, we have game and we have fish in the sea and the rivers, and we have sun. Our people are noble, hospitable, and most important, they hate no one. They love visitors, so much that our visitors feel completely at home."

At the time of President Castro's remarks, normal relations with the United States still existed. Then, US Ambassador, Philip Bonsai, also lauded Cuba saying, "Cuba is one of the most admirable countries in the world from the point of view of North American tourism and from many other points of view."



Over six decades have passed. Nothing has changed but the politics. U.S. Presidents have come and gone, and the Castro brothers, Fidel and Raul, have exited ushering in a new Cuban President, Miguel Diaz Canal. However, nothing has really changed. Cuba and the U.S. remain separated by 90 miles of shimmering ocean churned into a watery no-man's land by political enmity. Today the Straits of Florida are the widest, deepest moat in the world.

If you travel to Cuba, you will experience a fascinating historical

moment, as Cuba continues to unwind from the Marxist cocoon. A new Cuba, with different priorities and viewpoints on what it means to be a member of the Cold War family of nations, is emerging. It is extending its hand to the rest of the world and inviting us to visit.

It simply does not make sense that on a communist island dedicated to the principles of socialism, that the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ would rise up to become a powerful force for the Glory of God throughout the nations of the Caribbean and much of the Western Hemisphere.

### IT TRULY IS A BEAUTIFUL MYSTERY.

The Cuban Church's greatest, most enigmatic appeal is that you sense you are living inside an unfolding drama. Moreover, indeed you are! Every other day in Cuba there is another Church started. Believers are being birthed and disciplined daily and it is almost as if you are seeing the book of Acts in living color right before your eyes. It truly is a beautiful mystery!

This year, Agape Flights received a U.S. Commerce Department license to fly eight sojourns into Cuba delivering hope and much-needed supplies. Cuba lacks the opportunity for sustainable clean water. Food is scarce and fuel is nonexistent.

Recently in partnership with Southwest District Mission Program (Christ for Cuba), and Hope for Cuba Foundation our CEO traveled to Havana, Cuba for Agape's reentry sojourn back into Cuba. On the top picture to the right you will see CEO Allen T. Speer, along with Dan Christopherson, Jorge Fernandez, and Cardinal Garcia.

Please pray for the Church in Cuba! Please pray for future ministry flights and the acquisition of food, water filtration systems, fuel and medical supplies. All of these things will be

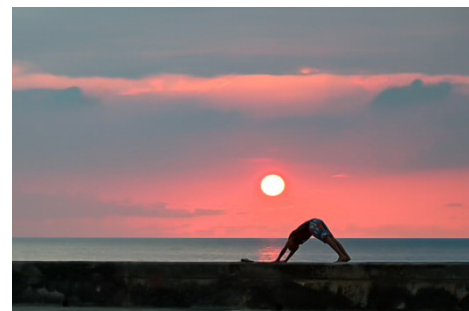
a great blessing and will help lend support to our Cuban brothers and sisters in Christ!

If you would like more information about this "beautiful mystery," contact Agape Flights' Chief Executive Officer, Allen Speer. He can be reached at (941) 488-0990 or email him at [ceo@AgapeFlights.com](mailto:ceo@AgapeFlights.com).

### God says, "Look!"

**"Look around at the godless nations. Look long and hard. Brace yourself for a shock. Something's about to take place and you're going to find it hard to believe."**

### Habakkuk 1:5 The Message



# FROM THE FLIGHTDECK

## GREG HAMAN, DIRECTOR OF FLIGHT OPERATIONS

At Agape Flights, we're dedicated to offering hope amidst the chaos in Haiti. But recently, it wasn't just us shining a light; Hope From Above Ministries in Bombardopolis became our beacon of support. When one of our planes went down—a nightmare situation in Haiti that typically ends with the aircraft becoming little more than a chicken coop—Hope From Above stepped in to help us get back on our feet.

In a country plagued by riots and gang violence, their assistance was invaluable. They didn't just provide technical support; they also offered a secure place to store and repair the plane. Our aircraft are essential to our operations

and are needed more than ever. This year alone, we've completed over 40 flights, safely transported 39 missionaries, and delivered more than 115,000 pounds of supplies in this unstable region.

Our missionaries, who often lack information about where unrest might strike next, rely heavily on our flights. Hope From Above's timely help has been a crucial contribution in carrying out our mission effectively. Their support underscores the power of unity in times of crisis. Their partnership has played an essential role in us being able to deliver hope.



Checkout the website of Hope from Above Ministries at: [HFAMHaiti.org](http://HFAMHaiti.org)



### RETURN OF F406!

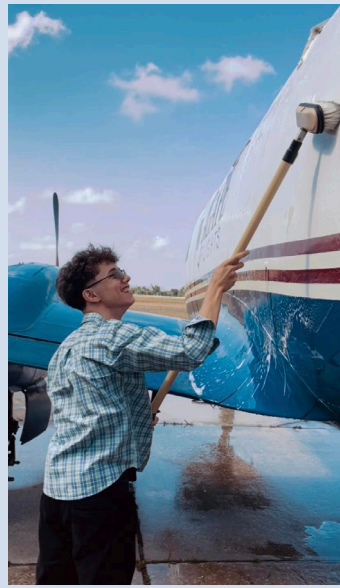
We're thrilled to share that our F406 plane has safely returned to us here in Venice. While additional repairs are needed before it can resume long-term service, we anticipate that the plane will be back in action by the Fall. Thank you for your continued support as we work to get our aircraft fully operational again. God is good!

## HANGAR HAPPENINGS

### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT



### MISSION VENICE



THANK YOU TO ALL THE STUDENTS WHO HELPED CLEAN THE HANGAR!



# PRAISE AND PRAYERS

## WELCOME, NEW STAFF!



**Jacques May, Communications Director.** Jacques brings a wealth of experience to Agape, having served as a forensic investigator and successfully running his own marketing firm for over 10 years. He feels blessed to serve God and our missionaries in a field that he loves dearly, aiming to shine a brighter spotlight on the incredible work they do. Jacques' journey with Agape Flights began close to home, as his father was one of Agapes' aircraft mechanics in the early 2000s. Beyond his professional pursuits, Jacques enjoys playing basketball, teeing off on the golf course, and cherishing moments with his wife Victoria and their son, JT.

**Robin Gaynor, Donor Database Coordinator.** Robin brings over 15 years of dedicated experience in the non-profit sector, with a significant portion of that time spent at a private Christian school in South Florida. Robin is enthusiastic about joining Agape to contribute to spreading hope within our community. Alongside her professional achievements, Robin finds joy in spending time at the beach with her fiancé Mitchell and their four children: Macy, Londyn, Ayden, and Sebastian. Her life is guided by the inspiring words of Hebrews 6:19, which she holds close to her heart: "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain."



## WELCOME, NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



**Robert "Bob" Knight, Retired Navy Aviator and Real Estate Professional.** Bob Knight, University of Alabama alum, brings a diverse portfolio of knowledge to the Agape Flights board. A former U.S. Army aviator who served in Vietnam in 1968, Bob's professional career spans two decades at GE, where he rose from area sales manager to General Manager. With a successful stint in real estate sales and investments, he's known for his leadership and dedication. Married to Janet for 52 years, Bob cherishes his role as father to two daughters and grandfather to five. Driven by a calling to serve God, Bob feels Agape Flights is where he can make a meaningful impact.

**Jordan Desiro, Owner of A+ Environmental Restoration, Pilot.** Jordan Desiro, Agape Flights' newest board member, is excited to support our mission. His dedication to missions is deeply influenced by his grandparents, who were missionaries in Japan. In 2015, Jordan co-founded A+ Environmental Restoration with his brother, leading the company ever since. He's been married to his wife Lauren for 13 years, and they have two children, Rory (4) and Luke (7). Jordan's connection to Agape Flights began in 2018 when he saw our logo while landing at the Venice airport. That moment, combined with heartfelt prayer, inspired him to get involved. Jordan is eager to bring his passion and experience to our board and contribute to Agape's meaningful work.



## WELCOME ELISABETH PIPER LINDE!



We are excited to announce the arrival of Elisabeth Piper Linde, daughter to Agape mechanic Chase Linde and his wife Lauren. We are so honored to welcome her into the Agape Flights family! She entered our lives on June 24, 2024, and is already loved very much. Join us in celebrating this precious blessing and welcoming Elisabeth with open arms into our world!

# GIVING UPDATE



Thank you for “Being the One” during the 2024 Giving Challenge on April 9-10! We are grateful for everyone who donated during the 24-hour day of giving to bless, equip, and strengthen our core mission to “Serve Christ by serving His missionaries.”

### Because of YOU, Agape Flights:

- Finished in 10th Place out of 724 Organizations
- Raised a grand total of \$164,346.00

## THANK YOU!!!



The Giving Challenge is hosted by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, with giving strengthened by The Patterson Foundation.

## August Spotlight- Make a Will Month

August is National Make-a-Will Month, a time to recognize the importance of planning your legacy. Agape Flights has partnered with FreeWill to provide a completely free service to help you create an estate plan, protect loved ones, and manage your resources effectively.

**Why is a Will important?** It provides clarity for your family, ensures the care of cherished communities, and supports Kingdom ministry, allowing you to leave a legacy of faith.

**How does FreeWill help me?** FreeWill offers user-friendly tools to craft a will at no cost and provides access to specialized attorneys for complex situations.

While building a legacy here on earth is a big deal, keeping your focus on heaven and living a life for God’s glory is the ultimate long-term goal. Jesus instructed the disciples in **Matthew 6:20-21, “But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”** Whatever we own here on earth won’t last. Eventually, it’ll break, get lost, or won’t belong to us anymore. But our spirit is eternal—and that’s the real treasure! So, as you’re managing your money and possessions, remember, those things are temporary but our relationship with God is forever.

To sign up for free, scan the QR code below!  
Questions? Contact us at: 941-488-0990

# August is National Make-A-Will Month

This month is all about protecting your legacy and what matters most to you — create your will for free today!



Scan here to start!

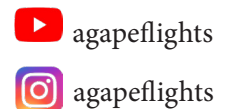
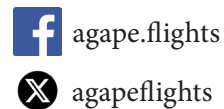


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## SPREADING OUR WINGS TO EMBRACE CUBA



*We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to fly into Cuba 8 times this year. The challenges facing Cuba—unsafe drinking water, limited fuel, and scarcity of supplies—are profound. Despite these hardships, Agape Flights remains committed to fostering relationships within the country, aspiring to bring the love and compassion of Jesus to as many people as possible.*

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