



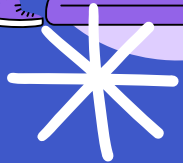
AGAPE



A PEACEMAKING
GUIDE FOR KIDS



LOVE IN ACTION



JULY
2025

ISSUE
05





Dear Reader

Hi Friends,

When I was thinking about this issue of Agape, I realized that it was important for us to spend time thinking about what Agape Love means!

Agape is **an unconditional type of love** – a love that is shown through serving others and showing care. It requires action and is a way to show all the people of the world that they are a part of one big family.

The theme of this issue, **“Agape Love in Action”** is about exactly that! I hope that when you finish reading this magazine, you will have new ideas about how you might show Agape Love in your **own communities**.



Peace, Miriam

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Table of Contents



3 WHAT IS AGAPE?

5 KNV PRINCIPLE 5

6 AGAPIC ENERGY

7 AGAPE LOVE:
A FAIRYTALE



Diane Nash by Germanna CC, CC BY 2.0



9

CROSSWORD

10

1-2-3 AGAPE

11

BOOK NOOK

12

**BIOS +
CITATIONS**



What is Agape?

BY JULIE AVILA

What is agape (pronounced uh-GAH-pay)? That word probably looks very familiar to you. Where have you seen it before? Of course! **It's the name of this magazine!** And if you read the last issue, agape was mentioned in a couple of the articles. Let's talk more about what agape means and looks like in action!

Agape is a Greek word that means love – but it's more complicated than that.

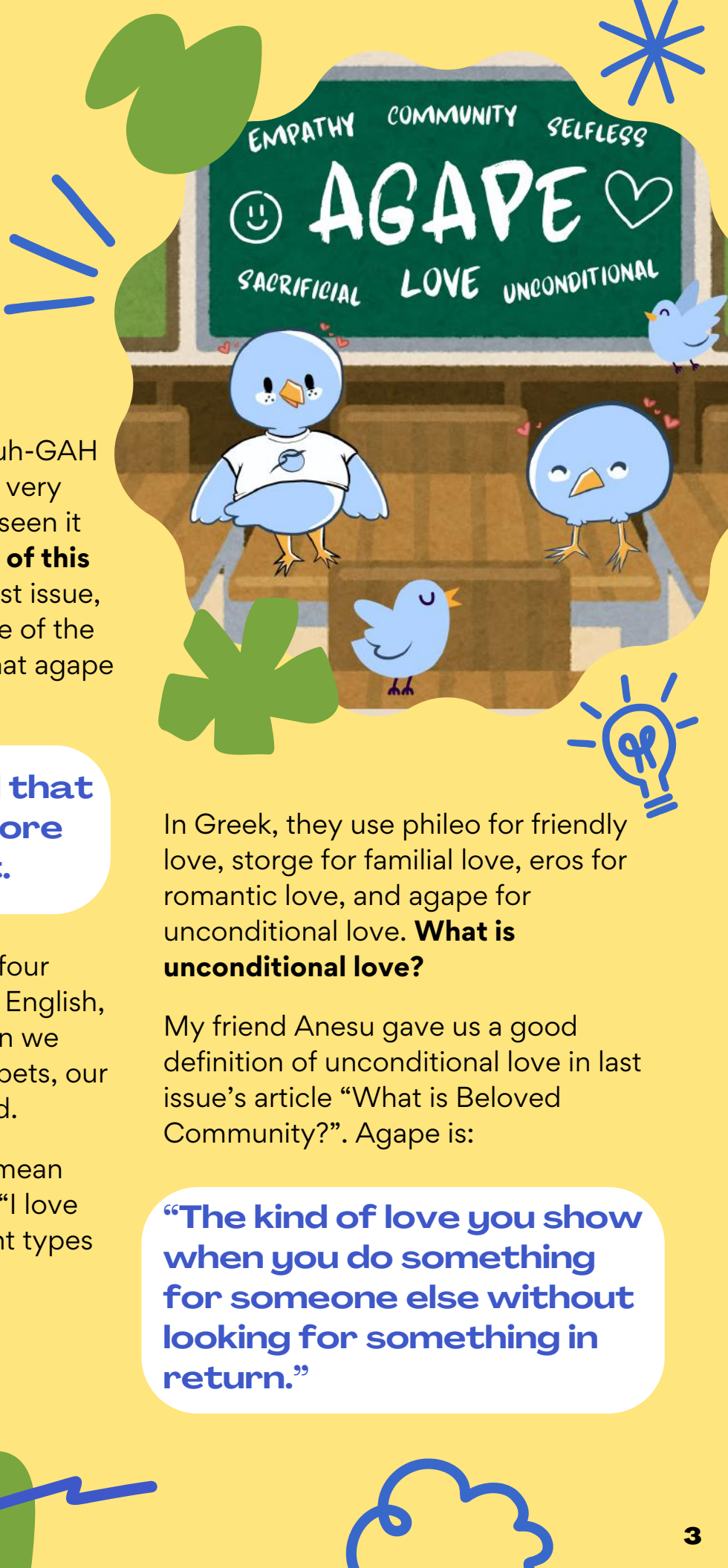
Did you know there are actually four Greek words that mean love? In English, we use the **same word** love when we talk about loving ice cream, our pets, our friends, our family, and even God.




Saying “I love ice cream” might mean something different than saying “I love my mom.” There can be different types of love.

In Greek, they use phileo for friendly love, storge for familial love, eros for romantic love, and agape for unconditional love. **What is unconditional love?**

My friend Anesu gave us a good definition of unconditional love in last issue's article “What is Beloved Community?”. Agape is:

“The kind of love you show when you do something for someone else without looking for something in return.”





This kind of love is selfless and sacrificial. It's the kind of love Jesus modeled for us—the kind of love we could use to describe God's love for us and our love for God. It's also the kind of love that we can show others because **we know we are loved unconditionally!**

It can sometimes be difficult to show unconditional love. You might go out of your way to help someone, and you never receive anything in return—not even a “Thank you.”

Maybe someone even says something that hurts your feelings. Are you still supposed to love them? Yes—even though it's hard!

It's helpful to remember that none of us are perfect, and that God's love in us can help us forgive others and see others with empathy.

GLOSSARY



Empathy - To understand someone else's feelings

Sacrificial - To give something up for the sake of others

Selfless - To worry about other people's needs and wants more than your own

Unconditional - Without any limits or expectations; unending

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. described agape love as: “the love of God operating in the human heart.”

Can you imagine a world where everyone showed this kind of love to each other? Wouldn't it be amazing? Guess what? It can start with you!

What are practical ways we can show agape love? I'll give you a couple recent examples. I saw agape love in action when a church community donated money so that immigrants from their congregation could get help from a lawyer, and again when friends of mine brought two foster children into their home.

These were selfless and sacrificial acts of love. **How have you seen agape love in action around you?** Maybe someone has even demonstrated agape love toward you recently!

Remember, when we show agape love to one another, we love as God loves us—unconditionally!






Kingian Nonviolence Highlight: Principle 5

BY MARIE RHOADES


Being a peacemaker is not always easy work. It can be risky, unpopular, and tiring.

As a peacemaker, it is important to show love through care for yourself and others so that you can do the work of peacemaking.




Have you ever sung in a choir? Think of the ways the different voices come together to support one another.

The **melody** is the part where the story is told. The **descant** is the highest part rising above the melody, often repeating the story.



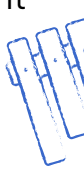
The **bass** is the lowest part and often provides a steady beat that keeps pace and holds up the melody providing a foundation for the song.

There are different ways of working for peace. Some people get to choose when to work for peace. For others, it is necessary because they are hurt by violence and injustice.




Some people are peacemakers as activists attending protests to raise awareness and tell the story of how people experience injustice, sometimes taking risks puts them in jail - **this is like the melody of the song.**


For others, it is caring for other peacemakers by encouraging them: listening to their **hopes and motivations**, reminding them why the working for peace is **important** (especially when it feels like it will never work), and providing for their **needs** - like the descant and bass working in support of the melody, singing the song back and **setting a foundation of care.**



During the Civil Rights Movement in the United States (the time when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was alive and working closely with other leaders and many protestors to end segregation and poverty), people sang freedom songs to **encourage and help one another heal.**

The songs were reminders of why they were marching. Songs sung together meant that a person was **never alone** in the work.



- 
- What are some of the songs that you sing when you need motivation?
 - Who are some of the people you turn to when you need support?
 - How do you offer encouragement to others?

Diane Nash's Agapic Energy

BY JASMINE INSAARD



Love has many different definitions. For some of us, love is the warm, fuzzy feeling we have for our family and friends. We might also love things like books, games, or our pets. For Diane Nash, love also meant **caring deeply about her community and fighting for what is right.**

Diane Nash was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. In 1959, she went to the Tennessee State Fair.

What was supposed to be a happy trip turned dark as she experienced the first-hand reality of racial discrimination [the act of treating individuals unfairly based on their race].

Certain unjust laws prevented Black Americans from using the same bathrooms, water fountains, and restaurants as white Americans.

Miss Nash was angry that racial injustices still existed in the United States and turned to nonviolence and peaceful protests to fight the unfair treatment she experienced. She saw that the problem with **race in the U.S. was not in the people, but in the system.**

She used **“Agapic Energy,”** which comes from the Greek word for brotherly love: “agape”, to **remind us that we all need love.**

She believed that people who were unfair could change if they were treated with kindness, patience, and respect.

In 2017, Miss Nash said in a speech, “If you recognize that people are not the enemy, you can love and respect the person at the same time you attack the attitude or action of that person.”

Leading the Civil Rights Movement with nonviolence is about more than acting peacefully, it is loving humanity enough to want to change it for the better.

In light of challenging times in U.S. history, we can all learn a thing or two from Diane Nash and Agapic Energy.

“IF YOU RECOGNIZE THAT PEOPLE ARE NOT THE ENEMY, YOU CAN LOVE AND RESPECT THE PERSON AT THE SAME TIME YOU ATTACK THE ATTITUDE OR ACTION OF THAT PERSON.”

- Diane Nash

Agape Love: A Fairytale

BY ANESU MAKUFA

I want to tell you a story about 3 really good friends, from 3 different continents, and 3 years of showing what Agape love looks like.

Once upon a time, a brave girl from Philadelphia (USA), Sydney, moved to the United Kingdom (UK) to follow her dreams of getting a Masters degree. Moving to a new school can be difficult sometimes, but having some friends to **share the experience with can help make it better.**

In the same school, a creative girl from the UK, Simi, was studying for her own Masters degree. Simi and Sydney met and became the best of friends.

Simi worked for On Earth Peace (OEP), determined to help create **global peace, justice, and beloved community.** Haya, a passionate girl from Gaza in Palestine was also working for OEP. Through their work, they became fast friends.

They created a drama club to help kids in the US and in Palestine feel confident, creative and a part of a beloved community.





Soon, Sydney began working for OEP too. Sydney and Simi were reunited, and with Haya, the three girls became good friends.

They talked about **everything together**, sharing heartfelt stories, memories of their lives, and deep belly laughter.

On 7 October 2023, the war in Gaza started. The three friends were afraid of what would happen to Haya and her family.

Throughout these terrible times, Haya never lost her **huge heart**. Sydney and Simi decided they could not sit by and watch someone they cared for go through this alone.

Along with OEP and the Kingian Nonviolence community, they raised the funds needed to bring Haya and her family out of Gaza.

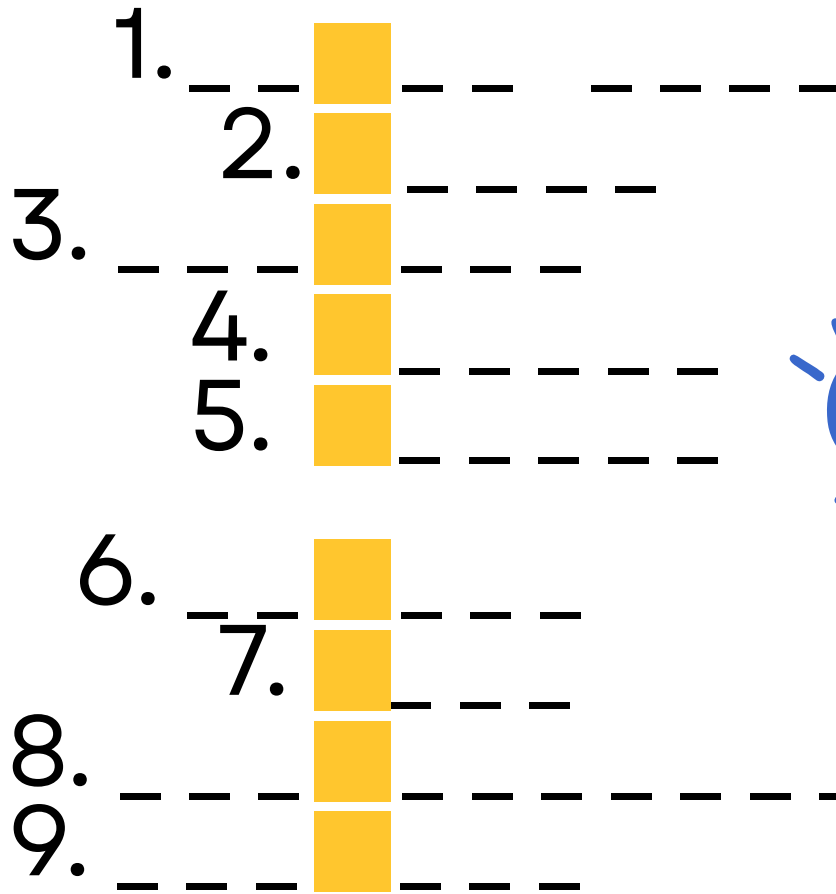
Despite the uncertainty, the friends would talk – sometimes about what was happening, or about their dream to one day share a coffee together. **They encouraged each other to be strong.**

With the help of Simi and Sydney, Haya was able to leave Gaza and move to Ireland to study for her Masters degree. This Spring, the three friends met in person for the first time, at a coffee shop.

They changed the world for the better, because they showed us that if you have good friends by your side, you can overcome anything.

Just like any good fairytale, they all lived happily ever after.

CROSSWORD



1. _ _ _ _ _

2. _ _ _ _ _

3. _ _ _ _ _

4. _ _ _ _ _

5. _ _ _ _ _

6. _ _ _ _ _

7. _ _ _ _ _

8. _ _ _ _ _

9. _ _ _ _ _

1. She saw that the problem was the system not the people.

4. "Friendly love."

7. ____ and Sib!

2. The language "agape" is from.

5. Diane Nash's Agapic ____.

8. A Kingian way of living.

3. To understand someone else's feelings.

6. The part where the story is told.

9. Haya, Simi, and Sydney are ____.

THE SECRET MESSAGE SAYS: _____

1-2-3 AGAPE!

1

Who in my community is suffering or needs help?

2

How might I show them agape love?

3

Who might I work with, or what tools do I need to show them that love?

CROSSWORD ANSWER KEY

SECRET PHRASE:
"AGAPE LOVE"



- 1. DIANENASH
- 2. GREEK
- 3. EMPATHY
- 4. PHILEO
- 5. ENERGY
- 6. MELODY
- 7. ORBY
- 8. NONVIOLENCE
- 9. FRIENDS

BOOK NOOK



Good People Everywhere
by Lynea Gillen
Reading Age 2-6

Love is Loud
by Sandra Neil Wallace
Reading Age 4-8



The Wild Robot
by Peter Brown
Reading Age 8-12

Meet our Team



MIRIAM

Miriam Erbaugh is the Children and Youth Peace Formation Organizer for On Earth Peace (OEP) and the Editor-in-Chief of Agape Magazine. Outside of her internship, Miriam is a student at Manchester University. She loves to cook, hike, read, and spend time with her friends and family!



MARIE & MORGAINE

Marie Benner-Rhoades is one of the co-Directors at On Earth Peace and focuses on youth and young adult peace formation. She appreciates the opportunity to have in-depth conversations with her kids based on the articles. Morgaine, age 11, is our child editor. Her favorite part of the magazine is Orby & Sib!



ANESU

Anesu is the Organizing Support for OEP. A certified level 1 Kingian Nonviolence trainer, he has been growing with OEP for the past 3 years. He is a spoken word poet, a father, a husband, and fantasy novel enthusiasts.



SYDNEY

Sydney is Communications Support for OEP. For many years, she has worked as an educator for children in various programs. In her free time, she enjoys cafe-hopping, traveling and hanging with her friends and family.



JULIE

Julie is an educator and organizer on the Deportation Defense Response Team with Church of the Brethren and OEP. She is a recent graduate of Bethany Theological Seminary, and taught students in US, Bolivia, and Mexico.



JASMINE

Jasmine is the Racial Justice Organizer for OEP. She is a recent graduate of University of Michigan and will be pursuing graduate school in Paris. In her free time, she enjoys baking, reading, and watching movies!

CITATIONS & DESIGN CREDITS

Allen, Kevin. 2017. "Civil Rights Pioneer Says Love Fueled the Movement" University of Notre Dame, June 25, 2025.

<https://law.nd.edu/news-events/news/civil-rights-pioneer-says-love-fueled-the-movement/>

Carey, Dr. Mia L. n.d. "Diane Judith Nash (b. 1938)." National Park Service. June 25, 2025. <https://www.nps.gov/people/diane-judith-nash-b-1938.htm>

Photo Credit: Diane Nash (Feb 17 2014) by Germanna CC, CC BY 2.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons

Cover Image & Orby + Sib created by Elizabeth Gaver

Overall layout: © @CanvaCreativeStudio

© Ross, Du (Sketchify Education) via canva.com

© Sketchify Education via canva.com

© imagineHarry (Sketchify) via canva.com

© irasutoya via canva.com

© Sketchify via canva.com

© Muhammad, Sanwijaya via canva.com

© BarusMima via canva.com

© kawacreative via canva.com

© Visual Generation via canva.com

**JULY 2025
ISSUE 05:
AGAPE LOVE
IN ACTION**



AGAPE

**We are SUPER
excited to tell you
that ...**

**You can find all five of our
issues of Agape online at:**

onearthpeace.org/agape_magazine

