



## Mission Engagement Team

Western North Carolina Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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## Project AGAPE Country Director in Armenia



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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



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# 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 serves the Kashatagh region, the sole humanitarian aid partnership licensed by the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) government. Long-standing, multi-layered conflict prevents any other humanitarian group from working with the people of this area, who struggle with this way of life.

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, as this ministry serves those in Kashatagh and in border villages.

It isn't a matter of the conferences 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 Mission Response Center in Terrell or the MERCI Center in Goldsboro, then shipped to Yerevan in Armenia. The Project AGAPE Country Director coordinates transportation from Yerevan to the Kashatagh region. Humanitarian aid items are then shipped to the warehouse in Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh), where they are distributed.
- The orphanage, hospital, sanitation improvement, and more are nurtured by Project AGAPE.
- Families are provided with animals through the Agricultural Development Project, giving families cattle and chicken, along with tools for gardening for food and breeding.
- Mission building teams rebuild houses and help residents find hope in the Berdzor area. At least one building team from each conference, and often more, work each year, missionally engaging the community and hosting Vacation Bible School for the local children at the AGAPE Christian Education Center.
- Donations help support the Berdzor priest of the Armenian Apostolic Church, the chief doctor of the AGAPE hospital, the AGAPE staff, head veterinarian in the scope of the Agricultural Development Project, and operational costs, such as utilities, 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 and Artsakh. See the websites below for current information.

## WNCC Mission Response Center in Terrell:

[wnccumc.org/mission-response-center](http://wnccumc.org/mission-response-center)

## NCC MERCI Center in Goldsboro

[nccumc.org/outreach/project-agape/](http://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 full Project AGAPE operations a reality.
- The Agricultural Development Project literally grows, providing resources for gardening and breeding cattle and chicken. Monetary gifts are welcome.



# Project AGAPE Gathers, Gives

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

- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Bedding (new/used)         | • Infant Items     |
| • Clothing (new/used)        | • Kitchenware      |
| • Clothing Accessories       | • Office Supplies  |
| • Carpentry & tools          | • School Supplies  |
| • Coats (new/used)           | • Sewing Supplies  |
| • Children's Christmas Boxes | • Shoes (New Only) |
| • Health/Hygiene Items       | • Toys (New Only)  |
| • Household Items            | • Uniforms         |

## Helpful Tips:

- Recommended box size for humanitarian aid is 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
- Furniture or 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.

