

IN THE SPOTLIGHT....

FPC Athens Agape Quilts Ministry



"AGAPE" MISSION PROJECT

(THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW!)

* FPC MEMBER, SOFIA YARBOROUGH, IS THE INSPIRATION AND PRIMARY MOTIVATION FOR BEGINNING THE "AGAPE QUILT & BEDROLL MINISTRY" AT OUR CHURCH

* SOFIA & HER STEVE CAME TO FPC FROM A LARGER CITY CONGREGATION WITH THE BEDROLL PATTERN, PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO IMPLEMENT SUCH A PROGRAM, AND HER SIGNATURE ENTHUSIASM TO "SET A FIRE" UNDER OUR FEET, JUST ASKING US AT FIRST TO LISTEN, LEARN, AND PARTICIPATE IN A NEW, BUT IMPORTANT MINISTRY!

* WE WHO ATTENDED FAMILY NIGHT SUPPERS AT THAT TIME, LISTENED TO HER PRESENTATION WITH OPEN HEARTS AND A WILLINGNESS TO GIVE IT A WHIRL

* A SMALL, BUT MIGHTY GROUP OF DEDICATED, TALENTED, & WILLING VOLUNTEERS THEN GATHERED WITH SOFIA TO "LEARN THE ROPES"

* THAT EARLY VOLUNTEER GROUP MADE SUPPLY LISTS, SECURED NEEDED SEWING MATERIALS, & PUT OUT A CALL FOR "CLEAN" QUILTS, BEDDING, MATTRESS PADS, BATTING FOR QUILTING, SEWING MATERIAL, AND MEN'S USED TIES, CLEAN & IN GOOD CONDITION

* SOON, MEMBER & NON-MEMBER DONATIONS ROLLED THROUGH THE DOORS OF THE CAIN FAMILY CENTER WHERE THE GROUP HAD SECURED LONG TABLES, CHAIRS, AND STORAGE BINS FOR THE MATERIALS & SUPPLIES. THE "AGAPE MINISTRY" WAS APTLY NAMED & GOING!

* EVENTUALLY, IT BECAME APPARENT THAT THE PERSONALLY DONATED SEWING MACHINES WERE INADEQUATE FOR THE JOB AT HAND, SO THE GROUP PUT OUT WORD ASKING THE DONATION OF TWO (2) COMMERCIAL SEWING MACHINES TO REPLACE THE SMALLER ONES...AND GOT THEM! SOFIA'S STEVE WAS SOON JOINED BY KEN LEMMON. GUY HELP? A DEFINITE PLUS!!!

* AT EACH STAGE, FROM START-UP TO PRESENT DAY, PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED IN UNIMAGINABLE WAYS FOR THE "AGAPE" VOLUNTEERS & "COMMUNITY HELPER FRIENDS".

* SOFIA CONTINUED TO GUIDE, DIRECT, INSTRUCT, AND MAKE SURE HER VOLUNTEERS WERE WELL FED A LUNCH EACH MONDAY FROM THE BEST KITCHEN FARE AROUND...HER OWN!

* TODAY, MEMBER VOLUNTEERS HAVE COME & GONE, BUT "AGAPE" MINISTRY IS ALIVE & WELL AT FPC-ATHENS! THE GROUP, POST-COVID, IS BACK UP AND RUNNING STRONG AS EVER!

* OVER THE PAST 5+ YEARS, EXCEPT DURING COVID, "AGAPE" HAS MADE & DISTRIBUTED HUNDREDS OF BEDROLLS TO VARIOUS MINISTRIES IN OUR CITY, AREA-WIDE, & TO "UNDER THE BRIDGE" MINISTRY IN TYLER. PLEASE DROP BY MONDAYS, 9-1:00, CAIN HOUSE & VISIT ANYTIME!

Our dedicated and hardworking volunteers: Steve & Sofia Yarbrough, Barbara Kimes, Sharon Harding, Sally Ayers, Ken Lemmon, Judy Willis, Jan Richardson, and Dale Ward.

When you walk into the Cain Family Building on Monday mornings, you are greeted by the hum of sewing machines and the laughter of the wonderful volunteers of this ministry.

Quilts are flying off of the tables and getting ready to be delivered to those who need them most. However, to continue the work we do we are asking for your help as we are in great need of **Fabric Donations**.

Please see our wish list below and if you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out to Sofia Yarbrough at 720-936-5225 or sofiathegreek@gmail.com

Agape Quilts Wish List:

Quilts, bedspreads, blankets, and fleece throws.

Donations should all be washed and in good condition to piece together for sleeping bags.

Thank you so much, Sofia and her partners.

♥ Sofia