

# Message from the General Manager



During this holiday season while you are spending time with your family and friends, please remember our guests at Agape Table. The staff and volunteers have become extended family to many of the people who come to Agape for nourishment, a hot cup of coffee or a safe refuge for a couple of hours each day.

Our projected numbers for 2019 are both impressive and frightening at the same time.

We are expecting to see over 80,000 guests, serve over 125,000 bowls of soup and pour over 200,000 cups of coffee. This is made possible by the seven amazing staff that I work with and volunteers that donate 2,500 hours of their time each month.

Do you remember a time when 1 dollar would buy you more than just a chocolate bar?

At Agape Table 1 dollar can put \$15 of food on our tables for our guests.

The unique culture that has been created at Agape Table is a remarkable sight, but unfortunately, we have become an essential service that is needed by more and more people every day.

With your help we look forward to having a successful 2020, so we can continue to nourish the mind, body and spirit of Winnipeg's marginalized community.

From my extended family, our staff and myself, I would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year.

*Dave Feniuk* 

## Your generosity changes lives!

Please donate to Agape Table



First name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Here is my gift of:  \$25  \$50  \$100  \$500 Other \_\_\_\_\_

My Cheque made payable to Agape Table is enclosed

I prefer to use:  Visa  Master Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_\_

Visit [www.agapetable.ca](http://www.agapetable.ca) or send in this form with your cheque or credit card information  
**Mailing Address:** Agape Table, PO Box 26111, Winnipeg MB, R3G 3R3



# AGAPE TABLE

# Nourishing Community

[www.agapetable.ca](http://www.agapetable.ca)



## Please support Agape Table this holiday season.

Donate online at [www.agapetable.ca](http://www.agapetable.ca) or use the form inside this newsletter. Thank you!

## Message from the Board

Christmas can be a time of plenty for many of us, filled with family events, good food and good cheer. At Agape we do our best to provide our guests with as many comforts of the season as possible. Thanks to you - our loyal supporters - we have been able to keep pace with the growing demand for our subsidized weekday breakfast, but we still need your help.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank you for your regular support. Your charitable giving makes it possible for us to do what we do. We are grateful for your generosity.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our staff, Jim, Dave, Tyler, Donna, Karen, Al, John, Ashley and Aaron for all that they do - every day - to bring good food, cheer and comfort to our guests.

I also want to thank our volunteers - individuals and groups alike - who share time with us serving our guests, preparing food, washing dishes, and keeping our modest rented space clean and organized so that our guests can dine in dignity.

And finally, I want to thank our guests - who are the heart of Agape, who bring their best selves to the table, spreading their own brand of respect and kindness to each other every day.

We are seeing more and more people coming to Agape and more evidence of poverty and need in our community. As we approach the holiday season, I ask you to consider making a charitable gift to Agape Table. Your support at this time of year will help us deliver the comfort and warmth our guests desire and deserve.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.

*Cathe Umlah*

Board Chair



# Eileen



Eileen started coming to Agape Table in the mid 1980's shortly after first moving to Winnipeg. She did not know anybody in Winnipeg and was terrified to go to Agape Table for the first time. After some time she got to know a lot of good people and began to volunteer shortly after and did so for 4 years.

**“Agape Table means everything to me; I have friends here that I respect.”**

While speaking with our long time employee Super AI, he told her “Did you know you could make an extra \$100 for volunteering?” Eileen told him “No, I don't want to do that, I already get

paid.” AI looked at her puzzled and said, “Eileen, what do you mean you already get paid?” Eileen said, “I get paid with the smiles of the people here.” She continued to say, “I will talk to anybody. Everybody is equal to me.”

Earlier this year Eileen lost feeling in her left leg below the knee for two months. While attending our Easter breakfast, Eileen had an unrelated seizure, and after receiving medical attention from paramedics, our General Manager Dave Feniuk had to convince her to go to the hospital to have a doctor look at her leg. She agreed to go to the hospital, but unfortunately, they could not save her leg. Her left leg was amputated the following day and she had to go through rehabilitation to learn how to get around in a wheelchair.

By July, she was back to Agape Table for breakfast regularly. Eileen is a strong and tough woman, which is why her daughter calls her “the never give up”.



No matter who walks through our door, I am able to identify with each guest in some way- big or small; the power of friendly conversation is simple and abundant each morning.

**I consider myself fortunate to be a part of something so much bigger than myself.**

Knowing that we are providing nourishment to the community and offering a safe and welcoming environment. I would like to invite you down for a cup of coffee to see the magic that we see happen every day

*Aaron S.*

# Aaron

My name is Aaron, I had been a volunteer for a number of months but I am writing this piece for the newsletter as the newest staff member here at Agape Table. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you what I have experienced and what I see during the daily operations at Agape Table.

Each day I greet hundreds of guests who are eager to sit down with friends to enjoy a conversation while having a cup of coffee and a hot meal. The utmost sense of belonging and community is what I have come to admire. This environment is what allows me to engage with all guests on a personal level. Everyday I see real purpose in our guests, and a solution that can be trusted.

# Message from the Executive Director



*Jim Steep*  
Executive Director

With the holiday season approaching, I reflect upon all that has happened at Agape Table in 2019. By year end, we will have served over 80,000 breakfasts, 200,000 cups of coffee and used 30,000 volunteer hours, the equivalent of 17 full-time staff. We are proud to say that we are in our 40th year of nourishing the community, providing a safe place for our guests to enjoy nutritious meals in comfort and dignity.

Our ultimate goal at Agape Table is to eventually no longer be needed, but that does not appear to be happening any time soon. The need for Agape

Table services is ever increasing, but we are proud to be able to provide food, clothing, toiletries and a compassionate ear to the inner city's most vulnerable.

At Agape Table we provide all of this without the help of your tax dollars, we are 100% donor funded. For 40 years we have relied solely on the generosity of the compassionate citizens of Manitoba.

**On behalf of the staff, volunteers and guests at Agape Table, I wish you a peaceful and joyous holiday season, and a happy and healthy 2020!**

Sincerely,

*Jim Steep*

Executive Director Agape Table

## Board of Directors

Cathe Umlah  
*Chair*

Guy Chartier  
*Vice Chair*

Scott Weber  
*Treasurer*

Courtney Weinstein  
*Secretary*

David Patton  
Emily Sanders  
Brian Degagne  
Andrew Feeney  
*Members at Large*

## Agape Team

Jim Steep  
*Executive Director*

Dave Feniuk  
*General Manager*

Tyler Engel  
*Volunteer Coordinator*

Vishali Wadhwa  
*Bookkeeper*

# Volunteer Application Form

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

