

MAKE

JESUS

KNOWN

AGAPÉ IRELAND  
Annual Report  
2021

agapé 



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# A NOTE FROM THE NLT

## NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

We are delighted to share this report on some of the highlights of 2021 with you.

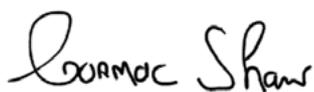
It has been another unusual year, as the COVID-19 pandemic continued to disrupt life as we knew it before March 2020. However, as we did in 2020, we have adapted the ways we work to continue with our mission to **MAKE JESUS KNOWN** on our

college campuses, in our communities, in our nation, and beyond. You can read about how we did this in the next few pages of this report.

Our finances have held up strongly over the past year. We are grateful to God for all our ministry partners who have continued to support our staff and our projects, despite the challenging economic climate. We are also thankful to Agapé Europe for their support and guidance throughout the year.

We thank our staff, our student reps and our Board members for their faith, trust and diligence, as they each played their part towards fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 18-20) and working together to bring the good news about Jesus to those who do not yet know Him.

*We thank God for His faithfulness and His mercy towards us and for His blessings and His wisdom as we continue to lead the ministry of Agapé here in Ireland. We pray for His favour to be on us as we press on towards the goal of making Jesus known and to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of us. (Philippians 3: 12)*



Cormac Shaw  
National Leadership Team



Chloe Hanan  
National Leadership Team

*'But how can people call for help if they don't know who to trust? And how can they know who to trust if they haven't heard of the One who can be trusted? And how can they hear if nobody tells them? And how is anyone going to tell them, unless someone is sent to do it?'*

Romans 10:14-15a, MSG

# WHAT WE BELIEVE



## Christ Centred

Agapé is centred on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore these inform our strategy, vision and mission.



## Bible Based

We base our understanding of life on what the Bible says.



## Evangelism

Agapé values taking the initiative and is committed to seeing movements of spiritual multiplication.



## People

Agapé believes in people and enjoys working with them. We value trust and respect.



## Transparency

Agapé values transparency and accountability in all aspects of our work, with a commitment to integrity.



## Collaboration

Agapé loves collaboration. Come partner with us.

# OUR STRATEGIC INTENT



Focus  
on our  
Strengths



Pioneer Into  
Missional Gaps



Love Jesus,  
Love People



Run an Agile & Effective  
Organisation



Raise  
Sustainable  
Leadership &  
Funding



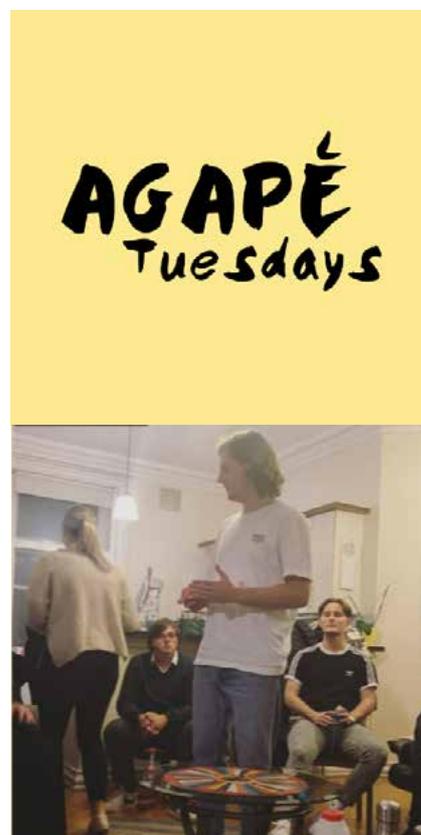
# SPRING

Our staff continued to engage with the student community during an intense period of national lockdown. This was done through the weekly **'AGAPÉ TUESDAY'** Bible study and discussion group for students. The group continued to be online over Zoom for the term due to COVID-19 restrictions.

**Over the term, the group studied a series on 'The Psalms', on 'Hope' and on 'Jesus in the Old Testament'.**

The talks were planned and led by Agapé Reps (student leaders) and staff. The group is open to any student and the team aims to make the talks and discussion times accessible and relevant to all students from all backgrounds. Students are encouraged to invite their friends. Five new students joined the group during the term.

The staff team developed their talks from Agapé Tuesdays into podcasts, which were published online. We averaged 30 downloads per week, connecting with some of our Agapé Europe community through this.



Staff met to pray together online each week. This included catching up with Kelly and Kate Mulholland who are currently serving in Lesvos, Greece.

Our campus intern, **Isaac Ward**, moved into the Faber Companions House in Dublin for the remainder of his internship. We were grateful to have had this arrangement with our friends in Faber.



Chloe Hanan and Cormac Shaw participated in online courses and group Learning Cohorts with Praxis. We appreciate the connection and learning resource that our partnership with Praxis brings to Agapé life.

- > In February, staff member Chloe Hanan attended the **online DALI European group**, a hub for Agapé Europe staff who initiated online projects during the COVID-19 pandemic. The community is aimed at sharing resources and making connections to help one another in this relatively new approach to ministry. Through this group, we got connected with funding and expertise that helped us develop the **KnowGod.ie** website.

Freda Owens and Brendan Byrne joined the Agapé Ireland Board in February.

The campus team ran a student evangelism training event called **'Spiritual Hitchhiking'**.

Staff met with students in person and over Zoom to go through questions from the Agapé National Student Belief Survey and to discuss faith, church and God.





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REVIEW OF 2021

# SUMMER

- > In May, the staff dropped **'exam survival packs'** to students as they prepared for exams. At Agapé Tuesdays, intern Isaac Ward spoke about what it means to have faith in God, and staff member Will Johnson spoke about joy and faith.



A consistent group of students attended the Agapé Tuesday online groups throughout the term including several students who joined during COVID-19 restrictions and who our staff hadn't yet met in person!

Campus staff spent a week reviewing and evaluating the year. Despite the challenges of continuing ministry activities during COVID-19 restrictions, we were thankful for the consistency we saw with Agapé Tuesdays, new students who had joined and the increased leadership shown by Agapé Reps.





> In June, **Will Johnson** finished his role as staff member after four years working with us, and **Isaac Ward** finished his internship. We are so thankful for what both Will and Isaac brought to Agapé during their time with us.

**Freda Owens** was elected Chair of the Board of Directors and **Cormac Shaw**, retired as Chair and joined our staff team as 'National Representative'.



The campus team met with the Belfast team for a KnowGod.ie summit that **Agapé Europe** Digital Director, John McNeill, attended. We worked together on developing content for the website and social media accounts.

> Over the summer, staff continued to do evangelism and support students to reach out to their peers. Staff also raised support for the coming year and took a well-deserved break!





# AUTUMN

- > In September, we were delighted to be able to resume meeting in person for events such as Agapé Tuesdays. **15 students attended the first week.**



**Levi Boardman** joined the team as our new campus intern.



The **Lahinch** student weekend away was held at the end of October, with 42 attending the retreat. Students surfed, walked, did karaoke and had talks and discussion times about God and faith. We had several new faces on the trip and several students on the weekend had significant conversations with staff and **Agapé Reps.**





Here are some of the comments we received:

*“Very approachable entry into an environment where faith is discussed”*

*“Open discussion would be an element of this event that my non Christian friends would enjoy. It is a great, judgement-free environment”*

*“I really believe in and respect Agape’s mission and how you guys go about it, and you’re also all only brilliant.”*

*“Incredible weekend worth sharing with more people.”*

- > The weekend was followed up with a **Lahinch reunion** night in Dublin, attended by 18 students.



Each week, our Campus staff spoke with multiple students on campus. It has been great getting back out and doing evangelism face-to-face again.

This strange stage of the COVID-19 pandemic presented some new challenges. We had to adapt how we approached students on campus, yet we still had many great conversations throughout these months.



# WINTER

- > We held an Agapé Ireland **'DAY OF PRAYER'** on 27 November at Crinken church, Shankill, Co. Dublin. Staff, Board members and friends of the ministry met in person and online to pray for Agapé's ministry and seek God's guidance for the future.



Cormac Shaw and his wife Karen and Chloe Hanan visited Kelly and Kate Mulholland in **Lesvos** to learn about the work they are doing there with **EuroRelief** and to plan the **Camino projects** for 2022.



As the college term wrapped up for 2021, the campus team spent time evaluating the term and planning for the coming year. As campuses continue to open up after COVID-19, we began planning some student retreats for 2022, a summer Camino and a visit with student leaders to NUI Galway.

We also planned a staff retreat for early January 2022.

We moved out of our Dun Laoghaire office at the end of the year, as the owners of the building decided to move their business there. Our office staff had all been working from home since March 2020, so this was not a major inconvenience.

**We will be exploring options for a new office in 2022.**

# OUR ACCOUNTS FOR 2021

## INCOME OVER SIX YEARS



*'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'*

*Luke 19:17 NIV*



*Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."*

*James 4:13-15 NIV*

## AGAPÉ MINISTRIES IRELAND

# INCOME

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	€	€
General donations	12,892	11,395
Designated donations	9,765	5,000
Support from Agapé Europe	15,500	-
Donations for local staff	205,896	202,153
Tax reclaimed	39,902	28,848
Conferences and summer projects	2,386	30
Other income	9,489	2,440
	<b>295,830</b>	<b>249,866</b>
Overhead expenses	(260,920)	(224,999)
<b>Net surplus</b>	<b>34,910</b>	<b>24,867</b>

**AGAPÉ MINISTRIES IRELAND**

# OVERHEAD EXPENSES

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	€	€
Wages and salaries	129,034	114,787
Social welfare costs	13,277	11,862
Management services	66,000	56,000
Contributions to Global Mission Fund	5,606	4,638
Rent payable and utilities	13,315	13,700
Insurance	1,413	1,253
Printing, postage and stationery	2,773	1,701
Advertising	2,251	2,224
Telephone	757	1,096
Computer costs	2,743	3,748
Travelling expenses	6,267	3,406
Bank charges	446	637
General expenses	595	175
Conferences and summer projects	12,122	4,220
Auditor's remuneration	4,321	5,552
	<b>260,920</b>	<b>224,999</b>



# MAKE JESUS KNOWN

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## BOARD MEMBERS:

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