



**SUSANNAH CLARKE**  
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## DEAR FRIENDS & FAMILY,

**Isaiah 25:1** says, "O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure." I trust this finds you doing well. We have so much to be thankful for as we begin this new year!

**Hebrews 13:1-2** says, "Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Over the past few weeks, I have been able to visit and spend time with dozens of refugees here in Pittsburgh. Through the ministry and outreach of Agapao, I have had the privilege of personally delivering diapers, formula, and other necessary items to hundreds of refugees in need. Some of the refugees have invited me back for meals and to meet their families. These visits have given me a wonderful opportunity to get to know the refugees personally and better understand their unique backgrounds and various needs. The COVID-19 pandemic in America and subsequent job losses combined with school closures and limited community events have made life extremely difficult for the refugees, many of whom were already struggling prior to the events of 2020. As I enter their homes and talk with them, I sometimes feel overwhelmed with the enormous challenges they face, but I know that God has put me in their lives for a reason and is using me to show them His love.

Let me introduce you to Dilli, a young refugee mother from Nepal. She lives in a tiny apartment with her husband and two young boys and is expecting a third baby boy due in April. When I met her for the first time last week, I brought her some diapers and baby supplies for the new baby. She thanked me for the gifts and then invited me into her home and quickly prepared some traditional Nepali tea for me. As we sat on the sofa talking, she told me she was originally from Bhutan but had moved to Nepal as a child. Her entire life prior to coming to America was spent in a refugee camp with her family.



Although her English is still somewhat limited, she said she loves Jesus and is glad to have met me. When I left, she said the next time I visit she will make some Nepali food for me. Please pray for Dilli as I get to know her better in the coming weeks and share God's love with her and her family.

Recently, I have also had the opportunity to teach some of the refugee moms how to bake. Most of the refugee women grew up in refugee camps and countries where they used kerosene stoves or bio-briquettes to cook and heat their food with. As a result, they do not know how to use an oven or bake. The very first time I visited one of the refugee ladies to teach her how to make a cake, I was surprised to find she had invited another woman to join us for the class. We had a wonderful afternoon together and learned how to make a delicious chocolate cake. Her children also loved the cake and asked when I will come back to make other cakes. I look forward to visiting these women again in the future and developing deeper friendships with them.

In addition to my work with Agapao, I continue to volunteer with Youth With a Mission (YWAM) and assist with their kids club for the refugee children. Last Saturday, we had 49 children in attendance, the majority of whom were younger than 10

years old. Every weekend, the children enjoy playing various games together, singing songs, watching a fun skit, learning a Bible story, doing a craft, and eating some snacks. It is such a joy to watch these kids grow and become more confident in their communication skills as well as their interpersonal relationships with others. Please pray for this program and that God would continue to bless the ministry of YWAM.

Thank you so much for those of you who have given so generously to support my mission to the refugees. I could not do this work without people like you. Although my monthly support levels have been lower in recent months, God has faithfully met my needs and I am thankful. May God bless you and give you a wonderful year in 2021!

**Susannah Clarke**



#### CONTACT ME!

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