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# OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY

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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S GOAL FOR OUR WORLD IN OUR COMMUNITY

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. believed in a world where "all people can share in the wealth of the earth" without poverty, hunger, homelessness, racism, discrimination, or reliance on military power to settle disputes (The King Center). He named this idea the "Beloved Community," which became his goal for our world. While recognizing that human conflict is inevitable, he, alongside many others, believes that a world built on the basis of agape love and acceptance is a possibility if the community values the same goals.

## AGAPE LOVE

Dr. King described Agape love as "an overflowing love which is purely spontaneous, unmotivated, groundless, and creative." agape love is "love seeking to preserve and create community" because it is right, regardless of the person, time, or place (The King Center).



## HOW CAN WE CONTRIBUTE TO OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY?

Although the "Beloved Community" is a global vision, there are still many steps we can take to transform this vision into a possibility in our own community. You can show agape love, "love others for their sakes," and contribute to the greater goal by:

- "Pay It Forward" and purchase a stranger's order at a restaurant or coffee shop.
- Volunteer at local homeless shelters, food banks, donation centers and other organizations that directly benefit your community.
- Donate finances, clothes, or other items to those in need.
- Show love to your everyone, from your closest friends to your enemies, by listening to them, showing them kindness, and treating them equally.
- Educate others about Dr. King's vision and help them become involved as well.