



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Notes From The Neighborhood

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A Message from Nathan

We have started a new year and we anticipate the awesome new things that God is going to do in the transformation of individuals' lives and in our community as we faithfully serve him.

In 2009 we heard of a number of people that were struggling in various areas. For some they had hit rock bottom dealing with depression due to circumstances that surrounded them. We heard from individuals that had lost loved ones and their jobs in the same timeframe. Individuals who needed encouragement...they needed renewal. Love INC was the first point of contact.

The Intake Specialists were able to give hope to many of the clients dealing with these overwhelming obstacles. They were able to pray and share the joy and hope of Jesus. One man as mentioned in our Love Story this month, has been greatly encouraged and has made awesome progress in his life. To God be the glory great things he has done.

Love In the Name of Christ DeKalb/Sycamore has been able to provide quality resources and individuals to help others bring renewal and rebirth to their life situations. "Jesus came that we may have life and have it abundantly." We want others through Jesus to experience that life. For Jesus is greater than any difficulty we face. Building relationships with individuals and letting them know that in Christ all things will hold together is an awesome responsibility. As we talk with new friends, we revive our friends' hope.

Nathan Scott,
Executive Director

A Love Story

When is a pair of eyeglasses more than just a pair of

eyeglasses? When Love INC is involved, you can be sure that a whole lot of blessings are involved as well.

Seven months ago, a man who said he needed a new pair of eyeglasses was referred to Love INC by one of our partner churches, Salem Lutheran. When our volunteer finished the intake interview, it was apparent that the man needed more.

The client shared that he was dealing with the recent deaths of both his father and his wife, and he needed help to donate all of his wife's clothing and personal belongings. He also needed money to keep his phone on, and he was struggling to pay for necessary medication for depression and other medical issues. Moreover, his unemployment benefits had run out and bills were piling up.

Our verification process confirmed that all the needs were real, and volunteers immediately got to work to find assistance. Here are some of the results:

- DeKalb Community Services provided help with utility bills.
- St Vincent de Paul of St. Mary Church was the recipient of many of the personal belongings that needed to be donated.
- Salvation Army offered assistance.
- One of our partner churches provided spiritual outreach.
- Volunteers offered encouragement, listening ears, and counsel, resulting in the client getting out and meeting friends, praying, and beginning to look for an area church home.

And of course, the eyeglasses—a pair was found through the Lions Club and donated by Eye Deal Optical in DeKalb. Now the client can see the world, and the blessings shown to us all through the love of Christ, so much more clearly!



Wants and Needs

Beds in good condition (various sizes)
Lightly used mattresses
Electric heaters
Gas vouchers
Kitchen tables & chairs
Dressers
Sofas
Living room tables

For the clearinghouse, we need paper and office supplies. Please call the clearinghouse for specific needs, 815-217-0082.

Someone You Should Know

Smiley face, sun glasses poised top of the head, a bounce in the step, where is the need, there is the solution. Tarryn Thaden, board member and chair of MOM, is the icon of focusing on the opportunity to assist, finding the resource, and follow through for the results. In her wake are satisfaction and fun. Let's go again.

Tarryn has been a member and leader in the First Lutheran Church in DeKalb for ten years. She has served in several positions including 2 years as president of the church council. She understands how to meld differences into results.

When she attended a meeting introducing Love INC, she identified the opportunity with her passion of mission to the community. She became a member of the initial board and a committee member of Resource Development.

With her training in architectural design and the community contacts, she pursued the acquisition and design of the Love INC clearinghouse transforming empty office space into the pleasant dynamic capability modeled by Love INC to serve the community.

Then she shifted attention to public awareness and formed the Marketing Our Ministry team which provides visibility of results to the community. One of these is the GAP ministry, the Linen Closet at First Lutheran, shepherded by the "Linen Sisters". It has been reported there has been heard a humming of the popular contemporary hymn "Bringing In the Sheets".

Tarryn, looking forward, sees Love INC moving to the next steps of Relational Ministry and Community Development. She wants to experience

personally providing mission service outside the United States, too. She gets a lot of mileage out of 24 hours.

Gap Ministries

As our ministry to provide household goods and furniture has grown, so has the need for a Furniture Moving Ministry. Several groups and individuals have provided occasional help: Blackhawk Moving, Helping Hands (1st Baptist, Sycamore) and Second Saturday (Christ Community). Now one of our partner churches has stepped up to organize a permanent group to provide of movers. Hillcrest Covenant Men's Group has decided to fill this Gap Ministry. The group meets every Saturday morning for prayer and fellowship (and breakfast). Last summer, several volunteered on a Saturday morning to move furniture from a donor to storage. Each year, Hillcrest focuses on a different part of Christ's call. This year it is service.

The group decided that to develop a Moving Ministry would be a good way to serve the community. So far, over a dozen men have offered their time to be a part of the ministry. The movers pick up furniture from a donor and take it either to one of our storage units or right to the recipient. They can also take furniture from storage to a recipient.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, contact Hillcrest church at 815-756-5508.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ March 20 --- "Heart for the Community" conference at First Baptist Church in Sycamore. To get registration materials call our office or email Nathan (both contacts are below).
- ❖ Annual Meeting- March 11th at 7 p.m.
- ❖ April 10 - 1st Annual Love INC Banquet at St Mary Memorial Hall, Sycamore
- ❖ April 20 - 25 Love INC national conference in Minneapolis

Thanks

Thanks to:

- Hillcrest Covenant Men's Group for their furniture moving ministry.
- First Lutheran for Linen Closet
- Helping Hands First Baptist Sycamore for their furniture moving and other assistance.