



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Notes From The Neighborhood

May 2010
Volume 1 Number 9

A Message from Nathan

What an encouragement! The first Love INC DeKalb/Sycamore annual banquet was attended by 190 individuals who wanted to learn more about what this ministry is doing.

The evening was a blessing of wonderful food prepared by Nat's on Maple, music provided by the Good News! Gospel Quartet, and a video documentary prepared by Jim Barker that featured families helped by Love INC and the Linens Ministry supported by First Lutheran Church. Contributions by these and many other individuals and local businesses made the evening a beautiful experience.

We appreciated the flexibility of the staff of Sycamore's St. Mary's Memorial Hall in helping this event take place smoothly. We are thankful also for the decision of many to join our financial support team and partner with us in mobilizing the church to transform lives and our communities—something we are actively doing as we were able to show and share at our banquet. The Lord has used this ministry to bring hope and build relationships with individuals who are struggling.

Examples abound of how the Lord has used the body of Christ—the Love INC community— to assist others. A single parent was given assistance by fixing her car so she could get to work and provide for her child. A generous member of the community was able to provide financial help for a young mother to attend a trade school so she could better her situation and get a good job so she could support herself and her two young kids. Household goods were found for a father and his daughter so they were able to have a comfortable home. Families have been given beds, bedding, and kitchen and bath linens that brightened their lives.

As we celebrate our first anniversary of being open to the public, may our relationship with our partner churches become stronger and may others have the desire to join the Love

INC ministry so that together we can bring positive change to our communities and help individuals who would otherwise go unassisted.

I want to thank the Love INC banquet committee: Kathy Butler, chair, Wayne Joslin, Lanny Sanner, Helen Maurer, Todd Peterson, and Tarryn Thaden for their hard work and many hours devoted to making our first annual banquet a success.

Nathan Scott,
Executive Director

Love Story

**OUR MISSION IS
BEING
ACCOMPLISHED!**



Love In the Name of Christ was blessed to have reached a milestone in April ... our one-year Anniversary! That equates to 12 months of churches partnering together, mobilizing their members to help those in need and, in the process, strengthening our community. The number of churches has grown to 31. Our mission is being accomplished!

The culmination of these efforts was our First Annual Love INC Banquet / Fundraiser held at the very beautiful St Mary's Memorial Hall in Sycamore. Eighteen of our partner churches were represented that night along with 1 non-partner church from Hinckley and 2 from Rockford. A near capacity crowd of 190 people enjoyed a night of great food, great music and great fun.

Many Gap Ministries were showcased in an effort to bring attention to their missions allowing others to learn of the wonderful work being done in the community and encourage others who have been looking for ways to get involved to participate.

The support poured out that night showing once again that the DeKalb / Sycamore community is ready, willing and able to do God's work by helping those in need. Pledges were promised and cash received for a total of over \$17,000. These donations will be used to further mobilize churches in our communities.

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS FAITHFULNESS!

Someone You Should Know

This month's Someone You Should Know is Todd Peterson, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in DeKalb. The Petersons have ministered at Trinity since 1997. Pastor Todd first heard about Love INC through the pastor network in the DeKalb/Sycamore area. He attended a presentation at Christ Community where he learned more about the ministry.

One of the things that attracted Pastor Todd to Love INC was the ecumenical nature of Love INC. He believes that the ministry is blessed and enriched when believers from several churches can come together to do the Lord's work in our community. He liked the creedal nature, the commonality of churches working together.

He was also intrigued by the concept of the clearinghouse, one common, coordinated effort to meet the material needs of the poor in our community.

Pastor Todd has been a member of the Board of Directors since our beginning. He serves on the Community Relations committee, whose role is to make the community aware of the ministry and to work alongside agencies and organizations to help those in need. He is also a part of the new Reconciliation Committee with Angela Barron-Jeffrey and Russ Bishop. This committee's mission is to provide resources for personal reconciliation for our clients.

And for those who attended our banquet last month, Pastor Todd worked with Nat's on Maple, to provide that wonderful meal. He was one of those persons running around,

making sure we all had a place to sit, plenty of food and drink, and an enjoyable evening.

Thanks, Todd, for all your time and effort to help to make Love INC a success.

You Name the Date!

The Linen Sisters from First Lutheran Church, DeKalb, have offered to come to your Sunday service, leadership meeting, or other gathering to describe their experience with a start-up gap ministry and offer ideas and encouragement for starting your own. Please call 815-758-0643 to arrange a date.

Upcoming Events

- May 23 – Church Ministry Coordinator Training at Hillcrest Covenant Church, 9:30 – 11:30 AM (tentative)
- June 4-5 – Micah 6:8 Conference at Park Community Church in Chicago. Go to conversationsnext.com to register online

Wants and Needs

- Beds in good condition (various sizes)
- Lightly used mattresses
- Gas vouchers to be distributed by several churches
- Kitchen tables & chairs
- Dressers
- Sofas
- Living room tables
- Bikes
- Paper Products including towels, napkins, toilet paper
- For the clearinghouse, we need paper and office supplies. Please call the clearinghouse for specific needs, 815-217-0082.

Thanks

Thanks to:

- All the volunteers who worked to make our banquet a success.
- The Gap Ministries that displayed their work at the banquet. You are an inspiration to others.