



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Notes From The Neighborhood

February 2011

From the director's desk:

As you may have heard by now the National office of Love In the Name of Christ located in Minnesota has closed its office due to financial reasons. This news to us came in mid January. This closing will not have an effect on our local ministry here in the DeKalb/Sycamore area. All Love INC affiliates are separate non-profit organizations and we are able to carry on with the Love INC mission and ministry in our local community. Over the last year and a half we have learned many things and grown in our stability as an organization that is impacting homes in our community. We continue to move forward with excitement even during this time of loss of the National office. As I look at this incident I can see God's hand at work. He allowed us to become part of this awesome movement in perfect timing to receive proper training, understand the best process for the work we do, stabilize in the building of programs, and be able to communicate with the National office as needed on various matters. We are thankful for the many volunteers that keep the Love INC of DeKalb/Sycamore going and their active compassion for those in need. Intake workers, moving teams, and financial partners are all needed to continue to make a life changing difference in peoples' lives. Consider how you may take part in reaching out to those in need. It is a privilege directing this ministry that lovingly is following the examples Christ has given by "Helping churches help others," one need at a time.

Our Love In the Name of Christ is working as churches are engaging with the community. Here is an example: First Lutheran church coordinates the Linen Ministry, one of our GAP ministries that meets specific needs. Over time they have had contact with many individuals as they deliver linens, pillows, and blankets. Just recently I was visiting with the church staff there and the one overseeing the ladies Bible study on Wednesday nights shared a very positive note with me. Currently

half of the ladies involved in their Bible study are a result of referrals from Love INC for the Linen Ministry. That is a partial reason of why Love INC exists: "to mobilize the church to transform lives." It was exciting to hear of these connections of how not just the need was met to help people sleep at night, but they are forming a connection with people through their weekly studies. The evening also consists of a meal prior to the study and offers a children's ministry program while the ladies are in the Bible study and currently going through the Fruit of the Spirit.

This is an awesome growing opportunity of needs being met, biblical teaching taking place, and positive relationships being built as Christ is being served. *They do have a need perhaps some of you can help fill* so these connections begun by Love In the Name of Christ may continue to grow and bear more fruit. Transportation is needed for these ladies that are attending. Are you available to help meet this need on Wednesday evenings? If you desire to do this please contact First Lutheran Church in DeKalb at 758-0643 and ask for Mrs. Nelson.

-Nathan Scott, Executive Director

Annual Meeting

I hope you will put in your schedule to be part of our annual meeting on March 24th at 7:00p.m. It will be located at The Church in Dekalb (TcD) which is located at 122 S. 1st St in DeKalb. This church is at the east end of the old Montgomery Ward store by the railroad tracks, across the street (east) from Walgreens. Come see what God has done, how you can serve, approve our new board of directors, meet them, and see where we are going with our vision. Come join us for an evening of praise!

"Our mission is to mobilize the churches of DeKalb/Sycamore to transform lives and our communities In the Name of Christ"

Needs

Specific items mentioned below will be given to the church that oversees that specific ministry in working with those in need

- Intake Volunteers for one shift a week (9:00-12:00). Thursday and Fridays are the most needed.
- Diapers
- Paper Goods
- Gas gift cards
- Moving Teams (a good family, small group, youth group and/or college group ministry)
- Financial gifts for Love In the Name of Christ DeKalb/Sycamore
- Lamps
- Refreshments for our Annual Meeting

A Love Story...

Coming Together

As the Moving Ministry gathers momentum evidence of mutual support from several area churches is visible. It is apparent there is recognition that more in the community can be effectively served by getting together from the neighborhood for the neighborhood.

On Saturday, December 18, four churches had members available for the three hour event. First Lutheran DeKalb, New Hope, DeKalb First United Methodist, and Sycamore United Methodist were making a difference in DeKalb, Sycamore, Cortland, Waterman, and Elburn. Vehicles were supplied by First Lutheran in addition to the Love INC trailer.

Appliances, living room furniture, kitchen furniture, and bedroom furniture were picked up and delivered to several homes. It was obvious that sharing the bounty of the community is the right thing to be done. Placing the items where needed help those who need and helps those who can provide. As Rev. Roy Nelson, First Lutheran, said. "Everyone seems to be having fun". Ministry with 'magination

Thank you...

- Foursquare Church in DeKalb for the special offering that assisted the GAP Ministries of gas vouchers and Diapers
- Erica Scott, Sharon Williams, and Laurie Hillman for serving as Clearinghouse Coordinators.

Upcoming Events

- February 21st: Intake training 10 a.m. at our office (these training times are always on the 3rd Monday of the month)
- March 24th: Annual Meeting @ The Church in DeKalb.
- May 1st: Annual Banquet (more details coming)

Reading...

Over the last few months I've been able to read a number of books dealing with poverty and serving those that are living in that population. If you like reading and want to be stretched in the area of caring for those in need in our communities you might want to check into the following books:

The Invisible: What the Church Can Do to Find and Serve the Least of These by Arloa Sutter She reflects on things she has learned in her days of ministry in Chicago. She is the founder of Breakthrough Urban Ministries. .

Also in **Who Is My Neighbor** author Wayne Gordon looks at the parable of the Good Samaritan in a way that will make you think differently about those you are in contact with daily.

"I want to say thanks for everything that you have done for me and my son. God bless you all."

-from one we were able to serve