



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Fall Love Letter

3rd Quarter
2011



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2011 Local CROP Hunger Walks Sunday, October 2nd

The 2011 Newaygo/Grant CROP Hunger Walk will be held at the Newaygo United Methodist Church on **Sunday afternoon, October 2nd**. The event will begin at 12:30 p.m. with a soup and bread meal, followed by prayer and the start of the walk at 1:00 p.m. In 2010, over 170 walkers from 14 different churches raised over \$12,900 to help with disaster relief, community development, and hunger relief both internationally and right here in Newaygo County. This year our goal is to have 15 churches participating, raising \$15,000. The Love INC Community Food Pantry receives 25% of all funds raised. Local funds will be matched \$1/\$1 by the Fremont Area Community Foundation. For our Fremont churches, the Fremont CROP Walk will also be held, Sunday, October 2nd. We encourage you to participate. For information on the Newaygo/Grant Walk, please call Love INC at



231.652.4099 x 24. For information on the Fremont walk, please call Marcia Pinder at 231.924.5875 or Karen Baker at 231.652.7247.

Walk as a continuation of your Sunday worship... walk in memory of a loved one...walk with your family and friends. If you cannot attend, please consider joining the team by sponsoring one of the walkers. We hope to see you there!

Our mission is to mobilize the Church to transform lives and communities in the Name of Christ.

Bailey Back to School Outreach— a Great Success!



On August 20th, Bailey Christian Church held their Annual Back to School Outreach. Over 160 children received backpacks filled with grade appropriate school supplies. Each year Love INC partners with BCC in the outreach, providing monetary support, mittens, hats, coats, boots, books, and stuffed animals. It's a day filled with fun, excitement and love. In addition, this year over 300 backpacks were also given to children through the Sparta Migrant Resource Program. Thank you to all who participated and gave. God Bless You!



Love INC Trailer

*available to our churches
for onsite donation drives*

If your church would like to hold a donation drive for Love INC, our 6' x 12' trailer is available for ease of onsite collection and storage. Food drives and collection of gently used items for the resale store are much appreciated! For more information, please call the Love INC office at 231.652.4099.





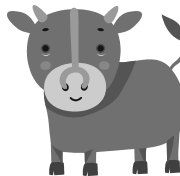
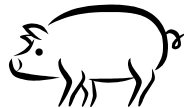
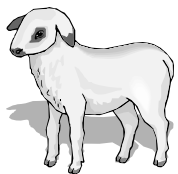
FOOD PANTRY NEWS

It's Harvest Time!

Dear Gardeners and Farmers,

As you harvest your fall fruit and vegetable crops, please consider donating out of your abundance to the Love INC Community Food Pantry. Shoppers always enjoy the opportunity to receive fresh fruits and vegetables to feed their families. We would also like to thank everyone who donated produce to the pantry throughout the summer months—you are a big part of the reason we are able to serve 850-1,000 families each month.

* * * * *



Thank You 2011 Newaygo County 4-H Fair Donors

Though we don't have the final tally on meat donations or the final list of donors, we wish to extend a big THANK YOU to all of our generous fair donors, including The Fremont Area Community Foundation, the Gerber Foundation, Chemical Bank, Gerber Products, Jim Teusink, Jon Bumstead, Lincoln Construction, Ensing Water Care, Health Service Associates, Black Creek Farms, Becky Stroven, Plumb's INC, and the Steve Boverhof Family. Hundreds of community members will benefit from the beef, pork, lamb and poultry donations. Your investment in people's lives is a wonderful way to show love—in the Name of Christ!



Calling all Hunters—Venison Needed!

A great way to enjoy hunting and help other families in the process....

Michigan hunting season is upon us. If you love to hunt, but can't always use all the venison, or would be willing to fill another tag for our Love INC Food Pantry, we would be most grateful! Venison is wonderful protein and a real treat for our pantry families.

If you would like to donate venison to the Love INC Community Food Pantry, Cushman's Meat Processing, (11575 Brickyard Rd, Holton, MI), will **process, free of charge**, any venison being donated to a local food pantry. For more information, contact Tracy at Love INC 231.652.4099 x 18.

Directions to Cushman's:

Take M-82 west out of Fremont, cross over Maple Island Rd. (M-82 now changes to Skeels Rd/CR-B861). Go west 1 mile on Skeels Rd and turn left onto Brickyard Rd. Go south 0.2 miles, Cushman's is on the right. (231-924-6151)

eBay Volunteer Needed

Throughout the year, our resale store receives items that are unusual/unique/collectible requiring research to determine marketability and resale value. Peg, our Store Manager, is looking for a volunteer who is internet savvy and would be willing to research items and post them for sale on eBay/Craigslist. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please contact Peg at 231.652.4099 x 13.

2012 Bake Sale Volunteer Coordinator Needed



Each Spring, Love INC holds a benefit auction. Prior to the live auction, there is a silent auction bake sale. We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate the bake sale this coming year. If this interests you, please call Peg at 231.652.4099 x 13.

Snowflake Ministry is kicking off the 2011-12 Season!

Snowflake Ministry is an opportunity available during the winter holiday season to help families in our area. Several of the Love INC partner churches join together to provide local families in need with all of the makings for delicious Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. In addition, each child receives a "need" gift (boots, shoes, shirt, pants, pajamas, etc.) with their family's Christmas food basket. Last year 150 families participated in the program and 406 children received a special Christmas gift. This ministry is a wonderful way to show Christ's love to others during a very tough time of the year. If God has laid it on your heart to help those in need through the Snowflake Ministry, please contact Sue Black, Love INC Program Assistant, at 231.652.4099 x 24 or at sueb@loveincnewaygo.com. Thank you! **"Christians are like snowflakes...alone they are fragile, together they can stop traffic!"**





♥♥♥ **Love Notes** ♥♥♥

Thanks to the RAMP ministry and all the volunteers for our ramp. We really do appreciate it and use it for more than one person. T.B. and Family



We really wanted to thank Dick and you for working so hard to help us with our electricity. We appreciate your working so fast and willingly. Thank you. W. C.



Rita,

It was a pleasure meeting you last week. I would like to thank you again for helping us with getting a new hot water tank.

Yeah! Hot water! Take Care, C.I.

Dear Love INC,

Thanks for the Bunk Beds and thanks for putting your time & effort towards getting these bunk beds made for us. Thanks again. Sincerely, K.R.

Dear Love Ink,

Thanks for coming and putting our bunk bed together and for making the bed. Sincerely, R. Family

(the letters above were written by the kids receiving the beds)



Thank you sincerely for helping with our electric bill and for the beautiful couch. The generous gift was an answer to prayer. God bless you in your works. D.H.



I would like to pray for all the Love INC workers—May God bless them all! R.D. *(a prayer note left in the food pantry)*

**Congratulations Peg!
10 years serving at
Love INC**



This past August marked Peg Breen's 10 year anniversary with Love In the Name of Christ—Newaygo County. Peg is our Resale Store Manager. She enjoys serving the Lord at Love INC and has seen the ministry grow significantly over the past decade—in the number of families served as well as in the number of volunteers serving. We appreciate Peg's willingness to pitch-in and help wherever help is needed. She lives in the Grant area with her husband, son, daughter, 3 dogs, and 2 goats!! Thanks, Peg, for your many years of service—we love you!

Anniversary Wishes

*To Our Love INC
Board Members*



Howard and Pat Bronkema will celebrate their 50th Anniversary on October 20th. Howard is our current Board President and both he and Pat volunteer in our resale store.

Bill and Brenda Shafer will celebrate their 40th Anniversary in the month of October as well. Brenda serves on the Love INC Board and helps out in the resale store with our auctions and pricing of antique items.

Congratulations to both couples. May God Bless You!

Love INC Growing Hope Relational Ministry—Serve Jesus and our Community

The Growing Hope Program provides individuals and families with opportunities for life change through Godly relationships with caring Christians who provide support, encouragement, and the love of Christ. The **Personal Growth Classes** offer training in a variety of areas (Bible, Nutrition, Cooking, Computer, Job Search, etc.). **Financial Management Classes** provide fundamental budgeting tools to participants—all from a Biblical perspective. **Budget Mentors** help participants use those financial management tools to set goals, problem solve, and move toward a place of hope and stability—financially, spiritually and emotionally. **The Children's Program and Childcare Providers** wrap around the children, spiritually and emotionally, and strive to show them the Love of Jesus Christ. **(All classes take place on Monday evenings 6:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. at River Valley Community Church—on the corner of M-37 and 88th Street in Newaygo.)**

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

Mentoring is a Privilege

As each new group graduates from the Financial Management Class, new mentors are needed to help them begin to apply all of the tools they have acquired. Mentoring is a one year commitment, 1-2 hours a week. Mentoring can be done one on one, mentors can do team mentoring, couples can mentor another couple..the options are numerous and the blessings are eternal. Please consider making this commitment. You may contact Laurie Plakmeyer, Love INC Relational Ministry Coordinator, for more information. 231.652.4099 x 25 or email her at lauriep@loveincnewaygo.com



**Growing Hope Childcare Providers
Sharing Christ's Love**

During each 7-week Growing Hope session, as parents are taking Bible study classes and learning to manage their finances more efficiently, Renee Carroll and her team of volunteers are watching over, teaching, and loving their children. As each new class begins, the need for adult and youth volunteers arises. If you would be willing to commit to helping out for a 7-week session in the future, please call Laurie Plakmeyer at 231.652.4099 x 25



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Service & Contact Information

11 W. 96th Street
Grant, MI 49327

Phone: 231.652.4099

Fax: 231.652.4079

E-mail:

info@loveincnewaygo.com



2011 Love INC Hours of Operation

Resale Store

M, W, Th, F: 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Tuesdays: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Food pantry

M, W, Th, F: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tuesdays: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tues. Eve: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

We will register people to use the pantry until we reach the limit we can serve by closing time each day.

Office and Clearinghouse

M - Th: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tue. Eve (as needed): 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Love INC Staff

Michele Zimmerman, Executive Director
Rita Astras, Clearinghouse Coordinator
Laurie Plakmeyer, Rel. Ministry Coord.
Kathy Kuperus, Clearinghouse Assistant
Dick Ringlever, Clearinghouse Assistant
Sue Black, Program Assistant
Tracy Conley, Food Pantry Coordinator
Kathy Fehsenfeld, Food Pantry Assistant
Peggy Breen, Resale Store Manager
Amanda Hughes, Asst. Store Manager
Renee Carroll, Childcare

Love INC Core Values:

- * We are Christian. Everything we think, say and do is in the Name of Christ.
- * Prayer is an integral part of who we are.
- * We follow Christ's example of valuing those in need.
- * We value unity of the Body of Christ.
- * We value transformation in the lives of people and communities.
- * We value churches living out the two great commandments to love God and love their neighbors.
- * We value building Christ-like relationships.
- * We value connectedness of the Love INC movement.
- * We model excellence.
- * We value continually maturing in our capacity to meet people's needs.

2010/11 Financially Supporting Churches of Love INC:

Amazing Grace Acres Church
Ashland Center Church of Christ
Bailey Christian Church
Chapel Hill United Methodist Church
Christian Life Center of Fremont
Church of the Living Christ
Croton Community Church
Croton Trinity Bible Church
Dayton Center Wesleyan
Ensley Baptist Church
Family of God Community Church
First Baptist Church—Fremont
First Christian Reformed Church
First Congregational Church
First Reformed Church
Fremont Christian Church—DOC
Fremont Church of the Nazarene
Fremont United Methodist Church
Fremont Wesleyan Church
Grace Bible Church
Grant Christian Reformed Church
Grant Reformed Church
Grant Community Church

Grant Wesleyan Church
Hesperia Baptist Church
Kent City Baptist Church
New Community Church—Newaygo
New Life Fellowship Church
Newaygo United Church of Christ
Newaygo United Methodist Church
Northland Church of Christ
Pine Grove Community Church
Redeemer Lutheran Church
Reeman Christian Reformed Church
River Valley Community Church
Sand Lake United Methodist
Second Christian Reformed Church
Seventh Day Baptist Church
South Ensley United Methodist
St. Bartholomew Catholic Church
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Trinity Christian Reformed Church
Victory Fellowship Church
White Cloud United Methodist Church

♥ Thank You ♥



Shelley's Spot



We have had the opportunity to meet with several people lately...to hear their life stories...lives filled with pain, depression, anger, drugs, sexual abuse, shattered dreams and confusion...all of them searching for hope beyond the hurt. We listened and we cried. I asked God why He brought them across my path when I feel so inadequate to do anything to help...why? What are you asking of me Lord? And then His answer..."I am asking you to PRAY my daughter...pray for wisdom, insight, and the ability to see people through My eyes. Love them as I do." So I prayed and then opened my eyes and saw this devotional

hanging on the bulletin board in my office...how appropriate...how like God.

The promise to pray for someone going through hard times rolls easily off our tongues. But do we really mean it? Our sisters, brothers, and children in the faith need our committed involvement in their lives.

Prayer is not a last resort, but a first-rate privilege. We don't know how to pray as we ought, but we ought to pray anyway. We never know why some things happen as they do, but we stand upon the rocky shore of life and keep on praying—because **prayer changes the one who prays as much as it changes those for whom we pray.**

Some people think their prayers have fallen on deaf ears, but they have not. It takes faith to know that. Faith is the ability to let your light shine even after your fuse is blown. Faith is seeing light with the eyes of your heart—when the eyes of your body see only darkness ahead.

God is changing things through our willingness to pray and keep at it. While sorrow looks back and worry looks around, faith looks up. As we pray, we may face finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope.

(by Barbara Johnson)

Love,

Shelley Zimmerman ♥