



Love INC  
Love In the Name of Christ

# Winter Love Letter

4th Quarter 2011 

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



## Welcome 2012 Love INC Board Members

Please join us in welcoming new board members Janiece Zahrt, Cheryl Rogers, and Bob Rosenberg.

**Janiece**—from Fremont area, is a registered dietician, a member of First CRC in Fremont, has a heart for people, and is excited to be a part of the Love INC team.

**Cheryl**—from White Cloud area, is an elementary school teacher, a member of New Life Assembly, and desires to use her free time to serve the Lord and those in need.

**Bob**— from Fremont area, a business owner in White Cloud and Grant, desires to share his love for the Lord and his business sense through the Love INC Ministry.

## 2011 Newaygo Area Community Christmas Concert

**Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.**

**Resurrection Life Church**

**(302 E. 68th Street, Newaygo)**

Please join us as our community comes together this Christmas Season for an evening of praise in music and song. The Concert will feature an area-wide adult choir as well as various vocal and instrumental numbers. The evening's offering will benefit local ministry. Come and enjoy the sounds of the Christmas Season. Your heart will be blessed!

**"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men."**



## Soup's On!! is back for the Advent Season!

During the seasons of Advent and Lent, the Newaygo Ministerial Association (NAMA) sponsors soup and bread luncheons for the community. The semi-annual event provides opportunity for community members to share a meal, fellowship together, and hear a short devotional message from one of our local ministers or ministry leaders. A freewill donation is accepted at each meal, with the funds being used to assist families in our community. ALL ARE WELCOME! Please join us for one or all four of the noon meals.

**Lunch Time:** 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Devotional:** 12:45 p.m.



## Dates and Locations:

- ◆ **Wed., Nov. 30:**  
St. Bartholomew Church  
(599 W. Brooks, Newaygo)  
Devotional: Father Pete
- ◆ **Wed., Dec. 7:**  
Newaygo Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
(432 Quarterline Rd., Newaygo)  
Devotional: Pastor Jon Reidel
- ◆ **Wed., Dec. 14:**  
Family of God Community  
Church  
(90 Quarterline Road, Newaygo)  
Devotional: Pastor Kathy Groff
- ◆ **Wed., Dec. 21:**  
River Valley Community  
Church  
(53 E. 88th Street, Newaygo)  
Devotional: Pastor Ben Oliveira



## Give a Lasting Gift of LOVE!



With so many families in need this year, please consider giving a lasting gift in honor of your loved ones...a gift that brings help and hope to others. If this kind of gift giving interests you, we have a few suggestions.....

1. **Make a donation to Love In the Name of Christ in honor of a loved one.** Each donation comes with a card and envelope for you to give to that special person or persons in your life. In honor of your loved one, wheelchair ramps will be built, eye glasses will be received, food will be purchased, heat will be provided, Christ will be shared...hope will be passed on. Please send donations made out to Love INC, to 11 W. 96th Street, Grant, MI 49327. Please include the number of cards/envelopes you will need to give to your loved ones.
2. **Donate to the Love INC Community Food Pantry through Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank and receive a tax credit (Last Year to take advantage of this credit!).** Did you know that you can make a donation to the Love INC Community Food Pantry through **Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank** and receive a **50% Michigan Tax Credit**, up to \$200 per married couple? The money received on our account (#2215) allows us to buy food from Feeding America, for our pantry, at 16¢/lb or less. To take advantage of this credit, simply send a donation with your check made out to Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank and note in the memo area of the check and in your letter that you would like your donation to be placed on the Love INC – Newaygo Pantry Account: **#2215**. Feeding America's mailing address is: 864 West River Center Drive, Comstock Park, MI 49321.
3. **Donate to the Love INC Endowment Fund through the Fremont Area Community Foundation** and receive a **50% Michigan Tax Credit**, up to \$200 per married couple (Last Year to take advantage of this credit!). To take advantage of this credit, simply send a donation with your check made out to the Fremont Area Community Foundation and note in the memo area of the check and in your letter that you would like your donation to be placed in the Love INC Endowment Fund. The Foundation's address is: P.O. Box B, Fremont, MI 49412.
4. **Purchase gift certificates to the Love INC Resale Store.** Each gift certificate comes with its own envelope and may be used to purchase goods in our resale store. Not only will your loved ones be able to shop for great gifts, but the money raised through the purchase of the gift certificates directly benefits community members in need.
5. **Donate items to the resale store.** As you receive new Christmas gifts, please consider donating your gently used items to others through our resale store.



## Do you have a passion for reaching people for Christ, young and old alike, through Christian community events?

The **Love INC CureUs Team** researches, contacts, organizes, and brings such events to the Newaygo County area. The team is currently looking for volunteers from the Grant, Newaygo & White Cloud areas to join them in their efforts.

The CureUs Ministry has hosted a number of Christian concerts (33 Miles, Barlow-Girl, SonicFlood, Jonny Diaz, Big Daddy Weave) over the past few years at little or no cost to community attendees. If you would be interested in serving on the CureUs Team, please contact Julie Gardenour at 231.924.3958.



### Upcoming events:

**May 11, 2012: Sidewalk Prophets at Fremont High School.**

**Gerber Baby Food Festival: TBA**

**August 23, 2012: Big Game Dinner with guest speaker Steve Rockey.**

## 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, and you'd like to serve with us, please call Peg at 231.652.4099 x 13.



## It's Time to Start Gathering Items for the Annual Love INC Spring Auction

Do you have antique, collectible, or unique items that you would like to donate to Love INC to sell in our Auction? Please drop these items off at our Resale Store or call Peg at 231.652.4099, Ext 13 for more information.



♥♥♥ Love Notes ♥♥♥

Thank you everyone at Love INC for helping me fix my car. Love J.D.



♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

Dear Dick, Thank you ever so much for the beautiful prayer. A prayer is more valuable to me than money in the bank. It's like a 1-800 number to our Savior. Thank you for your kindness toward me and my family. Could you please put my daughter on your prayer list along with her ill brother. Prayer and the love and goodness of God is our strongest hope for them both. And I pray that He will show me the way to reach my daughter and grandson—to help them see God's mercy and love. My son is in Iraq—4th

time—and I pray for God to wrap His arms around him. Please thank everyone at Love In the Name of Christ for helping me. I was in such a mess. Thank you so very very much. Bless Everyone, S.M.

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

To All the People at Love INC, I would like to say thank you for making a wheelchair ramp for me, at no cost to me. Norm and his crew were very knowledgeable on how to make a ramp. They were there at 8:00 am and left by 4:30 pm. It is much easier for me to get into my home by not climbing steps. I would also like to thank the lumber company for giving discounts on the materials to build my ramp. God bless all of you for making my life much easier. Thank You Again, A.P.



CROP Hunger Walk Update



Love INC is sending out **A BIG THANK YOU** to all those who participated in the 2011 Newaygo/Grant CROP Hunger Walk on Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>. This year **163 walkers raised over \$11,292** for world and local relief. 25% of all funds raised will be given to our Love INC Community Food Pantry. In addition, that 25% will be matched \$1/\$1 by the Fremont Area Community Foundation! In total, the pantry will receive about **\$5,646** to purchase food and pantry items. We can purchase over 37,000lbs of food with such a donation!

Thank you to our walkers and donors for giving of your time and treasures to feed the hungry. Thank you Newaygo United Methodist Church for hosting the soup and bread meal prior to the start of the walk. And, thank you also to the Fremont Area Community Foundation for your generous matching grant. We could not feed over 850 families each month without help from every one of you!

**Families served through the pantry June through October 2011:**

June: 940. July: 868, August: 1027, September: 904, October: 960



Love INC Annual Meeting—January 26, 2012

The Love INC Annual Meeting will be held on January 26, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Love INC Conference Room. Our board welcomes all community members to the Annual Meeting. It's an opportunity to meet board members, get a recap on 2011 ministry highlights, and learn about 2012 ministry goals. There is also a question and answer time. We hope to see you there!

Annual Volunteer Harvest Dinner - A night of family, food and beautiful music!

On the evening of October 18<sup>th</sup>, more than 200 of our wonderful volunteers gathered at the Grant Reformed Church for our Annual Harvest Dinner. This event is one way Love INC board members and staff can say "THANK YOU!" to our faithful volunteers who give of their time and talents to help families in need in the Newaygo County Area. After dinner, we enjoyed a concert by Scott Steiner from the group "For His Glory" and his daughters. Through song and stories, Scott and his family shared their faith in God...through death, cancer, and career changes...God is still God, faithful and loving. We would like to thank the Bailey Christian Church care group for serving the meal and handling clean-up and Martin's Greenhouse for providing the beautiful floral centerpieces.



We LOVE our Love INC Volunteers!



Love INC Growing Hope Relational Ministry—We NEED Christian Mentors!!

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](mailto:lauriep@loveincnewaygo.com).





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## Service & Contact Information

11 W. 96th Street  
Grant, MI 49327

Phone: 231.652.4099

Fax: 231.652.4079

E-mail: [info@loveincnewaygo.com](mailto:info@loveincnewaygo.com)

Website: [www.loveincnewaygo.com](http://www.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 Assistant

#### **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	Grant Wesleyan Church
Ashland Center Church of Christ	Hesperia Baptist Church
Bailey Christian Church	Kent City Baptist Church
Chapel Hill United Methodist Church	New Community Church—Newaygo
Christian Life Center of Fremont	New Life Fellowship Church
Church of the Living Christ	Newaygo United Church of Christ
Croton Community Church	Newaygo United Methodist Church
Croton Trinity Bible Church	Northland Church of Christ
Dayton Center Wesleyan	Pine Grove Community Church
Ensley Baptist Church	Redeemer Lutheran Church
Family of God Community Church	Reeman Christian Reformed Church
First Baptist Church—Fremont	River Valley Community Church
First Christian Reformed Church	Sand Lake United Methodist
First Congregational Church	Second Christian Reformed Church
First Reformed Church	Seventh Day Baptist Church
Fremont Christian Church—DOC	South Ensley United Methodist
Fremont Church of the Nazarene	St. Bartholomew Catholic Church
Fremont United Methodist Church	St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Fremont Wesleyan Church	Trinity Christian Reformed Church
Grace Bible Church	Victory Fellowship Church
Grant Christian Reformed Church	White Cloud United Methodist Church
Grant Reformed Church	
Grant Community Church	

♥ Thank You ♥



# Merry Christmas!

## The Board & Staff of Love INC

Would like to wish you all a blessed Christmas as you Celebrate the Birth of Christ with friends & family!



*Amanda*

*Sue*

*Terry*

*Cheryl*

*Kit*

*Jammy*

*Rita*

*Howard*

*Dick*

*Sandy*

*Bob*

*Shelley*

*Helen*

*Bill*

*Peg*

*Kathy*

*Renee*

*Janiece*

*Sawie*

*Brenda*

*Dave*

*Tracy*

*Rod*