



Love INC

Love In the Name of Christ  
of Sheboygan County



Helping  
Churches  
Help People

Spring/Summer 2019 Edition

## LOVE INC FINDS NEW HOME

By Katie Popp - Executive Director

At an October 2017 event with Lois Tupy at First Reformed Church in Oostburg, Love INC shared its critical need for a larger space to support its growing number of Volunteers.



*Grateful for tremendous show of support at the Love INC ribbon-cutting event facilitated by Sheboygan Falls Chamber Main Street!*

God heard the prayers and, in his timing, answered them in a mighty way. After securing a new building, Love INC's Volunteers and donors, by the grace of God, helped transform the space over the next five months into an aesthetic and functional place for carrying out the Love INC mission. That mission and purpose is to unite local Churches to work together across denominational lines, put faith in action, and help Neighbors in ways that transform

lives (ours and theirs). Love INC is incredibly humbled by the generosity of those who shared their time, talent, and treasure with the Love On the Move Campaign. A special thanks to the Facility



*Katie Popp & members of St. Peter's Episcopal: Charlie Malingowski, Lindy Malingowski, Raylyn Krauter, & Father John Throop at the social following the ribbon-cutting.*

Team, Project Coordinators Rick and Jim, Frank G. and Frieda K. Brotz Family Foundation, Diamond Vogel Paint Company, Plenco, Meyer Aluminum, Fasse Decorating Center, Pittsburgh Paint, Steve Rodger's Painting, Victory Locksmithing LLC, In Memory of the Bawden Family, John and Sandi Garland, and various other laborers from local Churches who assisted in making our new space a reality. We are reminded in Jeremiah 29:

11-13, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." Stop by and find out how you can join the Love INC movement at 807 Forest Ave., Sheboygan Falls. To God be the glory!

## TRANSFORMATIONAL MINISTRY UPDATE

By Jenna Maschino - Transformational Ministry Coordinator

Since launching in June 2018, the Love INC Transformational Ministry (TM) Program, housed at Calvin Christian Reformed Church, has experienced remarkable growth. In May of 2019, the TM Program will pilot its fourth class, Nutrition & Cooking 101. The eight-week class will be divided into two four-week segments – nutrition education and cooking.

Pastor Ethan Tews, of Zion Evangelical Covenant Church, developed an enlightening, comprehensive lesson plan that educates participants about key fundamentals of healthy eating habits. Nutrition 101 covers topics such as utilizing the "Choose My Plate" nutritional initiative, food journaling, and meal planning. The class strives to create an understanding of the importance of living Godly lives that honor Him because we are created in God's image.

The second segment of this exciting new class features hands-on, informative lessons about basic cooking skills, creativity in repurposing leftovers, and some of the best practices for grocery shopping. Deacon Paul Aparicio of Grace Episcopal Church, Mary Tryggeseth of Fountain Park United Methodist Church, and Jan Veldhorst of Bethel Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Oostburg have collaborated to create an insightful and experiential class that beautifully weaves Scripture and biblical foundations into each lesson.



*Students & Facilitators gather joyfully after a powerful Affirming Potential Class. Blessed bonds are formed all-around, as individuals journey through Transformational Ministry Program.*

In September of 2019, Love INC is prepared to offer four incredible classes – Affirming Potential, Faith & Finances, Boundaries, and Nutrition & Cooking 101. Volunteers are encouraged to love their Neighbors by serving at or participating within the TM Program on Thursday evenings. A multitude of opportunities to suit individuals or groups are available. We invite you to sign up for a class! Leadership in roles such as class facilitators, mentors, greeters, childcare, and meal service providers are continually needed so that the TM Program can continue to grow. Please contact TM Coordinator, Jenna Maschino, by email at [jenna@loveincsheboygancounty.org](mailto:jenna@loveincsheboygancounty.org) or phone 920-783-6701 x5107 to learn more.

Our Purpose



To mobilize local Christian Churches  
to transform lives and communities  
through relationships,  
In the Name of Christ.

## LIVE YOUR FAITH

### CLEARINGHOUSE – THE HEART OF LOVE INC

Meeting with Agencies in Sheboygan County, better equips the Clearinghouse with knowledge of resources available in order to serve and refer our Neighbors in an effort to meet their needs.

Pam Bennin, Clearinghouse Coordinator, visited with 28 Agencies in 2018 and has met with 5 in 2019. A few of them are: City of Sheboygan Development Director, Consumer Credit Counseling, MHA, United Way, SCIO, Seek, Salvation Army and so many more.

**We have openings for Volunteers to serve in our Clearinghouse Ministry on Tuesday, Wednesday**

**and Thursday from 10am - 2pm. For more information about becoming an Intake Specialist, contact Pam at 920-783-6701 x5105.**



The Love INC Clearinghouse staff includes (left to right) Pam Bennin Clearinghouse Coordinator, Lindy Malingowski, Terry Scherer, Pat Sather, Brenda DeRuyter and Barb Drewery-Zimmerman.

#### NEIGHBOR NEEDS MET

January 1, 2018 - January 31, 2019

♥ Total Needs Met: 409

♥ Intakes Completed: 210

♥ Calls Completed: 2,460

♥ Total Referrals to Love INC: 225

#### Intake Specialist Testimony

As an Intake Specialist, I can connect with the hurting and vulnerable in our "When I first heard about Love INC, I knew I had to be involved. Love INC supports everything I believe in, particularly helping people with a hand up instead of just giving them a handout. It takes time to listen to Neighbors' stories, but when I make a connection with them, it is so special. I love to pray with our Neighbors because that involves God in our relationship. Opportunities for prayer at Love INC abound throughout the day so that I am "prayed up" for the work I've been given to do. I thank all the staff, board members, and other Volunteers who make this ministry something I feel God is leading me through."

- Barb Drewery-Zimmerman

#### COMPLETING REDEMPTIVE COMPASSION

Has your Church completed the Redemptive Compassion book study yet? We encourage you and your Church to complete this powerful study as a Church body or in small groups. The following Churches have recently completed, are currently going through the course, or will soon be starting the course:

- \* First Reformed - Oostburg
- \* Zion Evangelical Covenant
- \* Bethany Lutheran Church
- \* First Reformed - Sheboygan Falls

Please call or email Katie Popp for instructions about assembling your study group, reserving your toolkit, and ordering the books needed for your group. You may reach Katie at 920-783-6705 or [katie@loveincsheboygancounty.org](mailto:katie@loveincsheboygancounty.org)

#### Is Your Church a Love INC Partner?

Contact [katie@loveincsheboygancounty.org](mailto:katie@loveincsheboygancounty.org) to find out more about Church Partnership in Sheboygan County!



### A Veteran's Love Story

Dan M. is a 57-year-old veteran and recovering alcoholic. Since moving to the area, he has struggled to find work. Dan requested furniture from Love INC and received a bed with bedding, recliner, TV stand, and two living room chairs. He also wanted a couch but found it would not fit into his apartment. Instead, Dan graciously accepted a second living room chair that the Furniture Ministry had on its trailer. When asked about his experience with the Love INC Furniture Ministry Volunteers, Dan said "I was very excited about the furniture and pleased with the delivery. The people were so nice. They spoke with me for a while and prayed for me. I couldn't be more pleased!" Dan also benefitted from picking up a Starter Kitchen Kit. Dan attends City Church and is very interested in participating in the next session of Affirming Potential in the TM Program.

#### PASTOR LUNCHEONS EMBODY UNITY OF PURPOSE

By Katie Popp - Executive Director

Did you know that Love INC facilitates three Pastor Luncheons each year as opportunities to pray together, share updates, and serve together? Father Karl, a Priest at Grace Episcopal Church, said "As a member of the Board at Love INC, I know the quarterly Pastor Luncheons are useful in keeping Love INC informed about the ministries of Partner Churches. As pastors, we too are provided with valuable feedback which allows us to better serve with our partners. I find the Luncheons give me a forum to meet fellow pastors, discuss common concerns, share insights, and identify opportunities for shared ministry and witness. During our Pastor Luncheons, we learn how each step we take in following Jesus can be a step taken together with brothers and sisters in other Churches. To God be the glory! Come and join us!"



Thank you to the generous hosts at Fountain Park United Methodist Church, Sheboygan, for hosting the first Pastor Luncheon of the year and to the pastors who attended.



## Jack's New Beginning

Jack M. is a retired 66-year-old cancer survivor who attends First Presbyterian Church. Jack needed surgery to remove part of his lung due to cancer. He then went through several rounds of chemo. Recently, Jack moved into affordable housing. The Furniture Ministry was able to bless Jack with furniture, The Bedding & Linens Ministry met his bedding need, a Starter Kitchen Kit, and Love Bucket were provided upon moving into his apartment. "This is a great ministry!" Jack said. "I am very happy with the furniture that I received. I could not believe that they [Volunteers] were able to help me with so many items. My place is ready to live in now. The people were so kind, and it made me feel especially warm when they prayed for me."

## FROM TEACHER TO VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR IN A DAY

By Dawn Grabowski - Volunteer Coordinator

My journey didn't exactly take a day; it was more like seven years. My voyage of listening to God started when I began teaching students and understanding that everyone has God-given potential. I looked at my students as being laden with gifts intended to bless this world. Then, God planted a word on my heart – family. As I continued teaching and combining those two things, my passion grew into a desire for my community. A transformation had been occurring within me. The word "family" became branded on my heart and grew into a statement or objective: "I am seeking to merge my passion for building strong families with a profession that is committed to empowering and strengthening families through faith in our community." Today, I am here at Love INC because God said, "It is time, Dawn." What has God put on your heart? How can I help you move that call forward into a Volunteer role that serves His Kingdom?



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*"Wherever a man turns, he can find someone who needs him." – Albert Sweitzer*

Volunteers, you are needed and appreciated. In 2018, you supported 251 Neighbors in your County. That is outstanding! Currently there are 238 Volunteers serving the Love INC mission, and each month more Christians join the movement.

**Grant Writer** – Can you... Research grant opportunities based on Love INC's programs, goals, and financial needs? Prepare grant proposals? Attend monthly committee meetings on our Resource, Development & Research Team?

**Mentor** – Do you... Enjoy getting to know people and developing a relationship? Have the ability to be an active listener? Enjoy walking alongside someone who needs encouragement and support?

**Cleaning and Organizing** – Do you... Have a special knack and desire for clean spaces? Have creative ideas for using space and organizing?

If the answer is yes for any of these much-needed opportunities, YOU may be the perfect fit for the role! Please call or email Dawn to serve at 920-783-6701 x5104 or dawn@loveincsheboygancounty.org

## GAP MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT- HOME REPAIR UPDATE

By Dawn Grabowski - Volunteer Coordinator

Love INC is pleased to welcome Dick Boenisch as Gap Leader for the Home Repair Ministry. Dick and his wife live in Sheboygan Falls, and they have four children and eight grandchildren. Last year, Dick retired from Kohler Co. as an Information Technologist. Although Dick's formal training is not in the building trade, he has long been fascinated with building things. One of Dick's early employers was Kindt, a building supply store, where he took every opportunity to learn from various experts. This provided Dick the abilities needed to be the general contractor in building his own home. Dick has served on several mission trips that involved building and home repair work and, for more than 10 years, participated in the annual Rebuilding Together project. Dick's desire to serve Christ and his passion for building make him a great fit for serving at Love INC through the Home Repair Ministry.



## 2019 Love INC Events

- February 11th—16th: Discounts at participating Sheboygan Falls businesses
- Saturday, April 20th: Brat Fry at Oostburg Piggly Wiggly, join us for a brat or burger at this Springtime grill out!
- Sunday, May 12th (Mother's Day): Love INC & Torke Coffee presents, "Jesus & Coffee" gift set, promotion begins
- Saturday, June 15th: Putt Fore Love, Mini golf outing at Harbor Pointe Mini Golf
- Friday, October 25th: Living Out Love, dinner/auction at Pine Hills Country Club
- Saturday, December 7th: Falls Mainstreet Memories, Christmas Parade

### WE PROVIDE TO OUR CHURCH & COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

- A spirit of unity, bringing local churches together to coordinate their resources of talents, skills, expertise, prayer, and donated items.
- A central Clearinghouse to receive, screen, clarify and analyze needs, as well as to understand the challenges and histories of our Neighbors –
- Access to information regarding all community resources.
- An opportunity to ignite the spark of discipleship with their parishioners – giving them a direction to change lives by using their gifts and talents in ministry opportunities.
- ✓ Introducing Christ into the situation by offering prayer.
- ✓ Coordinating services to meet the immediate and long-term needs of those who are caught in a cycle of hopelessness.
- ✓ Ensuring good stewardship of the gifts provided by our Church ministries and social services in the community.
- Life-changing opportunities by providing our Neighbors the gift of accountability, with our focus on the person, not the circumstances!

**"Dear Lord, we ask for your presence in our neighborhoods. We pray that we may always serve our Neighbors with love and compassion in our hearts. We pray for our Partnered Churches as they care for their congregations and attend to the needs of their communities. Guide our politicians and leaders to make wise decisions affecting those in need. Strengthen all of us as we face the trials of this earth and let us be ever thankful for all you provide us with. Amen."**

*From Prayer Scribe, Joan King*

## LOVE INC 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2019 Love INC of Sheboygan County Board of Directors includes (back row, left to right)

Treasurer Jim Fasse, Chair Chris McKnight, Bill Horsch, Past Chair Brad Veenendaal, Paul Dirkse; (front row) Chris Tempas, Vice Chair Shirl Breuning, Margaret Whittkopp, and Executive Director Katie Popp. Secretary Tamara Remington, Karl Schaffenburg not pictured.



## BOARD CHAIR MESSAGE

**By Chris McKnight Pastor - Zion Covenant Church**

What a privilege and honor it is to be able to chair the Board of Directors for Love In the Name of Christ! I greatly admire those who have chaired before me and am incredibly excited to serve with our current board. There is a great deal of diversity among those serving and a variety of gift sets. Love INC is an organization that continues to improve the more Churches understand it. When Zion Covenant Church first became a Partner Church, we were excited to just have a place to refer Neighbors In Need. Our partner relationship has allowed us to grow so that we've had volunteers working with the Transformational Ministries, participating in the Redemptive Compassion study, and co-leading the Gap Ministry of Bedding & Linens with First Reformed Church in Oostburg. This is what Love INC does best – it partners Churches together, helping them see the real, long-term needs of our Neighbors.

Love INC empowers Churches to offer a hand up, not a handout – all while lifting up the name of Jesus.

Please pray with me that 2019 will be a year where the Churches are amplified and lives are transformed to the glory of our gracious God.



*Our deepest thanks to have been nominated for Nonprofit Charity of the Year at the 2019 Sheboygan County Chamber Champions Gala at The Osthoff Resort. Such an honor! Pictured left to right are Dawn Grabowski, Pastor Chris McKnight, Linda Hundt, Katie Popp, Jenna Maschino, Pamela Bennin.*

**THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS PRINTING SPONSOR**  
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## A Note from our Executive Director

Friends in Christ,

God has great things in store for us in 2019!

We are so excited that our Churches and Volunteers are putting their faith in action and helping in ways that transform lives. This year we chose the word "amplify" as the word of the year. The role of Love INC is not to replace the Church but to amplify the Church in distributing skills, gifts, resources, and love to our Neighbors and communities, "In the Name of Christ." We feel honored to be a piece of the puzzle that provides opportunities for Christians to serve in impactful ways. We thank you for serving however God calls you to contribute your time, talent, or treasure as we are joined together in Christ.

"Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!" – Philippians 4:1-3



## SUPPORT OUR MISSION

**We are deeply grateful for your support of Love INC of Sheboygan County. Without your contributions of time, talent, and treasure we would not be able to express Christ's love in this very unique ministry.**

In addition to donating your time, talent, monthly or annual financial giving, here are great ways to show support:

### Donate to Gap Ministry Product Drives!



Look for these flyers at Church or talk ask your CMC about product drives!



Are you a Thrivent Member like Pat Sather or Linda Hundt? (Pictured) Direct your Choice Dollars to bless your community through Love INC, contact your Thrivent rep today! Or call Linda Hundt at: 920-783-6701 x5101



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Or, please support by donating frequently-used office supplies!

