



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Livingston Love INC News

A regular publication of Love in the Name of Christ
of the Greater Livingston Area

September/October 2008

WAIT LIST FOR MONEY MANAGEMENT CLASSES

Love INC's popular Money Management Class began September 8th with a full classroom and a wait list. The 5-week course taught by Mark MacArthur and Judy Wilson is currently being taught at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Brighton.



Participants receive help in creating a budget, balancing bank statements, taxes & insurance, getting out of debt, and living within their means.

There is no fee for the course and free child care is available. The next

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New Gap Ministries Already Responding to Needs

Four Love INC partner churches have established gap ministries, which are quickly being utilized by Livingston County residents. Gap ministries are simply ministries designed to "fill in the gap" of needs currently going unmet by government and nonprofit agencies. The four newcomers to Love INC's 29 gap ministries are:

CAREER CLOTHES for MEN & WOMEN First United Methodist Church of Fowlerville

The day after the CAREER CLOTHES ministry opened, Love INC received a call from an individual who had just been hired for a company and needed "professional" clothes. One call from Love INC to First United Methodist resulted in the man picking out appropriate clothes—including shoes—for his first day at work.



"DONE IN A DAY" MINOR HOME REPAIRS Grace Lutheran Church in Howell

Pastor Sharon Huff is excited about her church's new ministry, which provides simple home maintenance from flipping a mattress to repairing a window. The day after the ministry opened, Love INC received a call from a young man whose mobile home had been vandalized. A call to Grace Lutheran led to the windows being repaired by "Done in a Day."

PERSONAL NEEDS BANK Community Congregational UCC in Pinckney

Residents of Pinckney and the surrounding area will now be able to receive personal needs items from Community Congregational UCC. Pastor Lynn Martin announced to Love INC that the gap ministry will begin operating in

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

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Partner Churches

Brighton

Brighton Christian Church

Brighton Church of the Nazarene

Chilson Hills Church

Cornerstone Evangelical Presbyterian Church

The Father's House

First Presbyterian Church

First United Methodist Church

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

New Life Community Church

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

St. Patrick Catholic Church

St. Paul Episcopal at the Millpond

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

Fowlerville

Family Impact Center

Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene

Fowlerville United Brethren in Christ Church

First United Methodist Church

Harmony Way Community Church

Plainfield United Methodist Church

St. Agnes Catholic Church

Trinity United Methodist Church

Hartland

Hartland United Methodist Church

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Howell

Crossroads Apostolic Church

Crossroads Church of God

First United Methodist Church

Grace Lutheran Church

Hardy United Methodist Church

Heart of the Shepherd Lutheran Church

Hidden Springs Church

Marr Community Bible Church

Oak Grove United Methodist Church

Sonrise Church

St. John's Episcopal Church

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Pinckney

Arise United Methodist Church

Community Congregational UCC

St. Mary Catholic Church

Shalom Lutheran Church

Love Stories



Love INC received a call from a family of 10 requesting help with a car repair. The father had lost his job and the family savings was dwindling. Four churches joined in providing not only the car repair, but diapers, lawn care and gas vouchers as well.



Due to the poor economy of Michigan, we are now seeing landlords being evicted! A senior citizen called Love INC because he was being forced to leave his apartment, due to his landlord's eviction. He had found a new place to live, but needed help with the move. Volunteers from several Love INC churches arrived to help the man move. He is now situated in his new residence.



This past winter, one of our Love INC churches discovered a man living in a garage. Several churches stepped in to care for him in a variety of ways. One of the churches called Love INC to ask how we could help with new shoes and work boots for the gentleman. Thanks to the generosity of Red Wing Shoe Store in Brighton, he was fitted with good walking shoes and heavy duty work boots. Volunteers brought the man to the store and back, and he now has decent shoes.



A youth group from a Love INC partner church phoned with an offer to help with yard work. Love INC put the teens in touch with a senior citizen in need. The youth group has been to this home twice now with smiles and love! Our senior citizen continues to report back about the joy these young people bring her. She appreciates their company, their politeness, and their loving care of her yard.



MESSAGE FROM OUR CLEARINGHOUSE

I consider it a blessing to serve in the Clearinghouse at Love In the Name of Christ. Each day is filled with opportunities to magnify the glory of Christ. These opportunities arise through our interactions with clients, agencies/professionals, volunteers and churches. Our witness to His love-filled Gospel would not be communicated well without prayer and humble service of all those involved at Love INC.

Prayer is integral to this ministry. We as staff/volunteers seek His wisdom for the interactions that will take place each day. James 3:17-18 states ***“But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.”*** We pray that, as believers, the Holy Spirit moves in us so that those we speak with experience the love, grace and mercy of Jesus Christ. We pray that God will open hearts to the Gospel—that they may share in the one true Hope found in Christ. We have opportunity to pray with clients each time they call in. These prayers have produced tears, thankfulness, peace and, through God's grace, the watering of souls.



Humble service is also integral to this ministry. We follow the example of Jesus when we sacrificially serve to bless others.

Matthew 20:28 states, ***“Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”***

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SEEKING A JOB? 2 RESOURCES FOR YOU!

- Are you presently seeking employment?
- Have you recently been down-sized?
- Is the stress of finding a job getting to you?
- Are you concerned about your future employment?
- Are you confused about how to find new employment opportunities?

Help is available regarding networking, interviewing and job research skills, career counseling,, budget and finance issues, and dealing with the stress that comes with this major life-changing time in your life.

Two of Love INC's partner churches can help you with answers to these questions!

JOB SEEKERS SUPPORT NETWORK

MEETS AT: St. Patrick Catholic Church
Adult Faith Formation Center
710 Rickett Road, Brighton

WHEN: 1st & 3rd Wednesday mornings 9:30-11:30 am
2nd & 4th Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:30 pm

CONTACT: Call Parish Office at 810-229-9863 or
email ray_blush@ameritech.net

CAREER TRANSITIONS SUPPORT

MEETS AT: Cornerstone Evangelical Presbyterian Church
9455 Hilton Road, Brighton

WHEN: Thursdays 6:30-8:45 PM starting September 25th

CONTACT: Church Office at 810-227-9411

REGISTRATION: On September 25th at the 1st session

Message from the Clearinghouse

Continued (from page 1)

Love INC is striving to mobilize people in our partner churches to meet the needs of clients. We are blessed to be a part of God's plan of servanthood as it unfolds in the life of a client. As an example of this, we recently had an elderly, widowed client in need of a hot water heater. God used many people to show the love of Christ to her, starting with an intake volunteer in the clearinghouse who was there to listen to her story, gather her information and pray with her.

Next, the coordinator/director verified and assessed her story to connect her with volunteers to meet her needs. To date, faithful servants from three churches have been instrumental in funding a portion of a water heater, installing the water heater and housecleaning. In a few weeks, another faithful servant will do a follow-up call.

Yes, by God's supply, we can "fill the gap" temporarily, and in that process we want to be an obedient and faithful witness of the God that can transform lives eternally!

Rhonda Truax, Clearinghouse Coordinator

Money Management Class (continued from page 1)

Money Management Class will meet 7-9 pm on Tuesdays, beginning October 14th at Crossroads Apostolic Church in Howell. To register, call Joanne at 517-404-7889.

You can help make a difference in the lives of people in need.

- I want to help with a monthly pledge of ___\$25 ___\$50 ___\$75 ___\$100 ___ Other
- One time gift of \$_____
- Please send me information about volunteering in the Love INC office.

Mail to:

Love INC of the
Greater Livingston Area
P.O. BOX 558
HOWELL, MI 48844

www.livingstonloveinc.org

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone (_____) _____
Work Phone (_____) _____
E-mail _____
Church Affiliation _____

New Gap Ministries Responding *(continued from page 3)*

October, joining First Presbyterian of Brighton in providing personal hygiene items not covered by the Bridge card and WIC programs, such as shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant and feminine hygiene products. The ministry will begin operating in October.



AFFORDABLE MEDICATION ADVOCACY
Cornerstone EPC of Brighton

Cornerstone Evangelical Presbyterian Church is pioneering a new ministry to assist those who have long-term prescription needs and can't afford their medications. Many qualify for discounted or even free medications through pharmaceutical company programs, but don't know how to access them. Trained volunteers will meet with clients to help them navigate

through the paperwork involved in the process. The medication ministry is modeling its pilot program after an established Love INC program in Grand Haven, Michigan.



Our new office location:

Sterling Business Center
5840 Sterling Drive, Suite 570
Howell, MI 48843

Phone: 517-586-4007

Fax: 517-586-4015

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