



# REDEMPTIVE COMPASSION - SERVING IN WAYS THAT TRANSFORM



Frank initially made contact with the Connection Center in December of 2019. He called in search of housing, however, as it often happens through the intake process, it was realized that his needs were much greater. Frank is a veteran who suffers from several medical issues which limit his mobility. He was working with VA Home Based services and INCLUSA, but there were still gaps in meeting all his needs. Through our intake, we were able to assess and help address those additional needs. Through our Partner Churches, we were able to connect Frank with an Ally Minister who could walk beside Frank providing the emotional and spiritual support he so desperately needed. Frank also needed help moving to a temporary living situation in a local hotel while he was waiting for his permanent housing. Another Partner Church that provides assistance in packing and moving was able to address that need for Frank. Lastly, we learned that being in the hotel made it quite difficult for Frank to provide himself with healthy meals. Again, a Partner Church's Frozen Meal Ministry was able to provide some healthy meals during this temporary time. As we do with all our clients, we continue to talk and pray for Frank regularly.



So much has changed recently and we too are learning to adapt and manage things a bit differently due to the COVID-19 Safer at Home order. The Connection Center remains open and is receiving calls from individuals in need in the

South Wood County area. However, for the safety of our staff and volunteers, our Intake Specialists are responding to those calls from their own homes. Also, staff and committee meetings, our Ambassadors Breakfasts, and discussions with our church and agency partners are all taking place by video conferencing or telephone. We continue, however, through our partnership with local Christian churches, volunteers, and community organizations, to offer assistance to our neighbors as best and as safely as we possibly can.

June 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**Save These Dates**  
**Love INC Informational Sessions**  
 June 18 at noon and 6:00pm  
**Redemptive Compassion Video Sessions**  
 June 25 at noon and 6pm  
 RSVP to [volunteer@loveincswc.org](mailto:volunteer@loveincswc.org)

## Love INC Volunteers Making a Difference

With the COVID-19 pandemic it's easy to get swept up in a sense of fear and anxiety. However many groups of volunteers at Love INC, and in our community, are coming together to lend a helping hand to those in need. Whether it's making masks, shopping and delivering groceries, completing intakes from your home, donating and writing note cards to past and present clients, or being a prayer warrior...we appreciate you all! We still are receiving clients who need help moving during this time. If this is something you feel you would like to help with during this time, please let us know. *Pictured: On the left, Tricia Janssen, Client Care Coordinator along side Love INC volunteer and mask maker extraordinaire, Carol Schultz.*



Love INC of South Wood County  
 710 20th Avenue South  
 Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
 715-424-LOVE (5683)

[loveincswc@gmail.com](mailto:loveincswc@gmail.com) [www.loveincswc.org](http://www.loveincswc.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/loveincswc/>

# Church Partner Spotlight

## Immanuel Lutheran

Love INC is blessed with 16 wonderful Church Partners. Each month in our newsletter, we would like to spotlight one of them and highlight a ministry that they provide to our community that answers God's call to "Love Thy Neighbor."

Immanuel Lutheran has been a Love INC church partner since 2017. This month's SPOTLIGHT features a service they provide to the community called Ruby's Pantry. The mission of Ruby's Pantry is to activate people in being alert to the needs of others and to be proactive in encouraging faith, showing friendship and meeting tangible needs of neighbors, friends and strangers regardless of race, religion or ethnicity.

Ruby's Pantry is for ANYONE that eats! There is no income or residency requirement and Ruby's Pantry is for anyone looking to extend their monthly grocery budget. Each guest donates a \$20 donation and receives an abundance of grocery items. Ruby's Pantry is not government funded and is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Each donation is used to cover operational costs like trucking, gas, and warehouse staff. All of the food is donated by corporate food donors making it possible to reach more families each month at locations across Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Immanuel Lutheran started participating in Ruby's Pantry about five years ago and it is currently coordinated by Brian Betts, Immanuel Lutheran School Principal. We are so thankful for Immanuel Lutheran and Ruby's Pantry as many clients who call Love INC are then referred to Ruby's Pantry if they are in need of this type of service. We are so thankful to the volunteers who are dedicated in bringing this service to our community. You are truly the helping hands of Christ.



Pre-COVID-19 Food Distribution



During COVID-19 Food Distribution



## We'll Get Through This Together

There will come a day when COVID-19 is all behind us. When we will gather together without fear, and hug without hesitation. Yes, what this virus doesn't know is that we're resilient. Separate us and we'll draw together. Stop our day jobs and we'll turn our daydreams into reality. Bring life to a halt and we'll move faster than ever to bring help and healing. Yet, inside this shared experience, every one of us is impacted by this crisis in a unique way. Despite this reality, the Federal government will be sending stimulus checks to many households. For some, however, this simply won't be enough. In a time such as this, it makes us wonder - what if those who have been less financially affected donated some of their stimulus to our neighbors in need? What if instead of these resources being about you and me, and he and she and them.... what if it was simply about - **us**?

Love INC provides long-term solutions for people experiencing need by connecting and mobilizing churches and community organizations. Together, we help churches not only meet the tangible needs, such as food, clothing, and life skill training, but also the spiritual and relational needs of our neighbors. As the economic fallout of this pandemic increases, the number of people seeking our assistance will assuredly rise. In order to meet that increased need, we're asking you to help us prepare well for this influx by contributing now. There is no greater force than churches working together to transform lives and communities. In a time of great uncertainty, we know one thing, it's that we will get through this - together.



**Our Purpose**



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

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." John 14:6-7



Lord our God, we come seeking to find community with you and ask you to keep us in your truth throughout all that occupies us in our daily lives. Keep us in your truth so that we can hold firmly to our course on earth under the many hardships and burdens that we may face. Amen.

## Looking for Volunteers

We have had several elderly clients call in recent weeks who need help moving from their homes or apartments into new places. We would love to be able to help! While we understand that many of you fall into the high-risk group and wisely wish to remain in quarantine, we hope there may be some who are younger, healthy, or are not considered high risk and willing to assist. We will provide masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, and tip-sheets on how to avoid contracting the virus. If you are willing to lend a hand, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Wendy Schlaefer, at 715-424-LOVE (5683) or email her at [volunteer@loveincswc.org](mailto:volunteer@loveincswc.org).