



Love INC

Love In the Name of Christ

SOUTH
WOOD
COUNTY

AUGUST 2017

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." – Jesus, Matthew 22:36-40

Complementary Assistance, not Duplicative

During presentations and discussions, we often are asked if Love INC is a duplication of existing services. The answer is they are not.

Love INC does not seek to replace or duplicate what human service agencies and ministries are doing well, but only to supplement and complement the work of those agencies.

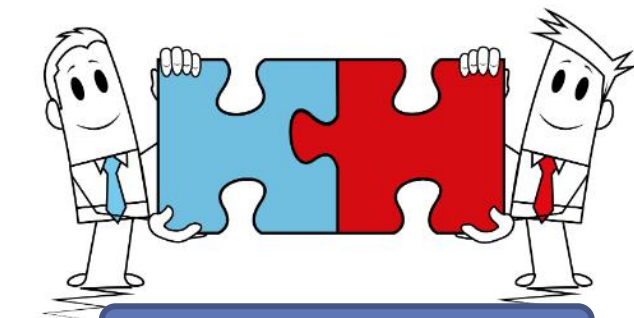
The Love INC mission is not aimed at meeting "emergency or urgent" needs of our neighbors, nor does the mission fit the typical social services description – we are a Christian ministry. Instead we focus on breaking the cycle of poverty and hopelessness through relationship with Christ and the connection with Christians.

The church members walk with the neighbor in need to provide them with a hand-up, an opportunity to change their lives. Through the Connection Center intake process, volunteers identify root causes of the

circumstances, identifying goals and dreams while accessing resources through talented and experienced volunteers. Success is measured by goals accomplished and ultimately a neighbor that can offer a talent, give time, or another service to help someone else-changing the trajectory of their lives.

We do not try to alleviate all pain, because difficulties are usually our greatest teachers. Instead, of trying to save people from a difficult situation, we are willing to walk beside them while they go through it.

Ultimately, developmental compassion restores dignity and grows positive behaviors. It is more difficult to administer, but it is necessary for breaking the cycle of poverty.



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Love INC of South Wood County Board of Directors

- Chuck Bradbury**, First Baptist, President
- Rick Merdan**, Grace Lutheran, Vice President
- Paul Liebherr**, Christian Life Fellowship, Treasurer
- Lottie McDermott**, Port Edwards United Methodist, Secretary
- Dave Mickelson**, Victory Christian Outreach Center

[Click Here to Learn More About Our Board](#)

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with your group.

- Bethlehem Lutheran
- Catholic Deanery
- Christian Life Fellowship
- Church at Wazeecha
- Cranberry Clergy
- Crossview Church (formerly Woodlands)
- **Faith Reformed**
- **First Baptist**
- First English Lutheran
- Grace Lutheran
- Lakes Area Christian Fellowship
- Lutheran Circuit
- Nekoosa United Church of Christ
- New Hope Christian Reformed
- **Port Edwards United Methodist**
- River Cities Church
- St. Lawrence Catholic
- St. Luke's Lutheran
- Sunrise Rotary
- Trinity Lutheran
- United Way of Inner Wisconsin
- **Victory Christian Outreach Center**
- Wis. Rapids United Church of Christ

Bolded churches have signed the Statement of Understanding



Meet our Board Vice President

Richard Merdan started out in 2016 on the Development Board. He was moved by Christ's directive to "love your neighbor" (Mark 12:31) and has found in Love INC the model by which to live out this command ecumenically with other denominations.

Opportunity to Serve

Do you have a passion for Christ and our community? Are interested in sharing your God given gifts and talents? Do you have a background in finance or accounting? We are looking for someone with those skills to help us.

If you are interested in being a part of the exciting ministry of Love INC or want to learn more about these opportunities, please [click here to contact us](#).



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Benefit Organ Concert

Sunday, August 20, 3:30 p.m.

First English Lutheran Church
440 Garfield Street, Wisc. Rapids

Allen Protégé 3-manual digital organ

Featuring:

Dave Mueller, Wisconsin Rapids Organist and Music Director, First English Lutheran Church
Guest artist:

Christian Stromley, Wisc. Rapids Organist, St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
Music Education student, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN

The Clearinghouse is the foundation of the Love INC ministry.



SOUTH WOOD COUNTY



Love INC

Love In the Name of Christ

Mission: To mobilize local Christian Churches to transform lives and communities in the name of Christ.

Values:

- Prayer
- Unity of the Body of Christ
- People in need
- Transformation in the lives of people and communities
- Churches living out the two great commandments to love God and love their neighbors
- Building Christ-like relationships
- Connectedness of the Love INC movement
- Excellence
- Continued growth in our capacity to meet people's needs

Prayer:

Move in us, Holy Spirit, that we may with one heart and mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Give us endurance and encourage us toward unity in the Body of Christ, Amen.