Love In the Name of Christ of South Wood County







MOBILIZING LOCAL CHURCHES TO TRANSFORM LIVES AND COMMUNITIES IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

ADDING IT ALL UP!

Connection Center DataA REVIEW OF 2023





229 FAMILIES BENEFITED FROM THE LOVE INC MINISTRY 436 VARIOUS REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

For us at Love INC of South Wood County, it's about building relationships, getting to the heart of each caller's needs, and working with our partner churches to address those needs. Everything we do revolves around relationships because Love INC isn't just about meeting needs, it's about meeting people where they are at, and helping them achieve their God-given potential.

436 REQUESTS BROKEN DOWN:

Financial

Material

Services

Misc.

78

152

185

21

Love INC of South Wood County coordinates service with local churches, non-profits, community agencies, and volunteers. We foster a relational response that brings together volunteers and resources to help neighbors.



Love it Again Thrift Store BY PAT BRADBURY, VOLUNTEER

Love It Again is a thrift store unlike any other. We opened in June 2023 and we operate entirely by volunteers. We've been blessed by generous people in our community who donate a plethora of items to our store. The store has a three-fold purpose to:

- 1) provide revenue for Love In the Name of Christ,
- 2) provide quality goods (clothes, furniture, household items, etc.) at a reasonable cost to people in our community and
- 3) offer a voucher system for individuals enrolled in a Love INC class or program as an incentive for work done.

At a recent get together, some personal stories were shared where lives have been changed by Love It Again's presence in our community. Coats were given to a church that provides needed items to folks just released from jail. Love INC also has a ministry where we give gently-used furniture to those in need. Every day the volunteers start the day by praying together before the store opens. Staff volunteers will often pray with those coming into the store, including one family who lost their home in a recent fire. During the nice weather, volunteers sometimes man a table outside the building with a sign that reads "Can I pray for you?" Countless people have been touched by our spiritual care for them personally as well as their physical needs. In doing so, we reflect Christ's love for everyone.

COME SHOP WITH US!

Love It Again Thift Store has something for everyone! Come see what's new in our houseware area in March! We have items donated often and turnover happens regularly.

Watch for more information on March's specials on our Facebook page. Each week new specials are updated. Click on the button below and follow us!







A customer was in during December and found a full set of dishes she was interested in. It was a complete set of 12 place settings plus serving dishes. She didn't purchase them that day. She came back the following week and they were still on the shelf. She called her husband and purchased that day. She came back in early February and told me how much pleasure she had serving her Christmas dinner on a beautiful table. She went on to say that she's looking forward setting her Easter table.

Written by: Jan Fisher

"Come Let's Go!"

We recently gathered to celebrate the first 5 years of Love INC of South Wood County and honor DaNita Carlson for her role of bringing us into existence. We reminisced, we laughed, we cried, we ate, we honored, we celebrated, and most importantly, we gave all thanks and praise to God. Through God's perfect timing, He brought forward people with specific talents and skills to help prepare the way for Love INC to become a reality and help DaNita build what we have today.



Paul Liebherr, who at the time was pastor at Christian Life Fellowship, was one of the first individuals that DaNita approached with her vision of bringing churches together to help transform our community. At the time she was working at the Health Department...but quickly quit her job there to "volunteer" so she could put all her efforts into the formation of Love INC. Paul shared that he was reminded of 1 Samuel 14:6, when Jonathon said, "Come, let's go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised fellows. Perhaps the Lord will act in our behalf."

Paul continued, "The ministry of Love In the Name of Christ of South Wood County is another story of someone who saw a big problem...that really wasn't being addressed or handled well, and this person - DaNita Carlson - started gathering people and stepping out in faith said, 'Come, let's go...Perhaps the Lord will act in our behalf.'

"As we looked at properties to rent for the home of Love INC, again God intervened in a big and beautiful way. He put it on the hearts of the people of New Hope Community Church to gift us their building." It was a difficult time for their members, during and after the closure of New Hope, but they were so happy to be donating the building to a Christian ministry. In May 2018, their beautiful church building became our home. We are thankful for the goodness of God and the faithfulness of DaNita for answering His call to form what is now Love INC of South Wood County. We pray God continues to bless Love INC!



Love INC enjoys giving Easter baskets to some of our adult clients. This year there will be a minimum of 20 baskets. We need your help filling those baskets! All items need to fit into an ice cream pail size basket. Please consider donating items from the list below.

You may drop off your items to the Love INC building between 9am and 2pm on March 5, 6, 7, and March 12, 13, or 14. Thank you!

- Monetary donation
- Travel size toothpaste
- Travel size deodorant
- Travel size lotion
- Travel size bottled body wash
- Puzzle books

- Individual packets of
 - *snacks
 - *fruit
 - *juice
- Easter candy
- Plastic eggs

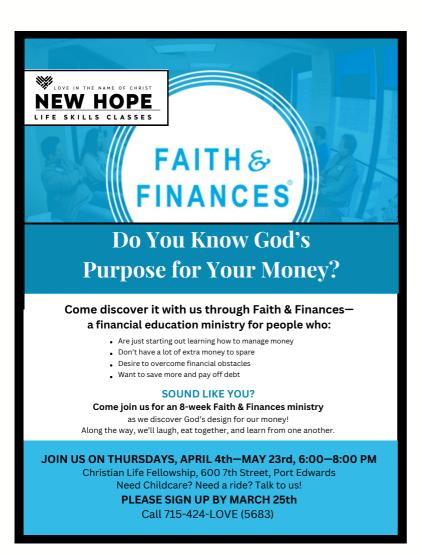
- Toothbrushes
- Lip balm
- Nail polish/file
- Socks
- Religious tokens (bookmarks, magnets, etc.)
- · Small devotional books



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!







DRIVERS NEEDED



Many of our clients need rides to Life Skills Classes. Our next class will be held at Christian Life Fellowship on Thursday nights from 6-8pm starting April 4th. Drivers are needed to pick people up and take them home. Would you be available to drive one or both ways? Make a difference in someone's life getting to know them each week on the drive. Contact us through the email or phone number listed below.

A CHURCH PARTNER EVENT



Grace Lutheran invites you to their 26th annual play "Hotel Pickle", a comedy running March 7 - 10 at Grace Lutheran, 1531 Whitrock Avenue. Tickets are \$12 for the dessert shows (Th, Fr, Sun), the dinner show on Saturday has sold out. For tickets, please contact Grace Lutheran at 715.423.2330.

