



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

January 2025

EMBRACING NEW BEGINNINGS: A JOURNEY TOWARDS TRANSFORMATION & GOD'S WORK THROUGH US



At the beginning of a new year, you may be reflecting on God's past faithfulness and love, while also looking forward to new opportunities of growth and transformation. You may be considering setting spiritual goals, such as growing closer to God through prayer and studying His Word, or by serving others in a new way. We hope this month's newsletter helps you focus on embracing new beginnings. Philippians 3:13-14 says, "But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead, I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God's heavenly call in Christ Jesus."

LOVE STORY

Often I'm asked what a day at the Love it Again Thrift Store is like. No two days are the same. One of our purposes is to support Love in the Name of Christ. God has other reasons too---to be a support and show God's love for our neighbors who shop and donate.

One day as I was volunteering as a cashier, a couple in their 40's walked in. After a quick walk through, she headed for the shoes and he approached me at the cash register and asked me, "Do you own this place?" I explained how the store works and supports Love INC and how Love INC serves churches and neighbors in need in our community.

This opened a lengthy conversation. He wondered, "Why is everyone talking about God now?" He told me, "My aunt posts about Jesus on Facebook and sends me messages regularly about the love of Jesus." He went on to explain that as a truck driver he isn't able to get to church on weekends. We talked about online services and how churches now archive their online services so he can watch them when he's not driving. I hope he finds a church and community where he feels welcomed and begins to grow in faith. Thank you heavenly Father for bringing him in that day.

- Written by Jan Fisher, Love INC & LIA volunteer

An afterthought: The persistence of his aunt's witness is a testament to the power of consistent encouragement and prayer. Her regular posts and messages, may have planted a seed of belief. Jan's guidance and encouragement to connect with a local church, may have watered that seed. We are ALL called to be witnesses, inviting and encouraging others to discover the life-changing (transforming) love of Christ. Matthew 28:19-20, Matthew 13:3-9, 1 John 4:7-12, Ephesians 4:22-24



Psalm 143

God's unfailing love transforms us



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THE CALLING OF
GOD IS NOT AN
INVITATION TO DO
EXCEPTIONAL THINGS,
BUT AN INVITATION TO
DO ORDINARY THINGS
EXCEPTIONALLY WELL
THROUGH HIS POWER.
-DEAN STANLEY-

RESPONDING TO GOD'S INVITATION

Hopefully after reading Page 1 you have reflected on God's transformative power; how He works in your life, the lives of others, and in our community. Now let's focus on His invitation to take part in His work.

God invites us all to participate in His work. 1 Corinthians 3:9 says, "For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's

building." If you are looking to respond to His invitation to serve this new year in a new way, here are a few suggestions. Click on each of the headings for additional information.

Client Care Connection Center

You could serve by helping connect those in need with resources available through Love INC, our Partner Churches, and our community. Involvement would include answering phones, listening to the client's story, providing information about various services and/or assistance, make follow up calls to clients, etc. Training provided.

Love it Again Thrift Store

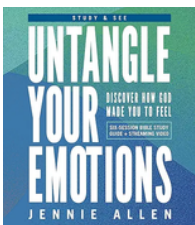
Volunteering at the store would mean contributing to the financial stability of Love INC, which helps fund many of our programs. While the store is open to everyone in our community, neighbors enrolled in Love INC New Hope Life Skills Classes are also able to shop using a voucher system. Training provided.

Household Items Ministry

If you have household items you wish to donate, they can make a significant difference in someone's life. We also need individuals to collect, assess, and inventory items. Additionally, this ministry is in great need of additional volunteers who could lift some of the heavier items and help with transporting them to clients. Training provided.

Other Ways to Serve

There are countless other opportunities where you could serve at Love INC. Follow the linked heading above to view our Volunteer brochure where you will find many different opportunities to serve. We have a place for you at Love INC to share your God given gifts and talents!



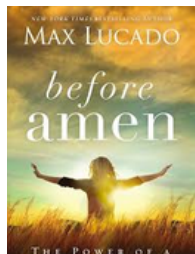
Mondays
1/20 - 2/24

MORE INFO



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES STARTING SOON

During this 6-week DVD book study we will learn what it means to live emotionally healthy lives from studying Jesus' life and how He cared for and responded to the people around Him. RSVP by January 13th.



Tuesdays
1/14-2/4

MORE INFO



This 4 week DVD series is intended to equip volunteers to pray with people that they encounter. Highly recommended for those Love INC volunteers that work with "neighbors in need", Intake Specialists, LIA Thrift Store volunteers, New Hope Life Skills volunteers, HHI Ministry, and Moving Ministry. Anyone interested is welcome to join this class. RSVP by January 6th.