



Love INC  
Love In the Name of Christ

## Summer Of Fun

July 2011

### Message from the Executive Directors

My hip replacement surgery went well and I'm on the mend. Thanks for all your prayers!

It took a while but with the help of some awesome volunteer,s Love In The Name of Christ, is up and running the way it's suppose to. We no longer have people coming to our door for help. Resources are scarce when it comes to rent, deposits and PG&E, but it has given us the opportunity to pray for people and they are very

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# Always be Ready

Last week I received a phone call from a friend, Joe (not his real name) who wanted to come by the office because he had something for us. I told him to come by, that it would be great to see him. He arrived about 30 minutes later and handed me five \$20 bills and told me he wanted us to use it for gas vouchers. I said great and said I wanted him to pray over it. I called Barbar into my office and we all three held onto the \$100 and he prayed over it, praying that God would multiply it 10 fold. I then asked Joe if he would like to ride with me to the Valero station to put \$20 worth of gas in a guys truck who had called the day before. Joe said yes and we left. While we were there, Joe asked the guy getting the gas if he had ever been in jail and he said yes, in 2006. Joe asked him about 2003 and the guy said yes.

They then realized they had been in jail together. Joe then started witnessing to the guy and we prayed for him. Afterwords the guy told me that he recognized Joe but that it wasn't the Joe he remembered, that he was completely different. We told him that Jesus had changed him from the inside out and that he could do the same for him. He didn't receive Christ, but we planted some good seed in his heart. Joe and I then left and he road with me as I ran some errands and we got back to the office around 12:30 p.m. I said goodbye to Joe and thanked him again for the \$100 and his time with me. I then went inside and told Barbara let's go to lunch. I told her I would go through the church office to see if there was any mail for us and she could pick me up in the parking lot. I picked up one piece of mail and opened it when I got in the car. Now, remember what Joe prayed over the \$100 he gave us? There was a check in the envelope from a private party for \$1,000. God had given us 10 times what Joe had handed me 2 hours earlier. God is on the move. Get ready!

## Board of Directors

Pastor Michael Stipe – Board President  
 Pastor Lance Leach – Brd Vice President  
 James Merrill – Board Treasurer  
 Roger Poythress – Board Member  
 Mary Long – Board Member  
 Vicky Bandy – Board Member  
 Ernie Bandi – Board Member  
 Jon Barsotti – Board Member  
 Al Christoffersen – Executive Director  
 Barbara Christoffersen – Executive Dir.

## Partner Churches

We hope that all the Christian Churches in Madera County are our Partner Churches. We would appreciate any donations you can give us on a regular basis. We operate on \$2,000.00 per month and we are receiving around \$1,000.00 per month. When Barbara & I became Co-Executive Directors last October we had a nice cushion to work with, but working with a deficite will drain your funds quickly. We are in a place right now that if things stay the same as the first 6 months of 2011 we will have about enough funds to stay open for another year.

We are working on a couple of ideas for fund raisers during the second half of this year. Please keep us in prayer. Blessings to you all!

# Love Stories

### Story #1

We Received a call a month ago from Bill (not his real name). Bill was new in Madera and he had come to Madera with his young son (6 yr old) to find work and was refered to us by the Rescue Mission. Besides a job he was in need of some gas, food, and a place to live. Our volunteers started making calls and they were able to hook him up with the Madera Workforce office and Bill got a job in a local resturant. Bill was able to find someone who would rent him a bedroom in their home for both him and his son and the lady cared for his son after school and during Summer vacation. One of our local churches bought him some gas and he got a food box from the Madera Food Bank. We then found out he was sleeping with his son on a twin bed mattress on the floor. It took us a while to find him a double bed so he found one on his own. This is what Love In The Name of Christ is all about. It's the way it works with God's guidance and blessings. LovelINC has made our lives more complete in Christ. Think about volunteering in our office. Just ask our volunteers as to how much they get blessed.

### Story #2

This isn't a LoveINC story but I had to share it because it is an awesome love story. I oversee the prayer chain at our church and I get so rewarded hearing what God is doing through our (people on the chain) prayers.

Here is an update on a little boy named Joseph who is 3 or 4 yrs old and has a brain tumor. (be blessed, God is good, all the time)

Good morning. I just wanted to update the Prayer Warriors on my friend's son, Joseph. He had surgery yesterday at St. Jude's hospital in Memphis to remove the tumor. The day or two before surgery, the doctors found that it was a malignant tumor that was starting to spread. However, the doctors were elated that they were able to remove 98% of the tumor.

The doctors said that Joseph did amazing and that not too long after surgery he woke up and asked for his dad and that he wanted to get up. God is sooo good! Please continue to pray mightily because he does have to have "treatments" after. I thought he was about 5 years old but he might only be 3 or 4. Thank you, Body of Christ, for praying.

Our kids are off limits to satan and we need to remind him of this daily!  
**AMEN?**

# Announcements

We ask you all to welcome Jon Barsotti, a good friend and strong man of God, as the newest member of the LoveINC board. Jon has been a resident of Madera for many years. He is married to Donna and they have two grown children and a number of grandchildren. Jon recently retired from FMC here in Madera.

Thanks and blessings Jon for joining our team.

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thankful. We have had four families step up to start their own ministries which we believe is what God is doing in the Church today. Here's a list of those ministries:

1. Bundle of Joy Ministry – supplying larger sizes of diapers that Doors of Hope doesn't have.
2. Family donating \$100.00 per month for five \$20.00 gas vouchers.
3. Family buying two \$20 books of bus tickets.
4. Elderly lady has turned her storage area into a place to store linens for LoveINC to donate.

God is showing us he is drying up the resources in the agencies because he wants the Church to rise up. There is no recession in heaven and God wants to provide everything we need to reach the needy. It's exciting to us to see God's people catch the vision and start to step up to be the Church, the church Jesus is coming back for. Pray with us that the people in your churches would catch the vision and rise up to reach Madera for Christ.

Al & Barbara Christoffersen  
Co-Executive Director



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

I want to help with a monthly pledge of \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other

One time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me information about volunteering in the Love INC office.

Mail to: Love INC  
1201 E Yosemite Ave.  
Madera, CA 93638

Tel: (559)674-4580  
Fax: (559)674-1715

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
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Work Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_