



Love INC  
Love In the Name of Christ

# The Love Connection

September 2010

## September 24<sup>th</sup> Auction News!

### Message from the Executive Director

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of you who are making our Christian Bookstore such a success and blessing for the community. So many people have come in thanking us for coming to the community with such a great assortment of books. Thanks to everyone for your continued donations and book drives.

I'd also like to send a huge thank you to all the churches who, even though summer giving can be down, you have stepped up so amazingly and helped us help those clients who have called us for help. There was over 30 churches that helped this summer! Praising God!

(not continued...)

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### Tickets for the Auction can be purchased at Love's Treasury Christian Bookstore.

Love INC will hold an auction this year on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the Tacoma Christian Reformed Community Church at 2419 72<sup>nd</sup> St. E. Come enjoy desserts, coffee, or tea while browsing and bidding at the silent auction. Entertainment will be provided by a quartet called, "Livewires". Admission will be \$5.00

You can purchase your tickets at Love's Treasury at 10213 139<sup>th</sup> St. Ct. E. #B1 in Puyallup and come visit Sherry and the team!

Donations are still be accepted until the 20<sup>th</sup> for items that can be auctioned off. We can sure use your help! We'd love to have some more people help us with Auction baskets and there is so much creativity out there!

How about a challenge among the churches for the most creative basket! I'd love to have a basket out there from at least our **top 10 most involved in the community churches.** ☺ Your name will **humbly** be displayed for all to see!

No, I won't list who those top 10 are, but bring in a basket and you will find some extremely thankful Love INC ministry partners.

Thanks in advance for those that have called and have said they'd do baskets or have brought beautiful handmade planters by for the auction., or the amazing counted Cross Stitches that will be auctioned off! See two pictures on page 9. You are such a blessing!!

*Our mission is to mobilize the Church to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ.*

## Love Thy Neighbor As Thyself.....

In Matthew 22:37-40, Jesus gives us the two greatest commandments. We are to love God with all our heart, soul and mind and we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. He goes on to tell us that the law and the prophets depend on these two commandments! So, like me, have you ever wondered what this truly means? If they are the greatest commandments, then we best know their meaning fully!

Volumes have been written about love; many of them about loving God. From every pulpit this sermon is preached. The love required is all consuming and passionate. It engages us completely...heart, soul & mind. A genuine love for God will produce in us a love for our neighbor. So, who exactly is our neighbor? It is **anyone** we come in contact with! We have the 'who', now let's look at the how. Jesus said to love them as we love ourselves. There is a love that is corrupt and is the root of all the greatest sins of man and it must be crucified and put off as a filthy garment. But there is also a love that's natural that must be preserved and sanctified. It is a God given respect for the dignity of our own natures created in His image and a serious concern for the welfare of our own souls and nature. We're commanded to love and esteem all men, to wrong or injure no one. We're to have good will and wishes toward all and as the opportunities arise-do good to all.

We are to pursue the physical health and spiritual well being of our neighbors with the very same intensity and concern that we do so for ourselves. We're to love as truly and sincerely as we do ourselves. In many cases, we will need to deny ourselves for the good of our neighbor. We are to make ourselves servants to the true welfare of others and be willing to spend and be spent for them. We lay our lives down for the glory of God. A believer's entire life provides a unique privilege by which we can serve others in Christ's name. It's the primary test of our love for God (Gal. 6:10).

So, how serious is this? Christ said that all the Law and the Prophets hang on this. It's the sum & substance of all the precepts that relate to a practical religion. **EVERYTHING** hangs on the law of love! If it's taken away, it falls and we are nothing more than a clanging gong. Love animates and cements the law. It is a comprehensive summary of the entire Bible. It's the root and spring of all other duties. Love is the fruit of faith...that we love God in Christ and our neighbor for His sake. The fulfillment of the law is love (Rom 13:10), and the end of the law is love (1Tim.1:5). This love will never fail. Love is the nail on which hangs all the glory of the law and the prophets (Isa.22:24) which will never be drawn out, for on this nail eternally hangs all the glory of the New Jerusalem! Hallelujah!

In obeying these two commandments and genuinely loving others, we fulfill all the moral requirements of the Mosaic Law concerning them. This is the ruling principal of Christian freedom. Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of God will reveal a holy life and a charitable loving heart (James 1:27). It is seen in acts that minister to the needs of the poor and afflicted among us...our neighbors. Also, it's revealed by our remaining pure and unstained by the world. This was demonstrated perfectly by Jesus' life here on Earth and is the goal that has been set before us. Jesus is to be revealed through us and we are to be known for the love that we have for others. As we determine in our hearts to obey, we can step out in faith and know that He will empower and equip us to accomplish all that He asks.

*Karen Asbjornsen  
Lighthouse Christian Center  
Love INC Board of Director*

# Talent Tithe Updates

Love INC has asked that members of local churches become involved in responding to individual and family needs which arise, or currently exist, in the area surrounding their churches. Our church has agreed to participate in this program because we believe it will give each church member a precious opportunity to put his/her Christian faith and love to work in the service of those in need.

Love INC will refer neighbors with legitimate and manageable needs to the trained contact person from our church. This contact person will give you the opportunity to provide the service you indicate on this inventory.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Note: If you are unable to help when called upon, you may simply decline that opportunity.

Available hours: (please check)

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening		Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Mon	_____	_____	_____	Fri	_____	_____	_____
Tues	_____	_____	_____	Sat	_____	_____	_____
Wed	_____	_____	_____	Sun	_____	_____	_____
Thurs	_____	_____	_____				

**I AM WILLING TO VOLUNTEER IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**

(Please Check)

- Assist with Shopping one or two times a month
- Assist people in filling out various forms (Seniors)
- Transporting people to medical appt once or twice a month
- Deliver food occasionally with adequate notice
- visit shut-ins, elderly, or disabled or handicapped
- Visit and encourage people who have no family/ friends to help
- Respite care for a single parent or those living with handicapped person
- Companionship for the elderly
- Transport Furniture in your Truck
- Do yard work for disabled and elderly
- Share skills:  Auto  Appliance

- Money Management counseling ( we can train you)
- Plumbing  Carpentry  Painting
- Provide short term emergency housing
- Help family with meal planning and cooking from scratch
- Tutor Children
- Tutor Adults (English as second language)
- Donate baby supplies
- Donate Beds, dressers, Linens & blankets
- Temporary baby-sitting or child care
- Financial aid (rent, utility bills, medicine)
- Make Holding Crosses (We have the templates)
- Make Bags for the holding crosses (We have samples)
- Phone Angel caring friend for someone who is alone
- Volunteer to help at Love INC call center in Lakewood
- Volunteer to help at Love INC's Christian Bookstore in Puyallup
- Other talents, skills you want to help with \_\_\_\_\_

Please Mail to: Love INC

10213 139<sup>th</sup> St. Ct. E. #B1 Puyallup, WA 98374

## Who is our neighbor?

This month I had a walk in person I'll name Mary to protect her privacy, who came in to Love's Treasury Christian Bookstore. Mary had been out walking and saw our sign and thought it might be a good place for a rest. You wouldn't know it by appearance but Mary is homeless in Puyallup. We struck up quite a conversation about her situation, on her side of the conversation, and how she is one of the statistics so to speak of homeless who are hard to help, so she doesn't get much assistance through housing programs or agencies. She has a lot of medical issues, is extremely sensitive to smells, fragrances, animals, etc to where it makes her ill. Mary is in her early 60's and had a thriving landscape business till all these medical issues came to light and she couldn't work with the plants anymore. She lost her company. She can only eat liquids during the day she said, and has found she can get steamed milk at Starbucks. She's been living in her car for the past couple years and occasionally would drive to her sister's in Oregon and she would pay her some money for helping her around her house, but she can't stay there because her sister has a lot of pets and being around them makes Mary ill. Right now Mary can't drive anywhere. Her engine went out on her car. She said she has found someone in Lakewood who could fix it for about \$1000.00 She said the YMCA gave her a membership so she could shower there, and they gave her a bus pass so she can ride the bus to a restaurant in Lakewood that feeds her dinner each evening. She said maybe in a year or two she can get back into an apartment. She has all her belongings in storage but doesn't want to try to sell them, in hopes she'll have that apartment one day.

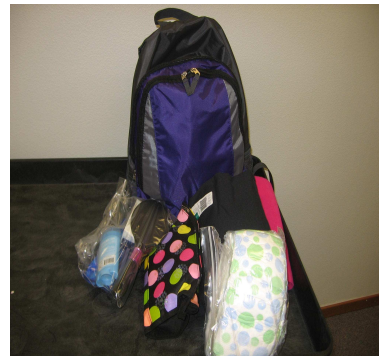
Continued on page 9

**Every seen a Flee Bag?** I had the opportunity when a man named Jr McCalvin walked into our Love's Treasury Christian Bookstore in August. If your church would like a service project, please consider partnering with FACT Ministries

FACT Ministries is Faith and Christian Truth Ministries. They are a 501c3 Tax # 20-5243477 charity ID # 24500. They collect and assemble FLEE bags. Backpacks filled with items needed by women fleeing domestic violence situations. They would like items like: Bibles, Backpacks, diapers, Sweat pants and shirts, food gift cards, prepaid Gas and phone cards, and many other items.

They give the back packs to hospitals and DV shelters, or churches, whom ever has contact with DV victims.

If you'd like more information please call J.R. McCalvin at 253-732-2010 or email him at [FACTministries@aol.com](mailto:FACTministries@aol.com)



Love INC ~ Love's Treasury is looking for donated musical instruments that can be used in grade school, junior high or high school bands and orchestra's. We would like to partner starting first with Puyallup School district music teachers so they can identify the students who are in need of a loaned instruments. We will not be directly loaning them to individuals. We know there are lots of instruments in closets not being used. Won't you consider donating them to us so together we can build in a child the joy of creating music! Instruments can be brought to Love's Treasury Christian Bookstore T-Sat from 10 – 6pm 10213 139<sup>th</sup> St. Ct. E. #B1 Puyallup. Blessed to be a blessing!

# LOTS OF FREE CLOTHING

The Graham Covenant Church ([www.grahamcovenant.org](http://www.grahamcovenant.org)) has been operating a clothing bank for the last 5 years. We don't have any other clothing banks in the area so we get an abundance of clothing donations from the South Pierce County region. We would like to share the wealth with others.

We have a surplus of sorted and good-condition clothing for babies, toddlers, kids, teens and adults for spring/summer and fall/winter:

- **Clothing banks** that need a reliable source of clothing can call us to make arrangements for occasional or regular deliveries/pick-ups
- **Client service organizations/programs** that have clients with crisis or longer-term needs can make arrangements to send/bring their clients to our clothing bank on Fridays from 10 am – 1 pm (our normal operating hours). For crisis situations, we would work with you to find a time to open up to serve the person(s) in need right away.
- **Back-to-School events** that offer clothing can contact us to obtain what you need.
- 

We prefer not to give our surplus to organizations that will sell the clothing.

For more information call Keith Miller (360-893-0765) or Linda Boyd (360-607-9221). Our website has a map showing where we are located.



## Love's Treasury Puyallup's 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Christian Bookstore "Features in September"



### *Home School Curriculum.*

*Bring your used Home School Curriculum into the store  
for a donation and receive  
20% off your next purchase!!*

**We look forward to sharing all  
Our Treasures with you! Come in and visit us at  
10213 139<sup>th</sup> St. Ct. E. # B1 in Puyallup  
We are off Meridian, across the street from Firgrove Elementary School  
in the 2<sup>nd</sup> row of buildings in the business park**





A big Thank You to **Lake City Community Church** for your choosing us to serve on Your Love in Action Sunday!! Thanks for helping with all the filing, cleaning, painting and the special model to showcase our Prom Dress Ministry!!!! We sure do appreciate your partnership's in ministry!



Help us spread the word about "Cinderella's Closet" our Prom Dress Ministry. We have over 90 dresses that we are renting for a \$25.00 fee. Part of that is to help defray the cost to clean the dresses and the rest helps with the expenses of maintaining the program. We are also asking for sponsors to help pay the rental fee, should a girl not be able to afford even that fee. We want everyone to have the opportunity to be a part of the social events for their schools.

# Announcements

**Sharon would love some help with our New Fall Auction Event. If you'd like to help us solicit for auction items we'd appreciate it so much!**

**If you'd like to put together a basket of goodies sponsored by you or your church that would be great too! Call the office at 253-531-2365 for more info. Items are needed before September 20<sup>th</sup>.**

Judy in our clearinghouse center needs volunteers to help with data entry of client info into our online database that the churches have access to.

Sarah and Lisa would love to have help with doing the intakes for clients. If you are one who likes giving people advice all the time, (that's a good thing here ☺) **This is our most needed area and the toughest, unfortunately. Please consider helping us.**

We could use a refill for the Caring Card Ministry. We send out 10-12 handmade cards per week to clients just to let them know we are praying for them and thinking about them. Please spread the word to those ladies who like to make cards that we could use some more!!

We are looking for donated Home School Curriculum, Prom Dresses, Musical Instruments, All sized Career Clothing, Cleaned if possible.

If you can help with any of these things Contact Sherry at 253-468-6236. Her new email address is: [ExecDir@loveincpiercecounty.com](mailto:ExecDir@loveincpiercecounty.com) It's so fun to add a "walk in" ministry component to Love INC!

If your church would like to have Sherry come and talk to the leadership team or your congregation about how your church can get involved with more outreach please give her a call at 253-468-6236. We await your invitation!





*These pictures don't do the Counted Cross Stitch's justice, these truly are works of art and will be available for viewing at our bookstore until the auction. Months went into creating them.*

## Who is my neighbor....continued from page 4

I don't have all the information needed yet to see if we can find help for Mary. I did do a little research around town with groups that help the homeless to see if I could find out more of Mary's story. Before she left the store that day, one of the volunteers felt God nudging her to give Mary some money, though Mary didn't ask for it. Mary prayed with the volunteer thanking God for the help from this lady.

Mary said she was staying in the Walmart parking lot. I tried to drive it this morning to see if I could locate her car. I didn't know what the car looked like, but figured I'd give it a shot. I saw three homeless folks auto's at the parking lot, early in the morning, two had towels covering the windows to keep the sun and onlookers out. One of the cars had a dog tied to the door handle.

I'd like to see if somehow the networking we do could help Mary get an apartment that she could afford. I don't know what her income is yet, but she mentioned she gets some sort of disability check, that was different from Social Security Disability. That is under \$700 a month. I'd like to see if a group of churches would help with the expense of getting her engine fixed, or have mechanics who could donate their time and we get funds donated to cover the parts. I'm thankful the YMCA has done so much to help her. Mary falls in the gap of most agencies because it's nearly impossible to help someone with so many issues, and no children.

Her allergies and sensitivities limit where she can stay and who she can be around. She told me she doesn't take drugs and doesn't drink. Earlier in her life she said she was an alcoholic but that was long ago.

It's quite a walk from the Walmart to our store. I believe Mary will be back and I'd like to try to offer her more hope for her tomorrows. Contact Sherry if you in any way would like to help Mary get into housing, get her auto fixed, or help her when housing is found to get her things moved from storage. Write me at [Exedir@loveinpiercecounty.com](mailto:Exedir@loveinpiercecounty.com)

I'm reminded of the book that came out by Richard Stearns at World Vision, called *The Hole in our Gospel*. One reviewer wrote of the book, "In *The Hole In Our Gospel*, Stearns presents a compelling challenge to westerners, especially the church, to forsake their myopic pursuit of wealth, comfort, and self-realization and to fulfill the uncomfortable command of Jesus to care for the poor." When I asked God, what could I do to help Mary, I felt impressed upon my heart, to do what I know to do and trust God for the rest....so I am writing and getting the need out there and waiting in faith that people will rally together to do what each of them can do too.

***This is not an Organization, it's a movement of God!***

We recognize that a piece of your heart is included when you write that check and we appreciate and guard your trust, support and your partnering with us to make a difference in our community.

*\*Yes, I will help meet the financial needs of Love In The Name of Christ as indicated below:*

*Special Gift of \$25\_\_\_ \$50\_\_\_ \$100\_\_\_ \$250\_\_\_ \$500\_\_\_ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_*

*I'd like to help with Love's Treasury Ministry*

*\_\_\_ I'd like to sponsor a child for a prom dress (\$25.00 will cover the dress and the cleaning)*

*\_\_\_ I'd like to sponsor a child for a musical instrument (\$40.00 will cover maintenance, repairs, pads reeds)*

***Charge my credit card for easier processing:***

***Card # \_\_\_\_\_***

***Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_***

***Your Name \_\_\_\_\_***

***Email address: \_\_\_\_\_***

***Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_***

***City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_***

***Phone number \_\_\_\_\_***

***Donations can now be made directly on our website at [www.loveincpiercecounty.org](http://www.loveincpiercecounty.org)***

***OR***

***Please fill out the coupon and return it with your TAX DEDUCTIBLE financial gift to the address below:***

***If you'd like to mail your donation kindly make checks payable to Love INC and mail to:***

***Love INC, 10213 139<sup>th</sup> St. Ct. E. #B1 Puyallup, WA 98374***

***Thank You, for being an answer to prayer!*** Love In the Name of Christ is a 501 (c) 3 corporation and your contributions are completely tax deductible. You will receive a tax receipt letter thanking you for your gift!