

# Love INC Notes of Joy



### Health and Welfare

No, we are not talking about Health and Human Services. We are talking about God's desire for every human being to know Him and experience the abundant life... to become whole physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. Many of our Love INC friends are feeling less than whole in one or more areas. And let's face it, so do the rest of us. Those of us who know Jesus are learning to walk with Him through the difficulties of life, but perfection is not here yet. We see progress, but we also see some failures. So if I'm not whole yet, how can I help someone who doesn't even know God?

Maybe it would be useful to recognize some of the similarities between myself (a believer and a Love INC volunteer) and a person who calls the Love INC office requesting help:

We are both created by God.

We are both created in God's image.

We both have a tendency to sin.

We both make mistakes and need forgiveness.

We both need God's help navigating the difficulties of life.

We both need family and friends to support us through struggles.

Each of us needs God whether we realize it or not. There are times that I choose to do things MY WAY, and I suffer consequences. So does the one who calls Love INC. We both need forgiveness. I may ask God for forgiveness as a believer, but an unbeliever doesn't know what to do with the guilt.

I know that I need wisdom to make wise choices in life. As a believer, I want to know and follow God in better ways, so I read the Bible, pray and connect with my brothers and sisters in Christ. However, "...The one who walks in darkness does not know where he is going" (John 12:35).

There are times that emotional turmoil clouds my thinking and discourages me, but I am thankful that I have members of my family and church family who are nearby to support me. Some of our Love INC callers have family and friends to support them, but many do not.

What if... you or I became family or friend to them, encouraged them to give God a try, invited them to church, and together we learned to walk with God, supporting each other through life?

### **Love INC Board Members**

Jerry Cruce—Willamette Community Church Mike Farnsworth —Lebanon Calvary Chapel Rob Nelke—Valley Christian Center Gene Vey—Willamette Community Church Ross Wootan—Home Church

Love In the Name of Christ — Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday 7 9 am—1 pm

Tuesday 5 pm --8pm 7 541-924-LOVE

## Partner Churches

#### AI BANY

Albany First Evangelical Church Albany First United Methodist Church Albany Foursquare Church Albany Mennonite Church Albany Seventh-Day Adventist Eastside Christian Church First Church of God Free Church United Christian Center Fusion Faith Center Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Hands of Mercy Hope Church Jesus Pursuit Church Knox Butte Baptist Church Neighborhood Church North Albany Community Church Northside Christian Church Salvation Army South Albany Community Church The Shift United Presbyterian Church of Albany Valley Christian Center Willamette Community Church

#### LEBANON

Community Bible Church
First Presbyterian Church of Lebanon
First United Methodist Church of Lebanon
Ignite Hope-Free Methodist Church
Lebanon Mennonite Church
Signs of Victory
Southside Church of Christ
Trinity Baptist Church

#### **TANGENT**

Agape Family Fellowship Grace Bible Fellowship Tangent Community Church

#### **IEFFERSON**

Jefferson Evangelical Church

SCIO

Providence Vineyard Christian Fellowship

#### **SHEDD**

Oakville Presbyterian Church

#### Ways to Give

- Mail a check to: 1606 Santiam Hwy SE, Albany, OR 97321
- Donate with a credit card through our website www.lovelinn.org

# Cancer Is Not Just a Physical Problem

She came in asking for help with childcare for her son (age 2 years) and daughter (age 1 year), both still in diapers. Marsha had been diagnosed with cancer and had to travel from Albany to Eugene 5 days a week for radiation, and one of those days she also needed to have chemotherapy. The cancer treatment facility had referred her to Love INC. This was an urgent request, as she had been skipping treatment due to childcare issues.

Marsha had a job (formerly as a CNA but now as a food delivery driver). However, she had been missing a lot of work because of her health situation. She just didn't have money to pay for childcare, and even if she did, agencies weren't able to take her because of COVID, or the children needed to be potty trained, or they didn't take "drop-ins". Marsha's Mom was in a group home due to Multiple Sclerosis, and her Dad hadn't been around since she was a baby. Marsha was a single Mom herself, homeless, and her Ex had been harassing her. None of her friends were available to care for her children. Our volunteer prayed with her, asking God for solutions.

Marsha had Big problems, but as we know, our God is a BIG GOD. After sending emails to some churches, a few women responded, offering childcare, and one woman said she would coordinate the schedules, keeping all informed of the details. A location was found between Lebanon and Albany to care for the children. The childcare volunteers met Marsha near the freeway and drove the children to the house to be cared for, and Marsha drove to Eugene for treatment. This worked for about 3 weeks, but then side effects from the treatment started to bother Marsha. Arrangements were made for Ride Share to drive her to Eugene, after it was determined that she qualified.

Marsha and her children still need a permanent home. She has been referred to AST (Adult Services Team) which is a coordinated effort of several agencies to help people overcome obstacles in trying to find housing.

Marsha isn't finished with her treatment yet (2 or 3 more weeks), but we are praying that Marsha will be healed from her cancer, be able to find housing and discover that God is a forever friend.

# Prayer Requests for Love INC:

- Ask God to supply more volunteers to help clean and safety check used medical equipment.
- Pray that God would provide 2 men and a truck to deliver medical equipment one day a week (the men need to be strong enough to be able to carry a hospital bed).