AUGUST 2025

love in the name of Christ | Mecosta County

Welcome to the first edition of our Love INC-Mecosta County newsletter!

We have learned that over twenty percent of Mecosta residents live below the poverty level. In February 2025 a team began looking at ways to better help those in need, not to just provide handouts but to provide a helping hand while witnessing God's love through partnering churches.

Love In the Name of Christ (INC) model fits the need perfectly. Love INC addresses the problem differently. It coordinates churches in the area to not just assist people but to transform their lives. Through the unity of area churches the collective impact will have an amazing effect on our community through witnessing for Christ and transforming lives. We have seen it happen in other communities and it can happen in Mecosta County too.

A great deal of progress has happened since February. God has been so faithful in helping us achieve the following:

1. Learning about the 40+ churches in Mecosta County.
2. Connecting with churches and presenting the Love INC model.
3. Working through a detailed nine step development process.
4. Receiving donations to cover the development fees.
5. Earning partnerships with multiple local churches.
6. Monthly meeting with the Love INC Development National Specialist.
7. Meeting monthly for prayer

What's next?

- Continue to pray for God's guidance in this venture
- Finalize church partnership agreements
- Accept applications for board members
- Pray for skilled board members skilled in leadership, fundraising, accounting and more.
- We are continuing to pray for churches and their leadership
- Develop program bylaws so we can begin the 501C3 process.
- Acquiring an office location
- Finding the Executive Director
- Love INC National will provide numerous training sessions for board members and volunteers.
- Determine a date for when the doors will be open!

Team Members:
Greg and Lois Buresh
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Churches the Team has connected with

Chapel of The Lakes Lutheran
Chippewa Lake Community Connect
Fellowship Christian Reformed
Good Shepherd Lutheran
Grant Center Methodist
Green Country
Northland Global Methodist
ResLife
Riverside
St. Mary's/St. Paul's Catholic
St. Peter's Lutheran
Sylvester Community
The Old Country
Trinity Fellowship

PRAYER REQUESTS

-Pray for wisdom for the development to continue the final steps

-Pray that God's will is done in all of the decisions that are made

-Pray that funding will begin to come forward

From the Team:
We have recognized God's leading through this entire development process. A theme verse for us has been Ephesians 3:20-21

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

PLEASE HELP US SAVE COSTS BY SENDING US YOUR EMAIL

Please email brendaroels@gmail.com to get your personal or church email on our mailing list. Thank you!