Summer 2026

love in the name of Christ | Mecosta County

We have a Home!

Love INC-Mecosta County has a place to call home. Due to the extremely generous donation from the United Methodist Ministries of Mecosta County, we have a place to set up our office at 226 N. Third Avenue in Big Rapids, MI.

The property is in the perfect location for our ministry, and the 100+ year-old building is in excellent shape for its age.

Volunteers have been busy renovating the former church both inside and out into a structure that will support offices, group meetings and gap ministries for Love INC.





Recent Accomplishments

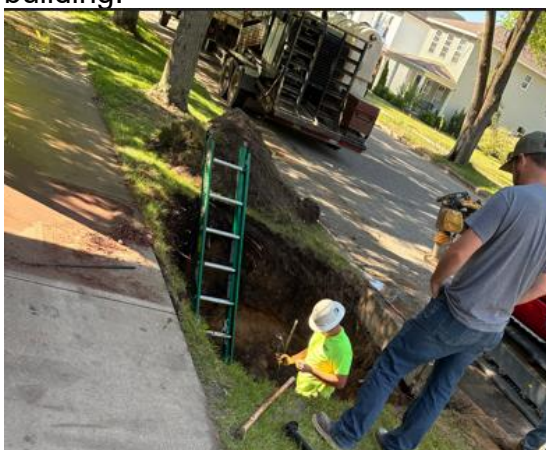
- With a new location, our mailing address is changing. The address is:

  Love INC-Mecosta County
  226 N. Third Ave.
  Big Rapids, MI 49307

  Please update your mailing information.

- Please welcome William (Bill) Stanek who has joined the Love INC-Mecosta County Board of Directors. Bill, a member of Trinity Fellowship Church of Big Rapids is a devout Christian who brings with him a vast amount of experiences and knowledge.

- The City of Big Rapids recently notified us that they were installing new water lines to buildings in the area to replace aging galvanized pipes and move the meters to inside the structures. Timing was perfect as we just identified problems with leaking pipes coming into our building. The city project saved us thousands of dollars by directional boring new copper line into the building.



The search is on for an Executive Director!

Love INC-Mecosta County is actively searching for an Executive Director. A subcommittee has been formed, and the position description has been completed. Since releasing the position description to indeed.com (a job search website), we have received numerous applications. The team has analyzed the applications and has narrowed it down to a hand full of potential applicants. Interviews have begun and will likely continue through much of July. We pray God will guide us to find the perfect person for this extremely important position.

Third Avenue Community Lunch Program to Restart

The Third Avenue Community Lunch Program formerly known and Third Avenue United Methodist Lunch Program has served meals for those in need since 1983. When the Third Avenue United Methodist Church closed, the lunch program was also forced to close.

Grant Center Global Methodist Church has stepped up to sponsor the Third Avenue Community Lunch Program going forward through their 501c3 and other support. The lunch program is expected to resume operation with the assistance of volunteers as before.

We are overjoyed that we can be part of continuing this vital service to the area through the partnership of Grant Center Global Methodist Church and the ongoing work of the Third Avenue Community Lunch Program staff and volunteers. Working together, we intend to make this time-tested beloved program bigger and better than ever.

Prayer Team Members Needed

We currently are seeking people who want to pray together regarding Love INC-Mecosta County concerns and opportunities. We haven't met yet but would like to get at least one person from each of our partnering churches. The plan is to meet quarterly. Please contact Brenda Roels at BrendaRoels@gmail.com if you would like to become a part of this important ministry.

Love INC Lead Training

On June 8 and 9, Sandy Hatchew, Rachel and Chuck Bonning, Lois and Greg Buresh, Brenda and Bryan Roels attended the two day, Love INC National Lead Training Program in which we received training on Redemptive Compassion, Leadership Roles, Church Relationships, and Connection Center Ministry.

Other Announcements

Join Charity Baptist Church for the Rainforest Falls VBS July 27th – 31st.

God willing Love INC-Mecosta County will open by the end of 2026.

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."

OUR MISSION IS TO MOBILIZE LOCAL CHURCHES TO TRANSFORM LIVES AND COMMUNITIES IN THE NAME OF CHRIST