



**Love INC**  
Love In the Name of Christ  
Gallatin County

# Love Letter

Spring 2013

## A Thank You from Nancy

One of the greatest blessings of Love INC is the privilege of meeting and serving alongside some of the finest Christians one could ever hope to know.

You know who you are. Or, maybe you don't. The rich gifts of time, energy, talent, funds and kindness that you generously bestow on our neighbors in need, whenever you are called upon, is a natural part of who you are. It's an expression of the life of Christ within you. You may not know how stunning it is.

You don't attract the attention of the media; in fact, I have seen you eschew being recognized for what you do. What you do is natural for a Christian, but is rare in our world. We live in a world of lots of talk, desperate hand-wringing, anger, angst and anxiety... but you simply answer the call and help a real person who needs a hand. In doing so, you change a life... and our world.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for the inspiring model you have provided me. I will never forget the reflection of Christ visible through you.

*(continued on page 2)*

### 2012 Ministry Outcomes!

*Service in Christ's Name!*

Calls for help processed... 5,873  
Needs met by church  
volunteers.....22,117  
Personal Care Pantry... 447 households  
Linen Closet..... 62 households  
Clothes Closet..... 10,057 clients  
Volunteer Hours.... 45,077

## Plant the Seed!



It's almost time to plant our gardens! As any gardener can attest, we work the soil, plant seeds of potential, tenderly care for shoots, but it is God who provides the miracle of growth, fragrant blossoms, and a harvest. Springtime is planting time for Love INC, too!

**THE PLANT THE SEED DINNER WILL BE HELD  
MAY 7 AT THE MSU STRAND UNION**

**BALLROOM.** Plant a seed now in God's Kingdom to reap a harvest of love and hope and changed lives. (Look at the 2012

Ministry Outcomes on this page – that is but a partial glimpse of the harvest from last year's planting!)

**DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 P.M. FOR THE SILENT AUCTION.**

**DINNER PROGRAM BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M.**

Historically the largest banquet in Gallatin County's largest venue!  
Christians from more than 26 denominations enjoying a gala event together!  
Creative Theme Packages from partner churches prepared for the silent auction!  
Live Music! Ministry Displays! Inspiring Speaker!

Love INC is a crucial part of what makes Gallatin County a great area to live and a wonderful place for Christians to serve others. Love INC is a tool God is blessing so we can reach out, serve our neighbors with Christ's love, and transform lives. Love INC works! Let's plant now... and later hear our Lord's words:

*"Well done, good and faithful servant ...."*

Bring your friends - you can even host a table together. An offering will be taken to fund 25% of Love INC's annual budget. Look what God can do when Christians serve in His name!

**A TABLE HOST RESERVATION FORM IS AVAILABLE IN THIS NEWSLETTER.**

**RESERVE YOUR PLACE, INVITE YOUR FRIENDS, BLESS LOVE INC AND HAVE SOME FUN!**

**RESERVATION DEADLINE: April 19.**

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

## Message...continued from page 1

### Board of Directors

John Patterson, First Presbyterian  
 Ray Stinnett, Springhill Presbyterian  
 Larry Holle, First Lutheran Church  
 Jeff Abelin, Trinity Church  
 Andrew Breuner, Resurrection Parish  
 Mark Hofman, Bethel Christian Reformed  
 Merlin Nelson, Christ the King Lutheran  
 Carrie Chestnut, Journey Church  
 Robin Owen, Springhill Presbyterian  
 Kate Holiday, Evangelical Free Church

### Staff

**Position Open:** Executive Director  
 (Nancy VanDyken resigned 3-1-13)

**Position Open:** Admin Asst to the Director  
 (Chiara Schober resigned 3-15-13)

Dawn Long, Change Your Life Coordinator  
 Journey Church

Celia Styren, Intake-Referral Coordinator  
 Belgrade Christian Assembly

Verla Blom, Intake-Referral Coordinator  
 Bozeman Christian Reformed Church

Lawlee Weir, Office Manager  
 Grace Bible Church

Jim Good, Community Liaison  
 Evangelical Free Church

Cheri Kirkpatrick, Secretary & In-Kind  
 Donation Coordinator  
 Mt. Ellis 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church

### Contact Info

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 Bozeman, MT 59771

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 FAX: 406-585-3378  
 Client Help Line: 406.587.3008

Website: [www.loveincgc.org](http://www.loveincgc.org)  
 Blog: [loveincgc.blogspot.com](http://loveincgc.blogspot.com)  
 Find us on Facebook!

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A little more than 11 years ago, I wrote my first newsletter message. Now it's time to write my last one. I now work full-time for the Love INC Movement (national and international) as one of its Co-Directors (instead of one Executive Director, the Love INC Movement has Co-Directors). My focus will be to guide, train and assist communities that want to start a Love INC.

During the time that I have served as your Executive Director, I have been struck by the many people who put their faith in action. You make this world livable – you who *truly live* the life Christ called us to.

Someday I would like to chronicle the expressions of God's grace and love that I have been blessed to witness. There is not enough room here to do so, but I am chock full of memories of the generous Christians of Gallatin County.

Amazing. Wondrous. Inspiring. People rarely noticed, hardly ever receiving an award, sometimes misunderstood, yet full of joy. Approachable people to whom you can turn, who are ready to help right here in the place we call home. I have seen your faith and love – not in words, intentions and plans, but in deeds that speak volumes. Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ sees it, too, along with all of heaven.

Looking ahead, I trust that God will continue to bless and guide Love INC. He has plans for this outreach in Gallatin County! New and exciting vistas will open, broken lives will be healed, and struggling families helped. Your continued prayers and involvement will

enable, Lord willing, Love INC to meet new challenges and go through exciting doors that God will open.

Personally, I will remain in Gallatin County. Much of my time will be directed toward Montana communities. The Love INC Movement looks to Montana as a pilot project. We have resources for our state to build Love INCs that go beyond what is available elsewhere. With these additional assets, every Montana community can have a Love INC! Gallatin County is leading the way in the state... and Montana can lead the way for the nation.

So, please pass on the vision of Love INC. Ask your friends and family around the state to talk to their pastors. I would love to hear from anyone interested in knowing more about Love INC!

I need your help to enter other Montana communities. You can email the names of people who might be interested to Chiara: [chiara.schober@loveinc.org](mailto:chiara.schober@loveinc.org) or call 406-924-9022. (Chiara has also joined the national Movement, serving as my administrative assistant.)

Thank you for *being* Love In the Name of Christ. Thank you for your prayers and for being who you are. Let us not grow weary in doing good! Remember, with God, all things are possible.

Thanks be to God!

Gratefully, in Christ,  
*Nancy VanDyken*

### NOW HIRING!

As of the writing of this newsletter, the position of Executive Director of Gallatin County Love INC is open. The Board of Directors is accepting applications.

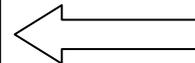
For position description and application, please email [loveincoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:loveincoffice@yahoo.com)

*Is God calling you to lead Love INC?*

### A Recent Thank You Note

*Dear Love INC,*

*We thank God for the faithful, on-going Christian ministry of Love INC, all year long. Thank you for being there for us and the hundreds and thousands more.... God bless you!*



# Clip and Send!

Each year the Plant the Seed Dinner is a time of fun, food, fellowship and funding for our Love INC for the coming year.

The goal of this year's fundraiser, besides bringing together Christians from around Gallatin County to enjoy the evening together, is to raise \$70,000 for Love INC - seed money for the harvest of 2013.

At the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual PTS Dinner, you will be treated to an attractive Silent Auction featuring the creative Theme Packages from partner churches! Several local businesses contribute desirable items, too.

The items to be auctioned are some of the most useful, delicious and attractive items you'll find at any fundraising banquet!

Verla Blom will treat us to an insightful and inspirational message. Also, at PTS you will hear reports of client lives changed through Love INC. And be sure to visit the ministry displays.

Reserve your table today, either individually or as a group. Be part of a real answer and demonstrate Christian love for local families in need! Let's bring real hope and transform lives!

 <p><b>18th Annual Plant the Seed Dinner</b></p>	<p><b>GALLATIN COUNTY LOVE INC</b> Love In the Name of Christ</p>
<p><b>May 7, 2013</b> (doors open at 5:30 pm) <b>MSU Strand Union Ballroom</b></p>	<p><b>Table Host Reservation</b> <i>(please print)</i></p> <p>Table Host/Hostess: _____                  Address: _____                  City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____                  Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____                  Your Church: _____                  Additional hosts sponsoring this table? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                  If so, Name(s): _____                  Phone #: _____                  # Vegetarian Meals: _____ # Vegan Meals: _____                  Any special needs at your table? If so, describe:                  _____</p>
<p><b>Table Size:</b>                  ___ 8 people (\$320)                  ___ 10 people (\$400)</p> <p>Amount Enclosed: _____                  (make checks payable to Love INC; write "PTS" on check memo line)</p>	<p><b>SILENT AUCTION! MINISTRY DISPLAYS!</b></p>
<p><b>Please return this card with your payment by April 19 to:</b></p> <p><b>Love INC; PO Box 7117; Bozeman, MT 59771</b></p>	



## You can help transform the lives of people in need!

I want to pray for Love INC and the people being served; add me to the prayer chain (email needed, complete below).

I want to support this ministry! Enclosed is a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I might like to volunteer. Please send me information.

**Mail to:**

Gallatin County Love INC  
 PO Box 7117  
 Bozeman, MT 59771

Business line: 406.587.6395  
 FAX line: 406.585.3378

Blog: loveincg.blogspot.com  
 Find us on Facebook!

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Church Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_



Love INC

Love In the Name of Christ

Gallatin County Love INC  
PO Box 7117  
Bozeman, MT 59771

Return Service Requested

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Bozeman, MT  
Permit #71

***How can I be a part of the answer – and help move a local family out of need?***

- Pray for Love INC’s ability to serve!
- Volunteer in the office or on the phones (2 hrs./week)
- Volunteer to offer your talent to serve a neighbor (no set times; only on-call as you are able)
- Serve as a mentor for 6-8 weeks (meet with a client after class in a structured environment for 1 hr./week)
- Form a team with friends from your church and operate the Love INC Clothes Closet 1x/month (training provided)
- Donate needed funds - fuel Love INC’s work.
- Donate new or exc. condition linens or towels.
- Tell others about Love INC.
- Come to Plant the Seed Dinner on May 7.

*Email [loveincoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:loveincoffice@yahoo.com) to learn how!*



**May 7**

**Plant the Seed Dinner!**

Month of May

Bid At Home Auction (planned)

TBA (July or Aug)

Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

Keep current! Take a peek at *your church's* Love INC ministry! Learn about ways to help – easy ways or ways that will stretch your faith. Go to our blog & subscribe!

<http://loveincgc.blogspot.com>



Find us on Facebook!

Be our *Friend* at “GallatinCounty LoveINC” or

*Like Us* at “Gallatin County Love INC”.