



SUMMER/FALL 2026

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

“Let us stop just saying we love people, let us really love them, and show it by our actions.” 1 John 3:18



Baby Steps



As parents, when our little one begins to take their first steps it is cause for great celebration. There are cheers of joy and words of encouragement and praise. “Great job! Look at you go!” God is a Father who also celebrates and encourages us as we take steps towards Him. As we say yes to God and step out of our comfort zone, we will personally experience God’s affirming presence in our lives.

However, it may never be more clear than in the life of a brand new believer. God really seems to show up and show off for people who are saying yes to Him for the first time. It might not be miracles like the lame walking or the dead rising, but little miracles seem to abound in the life of new believers – “coincidences” that are not coincidences. It is as if God wants them to know He sees them taking those first steps towards Him and He is cheering, “Great job! Look at you go!”

When you share the hope of the gospel and walk with new believers, you really get to see God at work – in you, and in those to whom you are sent! At Love INC, we want to encourage you to look for ways that God might be asking you to step in a bit deeper. We would like to invite you to walk with your neighbors in a deeper, more relational way. We would love for you to experience God in new ways and see what God will do with your YES!

Adopt-A-Student Program

Love INC would like to thank Dorothy Fossum, Questa Kaps, Deb Moser, Sheldon Hovaldt, Connie Glenn, and Willma Wissink for stepping up and giving of their time to pack and distribute donations brought in from our partner churches. A special thank you to Edward Jones for donating more than 60 backpacks! Each student on the program was given a new backpack as well as the supplies required for his/her grade level. 78 students were blessed this year! This may sound really backwards, but we hope to help even less next year. That’s right, less! Our prayer is that we would love and walk alongside our neighbors in a way that helps them up and out of their struggles. We pray that, one family at a time, our list would get shorter and shorter every year!





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Transformational Ministries

The **GAP Ministries** supported by our partner churches, like the Helping Hands Baby Ministry and the Personal Care Pantry, have done an amazing job helping to meet some of the immediate needs in the lives of our neighbors who may be struggling. However, we know that there can be root issues that contribute to their need for assistance. We want to create opportunities where we can truly get to know our neighbors, so that we might help them rise up out of their struggles rather than be sustained in them.

A first step may be adding more relational aspects to the GAP Ministries we already offer. The last Saturday of the month, from 9-11am at Canton United Methodist Church, **Kids & Coffee MOMS MINISTRY** offers a loving and supportive environment for moms, even as they pick up the diapers and wipes they may need to help get through the week. We are developing a meal prep ministry where people not only get food from the Food Pantry, they get community and fellowship as they prepare meals *together*. We are building volunteer pools to help neighbors get to medical appointments, move into a new home, keep their cars running, get their yards picked up...the list goes on!!

We are also developing **Transformational Ministries**. These are individual educational programs and courses designed to be accompanied by material support and/or special access to Gap Ministry resources that act as incentives or rewards to participants. They typically have goal setting, and some level of accountability incorporated into them in hopes of bringing about true and lasting transformation. We are planning to offer a class that takes a holistic approach in teaching those who attend that they have value and encourages planning to achieve one's dreams. We will also plan to offer financial classes and mentoring, once again, to help families who are struggling financially to better manage the resources they have and overcome burdensome debt. We will need willing volunteers to make this all possible.

As we say yes to stepping into any one of these relational, transformational ministries, we will get to know neighbors we may know *of* – but don't truly *know*. And we will get to see what God will do with our YES!! Give us a call or scan the QR code to fill out our Time & Talent survey, and let's explore how God may be calling you to help!



Thank You

Church Ministry Coordinators

A big shout-out for our Church Ministry Coordinators! They are the bridge between Love INC and our partner churches and we couldn't do this without them!

We celebrated them at our annual CMC Appreciation Luncheon in June and look forward to the year ahead!



Back Row (left to right): Nancy Feekes (Office Admin.); Shawna Andersen (Director); Kaia Kloster (Connection Center Coordinator); Kim Dahl (Moe Parish); Jennie McCown (Canton Lutheran); Connie Glenn (St. Dominic); Dorothy Fossum (Grand Valley Lutheran)

Front Row (left to right): Sandy Steck (The River of Life); Linda Clark (Celebrate Church Canton); Kira Kleinjan (Moe Parish); Questa Kaps (Bethany Reformed)

Not pictured: Dorothy Markle (Canton United Methodist)



Love INC's Clothing Closet



Fun was had by all at the Love INC dunk tank as we helped Celebrate Canton at Saturday in the Park!

Thank you to all who volunteered to be in the dunk tank as well as the "throwers" who contributed to this fundraiser for Love INC that raised over \$400! Look for us next year!



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Love INC's Clothing Closet has a variety of gently used clothing & accessories at a great price!

The store is ready for the fall season. Whether you're looking for Back-to-School Clothing, C-Hawk & Football Apparel or Hunting Gear!



New Office Volunteers!!



Linda Hill



Heather Day



Donna Wiersma

Did you know each dollar given to Love INC will produce over \$55.00 of help and service to those in need? Your financial support will help meet many more needs and touch more lives for Christ!

Yes! I would like to support the Love INC mission of mobilizing the Church to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ.

I support Love INC through PRAYER_____. I pledge to provide support to Love INC with a one-time gift of \$_____. I pledge to provide support on a monthly basis with \$_____ (\$10, \$25, \$50, etc.) to help cover ongoing expenses.

Please fill out the address information listed below. Thank you for sharing a gift In the Name of Christ!

NAME:_____ ADDRESS:_____

CITY/STATE/ZIP:_____ E-MAIL ADDRESS:_____

ORGANIZATION/BUSINESS/CHURCH NAME:_____

Please fill out this form and return it with your TAX DEDUCTIBLE financial gift payable to: Love in the Name of Christ and mail to 111 E 6th St, Canton, SD 57013 or choose a method to donate online at our website: www.loveinccantonsd.org or scan the QR code:

