

# Christmas 2016

Linking the Needs of the Summit County Community with Church Volunteers

# We've come this far by faith!

### From the Director

# Giving to others from what God has given to us

By Celina Flunoy

### Rejoice with me for all God is doing!!!

Thanks to all of a participating churches and volunteers, with just the electric assistance program, 1,119 households did not have to go without electricity in their homes this year. Today, these families are warm and safe.

I recently helped families who were in need of food, clothing and rental assistance. One family who stands out is Virginia (elderly grandmother raising her 2 granddaughters). During that time, she was able to get her water turned back on (leaky faucet caused the increase) and take better care of her grandchildren. Without your help, Virginia and her grandchildren would still be without water. On behalf of them, thank you.



**Love Inc of Greater Akron is** entering into its tenth year helping families in need pay electric bills. In partnership with **Ohio Edison**, Love Inc over the past ten years have administered the Ohio Fuel Fund program. Just this past October 2016, over \$28,000 was credited to accounts for 186 families (558 children under the age of 6) and 372 children ages 7-18 were assisted with their electric. Volunteers from ten local churches provided this mission outreach.



Every day, your support makes stories like Virginia's possible.

Today, we are asking that you help Love Inc., with your year-end giving. Our goal is to help additional mothers, fathers, sons and daughters who need help feeding, clothing and housing their families. There are families that we could not help because we don't have the financial resources to do so. Please include Love Inc in your spirit of giving! In the meantime, thank you and thank God for people like you, who offer us ongoing support, cooperation and prayers. *Love Inc is a non-profit (501c3) ministry and your donation is tax deductible.* 

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Celína

## Living Out Your Faith

From Pastor Eiwen: As a minister who spent <u>over thirty-nine years</u> of my ministry as one of the pastors of Zion Lutheran Church in the heart of Akron, ministry to the poor and needy of down-town Akron was a regular part of everyday life. I continue to see that as extremely important. *Our Lord called us to care for the poor and needy among us*. That is why, although I was extremely busy at the time, God laid it on my heart to become one the founders of Love INC of Greater Akron some twenty-nine years ago. There are so many hurting people in this world. Many in our society think that these needs should be cared for by the government. But that is not the impression that I receive from reading the Bible. God does not let us simply dump this concern on somebody else. He calls for each of us to see these needs as our responsibility, as we work together as Christian individuals and churches. One of the ways that God has given us to work together in Akron and Summit County is Love INC of Greater Akron, as it serves as a conduit to connect the needs of the poor with the abilities and resources of Christian individuals and churches. I pray that more people will become involved in this ministry, which has the potential of meeting many needs. As we do that, in many cases we may find opportunities to offer witness to our Lord Jesus Christ through our words and our actions.

Pastor John Eiwen, Pastor Emeritus of Zion Lutheran Church.



### Christmas



Adopt-A-Family: The holidays are upon us and we have families whom we have been working with in need of assistance. If your church has an outreach to the

needy in Summit County and would like to adopt a family for the holidays, please contact Love Inc. at (330) 762-1221 or email at lincsummit@sbcglobal.net Many of the agencies assisting with Christmas for families only help up to age 12 or 13. What happens to the older children? Do they have to go without? Please consider donating gift cards to some of these local stores, Walmart, Targets, K-Mart, etc. Please contact us today and see how you can help.





Calling all churches, pastors and –faith-based ministries. Lets get an early start to encourage everyone to be praying for our country and Summit county. Help raise the awareness. Sam Pillow, admonishes us that prayer is not just a day but a daily discipline. Meetings and committees are already being formed to celebrate the 2017 day of prayer, Thursday, May 4. Contact the Prayer Task Force at (330) 996-0602 or Love Inc at (330) 762-1221. If you work in Children's Ministry or with youth we want to hear from you. Agnes Davis will be working with Love Inc to coordinate activities for the youth. She can be reached at 330-762-1221. for children "Serving Children At Risk"

Dave & Lynn's daughter Melise's letter and donation from her birthday. Hi Culina! D whought you would be wite ustice in knowing what Milese, our youngest, have a wmall drivenday party recently and in cliew of gifts, she asked the girls its donate money its sove one. She waid she wanted its chilp you, expecially decause of how you helped gimmy + helped we dry introducing we do gin. Blussings!

	A REAL PROPERTY OF THE OWNER OF T
Pay to the Order of Love INC One hundred sixty five do	Date Date \$ 165 or
FIRSTMERIT Stow Office www.firstmerit.com	Dollars D

Dorothy was robbed, she could not pay her rent. Two churches partnered to assist

Love Storie

- Sarah has no family and needed assistance picking up furniture. Two volunteers assisted.
- Local agency worker needed diapers for some of her clients. Love Inc was able to help.
- Karla had her electricity shut off, unemployment ran out. Ohio Fuel Fund in partnership with Love Inc was there to assist.
- Mother with 3 children was just leaving a shelter. She needed assistance getting her utilities back on.
- A young man was just leaving a local shelter.
  He needed assistance picking up some donated

furniture and a \$55 security deposit for his apartment.

- Molly needed school supplies and backpacks for her two sons.
- Sara, husband abandoned the family, putting their home into foreclosure, called Love Inc for "help".
- Polly just moved back to this area and needed furniture to help get back on her feet.

# Thanks to all churches involved in meeting these needs!



Mike & Steve, of Redeemer Lutheran Church in the Falls, delivering furniture to two families.

#### LOVE INC. OF GREATER AKRON

680 E. Market Street, Suite 202 Akron, Ohio 44304

> Phone: (330) 762-1200 Fax: (330) 762-5640

E-Mail: lincsummit@sbcglobal.net

> We're on the Web! See us at: http://loveincsummit.org

NON-PROFIT U.S. Postage PAID Akron, OH Permit No. 956

Please fill out the coupon and return it with your **TAX DEDUCTIBLE** gift to:

Love INC of Greater Akron 680 E. Market Street, Suite 202 Akron, Ohio 44304

Please make checks payable to: LOVE, I.nc. LOVE Inc is a 501 c(3) non-profit organization

Thank you, praise God for your generosity!

### **Donations received**

#### In loving memory of:

Charles & Lenora Wood Mother/Sister Ann Jiles Mrs. Lillie Mae Flunoy

In honor of:

Ohio Fuel Fund Volunteers Mrs. Bernice Herring, 18 yrs. volunteer As the economy changes, more needs are arising!

Please consider your contribution at this time.

□ YES, I will *pray* for Love Inc.



□ YES, I/we want to help meet the financial needs of **LOVE, Inc**. Please indicate amount:

\$20 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$\_\_\_

In memory of/or in honor of:

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

CHURCH NAME/ORGANIZATION/BUSINESS