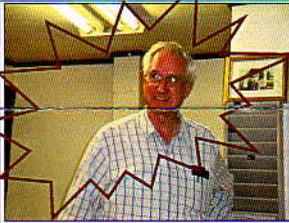


LOVE LINK

MINISTRIES, INC.

Love Letter



WAYNE STARK - SALUTE!!!

Twelve as a number holds great significance in the Bible. It is often used in regard to leadership — there are twelve tribes of Israel and Jesus called Twelve Apostles, for example. In scripture the number “twelve carries a sense of completeness of wholeness.

Twelve is the number of years that Wayne Stark has led Oklahoma City’s Love Link Ministries. This summer Wayne told the Love Link Ministries board that he felt it was time to bring his tenure as executive director to a close in order to be able to concentrate his energies full-time on pastoring First Indian Church of the Nazarene. He set September 30 as his final day at the helm of the Love Link and on September 16th gave his final report to the board.

What we know today as Love Link Ministries owes its shape and direction to Wayne Stark (“pastor,”) as board member Larry Jeffries affectionately calls him). When Wayne Stark arrived at Love Link Ministries a dozen years ago, he brought with him a life-long passion for ministry to the urban poor and to Native American peoples.

It is easy to point to tangible things about Love Link that have come under Wayne’s leadership. The food pantry was revived not long after his arrival and now serves 400 or more families per month with a sack of groceries. Love Link’s Partnership with the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma has led to the organization putting a 40’ refrigerator/freezer unit on Love Link’s property for its exclusive use. Three houses are occupied by men in the recovery/sober living program begun by Wayne. A Native American craft shop initiative called Craft Link serves as one of the therapy components for men in the recovery/ sober living program. Then, of course, one of the most visible results of Wayne’s leadership has been the acquisition of the NuWay Laundry Facility, A building into which the thrift store is being re-located and where the other Love Link Ministries will soon be moved.

However, the greatest Kingdom effect of Wayne Stark’s ministry is not something that’s easily reflected by statistical reports or visible brick-and-mortar accomplishments. The greatest long-term effect of Wayne Stark’s ministry at Love Link will be the lives that he touched — including the urban needy on the one

Continued on page 2

October 2008

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OKC, OK 73109

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OKC, OK 73101
405-239-6219

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Rex Coultrip

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Inside Today:

**Salute To Wayne Stark
Pantry Items Needed
Our Needs**

Executive Director:

Chairman of the Board:
Les Wright
Designer:
Velma Alfson
Printed by Impressions

Current Needs

32 oz Spaghetti Sauce
1 Lb Spaghetti pasta
16 oz peanut butter
9 Cans Sweet Potatoes
Canned Cranberry Sauce
15 oz cans fruit
1 lb oatmeal
Copy paper
3 5/8” x 6 1/2 “ security envelopes
Large Trash Bags
Extra Large Heavy Trash Bags

va

hand and the suburban believers wanting to do Jesus' bidding to serve the poor and needy on the other hand. Those who work in compassionate ministry centers such as Love Link often burn out for the emotional toll. That's not been true of Wayne Stark. Wayne's passion has been infectious for scores of Southern Nazarene University alumni who volunteered their time at Love Link while students at SNU. Over the years, Wayne's reports to the Love Link board have highlighted people impacted by the ministry far more than statistical reports and other administrative issues.

It's that passion for people that Wayne will now pour into full-time pastoral work as the leader of First Indian Church of the Nazarene. Wayne has been my friend for a long time. Two or three years ago he began talking to me about stepping aside. During this time I've frequently prayed that the Lord would give him guidance and wisdom in knowing when and how to take this step. We had another conversation on this subject not long before he announced to the board that he was feeling that First Indian needed his full attention as pastor.

Wayne Stark has built a great foundation at Love Link. Whatever the organization is able to accomplish from this point on will be a tribute to his passion and vision. **Wayne, we salute you!** Howard Culbertson

*** If you see Volunteer **Travis Schafer**, give him a pat on the back!! ***



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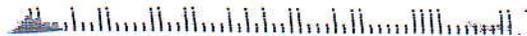
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Compassionate Ministry Center
P O Box 2023
OKC, OK 73101

To the Devoted:

Howard Culbertson
5901 NW 81st
OKC, OK, 73132

7313284761 0055



Have you ever found a little more month
than you have money to get through?

In the last 2 months we have handed out bags of groceries to over 800 families or individuals that needed a little extra help to make it through the month.

We are helping all we can, but our donations are down as well. We appreciate all of you that find it in your heart to add us to your giving list. There are so many ways your dollars are helping us to stretch our resources. It is through your generous donations that we are able to feed the hungry and help men stay sober.

Sometimes a man just needs to know there is moral support to help him to get through a rough time. The Good Samaritan knew that when he put the man on his donkey.

Please keep us in your prayers and if God leads you to give, we thank you. va