



LOVE LINK LETTER

January 2008

**Love Link Ministries, Inc.
500 S. Western
OKC, OK 73109**

**Mailing:
PO Box 2023
OKC, OK 73101
405-239-6219**

**OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.LOVELINKMINISTRIES.ORG**

**OUR NEW E-MAIL:
LOVELINKMINISTRIES@YAHOO.COM**

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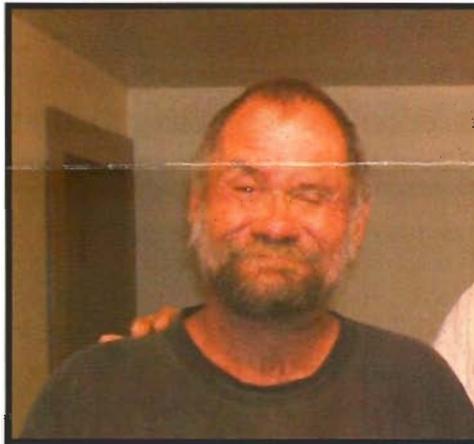
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**Editor: Carolyn Graham
Designer: Jeanne Martin and
Jennifer Poch
Executive Director: Wayne Stark
Administrative Director: Stan Martin
Chairman of the Board: Les Wright**

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In Memory of Elmer Webb



Recently we've been struck by the sadness of death. Elmer Webb had been in and out of our program for several years. He had struggled severely with addiction to inhaling...and alcohol in various forms, including mouthwash.

While staying in the house Elmer would do well and was a good worker. But then he would take off and be on a binge for several days. His times of stay in the program became longer and away from the program shorter. But he kept coming back. The last time he came back he couldn't talk. I took him to the hospital. He had a trauma on the back of his head. We don't know if he was hit by an object or fell. CT's revealed abnormalities in his brain. One worker said his head was full of tumors.

I had noticed before Elmer's last time away from the program that he was losing his physical strength. In the hospital his health continued to decline. He was bleeding in three areas of his brain.

At the memorial service...I used Heb 12:14 as my text. "Pursue holiness without which no one will see the Lord." I explained that the pursuit begins at the level where we are. An addict may have accepted Christ as Savior and yet have no control over the addiction. Yet, that individual may be diligently pursuing holiness, including some way to overcome the addiction. I told about Elmer coming to Bible Study. When I would ask for someone to read a couple of verses, Elmer would usually jump in to read first...he was determined to try. In other things he was just as determined and tried desperately to change. I could see in him a genuine pursuit.

When I opened up the service for others to say something about Elmer there was a recurring theme. "He kept coming back." I can't judge Elmer's eternal destiny. But I see a glimmer of hope in what could have been his pursuit of holiness. If Elmer had peace with God, I believe Love Link had a great part in the rescuing of one soul. *WS*

Thank You, Buy For Less

S.W. 44th and High

Ruby is one of the ladies who has assisted Love Link and 1st Indian for a number of years. She shared with me about her relationship with this store. Buy for Less has been instrumental in helping Love Link Ministries, Inc. and 1st Indian Church of the Nazarene with various food donations for several years.

Buy for Less offers Ruby inexpensive food to supplement our feeding program and food pantry. Without organizations like these, we would have difficulty maintaining our ability to assist the few thousand people we minister to each year. Thank you seems like such a small word when we try to express our appreciation to Buy for Less and other organizations who have assisted us. *JM*

During this past year we were requested to begin picking up donations from three KFC's, a Red Lobster and an Olive Garden restaurant. We had already been picking up donations from two Long John Silver's restaurants. We have dispensed frozen food products from the food pantry and used them in our meals. *WS*

NuWay Update: The planning and organizing of the renovation and remodeling of NuWay Building #2, (North Building) has taken a lot of time and energy. This is a tremendous task that has come this far only as a result of all the great people who have volunteered to get involved in various ways and the grace of the great God we serve. Without the support of these wonderful people, we would not be nearly as far along as we are in the preparation process.

Fire Sprinkler System: The installers have pulled off site awaiting the installation of the ceiling grid and the completion of the hookup to the city water main. The survey is underway to locate the city water lines. The engineer will be able to complete this survey after the locations are determined. His design will take approximately a week and he will acquire the required permits for the plumbers to install the line. We will then finalize the contract with the plumbers to go ahead with the installation. Our Volunteer Construction workers are about ready to move forward on the put-back phase as soon as the fire sprinkler system is installed and approved.

Offices: We are working on a punch list for repair and replacing as needed in both the downstairs center and 2nd floor offices. The Medical/Dental area can be completed after we have moved into the building.

Financial Support: We will need a substantial amount of financial support, along with more skilled volunteers. Also donations of materials will be a great help in support of the cost factor of the project.

If you would like to take a tour through the NuWay building and see what is being done to make it a first-class ministry center, please give me a call. My cell phone # is: 659-7963.

You can call me anytime. *SM*



Love Link Thrift Store at NuWay

Tigers in Service

During the Christmas Break, we had the opportunity to welcome the Tigers in Service from Fort Hays State University, Hays KS. for a work trip. They arrived on Monday, December 17th, ready to work. Wayne and Stan introduced them to Love Link Ministries, Inc. and took them on a tour of the NuWay facility. Tuesday they began work. Stan had a team at the NuWay facility doing some clean-up work in the future Thrift Shop area as well as some Donation sorting. His team of young people accomplished the task of



removing one giant heating unit that needed to be removed. Another team assisted Love Link at the Thrift Store and Food Pantry. This group worked on bagging groceries and then helping carry groceries out to the client's cars. The team assisted in the Thursday noon service at 1st Indian, as well as assisted Cassandra in serving the noon meal. Thursday evening, they assisted Choctaw Church of the Nazarene in serving the meal at Love Link's annual Christmas Dinner held on December 20th at Penn Ave. Church of the Nazarene. They did many hours of clean-up work at the NuWay facility and assisted with the food pantry and the newsletter. We have been blessed by several youth and college groups coming to assist in the ministry through Work and Witness Groups. It's not too early to plan your next work group at Love Link. God Bless You. JM

Joey Lewis passed away on January 10 in a nursing home in Anadarko. Joey did the special paintings for our last Celebration Dinner. Joey was in and out of our program several times. He battled fiercely with alcoholism. He had several close friends die of alcoholism, and he would talk to me freely about them, and express his fear that the same would happen to him. Joey's liver was eventually destroyed by cirrhosis. I prayed with Joey and talked to him several times about his relationship with the Lord. He assured me that he had peace with God. Shortly before his death his brother put to him the same question, and received a very positive answer. For a couple of weeks before his departure Joey appeared to be ready to go to his Heavenly Father, and wanting to go.



WS



Volunteers Needed!!

Please call
405-239-6219

Appliance/Electronics Technician
Donation Pick-Up
Food Pantry
NuWay Facility
Resale Store

Thank you, WalMart,

Karen, one of our volunteers was able to acquire two boxes of 1,000 plastic bags. We double bag food items, so they go quickly. Love Link is always in need of more plastic bags for our Food Pantry and Resale Store.

Could you help us by saving your excess bags for us? We appreciate all your help!!!

Thanks!!





December Food Pantry STATS

315 families served with 75 New families

For the past 90 days, Cassandra Davis has assisted us in the food pantry. She has been a great asset to our program. She learned quickly and became a very special friend to Love Link. She has completed her training program with us and is seeking fulltime employment. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Thanks Cassandra !!!



**LOVE
LINK**

MINISTRIES, INC.

Compassionate Ministry Center
PO Box 2023
Oklahoma City, OK 73101

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Check Out Our Stars!

Thanks to the following churches who collected food items for Love Link's Food Pantry December 2007!

OKC 1st Church of the Naz. 127 jars of Peanut Butter, 4 boxes of powdered milk and several bags of plastic bags.

Richland Church of the Naz. Several bags of bread from Panera Bread.

Several anonymous donated boxes of canned goods