



LOVE LINK LETTER

500 S. Western OKC, OK 73109

405-239-6219

January 2006

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

By Marilyn Stark



They did it again! Just when you think it can't get better - it does! **Choctaw Church of the Nazarene** under the

supervision of **Gloria Jones** pulled off another wonderful Christmas event. They served over 300 people a tasty traditional Christmas meal. They also provided a gift for each person there, adults and children. Each adult received a

sweatshirt. Each child received a visit with Santa (Two Santas and Mrs. Claus' were on hand) and an age specific gift.



We truly celebrated Jesus' birthday. Jim Finch brought the message "I need Jesus". There was congregational singing and special music. One of the men in recovery, Ken K. sang several specials as the people were served. He did a great job. He has a gift from God and is using it for Him.

Rover, the dog, came and visited with the children, explaining what Christmas is really about. The kids were served upstairs in the NuWay building where they watched videos, played games, visited with Rover, ate dinner (including birthday cupcakes) and got to visit

with Santa and receive a gift. They seemed to have a wonderful time.

As the people celebrated Christmas with dinner and presents, we also celebrated God's goodness to us in providing a large enough facility to get everyone inside. For



the first time in years, everyone could be seated at the same time, inside, out of the wind. It wasn't exactly warm but it wasn't too cold, either. We

celebrated Christmas in what was soon to be our new building.

The food, the fellowship and the facility will long be remembered as a special time for all involved.

We look forward to a new year and moving into a new facility. Pray with us as we make plans and start the move. Also, pray that we will be able to pay off the \$300,000 in record time. The papers have been signed, it is ours! Let's pray in the funds for new ministries, current ministries and building expenses.

Aren't you glad we serve the God of miracles!



Thanks for

We'd like to thank those of you that help us on an ongoing-regular basis. We could not make it happen without you. First, a big thank you to each and everyone of you that mentions Love Link Ministries, Inc. to the Lord in prayer. We are very aware that nothing good happens without Him. Second, thanks to all our financial donors. Whether you give \$5 or \$500 it is very important and God multiplies it in miraculous ways. Thirdly, there are no words to express our thanks to you that give food, clothing and time. We receive a limited amount of food from the Oklahoma Regional Food Bank. The rest of what we need to meet the demand that we face comes from you, your businesses, schools and churches. Thank you so very much.

In addition to the areas listed above, we have many people who come on a regular basis to help in the warehouse, in the thrift store, at the church with services and meals and in various ways to meet our needs. The Lord only knows how much we love and appreciate each and everyone of you. We know you do it for Him, we just happen to receive the benefit. Hopefully we will not leave any group out!

Trinity Church of the Nazarene SAM's group comes every other month on the first Thursday to prepare and serve the noon meal. **Choctaw Church of the Nazarene Church**, with **Gloria Jones**, comes on the opposite months on the first Thursday. **Sally**, also from **Choctaw**, comes on the second Thursday of each month. Several **Sunday School classes from Bethany First Church of the Nazarene** either come or help finance the meal on the last Thursdays of the month at noon.

Sunday noon, **Britton Christian Church youth** bring the meal and the service on the fourth Sunday. **Bethany and Cedric Frank-**

lin from **OKC 1st Church of the Nazarene** bring folks to help on the third Sunday at noon and **Community Church in Guthrie** bring a group to help with the service and the meal on the second Sunday morning of each month.

Sunday evenings, we have **Western Oaks Church of the Nazarene** on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. One week is the youth and the other are different groups of adults. The fifth Sunday evenings are provided for by **Lake View Park Church of the Nazarene**.

The third and fourth Thursday evenings we have **Yukon Church of the Nazarene**, and **Light Church** to provide meals and services. The second Thursday, **Billy Whooten Ministries** help with the service.

Meals that are not covered by churches or groups are provided by **the men in the recovery program, Alice Stark, Susie Apple and Lupe Melendez**.

It could not happen without each of you, thank you, thank you, thank you. We know it takes time, planning and commitment to come each month and we very much appreciate all of you.

Marge Hess from Calvary Church of the Nazarene has been volunteering time in the thrift store for about 7 years. She is remarkable! Her commitment and hard work do not go unnoticed! Over a year ago, **Travis and Jeanette Schafer** from Mustang Church of the Nazarene started volunteering in the thrift store as well. They then started bringing their friend, **Jan**. What these three people accomplish is truly amazing, sorting donations, hanging up clothes, straightening shelves - the work goes on and on. They are truly answers to prayer.

'**The ladies**' at **Bethany Place** have been stuffing newsletters and getting the mailing ready for over two years now. We meet on

All You Do

Thursday and spend the morning working and fellowshiping together. They are wonderful prayer warriors and great hands on folk! They are proof that there is something for everyone to do, not matter how old or how young - a couple of them of 90!

Letha Steinbron, Waterloo Church of the Nazarene and **Sheila Watts**, Lake View Park Church of the Nazarene are invaluable in their ability to fill in at the office when Marilyn needs to be gone. They make her life much easier!

Southern Nazarene University interns are also playing a large part at Love Link. We have several who are not only involved at First Indian but also at Love Link. **Adrienne** and **Josiah** are taking on more and more responsibility and are doing an awesome job.

The **Southern Nazarene University Print Shop** and **Ron Archer** do a great job with printing newsletters, flyers, brochures, etc. Recently we've also used **Impressions Printing**. **Jason** and **David** have been really helpful. Both of these businesses give us a great deal and work with us in whatever comes up. Thanks so much for being God's servants.

We'd also like to thank **Prime Office Supplies** for donating almost \$1000 of product. **Harvey Janitorial Supplies** for helping us with paper products and cleaning supplies. We'd like to encourage any of you out there that need these services to check these guys out!

This year we also had \$250 donated from **Ross Dress for Less**. It helped supply the men in recovery with Christmas gifts. 19 new towels, each man received a pair of socks and each house received baking pans and kitchen towels. (Thanks to **Laureen** at SNU for tracking down this and other donations.) **Name Brand Clothing** on I-240 also donated

shirts for each of the men. The men also received razors and shampoo from **Lake View Park Sunday School**. Each of you helped contribute to a nicer Christmas for this group of men.

Edmond First Church of the Nazarene donated a large amount of lumber that they no longer needed since they completed their sanctuary (congratulations!). It was used to make a stage for the Christmas dinner in the new building. It will be reused for whatever is needed next in the NuWay building.

We also received a 12ft Christmas tree from **Williams Memorial Church of the Nazarene**. It looked great at the Christmas dinner.

This year was the first year that we were invited to participate in and receive benefits from the **Oklahoma Regional Food Bank** Hunger drive through the school systems. We received 2500 pounds of food from this event. Thanks to all our volunteers for making this happen.

You may look at this and say, "what's left for me to do?". Call us. There is always more to be done. As we look at 2006, we will be starting many new areas and places for ministry. As you pray and God leads, please call and plan a time to come down and work for an hour, a day, a week, weekly, monthly, quarterly - whatever. We need volunteers. We need you! There are still services to be held, meals to be prepared, work to be done in the thrift store, the craft shop, the office, etc. We'll help you find a place that you feel comfortable and know that God is working in and through you.

Again, to each and every person who has prayed, given finances or volunteered even one minute of time -
THANK YOU!

Food Pantry **STATS**

November 2005

609 families served
152 new families

December 2005

440 families served
84 new families

We have people who would love to come and share in your local church or at your local business meeting. Faith Promise Emphasis, Compassionate Ministry Emphasis, whatever. Please call us to set up a time! 405-239-6219

Springbreak is just around the corner - what are you doing that will make an eternal difference?

Summer is coming, too - make plans now to have a work 'n' witness team come from your church to Love Link!

Come for a day, two or three days, even a week or more.

Call soon - the summer will fill up!

Straight ahead . . .

A word from the Board

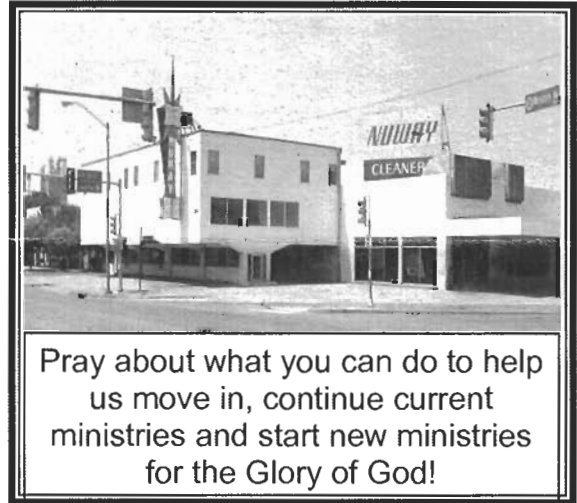
A BIG HEARTFELT...

You probably guessed it... everyone involved with the Love Link Ministry wants to say a big heartfelt **THANK YOU**.

Your faithfulness in ministry and giving has overwhelmed the board and day to day leadership. Just a little over ten months ago we sponsored a first ever banquet to spread the word about the various ministries of Love Link. Many attended and pledged support for the coming year. What a thrill it was to sense the heart of people who wanted to be a part of a ministry that was reaching the broken hearted in downtown OKC. **THANK YOU.**

As we close our budget year out, your pledges and faithful monthly support have helped us finish the year **in the black**.

Again we say **THANK YOU**.-----
Les Wright, finance committee



Pray about what you can do to help us move in, continue current ministries and start new ministries for the Glory of God!