



LOVE LINK LETTER

July 2007

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Larry Jeffries

A Big Step Forward!!



A big step forward into occupying the NuWay facility with much of our ministry has been taken. Work will soon begin on the installation of a sprinkler system in building # 2. Once that is completed and the city has given approval, we will begin the process of moving the present thrift store, food pantry, offices and craft shop into the building. Already ENTE (the Hispanic Ministerial training Center) is in the building in part. We are very excited about all that is taking place.

Love Link acquired the NuWay facility a little over a year ago, which was a miracle in itself. We have observed a number of miracles since the acquisition. Phase I and Phase II Environmental Assessments have been completed without costing the ministry one cent. The cost, which has been provided by government funding runs up close to One hundred thousand dollars. We are presently in Phase III, some minor cleanups of asbestos and lead paint, which we anticipate will be paid for likewise.

We have been impatient at times about gaining full occupancy of the facility for an expanding ministry. But we are aware that God is leading in all of this and that He knows the best way. We were told by City Planning that we must install a sprinkler system in the facility for fire protection. This would cost between sixty and one hundred thousand dollars for building # 2, our starting point. We found that we could get a loan, which we didn't want to do. We could sell our old property or put on a campaign to raise the money, both of which would likely take some time.

But God laid it on the hearts of several people and the funds came in, almost exactly what we needed for building # 2. We are reminded again that this is His ministry, and He is in charge. We are very excited as He leads us into the future. *ws*



Congratulations Jerome

Jerome Johnson is one of the friendliest guys in the recovery program. Recently, I had a chance to talk with Jerome about the recovery program and his experience with Love Link Ministries, Inc. He came in March 2007 and has been a real asset to the Love Link Ministries, Inc. office, craft shop and resale shop. Jerome has learned the Food Pantry data entry process and has made himself available for that job on Tuesdays and Fridays.

He found out about Love Link Ministries, Inc. by word of mouth. He has been greatly helped by the acceptance he's been shown and the feeling of belonging somewhere. He is also a Native American Craftsman, working with beading, feather and leather work. He is very proud of his Seminole heritage and ready to share his faith and God's love with others.

while at Love Link, Jerome has learned more about compassion, personal commitment, individuality, and goal setting.

He hopes to accomplish 3 things while in the recovery program; a closer walk with the Lord; a lasting sobriety; and perhaps the opportunity to attend graduate school. His hopes and dreams for the future include working with a street ministry, continuing to work as a production artist while working toward becoming a graphic designer, and working in a counseling or guidance capacity.

Jerome has enrolled in his last year of college. His specialty is graphic and web design. He recently entered a poster in his college's contest and won 2nd in the nation. Pictured is his award-winning poster. This poster is now headed for a global competition in Seattle, WA. As a result of his entry, he has been awarded a scholarship to complete his college degree. We are very proud of Jerome and his many gifts he's using for the kingdom of God. JM



Hands

By Larry Jeffries Vice-Chairman, Love Link Board

There was a small European village during World War II that was being bombarded with heavy fighting and bombing raids. During the fierce battle the village church was totally destroyed along with a beautifully sculptured statue of Christ that stood in the church courtyard. During the nights, when the fighting calmed down, the villagers would slip out of their shelters into the deserted streets and make their way to the churchyard. Digging in the rubble they would pick up as many pieces of the statue that they could find. Then they would quietly slip back to their safe places and hide the precious pieces.

After the war ended the church was rebuilt. The villagers gathered all the salvaged pieces of the statue together and hired a skilled artisan to repair the beautiful image of Christ. After many months the statue was completed. When the villagers came to view the statue they were shocked at what they saw. There standing in the church courtyard was the statue of Christ with His arms outstretched, but . . . the hands were missing. Nearing the statue the shock gave way to humbleness. One by one the villagers knelt before the statue, tears wetting their faces as they read the inscription: *"I have no hands but yours."* This message is still true today. If the work of Christ is to be carried out, it is up to us to use our hands to do the work. We can reach out to those in need and offer comfort and guidance. We can reach out in love by giving to keep our churches alive and functioning throughout the world. We can

(cont.) reach out in boldness and stand up for what is good and holy. We can reach out in faith and believe that God's word is the food that will nourish our souls. We can reach out in trust knowing that Christ will lead us down paths where He has already traveled, preparing the way for us.

This past week Christ has been using the hands of a work and witness team from Western Oaks Church of the Nazarene to help with the great amount of repairs and maintenance at Love Link. The group has worked for three days installing window air conditioning units, building window frames, doing general building repair, and cleaning the grounds around the church and outer buildings - plus they have provided all the materials and labor! We are asking you to join with us by encouraging and organizing work and witness teams from your church to come for a weekend or an entire week to help with the tremendous load of work that needs to be completed in order to keep Love Link alive and functioning. To schedule a time for your work and witness team to get involved, please contact Jeannie Martin at 239-6219. Let our prayer be that Christ will take our hands and use them to further the work of His kingdom.

Matthew 10:42 *"And if you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded."* May God bless each of you. LJ



Welcome Stan!!

We are blessed to have Stan Martin become a part of the staff of Love Link Ministries. Stan will serve as Administrative Director. He comes to us from Korea Nazarene University where he has taught for the past two years. Prior to that, he was Associate Pastor at First Indian Church of the Nazarene in Oklahoma City. He comes to us well-qualified, having served in positions responsible for organizing and administering in the church and in the military. Several years ago he was driving through downtown Okla-

homa City when a homeless man caught his eye. He was greatly moved with compassion and came to talk with me at Love Link. He has had a great interest in Love Link and a love for the people we serve, ever since. We believe God has brought him back to make a significant contribution of ministry to and through Love Link. **Welcome Stan!** WS

Food Pantry STATS

May 2007
243 Families
112 New Families

June 2007
339 Families
79 New families

Mark Your Calendars Now
for

October 19, 2007

**Love Link Ministries'
14th Annual
Jerry White Memorial**

Golf Tournament

Praise and Prayer Requests

Pray for Brigita Leader and her family (Jerome's cousin)

Pray for the men in the Recovery Program

Pray for the NuWay Facility and funds to keep us moving forward

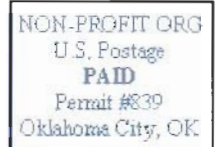
Praise for the progress of some of the men as they struggle with their addictions

Pray for the Love Link staff and volunteers

Pray for Charles Frazier as he faces surgery for a cyst on his kidney.



Return Service Requested



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Howard Culbertson
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Check Out Our Stars!

The following churches collected an item to donate to Love Link Ministries' Food Pantry last month!

Trinity Nazarene Church
112 carious canned goods

Hennessey
Nazarene
60 jars of
peanut butter

Light Church 16 jars
of peanut butter

Bethany
Nazarene
192 32-oz. Bags of
Beans and Rice

Richland Nazarene
34 jars of
peanut butter

??? 69 various
canned goods
??? 56 various
canned goods

Waterloo
Nazarene
25 cans green beans
7 mustard
5 jars of jelly