Share the Love

love in the name of Christ | North Oakland County

NEWSLETTER

June 2026

From the Executive Director:

GUIDED BY HOPE

Our organization is moving confidently into the next phase of our mission, encouraged by the meaningful progress we have already made in building relationships in our community. The continued trust, connections, and strengthened bonds we've witnessed remind us that God is at work among us, healing, uniting, and guiding us forward.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to continuing this effort with even greater intention. Building relationships is not a moment but a journey, and we are dedicated to walking that path with consistency, compassion, and faith. We will keep showing up, listening deeply, and creating spaces where individuals and families feel seen, supported, and valued.

This ongoing work calls all of us, friends, partners, volunteers and neighbors to stay engaged. Together, we can nurture the relationships that have been created and reach out to those still waiting for connection. When we continue this mission side by side, we strengthen our community and reflect God's love in powerful ways.

With faith as our foundation and unity as our strength, we will keep building a future where every person experiences the hope, care, support and belonging that come from a community committed to one another.

Connection Center Coordinator:

A LOVE STORY

Attention to detail can change everything. During a recent intake with a young family of four, who were struggling to keep up with monthly expenses after the head of the household underwent two hip surgeries.
We were able to step in quickly, assisting with their DTE bill to prevent shutoff and partnering with a local church partner to help with their Consumers bill.

But the moment that made the biggest difference wasn't financial assistance at all.

When we suggested they connect with FISH Food Pantry, a local, community-funded organization that provides emergency groceries, toiletries, and household necessities to our neighbors facing financial hardship with monthly supplemental groceries, our neighbor later called us back, specifically to say how grateful he was. Becoming a FISH client, he shared, has transformed their family budget. The savings on food have allowed them to stay on track in a way they hadn't thought possible.

He admitted he couldn't find the phone number to schedule his monthly FISH shopping appointment, but he remembered who cared enough to point him in the right direction, so he called us. Not just for the number, but to say THANK YOU.

A simple suggestion. A meaningful relationship. A family back on their feet. That's what Love INC looks like in action.

Donor Development Coordinator:

STRENGTHENING OUR MISSION TOGETHER

Our 4th Annual **Share the Love Fundraiser** was an extraordinary blessing. The generosity of our donors, sponsors, board members, and volunteers made the evening not only successful, but truly meaningful. We hoped to create a gathering that felt personal and one that celebrated the relationships at the heart of Love INC's mission. That vision came to life in a powerful way.

To everyone who attended, donated, prayed, or supported us: **THANK YOU.** Your presence and kindness make a difference in the work we do every day. Because of you, individuals and families in our community are experiencing hope, dignity, and the love of Christ in a meaningful way.

For those who are learning about Love INC or considering partnership, we invite you into this mission with us. The needs in our community are real, but so is the impact we can make when we come together. Your support, whether through giving, volunteering, or sponsoring future events, helps create lasting change and strengthens the network of churches working together in the Name of Christ.

Our work doesn't end with one event. With your continued partnership, we can expand our reach, deepen our impact, and build a future where God's love is visible in every act of service. We pray God's blessing over each of you. Those who joined us this year and those who may join us in the future. May His grace guide our steps as we continue serving our neighbors with compassion, purpose, and unwavering faith.

NEW LOVE INC BOARD MEMBERS

Rick Woodruff
I have been a proud resident of Northern Oakland County for more than 25 years and am honored to serve as a board member for Love INC., a husband to Heather, and a father to our two sons, Caleb and Joshua.
In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, attending sporting events, and traveling.

I am also active in ministry, serving as a teacher in the K-Friends ministry at Kensington Church's Orion Township campus. My previous service experience includes volunteering at Lakepoint Church (formerly Christ the King) as a Kids Church Shepherd and serving as Committee Chairman for Cub Scout Pack 233 in Lake Orion.

Professionally, I have built my career in the financial services industry, specializing in group insurance. I am currently an Account Manager at Standard Insurance Company.

Brian Auge
I am a commissioned Colson Fellow (2026) and a servant-hearted leader with more than 30 years of senior experience in leadership, enterprise architecture, strategy, and operational excellence. I am deeply committed to helping believers see and honor every person as an image-bearer of God (Genesis 1:26) in the workplace, neighborhood, and church.

I find great joy in saying "yes" to the Lord through everyday relationships, and love living out the Parable of the Lost Sheep (Matthew 18:10–14) by offering practical help, friendship, prayer, and hope, and he seeks to fulfill the commissions of Genesis 1:28 and Matthew 28:18–20 through simple acts of praying, listening, and stepping out in faith with vibrancy.

My wife Linda and I lived in Lake Orion for 15 years before moving to Oxford in 2022. I don't have biological children, but Linda has three wonderful ones. Our stepson lives in San Jose, and our two stepdaughters live in Clarkston and Metamora, one working locally and the other a stay-at-home mom to our two grandkids. We treasure time with our family and the relationships God has entrusted to us.

Volunteer Highlight:

PAT FRY
After retiring from dispatching with the Lake Orion Police Department, I continued serving the community as a part-time records clerk. With new time on my hands, I began exploring volunteer opportunities and soon found a passion for helping others. My work with the Michigan Animal Rescue League introduced me to one of my "forever friends," Abby, and together we enjoyed many years of dog agility. I also volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, both locally and on a memorable "build" in Anchorage, Alaska.

I enjoy traveling, gardening, and spending time at our family cottage in Canada. I also cherish visits with my daughter and her husband, as well as my son and his wife in Arizona. I have been a longtime member of King of Kings Lutheran Church in Lake Orion, where I've participated in many projects and formed lasting friendships.
I am grateful for the opportunity to volunteer with Love INC and truly appreciate
the meaningful work this team does to support those in need in our community.

PRAYER

Thank you for the gift of community and for the people You have placed in our lives. Open our hearts to build deep, meaningful relationships rooted in Your love.

Grant us the grace to extend genuine kindness and compassion to one another. May our words and actions bring encouragement, lifting each other up in moments of need.

As we go about our days, we also lift up the people we serve. Give us patience to listen, humility to understand, and a sincere desire to treat every person with dignity and respect.

Let our service reflect Your love and Your grace in all we do.

New Support Resources:

HEALTH PLAN SUPPORT
We're pleased to announce a new partnership with Health Plan & Medicare Choices in Metamora. They will serve as a resource for clients needing guidance on coverage options, including Extra Help (LIS) and Medicaid plans.

The specialists compare Medicare plans, explain benefits, and help identify cost effective options. Their agency works with many Medicare approved plans, and their services are offered at no cost to the community.

MEALS ON WHEELS
Love INC was contacted by Oxford Township and offered the opportunity to oversee the delivery of home delivered meals in the Oxford/Addison area. We are grateful to provide our
community with this valuable resource.

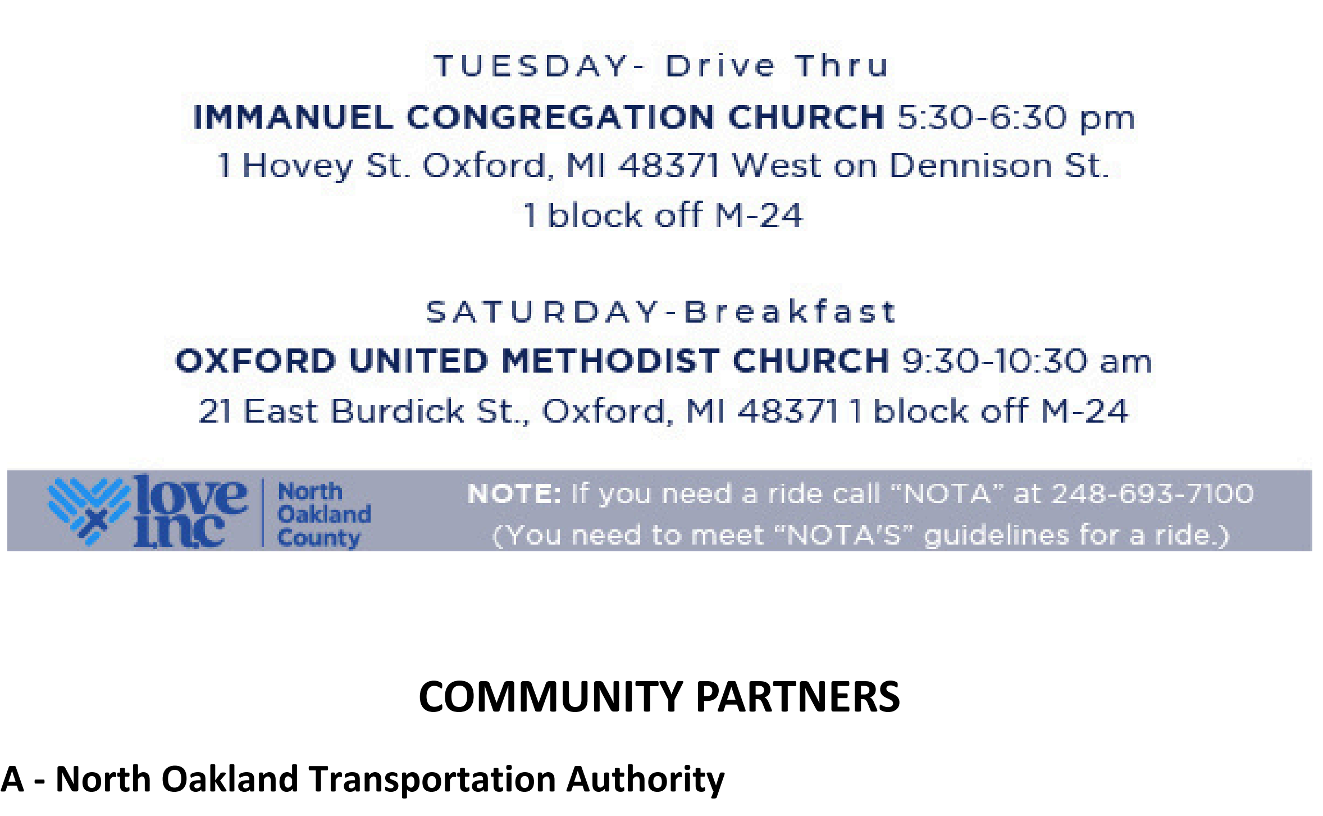
Meals are delivered Monday-Friday at the lunch hour by community volunteer drivers. Meals on Wheels offers not only a meal but social interaction and a safety check, helping seniors remain independent.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT
PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME AND TALENTS:

CONNECTION CENTER: LakePoint Community Church, 1550 W. Drahner Rd., Oxford
RECEPTIONIST: Be the first voice our neighbors hear.
VOLUNTEER: Grant Writers, Client Mentors, Volunteer Coordinator, Church Liaison and Campaign Support.
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Be a part of our annual Share the Love fundraising event.
INTAKE VOLUNTEERS: Greet individuals in person or over the phone asking preliminary questions to determine needs and eligibility. Intakes scheduled twice a week.
Volunteer Hours are 10 am–2 pm, Monday–Thursday.
You can volunteer as little as one day a week or a couple times a month.

CLOTHES CLOSET: Oxford Free Methodist Church, 790 S. Lapeer Road, Oxford.
Open every Wednesday. Shoppers 12 pm–2 pm

YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED:
Visit our website at loveincofnoc.org., Scan our QR Code,
or mail your check to Love INC, P.O. Box 104, Lake Orion, MI 48361
OR
Recurring donations makes it easier for you to help families and individuals in need in your community. Please consider starting or switching to our monthly giving program.



COMMUNITY MEALS
Everyone is welcome! No qualifications required!

MONDAY-In Person
LAKE ORION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 5:30-6:00 pm
140 E. Flint St. Lake Orion, MI 48362 East on Flint St.
3 blocks off M-24

TUESDAY- Drive Thru
IMMANUEL CONGREGATION CHURCH 5:30-6:30 pm
1 Hovey St. Oxford, MI 48371 West on Dennison St.
1 block off M-24

SATURDAY-Breakfast
OXFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 9:30-10:30 am
21 East Burdick St., Oxford, MI 48371 1 block off M-24

NOTE: If you need a ride call "NOTA" at 248-693-7100
(You need to meet "NOTA'S" guidelines for a ride.)

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

NOTA - North Oakland Transportation Authority
NOTA is a door to door transportation service serving residents of Oxford, Orion, Addison, Brandon, Independence and Springfield Townships and the Villages of Oxford, Orion, Clarkston and Leonard, celebrating our 25th year of service in 2026!
NOTA operates 58 routes from Monday to Friday.
On the weekends NOTA operates up to 26 routes.
For more information, visit **ridenota.org**

OXFORD/ORION FISH – FOOD PANTRY
OXFORD/ORION FISH provides groceries for our neighbors in need who live in Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison and Oakland Township.
They provide food based on pounds per family size.
Learn more about operations and their current needs by visiting their website: oxfordorionfish@gmail.com

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