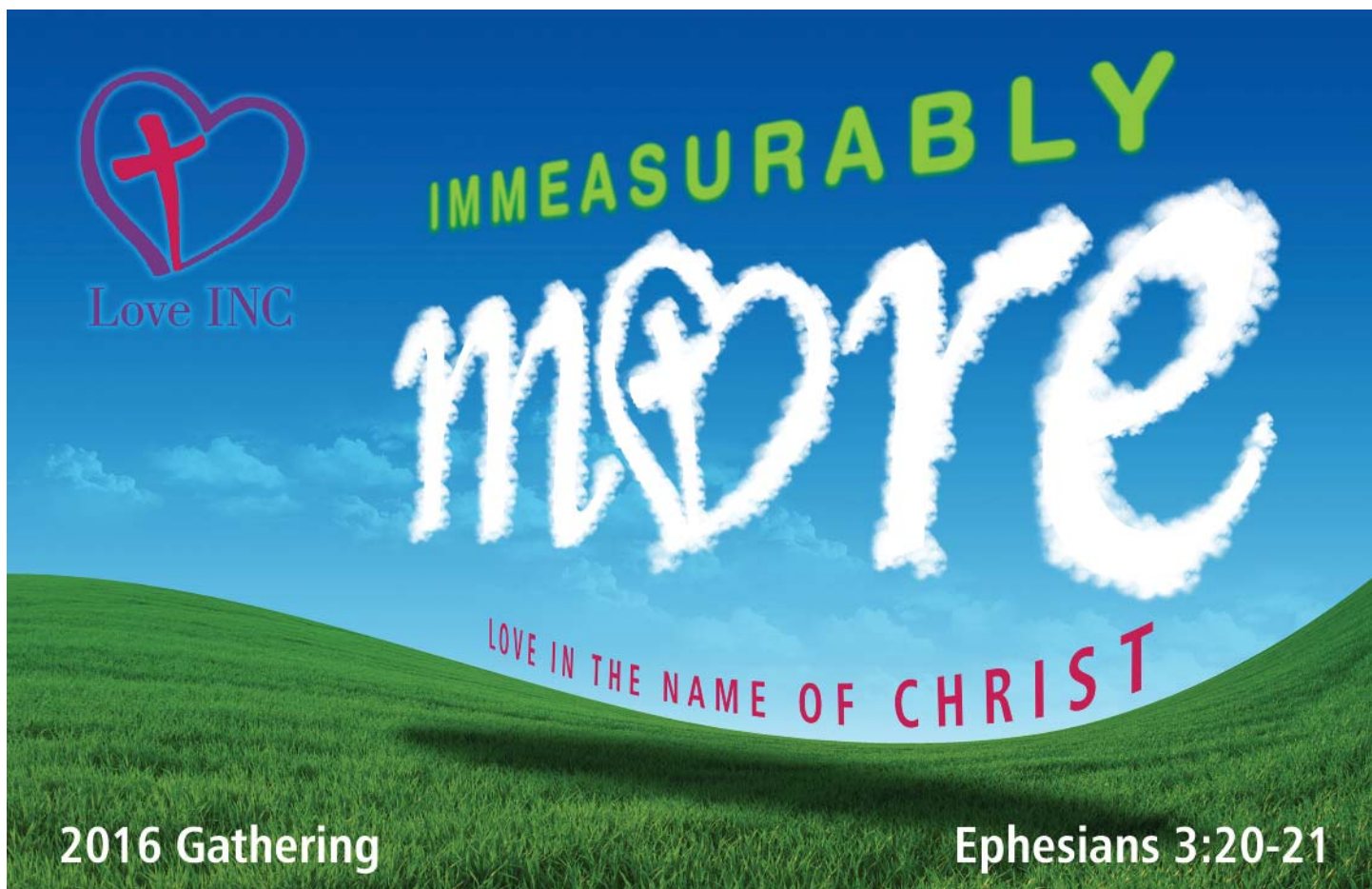


Love In the Name of Christ

2016 NATIONAL GATHERING



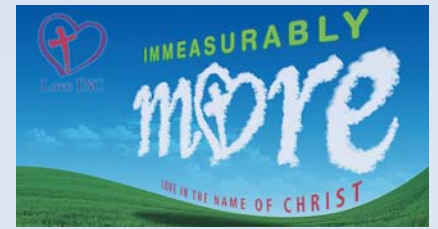
Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

September 14-16, 2016
Gurnee, Illinois

[Register for the Gathering](#)

The mission of Love INC is to mobilize local churches to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ



Greetings to all in the Love INC Movement!



In all my years with Love In the Name of Christ, I don't think I've ever anticipated a National Gathering as much as this year's. Our theme for the 2016 Gathering is Immeasurably More...

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

When the holy God of the universe invites us into relationship with Him through Jesus Christ, it changes the entire trajectory of our lives. We're given a new identity, a new life, a new purpose, a new character, a new way of seeing things. As Mark Batterson writes in ***A Trip around the Sun***, "He joins us in our humanity, forgives all of our mistakes, and fills us with His hope....When we go adventuring with Jesus, He takes us places we never dreamed we could go and gives us ideas we never thought we could have...."

But too often - as participants in the Love INC Movement at ALL levels, myself included – we limit our conception of God and make Him safe, undemanding, nice. As a result, we miss out on the adventure of serving the One Who is still able to do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine!" In 1952 J.B. Phillips wrote a book titled ***Your God Is Too Small***, stating:

We seem to have captured and tamed and trained to our own liking Something that is really far too big ever to be forced into little man-made boxes with neat labels upon them....The real God takes no notice whatever of the boxes; the Spirit, like the wind, 'blows where it wishes' [John 3] and is subject to no regulation of man.

God desires to move us from despair to hope, from fear to courage, from indifference to compassion, from comfort and complacency to growth, from self-protection to involvement and risk-taking, from bare survival to thriving and being fully alive! This year's plenary sessions, workshops, Role Day (back by popular demand), and Fundraising Friday focus are all designed with that in mind.

Come join us as we learn together what the true God Who made us is capable of doing in us and through us as we accept His invitation to journey with Him in the Love INC Movement, following the One Who is able to do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine."

In addition, I'd like to personally invite you to a **pre-conference event** to be held at 3PM on Wednesday, September 14th. I attended a conference held by our partner ministry, The Chalmers Center (authors of ***When Helping Hurts***), which included a 2 hour simulation called **COPE (Cost of Poverty Experience)**. I took on the identity of a real person currently living in poverty and lived out 4 weeks (4 15-minute segments in real time) that unbelievably increased my ability to identify with those in poverty! The staff of Think Tank Inc. will be here to lead us through the simulation and debrief with us. Space is limited, so sign up early. See the following page for details.

See you in September!

Yours in Christ,

Brian Tweedie
Board President

Pre-Conference Event
YOU'RE INVITED

*TO PARTICIPATE IN A
COPE EXPERIENCE*



SPONSORED BY THINK TANK INC.

AT

THE VILLAGE CHURCH OF GURNEE

GYMNASIUM

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

3:00 - 5:00pm

SIMULATION & DEBRIEF

COST: \$30 per registrant

(You can register using The Gathering registration)

WHAT IS COPE?

The **Cost of Poverty Experience** is a 2 hour simulation produced by Think Tank Inc. offering participants a glimpse into the lives of low-income individuals and families living in your community. COPE portrays real stories of families impacted by poverty that go beyond the stereotype of what is seen on the news or written in the paper. Also captured in the experience is the role that the broader community plays in their interactions with under-resourced families.

Think Tank and the CareSource Foundation partnered to develop COPE, co-designed with low-income individuals who shared their story, so participants could gain greater understanding. Take on the role of an individual or family member and live out four weeks (15 minutes each), navigating the tasks of work, paying rent, shopping, banking, seeking medical attention, etc. - all using real life profiles.

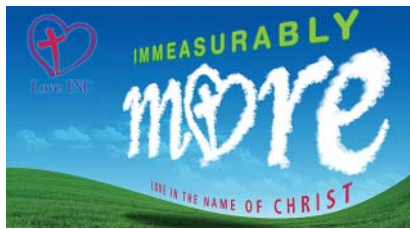
It's a fun, action-packed time, followed by a debrief session with Think Tank staff and Pastor Tweedie. This is one of the best awareness building opportunities in the USA and a tremendous way to develop greater cultural competence! Space is limited, so register early. Come pilot COPE with us for Love INC and let us know what you think!

To see two short videos of the COPE Experience, visit:

[The Cost of Poverty Experience: An Introduction](#)
[Poverty Simulator by Care Source](#)

Care Source teamed with Think Tank
and brought in a Poverty Simulation to their organization.

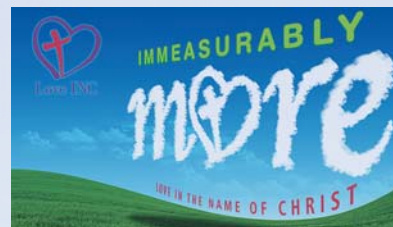




Gathering Schedule

Wednesday, September 14	Thursday, September 15	Friday, September 16
	8:00AM - 8:30AM Coffee and fellowship in the lobby at the Village Church of Gurnee	8:00AM - 8:30AM Coffee and fellowship in the lobby at the Village Church of Gurnee
	8:30AM - 9:00AM Praise and Worship, Welcome, Announcements	8:30AM - 9:00AM Praise & Worship, Announcements
	9:00AM - 9:30AM Plenary Session #2	9:00AM - 10:15AM Workshop Session #1
	9:30AM - 9:45AM Break - Beverages and snacks available in the lobby	10:15AM - 10:30AM Break
	9:45AM - 11:30AM Role Day Breakouts	10:30AM - 11:45AM Workshop Session #2
	11:30AM - 12:30PM Lunch/Break	11:45AM - 12:30PM Lunch/Break
	12:30PM - 1:15PM Plenary Session #3	12:40PM - 1:15PM Plenary Session #4
3:00PM - 5:00PM Pre-conference Event - COPE (Cost of Poverty Experience) Held at Village Church of Gurnee.	1:20PM - 5:00PM Role Day Breakouts	1:30PM - 4:30PM Fundraising Showcase and Workshop/Seminar
4:30PM - 6:00PM Registration at the Village Church of Gurnee	5:00 PM Shuttles back to Holiday Inn	4:30PM Shuttles back to Holiday Inn
6:00PM - 7:00PM Reception - Meet and Greet at Village Church of Gurnee Pizza will be served.	Free evening - dinner on your own	4:30PM - 6:00PM Free time
7:00PM - 8:30PM Gathering Opening and Plenary Session #1 at the Village Church of Gurnee		6:00PM - 8:30PM Dinner, Program - Plenary Session #5 , and Closing at the Holiday Inn Ballroom
Saturday, September 16 - Depart from hotel, travel home		

Plenary Sessions



SESSION 1: WEDNESDAY EVENING

The God You Made or the God Who Made You?

Discovering the Wonder of a God You Can't Control

Brian Tweedie, Love INC National Board President

SESSION 2: THURSDAY MORNING

Life with an Immeasurably More God: the From and To Difference

Mark McCloskey, Love INC National Board Vice President

SESSION 3: THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Immeasurably More: The Love INC Mission and Model

Kirk Vander Molen, Director of Missional Integrity

SESSION 4: FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Immeasurably More: A Vision Worth Investing In

Lois Tupy: National Trainer; Executive Director of Love INC of Treasure Valley

SESSION 5: FRIDAY EVENING

Immeasurably More: Affiliate Testimonies

Lora Petitt, Director of Operating Affiliates with Guests

Role Day

Your **THURSDAY SESSION** will be a Role Day - a day of specialized morning and afternoon sessions tailored to specific roles or ministry areas at Love INC affiliates. You will be automatically enrolled for Thursday's session, based on your primary role/ministry area as indicated above. Some role/ministry areas may be combined depending on numbers.

Fundraising Friday

On **FRIDAY AFTERNOON**, following the early afternoon plenary session titled, "A Vision Worth Investing In," we will be taking the Immeasurably More theme into the topic of fundraising. The afternoon will be divided into two sessions, which everyone will have the opportunity to attend. One will be a presentation and work session designed to help affiliates in refining a fundraising plan. The second session will be a Fundraising Showcase in the gym highlighting 10 affiliate tested and packaged fundraising ideas and a break-out seminar(s). Affiliates will leave with a concept and "how-to" information sheet for each event.

Workshops

FRIDAY MORNING WORKSHOPS:

Affiliate and Program Renewal: Guard Against Stagnation, Grow with Insight
Breaking the Poverty Mindset within your Affiliate
Compassion Project Overview
Introduction to Transformational Ministry
Love INC National Q&A
Mobilizing Churches: How to engage with and build church investment/ownership of Love INC
Perception of Threat and Possibility with other Community and National Organizations
Prayer
Stages of Change
Transformational Leadership

AFFILIATE AND PROGRAM RENEWAL: GUARD AGAINST STAGNATION, GROWTH WITH INSIGHT ~ Kirk Vander Molen

Love INC affiliates go through organizational “seasons.” At times it is necessary to pay attention to the impact of growth, status quo, or decline. Whether a program, area of ministry or overall affiliate health, this workshop will challenge and equip you with assessment tools and resources to proactively adjust and advance your impact.

BREAKING THE POVERTY MINDSET WITHIN YOUR AFFILIATE ~ Lois Tupy

Redemptive Compassion is not just about helping people thrive, it is also a great tool to help affiliates move out of a poverty mindset within their affiliate - in leadership, finances, resources, vision, and prayer. Love INC is a power tool used by God to help people in need. He wants your affiliate to operate in fullness and abundance - doing all you can with all He has given you.

COMPASSION PROJECT OVERVIEW ~ Kim Wittel

Compassion Project mobilizes churches to take ownership and responsibility for a local summer work project for a neighbor in need. These acts of compassion create opportunities for the development of relationships, church connections, and sharing the Love of Christ. Love INC of Lancaster, PA developed a step-by-step process and has years of experience. Workshop participants will receive an overview of Compassion Project and engage in Q&A. Interested affiliates will have an opportunity to receive full training and a complete toolkit through two conference call trainings later in the fall.

INTRODUCTION TO TRANSFORMATIONAL MINISTRY ~ Hilary Ford

What is your affiliate doing to promote the transformation of lives in your community? It's time to take the first step into the heart of Transformational Ministries. During this workshop we will discuss the value of Transformational Ministry and how your affiliate can start on a transformational journey like no other.

Workshop Descriptions (continued)

Workshops are subject to change

LOVE INC NATIONAL Q&A

Connect with, hear from, and ask questions of the Love INC National leadership.

MOBILIZING CHURCHES: HOW TO ENGAGE WITH AND BUILD CHURCH INVESTMENT/OWNERSHIP OF LOVE INC

Mobilizing local churches is the heart of the Love INC Mission - it is also difficult work. Explore the importance of relationships, messaging, equipping, and providing opportunities for local churches to see Love INC as a collective ministry of the Body of Christ in their community.

PERCEPTION OF THREAT AND POSSIBILITY WITH OTHER COMMUNITY AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Love INC affiliates are often approached by other organizations seeking cooperation or partnership. Discerning fit and integration within the Love INC mission and model is important, as well as assessing the amount of time/resources needed compared to the impact. This workshop will present real-life affiliate situations as examples to help your affiliate explore, discern, and decide if and how to proceed.

PRAYER ~ Esther Vander Laan and Linda Cook

Prayer is a Love INC Core Value. Likely for most, there is room for prayer to be at the center of our personal and ministry journey. This workshop will encourage greater dependence on prayer for support, encouragement, direction, blessing, and growth in relationship with God. A portion of the workshop will also be spent in prayer.

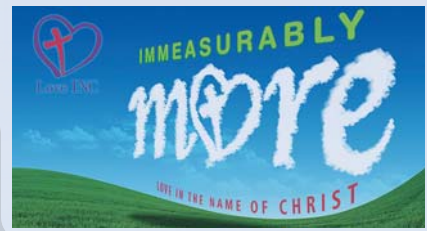
STAGES OF CHANGE (OVERVIEW) ~ Maureen Hansen

When there is a behavior that needs to be changed by yourself or others, it is helpful to identify the "Stage of Change" the person is in, as the stage of change is directly connected to motivation. Change is more likely to occur when communication, encouragement, and assistance is formulated to match their current "Stage of Change."

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP ~ Mark McCloskey

This workshop will explore the five leadership roles of a Love INC leader. The roles are (1) Direction Setter, (2) Change Agent/Learner, (3) Coach, (4) Spokesperson, and (5) Steward. When these roles are played well, the local affiliate's capacity for sustained effectiveness in our mission is increased. If these roles are ignored or played poorly, the local affiliates capacity to fulfill our mission is diminished and its long-term effectiveness is compromised. Each role will be illustrated from the Bible, with practical examples provided. The workshop will offer significant time for each participant to evaluate his or her local Love INC affiliate.

Question & Answer



Who should attend the 2016 National Gathering?

- Board Members
- Volunteers
- Executive Directors
- Staff

Where will we gather?

Village Church of Gurnee

1319 N. Hunt Club Road
Gurnee, Illinois 60031

Website: <http://www.vcgurnee.org>

What are the registration costs?

Register by June 30, 2016 to receive the **Early Bird rate of \$230 per person!** Regular registration cost is \$255/person. This includes meals as noted on the agenda, general sessions, workshops, and materials. This cost DOES NOT include hotel, airfare, **or ground transportation to/from an airport and the hotel.** Each attendee is responsible for making their own hotel and transportation arrangements to Gurnee. Please note that while we do not provide transportation to/from the airport, there will be free shuttles each morning and afternoon to/from the hotel and Village Church of Gurnee.

What is the deadline for registering?

Register early (by June 30th) to receive the discounted rate (\$25 savings). Final registration deadline is September 1, 2016. You will receive confirmation as soon as you complete your online registration.

What is the cancellation policy?

Refund/cancellation date for all registrants is September 1, 2016. However, if you are unable to attend the Gathering and have already registered, you may substitute someone in your place. We strongly encourage as many people as possible from each affiliate to attend.

What does full registration include?

Meet-and-greet with meal and opening session on Wednesday evening
Inspiring plenary sessions on Thursday and Friday
Full day of training tailored to your role at your affiliate on Thursday
Two breakout workshops on Friday
Fundraising Showcase on Friday afternoon
Dinner and program on Friday evening
A wealth of training resources and handouts
Network and fellowship with other Love INC people from around the country
Lunch on Thursday and Friday
Coffee, soft drinks, and snacks each day (morning and afternoon breaks)

Question & Answer (continued)

Are there any scholarships available?

There are a limited number of scholarships available, for those affiliates who are struggling financially, to attend the Gathering. Scholarship applications can be requested by contacting Shantel Oostra at shantel.oostra@loveinc.org. Deadline to apply is July 31, 2016.

Where do we stay?

Love INC has selected the Holiday Inn Gurnee Convention Center as the official hotel.

Holiday Inn Gurnee Convention Center

6161 West Grand Avenue

Gurnee, IL 60031

Local Phone: 847-336-6300

Holiday Inn Reservations Phone: 1-800-HOLIDAY (give them group code INC)

\$91.00/night for single occupancy
(tax included) - INCLUDES BREAKFAST

\$91.00/night for double occupancy
(tax included) - INCLUDES BREAKFAST

[To book a room online click here](#)

This is the only hotel which will be included on the morning/afternoon transportation route to/from Village Church. In addition, the closing session will be at the hotel's conference center. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn under the name "LOVE INC NATIONAL" with the discount code of "INC" for Wednesday through Friday nights, September 14-16, 2016.

Gathering attendees are responsible for booking and paying for their own hotel rooms. To book a room, contact the hotel and specify that you are with Love INC 2016 National Gathering to get the rates listed above. **Please note that you must book your room by August 14, 2016.**

After that date any remaining rooms we have reserved will be released.

What Transportation is being provided?

Free shuttles will be available each morning and afternoon to/from the Holiday Inn and Village Church of Gurnee.

Transportation is not provided to/from any airports. You are responsible for your own transportation if you are flying. The hotel suggests American taxi which can be reached at (847)518-2222 after collecting your luggage.

[Click here to register for the 2016 Gathering!](#)

Your attendance at the 2016 Gathering constitutes permission to publish photographs or video taken at the event that may include you.