

LOVE LIVES HERE

Serving Inner City Winnipeg for 41 Years



LLH MINISTRIES

TRAILER

Our trailer is open Thursday nights from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Guests can enjoy live music and be fed both physically and spiritually.

STREETS

In the summer, we do street ministry on Main Street, providing sandwiches, a listening ear, and prayer.

THROUGH THE YEARS

By Frank Chan, Chairperson

In 1985, Bruce Day and Larry Becker were among the group that had a heart to reach out and minister to the lost in downtown Winnipeg. From using old campers and RVs to various sizes of school buses; and then on to different construction trailers that sat on the block of Henry Avenue and Martha Street – the mission has remained the same over 40 years. We arrived in 2025, celebrating and remembering how God was and is continuing to work in this ministry, culminating in our 40th Anniversary Banquet in November of 2025, and reminiscing with team members from then until now.

Countless numbers of volunteers have stepped through our doors, some for only one night, some serving for decades. Countless numbers of guests have walked into our trailers for a sandwich, a prayer, to listen to a song, to gain refuge and to seek the love of Christ. Countless numbers of volunteers provided these items of comfort.

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Many kilometres has our bus travelled through the inner city of Winnipeg, with team members pouring thousands of cups of hot chocolate to countless sex trade workers, braving the darkest areas of Winnipeg to bring light and hope. We can't count them all, but Jesus was in the middle of every one of those encounters. He knew each of the volunteers, trailer guests, street workers. He has each name recorded. "*Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands...*" (Isaiah 49:16) He knew them by name and He loved them. And to this day, He has called us to continue. I want to express my appreciation for all the hard working, faithful volunteers and supporters past and present.



Larry, Bruce, Kristinn, Lesley

We said good-bye to three dedicated Love Lives Here volunteers who passed away this past year.

Ed, Eleanor, and Margaret gave so much love to everyone they met.

They left big shoes to fill and are very missed!

BIG, BIG NEWS!

The current Love Lives Here trailer has served us well for more than ten years, but in recent years we began to see clear signs of aging. As graffiti increased, we made plans to paint a mural to help deter it. Teams of volunteers generously gave their time to paint and complete renovations to brighten up the space. However, we soon realized that the trailer's deteriorating base meant repairs were no longer enough—a full replacement was needed. Thanks to the momentum of our 40th anniversary, much prayer, and the generosity of donors, we are thrilled to share that we have received the funds needed to purchase a new trailer! Hopefully we can add a mural to our fresh, new-to-us trailer by the end of the year. Thanks be to God!



A REFLECTION ON THE YEAR

BY KRISTINN FINNISON

This year reminded us that Love Lives Here is not a program. It is a presence.

At its heart, it is an expression of Jesus. Not Jesus as an argument or an answer to be imposed, but Jesus who comes close. Jesus who notices. Jesus who sits with people others walk past. Jesus who feeds the hungry, listens to the broken, and refuses to reduce people to their worst moments.

We did not solve homelessness. We did not fix broken systems. We did not change every story that crossed our path. But we showed up again and again. And in that simple faithfulness, we believe Jesus showed up too.

Week after week, people came through our trailer carrying more than hunger. They carried grief, addiction, loneliness, mental illness, shame, and exhaustion. Some stayed only long enough to grab a hotdog and leave. Others lingered, sat down, and talked. Some returned faithfully. Some disappeared for months. Some did not come back at all. And still, love lived here.

We learned that faithfulness looks ordinary. It looks like making sandwiches when your energy is low. It looks like listening to the same story for the fifth time. It looks like choosing patience when the line is long, the weather is cold, and the needs feel endless. It looks like staying present without trying to fix what is not yours to fix.

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**LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART,
ALL YOUR SOUL, AND ALL YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE
FIRST AND GREATEST COMMANDMENT.
A SECOND IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT:
LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOURSELF.
MATTHEW 22:37-39**



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Jesus never rushed people to be different before He was willing to be with them. This year reminded us that following Him often looks less like doing more and more like remaining.

Remaining present. Remaining compassionate. Remaining faithful when outcomes are unclear.

This year also reminded us of our limits and that this is not a failure. We are not saviours. Jesus already is. We are witnesses. Our calling is not to rescue, but to reflect Him. To offer dignity, consistency, and relationship in a world where people are often treated as problems to be managed rather than people to be loved.

There were moments of joy. Laughter across a folding table. Names remembered. Trust slowly earned. Volunteers serving quietly without recognition. There were also hard moments. Loss, relapse, conflict, and the ache of watching someone walk back into danger. Jesus met us in both.

What stands out most this year is that love did not announce itself. It showed up quietly. In warmth on a cold night. In eye contact. In staying calm when things felt chaotic. In choosing compassion when it would have been easier to withdraw. These are small things, but they are the ways of Jesus.

Love Lives Here because Jesus lives here. And where He is present, dignity remains possible, hope is never fully lost, and no one is beyond being seen.

We end this year grateful. Not because the work is finished, but because Jesus is still at work.

Grateful for volunteers who keep showing up. Grateful for donors who trust the slow work of presence. Grateful for a calling that invites us to walk with people as Jesus walks with us.

Next year, we will keep doing what we have always done. Show up. Listen. Serve. Stay. Trusting that when we do, Jesus is already there.

And sometimes the most faithful thing we can say to a hurting world is simply this

You are not alone. Jesus is near.
And love still lives here.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT

LOVE LIVES HERE
PO BOX 58023
WINNIPEG, MB R2M 3S0

EMAIL: LOVELIVESHEREWPG@HOTMAIL.COM
FACEBOOK: LOVE LIVES HERE WINNIPEG
WEB: WWW.LOVELIVESHERE.ORG
REGISTERED CHARITY # 119024966RR0001