

Faith in Action of Bloomington-Normal "Legacy of Serving Seniors"

A Letter From The Executive Director

I remember the day I was hired eight years ago like it was yesterday. I was so excited to have the FIA Board's stamp of approval. What a great honor to lead this fine senior service organization after two excellent Directors with two different strengths and personalities.

I savored the chance to prove that I could (with God's help) make Faith in Action into the premier Volunteer organization in McLean County. This was *my* community. I wanted to help *my* neighbors and church members.

God has afforded me the opportunity to forge my imprint on BNFIA in a few ways including expansion of service area and diversification of fundraisers. I thank God for that chance daily.

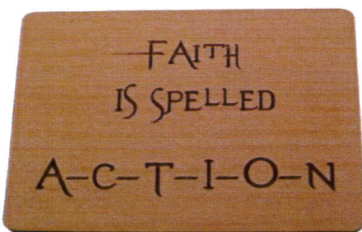
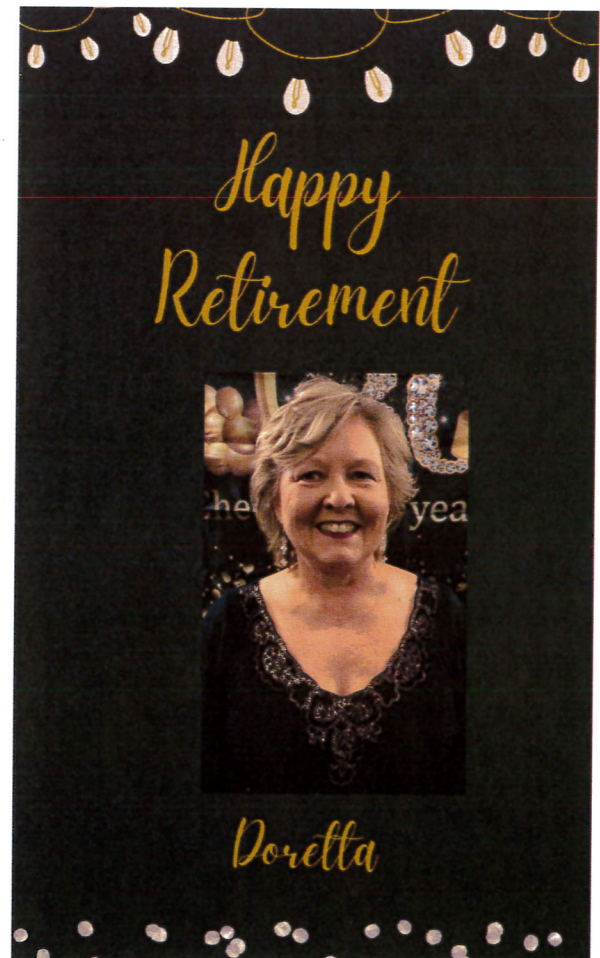
Faith in Action seniors left an indelible mark on my heart and have taught me how to age gracefully. I will not stay a stranger to the Faith in Action mission and will return as a volunteer.

Now, it is time to pass the baton on April 28th and direct my attention to my eleven grandchildren and my garden.

Please pray that Faith in Action continues to grow and flourish.

Blessings,

Doretta Herr



Thank you from the bottom of my heart for this life changing opportunity.

Jane C - Volunteer Spotlight

I've always been someone ready to go. It could be by airplane, boat, train or car, I'm ready! So, when I closed my Edible Arrangements Stores in 2019, I was not ready to sit in one place. I had taken my elderly mother to appointments for many years, so when a friend told me about FIA, I realized this was a way to help people and keep busy. Something different every day that I could easily fit into whatever else I was doing. Perfect.

Some of my riders have become friends. They ask about and keep track of my tennis wins and losses and what book I'm currently reading as I wait for them to finish their appointments.

I've been fortunate to avoid Covid as I've continued to take my riders to their appointments. My riders let me know that they are very thankful that I am doing this. It seems like a small thing, but it's a lifeline for many people. I am thankful that I was able to do this for my mother, but everyone is not as fortunate. I am blessed with good health; not everyone is so blessed.



NEW VOLUNTEERS IN JAN, FEB & MAR



Abigail B - Amanda T - Anna M - Amy H - Bonnie F - Boyd M



Diana L - Diane L - Haley L - Jack J - Jackie P - Jennifer C

FAITH IN ACTION NEWS

Virginia Jordan-Benson, New Board Member



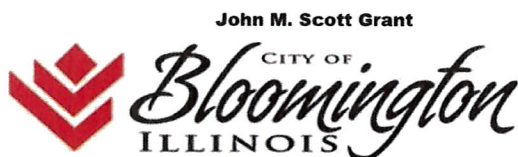
Virginia relocated to IL from the state of Mississippi over 35 years ago. She attained a Bachelor of Science Degree from Jackson State University. During the last 28 years, she has worked at State Farm Insurance Company, currently as an Administrative Services Supervisor.

Virginia is an avid community volunteer! She previously served on the Board of Directors of the YWCA for three years and most recently Marcfirst for over nine years. Virginia became affiliated with Faith in Action (FIA) four years ago when she volunteered for friendly visits and grocery store shopping. She also served as a FIA Liaison Ambassador. Virginia is honored to join the FIA board!

Jackie Pope-Ganser, New Board Member

Jackie is the Executive Director at Carriage Crossing Senior Living in Bloomington and has worked in the industry for over 10 years. She has a passion for serving seniors and helping families navigate through the struggles of making the right choices for aging parents. She has a heart for especially working with older adults with Memory Care needs and holds three certifications in Dementia Care, including that of a trainer for Certified Dementia Practitioner's through the NCCDP.

Jackie is new to the Board of Directors for Faith In Action and looks forward to being able to contribute to the already-established success of such an important organization supporting seniors in our community. She and her husband John live in Towanda and have been living in the area since the 80's when they met at Illinois State University. Serving on the FIA Board is exciting to Jackie and she looks forward to supporting and getting to know the volunteers, the care receivers and sharing in the mission to help older adults thrive, along with others who support the organization.



THANK YOU

City of Bloomington

Faith in Action will receive
\$25,000 for the John M.
Scott Grant.

FIA still has
homemade masks
available.

Call the office at
309-827-7780,
if you need a mask.

MOVING AND CHANGE IS GOOD!

Beautiful Maine & Acadia National Park FIA Bus Trip



Sept 30 - Oct 9

Reservations begin April 1st

\$100 with Reservation

\$1125 for Double Occupancy

\$1573 Single Occupancy

Final Payment Due: 07.23.2022



Healing Rides

Would you enjoy a bike ride on the Constitution Trail to enjoy healing through fresh air and sunshine? Guests do not necessarily have to

be disabled but perhaps they are unable to ride a bike themselves to enjoy the outdoors. The Bike Chair is designed to let someone else do the pedaling while the Guest enjoys the view. These rides are free. However, they do need an appointment.

To sign up for a ride call Wesley United Methodist Church, Bloomington at 309.827.8046 or email healingrides@gmail.com



Feeling stressed, lonely anxious?

Need someone to talk to?

CALL

866.359.7953

for emotional support

FREE for all callers

Mon - Sat 8 AM to 8 PM

ILLINOIS
Warm Line

www.illinoismentalhealthcollaborative.com

*Anyone age 12 and up

Data Supporting

Need for a Booster Shot

Although Covid-19 vaccines remain effective in preventing severe disease, recent data suggests their effectiveness at preventing infection or severe illness wanes over time, especially in seniors age 65 and older.

- Need a ride to get your Covid-19 Booster Shot? Call the office.
- Haven't given FIA your Booster Date? Call the office.

Mark Your Calendar

May 30 FIA Office Closed
(Memorial Day)

July 4 FIA Office Closed
(Fourth of July)

July 20 All Day Fundraiser
RobDob's Restaurant

Sept 22 FIA Mum Sale
St. John's Lutheran Church

FAITH IN ACTION SERVICE GUIDELINES

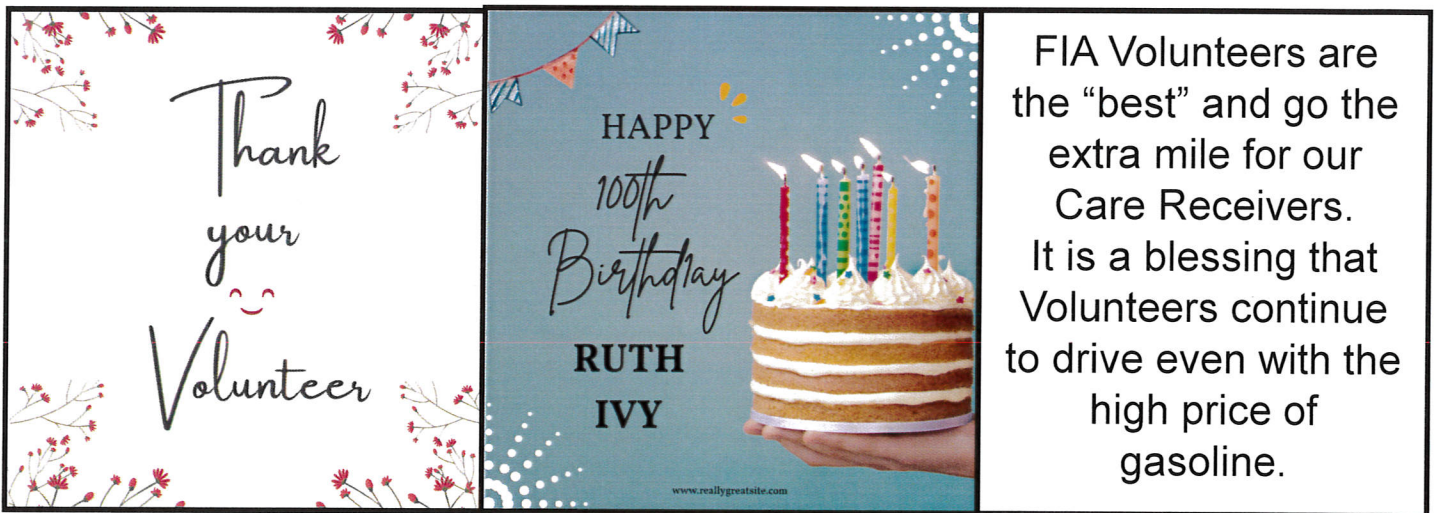
1. Care Receivers need to call the office at least 7 days in advance. We can accept ride requests months in advance too.
2. Wheelchairs cannot be transported. Walkers and canes are acceptable. A Care Receiver must be able to get in and out of a vehicle independently.
3. Medical transports are acceptable. Sorry, FIA Volunteers are not able to transport to the bank or hair appointments at this time.

DID YOU KNOW?

Faith in Action Volunteers provided 6,677 medical rides in 2021.

Faith in Action Volunteers provided 1,153 rides to grocery stores and food pantries.

In 2021 Volunteers provided services to 400 Care Receivers.



CONGREGATIONAL DONORS

Calvary United Methodist Church
Downs United Methodist Church
Epiphany Catholic Church
First Baptist Church
First Christian Church
First Presbyterian Church
Historic St. Patrick Catholic Church

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church of Blm- No
Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Normal First United Methodist Church
Northside Church of Christ
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Second Presbyterian Church

St. John's Lutheran Church
St. Luke Union Church
St. Mary's Parish
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
St. Patrick Catholic Church of Merna
Unitarian Universalist Church of Blm No
Wesley United Methodist Church

Is your Congregation listed?

If not, we would love to talk to someone. Please call the office so we can get connected.

Beware of Social Security Phone Scams



Securing today and tomorrow

Telephone scammers are pretending to be government employees. They may threaten you and may demand immediate payment to avoid arrest or other legal action. Do not be fooled!

If you receive a suspicious call:

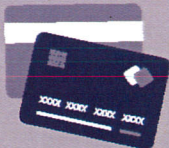
1. **HANG UP!**
2. **DO NOT GIVE THEM MONEY OR PERSONAL INFORMATION!**
3. **REPORT THE SCAM AT [OIG.SSA.GOV](https://oig.ssa.gov)**



What to look out for



The caller says there is a **problem** with your Social Security number or account.



Any call asking you to pay a fine or debt with retail gift cards, cash, wire transfers, or pre-paid debit cards.



Scammers **pretend** they're from Social Security or another government agency. Caller ID or documents sent by email may look official but **they are not**.



Callers threaten you with arrest or other legal action.

Be Alert

Social Security may call you in some situations but will **never**:

- » Threaten you
- » Suspend your Social Security Number
- » Demand immediate payment from you
- » Require payment by cash, gift card, pre-paid debit card, or wire transfer



Be Active

Protect yourself and your friends and family!

- » If you receive a questionable call, just hang up and report the call at oig.ssa.gov
- » Learn more at oig.ssa.gov/scam
- » Share this information with others



PEARLS™



CCSI
Case Coordination LLC
Case Management Services

PEARLS: Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives

The PEARLS program teaches you skills to manage unpleasant feelings and improve your quality of life.

Who can receive services?

- Adults age 60+
- Residents of McLean County
- Minimum of 1 session per month
- Meet in person's home or in a confidential office setting

Counseling may help if you are having difficulty with:

- Decrease in physical or pleasant activities
- Social isolation
- Grief from the loss of a loved one
- Coping with mental illness or chronic health conditions
- Aging and other geriatric issues

CCSI Office Hours

Monday through Friday

8:00 AM—5:00 PM

Evening Hours Upon Request

McLean County

Call: 309.661.6400 or 1.888.299.9553

CCSI-Case Coordination LLC

3601 G.E. Road, Suite #2

Bloomington, IL 61701

All services are free & confidential.

NEW VOLUNTEERS IN JAN, FEB & MAR (continued)



Jim V - Kishan S - Kris D - Melanie V - Patrick N - Peggy J



Rory B - Sonya S - Terry S - Tom H - Tomeshia D - Vanessa S



600 E. Willow Suite 201
Normal, IL 61761

Return Service Requested

FIA Office Hours

Monday - Thursday:

9 AM - 4 PM

Friday: 9 AM - 12:30 PM

Closed Saturday & Sunday



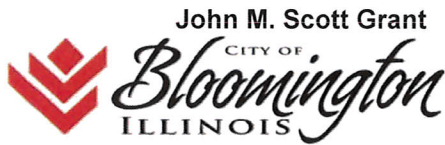
Phone:
309-827-7780

website:
www.bnfia.org

Follow FIA on Facebook:
Faith in Action - Bloomington/Normal



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING FAITH IN ACTION IN 2022!



Phillips & Associates, CPAs, P.C.
Richard W. Phillips, CPA

