

July 2023



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

A Letter From The Executive

Greetings,

It was a pleasure to meet so many volunteers at the recognition banquet in April. I'm in awe of the commitment and dedication they have to FIA Care Receivers.



Many exciting things are happening for our organization. From January to the end of May 2023 our volunteers drove 32,506 miles! That is equivalent to traveling to Mexico City and back 17 times!

On July 15 we will launch a 60 day pilot reinstating quality of life rides. For this pilot to be successful more volunteers are needed. When we ask new volunteers how they learned about Faith in Action, the most frequent answer is "word of mouth." Please share our mission to your neighbors, family and friends. We take pride in being able to fill 99.9% of ride requests for medical rides and want to be able to fill the quality of life rides too.

We greatly appreciate our congregational partners, supporters, volunteers, and sponsors for their time, gifts and prayers. The mission of Faith in Action's mission could not be fulfilled without you. Thank you!

Blessings,
Darla Heath
Executive Director

Rob Dob's
DINE - TO - DONATE

Thursday, July 13th

Tell your server
Faith in Action sent
you. No flyer is
necessary.
Faith in Action
receives 10% of
sales from dining,
gift cards, carry-
out and alcohol.

**FAITH
IN ACTION**

IMPORTANT DATES

Rob Dob's Dine to Donate
11 a.m. to 9 p.m., July 13th

Niagara Falls Bus Trip
Registration Deadline
July 30

Take Action Luncheon
11:30 a.m.—12:30 pm,
August 17

Mum Orders and Pick Up
Orders July 12—August 25
Pick up 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sept 14

CHARITABLE GIVING TO FAITH IN ACTION

Did You Know...

Using your IRA to make a charitable donation to Faith in Action can have tax advantages for you and benefit Seniors in our community!

If you are over age 70 ½, consider using a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to support Faith in Action. When making a QCD, you will want to have the check made payable directly to Faith in Action from your eligible IRA. The QCD amount, up to \$100,000, can satisfy your required minimum distribution and be excluded from your taxable income.



by Jennifer Doran
First State Bank,
Vice President and
Senior Trust Officer,
Faith in Action
Board

You can name Faith in Action as the beneficiary of your IRA. As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, IRA distributions to our organization are tax-exempt. You should consult your tax advisor to determine what is best for your situation.

You are invited...

The ARC is hosting a Summer Concert, September 8, from 5—7 p.m., in the east parking lot, corner of Willow and Beech in Normal. Bring your own lawn chair. Entertainment by Almost Live Duo. Food available for purchase from Uncle Tony's Food for the Soul—pulled pork, loaded Nachos, ribs, baked beans, baked mac-n-cheese, water and soda. Open to the public.



FAITH IN ACTION MUM SALE

9" Mums

Bronze/Orange, Yellow, Purple, White or Red

13" Mums

Multicolor

Pre-Orders Only. Prices Pending.

Orders begin July 12th. Orders due by August 25th.

Order at bnfia.org/2023mums or 309-827-7780

Pickup will be at St. John's Lutheran Church
1617 E Emerson St, Bloomington, IL 61701
September 14th 10 AM - 3 PM

Mums from Wendell Niepagen Greenhouse

TAKE NOTE

Covid Protocol Changes

The Center for Disease Control has changed the recommendations for wearing masks now that the public health emergency has come to an end. Faith in Action will follow the CDC guidelines and we have modified our COVID regulations as follows:

Masks are encouraged but not required. Wearing of masks will be left to the discretion and comfort level of the volunteer and the care receiver. Having the Care Receiver ride in the

QUALITY OF LIFE RIDES

Effective July 15, we are **piloting** the reinstatement of quality of life rides for 60 days. Care Receivers may request **one ride per month, one week in advance of the ride** to destinations such as: nursing homes to visit, enrichment class, exercise, hair or nail salon appointments. You may also request rides to church services.

Medical rides will take priority so quality of life rides are not guaranteed and will not be filled until all medical rides have been accepted for the day.

You must schedule 1 week prior and answer your phone when the volunteer calls to confirm as with any ride.

FAITH IN ACTION OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

Fourth of July	July 4
Labor Day	September 4
Thanksgiving & Day After	November 23 & 24
Christmas	December 22 & 25

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Research tells us that people who have regular interactions with others remain healthier than those who are socially isolated. Feeling lonely is as detrimental to longevity as smoking 15 cigarettes a day!

FIA offers many opportunities for social interactions. Our friendly calls and visits program is a way to build meaningful social connections and make new friends.

Whether you are a Care Receiver or Volunteer, we encourage you to participate in our friendly calls and visits program.

Call the FIA office at 827.7780 today to be part of this program.

Volunteer Dinner and Blessing



Anne K. and Jane H.



Courtney G., Jennifer D., Bob H., Rick P., Doretta H., Martha H.



Sharon H., Betsy H., Jane C., Marlon H., Kathy N., Bill N.



Linda C., Jan K., Patti S.



Mary Jo H., Joyce M., Janice B.

Thank you
Volunteers,
you mean
the world
to us!



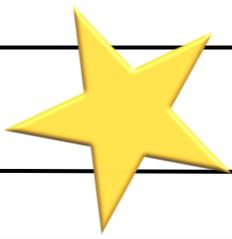
Karen T., Diane F.

The Volunteer Dinner and Blessing was a special event in which we honor Faith in Action volunteers for giving their time in support of those age 60 and over during the previous year.

The evening began with an opportunity for volunteers to receive a blessing from local clergy. There was a recognition for volunteers with 5, 10, and 15 years of volunteer service. The evening concluded with dinner provided by Westminster Village, door prizes and opportunities to socialize. The 125 volunteers in attendance enjoyed visiting following dinner.



Gloria J. and Carol T.



Volunteer Honorees



Fifteen Year Volunteers

Bob F. and Claire A.



Ten Year Volunteers

Jane H., Barb F., Gretchen C, Sherri F., Jan K.,



Five Year Volunteers

Top: Mike C., Steve B., Christine G., Jennifer D.

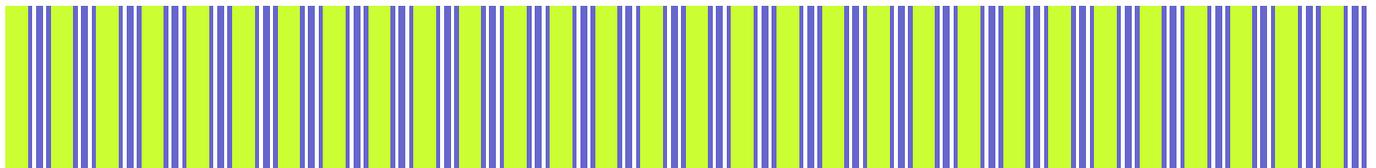
Middle: Tina Z., Christine M., Virginia J.

Bottom: Janas B. and Marilyn M.

The volunteers pictured were among those attending the Volunteer Dinner and Blessing who were recognized for their tenure with Faith in Action.

They serve in a variety of capacities including board of directors, transportation, transportation desk, shopping, assessments and visiting.

Many thanks to them and those not pictured for their dedication to Faith in Action and the people we serve.



Thank You to our Supporters

Grantors

John M. Scott Grant



The Christmas Eve Fund

*A Donor Advised Fund of
Renaissance Charitable Foundation*



Gold Sponsor



Every Detail Remembered | Dignity

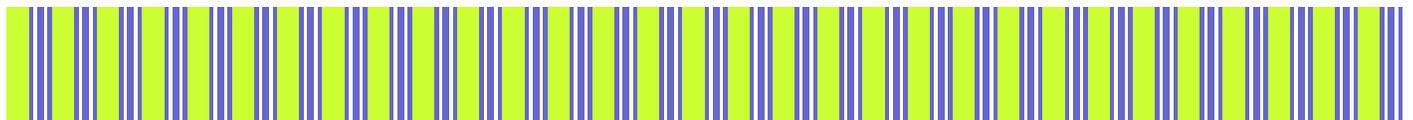
Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



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



Your gifts are always appreciated. If you would like to make a donation, there is a gift envelope included in this newsletter. Thank You!

PRE-PLANNING RELIEVES BURDEN ON LOVED ONES

No one wants to discuss their death, however starting a conversation is vital for alleviating the stress of uncertainty regarding a loved ones wishes. You can ease the burden by making some of these decisions now. Below are a few simple steps you can take to help your family during an overwhelming time:



- Make decisions about the type of service you would like to have and start a conversation about how you would like to be remembered.
- Would you prefer to have a ceremony or celebration of your life and achievements?
- Would you want a viewing of your physical body for close relatives only or open to the public?
- Where would you want to be laid to rest?
- Write down your wishes and tell your family where they are located.
- Meet with a funeral home to discuss your options and preferences.
- Don't be afraid to reach out to more than one funeral home and ask to set up a meeting to discuss your wants.
- Pre-pay for your funeral if you are able.
- It is becoming more and more rare for life-insurance to cover all end of life costs, including burial. Pre-paying will lock in the cost of services for your loved ones.

The right choice for a funeral home will be one that is not only willing to work with you to meet your expectations and needs, but also will show you and your family dignity and respect at all times.

While these conversations are difficult, these simple steps will help you and your family feel secure and prepared.

*Submitted by Mo Cronkhite, East Lawn Funeral Home and Memorial Gardens.
East Lawn is a proud sponsor of Faith in Action*

REMINDERS for CARE RECIEVERS:

- All calls should go through the Faith in Action Office, 309-827-7780.
- Call the office right away if you need to cancel an appointment.
- Calls should NOT be made directly to a Volunteer.
- Request rides at least 7 days in advance.
- If you have a ride scheduled, please answer a call from an unknown number and listen to your telephone messages-it could be a Volunteer.





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

www.bnfia.org

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



**Niagara Falls
& Toronto**

Bus Trips

\$910

/Person Double
Occupancy



Sep 24 - 30, 2023

Must have current passport

Package Includes

- Motorcoach transportation
- 6 nights lodging including 4 consecutive nights in the Niagara Falls area
- 10 meals: 6 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- Guided tours of Niagara Falls and Toronto
- A visit to CASA LOMA; Canada's most magnificent castle
- A visit to NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE & QUEEN VICTORIA PARK
- A Journey to The Falls on a "HORNBLOWER NIAGARA CRUISE"

309-827-7780 | www.bnfia.org