

600 E. Willow Suite 201 Normal, IL 61761

**Return Service Requested** 

<u>FIA Office Hours</u> Monday - Thursday: 9 AM - 4 PM Friday: 9 AM - 12:30 PM Closed Saturday & Sunday



Phone: 309-827-7780

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#### Western Avenue Food Pantry

Western Avenue has food pantry services. They offer food boxes from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. All that is required is identification. They will provide a box to either the Care Receiver or Volunteer. Additionally, the Mobile Market is available on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month in their parking lot.

Western Avenue Community Center is located at 600 N. Western Avenue, Bloomington, IL

# Emergency Preparedness: Stay Ready!

Emergencies can strike in various forms, from power outages and severe snowstorms to tornadoes. It's essential to be prepared, no matter the season.

While it's been a while since we faced a major winter snow-in, it's always wise to stay ready. Make sure you have:

- At least a gallon of drinking water per person.
- A stockpile of non-perishable canned goods.
- A flashlight with extra batteries.
- A radio for updates and information.
- A comprehensive first aid kit.

If a storm is forecasted, ensure you have an adequate supply of necessary prescriptions on hand.

Stay safe and prepared!

### McLean County Area Mobile Health Services



The new 40-foot mobile clinic is wheelchair accessible, has two examination rooms and dedicated staff. The clinic team will provide chronic-condition screening and education, treatment of acute illness, basic wellness care and assessments, basic lab testing, social support and work alongside community partners.

They provide:

- Chronic condition management and education
- Treatment of acute illness
- Physicals, wellness care and assessments
- School and sports physicals and immunization
- Lab testing
- Referrals and applications for social services.

The Mobile Health Clinic comes to Western Avenue Community Center on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Call 217-365-7928 for more information and other dates and locations.





Faith in Action is proud to be launching the "20 Over 60 Awards" for McLean County. These awards will highlight 20 individuals who live or work in McLean County and are making a difference in their golden years. We hope to recognize individuals who are inspiring others through their work, volunteerism and larger community impact. Nominations will open in Mid-January and close in February. Those receiving the award will be honored in a ceremony on Tuesday April 29<sup>th</sup> at Rob Dob's. If you wish to make a nomination call 309.827.7780.

#### **Equipped Bloomington/Normal**

If you need assistance with home improvements, a team of youth are coming to our area the week of July 13 with a mission to help those in need. Your home must be within a 20 minute drive from the ISU campus to qualify.

They can assist with porch repair, building steps or repairing existing steps, exterior or interior painting, building wheelchair ramps, mobile home skirting or door and window sealing.

Please call St. John's Lutheran Church at 309.827.6121 for an application and more information.

## Winter 2025



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

### <u>A Letter From the Executive</u> <u>Director</u>

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and are staying warm and cozy during these chilly winter months. 2025 has special significance for Faith in Action as we celebrate 20 years of providing service to older adults.

In 2024, our fundraising events were incredibly successful, and we received several grants, sponsorships, and generous donations. Your support is greatly appreciated. As our annual campaign wraps up and we approach our 20<sup>th</sup> year of providing services, please consider making a contribution using the enclosed envelope. Your donation is entirely voluntary.

We are excited to welcome new members to our board of directors: Molly Johnson, Katy Gessell, Gabby Harnish.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to Jennifer Doran, who is leaving the board of directors after many years of dedicated service, and to Mike O'Donnell who was Board President in 2024.

It is a pleasure serving you and working alongside our amazing team of volunteers and office staff. As we look forward to 2025, we anticipate many blessings during our 20th year.

Blessings to you and yours, Darla Heath, Director

#### SERVING YOU WITH CARE



We are honored to serve you through Faith in Action. To ensure smooth and efficient service, please adhere to the follow-

ing responsibilities:

- 1. **Schedule Appointments**: Contact our office at least 7 days in advance of your appointment.
- 2. **Answer Calls**: Please answer your phone when a volunteer calls. They are not obligated to pick you up if there hasn't been contact with you prior to your appointment.
- 3. **Cancellations**: Please keep cancellations to a minimum and contact the office and/or the volunteer assigned to your service.
- 4. Arrange Through Office: Please make all arrangements through our office. Do Not schedule medical transportation or home maintenance appointments directly with volunteers.

Your cooperation is necessary to keep the operation running smoothly. Failure to adhere to these procedures may result in a suspension of services.

## **FAITH IN ACTION NEWS**

#### **INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER**

Due to safety concerns volunteers may not feel comfortable offering transportation during inclement weather.



Both volunteers and care receivers are to use their own discretion regarding winter safety. If you, as a care receiver, wish to cancel please contact us prior to the trip, so the volunteer doesn't come to get you.

A volunteer may call you to discuss a possible cancellation of their ride due to weather. Please call FIA about any changes for our records and to reschedule the appointment.

#### Light Home Maintenance Program

As a current care receiver of Faith in Action you may request assistance with simple home maintenance tasks.

These tasks include changing a furnace filter, light bulb or batteries in a smoke detector. For their safety, do not ask volunteers to use power tools or climb outdoor ladders.

Our volunteers have big hearts and want to help, but they are not licensed for plumbing, electrical work, or any other job that requires an experienced contractor. Leaf raking and minimal yard clean up are also part of the program, but cutting down trees or trimming high branches will require you to hire a professional.

Do not call a volunteer directly and ask them to do a job. All requests need to come through the office. This is due to liability and limiting the risk of injury.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

#### Thank you for your generous gifts!

If you wish to make a donation to Faith in Action, please use the enclosed gift envelope for your convenience. Every contribution helps us continue providing essential services.

#### Join the ARC

The Normal Township Activity and Recreation Center (The ARC) is a vibrant place to socialize, learn new skills and stay active. Membership is open to everyone in McLean County, and transportation to the Center for residents of Bloomington-Normal is available.

Membership is affordably priced at \$30 per year and only \$5 per year for lowincome individuals. Anyone age 55 and over is eligible for membership. For more information call 309-888-9099 or visit their website



The Christmas Eve Fund A Donor Advised Fund of Renaissance Charitable Foundation

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