

Faith in Action of Edgar County

104 E. Washington St. P.O. Box 154
Paris, IL 61944



(217) 466-6388 faithinactionparis@gmail.com www.fiaec.com October – December 2015
Check us out and “like” us on Facebook! Check out what’s new on www.fiaec.com !

Faith in Action Volunteer Appreciation *September 16, 2015*



Celebrating Twelve Years!

**OUR VOLUNTEERS DO MAKE A
WORLD OF DIFFERENCE!**

Our volunteers and their guest had the opportunity to travel "around the world" at this year's banquet! The tables all decorated by board of director members and office staff represented a different country, which added a very unique flair and carried out the theme of the evening. THANK YOU to all who helped in any way to make our Volunteer Appreciation Banquet a very special night! A special thanks to McDaniel's catering for their amazing meal and Nichole Hope Fessant for blessing us with her beautiful singing. A big thank you to all of the donors of all those wonderful door prizes. We appreciate so much Lake Ridge Christian Church for allowing us to use their Family Life Center.

THANK YOU FAITH in ACTION of EDGAR COUNTY!



Nila's Corner

What a beautiful Autumn God has prepared for us! We are blessed! The colors and warm temperatures are amazing! It is no secret that I love Spring. However, this Autumn has scooted itself right up to the same level of love! ☺

Speaking of blessings, I cannot express how totally amazed we were at the tremendous success of our **Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction!** We served a greater number of people than we have at any other fundraiser. From what we can gather there were approximately **340 people** come to dine or carry-out throughout the evening! The auction was amazing! We had close to **200 items** of about everything imaginable! Our profit after expenses this year was **\$4,280!!** What a tremendous blessing to help carry out the work of Faith in Action throughout Edgar County!!!

None of this would have been remotely possible had it not been for all the 43 people who helped throughout the day and evening in one capacity or another, THANK YOU ALL!! To all the individuals and congregations who donated food, THANK YOU!! To all who donated to our Silent Auction, THANK YOU!! To the Fundraising committee, Judy Benton, Deanna Mason, and Ron Hensley, THANK YOU!! To our Decorating Committee, Diana Acord, Trish Hammond, and Kendra Simpson, THANK YOU! To Lake Ridge Christian Church for letting us once again use your spacious Family Life Center, THANK YOU!! What an amazing, giving community we live in! Thank you to ALL who came and supported Faith in Action through this year's Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction!



*Have a Wonderful, Colorfully Blessed and Safe
Autumn! ~ Nila*

Welcome New Faith in Action Volunteer!

Trisha Hammond, Marsha Degenhardt, Gracie North, Donna Stanfield, Art Woolverton

We welcome our newest volunteers into our Faith in Action family! Trisha is from Kansas and has jumped right into the heart of Faith in Action as a Director on the governing board. She is also active on the decorating committee. Marsha is interested in helping with transportation as well as anything else that might pop up when she is available. Gracie lives in Redmon and has been busy helping our residents to doctors appointments. Donna and Art are ready to jump on board as visiting volunteers. We are so happy to welcome them all into our Faith in Action Family!



WE NEED YOU!



Very soon we will be receiving calls for help with yard work and leaf raking. It is an excellent opportunity to plug youth groups into a morning or afternoon activity that is very worthwhile and very much appreciated by those who can no longer care for their own lawns. If you are a youth sponsor and would like to help out in this way, please call our office and give us your time(s) of availability.

If you would be interested in learning more about our outreach services...please give us a call 466-6388



Faith in Action of Edgar County

104 E. Washington St.
P.O. Box 154
Paris, IL 61944
(217) 466-6388
www.fiaec.com

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 217
PARIS, IL 61944

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Nila Nugent ~ Program Director
Cindy Soughers ~ Office Assistant

Board of Directors

- Linda White President
- Karl Marshall Vice President
- Ron Hensley Treasurer
- Judy Benton Secretary
- Diana Acord
- Terry Bergdolt
- Lillie Davis
- Rita Goodman
- Trish Hammond
- Norma Henson

Calendar of Events

- *COMING in * Nov. - Dec.*
- Nov. 5-** Board of Director's Meeting 8:30AM - FIA
 - Nov. 10 – Card Angels – 9:30AM FIA Meeting RM
 - Nov.11- Veteran’s Day
 - Nov. 20 – FIA Informal Tea – Tuscanys’s 2:00PM
 - Nov.26–Thanksgiving Holiday – Office Closed
 - Dec. 2 -**Board of Director's Meeting 8:30AM - FIA
 - Dec 11- Volunteer Christmas Luncheon at Tuscanys' - 11:00AM
 - Dec, 8- Card Angels Meet at FIA Meeting Room - 9:30AM
 - Dec. 24-25 Office Closed Merry Christmas!**
 - Dec. 31 – New Year’s Eve – **Happy New Year!**

January 1, 2016 NEW YEAR'S



Support the United Way of Edgar County.
Working together we DO make a difference!

FAITH IN ACTION VOLUNTEERS.....ON THE MOVE!

MONTHS OF JULY ~ SEPT

<u>Service</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Transportation	526
Visiting	8
Shopping/Errands	7
Light Housekeeping	0
Yard Work	2
Telephone Contacts	8
Sewing and Mending	0
Respite	0
Meal Prep	0
Special Projects	88
Special Activities	5
Office Assistance -	
Board Meetings/Fundraising	<u>354</u>
Total Hours	997
Total Miles Driven	10,555
Avg. Number of Volunteers reporting hours monthly:	36
Contacts made with care receivers	347

THANK YOU FIAEC VOLUNTEERS!

If you want to drop your timesheets after hours, use our little mail slot on the inside door.

Living with Alzheimer's Disease... Part 2

by Elaine Garwood

The following is the second of a two part article written by our Volunteer Elaine Garwood. In this article Elaine shares her family's experiences as they walked with her dad through the stages of Alzheimer's.

Elaine can be contacted at: garwoode@yahoo.com

Alzheimer's patients are living in a world very different from ours. Their reality is galaxies away from what you and I experience on a daily basis.

When Dad was a resident in Shady Lane at Paris Healthcare, the staff there went out of their way to help me to understand exactly what Dad's life was like now that he was an Alzheimer's victim. They actually set up a hands on demonstration for me so that I could experience what Dad was going through. I was able to "crawl" inside the mind of an Alzheimer's patient for a short while to experience the effects of the disease in every day life. It was an eye opener!

One of the things I learned was that depth perception is "off" when one has Alzheimer's. (I had watched Dad try numerous times to pick up something and his fingers would be about 3 inches away from the object). A black tile on the floor would be seen as a deep dark hole and an Alzheimer's victim would be afraid to step onto that tile, for fear of falling in. A flat floor could look wavy, bumpy, or "hilly", making walking look awkward as the Alzheimer's victim perceives the need to navigate the uneven floor. Sensory qualities in the fingertips were diminished, making it more difficult to feel. Loud noises or excessive movements would confuse or agitate.

Prompts needed to be given one at a time...so if we needed Dad to get up, move to another chair and sit down, it would best be accomplished by breaking it up to one command at a time.

Music had a calming affect, especially if the music was from an earlier time and a style that he enjoyed. Dad loved Patsy Cline so I stocked up on those old songs for him. Pictures of family members and happier times were shown to Dad in an attempt to help keep memories alive. An album was made for Dad with pictures of his parents and sister, his family with Mom, grandkids, etc.. Names of the loved ones were written underneath each picture so he wouldn't have to guess who they were.

We learned that Dad could not be expected to meet us in our world, but we had to join him in his. Whatever Dad was talking about, I went right along with it as though it was the gospel truth. Sometimes he was working with the cattle, or had taken a trip to Montezuma in the car the evening before. However ridiculous it was, it became my truth too.

Never argue with someone who is battling Alzheimer's. Try to agree with whatever they are saying and if that's not possible, then try to redirect their focus to something else. Disagreeing or arguing will only make your loved one more agitated and unhappy.

Don't quiz Alzheimer's patients to see what they know or remember that day. If they have trouble answering you, it can be embarrassing and frustrating for them as they sometimes realize they should know the information.... but don't. Their lives are challenging enough without making them feel foolish, too.

Place yourself directly in front of the Alzheimer's patient, speak slowly, and allow time for them to process what you've said.

The strange thing to Alzheimer's is...even with all these "pointers"..what works today may not work tomorrow!

Above all, try to have a sense of humor! Believe me, there's not much that is funny about Alzheimer's, but you really need to allow yourself to laugh about the things that are truly funny! Dad could come up with the most humorous comments and when I would start laughing, he would too! Treasure those moments all you can..and if your loved one is having a "clear" day...cancel your other plans and just sit tight and enjoy it. Those times will come less and less frequently until sadly, the day will come when there will be no more.

If you're like me, the more I understood what Dad was going through, the better I knew how to interact with him so I could maximize what time we had left together. There is a vast amount of knowledge to be gained by Googling "Alzheimer's", where you will find countless websites on the subject. I also joined an Alzheimer's Support Group that was..and still is..immensely beneficial. Not only did I learn tons of information as Dad was failing, but I found great friends and much needed support that I continue to be grateful for.

***If you know someone who would benefit from a support group contact: Carolyn Sutton, LCSW 217-465-2606 Ext. 290**

Notes from our Friends...

Thank you very much for everything you have done for me. I appreciate it so much. You guys are the greatest. Thank You ~ Mary

Dear Wonderful People that volunteer for Faith in Action.

Thank you for the planter you sent for mom's memorial. You blessed her with your kind hearts and we are grateful to you for that. Keep up God's Work! ~ Michelle

Hi Friends ~

Thank you so much for the adorable cards you send me. They are such cute cards and I sure enjoy it when my husband brings them in to me & says, "Mail from your friends again!" Thank you and God Bless. Ellen

I so appreciated the handrail Thanks for all you do.

Edna

Congregation Contact Person Informal Tea

Letters have been sent inviting representatives of our many congregations around our County to an Informal informational Tea at Tuscany's Steak and Pasta Restaurant on Friday November, 20th. The time will be 2:00pm. If you have not seen an invitation and would like to join us to hear what Faith in Action is all about, please call the office to RSVP by Wednesday November, 18th. Faith in Action has been an outreach for more than 900 residents of our County since we began providing services on September 1, 2003. Our services are non-medical, provided by volunteers for residents who live in their own homes but face many challenging obstacles that are a threat to their independence, because of chronic illness and/or physical limitation. This will be our second Informal Tea. We are excited to share with all who attended our first session to see what is working within your congregation to help the ministry of Faith in Action reach residents within our County who need a little extra helping hand. Our FIA volunteers are members of many of our congregations as well as those from around our community who have a desire to help others in need. This is a great opportunity to meet several of the Board of Directors and Staff of Faith in Action. It is also a means to help Faith in Action become an even stronger outreach for those who are struggling to maintain their independence in Edgar County.



Faith in Action welcomes Rev. Art Woolverton as a recent member of our Faith in Action Family. Art is the new pastor of the New Providence Presbyterian Church of Paris. He replaced Rev. Monte Reichenberg after Monte answered a call to minister the First Presbyterian Church in Moorcroft, Wyoming. New Providence was one of the first congregations to become active in the work of the Faith in Action ministry when we began in 2003 and we are happy to welcome Art as a new Volunteer.