

# Neighbor to Neighbor

Newsletter of Faith in Action of Marathon County

*Connecting People in Need with People Who Care.*



**FAITH  
IN ACTION**

**Spring 2016**  
Volume 12 Issue 1

## Older Americans Month—“Blaze a Trail”

May is Older Americans Month, a perfect opportunity to show our appreciation for the older adults in our community. Since 1963, communities across the nation have joined in the annual commemoration of Older Americans Month—a proud tradition that shows our nation’s commitment to celebrating the contributions and achievements of older Americans.

Older adults are a growing and increasingly vital part of our country. The contributions they make to our communities are varied, deeply rooted, and include influential roles in the nation’s economy, politics, and the arts. From 69-year-old NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, Jr. to 84-year-old actress Rita Moreno to 83-year-old Ruth Bader Ginsberg, who took her seat as a Supreme Court Justice at age 60, older adults are blazing trails in all aspects of American life.

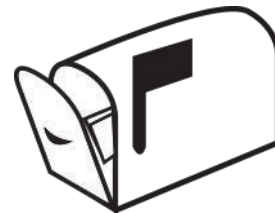
This year’s theme, “Blaze a Trail,” emphasizes the ways older adults are reinventing themselves through new work and new passions, engaging their communities, and blazing a trail of positive impact on the lives of people of *all* ages.

While Faith in Action provides supportive services to older adults year-round, we will use Older American Month 2016 to focus on how older adults in our community are leading and inspiring others, how we can support and learn from them, and how we might follow their examples to blaze trails of our own. We encourage you to get involved by volunteering to help a senior neighbor in need. Please contact Faith in Action at 715-848-8783.

**OLDER  
AMERICANS  
MONTH**



**BLAZE A TRAIL: MAY 2016**



## Mail Bag

*"The Faith in Action program is wonderful! It's my port in the storm, as I have nowhere else to turn."*

~Client

*"Faith in Action is perfect for people like me who do not drive anymore and need help with transportation. The program is truly a blessing!"*

~Client

*"Faith in Action is very supportive to our mother and provides peace of mind to us, as we are long distance care providers."*

~Client's Daughter

*"Faith in Action is a great community service program. The housecleaning gal is dependable, thorough and trustworthy."*

~Client

# Faith in Action of Marathon County

630 Adams St. • Wausau, WI 54403

## Contacts Us:

Phone: (715) 848-8783

Fax: (715) 848-3325

## E-Mail

CFrost.fiadirector@faithinactionmc.org

## Website

www.faithinactionmc.org

## Facebook

Search for "FIA of Marathon County"

## Board of Directors

**President,** Vicki Bender  
**Vice President,** Cheryl Kelly  
**Secretary,** Jeanette Carlson  
**Treasurer,** Cheryl Kelly  
Laura Frost  
Rosemary Hunt  
Mary McDonnell  
Sheryl Morris  
Brandon O'Conner  
Pam Pisca  
Dwala Smail

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## Staff

**Program Director:** Chris Frost

**Client Services Coordinator:**  
Kelly Kaminski

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## Thank you for the following gifts



## given in memory of loved ones

### In Memory Of:

#### **Bev Ackerman**

Joan Steinlage

#### **Aunt "Poke"**

Joan Winterhoff

#### **LeRoy Baker**

Mary Kay Baker

#### **Bill Borth**

Dawn Borth

#### **Lucille Campbell**

Phyllis Lillie

#### **Bill Fox and David Fox**

Gerald and Susan Fox

#### **Raymond Goytowski**

Annie Shelby

#### **Stennett Green**

Nina Green

#### **Robert Hartwig**

Troy Hartwig

#### **Judy A. Huffcutt**

Tim, Ann, Rachel and  
Emily Huffcutt

#### **Florence Karl**

Bob Karl

#### **Kathy, Her Daughter**

Carol Peterson

#### **Clarence and Irene Krueger**

Dawn Krueger

#### **Chad Laffin**

Arlene Laffin

#### **Rob Logemann**

Tim and Cari Logemann

#### **Their Parents**

Jim and Kay Langkamp

#### **Dr. Thomas Peterson**

Bob Cadwell

Pat and Rita Crooks

Richard and Joyce Lohr

Judith North

Al & Vonnie Solomonson

#### **Joseph Podgorski and Jean**

#### **Kurnick Podgorski**

Milly Meuret

#### **Brian Prinz**

Bill and Sandy Prinz

#### **William B. Sampe**

Lee Ann Sampe

#### **Margaret Shebuski**

Nancy Shebuski

#### **Don Stewart**

Barb Stewart

#### **Ernest Suchon**

Jeanette Carlson

#### **David Suelzer**

Chester Suski

#### **Marlyn Wendorf**

Nancy Wendorf

#### **Jack and Carol Westerby**

Tim and Cari Logemann

#### **Helen and Norman Zell**

Ann Hagman

### In Honor Of:

#### **Angeline Cain**

Donella Elsen

#### **Genevieve Krueger**

Barbara Krueger

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*At a time when you were remembering someone dear to you,  
you also thought of others and extended your hand to them.*

*On their behalf and from us, **Thank You.***



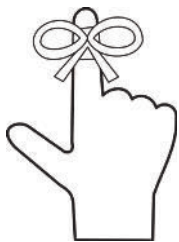
## From the Director's Chair

April 10-16 is National Volunteer Week. With that in mind it seems like a great opportunity to thank all of the Faith in Action Volunteer Care Givers for their selfless contribution to those in need during 2015. It's impossible to put a dollar value on what you do. How important is a ride to a medical appointment when you do not have transportation? What is the value of a smile and some conversation to someone who is lonesome? You volunteers perform an awesome and very much appreciated service to our senior neighbors in need.

Equally important are all of those who have contributed to Faith in Action this year in donations, in-kind contributions, grants, attending fundraisers, performing at the Holiday "Care"oling Concert, helping with our Holiday Care Drive, Corporate sponsors, donating office space, advertising, donating printing services, and businesses and individuals that donated raffle items. We appreciate your continued support of Faith in Action!

All of you provide a great reminder of what happens when we say yes, and put our faith into action! A very heartfelt thank you to all of you!

Remember, it's easy to put your faith into action; please call our office at 715-848-8783 or check out our website at [www.faithinactionmc.org](http://www.faithinactionmc.org). Don't forget, there is always the old fashioned way: you can stop by! *Chris Frost*



**Client Reminder:** If you need help with transportation please plan ahead. We require one week notice. This will give us plenty of time to find a volunteer to assist you.

**Our office hours are:** Monday-Thursday from 9am to 2pm. If you don't reach us, please leave a message. We'll call you back as soon as we are able!

### Important Dates for 2016

- Wednesdays Apr 20, May 11, June 1 & 22 **Food Pantry Deliveries**
- Sunday May 8 **Mother's Day**
- Saturday, May 14 **Harvey Krueger Fundraiser for Faith in Action**
- Monday, May 30 Office is Closed - **Memorial Day**
- Monday, July 4 Office is Closed - **4th of July**

## Thank You to our Volunteers!

Seeing the overwhelming need in our community, volunteers reached out to Area Seniors.

In 2015, Faith in Action  
Volunteers gave:

4,641 Hours of Service

Volunteers Donated:

32,637 Miles

That's more than one trip  
Around the world!



**Please Recycle  
Your  
Paper Grocery  
Bags  
Here!**





## Volunteer Opportunities

Change isn't easy when you've lost the love of your life.

### Please Share An Hour and Fight Senior Loneliness

Consider befriending an elderly neighbor – share some stories over a cup of coffee, visit the Art Museum, go out for ice cream, or play a game. You can make such a big difference by sharing a few hours of your time. Several opportunities are available in the greater Wausau area. You pick the date and time.

## It's More Than a RIDE



Consider being a driver for your elderly neighbors. Do you have a car, driver's license and insurance? You do?! Then you can be a volunteer driver!

**Please share an hour of your time to help an elderly neighbor** to go grocery shopping, pick up medications or go to a medical appointment. It takes about an hour to provide some friendship and much needed transportation.



### Please Help a Senior with Light Housekeeping

Several elderly neighbors in Wausau are in need of some assistance with mopping kitchen and bathroom floors, vacuuming and dusting. This is something that they are just not able to do any more. One Care-Receiver said, **“Washing the floor isn't the problem, it's just the getting up that presents a huge challenge!”**

The time commitment is approximately 1 hour every 4-6 weeks. This could be an on-going assignment or just one time. The requests are for assistance once every 4 to 6 weeks.

### Our Senior Friends Need Your Help!

Help seniors in Wausau and Weston with light outdoor yard work this spring. It's a great opportunity for a couple, families or groups to provide needed assistance to your elderly neighbors.

Let us know when and how you would like to help. It's easy and it only takes an hour or two! Plus, it's all on your schedule!

Are you a senior in need of outdoor yard work this spring—let us know!



To share your time with an elderly neighbor, please contact Kelly: 715-848-8783 or by email at [fiamc.kelly@gmail.com](mailto:fiamc.kelly@gmail.com)



## Ways to give to Faith in Action:

- **Thrivent Choice Dollars** - Are you a Thrivent member? Remember to designate your Choice Dollars to help our program.
- **Amazon Smile** - Do you shop on Amazon.com? Then sign in to AmazonSmile.com and pick Faith in Action of Marathon County as your favorite charity. Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase to help us.
- Does your employer match funds for your donations? Think of us.

## Did you know?

- About 1 in 7 Americans is age 65 & over.
- People reaching age 65 have an average life expectancy of 19.3 more years (20.5 years for females and 17.9 years for males).
- Almost half of older women age 75+ live alone.
- The 85+ population is projected to triple from 6 million in 2013 to 14.6 million in 2040.

Please join us in supporting Faith in Action of Marathon County at the Harvey Krueger Fundraiser on Saturday, May 14th at Dale's Weston Lanes. See our Facebook page for more details.

## New Website

Faith in Action has recently launched its NEW website.

Please check it out at

[www.faithinactionmc.org](http://www.faithinactionmc.org). Thank you to volunteer Holly Solomon for creating our beautiful new site! As a volunteer, you will be able to download your timesheet and log your hours through our website along with seeing a list of current volunteer opportunities.

Are you in need of service? You can also download an application to receive service through our website. In addition, you can stay up to date on our "News and Events" or sign up to receive our newsletter by email instead of through the mail. Please let us know what you think.



## Thank You to our Corporate Sponsor:

**Interim HealthCare**

2402 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI

(715) 842-7707

[www.interimhealthcare.com/wausauwi](http://www.interimhealthcare.com/wausauwi)



## Thank You the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation For Supporting our Program



We are proud to be a United Way of Marathon County Partner Program.



United Way of Marathon County



# Faith in Action of Marathon County Donation Form

First Name

Last Name

Phone

Address

City

State

Zip

## Donations: (Check all that apply)

- Donate money for general operating expenses: Amount \$25, \$50, \$100 or \$500 \_\_\_\_\_
- Donate in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- Donate in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

## Donate Office Supplies:

- Assorted Greeting Cards     Pens     Copier Paper     Postage Stamps

## Time and Talents: (Check all that apply)

- I would like to serve on the board of directors. Monthly meeting required.
- I would like to volunteer to help seniors.
- I would like to volunteer in the office.
- I would like to volunteer to help with fundraising efforts.
- I would like the director to speak at my group or church.

*Where volunteers make a difference!*

630 Adams Street  
Wausau, WI 54403

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