



Faith in Action of McHenry County Winter 2007/2008
Preserving the Independence of Our Senior Citizens Since 1998

Deck the Halls

You are invited to our

Open House.

Wednesday Evening

December 12, 2007, 4 — 7 PM

Winter Blossoms Quilt and
Get-Away Raffle

\$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5

Tickets can be purchased at the
FIAMC office daily 9:00 am to
12:00 pm or purchase your ticket
at the Christmas Open House

Drawing will take place at the
Evening in Italy Dinner.



Marmee B. pictured at the 2006 Open House

Words of Gratitude

“Just a note to thank you
for all the help you pro-
vide — I could not sur-
vive without it.”

—Elenore C.

“I want to thank you for
the help you gave me.
Every day I admire my
new mail box, the re-
paired fence and new
screens on my porch.
Jerry was a super person
who did a really excellent
job.”

—Shirley K.

Faith in Action Turns Ten

An “Evening In Italy” FIAMC’s
seventh annual pasta dinner will be
held on Saturday, January 26, 2008.
The dinner will offer pasta with meat
balls, garden salad, fresh bread,
scrumptious dessert choices, and a
drink, as well as entertainment by the
Fox Valley Men of Harmony and
our Get-Away Weekend and Winter
Blossoms Quilt Raffle.

The dinner is a reflection of the sup-
port FIAMC has received from the
community for the past ten years.
FIAMC wishes to thank our com-

munity for the funding, volunteer
support and good will.

We are committed to be here
for the next ten years and be-
yond providing our highly
rated, needed and appreci-
ated no-cost services.

Please join us in celebration.

Saturday, January 26, 2008

5:15 PM or 7:00 PM

**\$10 adults, \$8 age 12 and un-
der**

815-455-312

St. Thomas Community Center

BAKED GOODS

**In the past, our friends
have contributed cook-
ies and bars. Please no-
tify the office, if you can
assist this year. If you
can’t deliver, we will ar-
range for a pick up.**

Thank you!

815-455-3120



www.fiamchenrycounty.org

Never a Charge for Services

Phone 815-455-3120
 Fax 815-455-3813

Volunteers: Everyday Heroes



“Several years ago, Larry Schuerr, a retired Industrial Education teacher, found himself dealing with some personal struggles which left him severely depressed. His brother-in-law asked Larry to help with a volunteer home-repair job for a family who was in need. Larry arrived at the home and instantly became engaged in the project. “I picked up that trowel and it was the first time in four and a half years that I felt good” says Larry. “I realized that day that when I’m helping somebody else, I’m helping me.”

Since that day, Larry has become a master networker, using his craft to

help dozens of people, through a variety of organizations. Larry has brought this synergism to Faith in Action, enlisting area service groups such as the Rotary Interact clubs at Cary and Dundee Crown High Schools, as well as the National Honor Society at Dundee Crown High School, to perform home repairs for FIAMC carereceivers. “Once I was helping a family in Carpentersville, when someone said to me, ‘You’re our family’s best friend.’ God spoke to my heart and said, ‘What you do for the least of these you do for me.’ What greater joy than having the God of the Universe say ‘Thank you!’”

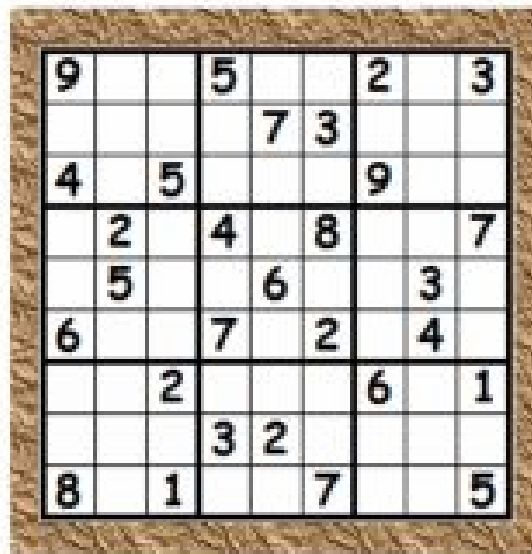
Our deepest sympathy to the loved ones of:

- Carl Munger
- Joan Piekos
- Norma Noe
- Vera Oaks
- Kathryn Kaptena
- Steve Teggart
- Aileen Smart
- Charles Kupitz
- Chuck Johnson
- Jean Foster
- Al Brewer
- Loretto James
- Robert McCullough
- Mary Pepple
- Agnes Balum
- Dino Bartoli
- Paul Schutt

We have received a generous grant from St Paul’s Episcopal Church in McHenry to begin a Durable Medical Equipment loan closet. We will begin accepting equipment donations to fill the closet in January. If and when you have a need, please check with us, we may have the item you require.

PUZZLERS

Sudoku



Hidden Names

For those of you who enjoy puzzles, brain teasers and games, we have “hidden” the names of volunteers throughout this newsletter, look for your favorite volunteer.

1. Marmee
2. Larry
3. Tom
4. Karla
5. Kathryn
6. Loni
7. Dee
8. Fred

Volunteer Heroes

Happy Thanksgiving, Indeed

Over one hundred senior's had a Thanksgiving meal delivered to them on Wednesday November 21 as a result of Loni M's prompting.

Four years ago, as Loni returned home after transporting one of FIAMC care recipients, she reflected upon information supplied by her rider regarding her Thanksgiving Day plans, which looked quite different from the Norman Rockwell illustration.

Loni realized that this senior might not be the only one alone and without a traditional meal. This reflection turned into action as she took the need back to her church, Community of Faith Lutheran, which responded by boxing up meals and delivering them to FIAMC seniors in their geographic region—Spring Gove, Richmond, Johnsborg, and Northern McHenry.

This service has become a tradition of its own at Community of Faith Lutheran Church. This year the baton was passed to John and Dee P, who spear-headed the volunteer work . Loni's vision continues to grow, as she asked us to check with other county

congregations to see if they would like to provide the same service because she knew that her church was not reaching all of the needy. The Evangelical Free Church of Crystal Lake and Janet B. responded with their desire to assist seniors in their area. FIAMC volunteers reached 74 seniors in Crystal Lake, Woodstock, Cary, and Lake in the Hills who were among the recipients of Janet B's efforts at her church.

The meals were prepared by Marquise Catering of Wonder Lake, at a bargain price, as Rich, the owner, was also feeling the spirit of giving.

We are of course, grateful to be the conduit of blessings. This is just another example of McHenry County concern and generosity for those who are in need.

Thank you to all volunteers, congregations, Rich at Marquise, and to the One who prompted Loni.

If you would like to be involved in the feast next year, contact us. Loni has the skills necessary to train others for delivery in their area.



Redesigned Web Site On Its Way

www.fiamchenrycounty.org

Faith in Action of McHenry County is pleased to announce the receipt of an Organizational Capacity Building grant from the Retirement Research Foundation, Chicago, Illinois, to increase marketing and outreach, and to diversify sources of support. FIAMC will work to increase support from individuals, corporations and foundations, and develop a planned giving program to benefit the future long-term financial needs of the organization. Bequests will enable the organization to begin an endowment fund with the vision that Faith in Action services will be available not only for the seniors of today but also

of tomorrow. In order to market the program, FIAMC will upgrade the quarterly newsletter, develop a website for the agency, and produce a short DVD to use with presentations to community groups.

You may have already noticed that our web-site reflects a new and improved look. It is a work in progress, come back often, there will be new resources to assist you, while maintaining the basic format for you to report your hours to us. We are very grateful to the Retirement Research Foundation for their Faith in us!

Are You Receiving All You Can From Your Volunteer Service?

There are two unique benefits of volunteering with FIAMC.

1. We don't tell you that you are needed on Tuesdays. You tell us when you are available and if you can do the service when we call. If you are available great, if not, we call another and try you at a later date.
2. There are several volunteer choices. If you need a change from your current

assignment you may consider one of the following:

Board of Directors—fiscally responsible, governance, leaders, and team players, those who feel they are qualified may complete an application.

Advisory Board—networking, event planning, committee work, visionaries

Office—customer service, telephoning, scheduling

Direct Services—friendly visits/phoning, transportation, yard clean-up, minor home maintenance, respite care, light housekeeping, shopping/errands, listening ears/friendly smiles.



Tickets may be purchased from the FIAMC office at St Thomas Pastoral Center, Holy Apostles Bookstore, First Congregational Church, Crystal Lake or Huntley. Call for other locations.



View the magnificent lakefront and skyline from the comfort of a lakeside convertible Chicago condo while wrapped in the warmth of this Winter Blossoms Quilt...

Winter Blossoms Package includes:

- 2 night stay at 400 Randolph Dr. Chicago
- 33 Floor Vista (where river meets the lake)
- Dinner at Trattoria #10
- Winter Blossom Quilt



Second Prize
Handmade Afghan
\$1.00 per ticket
6 tickets for \$5.00

Drawing January 26, 2008
At Faith in Action Annual Pasta Dinner
St. Thomas Church Community Center
No need to be present to win, but we hope to see you there!

Rhonda's Reflections

Our annual report has been completed and is posted on our web site. Please take a moment to examine "the books". You might even take a moment to thank those organizations that have supported us over this past year.

Where does the money go? It pays our phone bill for four lines, the rent, postage, office supplies, insurance, internet connection, volunteer training materials, newsletter production and mailing, and the coordination of services. In addition to myself, we have two part-time employees. In trying to be good stewards of our resources we rely on volunteers for many other office functions.

In the Faith in Action Caregivers, Inc newsletter, a sister program in West Virginia, I found the adjacent quote by Mother Teresa and reflections from Jeanette Wojcik, Executive Director. The article also references Peter Brinckerhoff, a non-profit management consultant who reminds us that without money there is no mission. Money received must be managed with excellent stew-

ardship. Our ability to raise needed funding is paramount to our ability to provide services. However, money is not enough...

"Let us not be satisfied with just giving money, money is not enough, for money one can always get. I would like more people to give of their hands to serve and their hearts to love."

—Mother Teresa of Calcutta

FIAMC depends on volunteer hands and hearts of love. We are a conduit for golden hearts who are looking to serve.

It is by faith that we can continue to reach out, knowing that our financial needs will be met and that the ever needed hearts and hands will be provided.

Together in Service...

Joy, hugs, and tears were all evident as volunteers were honored by care receivers on November 8th. Special letters of appreciation written by their care receivers were given to the volunteers who have served well over 200 hours.

Faith in Action is privileged to have loving and faithful caregivers and it was a blessing to honor them on this day.

Karla, FIAMC, Volunteer Coordinator, orchestrated this event contacting care receivers well in advance to solicit their letters of thanks. Caregivers were surprised to find that the thirty minute event was designed for them...pastry and coffee, were provided, but it was the words of appreciation that meant the most.



Kathryn Receives a Hug From Eva



Johnston Photography

Executive Director

Rhonda Anderson

815-455-5362

Board of Directors

Tom Gelinas, Board Chair

Tom Aquilina

Erick Bohlman

Ellen Hanson

Joy Little

Joy Martin

Bill Nelson

Rev Arn Schaper

Nancy Vazzano

Advisory Board

Rev Richard Floyd

Rabbi Maralee Gordon

Karen Hutchings

William Layer

Dan Savas

Michelle Wood

Joy Martin, Board Liaison

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! His faithful love endures forever."

Winter 2007—2008

Faith in Action
...today

THANK YOU

Memorials Received:

E. Carl Munger

Walt Marcinkowski

Loretto James

Aileen Ruby Keller Smart

Get Well Wishes For:

Lois Zelez

From Roy & Barbara Hugi

In Kind or Financial Donors:

Community of Faith Lutheran,

Spring Grove

Evangelical Free Church,

Crystal Lake

Gary Jensen,

Fair Price Printing

First Congregational Church,

Huntley

First Presbyterian Church,

Harvard

Prince of Peace Lutheran,

Crystal Lake

Fred Dahl

Mike Giamari

Faith in Action Events

Never a Charge for Services

*Open House/Holiday/Anniversary Celebration: Weds. Dec. 12, 4-7 PM

FIAMC Offices, Crystal Lake

*An Evening in Italy, Pasta Dinner/Anniversary Celebration and

Winter Blossoms Get-Away Drawing

Saturday January, 26, 2008

St Thomas Community Center, Crystal Lake

*Volunteer Orientation—Monthly

2nd Tuesday 1:30 PM BCU Credit Union, Crystal Lake

3rd Thursday, 7:00 PM Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Crystal Lake

CARFEGIVER SUPPORT GROUP FORMING

The meetings will be facilitated by geriatric nurse Ann Wall. If you would like to join this group call the office to express your interest. 815-455-3120

Available: Carbon Monoxide Monitors, light bulbs, AA and 6 volt batteries. Did you change your smoke detector batteries when the clock changed? If not, we can help with the battery and the labor.

FIAMC is a grateful recipient of McHenry County Senior Services Grants.

NONPROFIT ORG
USPOSTAGE PAID
CRYSTAL LAKE IL
PERMIT NO. 109

Faith in Action of
McHenry County
7105 Virginia Rd, Ste. 21
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

