



## Annual Banquet Invitation and Fall Update



Visit [www.faithandactiononline.org](http://www.faithandactiononline.org) for an up-to-date event calendar and information.



*You are invited to  
Faith and Action's Annual Banquet*

**Thursday, November 17, 2016**

**Serbian Social Center**  
18550 Stony Island Avenue  
Lansing, Illinois

**6:00PM—Punch and Fellowship**  
**6:30PM—Dinner and Presentation**

**Please RSVP by November 8**  
*call* (708) 672-7520  
*email* [faithandaction.jodi@gmail.com](mailto:faithandaction.jodi@gmail.com)

The dinner will be underwritten.  
An opportunity to support the ministry will take place at the event. If you are unable to attend, please consider sending a donation in the enclosed envelope.



As has become our tradition, we will collect food items at the banquet. Volunteers will distribute Thanksgiving food boxes to families to whom we minister.

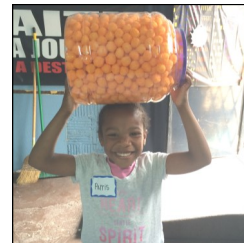
Food items needed include:

canned beans—canned corn—canned yams  
boxed stuffing—cornbread mix—cake mix  
frosting—cranberry sauce



This summer, my kids and I had the opportunity to volunteer through Faith and Action's **Vacation Bible School** that was held at Galilee Baptist Church in Roseland. Each day started off with free play which involved board games, face painting, building sets, ping pong, and the ever popular Connect Four tournament. This time was a great opportunity to hang out with the kids and get to know them. It was fun to see the same kids all 3 days and to be able to connect with them. Mr. Rich offers the kids a dollar for each friend they bring which is a huge draw! After the opening free time, we moved upstairs to the worship area and were led in music by Ms. Christeen. She taught us new songs, motions, sign language, and encouraged the kids to sing and play instruments with her. Ms. Christeen makes singing fun for the kids and it's hard not to smile while singing with her. Next, the volunteers took part in a skit telling the Bible story for the day. The kids quickly learned that it's important to listen to the details of the story because each day ended with Bible Trivia and knowing the facts could earn you more of Mr. Rich's dollar bills! It was a busy 3 days, but I am so thankful for the time we were able to spend with the kids. I am looking forward to volunteering again next year and hope to see some familiar faces!

Anne, Volunteer



The two dozen or so neatly arranged rectangular, raised fruit, flower, and vegetable beds flanked by now towering corn and giant pumpkins on one side and two picnic tables sitting beneath a massive shade tree on the other are what I call the real Altgeld Garden. Almost weekly, a hand picked group of city dwelling girls and boys worked at the Crete, Illinois garden alongside watchful adult volunteers.

From breaking up rocky dirt, shoveling fertile soil into the beds, sowing seeds, pulling weeds, harvesting and even grilling vegetables to accompany the usual hot dogs and homemade desserts, the kids did it all. The garden trek was incomplete without a meal, playtime, and Ms. Jodi's Bible lesson.

At the end of the day, students went home with two bags of produce; one for their own household and the other to bless a neighboring family. Even volunteers were blessed with carrots, tomatoes, radishes, strawberries, potatoes, rhubarb, lettuce, cabbage, assorted peppers and squash for their tables.

As this year's experience draws to a close, I see the Bible parable of the sower and the seeds demonstrated in the lives and hearts of the children. There were hearts of rock. A child who just didn't want to be there and never returned. Hearts of sand with initial excitement that turned to boredom when the work was hard or the rain fell. A changed heart in the girl who said this is hard work, declared she wouldn't work, then worked nearly as hard as anyone else and proclaimed she had fun and would do it again. Good soil was the heart of a 5th grade boy who was obviously already cultivated in Godliness and eagerly prayed whenever given a chance, mentioning everyone by name and bringing tears to my eyes.

May God continue to richly bless Faith and Action and By The Hand Club ministries for demonstrating God's love in a consistent, tangible way. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of what you do so well—demonstrating God's love.

LaVera, Volunteer





Our volunteers have been very busy this summer at Faith at Work! Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we were able to purchase another log splitter and a wrapping machine for packaging our firewood into bundles. This has greatly helped to increase firewood production and as a result of this we have been able to increase our retail firewood sales.



**While processing firewood is what we do at Faith at Work, we share the greater mission of Faith and Action which is, "I will show you my faith by what I do." James 2:18b.** Our regular team of volunteers, on a weekly basis, get to live this out by working alongside and mentoring three young men. By working alongside these young men, we are able to demonstrate how Christian men act and work in today's world. We have received feedback from their families on how we are being a positive influence. When Rich shared his vision to start Faith at Work and asked me to be a part of it, I was prepared for the business part of processing firewood but I did not know how the mentoring aspect would work. To me personally, this has been a great example of how God does not call the equipped, but God equips the called!

Please continue to pray for our success in both sales and mentoring. We are excited to see what the Lord has planned for our future!

Yours in Christ,  
John Brink



As a team leader, it is very important for my students to serve others, be kind to others, and show others that God lives within them. **Elim Christian Services allowed the students of By The Hand Club to serve and see that God creates everyone differently but we are also all the same.** Students were able to work side-by-side with the adults from Elim doing an awesome service project that would not only benefit them but children across the world. The students, team leaders, and Elim adults packed school supplies in an assembly style line while sharing laughs, funny stories, warm smiles and words of encouragement. After the book bags were packed, we played games with Elim clients. The students and I felt so welcomed and loved. This was a service project we will never forget. - Ms. Brittany, By The Hand Team Leader

