



“And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, “Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me.” (1 Chronicles 4:10a, NKJV) Over the last 8 years, I’ve prayed about enlarging Faith and Action’s territory. God has blessed the ministry more than I could ever ask or imagine but I ask myself, “What is next? What is our territory?” I recently read 70,000 people are being saved everyday around the world but what about my own neighborhood? In my every day travels, I see so much pain and suffering and I’m constantly convicted that we should be doing so much more in sharing the gospel in our ministry activities. As Martin Luther once said, “If the gospel we share does not deal with the social issues of the day, then it is not the gospel at all.”

As a result of this, Faith at Work was started approximately 1 year ago. Faith at Work (a for-profit subsidiary of Faith and Action) provides employment and mentoring opportunities through the process of cutting, splitting, packaging, and selling firewood. All of this has been made possible through a dedicated team of volunteers. Because of the success of the program, we are excited to announce that Faith at Work has hired its first employee, John Brink. John was crucial in starting Faith at Work and we are excited to see how God will

use John’s talents to bring Faith at Work to the next level. How thankful we are that God is blessing and enlarging our territory.

Over the last several years Jodi and I, along with the board, have spent a great deal of time discussing and praying on how God would like us to use our time, talents, and resources to bless others. While this will take us out of our comfort zone, we feel we are following God’s leading in adding additional staff. In addition to John Brink, we are excited to welcome Jenni Hoekstra as our Design & Media Specialist. This will allow Jodi to focus more of her time forming relationships with the kids.

Exciting things are happening within Faith and Action but this also brings added responsibility. We have enlarged our territory and also our budget. Would you prayerfully consider partnering with us as we share the gospel within our own backyard?

Rich Van Til, *Executive Director*



John Brink



Jenni Hoekstra

◦ SOME FUN WE'VE BEEN HAVING! ◦

Jak's Warehouse



Roseland Outreach



Forming Relationships



Resurrection Sunday Bags



Great Northern Lumber Yard Tour



Kids' favorite part of trip:

- beeping the horn on the forklift (*Diamond*)
- learning about the many different species of wood (*Marquise*)
- I enjoyed asking questions so I could learn (*Jaciyah*)

Elim: Packing School Supply Boxes



BASKETBALL CLINIC

Illiana Christian's Varsity basketball team had the wonderful opportunity to work with kids through the game of basketball. Through teaching the skills and facilitating game play, the players connected with a diverse group of kids. It was an experience that I believe benefited both the kids and the varsity players. It was fun for all involved and a great way to see a diverse collection of Christ's body being united in a simple game for a bigger cause.

Our theme for this season was the word "devoted." Romans 12:10 tells us to "be devoted

to one another in love." To be united as a team for a greater cause is what we strive to do on the court in competition, but more importantly what we strive to do every day with others off the court in the real world.

Grant Sikkema
Illiana Christian High School
Head Men's Basketball Coach

Marquan (6th grade):
"It was fun when I went to the basketball day because I learned new drills. We played games. Some we won and some we lost. It was very fun to go there and have fun with the players and get to know them. The coach was the best one because he gave me a basketball that I play with every day."



John, an Illiana player, wrote: "Working with the kids was a lot of fun! They had a lot of energy and were very competitive which was great to see. I could tell they really looked up to us and it made me feel good to be a role model for them."

Urban Garden Planting Seeds through Gardening



FAITH AT WORK



Illiana Christian High School students get out of the classroom and give back on their annual GO day.

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant." - Robert Louis Stevenson



A look into *Music class...*

From the view of the teacher:

Through the ministry of Faith and Action, I have the opportunity to teach weekly music classes to underprivileged children. This has been rewarding for me, but more importantly for the kids I teach. There are many moments of personal validation as a teacher I can point to that have in many ways enhanced my skills to teach and connect but I think of one in particular. One of my students told me a story about their winter break in which they played the piano in front of their relatives for the first time and received high praise. They went on to tell me how good it felt inside to make their relatives happy. I believe that my calling is to show our youth that they can serve the Lord through their musical abilities. Many musical abilities will go unnoticed in our youth if we don't give them opportunities to explore them. This opportunity at Faith and Action gives me the chance to enhance our youth's musical abilities and help them realize the places in ministry in which they can utilize their skills. The best part of my music system is that ANY CHILD CAN SERVE.

*Carlos J. Perkins,
Music Instructor*

From the view of a student:

1. How do you plan on using your musical talents to glorify God?
We can use our talents by making beats for God.
2. Where do you see your music ability in 5 years?
I see myself as a talented musician.
3. Since you've begun music class, what has been your favorite time?
When Mr. Carlos never lets us give up!
4. If you could change anything about music class, what would it be?
That I wouldn't be so shy about playing in front of others.

Coat Drive

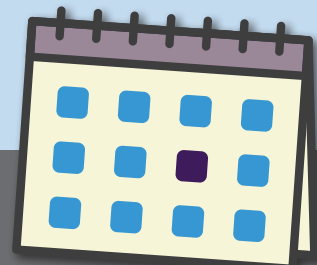
Hundreds of people in Roseland, Chicago Heights, Englewood, and Hopkins Park were kept warm this winter thanks to donations of gently used coats from 7 Chicagoland Burlington Stores. In addition to

selecting a warm coat, the recipients could also choose a handmade hat and scarf thanks to many local church knitting groups. By assisting people with their physical needs, we are then given the opportunity to share God's message with men, women, boys and girls.



CHECK OUT...

www.faithandactiononline.org
FOR THE MOST CURRENT
EVENT SCHEDULE



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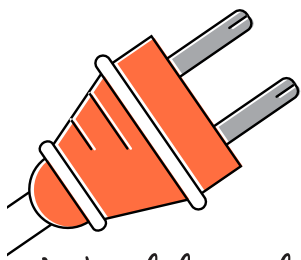
SATURDAY,
JULY 15
9:30am-1:00pm

24755 S. Country Lane
Crete, IL
(across from
Walt's Foods)

FREE
FUN
FAMILY
ACTIVITIES!



Faith and Action
25353 State Street, Unit D
Crete, IL 60417



Want to get
"plugged-in"?

We would LOVE your help
and we have so many
opportunities for:

FAMILIES
SMALL GROUPS
INDIVIDUALS

to volunteer for
Faith and Action

Contact Jodi at
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