25353 State Street, Unit D, Crete, IL 60417

708-672-7520

On most Monday afternoons, I am privileged to lead Bible Study at Chicagoland Prison Outreach's welding class. During this time, I teach a basic Old Testament class

using a historical timeline leading up to Christ's birth. I love my time there because of the interaction, energy, and even the arguments that arise because of the various student backgrounds. Bible Study is mandatory for class participants so students vary from faithful church attendees, followers of Islam, and the occassional atheist.



Faith

Bible Study is where I met Terrence, a current woodlot employee. Terrence bugged me the entire time to give him an opportunity to work at Faith and Action's woodlot. Terrence has now been part of the woodlot team for about a year. Even more exciting though is the fact that Terrence is a faithful member of The Exodus Projects Family Church.

Faith and Action continues to partner with Pastor Corey Buchanan and a new urban ministry in Chicago Heights called The Exodus Projects. The Exodus Projects provides after school programing, a work life job readiness program, and a wide variety of outreach opportunities. Part of The Exodus Projects is a new church plant called Family Church which has weekly worship service and Bible Study.

Faith and Action's role in this partnership is to provide administrative and design assistance, volunteers, and outreach events.

As we continue to expand programing, our financial needs grow as well. Would you prayerfully consider making a donation to help us continue to make all these programs possible?

Rich Van Til

Executive Director



The support that Blossoms Wagoner Early Childhood Center has received from Faith and Action's ministry through the coat and clothing donations has blessed so many families that would not otherwise have access to warm coats and clothing for infants and toddlers. This partnership has been a blessing to not only Blossoms, but to the Sauk Village Community. We are over-joyed and humbled with the amount of support and care that Faith and Action has shown in just a couple of short months. It warms my heart to know that there are those out there who care so deeply for humankind. We look forward to a continued long standing partnership.

Tricia Walton, Director of Early Childhood



GIFTING OTHERS WITH CHRISTMAS TREES

We are so grateful to have received a Christmas tree. The tree put a lot of light into our hearts. The tree showed up at a time when there was so much sadness in our house. Nobody ever thinks of us. It was so kind and was the first time we had seen a real tree. We were able to decorate it and show pictures to our friends at Lurie Children's Hospital where Aaliyah spends about 2 weeks per month to receive treatments for cystic fibrosis. Nobody has ever done anything like this before for us.

Thank you,

Erika and Aaliyah

MEETING THE PHYSICAL NEEDS OF SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Everywinter, Faith and Action picks up gently used coats from seven area Burlington Stores. Thanks to a team effort, we have been able to distribute a warm coat to hundreds of people in Chicago Heights, Sauk Village, Englewood, Roseland, and Hopkins Park. In addition, we have been able to bless other ministries with coats to distribute. Below is an excerpt from Aline, a woman Rich met while picking up coats at a Burlington Store.

On behalf of Berean Christian Center and Outreach Ministry located in Englewood, I would like to thank you for your generous donations of coats to our ministry. Your in-kind contribution made it possible to service many families this winter.

We have been able to go above and beyond our goal this winter

because of your support. This is only possible because of thoughtful people like your ministry, Faith and Action. We hope and pray for your continued support to help us continue to put smiles on the faces of families in this community.

May God's grace and blessings continue to be with your organization.

Sincerely,
Aline McDowell
Administrator and 1st Lady





SPRING BREAK FUN

Shrine of Christ's Passion







Zig-E's Funland





Volunteering at Children's Hunger Fund with our Elim Friends











WHAT A FUN WEEK WITH THE KIDS!

INTERVIEW WITH TERRENCE, A FAITH AT WORK EMPLOYEE

What skills have you learned?

I've learned to drive a fork lift, split wood, and most importantly to "get up and go."

What is your favorite part of the day?

I love running the wrapping machine. In fact, the guys call me "T-Wrap."

How has working at the woodlot impacted you?

It keeps me from doing the things I used to do that weren't so great. Also, having income has changed my life. I love working with the guys.



What goals have you set for yourself?

Working at the woodlot has given me work experience and keeps me motivated to do things which will help me advance to my next step. My goal is to get a job welding so I can further my welding skills and also teach others.

Can you share a little of your spiritual journey?

Throughout this experience, I've learned to keep my faith in God. If it wasn't for Him, I wouldn't be here now. I've been going to church and Bible Study faithfully for the last year. I've been straight for 2 years and I can't believe it myself!

Faith and Action has been a ministry that has been special to us at Witech Co. We have been blessed to be able to support other missions throughout the area and through our church but what's special about Faith and Action is that we can be more hands on. Going way back to when Rich and Dorothy Van Til were our youth group leaders at Crete Church, Rich has shown what it looks like to be available and used by God wherever He leads. The whole vision of connecting those in need with those who are gifted by God to give and/or serve is what the body of Christ is all about. When the gospel of Jesus Christ can be shared through every day acts of service - that is the Holy Spirit working. We are partnering with a bunch of great people in furthering God's kingdom here on earth. To hear the testimonies of those touched

by this ministry is uplifting and rewarding. To God be the Glory!

Tom Witvoet and Darren Prince Witech Co., Inc.

Thanks to Witech for providing Faith and Action with office space and a work area for the wood splitting ministry.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Jim and I have had a wonderful time working with Faith and Action. We enjoyed a game night with the kids from Roseland at Crossroads Community Church and also sorting coats at Galilee Baptist Church. Jim loves working and fellowshipping with the guys at the woodlot, and I look forward to summer when school is out and I can join them once in a while. We believe the best way to show Christ's love to others is by serving them. Therefore, I am excited to join the board of Faith and Action and serve my Lord in whatever way He chooses to use me.

Jim and Jodi Czernobil, Volunteers

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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BOARD MEMBERS: John Brink, Corey Buchanan, Jodi Czernobil, Josh Rietveld, Rachel Ritzema, Nathan Sederstrom, Tiffany Surrel, Lorri Witvoet

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



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 (708) 932-8246 or

faithandaction.jodi@gmail.com





THANKS TO STUDENTS FOR WORKING AT THE WOODLOT ON ILLIANA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL'S GO DAY!





THE URBAN GARDEN MINISTRY HAS BEGUN!



