



SPRING 2020

“I WILL SHOW YOU MY FAITH BY WHAT I DO”

JAMES 2:18B



FRUSTRATING. LOVING. MIND-BOGGLING. REWARDING. CRAZY.

It had been one of those weeks where all of the above words could've been used to describe a single day at Faith and Action! I began to question God whether Faith and Action's work was making a difference for His kingdom. On Friday, comfy sweatshirt on and Starbucks in hand, I headed to spend a quiet day at the office doing the dreaded task of packing up last year's paperwork. With one file drawer almost complete, I came across file folders that held previous years' event pictures, handwritten comments from boys and girls after attending a field trip, and numerous thank you cards. As I flipped through the memorabilia, I read things like:

Thank you for coordinating volunteers to get the church cleaned up and looking like a place that represents the house of God.

Your ideas and desire to expose kids to new experiences is such a blessing.

Thank you for always being there for us. God sent you to help us.

God's hand of love was shown this summer when volunteers prayed for me and my neighborhood that has been overcome with murder and endless gun fire.

I pray your efforts to build long lasting relationships with this community will continue to be fruitful.

God used an ordinary blue file folder to gently remind me through the crazy, mind-boggling, and frustrating days, that He has a much bigger plan than I do. Don't you love those moments?

Jodi Jonkman, Program Director

WOULD YOU CONSIDER SENDING A GIFT SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO GIVE MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A LIFE CHANGE?



OUTREACH

GIVING THE GIFT OF WARMTH



1 Donations from Burlington Stores

From November to January, we pick up van loads of gently used coats from 5 area stores.



2 Coat Drives

The need for children's coats is greater than store donations. Thank you to area churches and groups that collect coats to help us fill this void.



3 Winter Accessories

Gloves, hats, and scarves are as important as coats! Thank you to the many women who crochet beautiful warm hats and scarves.



4 Sorting Donated Coats

"I like to sort the coats because I can donate my time. It makes you feel good because you're giving back." **Kim, Elim Christian Ministries Client**



5 Packing Coats

A group of volunteers work together to pack coats and winter accessories for approximately 300 recipients that pre-registered.



6 Distribution Days

About 500 people received a warm coat but more importantly were introduced to the love of Jesus.

"WE CANNOT FORCE SOMEONE TO HEAR A MESSAGE THEY ARE NOT READY TO RECEIVE, BUT WE MUST NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF PLANTING A SEED."

ILLIANA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL CLINIC



“WE WENT INTO THE EVENT WITH THE MINDSET OF HOW CAN WE HELP THESE KIDS, WHEN IN RETURN THEY WERE A BLESSING TO US.” *Leighton Foster*

“This was a great opportunity to utilize basketball as a tool to make connections where connections might have not been made. The impact this day had for me and my players will not be forgotten.” *Coach Tom Roozeboom*



“They showed joy and happiness even though they may have less than us. It pushed me to find joy even in the midst of my struggles, specifically my injury, throughout this season and life.” *Eddie Spoelman*



“A highlight was giving them a basketball. It gave them something they may not be fortunate enough to have. Writing a Bible verse or an inspirational note on it for them was also very cool which may affect them more than I will ever know.” *Logan VanEssen*



GET TO KNOW OUR FRIEND {Azlin}

I'm 14 years old and live in Hopkins Park. I met Rich and Jodi when I was 5 years old when they were helping build a new library where I live. Because I am homeschooled, I especially enjoy doing the activities and hanging out with the other kids. We do fun stuff with them almost every week. They also encourage me to give back by giving us canned goods, coats, and fresh vegetables that we can pass on to others within my community. I'm thankful for the friendship my family and I have with Rich, Jodi, and the volunteers. - Azlin

RELATIONSHIPS





MENTORING



A STORY OF GROWTH

This past year working at the wood lot has been a tremendous learning and growth experience in my life. When I reached out to Rich over a year ago, I was at a really broken and low state and was simply seeking a quick temporary income until I found a "real" job. **I HAD NO IDEA OF THE FAMILY I WAS BECOMING A PART OF NOR ALL THE GREAT THINGS GOD HAD IN STORE FOR ME.** I'm still finding out every day! My temporary job is now becoming my real job as I have decided to stay on board and grow my career at Faith at Work. In my new role as Operations Assistant, I am excited to give back through training and mentoring new employees, teaching Bible Study, as well as helping out with other ministry activities. - **Juleon**



SERVE SATURDAY
AT THE WOOD LOT
1st Saturday of Every Month

8am - Noon • Come and go as needed
Jobs include: cutting, splitting, & wrapping wood

CAN'T MAKE A SATURDAY?
Volunteers are also needed during the week!

Questions? Contact John at 708.314.5686 or faithatwork.info@gmail.com



Summer Fest
fundraiser
Action

Saturday, July 18, 2020 • 9:30am-1:00pm
Crete Church, 24755 S. Country Lane, Crete, IL
(Across from Wall's Foods)



FREE FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES
CAR CRUISE • TOUCH-A-TRUCK • PAINT THE PARKING LOT
OLLIE BOLEN • GRILLED LUNCH ITEMS AND MUCH MORE!
• RAIN OR SHINE •



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