

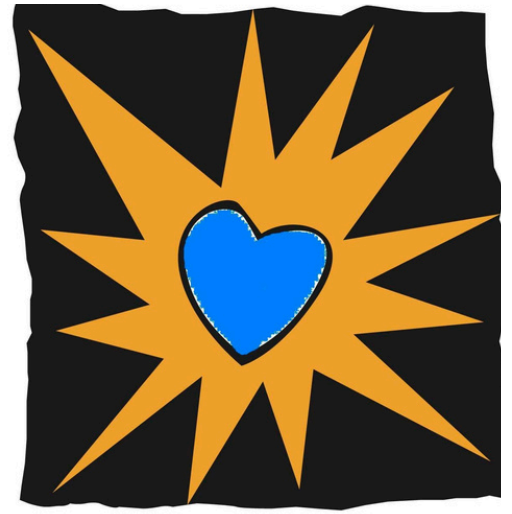
NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025 / VOL. 25 NO.1

MEET OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BRITTANI DUNHAM



Hello to all who support and thrive with FIA; I am Brittani Dunham. I am a proud native of St. Croix County, Wisconsin and a graduate of the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse. My family and I reside south of Hastings, MN. My career reflects a heart of service, from working as a CTRS (Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist) with individuals living in a long-term care mental health facility to a role as a Memory Care Activity Director. My most recent role was serving as a Preschool Director. As a mom to two beautiful daughters, I help lead a local Hastings MomCO (formerly MOPS) group, supporting fellow moms in their parenting journey. As a nature enthusiast, I spend much of my free time outdoors with my family. I am thankful to be surrounded by a wide circle of close friends and am known for a generous spirit and commitment to giving back to the communities I call home. I am looking forward to the opportunities, and growth I can bring to Faith in Action as I step into the role of Executive Director.



FAITH
IN ACTION



HANNAH (8) DAVID, BRITTANI, ABIGAIL (6)

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00am-3:30pm

651-327-2400

320 West Ave., Suite B
Red Wing, MN 55066

www.faithinactionredwing.org



A note from the President

Welcome to summer! As we drive into a new season, Faith in Action (FIA) continues to move forward in exciting ways as we fulfill our mission "to enrich area residents' lives through faith based volunteer efforts."

In this newsletter, we introduce our new Executive Director, Brittani Dunham, share upcoming events and past achievements. Beyond the information shared in the newsletter, we continue to work behind the scenes on obtaining grants, planning new events and connecting with the community.

As the new board president, I am so grateful for the strong support that FIA receives from so many different people and organizations. Prior to joining the board, I volunteered for FIA and found this work meaningful. After joining the board, I learned about the full scope of FIA and fully comprehended the breadth of our services. It is truly impressive the number of people that we help and what it means to them and the active team of volunteers and team members that it takes to make it work so successfully:

- FIA has provided over 3079 round trip rides in the last year.
- FIA has over 60 volunteers who generously give their time.
- FIA is fortunate to receive support from our sustaining funders and donors
- FIA is supported by community organizations in various ways.
- FIA is supported by dedicated team members.

In this issue, we are only able to highlight a few, but we recognize and appreciate all of you! Without you, none of this would be possible. We are blessed. Thank you - you are "Faith in Action."

2025 Board of Directors

Sue Guerber - President
Dave Tincher - Vice President
Laura Lutjen - Treasurer
Alonra Urzua - Secretary
Carol Andersen
Kirsten Fridell
Gordon Hansmeier
Dave Larson
Jim Maybach
Emily Thoms
Aman Winslow

Easy ways to support Faith in Action

- **Online:** Give a one-time gift or monthly recurring donation. Just check the "make this a monthly donation" box on our website when giving in the "donations" tab www.faithinactionredwing.org
- **Check or Cash Gift:** Can be mailed or dropped off at the FIA office at 320 West Avenue, Suite B, Red Wing, MN 55066

HELP WANTED

Want to join a great team - have computer skills?

Contact Brittani at director@faithinactionredwing.org

Elaine



Ha'ani



Amber



When you call FIA, these are the friendly staff that answer your phone calls and who work tirelessly to get you a driver, friendly visitor or volunteer to bring you library books.



In the last 12 months we have given over 3079 round trip rides and given those rides to over 154 individuals in our community. We did all of this with around 60 volunteers. We could not have done this without Community support and our wonderful volunteers!

Meet some of our wonderful volunteer drivers and read what they have to say

When I was a nurse, I loved being able to help others- being there when they needed support, guidance, encouragement, and/or felt alone. I realized the importance of helping meet the residents' needs when they were not able to meet them on their own. After I retired, I still wanted to help people if I could. I heard about Faith in Action and felt that I could be useful. I learned about the services and how I could become involved, driving people to places they couldn't otherwise get to and being able to visit residents so they didn't feel so alone. I could fill some of their needs that otherwise would be left undone and hard on them to deal with at times. The enormous amount of appreciation from both recipients and FIA staff, the smile on their faces, the thankfulness they share, their communication with me is all very rewarding!



Ellie Lundquist

When Ellie isn't volunteering with Faith in Action, she enjoys helping our at her church office, volunteering at Regina Hospital in Hastings and spending quality time with family and friends.

The Fluegers - Kim & KC

What prompted you to volunteer?

She said: *We had both retired and wanted to do some kind of volunteering.*

He said: *I was bored and Kim wanted me out of the house - ha!*

What attracted you to Faith in Action?

She said: I had worked for the county and had seen what a need there was for it, it's flexible and we can work around our schedule.

He said: It's rewarding - something for me to do!

How long have you been volunteering?

She said: I think about 3 years.

He said: I don't do time.

What do you find rewarding about volunteering?

She said: Meeting the people, and they really are so thankful

He said: I have a big family and we all help each other. A lot of people don't have that, so it's nice to help fill that void.

When you're not volunteering for FIA, what do you like to do?

She said: Spending time with our family and friends, boating and camping.

He said: Being with Kim!



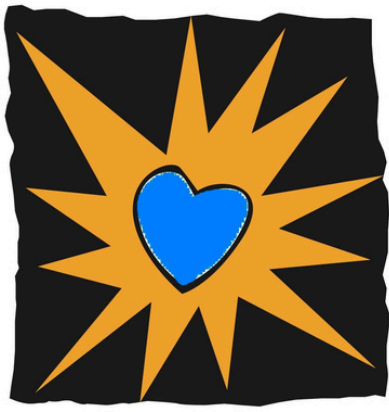
Debra Ryan

I was volunteering at the Care Dental Clinic for about 10 years, but COVID changed their service model, so I was looking for another opportunity. I enjoy doing something constructive in my retirement. I read an article featuring my friend, Tom Cashman, who was driving for FIA. It felt like the right fit to do what I like (drive), and on my own schedule. I have been volunteering for about 3 1/2 years. I enjoy meeting new people. You can learn a lot about someone in a 10-minute ride to the clinic. The clients are so grateful and you really make a difference in their lives. Many of them have no family in the area. I feel we all need to be kind and helpful to people, and it connects me to my community.

When Debra is not volunteering for Faith in Action, she loves spending time with her 9 grandchildren attending their activities and helping out. She and her husband, Randy, enjoy traveling, they like to ski, spend time at their cabin and enjoy their friends and card club.

THANK YOU TO ELLIE, DEBRA, KC AND KIM!

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS,
WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!**



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Interested in Volunteering or Know Someone Who Might Be?

Why Volunteer with Us:

- **Make a Real Impact:** Your time and effort can directly improve the lives of residents who rely on our services for their health and well-being.
- **Flexibility:** We understand that your schedule may vary. You can choose when or how often you want to volunteer.
- **Meet Amazing People:** Not only will you be helping your neighbors, but you will also have a chance to connect with fellow volunteers who share your passion for making a difference.

What We're Looking For:

- A valid Driver's License and reliable vehicle.
- A compassionate and patient demeanor.
- A commitment to our mission of helping those in need.

How You Can Help: Your role, as a Volunteer Driver, will involve providing transportation to Red Wing residents for medical appointments, shopping, Food Shelf, hair appointments and other requests. Your assistance can mean the world to someone who might otherwise struggle to access these essential services.

Ready to Get Started? Becoming a volunteer at Faith in Action is easy! Simply contact us and we will provide you with all the information you need to make a positive impact in your community. Together, we can ensure that NO ONE in Red Wing is left without access to the services they need.

To learn more and sign up to be a Volunteer Driver, please contact us at 651-327-2400 or visit faithinactionredwing.org/volunteer. Let's drive and change lives together!

**Welcome to our new
volunteers!**

Joel Cassingham
Mark & Marcia Cooper
Bruce Geary
Ann Gordon
Mary Lura
Steve Nelson
Verna Nickel
Nancy Olson
Jennifer Schmidt

Spring BINGO



Our Spring Bingo and Meat Raffle was a big success! Thank you to all who came to support Faith in Action and thank you to our generous donors! A special thanks to Renae and Jerry Quade at the American Legion for hosting our event, Alondra Urzua and staff at Potter Ridge for graciously making and donating the delicious walking tacos and Scott Lutjen, our wonderful MC for the event!





THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Ace Hardware – A&E Liquor
 American Legion - Barrel House Bev's Café
 Bierstube – Big Dawg's Meat Market
 Chuck & Don's – Cinema 8
 Clementine Flowers – Culver's
 Ellsworth Creamery – Fantastic Sams
 Forever Adored Boutique - Giliberto's
 Go Brazen – Godfather's – Great Clips
 Hi-Tek Nails – House of Wines
 Impress Nails - Kelly's
 Kevin's Service

 Liberty's – Mac Shack – Mandy's
 Mc Donald's - MGM Liquors
 Mike's Barbershop - Mississippi Golf Course
 Papa Murphy's – Perkins – Pier 55
 Plum Crazy
 Potter Ridge – Rancho Loco – Randy's
 Red Wing Café – Red Wing Confectionary
 Red Wing Liquor – River Blu Salon
 River Sushi – Sargent's Nursery
 Sherwin-Williams - Starbucks – Taco Bell
 Wisteria Twig Café & Tea Room



Ethan Seaburg, Tony Pollock, and Jeff Seaburg presented Faith in Action with funds raised at the Red Wing Masonic Lodge's Salsa-licious 2025, and with a matching funds grant awarded to FIA by Minnesota Masonic Charities. The Masonic Lodge has held the Salsa-licious fundraiser annually since 2013, and it has raised nearly \$523,000 for local non-profits. This year's contest netted \$98,300 alone. As a proud participant since its inaugural event, FIA appreciates and applauds Red Wing Masonic Lodge No. 8 for their commitment to Red Wing's non-profit community! Thank you, Red Wing Masonic Lodge and Minnesota Masonic Charities!

THANK YOU!

Thank you , Nicole Mechelke, and United Way , for awarding Faith in Action the United Way Community Investment Grant!



Thank you, United Lutheran Church and the ULC Giving Ministry Team for generously supporting Faith in Action!

Pictured: Jerry Wren and Dave Larson.



Thank you, Goodhue County Sheriff's Posse, for your generous donation!

Pictured: Julie Skog-O'Neil, Karen Hakari, and Wendy Hunan with Elaine.



Ha'ani off to college!

It is with mixed emotions that we tell you, Ha'ani will be leaving Faith in Action in July. Ha'ani has been a valuable team member and an absolute joy to work with! We will miss her, but we are excited for her, she has a bright future! Thank you, Ha'ani for your friendship and thank you for your dedication to FIA! We wish you all the best!

Faith in Action received memorials honoring

*Nancy Juenemann
Mary Miller
Mrs. Marian Nelson
David Nordstrom
Don Swanson*

If we omitted your memorial gift, please let us know

I graduated from high school earlier in May. I have enjoyed my time at Faith in Action, being able to talk to all sorts of different people over the phone, arrange and fill their rides. I am sad to leave this job and the voices I have grown fond of hearing every day at work. But I am excited for the future. I hope to get a degree in electrical engineering so that I can work as a software engineer one day. I will be continuing my studies at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Meet Brittani

10:00am - 12:00pm
TUESDAY, JUNE 17

320 West Ave., Suite B
Red Wing, MN 55066

Please join us for coffee, conversation
and refreshments.



STAY UP TO DATE

Subscribe to our
Monthly Newsletter

<https://faithinactionredwing.org>

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Faith in Action Red Wing

Do you have an upcoming event, and would like Brittani to speak to your group or church? Please email her at: director@faithinactionredwing.org

Dear Faith in Action staff.

Enjoy the Spring Beauty,

Keep doing the Lord's work

"Thanks" for all you do

These C.A.N. Blessings

Faith in Action:
Many blessings
go out to each
and everyone one
of you for your wonderful
contribution to our
City of Red Wing, MN
I appreciate all the
rides I get from
you great & loving
people and can't
thank you enough
God bless you! kw.
Thank you for the
gift cards from Forever
Adams and the
wonderful candy tray
Prizes! Hope
it was successful as
in your services.
Thank you

Thanks For your service

Thank you for the
rides - the drivers
are so nice

Faith In Action is so
helpful.

Mr. Wronski was very
pleasant & a good
driver.

Thanks for helping us.
😊

Dear Faith in Action,
Thank you for
offering such a
wonderful & much
needed service.

Erin is the best of the
best & she helped me
in every way to
get thru my ordeal.
Hope this can help
other folks who
need rides.

Donation for
all the good
work this
organization does.
Thanks,
F.

to the Faith, ActionLadys
Thank you for bring the
cart and for ASSEMBLE
it for me. Its going to
help me out alot.

meeting
Thank you all for this
Hands & Feet ministry for
mobility of those in need
Blessings on all you serve



Faith in Action in Red Wing
320 West Avenue, Suite B
Red Wing, MN 55066

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May 2025

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Thank you to our Funders & Sponsors



**United Way of Goodhue,
Wabasha & Pierce Counties**

