

**FAITH**  
IN ACTION

# Faith in Action

Volume 13, Issue 4

December 2008

**Faith in Action**  
of the River Cities  
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**Faith in Action**  
is a nationwide  
interfaith volunteer  
caregiving  
program of  
The Robert Wood  
Johnson Foundation

## Heritage Holidays Concerts



## Blackbirds & Thrushes

Will perform a series of concerts drawing from a rich repertoire of Celtic and English Holiday music and tradition sure to kindle the festive spirit!

## The Log Cabin Church

**Heritage Farm, Harvey Road, Huntington, WV**

December 12 - 7:30 pm

December 13 - 3:00 & 7:30 pm

December 14- 3:00 pm

Ticket prices:

In advance - \$15 adults, \$10 children under 12

At the door - \$18 adults, \$13 children under 12

**Due to limited seating, advance ticket purchase is strongly recommended.**

**To purchase tickets, call 697-1274 or 877-367-1271**

### FIA Board & Staff

Jerry Coleman  
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Darlene Lowry  
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Patty Aldridge  
*Office Assistant*

The 2008 Heritage Holidays Concerts are sponsored by:

Mike & Henriella Perry, Huntington Internal Medicine Group, Huntington Physical Therapy, Strictly Business Computer Systems, First Presbyterian Church, The Inn at Wyngate, Guaranty Bank

## From the Executive Director

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*

**Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)**

For a number of years, this has been one of my favorite verses in the Bible. Whenever I feel discouraged, I think of how the children of Israel must have felt when the prophet Jeremiah gave them this encouragement from God. Nearly the entire population had been carried away from their homes into slavery in Babylon; their cities had been razed; and their center of worship, the temple in Jerusalem, lay in ruins. I can't imagine feeling that alone and afraid of what the future might hold.

For us in the USA and our local region, 2008 has been an often frightening year. We have seen natural disasters, terror threats, continuing war in the Middle East, and a protracted and often-ugly political campaign. Many among us have seen personal losses this year. And now, we face uncertain economic times with lay-offs locally and the sharp downturn on Wall Street. With all the worries these events bring, it would be easy for us to heed the doom and gloom and to believe that all is lost.

But, bolstered by the promise God made to his children over 2,500 years ago, I choose to believe that things will get better. After all, no matter what your personal belief, this is the season of miracles. Our Jewish friends celebrate *Hanukkah*, while *Diwali* is observed by followers of Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Jainism. I don't think it is an accident that these are each celebrated as a *Festival of Lights*. At the same time, Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus, “the light of the world.” We end our old year and look forward to the new with the most hopeful of holidays.

This renewal of hope is my sincere wish for each of you in the coming year. May 2009 be a year filled with the blessings of family and friends. And may each of us find the fulfillment of God's plan for our lives.

Happy Holidays!

*Rose*

**Pledge of Support**

If you would like to support the ministry of *Faith in Action* of the River Cities, please return this form to us in the envelope provided. All of our services are provided free of charge, and we rely on our community for financial support. Thank You!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# Thanks!

Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> was the date of our 10<sup>th</sup> Celebrity Server Fun(d)raiser at the local Shoney's Restaurants. A new attraction this year was the addition of a singing waiter. Dale Capehart of First Presbyterian Church shamelessly solicited for higher tips by offering to sing for more money. It worked, too, as he raised \$399, which FPC matched. Rev. Jan Williams was pleasantly surprised when about 20 members of her congregation made the trip from Ironton to support our cause. We truly appreciate their efforts, and those of all our "celebrity" wait staff. Thanks go to: Father John Dixon, Holy Spirit Orthodox Church; Rev. Jan Williams, First Presbyterian Church (Ironton); Tom Pressman, B'Nai Sholom Congregation; Rev. Steve Grimes, Westmoreland United Methodist Church; Ms. Laura Willis, Catholic Community of Ironton and FIA Board of Directors (coordinator); Rev. David Cartwright, Crossroads United Methodist Church; Dale Capehart, First Presbyterian Church (Huntington); Rev. Jack Lipphardt, Johnson Memorial United Methodist Church; Richard Adkins and Tom Miller of Pea Ridge United Methodist Church; and Patty Dickey (coordinator) of the FIA Board. As always, we also want to thank the management and employees of Shoney's, whose help is so valuable in making this event successful. Thanks to the hard work of these volunteers and the generosity of their friends and families, we raised \$2,033 that evening. We appreciate each and every one of you!!



## OPEN HOUSE



Every tradition has to start somewhere, so this year we at FIA started what we hope will become an annual Thanksgiving Open House. The inaugural event was held Tuesday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>. We want to thank all of you who came out to share some light refreshments and hearty fellowship. It was a personal pleasure for each of us to have the opportunity to visit with several of our loyal volunteers and supporters. We hope that all of you enjoyed it as much as we did, and we look forward to this event growing in the future.



We hate to say "good-bye" to someone who has been such a faithful supporter of FIA, but this year, we are losing an exemplary member of our Board of Directors. Patty Dickey will be leaving the Board after two 3-year terms. Patty is an outstanding example of the saying "if you want something done, ask a busy person." We sincerely appreciate her work on behalf of *Faith in Action* the past six years, and hope to talk her into coming back soon. Best wishes, Patty!

# Our "Faith"ful Supporters

## \$10,000+

Teubert Charitable Trust

## \$5000 - \$9999

Cabell County Commission

## \$1,000 - \$5000

Dr. & Mrs. Charles Abraham

Pallottine Health Services

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Larry & Linda Pittman

## \$500—\$999

Philip Cline

Enslow Park Presbyterian

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Dr. & Mrs. David Johnson

Carla Peters

Bobbie Stout

## \$100—\$499

Pat Aldridge

Anonymous

Catholic Community/Ironton

Church Women United

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Harley & Carolyn Davis

Bernadette Kinney

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Edwin & Sue Marosek

Michael & Elizabeth Martin

Ed & Karen Morrison

New Baptist Church

Hon. & Mrs. David Pancake

Karen Parsons-Koerner

Praise Painters

Tom & Sharon Pressman

Dr. & Mrs. William Ramsey

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## \$1—\$99

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Suzi Brodof

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Joy Bible Class

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## In-Kind

Bill Alan

WV Records Research

*for criminal background searches*

CWAB

*Space to collate newsletters*

CWAB Consumers

*Endless hours collating nearly 2000*

*newsletters!*

## Gifts in Memory of

### **WILLIE ALDRIDGE**

*Patty Dickey*

*Larry & Darlene Lowry*

*Tom & Carolyn Miller*

### **JIM PUCKETT**

*Carla Peters*

### **LEE DORSEY**

*John Mega*

## Gifts in Honor of

### **BOB & MARY HARDIN**

*Edwin & Sue Marosek*

## **WESTMORELAND UNITED METHODIST FIA VOLUNTEERS**

*Anonymous*

# 2008 Volunteer Recognition



Top row: Charlie Brown, Arvie Maynard, Bob Hardin, Tom Miller, Charlie Rader, Joyce Ray, Carroll Ray, Marge Williams, Jim Grass, Dorcas Conrad, Suzanne Ellis, Selby Litton. Middle Row: Helen Brown, Ginny Lee Hastings, Melba Smyton, Al Williams, Judy Owens, Ray Gibson, Marilyn Holleron, Bill Patton. Seated: Sharon Weed, Frances Templeton, Katrina McClung, Sister Regina Monnig, Bernadette Kinney.

Once a year we have the opportunity to show our appreciation for the people who make *Faith in Action* a reality. On October 14, 2008, 45 of us gathered at Johnson Memorial United Methodist Church for the annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner. Sharon Pressman again provided a wonderful meal of salmon and the trimmings (we won't let her tamper with the menu), and we were entertained by Chris Bowling of Pea Ridge United Methodist. But most importantly, we were able to visit with and express our sincere gratitude to you who give so freely of your time and your compassion. Words don't seem to adequately convey our appreciation, but until we find some better way --

**THANK YOU!**

“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.”

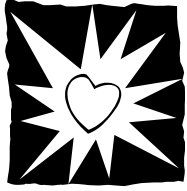
C. S. Lewis

## Holiday Schedule

The Faith in Action offices will be closed December 24 - January 2. No requests for services will be accepted during this time. If you need assistance the week of January 5, 2009, please let us know prior to the holiday closing.

Sadly, Willie Aldridge, husband of our co-worker and friend, Patty Aldridge, passed away October 24 following a brief illness. Our thoughts, prayers, and love are with you, Patty.





Faith in Action  
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848 Ninth Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701

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*IN ACTION*

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Happy Holidays

from

The Staff and Board of Directors of Faith in Action of the  
River Cities