

First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032



CHRIST-CENTERED PEOPLE: CARING AND SHARING

Volume 33 #35

October 26, 2007

REFORMATION SUNDAY



The reformation celebration reminds us of what faithful, courageous Christians did in the past to keep the church faithful to the gospel and relevant to the lives of people.

In many ways reformation is about freedom; being set free from the things that hinder people from having a relationship with God.

In our time we need to identify the things that need reforming in the church and in our congregation. Then we need to invite God's Spirit to give us the courage to make the necessary changes.

Our readings for this Sunday reflect the theme of being set free; Jeremiah 31:31,34; Romans 3:21-25,28; John 8:31-36. Reformation also invites us reflect on the faith of Martin Luther. When we do, we are inspired to ask God to increase our faith and devotion, so that our lives might make a difference to the church and to our world.



Known to be hospitalized are Lois Vick at St. Anthony's in Rockford and Merlyn Leopold, Bernita Stubbe, and Tina Buss at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Flu shots, sponsored by FHN Top 50, will be given at Oakley Courts, 3117 Kunkle Boulevard on Tuesday, November 6, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. Please bring your medicare card and medicare insurance card. The cost is \$32 if you **do not** have medicare.

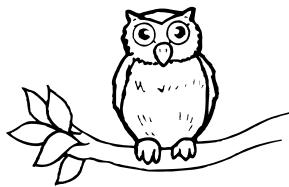
From the Volunteer Coordinator - Diplomacy is the art of letting other people have your way!

HALLOWEEN COSTUME BONFIRE PARTY



All Confirmation students are invited to a Halloween Costume Bonfire

Party this Sunday, October 28, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Steve & Nancy Olson's house in Elroy. We'll meet at the church at 2:30 to car pool. In case of rain, we'll party at the church. Please come and bring a friend. Drinks, hot dogs, and brats will be provided. Please feel free to bring other snacks.



FELLOWSHIP TIME

The OWLS (Older Women, Lutheran Singles) will be going to the Candlelight Inn in Sterling, Illinois on

Thursday, November 1. They will leave from the church at 10:30 a.m.

7th GRADE TEACHER WANTED

Pastor Neville still needs help teaching

Help!

7th graders on certain Sundays.

He is getting desperate!!!!!!!!!!

7th & 8th GRADE RETREAT



November 2nd & 3rd at LOMC. Youth from our North West Conference will be attending. Starts at 7:00 p.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$20.

It will be a good event!

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

The Church Women United World Community Day will be held on Friday, November 2, at 1:30 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, 602 South Chicago Avenue. The theme is: "Embracing Justice under God's Tent."

ADVENT CONCERT



Freeport Choral Society will present their Annual Advent Concert at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 18, 2007 at St. John United Church of Christ, 1010 S. Park Boulevard, Freeport. The Community Handbell Choir will join the society with seasonal selections for the concert as well as accompany the choral society. The groups are under the direction of David Gutschlag with Randy Cook playing keyboards.

The Choral Society will perform "Classic Noels" arranged by John Purifoy. This work beautifully blends classical compositions with well known Christmas carols. Other octavo songs include "Of the Father's Love Begotten," "Christmas is Coming," "Night Journey of the Wise Men," and "Noel We Sing." Fall numbers include "The Last Rose of Summer" and "For the Autumn Sky." In the popular vein, the society will sing "Boogy Woogy Santa," "Slow Dancing in the Snow," "Baby, It's Cold Outside," and "Christmas Is..." by Percy Faith. There is no admission charge, but an offering will be taken. For additional information please call Gwynne French at 449-2936.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Be sure your committee or group's meetings or activities are listed on the church calendar which is located outside of Peg's office. We will be printing the November calendar in the newsletter next week.

YOU CAN HELP!

Thanks to Mike & Barb Reichert and Aubrey & Arleen Olson for signing up to staff the PADS Homeless Shelter

on Saturday, November 3.



We still need volunteers for the 2:00 to 6:00 a.m. shift on November 4. Please sign up on the Jackson Street bulletin board.

If you have any questions, please contact Diane Rondeau at 815-232-3007.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF FAIR TRADE FAIR

Enrich your life and change the world at the same time! You're invited to a Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade Fair at Prince of Peace (2700 W Stephenson Street) on November 16 from 9-Noon and 5-8 p.m., November 17 from 9-3 p.m. and November 18 from 9-Noon.

They will feature fairly traded handcrafts and food items from around the world. Purchase a gift from the sale and you will provide income, dignity and hope to people in developing regions of the world.

If you have any questions, please contact Small Groups & Ministries Coordinator, Julie Lee, at 815-232-4911 or popsmgrp@aeroinc.net. We look forward to seeing you at the LWR Fair Trade Fair!

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THIS WEEK AT FIRST

OCTOBER 28

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Readings: Jeremiah 31:31,34; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. *Worship Services*

9:30 a.m. *Sunday School & Confirmation*

2:30 p.m. *Confirmation Halloween Costume & Bonfire Party*

6:30 p.m. *Senior High Youth Group*

Monday

4:30 p.m. *Neighborhood Youth Ministry*

7:00 p.m. *Boy Scouts*

Thursday

6:30 p.m. *Kids of the Kingdom*

6:30 p.m. *Bell Choir*

7:30 p.m. *Celebration Choir*

Saturday

6:30 a.m. *MBA at Big Apple*

5:00 p.m. *Worship*

THE PARISH RECORD

October 20/21 Saturday 5:00-21 Sunday 8:15-110 10:45-69 Total-200 Sunday School-48
Offerings \$3,763.00