

# First News

First Lutheran Church  
Freeport, IL 61032

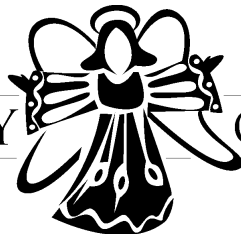


***CHRIST-CENTERED PEOPLE: CARING AND SHARING***

Volume 33 #42

December 21, 2007

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



On Sunday morning, the last Sunday in Advent, we will hear the story of the birth of Jesus from Matthew 1:18-25 and on Monday, Christmas Eve, we will hear the story from Luke 2:1-20. The Matthew text focuses on the impact of Mary's pregnancy upon the couple. It leads us to reflect on the relationships that we have with our family members. On Christmas Eve, the focus shifts to the baby, and the impact of God coming to us as a baby. The baby is dependant upon the parents, family members and the community. Each Christmas we are reminded of the central role that relationships play in our Christmas celebrations. At the very center is God's relationship with us; Immanuel, God with us.





Known to be hospitalized is Marsha Roe at FHN Memorial Hospital.

*From the Volunteer Coordinator - It's not your position that makes you happy...it's your Disposition.*

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE THANK YOU

Saturday, December 22

No Worship Service

Sunday, December 23

9:00 AM Communion

Monday, December 24

6:00 & 10:30 PM Candlelight, carols and Holy Communion

Saturday, December 29

5:00 Worship Service

Sunday, December 30

9:00 AM Service



I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the re-dedication of the Holtum Chapel.

Although you are not named individually, (I'm afraid I would inadvertently miss someone) it was deeply appreciated!

My grandparents would be proud, as well as their children, and now their grand-children & great-grandchildren.

It was a wonderful service!  
Nancy Holtum

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

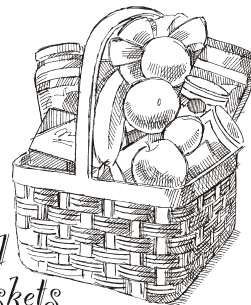
No classes on December 23 or 30.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be Sunday School classes this Sunday. No classes on December 30.

FACC CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Thank you to everyone who brought boxes of stuffing for the FACC Christmas baskets. We received over 250 boxes and surpassed our goal!



Food Baskets

HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

NO NEWS

There will be no *First News* next week because of the Christmas holiday. The deadline for the next issue is Wednesday, January 2. Calendar and

volunteer information for January will be needed at that time.

### ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

If you are the chairperson or leader of a group, please write your annual report and turn it in by January 6. Peg has copies of last year's reports if you need a copy. You can e-mail your report to:

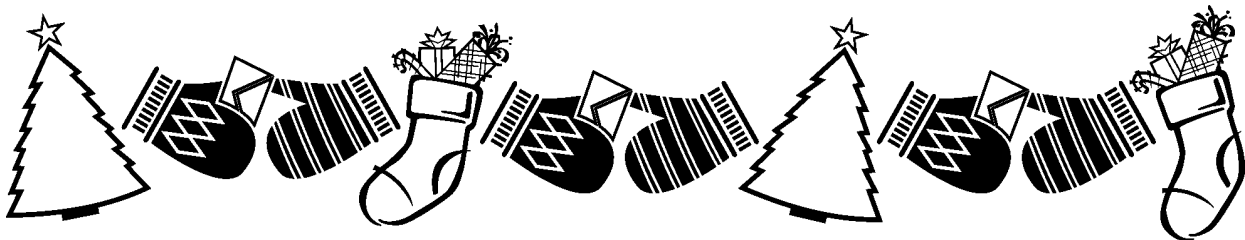
friends @ firstlutheranfreeport.com



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

### MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE CHURCH STAFF

We hope that your Christmas holidays are happy ones, filled with many good memories, and surrounded by those you love. We also hope that you will be surrounded by many good things to eat. May the presence of Christ be born anew in your heart filling you with a sense of joy and peace.



First News  
First Lutheran Church  
303 S. Galena Avenue  
Freeport, IL 61032

Periodicals Postage Paid  
Freeport, IL 61032  
USPS 345110

Neville Kretzmann, Pastor

Peg Huber, Office Manager  
JoAnn Beckman, Volunteer Coordinator  
Dawn Zeigler, Music Coordinator, Organist, Bell Choir Director  
Micki Arana, Kids of the Kingdom Choir Director  
Elwyn Euler, Custodian  
Website: [www.firstlutheranfreeport.com](http://www.firstlutheranfreeport.com)

Milt Whitney, Visitation Pastor  
John Moore, Lay President  
Dagny Brandt, Celebration Choir Director  
Christina Parkinson, Praise Band Director  
Telephone: 235-9790 Fax: 235-9791  
E-Mail: [friends@firstlutheranfreeport.com](mailto:friends@firstlutheranfreeport.com)



**THIS WEEK AT FIRST**

**DECEMBER 23**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Readings: Isaiah 7:13-14, Matthew 1:18-25

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Monday

6:00 & 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Saturday

6:30 a.m. MBA at Big Apple

5:00 p.m. Worship

**THE PARISH RECORD**

December 15/16 Saturday 5:00-11 Sunday 8:15-121 10:45-101 Total-233 Sunday School-40  
Offerings \$5,549.50