

First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032



CHRIST-CENTERED PEOPLE: CARING AND SHARING

Volume 34 #5

February 1, 2008

Transfiguration of Our Lord



We have reached the end of the Epiphany season. Which brings us to the festival of the Transfiguration of Jesus. On the mountain top Jesus is transfigured and he is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism.

This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. In our worship we will focus on the mountain top experiences of our faith.

On February 6th we will turn to Ash Wednesday and we will begin our yearly lenten journey. It's a journey that will help us to reflect on our relationship with God.



Known to be hospitalized is George Koehler at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Helen Busjahn will celebrate her 94th birthday on February 24. Her current address is: 2228 Cross Country Road, Box 491, Overgaard, AZ 85933.

Care Givers give emotional support when a member is in need. If you know of anyone who could benefit from a Care Giver's visit, contact Pastor Kretzmann or Krys Brose (815-233-4410).

From the Volunteer Coordinator - Correction does much, but encouragement does more.

BOB'S IDEA - BREAKFAST



Bob Morton came up with a suggestion that we should serve a breakfast on Sunday mornings at the church. It sounded like a good idea so the evangelism committee wants to give it a try! A catered breakfast will be served from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Sunday, February 10, in the fellowship hall. The menu will be scrambled eggs, sausage, toast, donuts, coffee, tea, milk and juice. A suggested donation of \$5.00 will help cover the cost. Come and have breakfast, enjoy the food and fellowship and bring your friends!

ITS GAME TIME!!!



Are you ready for the big game? Got your chips and drinks ready? Placed your bets? Hmmmm, maybe that bet thing isn't such a good idea...what if you don't win? Maybe you should put your money on a sure thing. The First Lutheran Youth have just the thing for you...the **Souper** Bowl! The **Souper** Bowl is a nationwide effort to fight hunger. This Sunday, after both services, youth will be waiting with soup pots to take your donations. Every dollar donated stays in Freeport and will be given to FACC's food pantry. So place your bet on a sure thing...Be a part of the **Souper** Bowl!

LENT BEGINS

Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday, February 6. The schedule for midweek services will be as follows:

Ash Wednesday 12:15 and 6:30 PM

Midweek services 12:15 and 6:30 PM
Suppers 5:45 PM

Maundy Thursday 12:15 and 6:30 PM

Good Friday 6:30 PM

Saturday Easter Vigil 5:00 PM

Easter Sunday 6:30, 8:15 and 10:00 AM

BREAD FOR THE DAY

Bread for the Day is a book of daily Bible readings, prayers and hymns from the ELW. The daily readings are concise and they follow the seasons of the church. This little book can be used for a quick short devotion or it can be used for more extended times of prayer. It will also work for families. A person could use the specific readings and prayers prescribed for a particular day or one could simply thumb through the book until something caught their eye. It is a very nice flexible resource. The evangelism committee has purchased 100 copies of this book. They are offering them to anyone who would like a copy. The books are available in the narthex. They ask for a donation to help defray a part of the cost. A suggested

amount is \$3. Place the money in one of the envelopes attached to the display and place the envelope in an offering plate or slide it under the office door. If someone cannot afford to donate the full amount, any lesser amount will be acceptable. These books will also work very well for lenten devotions.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Bring your family (parents and kids up through 6th grade) to Family Fun Night at Church on February 17. We will meet in the fellowship hall at 4:00 p.m. We will be playing board games and making our own pizzas! Prizes will be given out for the most creative pizza. Come join in the fun, laughter and food. All activities will be finished by 7:00 p.m. There will be a sign-up at the Jackson Street entrance. Call F.F.N. Leaders Tom and Chris Parkinson (815-233-9222) for details.



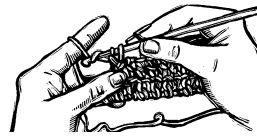
AFTERNOON TEA

Come down to church on Tuesday, February 12th for an afternoon tea, hosted by the Women of the ELCA. The event will begin at 1:30 p.m and conclude around 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$3.00 per person and tickets can still be purchased between church services on February 3rd or by calling the church office. Women of all ages are welcome - why not invite a friend to come as well! If you would like to attend but need a ride, please call Ruth Wardlow or Jan Butterfield.

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

Over 15 people expressed interest in forming a prayer shawl ministry group - how exciting! For the next two months we will get together at church on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 10:00 a.m., with plans to add some Wednesday evenings after Lent. In February we will meet on the 2nd and 16th. Anyone is welcome to come and stay as long as they wish. Several people will be knitting or crocheting for the first time so all ability

levels are welcome! The patterns are simple to follow and the "Homespun" yarn that is recommended is very forgiving of any mistakes we may make.



If you plan to come down this Saturday, please bring size 11 or 13 knitting needles or a size "N" crochet hook. The yarn needed is 3-4 skeins of "Lion's Brand Homespun", the recommended brand because of its softness. We do have some supplies of yarn and needles at church, as well as copies of the patterns. If you can't come and/or would just like to work at home on your own, patterns and information will be available in the narthex this Sunday.

HELP WANTED - Intouch Home Care Services of LSSI is looking for part-time homemakers. If you have a heart for caring for the needs of seniors, consider becoming a home care assistant. They offer flexible schedules and mileage reimbursement. Our Freeport employees currently assist clients in Freeport, Lena, Davis, Pecatonica, and Winnebago. For more information, call Sharon Beksel at 815-988-9075. Sharon has an office right here at First Lutheran.

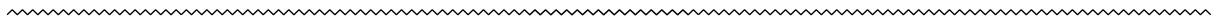
First News
First Lutheran Church
303 S. Galena Avenue
Freeport, IL 61032

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

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



THIS WEEK AT FIRST

FEBRUARY 3

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Readings: 2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9

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

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

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

Monday

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

7:00 p.m. *Boy Scouts*

Wednesday

12:15 & 6:30 p.m. *Ash Wednesday Services*

1:30 p.m. *Care Givers*

4:00 p.m. *Girl Scouts*

Thursday

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

Saturday

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

9:00 a.m. *Retreat*

4:00 p.m. *Praise Band*

5:00 p.m. *Worship*

THE PARISH RECORD

January 26/27 Saturday 5:00-14 Sunday 8:15-126 10:45-84 Total-224 Sunday School-54

Offerings \$4,626.50