

First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032



CHRIST-CENTERED PEOPLE: CARING AND SHARING

Volume 34 #13

March 28, 2008

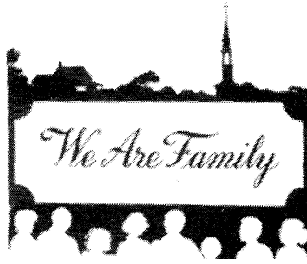
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER



The risen Jesus appears in the midst of the disciples, who, out of fear, have locked the doors to the room that they are in. He breathes the Spirit into them and like Adam at the creation they are energized to serve God. Jesus sends them to carry out their mission. Ahead of them lie many opportunities to show and tell about God's love. On Sunday we will also join them in that locked room and we will be sent to carry out our mission. We know that

when that Spirit blows into our churches and into our lives amazing things happen.

Make sure that you are in church on Sunday, we only have one service at 10:30 A.M. We are saying goodbye to Pastor Neville and Sue, and we are about to begin a new chapter in the life of our congregation. So let us gather with the risen Lord and open our lives to the Spirit. Exciting times lie ahead of us.



Al Simler had surgery this week and is recuperating at home.

Our sympathy to Ed & Connie Long, Susan Wagner & Michael Nickel on the death of Susan & Michael's daughter, Madalyn Marie Nickel.

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 Kryz Brose (815-233-4410).

From the Volunteer Coordinator - You cannot see around the corners, but God can.

HONORING PASTOR NEVILLE & SUE



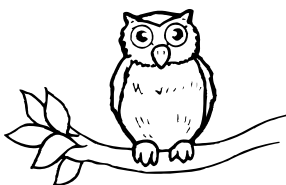
KRETZMANN

Join us as we celebrate the ministry of Pastor Neville & Sue this Sunday. Sunday School and Confirmation

classes will be held at 9:30 a.m. There will be only one worship service, at 10:30 a.m.

An OPEN HOUSE honoring the Kretzmans will be held at the church from 2-4 this Sunday afternoon for the congregation and the community.

OWLS (Older Women, Lutheran Singles)



The OWLS will be going to the Lena Mercantile on Thursday, April 3. They will car-pool from the church and leave at 11:30 a.m.

PASTOR KURT HANSEN

Our interim pastor will be Kurt Hansen. He will assume his duties at First Lutheran on April 9th. Pastor Hansen lives with his wife and son in Dubuque. We understand that he will rent an apartment in Freeport, spending part of the week here and part of the week in Dubuque.

Pastor Don Swanson will lead our worship on the weekend of April 6th. After that Pastor Hansen will take over.

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP



The prayer shawl group will meet on Saturday, April 5th from 10:00-12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All knitters, crocheters, and those wishing to learn how, are welcome to come and learn more about this ministry.

NEWS FROM THE ELCA

The draft social statement on human sexuality has been released by the task force for ELCA. If you would like a copy of this statement, they are available online at www.nisynod.org/faithfuljourney or www.elca.org/faithfuljourney.

If you do not have internet access we will provide copies upon request. Bishop Wollersheim has encouraged us to be involved in this process. If you would like to learn how, or have any other questions, please contact John Moore, Bill Castle, Gordy Tormohlen, or Gene Wall.

NW CONFERENCE SPRING ASSEMBLY

The Northwest Conference Women are gathering on Thursday, April 17th at Christ Lutheran Church in Stockton from 8:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. for it's Spring Assembly. Come enjoy a delicious brunch and hear about Prison Ministry from Betty Stralow. Cost is \$6.50 and reservation forms are available on the WELCA bulletin board, near the restrooms.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

The NI Synod Youth Assembly will be held June 13-14 2008 at Augustana College. Registrations are due by April 13th. We will have information at the high school youth group this Sunday. Please plan on attending if you are interested.

BILOXI MISSION TRIP MEETING!



There will be a brief meeting on Sunday, April 13, at 6 p.m. for the parents and youth planning to attend our Biloxi Mission Trip. We will be completing sign-up forms, accepting deposits, and answering questions. It will be helpful if you bring information regarding your youth's insurance information.

Call or email Gordy Tormohlen at the number/address below if you have questions, or are unable to attend.

(815) 232-5543

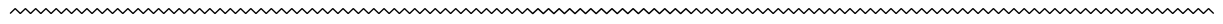
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Micki Arana, Kids of the Kingdom Choir Director
Elwyn Euler, Custodian
Website: www.firstlutheranfreeport.com

Milt Whitney, Visitation Pastor
John Moore, Lay President
Dagny Brandt, Celebration Choir Director
Christina Parkinson, Praise Band Director
Rebecca Roe, Kids of the Kingdom Director's Assistant
Telephone: 235-9790 Fax: 235-9791
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THIS WEEK AT FIRST

MARCH 30

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings: Acts 2:14, 23, 24, 32; John 20:19-31

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

10:30 a.m. Worship Service Honoring Pastor Neville & Sue Kretzmann

Monday

4:30 p.m. Neighborhood Youth Ministry

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Wednesday

1:00 p.m. Care Givers Meeting

Thursday

9:30 a.m. Life Skills Class

11:30 a.m. OWLS to Lena

6:30 p.m. Kids of the Kingdom & Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. Celebration Choir

Saturday

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

5:00 p.m. Worship Service

THE PARISH RECORD

March 22/23 Saturday 5:00-23 Sunday 6:30-39 8:15-130 10:00-102 Total-294 Offerings \$6,613

Maundy Thursday 12:15-38 6:30-33 Total-71 Good Friday 52