

First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032



CHRIST-CENTERED PEOPLE: CARING AND SHARING

Volume 34 #15

April 11, 2008

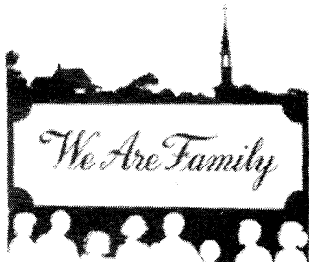
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



What do sheep do without a shepherd? That's the question posed by our texts this week. Many dangers can threaten the life and safety of the sheepfold if they don't know whom to follow. But Jesus is ready to shepherd us through life. He offers life in abundance to all who enter life through Him.

WELCOME PASTOR HANSEN

Please join us this weekend as we welcome our
Interim Pastor, Kurt Hansen.
Sunday services at 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.
Saturday service at 5:00 p.m.

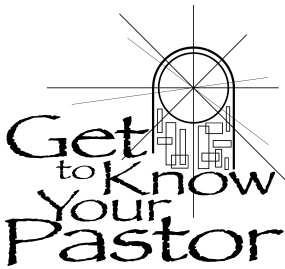


Known to be hospitalized are Lisa Heilman at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Kim Holden had surgery this week and is recuperating at home.

Our sympathy to Dave & Ellen Steenrod and family on the death of Dave's mother, Betty Steenrod.

Ed & Connie Long and Susan Wagner & Michael Nickel would like to thank Pastor Kretzmann for his support and service following the death of Susan & Michael's daughter, Madalyn Marie Nickel. They would also like to thank the Care Givers for their card.



Congratulations to Tom Klemm for being named the Jaycees "Public Servant of the Year."

Congratulations to Heath Roush who will graduate from Western Illinois University in May with a degree in Agra Science. He has been accepted to graduate school at the University of Nebraska. He is the son of Debbie Roush and grandson of Lee Markwardt.

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 Kryz Brose (815-233-4410).

From the Volunteer Coordinator - If you can't have the best of everything, make the best of everything you have.



Parking

NO PARKING!

Please do not park in the "gas station" parking lot.

We have just learned

that vehicles parked there will be towed!

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. You are invited to attend a hearing the Northern Illinois Synod will hold on Monday, April 21, 7-9 p.m. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 4700 Augustana Drive in Rockford.

Dear members of First Lutheran Church:

I greet you in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I am newly called through the synod council of the Northern

COME FOR BREAKFAST

We will have another all church breakfast this Sunday, April 13.

Plan to come and enjoy a good breakfast, fellowship time, and meet Pastor Hansen. We will be

serving from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.



NEWS FROM THE ELCA

The draft social statement on human sexuality has been released by the task

Illinois Synod to do interim ministry, and contracted by your congregation council to serve as your interim pastor. Interim ministry is an intentional relationship, wherein a congregation and a specially trained pastor work together in the time between calls - in the "interim." While serving as your interim pastor, I will do the usual works of pastoral ministry (preach, marry, baptize, teach, bury, etc.). In addition, my call will be to help the people of First Lutheran to prepare for their future.

In terms of personal history, I was ordained in 1995. I hold masters degrees in Divinity and in Social Work, and I came to ministry as a second career after eleven years in the field of mental health. I served as pastor at Primrose Lutheran Church in Belleville, WI for 7 ½ years, followed by a little over five years as pastor at Trinity, Derinda and St. Paul, Hanover. I was appointed as Northwest Conference Assistant to the Bishop last year, and still serve in that capacity. In addition to graduate and post-graduate work in family systems, I also completed certification in intentional interim ministry at Luther Seminary.

My wife of thirty years, Susan, is a professor of business at UW-Platteville, where she has taught for seventeen years. Our son, Jake, graduated two years ago from Gustavus-Adolphus College, and lives and works in Dubuque.

Please call to talk or to make an appointment if there is any way I might be of help to you. I plan to be regularly available Wednesday through Saturday each week, and for emergencies as needed

(I will return home to Dubuque Sunday afternoon through Tuesday evening). I look forward to getting to know and work with you as we explore together how First Lutheran Church might live out God's call both now and into the future.

Serving with you in Christ Jesus,
Rev. Kurt Hansen

BILOXI MISSION TRIP MEETING!

There will be a brief meeting this 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

tormfam@aeroinc.net

SPECIAL SONG

The Celebration Choir sang a special song, with words by Norma and Teresa Parkinson, to Pastor Neville & Sue at the open house. Copies of those words are available on the tract rack. (Great job Norma & Teresa!)

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First Lutheran Church
303 S. Galena Avenue
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Kurt Hansen Interim, 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
Rebecca Roe, Kids of the Kingdom Director's Assistant
Telephone: 235-9790 Fax: 235-9791
E-Mail: friends@firstlutheranfreeport.com

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

APRIL 13

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8:15 & 10:45 a.m. *Worship Services*
- 9:30 a.m. *Sunday School & Confirmation Classes*
- 9:30 a.m. *All Church Breakfast*
- 6:00 p.m. *Biloxi Mission Trip Meeting*
- 6:30 p.m. *Youth Group*
- Monday 4:30 p.m. *Neighborhood Youth Ministry*
- 7:00 p.m. *Boy Scouts*
- Tuesday 9:30 a.m. *Mary Circle*
- 1:00 p.m. *Rebecca Circle at Jean Sorn's*
- 6:30 p.m. *Evangelism Committee*
- 7:00 p.m. *Rachel Circle at church*
- Wednesday 4:00 p.m. *Girl Scouts*
- Thursday 8:45 a.m. *NW Conference Women at Stockton*
- 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*
- 10:00 a.m. *Prayer Shawl Group*
- 5:00 p.m. *Worship Service*

THE PARISH RECORD

April 05/06 Saturday 5:00-12 Sunday 8:15-125 10:45-89 Total-226 Sunday School-43 Offerings \$5,272.50