

# First News

First Lutheran Church  
Freeport, IL 61032



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

Volume 34 #16

April 18, 2008

## *Hymn Festival*



*"A Life of Purpose" is the theme of our Sunday morning hymn festival that will be led by the Praise Band and Celebration Choir.*

*Please join us at 8:15 and 10:45 for readings and hymns that remind us that as God's children we are called to live our lives with purpose.*

Known to be hospitalized is Nancy Neff at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Helen Busjahn would like to thank the Prayer Shawl Group for the beautiful prayer shawl she received.

Pastor Whitney would like to thank the congregation for the cards and prayers he received following his recent surgery.

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 Krys Brose (815-233-4410).

*From the Volunteer Coordinator - God does not spare us trials and tribulations, but He does help us overcome them.*

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**KATHRYN L. HELMS † 1922 - 2008**

May God grant peace to her memory, comfort to her family and grace to us all as we seek to live our lives to His glory.

join in the fun, all are welcome. We will be making pizzas with homemade dough made by our pizza expert Tom Parkinson! We will also be playing board or card games together. All we need is you and a pizza pan if you have one. If you have any questions call Chris at 233-9222.

#### THANK YOU

Through our Endowment Fund we have been able to provide funding to many worthwhile projects. This Sunday we have the honor of having two of those recipients visit our church.

Dave & Eleanor Hansen will be here to give their thanks to First for the funds they received last year and this year for their work in Kenya. They will have a wonderful presentation during the education time between services.

Renate Skirl from Germany will also be here to give her thanks to First for providing funds for her salary at the Wittenberg Center in Germany. She will be giving a temple talk during both Sunday services.

We hope that you can attend both to see what wonderful things our endowment funds can do in the lives of others.

#### FUN FOR ALL!

First Lutheran Family Fun night will be this Sunday, April 20, at 5:00 p.m. Please come and

#### PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

The prayer shawl group will meet on Saturday, April 19, 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.

#### NAME TAGS

We will have name tags available this weekend. Please sign your name and wear a name tag to help Pastor Hansen get to know you.

**REMEMBER** - There is no parking at the "gas station" parking lot.

#### PROJECT WORKDAY

Project Workday will meet on Thursday, April 24, from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room. Come down and join us for part or all of the day.

We are still gathering items for health kits to send to Lutheran World Relief. Items needed include hand towels, washcloths, toothbrushes, bath soap, nail clippers, and wide-toothed combs. Donations may be left in the WELCA box located near the mailboxes. A list of supplies can also be found on the bulletin board near the restrooms.

#### LUTHERAN HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Endowment Fund has allocated money for scholarships for members of our congregation who will be attending a Lutheran College or ELCA Seminary for the 2008-09 school year. Application forms have been sent to all college-age members and are also available on the tract rack. Please return the completed applications to the church office by May 4, 2008.

#### LAY ADULT EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship funds are available from the Endowment Fund for adult members of our congregation who engage in educational opportunities or programs which help them grow and strengthen their faith and ministry. Examples of some programs include the two year Diakonia education program offered by the Northern Illinois Synod, adult retreat opportunities offered at LOMC, continuing education courses offered by Wartburg Seminary, and Global Mission Events offered by the ELCA. Application forms are available in the tract rack and should be returned to the church office.

#### FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS

In partnership with Equal Exchange, a fair-trade organization committed to paying farmers a fair price for their crops, Lutheran World Relief began the Coffee Project in 1997. Through fair trade, farmers can earn enough to cover their production expenses, provide for a better life for their families, and help make a long-term difference in their communities.

Fair trade products are offered for sale upstairs in the entryway and include several varieties of coffee and tea. Payment for items

may be left in the wooden box near the display and checks should be made payable to "Women of the ELCA". Purchasing fair-trade products is one way for Lutherans to take action towards alleviating poverty in developing countries.

#### CALLING ALL MOM'S

Our annual Mother's Day auction will soon be here. Please mark your calendars now for the fun event. It will be on May 11 from 9:30-10:30. We will be having some awesome and tasty things to bid on to spoil that mother of yours.

Our high school youth will be going on a mission trip to Biloxi, Mississippi this summer and they need your help with funding. This auction is a big moneymaker for them, as Thrivent matches the monies brought in from the auction.

In the past we have received some wonderful items that were donated by members to help with this event. It does NOT have to be baked goods. If you have a special talent or craft that you are good at, please consider donating to this good cause. The youth will be contacting members to ask for their help. Donations are also accepted and will be matched by Thrivent. Please be thinking, so you are ready when they call!!! If you already know what you would like to donate, please call Jackie Meiborg 815-238-0403 so it can be recorded. Thanks for your consideration.

#### SIGNATURE QUILT FOR THE KRETZMANN'S

The quilt will be available in the Fellowship Hall this weekend. Don't forget to go down and sign your name.

## First News

First Lutheran Church  
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Freeport, IL 61032

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**THIS WEEK AT FIRST**

**APRIL 20**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

- 8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Hymn Festival
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Confirmation & Adult Ed
- 5:00 p.m. Family Fun Night
- 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. Visiting Committee
- Wednesday 4:00 p.m. Girl Scouts
- 6:30 p.m. Worship & Music Committee
- Thursday 10:00 a.m. Workday
- 1:00 p.m. NW Conference Pastor's Text Study
- 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**

April 12/13 Saturday 5:00-19 Sunday 8:15-98 10:45-73 Total-190 Sunday School-46 Offerings \$4,845.50