

# First News

Lutheran Church  
Freeport, IL 61032



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## CHRIST-CENTERED PEOPLE: CARING AND SHARING

Volume 34 #23

June 13, 2008

### Sunday Texts

June 15th (Father's Day):



Jesus sends out his disciples on their first mission trip. They are to "cure the sick, cast out demons, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons (Matthew 9:8)." Quite a set of tasks, isn't it? But first, they are to "proclaim the good news: the kingdom of heaven has come near (Matthew 9:7)." God still calls us to do deeds of power, but we must always put first things first: God and God's kingdom of grace are where true power resides.

June 22<sup>nd</sup>:

"I have not come to bring peace, but a sword." The words of our Lord Jesus. And without significant study and prayer, those words, taken at face value, would be ample reason to reject the Christian life. Who needs more religious violence? We've certainly had our fill of such things. But the sword Jesus wields is not one of violence toward others; rather, he means to cut through the rhetoric of our religious lives. Which side of the cut will you be on?

Known to be hospitalized are John Kohn, Dick Regez, Beulah Klaus and Phyllis Rosenwinge at FHN Memorial Hospital.



Our sympathy to Martin & Kathy Murray and family on the death of Martin's mother, Elnora Murray.

Clark Jordan would like to thank the Prayer Shawl Group for the prayer shawl he received. He appreciates it very much.

Janice Burck would like to thank her friends at First Lutheran for their prayers, visits to the hospital, and cards. Also, many thanks for the beautiful prayer shawl. She is happy to be back at Oakley Courts.

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 Krya Brose (815-233-4410).

Altar flowers are needed for June 29 and July 6. You may sign up on the flower chart in the copier room or call the church office.

The deadline for the next newsletter is Tuesday, June 24.

*From the Volunteer Coordinator - Offering advise may be noble and grand, but it's not the same as a helping hand.*

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**DONALD W. FREEMAN † 1926 - 2008**

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

**SYNOD ASSEMBLY MEETS JUNE 13-14**

Please pray for our synod as it gathers to worship, study, and consider the work of "Making Christ Known" in Northern Illinois. Pastor Hansen, Steve Withington and Diane Rimington will represent First Lutheran at this gathering, and information on the proceedings will be summarized in future bulletins (or you may check the synod's website: [www.nisynod.org](http://www.nisynod.org)).

**THANKS TO OUR GARDENERS**

Thanks to Esther Eden, Rita & Jerry Anderson, June Brandt, Pat Reel, Sandy Helms, and Lizz Withington for planting flowers around the church. It looks great!

**WORSHIP JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> WEEKEND**

On Sunday, July 6, our worship schedule will be as follows:

8:15 a.m. service at First Lutheran

9:30 a.m. combined service with other

churches in the band shell at Krape Park. Participating churches are: First Presbyterian, Second Presbyterian, First United Methodist, Trinity United Methodist, Embury United Methodist and First Lutheran.

There will be no 10:45 a.m. service at First Lutheran that day.

**PADS**

We have been asked to staff the PADS Homeless Shelter July 26 and August 23. The shifts are supper at 6:30, 10-2, and 2-6. Parents this would be a good opportunity to take a shift with your older children. Call Diane Rondeau at 815-232-3007 if you can help out. PLEASE!

**INTERIM MINISTRY UPDATE**

Approximately 5-7 persons are needed to serve on a Transition Task Force (TTF). The TTF will meet regularly on a schedule to be determined by the participants, and will be appointed by the Congregation Council to develop a comprehensive plan as to how First Lutheran Church, its elected leaders, staff, and key volunteers can best work together over the next 3 to 5 years to continue and expand the congregation's ministry in accordance with its Mission Statement

(currently under review) and corresponding vision for carrying out that mission. Members of the TTF should:

- represent a broad cross-section of the congregation
- be willing to suspend judgments in favor of raising open-ended questions and reporting findings
- be comfortable with leading discussions in small groups
- be available to commit to an approximate 6 to 9-month schedule of work, leading up to a call process to seek the next Minister of Word and Sacrament

After prayerfully considering the above information, if you feel called to this task, please let Pastor Hansen know of your interest. The TTF will need to begin meeting in the latter half of June, so please respond ASAP.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year we have been blessed to receive funds through our Endowment Fund to provide scholarships for members of our congregation who attend Lutheran Colleges and/or Seminaries. For the 2008/2009 school year, college scholarships are being awarded to:

- Amelia Miller ..... Augustana College
- Chris Steenrod ..... Carthage College

#### SUMMER CAMP

Thanks to the Endowment Fund and the commitment of First Lutheran students and families, the following youth/families will be attending Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center in Oregon, Illinois this summer: Jordan Kerr, Marisela Arana, Danny Arana, Callie Arendt, Katelin Parkinson, Kristin Lei, Riley McAuliffe, Julius Castle, DeVon Castle, Carly McAuliffe, Jeffrey Meiborg, Allison Shields, Diane & McKayla Rimington, and Greg, Dawn, Gabe & Amy Zeigler. Also, 7<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation students: Brian Meiborg, McKayla Rimington, and Dakotah Wolf

attended confirmation camp this week. Thanks to Diane Rimington and Jackie Meiborg for providing transportation for the confirmation students.

Thank God for His presence and spirit at LOMC. Pray for our camp and for those who will be attending, that they will grow in their faith.

A SUMMER OUTING - The Women of the ELCA will be attending the 2:00 p.m. performance of "CHURCH BASEMENT WOMEN" at Timber Lake Playhouse on Wednesday, August 13. The cost is \$18.00 Make your reservations early. We will be car pooling. Contact Ruth Wardlow or Jan Butterfield.

PROJECT WORKDAY will meet on Thursday, June 26 in the Martin Luther Room from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Come down for part or all of the day. We are collecting supplies for layette kits for Lutheran World Relief - still needed are infant undershirts, sleepers, receiving blankets, and cloth diapers. Items may be left in the WELCA box located by the mailboxes near the Jackson Street entrance. Monetary donations towards the purchase of diapers are also welcome and may be placed in the baby bottle located in the entryway.

THE PRAYER SHAWL GROUP will meet on Saturday, June 21 from 10:00-12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All knitters, crocheters, and those wishing to learn how, are welcome to come.

WELCA RETREAT - Mark your calendars for a WELCA sponsored retreat for the women of the church on Tuesday, July 15. We will gather from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and our program will use the *Lutheran Women Today* magazine summer Bible study series on water and baptism. Time will be spent in fellowship and Bible study and we will share a salad luncheon. More details will follow in the next *First News*.

## First News

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

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Micki Arana, Kids of the Kingdom Choir Director  
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**THIS WEEK AT FIRST**

**JUNE 15**

**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

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

Monday

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. *Vacation Bible School at Oakdale*

7:00 p.m. *Boy Scouts*

Tuesday

9:00 a.m. *VBS*

1:00 p.m. *Rebecca Circle at Dorothy Gungel's*

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. *VBS*

6:30 p.m. *Evangelism Team*

7:00 p.m. *Council Meeting*

Thursday

9:00 a.m. *VBS*

9:00 a.m. *NW WELCA Conf. Retreat at Milledgeville*

1:00 p.m. *NW Conference Pastor's Text Study*

Friday

9:00 a.m. *VBS*

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**

5-31/June 1 Saturday 5:00-15 Sunday 8:15-98 10:45-39 Total-152 Offerings \$5,354.00

June 7/8 Saturday 5:00-16 Sunday 8:15-88 10:45-51 Total-155 Offerings \$7,458.00