

# First News

First Lutheran Church  
Freeport, IL 61032



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

Volume 34 #26

August 1, 2008

## Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost August 3

The texts assigned to this day invite us to attend one of two banquets. One is thrown in a palace by powerful forces for pleasure and profit and promises to provide us with lavish amounts of both, but at the expense of our spiritual health.

The other is offered out in the open, away from the interests of the rich and popular crowd. At this second banquet, we are offered just enough to meet our needs. And we will have to share the table with all sorts of people we don't know. The first banquet is thrown by Herod, and the other banquet is provided by Jesus. Which will you attend?

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## Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost August 10

The prophet Elijah lived faithfully the role God called him to play in God's on going work and it cost him dearly. Standing up against powerful sources is never easy and when Elijah became disillusioned and retreated God's counsel, God asked him, "What are you doing here Elijah?" God's question is for us too. What are we doing here and what might God have yet for us to do?

Known to be hospitalized is Richard Regez at FHN Memorial Hospital.

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

Our sympathy to Ruth Inman on the death of her sister, Margery Molter.

Susan Fago would like to thank all those who called and sent cards after her surgery.

Bev Herrling would like to thank Pastor Whitney for his visit and everyone for the phone calls, cards, and prayers following her recent foot surgery.

Dorothy Ackerman would like to give a big thank you for the many lovely cards her church family members sent her following hip surgery. Your prayers, thoughts, and calls meant so much. Thank you also to Pastor Hansen and Pastor Whitney for your visits. God bless each one of you.

Congratulations to Kiera & Jay Suaverdez on the birth of Marlee Grace on July 9 in Arizona. Great grandmother is Mary Kirkpatrick.

Congratulations to Art & Audrey Stees who celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on July 25.

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 - When worry knocks at the door, send faith to answer it - and you will find no one is there.*

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#### TRANSITION TASK FORCE

The purpose of the Transition Task Force (TTF) is to identify issues of concern to congregation members related to the current and future ministry and mission of First Lutheran Church. Input will be sought from all members through a variety of means, and will be shared with the church council. The TTF has been meeting bi-weekly. More information to come.....

#### KITCHEN CLEANING

The Women of the ELCA will be cleaning the kitchen on Tuesday, August 12, from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome to come and help!

#### PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

The Prayer Shawl Group will meet this month on Saturdays. August 2 & 16 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All knitters, crocheters, and those wishing to

learn how, are welcome to come.

Prayer shawls are a means of sharing God's love by reaching out to those in need of comfort and solace. Blessings are knitted or crocheted into every shawl. Shawls created by our group will be shared within our congregation to members in need.

#### PROJECT WORKDAY

Project Workday will meet this month on Thursdays, August 14 & 28 in the Martin Luther Room from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Come down for part or all of the day. Sewing skills are not required to participate.

For the next few months we are collecting supplies for school kits for Lutheran World Relief. Items especially needed include pencil sharpeners, blunt-tipped scissors, 12

inch rulers, large erasers, spiral notebooks, and crayons. If you wish to fill a school bag, empty bags are available on the table in the entryway and should be returned by September. All items may be left in the WELCA box located by the mailboxes near the Jackson Street entrance. Thank you for your support.

The deadline for the next newsletter is Tuesday, August 12.

### NISWO CONVENTION

The annual convention of the Northern Illinois Synod Women will be held on Saturday, September 20, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church in Joliet. This year's theme is "Hands Across the Water." The day will begin with worship, followed by a program presented by Jeana Fors about our relationship with Arcot Lutheran Church in India. Registration forms are available on the WELCA bulletin board located near the restrooms. Cost is \$30.00, which includes lunch. Our women's organization will reimburse one-half the cost to those who attend. Contact Ruth Wardlow or Jan Butterfield for more information.

THERE ARE THANK OFFERING BOXES available in the narthex. Please take one home with you. In October, we will be collecting the boxes. The offering will go to help the ministry of the Women of ELCA and their publications.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

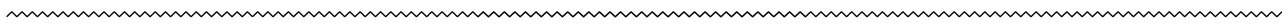
On Sunday, August 24, we will have our annual "Worship in the Park" service at Krape Park. There will be an 8:15 worship service at the church. The service in the park will be held at 10:45 a.m. Plan to come and bring a friend!

First News  
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**THIS WEEK AT FIRST**

**AUGUST 3 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. *Worship Services*  
9:30 a.m. *Transition Task Force*  
9:30 a.m. *Christian Ed - Martin Luther Room*  
*Monday* 7:00 p.m. *Boy Scouts*  
*Wednesday* 1:00 p.m. *Care Givers Meeting*  
*Thursday* 10:30 a.m. *OWLS to Stockholm Inn*  
1:00 p.m. *NW Conference Pastor's Text Study*  
*Saturday* 6:30 a.m. *MBA at the Big Apple*  
5:00 p.m. *Worship Service*

**THE PARISH RECORD**

July 12/13	Saturday 5:00-22	Sunday 8:15-104	10:45-48	Total-174	Offerings \$6,882.50
July 19/20	Saturday 5:00-20	Sunday 8:15- 93	10:45-54	Total-167	Offerings \$5,187.50
July 26/27	Saturday 5:00-20	Sunday 8:15- 92	10:45-53	Total-165	Offerings \$2,955.50