

# First News

First Lutheran Church  
Freeport, IL 61032



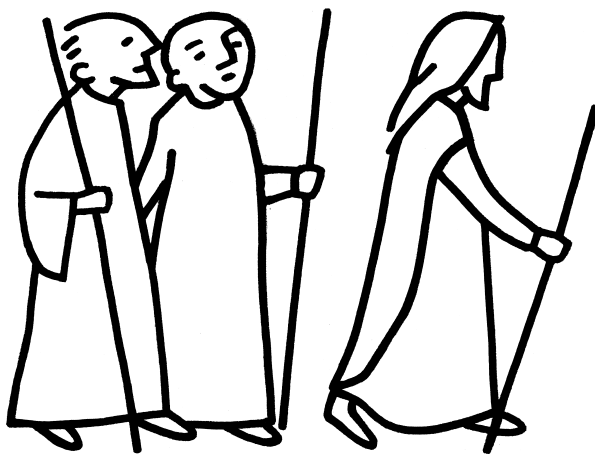
***THROUGH WORSHIP AND LOVING SERVICE,  
WE MAKE CHRIST KNOWN TO ALL***

Volume 35 #2

January 16, 2009

## *Second Sunday in Epiphany*

*January 18, 2009*



"Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread." So begins Samuel's 3rd Chapter in his first book. The word of the Lord was rare... Many might claim that Samuel's words would pertain also to this present time. Worship and Sunday school are optional for most, and words, images, and depictions which run very counter to the way of God are persistent and obvious in our culture. Even the things

of God's church are changing all around. Yet God is still working. God is still present. God's promises are still sure. Can anything good come out of all this? Jesus says, "Come and see..."

Mildred Diehl has moved to 1234 S. Park Boulevard, Apt. #105, Freeport, IL 61032.

Our sympathy to Brad & Nancy Heilman and family on the death of Brad's stepfather, Nelson Ruthe.

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 Kryss Brose (815-233-4410).

*From the Volunteer Coordinator - Education is what you get when you read the fine print. Experience is what you get when you don't.*

**DONOVAN WAGGONER † 1921 - 2009**

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.

#### ANNUAL MEETING

The 128<sup>th</sup> Annual Congregational Meeting of First Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2009. The meeting will be called to order after a potluck luncheon, which will begin following the 10:45 a.m. service. Meat and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass.

#### YOU'RE INVITED

The Rachel Circle will meet this month on Tuesday, January 20, at 6:00 p.m. at Fiesta Cancun. You're invited to join them. Please call Pat Schutte (815-232-8921) if you'd like to attend.

#### COUNCIL RETREAT SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

A retreat has been scheduled to help the newly formed church council of First Lutheran Church build a strong and connected team.

The retreat will be led by Rev. Loren Nielsen, a long-time pastor in the Northern Illinois synod and frequent leader of church retreats.

The retreat will be held at Bishop Lane Retreat Center, 7708 E. McGregor Road, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and concluding by 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be served.

Check the Bishop Lane Retreat Center website for directions:

<http://blrc.dpsrfd.org/>. It is very important for all church council members to attend this retreat, so please make every effort to be there.

## PADS

First Lutheran is responsible for staffing the PADS shelter on February 7, March 7, and April 4. Your help is needed to fill each of the three shifts for each date. You may sign-up on the poster located in the entryway.

## PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

The prayer shawl group will meet on Saturday, January 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All knitters, crocheters, and those wishing to learn how, are welcome to come.

## PROJECT WORKDAY

Project Workday will meet on Thursday, January 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room. Come down for part or all of the day and bring a sack lunch if you plan to stay over the noon hour. For the next two months we are collecting items for sewing kits to send to Lutheran World Relief. Donations of 4 yard pieces of cotton-blend material, large spools of thread, and packages of sewing needles are needed and may be left in the WELCA box located near the mailboxes.

## WELCA GATHERING

Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 5 to get together with your friends at church for a potluck lunch and a friendly game of "Take-away Bingo." Why not invite a few friends to come along as well. Just bring dish to pass, your table service, and a wrapped white elephant gift for Bingo. Dessert and beverages will be provided.

We will also collect an offering for FACC, either items for the food pantry or monetary gifts to be used towards the purchase of food. Lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m.

## CATECHISM YOUTH GROUP LOCK-IN

All 5th-8th grade students and their friends are invited to a lock-in at the church this Friday, January 16. The event will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end on Saturday between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. We'll play church commando and samurai tag and movies will be offered throughout the event. We'll have midnight pizza and breakfast will be provided. Please bring a sleeping bag, pillow, comfy lounging clothes, your favorite PG or G rated movie, and a great attitude!

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303 S. Galena Avenue  
Freeport, IL 61032

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Christina Parkinson, Praise Band Director  
Elwyn Euler, Custodian  
Website: [www.firstlutheranfreeport.com](http://www.firstlutheranfreeport.com)

Milt Whitney, Visitation Pastor  
John Moore, Lay President  
Dawn Zeigler, Music Coordinator, Organist, Bell Choir Director  
Teresa Parkinson, Choir Accompanist  
Rebecca Roe, Kids of the Kingdom Director  
Telephone: 235-9790 Fax: 235-9791  
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**THIS WEEK AT FIRST**

January 18	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN EPIPHANY</b> 8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Worship Services 9:00 a.m. Endowment Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Catechism Classes 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group
Monday	4:30 p.m. Mentoring/Tutoring Program 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
Tuesday	9:30 a.m. Mary Circle 1:00 p.m. Rebecca Circle 6:00 p.m. Rachel Circle at Fiesta Cancun
Wednesday	1:00 p.m. NW Conference Pastor's Text Study 6:30 p.m. Evangelism Team
Thursday	10:00 a.m. Workday 6:30 p.m. Kids of the Kingdom, Bell Choir, Praise Band Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Celebration Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	6:30 a.m. MBA at Big Apple 5:00 p.m. Worship

**THE PARISH RECORD**

January 10/11 Saturday 5:00-10 Sunday 8:15-105 10:45-56 Total-171 Sunday School-43 Offerings \$4,870.00