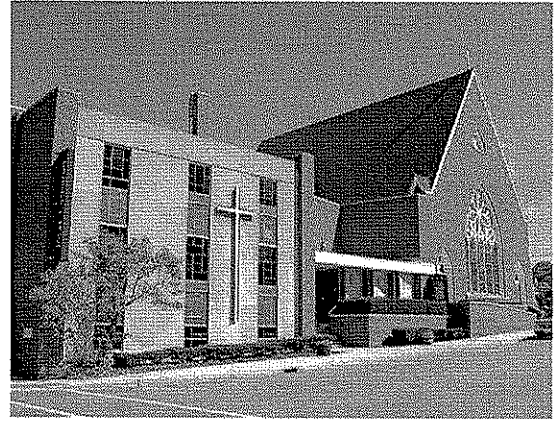


First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032



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

Volume 35 #18

May 22, 2009

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 23 - 24



The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding,

interpenetrating life, mutual love and joy.

This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!



Our sympathy to Dave & Carol Netherland on the death of Dave's sister, Linnie Bobinski.

Aubrey Olson would like to thank everyone for their calls, cards, and concern following his recent surgery. He's recovering and doing well.

Helen Busjahn would like to thank everyone for the visits, cards, gifts, flowers, food, and prayers she has received in the past few months. It is all appreciated very much.

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 - Find contentment in enjoying the present season instead of dreaming about the next.

LEE T. WILLIAMS † 1928 - 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.

PENTECOST FLOWERS



Pentecost is next Sunday, May 31 and we will again be decorating the church with red geraniums. The cost is \$11.00 for 3 plants.

They may be given in memory or in honor of someone. Please use a pink envelope or a pew envelope.

MUSICIANS!

(Or Friends of Musicians)



Please contact Dawn Zeigler (815-233-3517) or zignlou@aeroinc.net to share special music during worship this summer! Please share your talent with the First Family this summer.

THANKS FOR HELPING

Thanks to Jean Greene, Barb Reichert, Phyllis Rosenwinge, Bob & Phoebe Petrie, Jeanette Leopold, Arlene Camerer Shirley Kampmeier, Betty Stebbins, Ruth Banderet, and Leona Sofran for volunteering in the clothing room at FACC this month.

BLESSING OF GRADUATES DURING WORSHIP ON MAY 31ST



We will recognize and offer God's blessing to all FLC members who will be graduating this semester. The time of blessing will be at the 10:45a.m. worship service on the Festival of

Pentecost, Sunday, May 31. Please be sure to call Peg Huber at the church office to have your son/daughter included in the planned time of blessing.

CELEBRATION CHOIR POTLUCK

The Celebration Choir Potluck will be at Dagny's, 3005 Farmdale Lane, on Friday, May 22, at 6:00 p.m. Table service, meat, and lemonade will be provided. Please bring one or two dishes to share and a lawn chair. Thanks for your wonderful singing this year!

SUPPLY PASTORS

Pulpit supply pastors have been arranged for every Saturday and Sunday service between May 24th and June 28th, and pastoral coverage for any urgent pastoral needs has also been established. A schedule of the "time between" is posted on the bulletin board in Peg's office.

CONFIRMATION CAMP



Confirmation Camp

The 7th grade confirmation retreat is scheduled for June 14-19. Redesigned in response to parent and teacher feedback, our catechism program requires attendance at the confirmation retreat. The purpose of the camp experience is to enhance the

learning and faith commitment among our young people, and to help deepen relationships of our kids with each other, with the pastor and other adults of First Lutheran Church, and with our Lord Jesus Christ. Please make sure that you have turned in your confirmation camp forms to LOMC. You can turn your \$25.00 deposit in to First Lutheran Church (if you haven't already done so) and earmark the check for "confirmation camp." If there are any questions, please contact Dena Kampmier at 815-865-5589.

PROJECT WORKDAY



Project Workday will meet on Thursday, May 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. We are now collecting supplies for layette kits for Lutheran World Relief. Items needed include infant undershirts, sleepers, receiving blankets, bath-size Ivory Soap, washcloths, and cloth diapers. Items may be left in the WELCA box located by the mailboxes near the Jackson Street entrance.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Do you want to know what Women of the ELCA is doing here at First Lutheran? Be sure to pick up one of our program booklets for 2009, found on the table in the entryway. The booklets include information on the small groups which meet regularly, as well as dates for all programs and gatherings for the year. We welcome all who wish to join us!

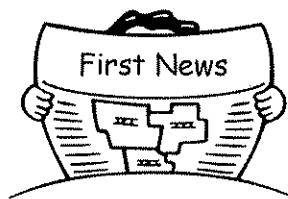
THE GREEN TEAM

The Green Team has met a couple of times to look at options for reducing the energy consumption and overall impact on the environment from the First Lutheran facility, our congregation and even the Freeport community. One of our initial actions was to conduct an Energy Survey of the church building on Friday afternoon May 15. The survey was conducted by Arne Venteris, a trained assessor, along with Elwyn Euler and members of the Green Team Bernie & Becky Leopold, and Bob Neuendorf. (Steve Olson was unable to join us).

Mr. Venteris will be submitting a written report of his findings at a later date, however, we know he will be recommending such things as improvements to weather stripping around doors and changing some fixtures to more energy efficient lighting. However, the overall result was favorable. Due to our faithful maintenance, the condition of the church is very good and the level of energy consumption for a building the size and age of our church is appropriate.

Anyone with ideas or suggestions to help us reduce energy consumption and our impact on the environment to improve our care of the Earth, please contact one of the members of the Green Team.

FIRST NEWS



The deadline for the next newsletter is May 26. May calendar and volunteer information is needed at that time.

Please be sure to write your meetings and events on the calendar that is located outside of Peg's office.

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

Periodicals Postage Paid
Freeport, IL 61032
USPS 345110

Keith Johnson, Pastor
Peg Huber, Office Manager
JoAnn Beckman, Volunteer Coordinator
Dagny Brandt, Celebration Choir Director
Christina Parkinson, Praise Band Director
Elwyn Euler, Custodian
Website: 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
E-Mail: friends@firstlutheranfreeport.com

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

MAY 24 **SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Worship Services
Monday Memorial Day - Office Closed
Wednesday 1:00 p.m. NW Conference Pastor's Text Study
Thursday 10:00 a.m. Workday
Saturday 6:30 a.m. MBA at Big Apple
 5:00 p.m. Worship Service

THE PARISH RECORD

May 16/17 Saturday 5:00-21 Sunday 8:15-133 10:45-85 Total-239 Sunday School-28 Offerings \$3,699.00