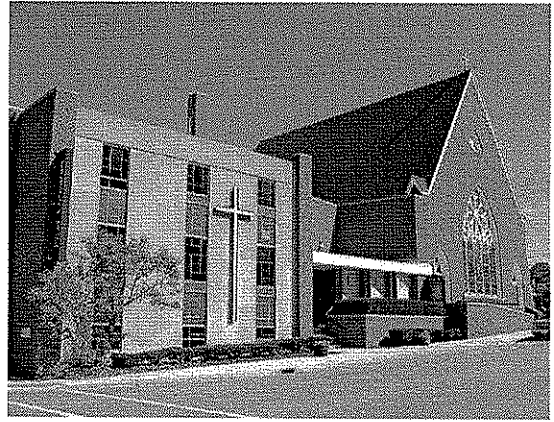


First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032



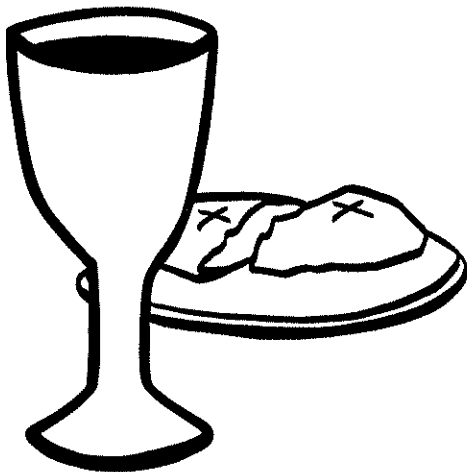
**THROUGH WORSHIP AND LOVING SERVICE,
WE MAKE CHRIST KNOWN TO ALL**

Volume 35 #24

August 14, 2009

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 15-16, 2009



Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine.

The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.



Congratulations to Daniel Moore and Stacey Phillips who were joined in marriage last Saturday, August 8th at Faith community Church in Davis, IL.

We were sad to learn of the death of former member, Dean Johnson, husband of our former secretary Joan Johnson. Joan's address is 107 Howe Terrace, Barrington, IL 60010.

Virginia Waggoner has moved to be near to her family. Her new address is: 101 Cedar Lane, Apt. 102, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020.

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 you help someone up a hill, you are that much nearer the top yourself.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



On Sunday, August 30, we will have our annual worship 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

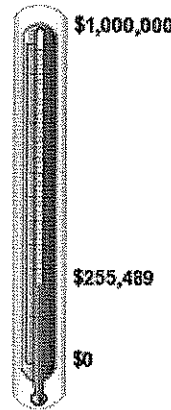
bring a friend.

CHURCH KEYS



The Property Committee will be changing the outside locks at the church in September and new keys will need to be issued. We will be creating a list of

who needs keys. Remember, if you need a key, please call the church office.



With your help, the NOLA Youth gathering has made a good start at raising \$1 million for ELCA World Hunger. Our congregation's loose change offerings on July 19 brought in \$155.58. Add in the youth account matching and we met our NOLA goal of \$30.00 per person. Hurray! It's wonderful how our congregation pulls together even on such short notice. We, the youth and youth

leaders, truly appreciate everyone's continued support of our activities. We are blessed to be a part of such a generous congregation.

Respectfully NOLA participants,

Chelsea, Heather, Hilary, Mercy (Chi-shin),
Alexis, Sheila, Sarah, Paige, & McKayla

YOU ARE INVITED

The New Orleans Youth Group participants would like to invite the congregation to share their experience at the 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering.

Please plan on joining them this Sunday, August 16, at 9:30 a.m. in the Martin Luther Room.



WORSHIP  WITH US!

READING GROUP

The women's reading group selected our next book, "Hidden in Plain View" by Jacqueline Tobin & Raymond Dobard. It is a story about the use of quilts as signposts for the underground railroad. We will meet on Saturday, September 26 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the Lounge to share our thoughts on this book.

KNITTING GROUP

The knitting group will meet on Saturday, August 15 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Lounge. You may bring your own project to work on or work on a variety of service projects which include prayer shawls, children's sweaters, hats, and scarves.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS SYNOD WOMEN'S CONVENTION

The annual convention will be held on Saturday, September 19 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Dixon, beginning at 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Registration forms are available on the WELCA bulletin board and the cost is \$30 for the day. Contact Jan Butterfield or Ruth Wardlow for more information.

PROJECT WORKDAY

Project Workday will meet on Thursday, August 27 in the Martin Luther Room from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Come down for part or all of the day and bring your lunch if you plan to stay over the noon hour.

We are finishing up our school kit project for Lutheran World Relief - if you took home a school bag to fill with supplies, please return them by September 6. Thank you for your support!

THE DEADLINE for the next issue of *First News* is Tuesday, August 25. Calendar and volunteer information for August will be needed at that time. Please remember to continue to write your meeting/event information on the calendar that is located outside of Peg's office.

GREETINGS BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,



We have been blessed by God and called by the Spirit to be the body of Christ for God's world. The opportunities for worship and ministry are not limited to the three opportunities we share together on any given weekend at 303 S. Galena Avenue. Jesus tells us to watch for his return and to serve one another until he indeed comes again.

Isn't it awesome to be able to serve one another? To realize that we are called by the Spirit to be the body of Christ is to realize that we belong to Christ Jesus and through His Spirit we too have had our flesh crucified along with all of the passions and desires of our flesh. We no longer need to possess a "my way or the highway" mentality concerning anything, anymore. If we truly believe that we live by the Spirit, then let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The fifth chapter of Galatians lists for us the obvious works of the flesh. Just take a look of what some of these works include; strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, and factions. I don't know about you, but I sure wouldn't want any of that garbage hanging around me. Thank goodness the fruits of the Spirit are also listed. Take a look at what they are; love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Whether it be teaching our youth or our adults, visiting the established church member or the complete stranger, or even facing the many, many tasks that seem to continually vie for attention in our everyday living, may we always be led by the Spirit. May First Lutheran produce so many fruits that we compel God to build bigger storehouses.

In Christ,

Pastor Keith

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

AUGUST 16

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Monday

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. Mary Circle at Marge Althof's

7:00 p.m. Rachel Circle at church

Wednesday

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

Friday

6:30 p.m. NA Teen Meeting

Saturday

6:30 a.m. MBA at Big Apple

9:00 a.m. LSSI - Fellowship Hall

5:00 p.m. Worship Service

THE PARISH RECORD

August 01/02	Saturday 5:00-17	Sunday 8:15-96	10:45-68	Total-181	Offerings \$6,965.00
August 08/09	Saturday 5:00-16	Sunday 8:15-97	10:45-63	Total-176	Offerings \$3,379.06