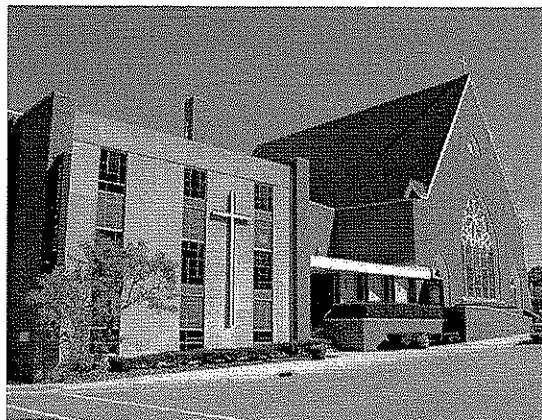


First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032



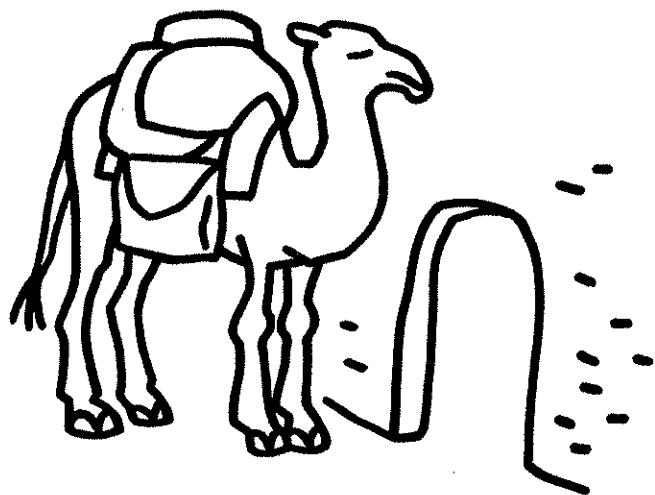
**THROUGH WORSHIP AND LOVING SERVICE,
WE MAKE CHRIST KNOWN TO ALL**

Volume 35 #30

October 9, 2009

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 10-11, 2009



The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark's gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own

and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.



Known to be hospitalized is JoAnn Beckman at UW Hospital, 600 Highland Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin 53792.

Bonnie Olson and Mildred Diehl are patients at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Opal Skeel would like to thank the Women of the ELCA and all who sent cards at the time of the death of her brother, Lester Snyder.

Elizabeth Gayle Hayenga, daughter of Leslie and Angela Hayenga was baptized at First Lutheran on October 4. Welcome to the family!

Congratulations to Janet and Dan Breed on the birth of their son, Kellen Daniel Breed on September 28, 2009 in Dyre, Indiana. Grandparents are Don and Lois Wagner.

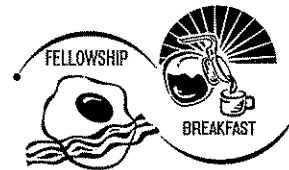
There will be a card shower for Effie Johnson, Manor Court, 2170 Navajo Drive, Freeport, IL 61032. Effie will be 95 on October 10.

Oops - Did you accidentally take the wrong bowl from the church kitchen? We're missing a glass salad bowl.

From the Volunteer Coordinator - Discontent is the price we pay for not being thankful for what we have.

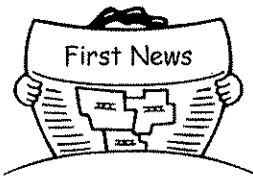
NANCY L. HEILMAN † **1956 - 2009**
May God grant peace to her memory, comfort to her family and grace to us all as we seek to live our lives to His glory.

JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST



Plan on joining us for this month's Fellowship Breakfast which will be held next Sunday, October 11, between services. The menu will be: two kinds of eggs, bacon, French toast sticks, corn beef hash, and peaches - something for everyone! The suggested donation to help cover expenses is \$6.00. Please come and enjoy the good food and fellowship!

FIRST NEWS



There will be no *First News* next week. The deadline for the next newsletter will be October 20.

ENDOWMENT FUND

First Lutheran's Endowment Fund is now accepting applications. The applications need to be turned in to the church office by November 30. Applications are available from the tract rack at church and are available on-line at www.firstlutheranfreeport.com.

KIDS AND BIG KIDS



Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 24 for the Halloween "Trunk and Treat" carnival which will be held in the church's parking lot.

WELCA PROGRAM



The WELCA Fall Luncheon will be held on Thursday, October 29, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our program speaker will be Carole Dickerson, Director of the Freeport Public Library, who will speak on banned books. Tickets will be sold the next two Sundays and are also available by calling the church office. Cost to attend is \$6.00 and all are welcome to attend.

READING GROUP

The women's reading group selected their next book, "We Band of Angels" by Elizabeth M. Norman. It tells the story of the American nurses trapped on Bataan by the Japanese in World War II. We will meet on Saturday, October 31, from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the Lounge to share our thoughts on the book.

KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting Group will meet on Saturday, October 17, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Lounge.

YOU CAN HELP!



Have you been itching to get into that old Halloween costume or relive those fun Halloween pranks? Well have I got an opportunity for you. Laser, Lena Area Special Event Runners, has asked that our First Lutheran Youth help them provide another "premium frightfully scary evening" during their 2009 Haunted Barn season. Not only do we get to have a good time scaring people, but they pay us for our time too, typically \$10.00 an hour. Right now, we have 8 spots to fill for Saturdays, October 17 and 31. Anyone 15 or older is welcome to join us. To sign up or get more information, please contact Diane Rimington. Email: diane.rimington@verizon.net or 815-369-4732.

GREETINGS BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,



What have you been watching lately? Has it been the television? Has it been a computer screen? Has it been the weather? Has it been for the Lord?

It would be important for us all to remember that one of the promises we place our hope in is the triumphant return of Jesus in all his glory. Time and time again Jesus tells all those with ears to hear, "To watch." Jesus also tells us that we need to watch because his return will not be unlike a thief trying to enter in the night.

Now don't hear me wrong, for I love to watch things like sports as much as anyone. I certainly enjoyed watching the football game on Monday night as much as anyone. However, I find it a little bit troubling that almost a week later that there are some who watched this game and are genuinely still depressed. "Things" such as football games belong to "this" world, and Jesus reminds us all that we are to be in "this" world, but not "of" this world.

Can you imagine what our world would be like if Jesus chose the last two minute of the game Monday night in which to make his return? I wonder how many millions of people would have missed seeing Him because they were to busy watching something else?

Nothing is more important than God! Nothing is more important than watching for God! If this were not so, God himself would not have told us so, would he?

In Christ,

Pastor Keith

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

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Teresa Parkinson, Choir Accompanist
Elwyn Euler, Custodian

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THIS WEEK AT FIRST

OCTOBER 11

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

9:00 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Catechism Classes

6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group

Wednesday

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

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Thursday

6:30 p.m. Kids of the Kingdom/Bell Choir/Praise Band Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. Celebration Choir Rehearsal

Friday

6:30 p.m. NA Teen Meeting

Saturday

6:30 a.m. MBA at Big Apple

10:00 a.m. Knitting Group

4:30 p.m. Praise Band

5:00 p.m. Worship Service

Youth Group Haunted Barn in Lena

THE PARISH RECORD

October 03/04 Saturday 5:00-34 Sunday 8:15-107 10:45-82 Total-223 Sunday School-31 Offerings \$6,195.00