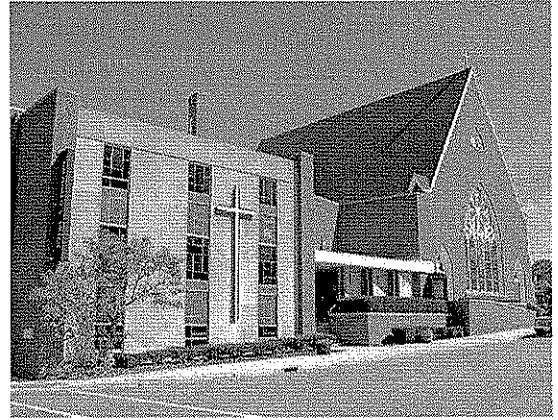


First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032



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

Volume 35 #35

November 20, 2009

Christ the King



Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, they still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision.

Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.



Known to be hospitalized is Darlene Janssen at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Shirley Kampmeier would like to thank everyone for the cards she received following the death of her brother-in-law Clark Jordan.

The deadline for First Lutheran's Endowment Fund is November 30. Applications are available from the tract rack at church or on-line at www.firstlutheranfreetport.com.

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).

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



Joyce and Delbert Mailand have recently retired from volunteering at the church office. They have helped to prepare the newsletter for mailing for over 20 years!!! We thank them

for their many years of dedicated service - in all kinds of weather. If you see Joyce and Del, please tell them, "thank you."

We also want to thank Judy Castle and June Brandt for coming on board as our new *First News* volunteers. They join Mary Kirkpatrick and Elsie Schoop on the newsletter crew. Mary and Elsie have also volunteered for more than 20 years. What a nice way to give back to your church!

FIRST NEWS

Speaking of the newsletter, there will be no *First News* next week due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The deadline for the next newsletter is December 1. December calendar and volunteer information will be needed at that time. Please remember to write your event/meeting information on the calendar that is located outside of Peg's office.

FREETPORT CHORAL SOCIETY'S Annual Winter Concert will be at 3:00 p.m. this Sunday, November 22, at St. John United Church of Christ, 1010 S. Park Boulevard, Freeport. There is no admission charge, but an offering will be taken.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP



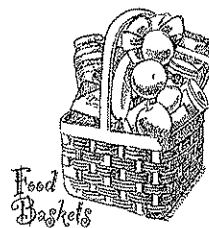
Our annual Thanksgiving Eve Service, will be held at First Lutheran Church at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25. Pastor Mark Luepke from Prince of Peace will be preaching and we will

have a combined First Lutheran and Prince of Peace choir. All undesignated offerings will be given to Freeport Area Church Cooperative (FACC).

YOU ARE INVITED

The Statdfield family invites the congregation to join them for an "Open House Adoption Celebration" for Harmony Isabella Statdfield and Destiny Danae Statdfield this Sunday, November 22, 2009 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the church. A light lunch and cake will be served.

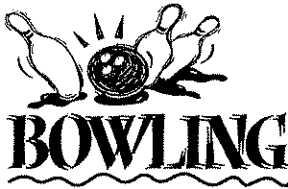
CHRISTMAS BASKETS



We can help provide families with a holiday dinner. Each year FACC delivers 250 food baskets to those in need. Churches are asked to bring specific items for those baskets. This year we have been asked to provide boxes of

Stove Top stuffing for families of all sizes. Thank you for your wonderful response. We will continue to collect boxes of stuffing through December 13.

YOUTH NEWS!!



The First Lutheran Senior and Junior High Youth Groups are going bowling Sunday, November 29th! Shake off that

Turkey Hangover and join us for some fun at the Four Seasons Bowling Alley from 4:00 to 7:30. This event is open to all youth, friends, and families! Your cost will be shoe rental, we'll supply the pizza and pop. Hope to see you there...it'll be a Jiggy time!!!

KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting Group will meet on Saturdays, November 21, and December 5 from 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. You may bring your own project to work on, or work on a variety of service projects including prayer shawls, children's sweaters, and scarves. Those wishing to learn how to knit or crochet are welcome to join us.

PROJECT WORKDAY

Project Workday will meet only once next month on Thursday, December 10, 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 will continue to collect new or gently-used items to be donated to area nursing homes, to be used as gifts and/or bingo prizes until December 1. Items needed include small stuffed animals, costume jewelry, small knick-knacks, and word search or fill-in books (larger print preferred). Donations may be left in the box near the sanctuary or in the WELCA box located by the mailboxes.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS



We have been asked by FACC to provide Christmas gifts for one of their transitional housing clients, a single man named Terry. The transitional housing program helps people get their lives back on track.

Terry is currently unemployed and looking for work on a daily basis. He also volunteers at FACC. His wish list includes very basic items such as insulated socks and work boots. To help provide a nice Christmas for Terry, we are asking for monetary donations. We will then go shopping and purchase gifts for him. If you would like to help, please use a pink envelope or a pew envelope and mark it "Gifts for Terry." Donations will be accepted through December 13. Thank you!

FIRST LUTHERAN FAMILIES



Please share your gifts with us this Christmas Eve. Our special music time will be before the 7 p.m. worship service. Please contact Dawn Zeigler to reserve your place. 815-233-3517 or zignlou@aeroinc.net on or before Sunday, December 13.



First News
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Freeport, IL 61032

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Teresa Parkinson, Choir Accompanist
Telephone: 235-9790 Fax: 235-9791
E-Mail: friends@firstlutheranfreeport.com

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

NOVEMBER 22

CHRIST THE KING

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Worship Services
9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Catechism Classes
9:30 a.m. Lutheranism Discussion
12:00 p.m. Open House Celebration for Harmony & Destiny Statdfield
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group
4:30 p.m. Monday Afternoon Program
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Monday

Wednesday

1:00 p.m. NW Conference Pastor's Text Study
7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service at First Lutheran

Thursday

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Friday

Office Closed
6:30 p.m. NA Teen Meeting

Saturday

6:30 a.m. MBA at Big Apple
5:00 p.m. Worship Service

THE PARISH RECORD

November 14/15 Saturday 5:00-17 Sunday 8:15-96 10:45-78 Total-191 Sunday School-36 Offerings \$3,579.00



Following Jesus

Matthew 6:25-33 Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life...But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches the crowds and his disciples about their relationship with God and their discipleship in the world. In these verses, Jesus speaks about how God provides for our every need and how undue concern for our possessions can get in the way of our living as his disciples.

These words speak to us today as we wrestle with the daily realities of our lives. We often find ourselves over-scheduled, over-extended, and over-drawn. Our lives are cluttered with too many commitments, too many possessions. We can be consumed by it all—we wonder “Will I have enough?” We fear not wearing the right clothes, not driving the right car, not having the latest electronic toy, not living in the right house. Too often our things define who we are.

Jesus comes to us in the midst of our fears and announces—“Do not worry! God has provided for all of your needs!” What does it mean for us to live in relationship with Jesus? How might our daily discipleship help us to live more simply, trusting in God’s abundance?