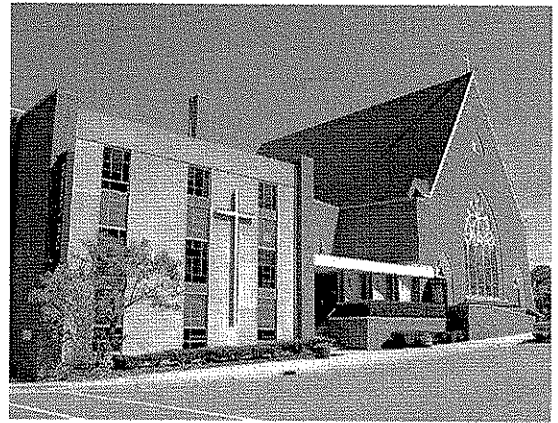


First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032



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

Volume 36 #6

February 12, 2010

Transfiguration of Our Lord



Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus will be unable to avoid reflecting that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see the glory of the Lord in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by the Spirit of God.



Known to be hospitalized are Dorothy Ackerman and Tina Buss at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Vicki Johnson (PO Box 554, Cedarville, IL 61013) had surgery this week and is recuperating at home.

Congratulations to the Boy Scouts of America on their 100th anniversary on February 8, 2010. Boy Scout Troop 7 has been supported by First Lutheran Church since they were chartered on October 13, 1942. They continue to meet at the church on Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

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 Kryse Brose (815-233-4410).

LENT BEGINS



Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday, February 17. Lent is a time to journey inwards so that we can turn around and reach out to God and our neighbor. Let us journey together and grow in our

love for God, ourselves and our neighbor. The schedule for services will be as follows:

Ash Wednesday 12:15 and 7:00 p.m.

Midweek services 12:15 and 7:00 p.m.
Suppers 6:15 p.m.

Maundy Thursday 12:15 and 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Easter Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.

LENTEN COIN FOLDERS



This year we are asking you to pick up a Lenten coin folder when you are at church. Please use

your Lenten coin folder to give an offering for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal to aid those who are suffering because of earthquakes, storms, and wars. This is a way in which you can show your love for Christ. Jesus said that whenever we help someone in need we are helping him. Make this your Lenten sacrifice so that others might have their suffering relieved.

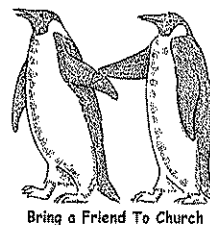
THE SIGN OF JONAH

A BOOK OF DAILY PRAYERS FOR LENT

Jonah...for Lent? Sounds fishy, but it's a natural fit. When the Jews asked Jesus for a sign, he said, "I will give you only the sign of Jonah." After three days in the belly of the earth, Jesus rose with news of God's prodigal grace. This small booklet of daily prayers explores the meaning of "The Sign Jonah" as we follow Jonah on his journey...and Jesus on his way to the cross. Please pick up your copy of this devotional booklet from church this Sunday.

HELP!!! Lent is approaching and this gives us an opportunity to attend Wednesday night worship services preceded by our fellowship dinners. Volunteers are needed to coordinate these five Wednesday night dinners starting February 24. A sign up sheet will be posted by Peg's office. You may cook or bring in "carry out." Any questions, call Mike Reichert 815-232-1657. Thanks for your help!!!

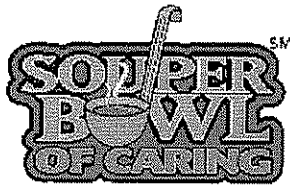
ITS ALL ACCESS SUNDAY!



Have you invited someone to church yet? Its not too late...all guests are welcome! The Evangelism committee is eager to see how many guests attend this Sunday. In addition to our regular

services, there will be a fellowship breakfast between services and all guests eat free. Lets see how full we can get the church this week!

AND THE SOUPER BOWL CHAMPION IS.... DA BEARS!



The Youth Group would like to thank the entire congregation for their generous support of last week's Souper Bowl of

Caring. Thanks to you, we were able to donate \$700 to the Freeport Area Church Cooperative's food pantry! As for our team competition between soup pots...the Bears came in first, followed by the Packers and Vikings. We'd love to tell you how much the margin between pots was, but the numbers were a bit fuzzy due to some over zealous Bear fans who were holding the pots. Maybe we should institute some sort of instant replay rule next year?????

LOOKING FOR ICE SKATES...

As some of you might have seen and heard, our youth will be participating in an Ice Hog's sponsored lock in. Not only do we get to spend the night, they are also allowing open ice skating. Doesn't that sound like fun? Well here's where we need your help. There are a few of the youth who do not have ice skates. We are hoping that some of you may have some which you'd be willing to lend to us on February 19. If you do, please use the sign up sheet by Peg's office door. We would be most grateful. As always, thank you for your continued support of our youth.

God's peace, Diane Rimington

THERE WILL BE A PARENTS MEETING to discuss the Ice Hogs lock in. Please meet at 9:30 a.m. this Sunday, February 14 in the Martin Luther Room. I look forward to seeing you there. Thank you. -Diane Rimington

WELCA TEA - Due to the snowstorm last Tuesday, the WELCA Tea has been rescheduled for Tuesday, February 16, at 2:00 p.m. The program will be given by Harriett Gustason. Tickets cost \$5.00 and may be reserved by calling the church office. We hope to see you there!

KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting Group will meet on Saturday, February 20, from 10:00-12:00 p.m. Those wishing to learn how to knit or crochet are welcome to join us.

HEALTH KITS FOR HAITI



Lutheran World Relief has sent all the health kits in their warehouse to Haiti, so for the next few months we will be collecting items to make more. Especially needed at this time are bath-size soap, wide-tooth combs, toothbrushes, and metal nail files or clippers. Donations may be left in the WELCA box located near the mailboxes. Thank you for your support!

FLOWER SHOW



You're Invited!

Don't forget to sign up for the bus trip on March 9 for the flower show in Chicago. We will leave the church at 8:00 a.m. and return by 6:30 p.m. Cost for the bus and ticket to the show is \$40.00 and reservations must be made by February 16th. You can sign-up between services this Sunday or by calling the church office. Why not invite a friend or two to come along!

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY



Several people have expressed interest in starting a small group bible study. As a result, we are beginning a 6 week study on "Faith" during Lent. We'll meet on Sunday afternoons from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. from February 21 through March 28. Anyone wishing to participate should call the church office. If you are interested in doing a bible study on a different day or time, please let us know. We also have material for a 6 week session on "Praying."

First News
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THIS WEEK AT FIRST

FEBRUARY 14

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Worship Services
9:00 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Catechism Classes/Parents Meeting
4:30 p.m. Monday Afternoon Program
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Monday

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. Mary Circle
Rebecca Circle

2:00 p.m. WELCA Tea

4:30 p.m. Girl Scouts

7:00 p.m. Rachel Circle

Wednesday

12:15 & 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Services

8:00 p.m. Celebration Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

6:30 p.m. Kids of the Kingdom Rehearsal

Friday

Youth Group to Ice Hogs Game

6:30 p.m. NA Teen Meeting

Saturday

6:30 a.m. MBA at Big Apple

10:00 a.m. Knitting Group

5:00 p.m. Worship

THE PARISH RECORD

February 6/7 Saturday 5:00-23 Sunday 8:15-130 10:45-105 Total-258 Sunday School-39 Offerings \$5,553.00