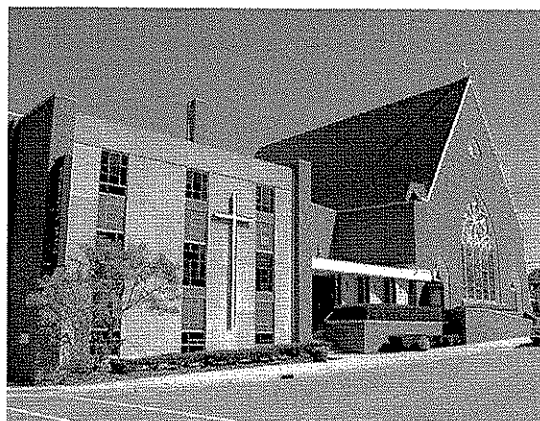


# First News

First Lutheran Church  
Freeport, IL 61032



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

Volume 36 #7

February 19, 2010

## *First Sunday in Lent*



*These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues; to receive the gifts of God's grace; to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus; and to resist temptation at every turn.*

*This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.*



Known to be hospitalized are Leon Heitter and Tina Buss at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Our sympathy to the Tormohlen family on the death of Paul's sister-in-law, Ruth Tormohlen on February 13, 2010.

Our sympathy to Norma Smith on the death of her cousin, Floyd Frederick on February 15, 2010.

Pastor Keith & Vicki Johnson would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, support, calls, and cards. A special thank you to those who sent food, flowers, candy, and even a pair of knitted gloves. A special thank you also to the Celebration Choir for the beautiful flowers. We are very blessed to be members of such a loving and supportive church. Thank you!

Betty Stebbins would like to thank everyone for the visits, phone calls, all the goodies like cookies, flowers, and candy that she received. A special thank you to Pastor Whitney for his visit.

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 Kryns Brose (815-233-4410).

### MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES



### LENT BEGINS

Midweek services begin this Wednesday, February 24, with services at 12:15 and 7:00 p.m. Suppers will begin at 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

This week's Lenten supper will be pizza and salad. A free will offering will be taken. Thanks to Mike & Barb Reichert for coordinating this week's meal!

We still need some individuals or groups to help plan and provide a meal for our Lenten suppers. This is not as large a task as you might think! Please sign up on the sheet posted on Peg's office door and call Mike Reichert for details. Thank you!

### LENTEN COIN FOLDERS AND DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS

If you haven't already done so, please pick up your Lenten Coin folder and your copy of "The Sign of Jonah," daily devotional prayers for Lent. The offerings we receive from the Lenten coin folders will be given to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At our last council meeting Gordy Tormohlen was elected president, Micki Arana vice president, Joe Banderet secretary, and Gene Wall treasurer. Other council members are: Tina Chamberlin, John Cornacchia, Deb Elzinga, Dena Kampmier, Jane Klemm, Steve Olson, Tom Parkinson, Diane Rimington, and Ann Sperle. Please support our leaders with your prayers.

### ECUMENICAL SERVICE THIS SUNDAY

First Lutheran's Celebration Choir is combining with choirs from St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church, Grace Episcopal Church, Trinity United Methodist Church, and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for a Lenten Vesper Service this Sunday, February 21, at 3:00 p.m. at St Joseph Church, 229 Washington Place. The pastors will also be sharing some meditations during the service. Please join us for this Ecumenical Worship Service.

**NURSERY NEEDS** - Thanks to everyone who signed up to help staff the nursery in March. We just need someone to sign up for March 28. The sign-up sheet is posted on Peg's office door.

**MARCH 7TH WEATHER FORECAST:  
CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS!**



Spaghetti Lunch No, not the movie ... It's the First Lutheran Youth Group! We're having our annual All You Can Eat Spaghetti Lunch on Sunday the 7th from noon to 2:00 p.m. For just \$5 per person or \$20 per family, you'll feast on all the spaghetti you can eat, plus salad, garlic bread, and dessert! The proceeds will go toward our 2011 Mission Trip savings account. Tickets will be available after services through the 7th. Bring a friend and your appetite!!!

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**


Join Church Women United for a Bible Study on Friday, February 26, 9:30 a.m. at Mt. Calvary Church of God in Christ, 420 East Challenge Street.

There will be a World Day of Prayer service on Friday, March 5, 1:30 p.m. also at Mt. Calvary Church. The service was written by Christian Women of Cameroon, Africa. For more information, you may contact Phyllis Rosenwinge.

**KNITTING GROUP**

The Knitting Group will meet on Saturday, February 20, from 10:00 a.m. - 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, washcloths, band-aids, 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**

We still have room for two more people for the bus trip on March 9 to 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. Call Ruth Wardlow if you are interested.

**PROJECT WORKDAY**

Project Workday will meet on Thursday, February 25, from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room. Come join us for part or all of the day.

**READING GROUP**

The women's reading group has selected their next book, "A Reliable Wife" by Robert Goolrick. We will meet on Saturday, March 13, from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the Lounge to share our thoughts on the book. Come and join us!

**NISWO RETREATS**

The Northern Illinois Synod Women are sponsoring two retreats on "Prayer ..... Conversation with God." The overnight retreat will be held April 9-10 at Bishop Lane Retreat Center, Rockford for a cost of \$75, which includes meals and lodging. A one-day retreat will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Streator on Saturday, March 20, for a cost of \$30, which includes lunch. Registration deadline is March 7 and registration forms are found on the bulletin board near the restrooms. Scholarships are also available. Contact Jan Butterfield or Ruth Wardlow for more information.

**NW CONFERENCE SPRING ASSEMBLY**

The Women of the Northwest Conference will gather for their Spring Assembly on Saturday, March 27, from 8:45 - 11:30 a.m. at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Scales Mound. Cost is \$8.00 and registration forms are found on the WELCA bulletin board. Deadline for registration is March 22. Contact Ruth Wardlow or Jan Butterfield if you wish to car-pool.

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  
Dawn Zeigler, Music Coordinator, Organist, Bell Choir Director  
Christina Parkinson, Praise Band Director, Choir Accompanist  
Elwyn Euler, Custodian  
Website: [www.firstlutheranfreeport.com](http://www.firstlutheranfreeport.com)

Milt Whitney, Visitation Pastor  
Gordon Tormohlen, Lay President  
Dagny Brandt, Celebration Choir & Kids of the Kingdom Director  
Teresa Parkinson, Choir Accompanist  
Telephone: 235-9790 Fax: 235-9791  
E-Mail: [friends@firstlutheranfreeport.com](mailto:friends@firstlutheranfreeport.com)

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST**  
**FEBRUARY 21**      **FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**  
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Worship Services  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Catechism Classes  
3:00 p.m. Youth Group  
3:00 p.m. Lenten Vesper Service at St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
Monday      4:30 p.m. Monday Afternoon Program  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts  
Tuesday      4:30 p.m. Girl Scouts  
Wednesday      12:15 & 7:00 p.m. Midweek Lenten Services  
1:00 p.m. NW Conference Pastor's Text Study  
6:15 p.m. Lenten Supper  
Thursday      10:00 a.m. Workday  
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir, Praise Band, & Kids of the Kingdom 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  
5:00 p.m. Worship

**THE PARISH RECORD**

February 13/14 Saturday 5:00-23 Sunday 8:15-120 10:45-61 Total-204 Sunday School-27 Offerings \$3,463.00