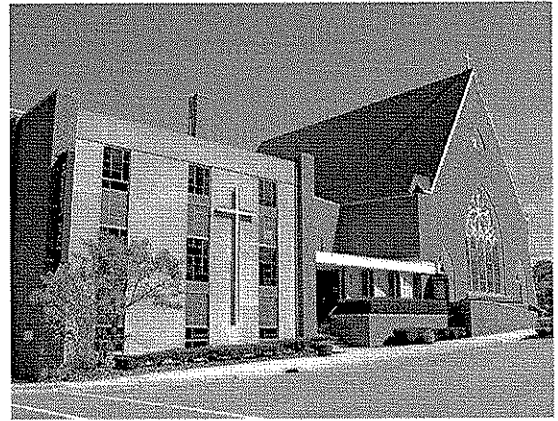


First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032

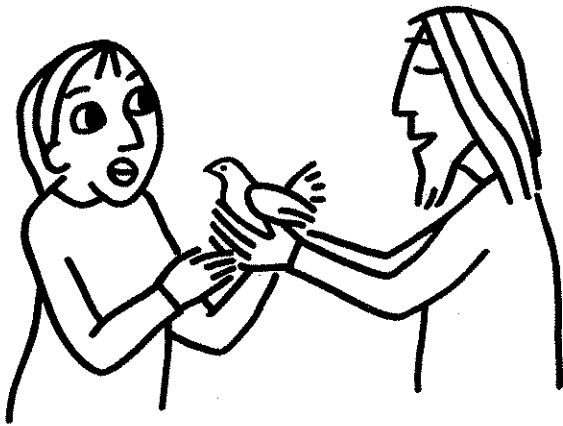


**THROUGH WORSHIP AND LOVING SERVICE,
WE MAKE CHRIST KNOWN TO ALL**

Volume 36 #18

May 7, 2010

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. The risen Lord Jesus provides visions of peace that passes human understanding and power beyond human imagination.



Known to be hospitalized are Ivan Sorn and Louie Banderet at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Kelly Alexander had surgery this week and is recuperating at home.

Arnold Schramm is back at home. He would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers and the pastors for their visits and prayers.

Thanks to Joanne Van Natta for volunteering to input our Time & Talent volunteer information. We had several other people call to volunteer and we thank them all!

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).

MOTHER'S DAY AUCTION

When: This Sunday, May 9th - Mother's Day

Where: In Fellowship Hall

Time: 9:20 until the second service starts

Why: To support our Youth for their Mission Trip

Questions: Call Jackie 815-238-0403

PENTECOST FLOWERS



Pentecost is May 23 and we will again be decorating the church with red geraniums. The cost is \$11.50 for 3 plants. They may be given in memory or in honor of someone. Please use a pink envelope or a pew envelope.

DIRECTORY UPDATE - FANTASTIC NEWS

Due to the **incredible** response to the Directory picture sign up, an additional photography day has been added to ensure as much of our congregation as possible is included in the new Directory. That is **AWESOME** !!!!! We now are taking reservations for Thursday, June 10 from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Please continue to sign up at church before each service or call MaryAnn Elmer at 815-235-8728 to reserve your spot. Thank you to all those who have already scheduled their appointment.

GIFTS GALORE!!!



We have a lot of great donations for our Mother's Day auction! We have a Tastefully Simple basket promised, a Blessings Unlimited basket, a Longaberger one filled with goodies...Al Simler will be donating some of his beautiful work....Lots more. Plenty of baked goods....Please come and enjoy the fun. The Youth really need your support for their Mission Trip, and you will leave with something wonderful...(if you have the highest bid!!) Donations can be brought in anytime on Sunday morning, May 9, before the big event. If you need something picked up, please call me ahead of time and I will take care of it for you. Your thoughtfulness is very appreciated!!

Jackie Meiborg 815.238.0403
Event Co-ordinator

SUMMER MUSICIANS WANTED!



Here's a chance to try out something new, put together an ensemble, dust off a well-loved piece... Please share your music with us during our summer worship! Contact Dawn Zeigler - 815-233-3517 or zignlou@aeroinc.net

KNITTING GROUP - The Knitting Group will meet on Saturday, May 15, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. You may bring your own project to work on, or you may work on a variety of service projects. Those wishing to learn how to knit or crochet are welcome to join us.

PROJECT WORKDAY - Project Workday will meet on Thursday, May 13, from 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room. We continue to make up Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief as well as Layette Kits. Items especially needed include: cloth diapers, receiving blankets, bath-size soap (Ivory or Dial preferred), large safety pins or diaper pins, toothbrushes, metal nail files or clippers, washcloths, and wide-toothed combs. If you would like to help, please leave your donations in the WELCA box located near the mailboxes. Thank you for your support!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS

VBS will be held June 6 - 10 at Grace Episcopal Church. Sign up for VBS will be held between services on May 9 and 16.

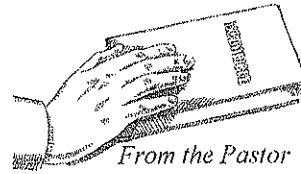
CRAFT SUPPLIES - We need 12 ounce plastic water bottles with caps and 2 L (soda) bottles - empty and clean. Please leave them in the box provided across from the coat rack on the main floor.

There will be a VBS Staff Training meeting on Sunday, May 16, 2:00 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church.

SATURDAY SERVICE

The Praise Band will be playing at the Saturday service on May 15. They will be having some guest musicians. Rick Andrews (bass guitar) and Jon Watson (drums) will be sitting in with the band. They have some really great music planned, so come and join us for worship at 5:00 p.m.

GREETINGS BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,



Well, with all the funerals, weddings, and our usual worship services taking place these past few weeks, First Lutheran has been rather busy, hasn't it? I guess the question that I am asking myself, is one that I would like to ask all of you as well. No matter how busy we get, do we remember to thank God for all of the work?

Remember the words given to us in 1 Corinthians 10:13 (hopefully by now you realize that I'm not going to write them out for you, but rather invite you to go search for them instead), where God promises to be faithful to us. Take some time, no matter how busy you think you are, and really think about just what that promise truly means for you, God promising to be faithful to you.

In a world where I have unfortunately come to find that there is precious little that you can depend upon, I take great delight in believing that God promises to be the first and foremost of them. When God gives us work to do, I trust that he is giving us opportunities to believe in Him and place our trust in Him, no matter what the task may be. I think the busier you are the more God thinks you can handle just what He is asking you to do. Isn't that awesome? God thinking that you can do the job?

Can we find enough time, to thank Him?

In Christ,
Pastor Keith



First News
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Freeport, IL 61032
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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

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

MAY 9 **SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Worship Services
9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Catechism
9:30 a.m. Mother's Day Auction

Monday 4:30 p.m. Monday Afternoon Program
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday 4:30 p.m. Girl Scouts

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. NW Conference Pastor's Meeting in Schapville
6:00 p.m. Worship & Music Team
7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Thursday 10:00 a.m. Workday
6:30 p.m. Kids of the Kingdom & Bell Choir
7:00 p.m. Mutual Ministry Meeting at Herrling's
7:30 p.m. Celebration Choir

Friday 6:30 p.m. NA Teen Meeting
Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday 6:30 a.m. MBA at Big Apple
10:00 a.m. Knitting Group
Heitter/Pierce Wedding
3:30 p.m. Praise Band
5:00 p.m. Worship Service

THE PARISH RECORD

May 01/02 Saturday 5:00-34 Sunday 8:15-124 10:45-114 Total-268 Sunday School-25 Offerings \$7,167.00

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

303 SOUTH GALENA AVENUE

E-Mail: friends@firstlutheranfreeport.com

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TELEPHONE (815) 235-9790 FAX (815) 235-9791

KEITH JOHNSON, PASTOR

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

May 5, 2010

Dear Fellow First Lutherans:

It's a new day at First Lutheran! As your new Congregation Council President, I'm excited about the direction our church is headed. With Pastor Neville's retirement, Pastor Kurt's interim ministry, and the call process from cottage meetings to Pastor Keith's installation, the ministry of First Lutheran has been "on hold" for a while. Now that Pastor Keith has had some time to move into his office and get to know us better, it's time to "step up our game" for God.

With that in mind, I'd like to share some information to help you get the most out of your church leaders, and offer an opportunity to take part in this growing ministry. First, on the back of this letter is a list of your current council members. Next to each person's name are the committee(s) on which he or she serves as a liaison. As a liaison, the council members relay information to the committees, and report committee activities to the council. Council members are responsible for the actual operation of the church. Your church council and Pastor Keith are here to make sure the business and spiritual needs of First Lutheran are being met. Please feel free to contact the council members with any questions or concerns you have about the church.

Second, as committees and activities begin to pick up speed, we're hanging out the "**Help Wanted**" sign. Like many churches, First has become a victim of the old 80/20 rule, where 80% of the work is often done by 20% of the people. Our committees need your help to expand their ministry. To make it easier to participate, we're streamlining our meeting dates. Beginning this month, all First Lutheran committees will meet on the first Wednesday of the month so you only have to commit one night a month to join in on the fun!

As I close, I'd like to remind you of the parable of the Talents. In this parable, Jesus tells of a rich man who gives three servants varying sums of money for safe keeping while he travels. When he returned, the servants who invested the money and reaped a return were considered good and faithful, while the servant who hid the money in the ground and did nothing with it, was considered a bad servant. More than 125 years ago, some church ladies in Pennsylvania and a Lutheran pastor traveling the county on horseback helped start First Lutheran's ministry. Today, we are the servants in charge of this ministry. Will we hide it in the ground, or invest our time and talents??? I hope to see you on Committee Night!

God's Peace,

Gordon Tormohlen

2010 First Lutheran Church Council

Officers:

President: Gordon Tormohlen
 Vice President: Micki Arana
 Secretary: Joe Banderet
 Treasurer: Gene Wall

Council Members	Liaison Assignments:
Micki Arana (H-232-3016 or mickisaboss@aol.com)	<i>Music & Worship, Youth, Executive</i>
Joe Banderet (H-235-2609 or joe_banderet@yahoo.com)	<i>Evangelism, Executive</i>
Tina Chamberlin (H-235-8096)	<i>Evangelism</i>
John Cornacchia (H-232-7399 or johncornacchia@yahoo.com)	<i>Property</i>
Deb Elzinga (W-232-6194 or elzinga@aeroinc.net)	<i>Neighborhood Ministry, Natural Church Development</i>
Dena Kampmier (H-865-5589 or dena.kampmier@newellco.com)	<i>Music & Worship, Christian Ed, Ministry Support, Stewardship</i>
Jane Klemm (H-232-1245 or klemm00@verizon.net)	<i>Memorial</i>
Steve Olson (C-222-0190 or solson@ionthenet.com)	<i>Property, Youth</i>
Tom Parkinson (H-233-9222 or tparkin550@aol.com)	<i>Christian Ed</i>
Diane Rimington (H-369-4732 or diane.rimington@verizon.net)	<i>Youth, Stewardship</i>
Ann Sperle (H-235-9197 or annsperle@comcast.net)	<i>Memorial, Ministry Support</i>
Gordon Tormohlen (H-232-2845, W-232-5543 or cookiebar@mwci.net)	<i>Evangelism, Youth, Endowment, Executive</i>