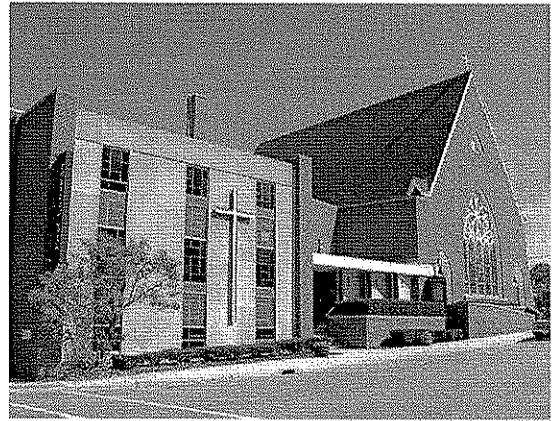


First News

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032

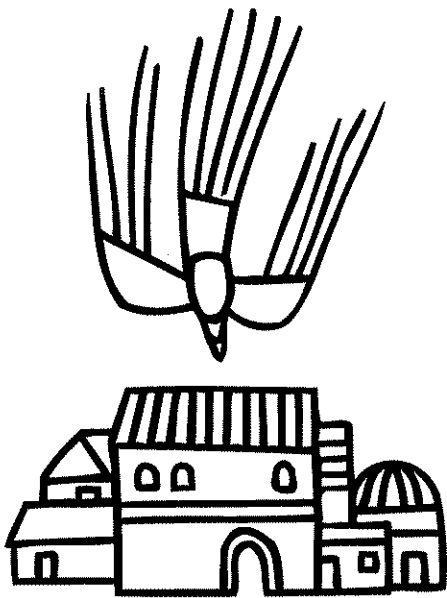


**THROUGH WORSHIP AND LOVING SERVICE,
WE MAKE CHRIST KNOWN TO ALL**

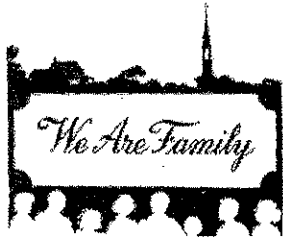
Volume 36 #20

May 21, 2010

Day of Pentecost



Pentecost is a day of promises fulfilled. The promised Spirit of God is poured out. The baptized have become "children of God" and "joint heirs with Christ." By the power of the Spirit we have seen the face of the Father in his only begotten Son and been saved by him. Bless the Lord, O my soul.



Known to be hospitalized is Ivan Sorn at FHN Memorial Hospital.

Our sympathy to Vic & Jan Shields and family on the death of Jan's mother, Marjorie Willig on May 12, 2010.

Donna Dwyer would like to thank the folks at First for their prayers and concerns. Her knee has healed and her shoulder is coming along.

Congratulations to Pastor Linda Kersten (former Associate Pastor of First Lutheran Church) who has published her first children's book, *Bashful Babs*. For more information you can contact Pastor Linda at pastorlinda@hotmail.com.

We are missing one of our (shorter) Assisting Minister robes. If you know anything about this, please give the church office a call. Thanks!

Malcolm Eaton Enterprises will hold their 16th Annual Pork Chop Dinner and Car Show this Sunday, May 23, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the main campus, 570 W. Lamm Road. Tickets are available at Cub Foods, Lena State Bank, State Bank of Freeport, and Malcolm Eaton Enterprises.

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).

WEAR SOMETHING RED

This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost is the festival of the Spirit, the birthday of the Church. We will have red geraniums and we ask that you wear something red this Sunday - the symbol of fire and zeal.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION



THANK YOU TO OUR
SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHERS & STAFF

This Sunday will be our final time for Sunday School and Confirmation classes until Fall. Thanks to our teachers and students for a great year together! Please take a minute to thank our Sunday School and Confirmation staff: They are:

Danny Arana, Dagny Brandt, Kristin Brandt, Jan Butterfield, Judy Castle, Sheila Castle, Tyler Cowman, Pastor Keith, Carrie Julius, Dena & Roger Kampmier, Jackie Meiborg, Bob Neuendorf, Teresa Parkinson, Pat Schutte, Jan Shields, Barb Statdfield, Don Tresemer, Joanne VanNatta, Gene Wall, and Dawn & Greg Zeigler.

OUR GRADUATES



On Sunday, June 6, we will honor our high school and college graduates at the 8:15 a.m. service. Their will be a reception in their honor following the service. If you or someone you know is graduating from college this year, we would like to have their name, please call the church office.

SUMMER CAMP

This Sunday is the deadline for turning in your "Campership" form for financial assistance to attend summer camp at LOMC in Oregon. Forms and brochures are available from the bulletin board at church. Just leave your Campership form in the folder in Peg's office. If you have any questions, please call Micki Arana at 815-232-3016 or 815-275-3086 and be sure to leave a message.

PROJECT WORKDAY



Project Workday will meet on Thursday, May 27, 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 this time include: cloth diapers, receiving blankets, bath-size soap (Ivory or Dial preferred), washcloths, toothbrushes, metal nail files or clippers, and wide-toothed combs. Please leave your donations in the WELCA box located near the mailboxes.

If you would like to make a monetary contribution toward the purchase of diapers, you may leave your donation in the large baby bottle found in the entryway. Thank you for your support!

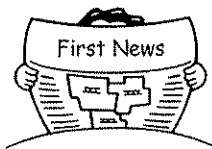
ANDERSON GARDENS TRIP



The women of Prince of Peace have invited us to join them on Saturday, June 5, for their tour of Anderson Gardens in Rockford. Cost is \$6.00 for those over 62 years of age or \$7.00 for others. Lunch

will be on your own after the tour at the Gardens. Those interested should call Jan Butterfield or Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Please meet at the parking lot of Prince of Peace by 8:45 a.m. to car pool.

NEWSLETTER



The deadline for the next First News is Tuesday, May 25. June calendar and volunteer information will be needed at that time. Remember - you can e-mail your newsletter article to: friends@firstlutheranfreeport.com.

GREETINGS BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

I recently attended a meeting with some fellow clergy, where the discussion slowly became about church attendance. As I listened to the growing list of reasons that parishioners had given their respective pastors as to why they couldn't "make it" to church on a given Sunday, my mind started thinking of that famous picture of Jesus standing outside of a house, knocking on the door.

I have to admit, I started to laugh. I laughed because I wondered if most people would react to Jesus knocking on their door unannounced, the same way they do when other people knock on their door unannounced. You know, silently creeping to the edge of the curtains, slowly pulling them a fraction of an inch away from the wall, and carefully peeking around the edge to see who is there. Of course, all this is going on as other members of your household have frozen like statues and don't dare make a sound, hoping to make it seem as if no one is there, while your wife is making like Speedy Gonzalez trying to pick up every last bit of clutter she can find, can't have a messy home you know!

This leads me to a question . . . do you think Jesus is knocking on your door hoping you open the door and invite him in, or do you think Jesus is knocking on your door, hoping to invite you out into the world with him?

Either way, just how many times do you think Jesus is going to knock on your door, if your answer to him is choosing not to respond?

God gave to us His Son, who in turn gave to us EVERYTHING he had. Remember, attending a service designed to give God thanks and praise is really nothing more than a choice . . . knock, knock . . . Jesus calling.

In Christ,
Pastor Keith



First News
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Dagny Brandt, Celebration Choir & Kids of the Kingdom Director
Teresa Parkinson, Choir Accompanist
Telephone: 235-9790 Fax: 235-9791
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THIS WEEK AT FIRST

MAY 23 DAY OF PENTECOST
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Worship Services
9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Catechism
Monday 4:30 p.m. Monday Afternoon Program
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
Tuesday 4:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
Thursday 6:30 p.m. Bell Polishing Party
Friday 6:30 p.m. NA Teen Meeting
Saturday 6:30 a.m. MBA at Big Apple
1:00 p.m. Witte/Erickson Wedding
5:00 p.m. Worship Service

THE PARISH RECORD

May 08/09 Saturday 5:00-60 Sunday 8:15-99 10:45-111 Total-270 Sunday School-33 Offerings \$3,574