



# FIRST NEWS

First Lutheran Church  
Freeport, IL 61032

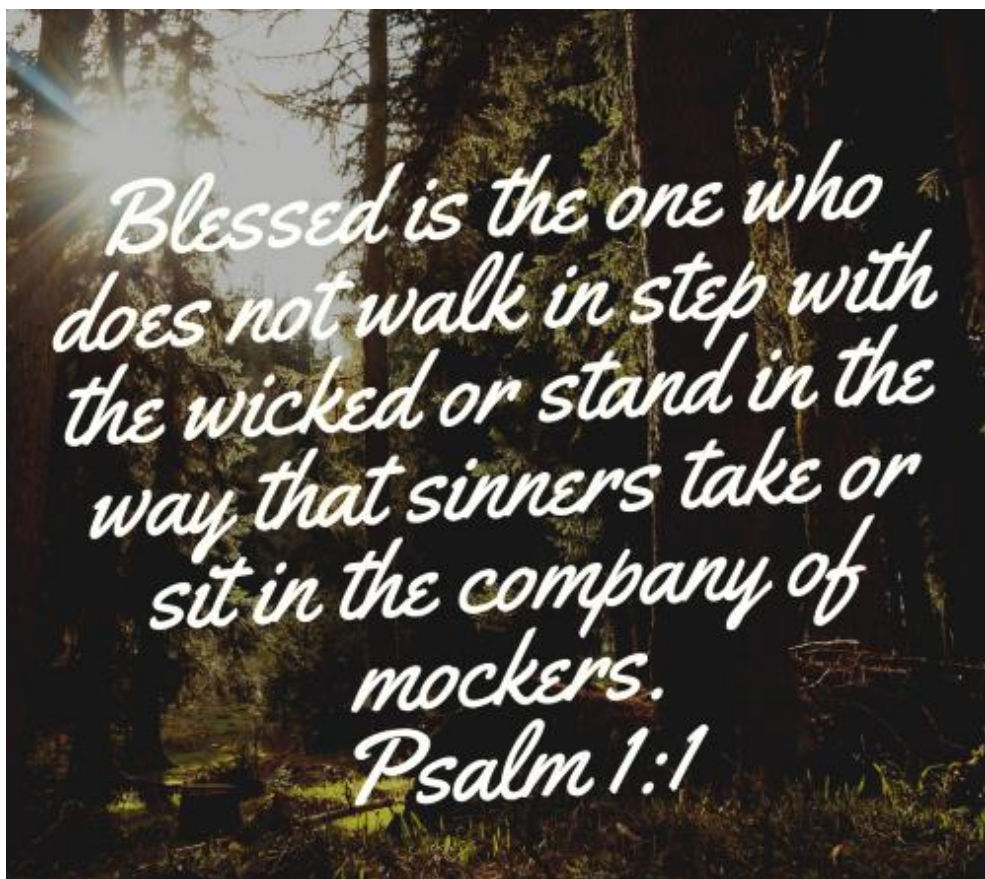
*Through worship and loving service,  
We make Christ known to all*

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Volume 49 #9

September 1, 2022

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Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

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, please contact Ruth Wardlow (815) 232-4839 or the church office at (815)235-9790

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### **A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR**

Greetings disciples of Christ,

Exciting times my friends, exciting times!

Please join me in welcoming Lisa Nadig to First Lutheran. Lisa will serve as Choir Director and Musical Coordinator and I thank God for bringing us together.

September 11th marks Rally Sunday here at First Lutheran. We will be welcoming new members. We will be having the Freeport Fire Department here to teach our children Fire Safety, while also teaching our adults the correct use of our defibrillators. This also means that all of our education opportunities will be assembling again, so please, don't be afraid to challenge yourself and push your learning boundaries.

None of this is possible, however, without God's Holy Spirit stirring within us God's call to life. Give thanks in all you think and say and do, and make a difference! Remember, God loves you very, very much and so do I!

In Christ,  
Pr. Keith



### **WORSHIP**



**Streaming** – Sunday morning services are available to watch live on Facebook at 9:00 a.m. You can view this by clicking on or typing in this address <https://www.facebook.com/firstlutheranfreeport>. Once you are on the page you will need to click on the video. If you are not able to watch us live at 9:00 a.m. you can view the recorded version of the service at the same link or by going to the First Lutheran website [www.firstlutheranfreeport.org](http://www.firstlutheranfreeport.org). If you choose to watch it on the website you will need to scroll to the bottom of the home page and choose the service you would like to view.

**We all know the power of prayer is strong. During our lives, we all need extra prayers at times.**

**Currently, extra prayers are requested for** - Terry Love, Wayne Smith, Larry Reel, Tina Chamberlin, Sharon Smith, Chuck Leonard Jr, Gail & Bob Willis, Charles Janicke, Inga Love, Fred Busker, Pastor Keith, Lorraine Helms, Cindy Heitkam, Mary Smith, Kelly Jo Czerneck, Bob Last, Connie Keehn, Jack Becke, Marge Klentz, Jay Nevenhoven, Gail Harris, Tim Shields, Marv Harris, Sean Lane, Carole Busjahn, Mary Lee Gerbode, Beth Luke, Lane Last, Joann LeBaron, Lynne Wild, Darin Davis, Sharon Janicke, Reuben Pearson, Jesse Baldwin, Lauren Diehl, Jerry Stalcup, Dee Burstrom, Theresa Kavran, Raymond Marschang, Sarah Lower Borstad, Kevin Madsen, Ryan Griffith, Hank Fortney, Harriett Gustason, Joe & Jean Sorn, Elsie Schoop, Shirley Washburn, Betty Tormohlen, Audrey Stees, Pastor Milt Whitney, David Parks, Phyllis McLain, Margaret Althoff, Nadine Strohecker, Diane Rondeau.

**Sunday Bible Study** –You are invited to join us for a casual, comfortable, informative bible study every Sunday in the Martin Luther Room at 10:00 am. Grab a cup of coffee and a donut and come join us. Everyone is welcome.

**Two People to Greet and Usher on Sundays** - The duties of greeters and ushers are being combined. Thank you to all who have signed up so far. If you would like to help out the clipboard for signing up is in the narthex. This is an easy way to help out. If you can help greet people coming into the church, pass out bulletins, answer questions, and make people feel welcome please sign up.

**Coffee Hour Treats** – We currently have a treat sign-up sheet for Sunday morning coffee hour. If you are interested in providing treats please sign up or contact Bob Neuendorf for more information.



**Welcome, Lisa** – On Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> our new choir director, Lisa Nadig, will be installed and a welcome reception will be held in her honor during coffee hour. Please mark your calendars and join us in welcoming her to our First Lutheran family.

**Choir** – It is time for our choir to resume for the year. Choir members are needed. Rehearsal will start on Thursday, September 1 at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. If you have any questions please contact Lisa at [galenacountrylalala@gmail.com](mailto:galenacountrylalala@gmail.com), or (815)242-2387.

**Accompanist Wanted (We need your help getting the word out)** - First Lutheran seeks one or more accompanists to work with our adult choir as well as weekly services. We offer competitive pay, a well-established musical tradition, and an excellent work environment. Please direct resume and references to: [galenacountrylalala@gmail.com](mailto:galenacountrylalala@gmail.com). ***(Fliers are available from the church if you know anyone interested or have a place you would like to display one. Contact Melissa or Lisa. Thank you for your help in getting the word out.)***



**RALLY SUNDAY**  
**Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:15 am**  
**Fellowship Hall**

The Freeport Fire Department will be at Rally Sunday!!  
You will get to meet them, and ask questions, and they will be showing us  
the fire exits from the Sunday School rooms. They plan to bring  
a Fire Engine for us to check out if there are no fires.

We can't wait to see everyone again!!

God Loves you and so do !!!

Ms. Vicki



**Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>** – Rally Sunday is going to be a day full of activities and celebrations. In addition to the first day of Sunday School, and a visit and demonstration from our local firefighters, we will be welcoming new members to our First Lutheran Family. We will be celebrating them and all our new members that have joined since the beginning of Covid with a reception during coffee hour. Please plan to join us.



activity

**ACTIVITIES**

**Luther N Brew** – The first Tuesday of every month the men of First Lutheran are invited to gather at Cannova's restaurant, 1101 W. Empire St., for pizza and conversation. September 6th is the next gathering date, arrive at 6:30 pm. No reservations are needed.

**Knitting Group** - First Lutheran's knitting group meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at the Wall of Yarn shop on Stephenson Street. Come join us on September 3 & 17 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm, and bring a project of your choice to knit or crochet. We are always looking for people to knit prayer shawls and prayer squares. If you are interested, we have a supply of yarn and patterns you may use. Just contact Jan Butterfield or Bev Herrling for more information.

**Project Day** - Project Day will meet on Thursday, September 8 & 22 from 10:00-3:00 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room. We have completed the kits for Lutheran World Relief for this year, and they are packed and ready to bring to the ingathering in September. We continue to work on making and tying quilts and lap robes, and can always use large pieces of material or bedsheets, for quilt backings. We also collect lightweight bath towels throughout the year, darker colors preferred. Donations may be left in the WELCA box next to the mailboxes. You are welcome to come for part or all of the day; just bring your lunch if you plan to stay over the noon hour. We look forward to seeing you!!

**Bunko** - The monthly Bunko group will gather on Thursday, September 15 from 1:00-3:00 pm in the Martin Luther Room. No reservations are needed, and beginners are always welcome. This is an easy-to-learn game and a fun time is had by all! Come on down and bring a friend!

**Saturday Morning Bible Study** – Everyone is welcome. This group meets at 7:30 a.m. on Saturdays at Amigo's restaurant, 306 N Galena Ave. We study the Bible lessons for the upcoming Sunday. Please feel free to join us. If you have questions, please contact the church office or Bob Neuendorf.



**Women of the church are invited to join in  
Lunch at "Stella's"**

**100 N. Main St. Stockton, IL**

Friday, September 2, 2022, at 11:30 AM

We will be gathering at 11 am sharp in the First Lutheran parking lot to carpool to Stellas for an 11:30 lunch. If you **are not** meeting at the church to carpool, please let Judy Castle know (815-291-1928) that you will meet us at the restaurant. Sign up on the church office door or call the church to have your name added.

Any questions call Judy Castle



**WELCA**

**Mary Circle** – will meet on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the Martin Luther Room.

**Rebecca Circle** – will meet on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall.

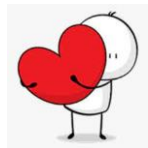
**If you are interested in attending WELCA will pay half of your registration fee. The deadline to register has been extended. Contact Judy Castle if you are interested.**

**Northern Illinois Synod Woman of the ELCA**  
 33rd Annual Convention  
 September 17, 2022  
 Theme: **"Be a Humble Servant"**  
 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church  
 Freeport, IL

**Philippians 2:4 "Each of you should look not only to your own interests but also to the interests of others"**  
**Keynote Speaker:** Loni Whitford Taylor, Tribal Leader, Rocky Boy Reservations, Member of ELCA Church Council  
 To register see the forms on the WELCA bulletin board. It has been three years since we have been able to gather in person and since it is going to be held in our hometown, we have the opportunity to have many participants from our church present. Registration forms are needed by August 17th with a \$40 registration fee.  
 Any questions call Judy Castle at cell-815-291-1928 or home at 815-233-2425.

**UPDATES**

**Directory** – Updates have been made to the 2021 church directory. There are copies on the table by the glass doors. Please keep the church posted when your information changes. We try our best to stay up to date but can not accomplish this without you. We appreciate your help in keeping us up to date. Thank you.

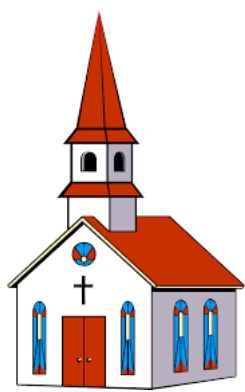


**Sending our love and support to others** – Inside the glass front doors is a table with greeting cards on it. Please take a minute and stop and sign your name or leave a message on the cards. We want our First Lutheran family and friends to feel our support when they need it most. These cards will be sent out to show our love during an illness or death. Your participation is appreciated. Thank you!!

**The church office will be closed from September 1 – September 5. We will return to the office on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. If you need anything please leave a message on the church voice mail. It will be checked periodically and your call will be returned. If you have an emergency please contact Pastor Keith directly.**



**FACC** – Soup (any kind) is the item First Lutheran has been assigned to collect for the month of September. We had set a goal of 150 cans for August. Congratulations as of August 23 we have collected 132 cans of mixed vegetables. We have one more Sunday so I am sure we will exceed our goal. Since we did so awesome in August let's set our goal for September at 175 cans. If each one of us brings in 2 cans, we will exceed our goal. Thank you to those who donated. Your donations are appreciated. If you would like to donate you are welcome to bring them to worship or drop them at the church during the week.



July Financials		
	Current Month	Year to Date
Total Income	\$18,986.73	\$144,741.85
Total Expenses	\$16,410.25	\$142,524.97
Income Less Expenses	\$ 2,576.48	\$ 2,216.88

August Attendance		
Date	Sunday 9:00	Facebook Live
July 7	39	61
July 14	61	59
July 21	58	107
July 28	NA	NA
Total	158	227




Date	Altar Guild	Usher	Reader	Worship Assistant
September 4	Sandy Helms & Mary Meyers	Volunteers Needed	Brad Heilman	Dena Kampmier
September 11	Esther Eden & June Brandt	Brad & Rochelle Heilman	Brad Heilman	Gail Diehl
September 18	Esther Eden & June Brandt	Judy & Jim Castle	Brad Heilman	Jeff Cowman
September 25	Esther Eden & June Brandt	Sandy Helms & Volunteer Needed	Brad Heilman	Judy Kaufman

**James Eden † 1934 - 2022**

May God grant peace to his memory comfort to his family and grace to us all as we seek to live our lives to His glory.



**Thank you** to everyone who participated at the Stephenson County Fair booth. We feel the day was a great success. We were able to share our love for Jesus and First Lutheran Church with so many people. We look forward to next year. With a year to plan we are sure we will be able to prepare for an even more effective way to share Jesus and First Lutheran with others. Thank you to Brad & Rochelle Heilman, Bob & Kathy Neuendorf, Gail Diehl, Larry & Phyllis Seffrood, Kelsey & Lorie Arendt, Pastor Keith, Nancy Holtum, Donna Morton, Denise Kinney, Judy Kaufman, Darius Simler, Steve & Nancy Olson, Sandy Helms, Roger & Dena Kampmier, Jan Butterfield, Judy Castle, and Jeff Cowman for taking time out of their day to be there and represent First Lutheran Church.



**CONTACT's**  
**Biscuits & Gravy**  
 First Lutheran Church  
 303 S. Galena Ave., Freeport  
 Saturday, September 24, 2022  
 8:00 am – 11:00 am  
 Come out for a great breakfast and support  
 CONTACT's Crisis Helpline  
 Any questions call: Candy at 815-233-4402



Dear friends throughout the Northern Illinois Synod,

On Saturday, October 8, 2022, we will have the opportunity to participate in a joyful worship service as we gather to welcome and install The Rev. Stacie Fidler as our new Northern Illinois Synod bishop of the ELCA. For this special occasion, which will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 200 N. 1st Street, Rockford, we will have a Festival Choir. You, and members of your congregation, are invited to be a part of the choir.

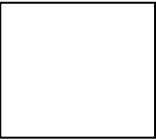
The Festival Choir will rehearse from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 8th at Trinity Lutheran Church. This will give us time to practice the anthem, the hymns, and the liturgy before the service begins at 11:00 a.m. Please encourage your choir members to be a part of this Festival Choir and email me with the following information so that I can send the music to you before the day of the installation. It would be wonderful to have every church in our NIS represented at this exciting worship service. Please let me know that you will participate by sending me a text or an email with the following information:

1. Your name, mailing address, and phone number.
2. Name, address, and phone number of your church.
3. The number of singers who will be there from your congregation (so we know how many seats to reserve).
4. What parts they will sing – Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass.
5. Any special requests or information will look forward to hearing from you and worshiping with you on October 8th!

Thank you,  
 Mary Shore  
 Festival Choir Director  
 815-988-3218

Postmaster: Send address changes to:

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First Lutheran Church  
303 S. Galena Ave.  
Freeport, IL 61032



First News is published monthly by First Lutheran Church

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Jeffrey Wall, Bell Choir Director  
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September Birthday's					
9/1	Emily Cowman Sonya Dunham Dave Netherland	9/13	Carole Andres Marvin Beyer Nevaeh Paul	9/19	Carol Netherland
				9/20	Kenneth Chamberlin Judy Kaufman
9/2	Betty Eagan Allen Heilman Ted Odendahl	9/15	Harriett Gustason Anne Kurth	9/22	John Chamberlin
				9/24	Landen Kampmier Connie Long
9/3	Deloris Burstrom	9/16	Robert Willis	9/25	David Parks
		9/17	Laurene Busjahn Sherry Simler Barrick Tormohlen	9/27	Alexandra Diehl Dena Kampmier
9/5	Sharon Janicke				
9/7	James Ammentorp	9/18	Aaron Lovell	9/29	Lisa Heilman
9/12	Shirley Diestelmeier				
September Anniversary's					
9/4	Don & Ingrid Heilman	9/23	Paul & Barb Hickey		
9/8	Robert & Gail Willis	9/26	Jeff & Cindy Cowman		
9/10	Jim & Judy Castle	9/27	Ed & Connie Long		
9/22	Bill & Heather Castle	9/30	Mark & Mary Boyd		