



# FIRST NEWS

First Lutheran Church  
Freeport, IL 61032

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

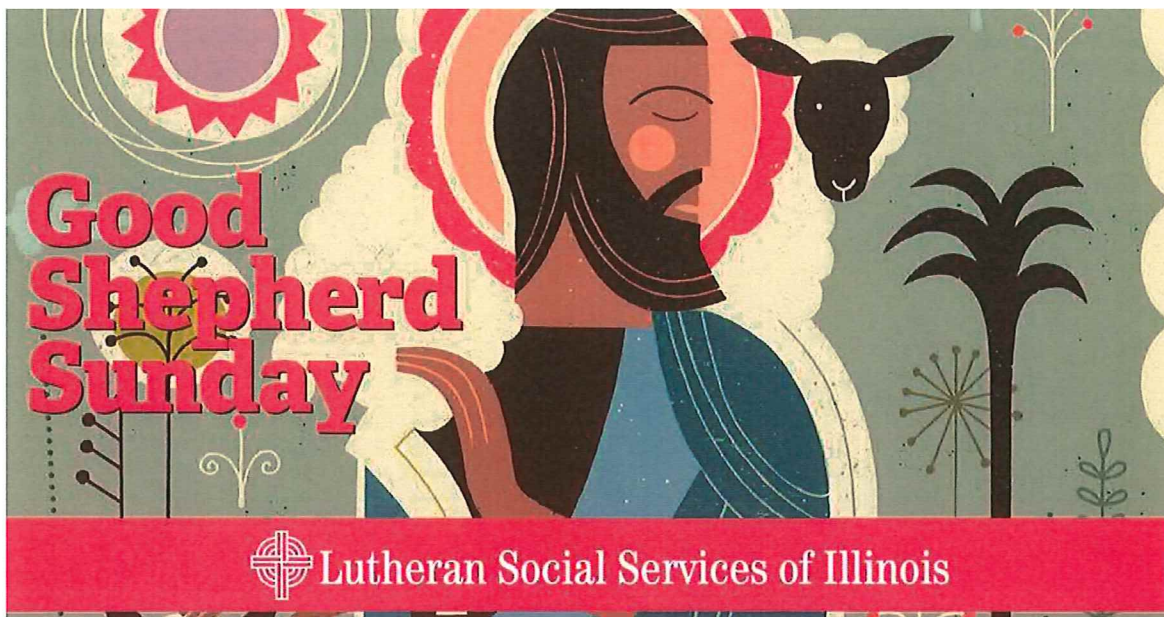
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Volume 50 #5

May 1, 2023

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Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.



Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter and will be celebrated as Good Shepherd Sunday.

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 at (815) 232-4839 or the church office at (815)235-9790

## 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.

**Sunday Bible Study** –You are invited to join us for a casual, comfortable, informative bible study every Sunday in the Martin Luther Room at 10:30 am. Grab a cup of coffee and a donut and come join us. Everyone is welcome.



**Pentecost Sunday Geraniums** – It is time to prepare for Pentecost Sunday. Enclosed you will find the order form for geraniums. If you plan to order please return your form to the church office by end of the day on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Usher / Greeters Needed** – Usher / Greeters are needed for May & June. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex on the Usher stand. Please consider giving a little of your time to help us at worship with this very important but very simple task. Thank you.

**Sunday School** – will not meet on Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day). We will meet on May 21<sup>st</sup> in celebration of the end of a wonderful school year. We wish everyone a joy-filled summer and look forward to seeing you again in the fall.



## **WE WANT YOU**

### **TO JOIN OUR CANTORS!!!**

**-No Experience Necessary-**

Requirements: a desire to be an active part of  
Worship & Praising our Lord through song.

That's it!

Please contact Lisa Nadig

[GalenaCountrylalala@gmail.com](mailto:GalenaCountrylalala@gmail.com) (815)821-5229

## **PLEASE INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**Members and Friends who need extra prayers** – Marty Love, Marilyn Rice, Ruth Wardlow, Bill Frakes, Pastor Milt Whitney, Debbie Rousch & family, Jennifer Stees, Wally VanRaalte, Jill Rongere, Sue Sellen, Jerry Schleicher, Aubrey Olson, Linda Orton, Connie Bartels, Donna Dwyer, Wayne Smith, Larry Reel, Tina Chamberlin, Sharon Smith, Gail & Bob Willis, Fred Busker, Pastor Keith, Mary Smith, Bob Last, Connie Keehn, Jay Nevenhoven, Gail & Marv Harris, Sean Lane, Carole Busjahn, Mary Lee Gerbode, Beth Luke, Lane Last, Joann LeBaron, Darin Davis, Sharon Janicke, Reuben Pearson, Jesse Baldwin, Lauren Diehl, Jerry Stalcup, Theresa Kavran, Raymond Marschang, Sarah Lower Borstad, Kevin Madsen, Ryan Griffith, Hank Fortney, and Kelly.



**Members and Friends who need skilled care** - Charles Janicke, Harriett Gustason, Jean Sorn, Elsie Schoop, Shirley Washburn, Betty Tormohlen, Audrey Stees, David Parks, Phyllis McLain, Margaret Althoff, Nadine Strohecker, Dee Burstrom, Shirley Diestelmeier, and Larry Seffrood.

**Members and Friends who are serving in the Military** - Kaydin Rabey, Aiden Kerr, Seth Heilman, Jeff Meiborg, Madison Scace, Derrik Triem, Owen McVicker, and Tyler Kennan.

### **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. May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the next gathering date, arrive at 6:30 pm. No reservations are needed.

**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 Bible lessons for the upcoming Sunday. Please feel free to join us. If you have questions, please contact the church office or Bob Neuendorf.



**Knitting Group** - First Lutheran's knitting group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at the Wall of Yarn shop on Stephenson Street. Come join us on May 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> 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, May 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-3:00 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room. 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 are also collecting lightweight bath towels (darker colors preferred), bath-size soap, nail clippers, and wide toothcombs for Lutheran World Relief kits. 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, May 18<sup>th</sup> 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!

### **WELCA**

**Circles** – Two women's circles will gather on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> for bible study and fellowship. If you're interested, just stop down and join us. Mary Circle will meet at 9:30 am at the home of Jan Butterfield, and Rebecca Circle will meet at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Bible study materials are available for everyone who comes.



#### **Ladies Lunch**

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Stella's in Stockton

Meet at First for Carpool at 10:45 am

Lunch at 11:30 am

Sign-up sheet on Melissa's door

Call Judy Castle with any questions



March Financials		
	Current Month	Year to Date
Total Income	\$18,377.88	\$63,314.96
Total Expenses	\$23,760.80	\$69,149.22
Income Less Expenses	-\$ 4,382.92	-\$ 5,834.26



March Attendance				
Date	Sunday 9:00	Wednesday 12:15	Facebook Live	Sunday School
March 1		32	47	
March 5	67		99	22
March 8		26	27	
March 12	35		95	22
March 15		22	29	
March 19	61		48	24
March 22		30	41	
March 26	52		103	27
March 29		24	68	
<b>Total</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>95</b>

## WORSHIP volunteers

Date	Altar Guild	Usher	Reader	Worship Assistant
May 7	Bev & Duke Herrling	Volunteer's Needed	Barb Statdfeld	Dena Kampmier
May 14	Bev & Duke Herrling	Sandy Helms & Volunteer Needed	Barb Statdfeld	Judy Kaufman
May 21	June Brandt & Esther Eden	Brad & Rochelle Heilman	Barb Statdfeld	Jeff Cowman
May 28	June Brandt & Esther Eden	Judy & Jim Castle	Barb Statdfeld	Gail Diehl

**FACC** – For April, we were assigned to bring canned chili, as of April 24<sup>th</sup> we have collected 74 cans. Thank you to everyone who has donated. For May we have been asked to collect crackers. You are welcome to bring your items with you to worship or drop them at the church Monday – Friday from 9:00 to 1:00. Thank you in advance for helping with this worthy cause.

## NEWS



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Jessica and Noah Anderson on the birth of their son Keegan Allen Anderson who was born on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Tatum is his big brother! His aunt is Abbie (Gerald) Ragland, his cousin is Allison (Seth) Lomison and his Grandparents are Vic and Jan Shields.



**Church Women United**  
May Friendship Day 2023  
Friday, April 28 (9:30 am) – Bible Study  
Friday, May 5 (1:30 pm) – Program  
Faith Center  
203 W. Pleasant St.

For questions contact Linda at (815)233-5276 or mslsk@yahoo.com



**Sunday School** – has run out of 100% juice and water for the kids. Any donations of these items would be appreciated. All donations can be put in the box marked Sunday School inside the entryway by the glass doors on Galena St. Thank you to all who have donated and in advance to those who will in the future. The kids and teachers appreciate your generosity.

**Property Committee** - The Property Committee needs a chairperson to replace the current Chairman, Tom Klemm. If you would be interested in knowing more about the position, please contact the church office or Tom Klemm.



**Graduation Sunday** - The end of the school year is approaching. On Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, during worship, we will be honoring our graduates. If you have a student who will be graduating any grade from Preschool to College we would like to include them in our celebration. Please contact the church office by phone at (815)235-9790 or email [firstlutheranchurchfreeport@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutheranchurchfreeport@gmail.com).

**Lutheran Higher Education Scholarships** – the Endowment Fund has allocated money for scholarships for members of our congregation who will be attending a Lutheran College for the 2023-2024 school year. Application forms are being sent out to all high school seniors. You may also pick up one from the tract rack or call the church office at (815)235-9790. Please return applications to the church office by May 31, 2023.

**Lutheran K -12 Education Scholarship** – The Endowment Fund has allocated money for scholarships for members of our congregation who will be attending a Lutheran K -12 school for the 2023/2024 school year. Application forms are found on the track rack. Please return them to the church office by May 31, 2023.

**Piano Scholars Program** – At First Lutheran, music is a highly valued and integral part of our tradition, worship, and faith community. The Piano Scholars Program is designed to offer high-quality individual piano instruction to young people in the community, regardless of their ability to pay. Piano Scholars will receive weekly, individual lessons, ongoing mentoring, and performance opportunities during church services, as well as regular student recitals. Instructed by Lisa Nadig, Music Director First Lutheran Church. Master's of Music & Bachelor's of Music, DePaul University Chicago. College-level music teacher and professional musician, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. To request an application send an email to: [Musicat1stLutheran@gmail.com](mailto:Musicat1stLutheran@gmail.com).

**Special Music** - If you or someone you know would like to participate as a special musician over the summer we have Sundays available. Please contact Lisa Nadig for information.

**Celebration Choir News** – On May 7<sup>th</sup>, we will be honoring Barb Reichert for her long-time service to our choir with a special anthem during worship and a reception during coffee hour. Please join us in thanking Barb and celebrating her 'retirement'!

### **THANK YOU**



Thank you to everyone for all the cards and prayers. – Bill Frakes

**Thank You!** I would like to thank the knitting group for my prayer, shall. I wrapped it right around me feeling the love and comfort poured into it. Thank you again. – Joanne VanNatta

Thank you for your support for my sister, Diane Rondeau. – Joanne VanNatta

Thank you to all the people who donated muffins, ground beef, bars, and cookies for the WELCA Wednesday luncheon during Lent. Also, thanks to all who prepared, served, and clean up. Many hands make for a successful event. – Judy Castle.

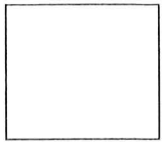
**John K. Chamberlin    ✚    1952 - 2023**

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.

**Janice Sievert    ✚    1933 - 2023**

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

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May Birthday's					
5/3	Fiona Moore	5/10	Rhys Love Meta Ridgway	5/21	Shirley Washburn
5/4	Mindy Frakes Kyle Kampmier Mary Wise	5/11	Rayne Becker	5/22	Leon Heitter
		5/13	Jason Rabey	5/23	Mary Meyers
		5/15	Kennedy Gerstner	5/24	Brennen Meier
5/5	Ernie Brose Tiffany Calam Betty Tormohlen	5/17	Leslie Hayenga	5/25	Susan Eckert Doris Elliott
		5/18	Judy Castle	5/28	Gail Harris
		5/20	Jordan Kerr	5/30	Kathy Neuendorf
5/8	Trudy Moore				
May Anniversary's					
5/2	Gene & Betsey Lashley		5/15	Abigail & Gerald Shields	
5/9	Bill & Donna Frakes		5/16	John & Lori Brobst	
5/10	Jaquiline & Fay Meiborg		5/29	Aaron & Tracy Love	
5/11	Jay & Delores Nevenhoven			Tom & Christina Parkinson	
5/12	Martin & Kathy Murray		5/30	Bob & Donna Dwyer	

# May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 Boy Scouts	2 12:00 NA 6:30 Luther N Brew	3 6:30 NA	4 10:45 meet for Ladies Lunch @ Stella's in Stockton 6:00 Worship meeting 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	5 1:30 Church Women United @ Faith Center 6:30 NA	6 7:30 Bible Study 10:00 Knitting 12:00 NA
7 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Bible Study Geranium order due Honoring Barb Reichert	8 7:00 Boy Scouts	9 12:00 NA	10 6:30 NA	11 10:00 Project Day 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	12 6:30 NA	13 7:30 Bible Study 12:00 NA
14 9:00 Worship NO Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Bible Study Mother's Day	15 7:00 Boy Scouts	16 9:30 Mary Circle 10:00 Rebecca Circle 12:00 NA	17 6:30 NA	18 1:00 Bunko 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	19 6:30 NA	20 7:30 Bible Study 10:00 Knitting 12:00 NA
21 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Bible Study Graduation Sunday	22 7:00 Boy Scouts	23 12:00 NA	24 6:30 NA	25 10:00 Project Day	26 6:30 NA	27 7:30 Bible Study 12:00 NA
28 9:00 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Bible Study	29 Office Closed 	30 12:00 NA	31 6:30 NA Scholarship applications due			