

FIRST NEWS

First Lutheran Church
Freeport, IL 61032

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

Volume 50 #10

October 1, 2023

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel, the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.



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) 232-4825 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 must 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. If you choose to watch it on the website, scroll to the bottom of the home page and choose the service you want 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 a.m. Grab a cup of coffee and a donut and come join us. Everyone is welcome.

Usher / Greeters Needed – Usher / Greeters are needed for October and November. 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 – The 2023/2024 Sunday school year began in September. This year's class time will be from 10:15 – 11:30. All children are welcome.

PLEASE INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS



Members and Friends who need extra prayers – Jerry Anderson, Jesse Baldwin, Connie Bartels, Sarah Lower Borstad, Judy Brady, Tina Chamberlin, Darin Davis, Lauren Diehl, Hank Fortney, Mary Lee Gerbode, Ryan Griffith, Gail & Marv Harris, Lisa Hunziker, Sharon Janicke, Pastor Keith Johnson, Theresa Kavran, Tom Klemm, Sean Lane, Bob Last, Lane Last, Joann LeBaron, Beth Luke, Kevin Madsen, Kay Mammoser, Raymond Marschang, Donna Morton, Jay Nevenhoven, Reuben Pearson, Margarite Potthoff, Jill Rongere, Debbie Rousch & family, Phyllis Seffrood, Sue Sellen, Mary Smith, Sharon Smith, Wayne Smith, Jerry Stalcup, Wally VanRaalte, Corrine Wallace, Ruth Wardlow, and Gail & Bob Willis.

Members and Friends who need skilled care - Margaret Althoff, Dee Burstrom, Fred Busker, Shirley Diestelmeier, Donna Dwyer, Harriett Gustason, Charles Janicke, Phyllis McLain, Jean Sorn, Audrey Stees, Jennifer Stees, Nadine Strohecker, Betty Tormohlen, Shirley Washburn, and Pastor Milt Whitney.

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



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. The men will meet on October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. No reservation is necessary.

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 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month at the Wall of Yarn shop on Stephenson Street. Come join us on October 7th and 21st from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and bring a project of your choice. If you would like to knit prayer shawls or prayer squares, we have a supply of yarn & patterns for you to use. Contact Jan Butterfield or Bev Herrlig for more information.

Bunko - The monthly Bunko group will gather on Thursday, October 19th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room. It's an easy-to-learn game and beginners are always welcome! Come join us and bring a friend, or two.

Project Day - Project Day will meet on Thursday, October 12th and 26th from 10:00-3:00 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room. We continue to make and tie quilts and lap robes, and can always use large pieces of material or bedsheets, for quilt backings. Donations may be left in the WELCA box next to the mailboxes. Come join us for part or all of the day; bring a sack lunch if you plan to stay over the noon hour. This year we completed 48 school kits, 43 personal care kits, and 15 quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They will be delivered to the ingathering site in Rockford on October 7th. Thank you to everyone who helped and donated items for these projects!



WELCA

Circles – Two women's groups meet monthly for bible study and fellowship. If you are interested come down and join us. Bible study materials are available for everyone.

Mary Circle - Tuesday, October 17th, 9:30 a.m. in the Martin Luther Room.

Rebecca Circle – Tuesday, October 17th, 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.



October Lunch

Candlelight on the Lake

Lake Carroll, IL

(please note the Friday Change)

11:30 a.m.

Carpooling available

Sign up sheet is on Melissa's Door

WELCA BASKET/BAKED GOOD AUCTION AND LUNCH - On October 29, 2023, WELCA will be having a fundraising event with a basket/baked goods auction in Fellowship Hall. Donated filled baskets are needed by October 15th and will be on display starting on October 22nd and baked goods will be accepted for bidding on October 29th. Also, on that day WELCA will be selling copies of the 1917 SWEETS AND MEATS COOKBOOK that was compiled and published for the Ladies Aid Society of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, Freeport, IL. Cost will be \$5.00 for the cookbook. Lunch will be served on October 29th at 11:30 a.m. using recipes from this cookbook. Tickets for the lunch will be sold from October 8th through October 22nd. The cost for the lunch ticket will be \$10.00. Mark your calendar and save the date.

FREEPORT COMMUNITY CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

OCTOBER 27, 2023 BIBLE STUDY

NOVEMBER 3, 2023, WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

HOST CHURCH IS THE FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

303 S GALENA AVE FREEPORT, IL

On October 27th First Lutheran will be the host church for **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED** Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall to prepare for **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** which will also be held at First Lutheran on Friday, November 3rd at 1:30 p.m. Ladies from all churches in the Freeport Community are invited to this event. Refreshments will be served at each event.

Date	Altar Guild	Usher	Reader	Assisting Minister
October 1	Dena & Roger Kampmier	Volunteers Needed	Eric Hoffman	Gail Diehl
October 8	Dena & Roger Kampmier	Tina Chamberlin & Gail Diehl	Nancy Holtum	Dena Kampmier
October 15	Nancy & Steve Olson	Tina Chamberlin & Gail Diehl	Eric Hoffman	Jeff Cowman
October 22	Nancy & Steve Olson	Tina Chamberlin & Gail Diehl	Eric Hoffman	Vicki Johnson
October 29	Dena & Roger Kampmier	Brad & Rochelle Heilman	Eric Hoffman	Judy Kaufman



August Attendance		
Date	Sunday 9:00	Facebook Live
August 6	70	130
August 13	67	155
August 20	74	158
August 27	75	157
Total	286	600



August Financials		
	Current Month	Year to Date
Total Income	\$25,875.58	\$171,706.22
Total Expenses	\$19,953.41	\$176,575.56
Income Less Expenses	\$5,922.17	-\$4,869.34

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Callie Arendt Ordination

You are invited to attend the
ordination of
Pastor Callie Arendt
Thursday, October 5th
2:00 p.m.
First Lutheran Church
Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall

Property Committee - The Property Committee needs a co-chairperson to help the current Chairman, Tom Klemm. Tom has donated hundreds of hours taking care of our church building. Please consider giving some of your time to get some of the responsibility off of his plate. If you would be interested in sharing this position with Tom, please contact the church office or Tom Klemm.

Endowment Applications - It is that time of year again! The Endowment committee will begin accepting applications on **October 1st**. Applications are available on the Church's website and must be turned in NO LATER than **November 30th**. If you, or an organization you know of wishes to apply, please help us get the word out!

FACC –For September we were assigned to collect chunky soup, as of September 20th we have collected 112 cans. You have exceeded your goal of 95 cans. Congratulations, and thank you for your generosity. For October we have been assigned jelly as our item to collect. Let's make a goal of 100 jars. I think that is a doable number. 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.

Crop Walk – This year's Crop Walk will take place on Sunday, October 1st. Since First Lutheran does not have many walkers who would participate we have chosen to raise money for the Crop walk had a special offering day on September 24th. There is still time to add to our special collection, If you would like to donate please submit your donation to the church before October 1st in an envelope marked Crop Walk. On Sunday, October 1st treats will be offered during coffee hour for a donation, all the money raised will be donated for the Crop Walk.

Sunday School - would appreciate donations of bottled water, 100% juice boxes, and washable broad-line Crayola markers. A donation box will be near the FACC donation area. Thank you in advance for your support!!

Photos Needed - We need to have at least 2 snapshots of each of our small groups (knitting, work day, bunco, burgers & brew, women's luncheons, choir (in robes), lunch with pastor, property guys working, Sunday School, Bible study, etc. by the end of Oct. Also 2 or 3 of worship service. We want to show the public what goes on at First Lutheran. Your help will be much appreciated in accomplishing this. Turn your pictures into Melissa. If you would like to feature your small group in a display case near the Martin Luther Room, please contact Sandy Helms.

Larry Reel ✝ 1939 - 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.

VFW Blood Drive – On Friday, November 10th from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The VFW will be hosting an "Honor Our Veterans" blood drive. The drive will be held at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau. Please bring a photo ID and eat and drink before donating. Appointments preferred by walk-ins are welcomed & accommodated as scheduling allows. If you need assistance or have questions, please contact RRVBC at (815)965-8756.



Quarterly Congregational Meeting

Sunday, October 22nd

In Fellowship Hall following Worship

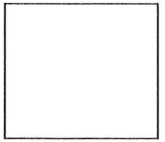
Thank You



A Big Thank You to all who came, helped, and/or donated food and drinks for Rally Sunday. What a great time at Read Park! And another big Thank You to Nick Connell for helping us get Thrivent donations to support Sunday School and Rally Sunday. We are all looking forward to a fantastic year. – Vicki Johnson

Thank you for the cards, phone calls, and prayers received during and following my surgeries and recuperation. They were greatly appreciated. – Judy Kaufman

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 Freeport, IL 61032



First News is published monthly by First Lutheran Church

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October Birthday's					
10/5	Alta Schramm	10/13	Aubrey Olson	10/20	Bev Coleman Elizabeth Starr Harmony Stadtfeld
10/6	Trevor Brobst Karin Keister	10/15	Jan Butterfield Terry Love Graham Mitchell		10/21
10/7	Carole Busjahn Derek Kortemeier				
10/8	Kelsey Arendt	10/17	Sheila Field Jakob Moore Debra Rabey	10/23	Kirsten Jones
10/10	Randy Gerstner Vicki Johnson			10/24	Jeff Wall
				10/26	Hannah Bollon
10/12	Don Tresemer Joanne VanNatta James Whitson	10/18	Virginia Fox Charlotte Lomison Jennifer Whitson	10/27	Penelope Varzino
				10/28	James Castle
		10/19	Maxine Spangler	10/30	Maelyn Morrison
October Anniversary's					
10/8	Rick & Susan Fago		10/28	Joe & Laurie Banderet	
10/11	Marvin & Donna Beyer Daniel & Hillary Hoffman John & Barb Stadtfeld				

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Bible Study Endowment Apps. Begin Crop Walk	2 7:00 Boy Scouts	3 12:00 NA 6:30 Luther N Brew	4 4:00 Larry Reel memorial service @ Burke Tubbs 6:30 NA	5 2:00 Callie Arendt Ordination 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	6 6:30 NA	7 7:30 Bible Study 10:00 Knitting 12:00 NA
8 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Bible Study	9 7:00 Boy Scouts	10 12:00 NA	11 4:00 Endowment Meeting 6:00 Council Meeting 6:30 NA	12 10:00 Project Day 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	13 6:30 NA	14 7:30 Bible Study 12:00 NA
15 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Bible Study	16 7:00 Boy Scouts	17 9:30 Mary Circle 10:00 Rebecca Circle 12:00 NA	18 6:30 NA	19 1:00 Bunko 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	20 6:30 NA	21 7:30 Bible Study 10:00 Knitting 12:00 NA
22 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Bible Study Quarterly Congre- gational meeting	23 7:00 Boy Scouts	24 12:00 NA	25 6:30 NA	26 10:00 Project Day 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	27 9:30 Church Women United Bible Study 6:30 NA	28 7:30 Bible Study 12:00 NA
29 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Bible Study 11:30 WELCA Basket Auction and Lunch Reformation Sunday	30 7:00 Boy Scouts	31 12:00 NA 				