

# FAITH BULLETIN

Faith Center Freeport's Newsletter

Winter 2013

## Faith Center Freeport

### Senior Pastors

Michael & Susie Sowell

### Contact us:

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Freeport, IL 61032

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Tues & Thurs 10am-2pm

Pantry Hours:  
Tuesday 4pm-6pm

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FaithCenterFreeport.com  
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## From Jewel Heists to Living for Christ Murph the Surf to speak at Master Builder Banquet and FCF

How does a jewel thief and murderer become an ordained minister, evangelist and crusader for prison reform? Only the power of Jesus Christ can explain such a change.

Jack "Murph the Surf" Murphy (so called because of his numerous surfing championships) was involved in what was then known as "The Jewel Heist of the Century" when he stole The Star of India and other jewels worth over \$2 million from the J.P. Morgan collection in the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Murphy was eventually sentenced to life in prison in Florida for a murder, and it was as an inmate that he faced the cold reality that his life needed to change. He gave his life to Christ and has spent the years since ministering to

prisoners, first on the inside and then (after being paroled) as a speaker for prison ministries.

Murphy will share his fascinating life history and the work of God in prisons as the guest of Master Builder Ministries at their 1st Annual Banquet on November 30th at 7pm at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau in Freeport. The banquet will raise funds to renovate the Glick's Triangle store and transform it into Joseph's Training Center. The center will offer job training to ex-offenders and others in need.

Murph will also join us at our morning services on December 1st.

Tickets to the banquet are \$25. To purchase them, please contact Kathy Knodle at 541-5633. For more information on Master Builder, visit [masterbuilderjailministries.com](http://masterbuilderjailministries.com)

## With Grateful Hearts

### Special Thanksgiving worship service, youth dinner scheduled

*Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!  
For His mercy endures forever.*  
--Psalm 106:1

Faith Center Freeport's regular Tuesday Family Service will be transformed into a special Thanksgiving service on Nov. 26, focusing on gratitude for God's mercy and the many blessings our church and each individual member have received in 2013.

In addition, the Powerhouse Youth Church will host a special family-style Thanksgiving feast for youth ages 12 to 18. The dinner begins at 6pm.

Any church members who need assistance with food and supplies for

Thanksgiving should check in at the church bookstore, or notify church leadership.



## Joseph's Pantry Update

Our Pantry has been a rousing success, serving 50 families or more per week and receiving many timely blessings from God. However, as the holidays approach, we need to refill our stocks with the following non-perishable items:

- Corn (whole kernel and creamed)
- Green Beans
- Peas
- Carrots
- Mixed Vegetables
- Fruit Cocktail
- Peaches
- Pears
- Pork & Beans
- Instant Potatoes
- Hamburger Helper
- Tuna
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Toilet paper
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Body Wash
- Toothpaste

Cash donations are also very helpful because we can use the money to purchase meat directly. You can designate part of your church offering to Joseph's Pantry.

The Pantry is also collecting coffee mugs to prepare as a Christmas gift for our clients. The mugs will be filled with candies and cocoa mix packets. We're accepting cash donations to buy new mugs, but we also welcome any donated mugs (they don't need to be Christmas mugs) as long as they're in very good condition and unstained.

If you have any questions, please see Bindy Lillge or call her at 541-2861.

## Celebrate the Savior at Christmas and New Year Services

**Christmas Eve Service:** 6:30pm, Dec. 24.

We are seeking members who want to participate in the service by sharing their talents. Please sign up at the church bookstore if you're interested.

**New Year Praise Service:** 10pm-Midnight, Dec. 31.



## New Year, New Slogan Contest

Our slogan ("We're Here For You") describes our attitude toward our members and community very well. There's just one problem: The largest company in the region is already using it in all their marketing!

We want your help finding a new one that captures the essence of Faith Center Freeport. If you have an idea, place it in the offering (preferably in your envelope) and make sure your name and address are included. We'll be collecting these ideas for the next few weeks and adding them to the list church leaders will be considering.

The three best entries will win prizes (to be announced) and one of them might be the slogan we use for years to come. Sharpen your pencils, put on your thinking caps and show us what you can do!



## Help Build God's Kingdom in Freeport with a Donation

Preaching God's word can change a family, a neighborhood or even whole communities for eternity. Please support this vital work with a financial donation or by volunteering today.

- ☐ I am interested in volunteering in helps ministry
- ☐ I wish to make a monthly donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I wish to make a one-time donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I wish to make a donation to support Joseph's Pantry \$\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I wish to make a donation to support Joseph's Training Center \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Faith Center Freeport, 203 W. Pleasant Ave., Freeport, IL 61032

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Faith Center Freeport is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization registered with the Illinois Secretary of State