



Fields of Grace Newsletter

<http://www.fields-of-grace.org>

Vol. 5, Issue 12

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

July 2016

Joint Outdoor Worship Service Sunday, July 3, 9:30 a.m.

Bernadotte Lutheran Church Park

Music-based service with George's Concertina Band
Refreshments following service

Swan Lake Lutheran Ice Cream Social Wednesday, July 20

Swan Lake Lutheran will hold its annual Ice Cream Social Wednesday, July 20 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The menu includes egg salad sandwiches, BBQs, chips, desserts, pie, ice cream, and beverages.

Come for good food and great fellowship!

Trinity, Sibley Township to Celebrate 150th Anniversary

Our neighbors to the east, Trinity Lutheran Church, on County Road 8 in Sibley Township, will celebrate their 150th anniversary on Sunday, July 17. The days events include a 10:00 a.m. worship service, group photo, catered sandwich meal, and 1:30 p.m. program. Those wishing to take part in the meal are asked to call Joyce Bauer at 507-237-5562.

Summer Outdoor Services at Bernadotte's Church Park

Bernadotte will again welcome guest musicians for special services this summer—outdoors, hopefully, if weather permits. Services will move indoors if the weather is bad.

- Sunday, July 3, 9:30 a.m.—Joint Service with George's Concertina Band (Garfield Eckberg's group)
- Sunday, July 17, 11:00 a.m.—Larry Mages
- Sunday, July 31, 11:00 a.m.—Slewfoot Family
- Sunday, August 14, 11 a.m.—Gerry & Carol Larson
- Sunday, August 28, 11:00 a.m.—Meghan Moore & Co.

Everyone is welcome to these unique, refreshing outdoor services with special music.

Light refreshments will be served after the July 3 service and BEFORE the others.

Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Church Council—Mon., July 11, 5:30 p.m.
- Bernadotte Church Council—Mon., July 18, 7:30 p.m.
- FOG Council—Wed., Aug. 24, 7:00 p.m. at Bernadotte;



Four take First Communion after attending classes

After attending First Communion classes, Tarik Gavranovic and Nykita Youngblom were welcomed to the Lord's table for the first time at First Lutheran Sunday, May 22, and Landon Uhde and Noah Krueger the following Sunday at Swan Lake.

Parents of the students are Zijad & Beth Gavranovic, Tom & Diane Youngblom, Jeff & Marti Uhde, and Larry & Shannon Krueger. During the four-week classes, the students made the bread served during first communion at the churches.

To contact Heidi, please use her new cell phone number—507-766-2729
or email heidijohagstrom@gmail.com

FIELDS OF GRACE WORSHIP SERVICES

Swan Lake Lutheran—8:00 a.m.—Communion the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month

First Lutheran—9:30 a.m.—Communion the 1st and 4th Sundays of the month

Bernadotte Lutheran—11:00 a.m.—Communion the 2nd Sunday of the month

Joint Outdoor Service at Bernadotte—Sunday, July 3—9:30 a.m.
Refreshments & Fellowship following service

JULY 2016 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 10-Aimee & Randy Altmann; 17-Jay Hagberg & Tom Brethorst; 24 & 31-Corey Langhoff & Michael Hoffmann

Greeter: Sandy Hartley

Liturgists: 10 & 17-Jorja Langhoff; 24 & 31-Charles Youngblom

Readers: Sandy Hartley & Sandy Burger

Visiting: Kris Hagberg & Sandy Hartley

Altar: Amy Sjogren & Susie Wendorff

Coffee Servers: 10-Diane Durheim & Mindy Engel; 17-Marilyn DeBoer & Amy Sjogren; 24-Heidi Hutton & Lindsay Pehrson; 31-Diane Durheim & Mindy Engel

Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Marissa Anderson & Meghan Houdek

Ushers: Jerry Oscarson, Julia Oscarson, Shaun Anderson, Jerome Anderson & Andrew Rasmussen

Acolyte: Mia Ross

Readers: 3-Trish Gieseke; 10-Bob Helget; 17-Jessica Helget; 24-Jim Bartels; 31-Judy Radke

Communion (July 10): S-Jerry Oscarson, C-Jim Young, U-Bruce White & Deb Sjostrom

Coffee Servers: Fellowship for the summer months will be on special occasions or by special request

Heidi's Reflections for July

Hang around church leaders for any length of time these days and you'll hear the word "missional." The use of the word to characterize the church is relatively new, but it has become widely used.

So what does it mean for us to be a missional church? I think it means following the example of Jesus. If you were to ask the average Christian, "What was the mission of Jesus?" you'd no doubt hear that Jesus came to die on the cross for our sins, so that we might have eternal life. I believe this is true, profoundly and wonderfully. But I also believe it's not the full story. The mission of Jesus, though ultimately centered in the cross and though leading to life after death, is far more inclusive than many of us have been led to believe.

By dying upon the cross for our sin and by rising from the dead in victory over sin, Jesus fully activated the good news. We can now be reconciled to God and live forever in unbroken fellowship with God. We can begin already to experience the new creation, even as we wait for the complete renewal still to come (2 Cor 5:16-21). Yet Jesus' dying and rising did not finish his ministry on earth. That ministry was to continue through the community of Jesus' followers whom Jesus sent to continue his work. We are counted among those followers! So what does that mean for Fields of Grace Lutheran Parish?

I think it means we are called to do that which Jesus commanded his original team of followers to do, such as:

~ Go and announce . . . that the Kingdom of Heaven is near. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure those with leprosy, and cast out demons. Give as freely as you have received! (Matt 10:7-8).

~ Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other (John 13:34).

But, whereas the first disciples were to minister only among their fellow Jews while Jesus was on earth, after the resurrection they – and we – are sent out to all nations. Jesus explained this sending quite succinctly: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21).

We who follow Jesus are a sent people, a community sent on a mission together: to keep on doing the ministry of Jesus so that all people and all creation might experience the reconciliation of God. God has designed the church of Jesus Christ to be a "missional" fellowship. The word "mission" comes from the Latin word *missio*, which means "having been sent." Since we have been sent to do God's work, we are a "missional" community together.

Benefit in planning stages

A planning meeting for a benefit for Heather Giefer and her family was held Wednesday, June 29. About 30 people from various groups attended and brainstormed ideas for a date, place and activities. The group will meet again July 17— watch for more info in the next newsletter.

Heather, her parents, Tim and Lorie, and sister Clarissa are members of Swan Lake. Heather was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor in May. Lorie updates a CaringBridge page, [heathergiefer](http://heathergiefer.com), regularly. A fund, Heather's Fund, has been set up at ProGrowth Bank, PO Box 77, Nicollet 56074. Please keep Heather and her family in your prayers.



Joint Service at Swan Lake



The Memorial weekend joint service was held at Swan Lake, with first communion for two students. Lorie Grunzke played organ and Pegeen Rozeske and Sarah Maass played flute.



Five Church Event at Fernando

The women of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church-Fernando will host the annual Community Gathering for Women of area churches Wednesday, August 3 at 5:30 p.m., with a meal at 6:00 p.m. Theme for the evening is "Peace Like a River" with a focus on hymnody and Psalms. Those planning to attend are asked to contact Denise Johnson at 507-228-8341.

VBS Opportunity

Winthrop Ev. Covenant Church invites area kindergarten-5th grade students to attend "Down on the Farm" VBS Sunday-Thursday, July 17-21 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Wedding Dress Revue at Brownton

Grace Lutheran Church of Brownton will host a Wedding Dress Revue Evening of Fun, Thursday, July 14 at 6:30 p.m. Dresses from different eras will be included.

Talking about Swedefest



Trish Gieseke, right, shared details about Bernadotte's Swedefest when she appeared on KNUJ's Community Affairs programming Wednesday, June 22. Jim Bartels chatted with Trish and Ruth Klossner.



First Lutheran Ice Cream Social

The women of First Lutheran served up tacos-in-a-bag, hot dogs, and scrumptious desserts for the June 10 ice cream social at the Lafayette Community Center, held before the Friday evening band concert.

The summer schedule of Lafayette socials and band concerts continues for three more Fridays—July 8, 15, and 22.



Piano available at First Lutheran

First Lutheran has a spare piano that they would like to pass on to anyone who would be interested. Please contact Brian Martens at 507-327-9581.

Heidi's College Classes

Heidi will take three college classes this summer, two on campus at Wartburg and one online. She will be on campus Monday-Friday, July 11-15 and is completing the on-line course from Bernadotte.

BLC group photos available

Copies of the Bernadotte group photo taken outside the church on anniversary Sunday are available in two sizes, 10x24 inches and 7x18 inches. Cost for the 10x24 is \$37.00 each; cost for the 7x18 is \$17.00 each. Please contact Ruth Klossner (240-0048) to order. An order will be placed about July 7; if five or more of a size are ordered at that time, the price will be discounted \$3.00 each. (Copies can be ordered later, but they will be full price.)

Additional BLC 150th memorabilia items are also available from the church—history books, ornaments, note cards, lapel pins, and clothing.



Bernadotte ice cream social 'weathers the storm'



It rained beforehand and it rained afterward, but the weather cleared enough for a successful ice cream social at Bernadotte Wednesday, evening June 8.



The ladies worked together to serve hot turkey and cold ham sandwiches, pie, cake, and ice cream and also held a bake sale. Thanks to additional funding from Thrivent, the event was a big success, even though the rain came just before 7:30. That ended the concert by the Lafayette Band a few minutes early and sent people to cover.



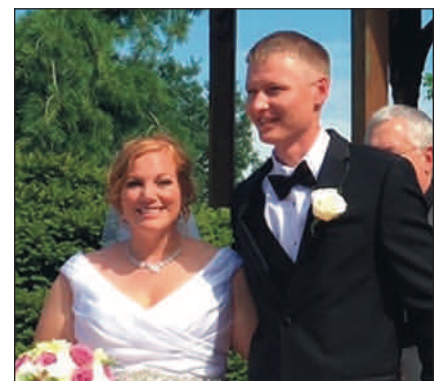
Good News Items from the FOG Churches



Clarissa Giefer of Swan Lake, far left, daughter of Tim and Lori Giefer, was named to the Miss Nicollet court during Friendship Days. She's pictured with Miss Nicollet Taylor Chadderdon and princess Destiny Menter.

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Congratulations to **Philip Nelson** of BLC and **Samantha Randall** who were married at the Iowa Arboretum on June 18. The couple lives in Union, Iowa and both work in Marshalltown. Philip is the son of Arlin and the late Barbara Nelson.





The threat of bad weather moved the meal service indoors, but everything else went off as scheduled for Bernadotte's 22nd annual Swedefest Saturday, June 25.



**Swedefest
at
Bernadotte
June 25**



By late afternoon, the wind calmed a bit, the temps and humidity went down, and the evening was pleasant for the fireworks.



It was the first fireworks in Bernadotte in 50 years—since the church's centennial in 1966.

