



Fields of Grace Newsletter

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

Vol. 6, Issue 3

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

October 2016

Men's Breakfast at Swan Lake will benefit the Giefer Family

The annual men's breakfast at Swan Lake Lutheran Church will be a fundraising benefit for Heather Giefer and her family.

The breakfast is *this Saturday*, October 1, from 6:00 to 9:30 a.m., with a free will offering. The menu includes Compart's ham, scrambled eggs, pancakes, and beverage.

For more info, contact Karlen Nelson at 507-225-9928.



Stanley Youngblom moved to rehab facility in New Prague

After several weeks in the hospital in the Twin Cities, Stanley Youngblom has been moved to Room 162, Mala Strata Nursing Home, 1001 NE Columbus St., New Prague, MN 56071. His phone number is 952-758-2511.

Stanley, a member of First Lutheran, suffered a severe head injury in a fall at his home in Lafayette.

Organists Needed

The Bernadotte—as well as Swan Lake—Lutheran churches of Fields of Grace are actively seeking part-time or regular organists (or pianists) for Sunday services. Anyone who might consider filling in at the organ (or piano) for Sunday Services will be considered!

Organists are especially needed on Sunday, October 2. Each church offers \$50/service plus 50¢/mile.

Please contact Deb Sjostrom at 507-276-0452 if you—or someone you know—can help out!

WELCA Fall Gathering

The Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering will be held Saturday, October 15 at Trinity Lutheran Church in St Peter. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m., with the meeting at 9:30 a.m. The speaker will be our own minister, Heidi Hagstrom. Training sessions for unit officers will be held.

Contact Sally Webster if you wish to attend or RSVP by October 1 directly to Leona Miller, 507-931-3639 or leonakarl@aol.com.

Quilting Days at BLC

Quilting Days will be held at Bernadotte Wednesday and Thursday, October 19-20, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Everyone welcome! Quilters are asked to bring a sack lunch. Coordinators are Konnie Bartels, Dorothy Martens, Doris Kaduce, and Carol Monson.

Married at Bernadotte September 24

When Daniel Fenske and Brittani Ruschmeyer were married at Bernadotte, they couldn't help but introduce some of their rural life into the wedding.

Dan and Brittani took their first ride as husband and wife on Dan's John Deere tractor, taking a spin around the Bernadotte cemetery before leaving the church for the reception. Daniel is the son of Lori and the late Darwin Fenske and Brittani is the daughter of Pamela Ruschmeyer and Bruce and Hope Ruschmeyer.



FIELDS OF GRACE WORSHIP SERVICES

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

Bernadotte Lutheran—9:30 a.m.—Communion the 2nd Sunday of the month

First Lutheran—11:00 a.m.—Communion the 1st and 4th Sundays of the month

OCTOBER 2016 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 2-Tom Ahl & Darrell A; 9-Al H. & Mark Haler; 16 & 23-Jon & Stuart Hartley; 30-Steve L. & Tom Ahl

Greeter: Jamie Friedrichs

Liturgists: 2 & 9-Charles Youngblom; 16, 23 & 30-Charlie Hartley

Reader: Sandy Hartley

Visiting: Arden & Marilyn DeBoer

Altar: Marti Uhde, Lila Ellies & Jorja Langhoff

Coffee Servers: 2-Marti U & Linda Youngblom; 9-Kris H & Wendy Hagberg; 16-Laura L & Sandy Hartley; 23-Wendy H & Kelly Hagberg; 30-Wendy H & Emily Hagberg

Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Daniel Fenske & Junior Petterson

Readers: 2-Tim Schulz; 9-Trish Gieseke; 16-Bob Helget; 23-Jessica Helget; 30-Jim Bartels

Acolyte: Jessica Helget

Ushers: Brent Johnson, Sarah Johnson, Paul Peterson, Dwayne Ross, Judy Ross

Communion (Oct. 9): S-Brent Johnson; C-Steve Radke; U-Denise Johnson & Trish Gieseke

Coffee Servers: 2-Adrienne Sjostrom; 9-Dorothy Martens; 16-Pam White & Wendy Schulz; 23-Carol Anderson; 30-Sally Webster.

Heidi looks back to a year ago at this time...

About this time last year, I was moving 18 years of stuff from my office on Higgins Road in Chicago, wondering where I'd be in a month. The synod had assured me there would be a place for me to serve, but no congregation or parish had emerged that was willing to take a pastor-in-training. I had to be out of my apartment by the end of October, and I knew arranging for movers took time. I couldn't book them until I knew where I was going.

I have to admit, I started to question my sense of call when I had to make arrangements for my belongings to go into storage, and move in with my sister and brother-in-law because a site had not been identified for me. The synod assured me the right place would emerge—and I knew they were working on my behalf—but it was an anxious time.

Now it is a year later and I am happily settled into the parsonage in Bernadotte, and have learned firsthand about your generous and hospitable nature. Taking on a trainee requires generosity and patience. You have both in abundance. I am deeply grateful for the many experiences of ministry I am having while serving Fields of Grace Parish.

God bless you for taking a chance on a pastor-in-training. I am excited to learn with you how God is calling us to be a part of what he is already up to. If I know anything for sure, it is this—God is active in our midst reconciling all people and everything to himself. And we are to be God's agents of reconciliation. What the ministry of reconciliation looks like for Fields of Grace remains to be seen. It is an exciting time to be the church.

Good News Item

Swan Lake member Sarah Maass—and her horse Opie—finished the world's most difficult equestrian endurance race, the Tevis Cup, held in the Sierra Nevada Mountains in July. The 100-mile race begins at 5:15 a.m. one day and must be completed within 24 hours. Maass just made it, finishing at 4:55 a.m. the next morning, placing 75th of 87 finishers. It's the second time Maass has completed the ride.



Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Church Council—Mon., Oct. 3, 5:30 p.m.
- Bernadotte Church Council—Mon., Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m.
- FOG Council—Wed., Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m. at First Lutheran

Deadline for the November newsletter is **Friday, October 21**. Email your news to Ruth at cowlady@centurylink.net

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

Fall Festival at First Lutheran

The annual Fall Festival at First Lutheran will be held Saturday, November 19, beginning with a bake sale, crafts, cards, and free egg coffee at 9:30 a.m.

The last quilt made by quilt maker Mari Schipplick will be raffled in a quilt raffle, with tickets available from FLC members, or purchased at the door. The quilt was donated by Mari's sister, Eunice Wordelman.

A dinner will be served, featuring bone-in-ham, Swedish meatballs, real mashed potatoes, corn, cole slaw, buns, and desserts.

Kids are invited to take part in free bingo upstairs in the church.

Bernadotte WELCA Notes

- Servers at the Winthrop Lodge are Betty Johnson and Lori Fenske on Sunday, October 2 and Sandy Martin and Donna Webster on October 9.

- The clothing drive will continue through October. Check the flyer on the last page of this newsletter for details.

- The Women of the ELCA Triennial will be held in Minneapolis next year. The dates are July 13-16, 2017. Local women are encouraged to make plans to attend. Scholarships may be available—contact Deb Sjoström, Jackie Helget, or Sally Webster if interested.

- The next Bernadotte WELCA meeting will be Sunday, November 13, in conjunction with Lutheran Church Men.

- BLC 150th memorabilia items are still available from the church—history books, ornaments, note cards, lapel pins, and clothing. Also copies of the Bernadotte group photo taken outside the church (10x24 inches or 7x18 inches).

October 2 is first day of Sunday School at Bernadotte

Bernadotte's Sunday School will begin the year with its first class Sunday, October 2 at 8:45 a.m. Classes will also be held October 9 and 16, at 8:45 a.m. each week.

There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, October 23. Then, on Sunday, October 30—Reformation Sunday—the students will meet after the 9:30 a.m. service (during the fellowship hour) to take part in a special fun project with the members.

If anyone would like to share a special gift with the Sunday School, please contact Rosanne.

Confirmation Classes Continue

Confirmation for students from all FOG churches will continue on Wednesday evenings each week in October—the 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th—at First Lutheran, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Bible Study at Big Dog's

The Monday Morning Community Bible Study held at Big Dog's in Lafayette will be held Mondays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.



Happy Birthday, Wallace!

Wallace Peterson was honored with cake and coffee during the fellowship hour at Bernadotte Sunday, September 26. Wallace turned 90 on September 12.

State 4-H Results for our Youth



MN State 4-H Horse Show

Clarissa Giefer (Tim & Lorie, SL)—8th, Western Pleasure, Pleasure Type.

Heather Giefer (Tim & Lorie, SL)—took part in horse judging and hippology.

MN State Fair 4-H Shows

Jasenko Gavranovic (Beth, FLC)—reserve champion Jersey heifer & third in showmanship in age group.

Ben Radke (Steve & Judy, BLC)—5th blue, junior yearling Angus heifer.

Andrew Radke (Steve & Judy, BLC)—3rd purple, market gilt, & interview finalist.

Daniel Hayes (Tom & Patty, BLC)—4th purple, market barrow & interview winner.

Austin Gieseke (John & Trish, BLC)—blue, crafts project, painted deer skull.

Heather Giefer (Tim & Lorie, SL)—blue, creative photography.

Bernadotte 4-H—blue, club banner.





Thank you to everyone who came to eat waffles, bid on items, volunteer, attend the worship service, purchase T-shirts etc., donate auction or other items, or give monetary donations for the Team Heather Benefit for Heather Giefer.

We truly appreciate your gifts and continued prayers for Heather and her family. With your help, we had an extremely successful day. THANK YOU.

~The Team Heather Committee~

THANK YOU!!!



Team Heather Benefit



Hundreds of volunteers made the event flow smoothly! Thank you to all!



Donations may be left in the drop box in the BLC entry.
All items are in great need and appreciated!

Africa partnership clothing drive set for October



**Donate clothing,
shoes, purses, hats,
belts, bedding and
any type of material**

**Place in tall plastic kitchen
bags with drawstrings**

Information: Oather Martin– 320-583-9011

**Funds raised will provide meals
for our partners in South Africa**

**Our Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the
ELCA is partnered with the Southeastern
Diocese of Southern Africa to walk together
in ministry.**

**Our Minnesota Valley Conference is paired
with the Vryheid Circuit. We are working on
four mission areas: health and wellness, ag-
riculture, education and leadership support.**

**Funds collected from the clothing drive will
pay for the packaging and sending of nutri-
tious meals to all congregations in Vryheid.
A donor will match whatever is raised.**

