



Fields of Grace Newsletter

<http://www.fieldsofgracemn.com>

Vol. 8, Issue 4 Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran November 2018



Confirmation services held at all three churches

Eight young people from the Fields of Grace churches were confirmed by Pastor Heidi Hagstrom Sunday, October 28.



Bernadotte confirmands, top left, are: Marissa Anderson, daughter of Tim and Beth Anderson; Brock Peterson, son of Paul Peterson and Naomi Peterson; and Mia Ross, daughter of Dwayne and Judy Ross. At First Lutheran, above: Harley Sjogren, daughter of Eric Sjogren; Tyson Hutton, son of Heidi Hutton; and Bailey Langhoff, daughter of Corey Langhoff and Dawn Stevenson. And, at Swan Lake: Austin Gieseke, son of John and Tricia and Gieseke, and Eli Drummer, son of Matt and Karen Drummer.

All Saints Day—November 4

Although the Lutheran church honors saints, it does not share the Roman Catholic view of a saint's abilities. Lutherans do not believe that saints can receive prayers or intercede for a petitioner because there is no evidence to support this in the scriptures.

For Lutherans, a saint is anyone who believes in Jesus Christ, who tries to live an exemplary life, and is an example of what everyone else can aspire to.

On Sunday, November 4, we will remember those who have passed away with a candle lighting ritual. You are encouraged to bring photos of loved ones—friends and family—who have died, and whose lives and witness you want to remember.

FLC's Fall Festival and joint service Sunday, November 18

First Lutheran has changed it's annual Fall Festival from a Saturday to Sunday—November 18. The day will start with a joint worship service at First, followed by a meal, bake & craft sale, kids' bingo, raffle, and silent auction.

Check the poster on the back page of this newsletter for all the details.



Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday November 4!

Turn your clocks BACK one hour or you'll be early for church

Council Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Council— Mon., Nov. 5, 5:30 p.m.
- Bernadotte Council— Mon., Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.
- FOG Council— Wed., Nov. 28, 7:45 p.m., FLC

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

Pastor Heidi's Reflections

I voted today! Voting is an act of faith. It is one way to stand in solidarity with those who have fought for this right.

I wanted to reflect on voting as an act of faith, and then received something from a friend who did the work for me. I am borrowing the words of Peggy Hahn who lives in Houston. I couldn't have said it better.

“From the founding to today, the United States has walked a steady, sometimes messy, path to include more and more voices in the decision-making systems of our nation.

“When the country was founded, only wealthy white men could vote. In order to cast a ballot, you had to be white and able to own land. Soon, the right to vote was granted to all white men.

“With the passage of the 15th Amendment, African American men won the right to vote after the Civil War ended slavery in America. In 1920, the 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote.

“Most recently, during the Vietnam War, the voting age was lowered from 21 to 18 in response to criticism from

young veterans.

“Every step toward expanding the vote came out of hard-fought battles and was met with attempts to recreate restrictions. This included literacy tests, voter ID laws, and the ‘grandfather clause.’ Even so, the arc of history in the United States has been one of expanding, not limiting, liberty.

“By including more voices, the United States becomes a truer reflection of our population and steps closer to realizing the democracy of our founders. Voting gives faithful people an opportunity to advocate for the ‘least of these.’

“As a leader in this country, lift your voice and encourage the people in your life to join you in voting. I believe we have a responsibility to contribute and I urge you to do the same.

“It took nearly 100 years for women to gain the right to vote in this country (the movement started in 1848 and continued until 1920).

“This is our watch and it is our turn to show up.”

To contact Heidi: 507-766-2729 or pastor@fieldsofgracemn.com

Heidi elected to LCS board

Heidi writes, “My role as pastor to the Fields of Grace Parish is not merely about ‘doing ministry’ in the Lafayette area as much as it is being a minister—a call to care for a people and their place. I love the Lafayette area, not only because I live here, but also because I am called to love my neighbor here. I care for where they dwell; I care for them and their leaders. That is why I put my name into contention for the Lafayette Charter School board. I believe it is part of my call, my civic stewardship, to care about the systems that create strong communities, and a local school is certainly a system that needs our attention. I am honored to have been elected to the board. I will start officially in December.”

Note for worship committees

The worship committees from all three FOG congregations will meet at Bernadotte at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 10. Please attend if you're on your church's worship committee.

FOG Bible study

Fields of Grace Monday morning bible study will consider “How Lutherans Interpret the Bible” during November. Heidi encourages everyone to join the group on Mondays at First Lutheran, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., November 5, 12, and 26 (no session on November 19).

Wednesday School

Fifth through ninth graders will continue to meet on Wednesday nights. Regular classes on November 7 and 28 will be at First Lutheran. Dinner is served at 5:30, class starts at 6:00 and concludes at 7:30 pm.

On November 14, the group will go on a field trip to the funeral home in New Ulm. There will be no class on Thanksgiving Eve, November 21.

Sunday School at FLC

There will be only two sessions of Sunday School at First Lutheran in November—the 4th and the 11th.



Scrambled eggs, sausage, and pancakes were on the menu for the annual Harvest Breakfast at Swan Lake Lutheran Saturday, October 6. The free-will breakfast was a benefit to help Theresa Martens Kampa as she prepares for a fourth kidney transplant.



Swan Lake benefit breakfast



The guys paused from their work long enough to take a photo with Theresa.

St. Gregory the Great will host annual Thanksgiving week service

This year's ecumenical community Thanksgiving Service will be at St. Gregory the Great on **TUESDAY**, November 20, at 6:30 p.m. Members of our FOG churches, as well as St. Gregory and St. George, will join together for this community service. Refreshments will follow in the parish center.

FOG leadership retreat February 2

Leaders from all three congregational councils, as well as the FOG council, are asked to hold the date of Saturday, February 2, 2019, on their calendars. They'll gather at an off-site location for a mission/vision retreat. Back-up date, in case of bad weather, is Saturday, February 9.

New FOG web page is being updated regularly

Several months ago, a short article in this newsletter noted that FOG was looking for someone to keep the Fields of Grace web page updated.

We were lucky to have a volunteer come forward. Steve Briggs—husband of Becky (Lund) Briggs and son-in-law of Ardis Lund—stepped forward and offered to keep our page current. Steve has been busy, adding calendar items, newsletters, photos and more. **THANK YOU, STEVE!**

NOVEMBER 2018 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 4-Heidi Hutton & Tyson Hutton; 11-Al Hagberg & Todd Nelson; 18-Jasenko Gavranovic & Tarik Gavranovic; 25-Corey Langhoff & Bailey Langhoff
Greeter: Norm Langhoff Reader: Sandy Hartley
Liturgist: 4 & 11-Charlie Hartley; 18-Brad DeBoer; 25-Jorja Langhoff
Altar: Amy Davis & April Rose
Coffee Servers: 4-Jo Pehrson & Heidi Hutton; 11-Laurie Larson & Kris Hagberg; 18-Ann Gieseke & Beth Gavranovic; 25-Wendy Hagberg & Emily Hagberg

Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Mia Ross & Jason Ross
Acolyte: Jason Ross
Readers: 4-Judy Radke; 11-Lori Fenske, 18-(Joint Service at FLC); 25-Rosanne Johnson
Ushers: Shaun Anderson, Jerome Anderson, Brian Pettis, Steve & Mary Langhorst
Communion (Nov. 12): S-Shaun Anderson; C-Lori Fenske; U-Jerry Oscarson & Ruth Klossner
Coffee Servers: 4-Karen Wingen; 11-open; 18-joint service at FLC; 25-open.

Go Serve Global/Safe T Home

To update the congregations, there is still movement on the Go Serve Global/Safe T Home project for FOG.

Paul from Go Serve Global will make presentations at both Swan Lake and First Lutheran—similar to that at BLC about a year ago—on Sunday, November 4.

Discussion has included BLC sponsoring a Safe T Home, FOG sponsoring a Safe T Home, and/or FOG sending a team to Haiti to help build a home as a mission trip. A special fundraiser, if needed, could be done. Stay tuned.

Bernadotte WELCA/ LCM Notes

- Joint WELCA/LCM will Sunday, November 11, 10:45 a.m. Servers (coffee and snack): Bruce & Romi White, Kevin & Rosanne Johnson.
- Advent Dinner, Sunday, December 2, 10:45 a.m. Coordinators: Trish Gieseke & Denise Johnson. Servers (A-L)

Ring the bell on Veterans Day

Veterans Day was originally Armistice Day, the celebration for the end of the Great War (WWI). Out of it grew what we now call Veterans Day.

This year, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI, churches are asked to ring their bells at 11:00 a.m. on November 11, as a call to remember.

Upcoming Area Events

- Scandian Grove Lutefisk & Meatball Meal—Sat., Nov. 3, 11:30-5:30 pm.
- St. Gregory the Great Cookie Walk—Sat., Dec. 8, 9 am-1 pm.
- Trinity Lutheran's Christmas in the Barn—Mon., Dec. 24, services at 10 am, 12 pm, 2 pm, and 4 pm; David Kahle farm, a mile north of the Sibley Township church.

Thank you

Thank you to all who helped in celebrating our 70th anniversary. We feel truly blessed to live in such a caring community.
Carl and Dorothy Martens

To all Fields of Grace members and community friends: Thank you so very, very much for the generous support and love shown to me for my upcoming fourth kidney transplant benefit put on by the Swan Lake men's fall breakfast October 6.
Theresa Martens-Kampa

Bloodmobile in Lafayette

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Lafayette Charter School gym on Monday, November 12, from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. Please give!

To make an appointment, call Traci at 507-228-8970 or Lori at 507-228-8788. or visit redcrossblood.org and enter "Lafayette" to schedule an appointment.





Castle group visits BLC

About two dozen members from the CASTLE Lifelong Learning group in New Ulm came to Bernadotte Monday, October 29 to see and hear the church's organ. Dr. Wayne Wagner, organ professor at Martin Luther College, told about and played the organ. The group is touring Vogelpohl organs in the area—Immanuel of Courtland, St. George, and Bernadotte.



Two days of quilting at Bernadotte Lutheran



Six Bernadotte ladies made 19 quilts of various sizes when they met at the church Tuesday and Wednesday, October 9 and 10. Quilting were Dorothy Martens, Adrienne Sjostrom, Denise Johnson, Rosanne Johnson, Konnie Bartels, and Sally Webster, Thank you to them—and to the person who donated homemade quilts and left them on the table at BLC.



First Lutheran Church of Lafayette



SUNDAY



FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday, November 18, 2018

following a joint service at 9:30

“Cedar Creek Gospel Band”, Willmar, MN. will

lead the service with Pastor Heidi assisting

Bake Sale • Crafts • Cards • Napkins

Raffle/Quilt and more • Silent Auction

Dinner

Bone-in Ham and Swedish Meatballs,
real Mashed Potatoes, Corn,
Cole Slaw, Buns and Desserts

Egg Coffee and Milk

Free Bingo for Kids upstairs

*\$11 adults
Kids 0-3 Free
4-12 \$5.50*

All are invited to attend

*Everything
starts right after
the service*

