



# Fields of Grace Newsletter

<https://fieldsofgracemn.com/>

Vol. 9, Issue 6

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

January 2020

## FOG Go Serve Global update

The Go Serve Global committee is making plans for several activities to raise money to sponsor two or more homes in Haiti.

The first event is a spaghetti dinner at the Lafayette Community Center on Sunday, February 16. Serving will likely be 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Bin banks shaped like proposed homes have been distributed at our churches and will be collected by August 2. The first “noisy offering” of collected change (and bills) was taken Sunday, December 15, during the Sunday School program. A total of \$1,879.16 was collected, bringing the total in FOG’s mission account for this program to \$6,146.99.

The committee also hopes to get a date on the Cash Wise brat stand schedule, but will need to apply after January 1. In addition, the committee has asked each congregation to put a line item for the project in its budget.

The committee has two future meetings scheduled—Monday, January 6 at 7:00 p.m. at First Lutheran and Monday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m. at Bernadotte. A woman working in the mission field in Haiti will speak to the group at the January 6 meeting—anyone interested is welcome to attend.



## Council Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Council—Mon., Jan. 6, 5:30 p.m., FLC
- Bernadotte Council—Mon., Jan. 13, 6:00 p.m., BLC
- FOG Council—Wed., Jan. 22, 7:45 p.m., FLC

## BLC WELCA brunch

Women from all Fields of Grace churches are invited to Bernadotte WELCA’s 2020 Brunch. It’s Saturday, January 11, at 9:00 a.m. at Hahn’s Dining in Winthrop. It’s a fun time to visit over a good meal. Feel free to bring a guest(s). Please contact Romi White at 228-8657 or Trish Gieseke at 507-514-1022 for more information or to sign up.

## Joint Service Sun., Dec. 29 at Swan Lake

Fellowship at 8:30 a.m.,  
Worship at 9:30 a.m.

## All annual meetings January 19

- Swan Lake—Sunday, January 19, as part of 8:00 a.m. worship service
- First Lutheran—Sunday, January 19, during 9:30 a.m. service
- Bernadotte—Sunday, January 19, during 11:00 a.m. service; alternate date Sunday, February 2

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All reports for Bernadotte’s annual meeting are due to Lori Fenske by January 15 or earlier.

## Looking to the future

Beginning Monday, February 17, the FOG council will hold quarterly workshop meetings with the councils of all three churches. The FOG council is asking the members of the individual church councils to meet with it to get a better grasp of who the Fields of Grace parish is and what direction it wishes to go.

The February 17 meeting will be held at Bernadotte, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

## 2020 joint services scheduled

At its November meeting, the FOG Council set up the schedule of joint services for the first four months of 2020. They are as follow:

- Sun., January 26 Bernadotte
- Sun., February 23 Swan Lake
- Sun., March 22 First Lutheran
- Sun., April 19 Bernadotte—Food for Kidz packing

In addition, Lenten services were scheduled:

- Ash Wednesday & March 4 Swan Lake
- March 11 & 18 First Lutheran
- March 25 & April 1 Bernadotte
- Maundy Thursday, April 9 Bernadotte

The FOG confirmation class will serve soup suppers before the Wednesday evening services, beginning with Ash Wednesday.

# 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

## Pastor Heidi's Reflections

Certain denominations and traditions are considered liturgical and others aren't. We are a liturgical church. That means—among other things—that we reorder time around six different seasons that help us to align our lives with the life of Christ. The liturgical year helps us walk through the seasons of our lives in tune with the seasons of Christ's life, growing as we go. That is discipleship.

Many churches are trying the latest and greatest discipleship programs in an effort to revitalize their congregations. I believe that following the liturgical calendar is the best option. This time-tested annual pattern for Christian life is a wonderful template for learning to walk with Christ more deeply.

During Advent, I asked you to consider how God is inviting you, like Mary, to bear Christ into the world. That was intended to be a question you pondered individually. As we enter the season of Epiphany, I am inviting us to ponder the opportunities we have to bear Christ corporately, as a parish. How is the Fields of Grace Parish uniquely gifted to bear Christ?

The season of Epiphany begins on January 6, twelve

days after Jesus' birth, and the day when the nativity story tells us that the Wise Men (magi) visited the infant. The word "epiphany" literally means "manifestation." It may also mean "a new understanding." When the Magi approached the child Jesus, new understandings came to them—and to all—about the One who would be a messiah for the entire world.

As we stand at the beginning of a New Year, 2020, we are in need of an epiphany, a new way of understanding how God is being manifest in and through the Fields of Grace Parish.

During the season of Epiphany I want us to not just give lip service to the Wise Men. I pray it will be a time when Christ illuminates a new understanding about how we are being church together. The FOG council will be asking for your partnership as it seeks to identify our unique mission, and the organize itself to serve that mission.

**To contact Heidi: 507-766-3471 or  
pastor@fieldsofgracemn.com**

## Wednesday School classes visit The Lodge



Just before Thanksgiving, the FOG Wednesday School students went to Winthrop, instead of holding class at First Lutheran. The kids visited The Lodge, where they played bingo with the residents—something that was enjoyed by both the residents and the kids. They also enjoyed having supper at the Dairy Queen.



# JANUARY 2019 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

## First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 5-Randy Altmann, Allan Campbell; 12-Jay Hagberg, Matt Hagberg & Avary; 12 Dean Pehrson, Tyson Hutton; 26-Todd Nelson, Tom Brethorst

Greeter: (unknown) Reader: Jami Morton

Liturgist: 5 & 12-Brad DeBoer; 19 & 26-Charlie Hartley

Coffee Servers: 5-Kayla Campbell, Aimee Altmann; 12-Lindsay Benson, Jo Pehrson; 19-Wendy Hagberg, Emily Hagberg; 26-Ann Gieseke, Shauna Hoffmann

Communion Bread (1st & 4th Sundays)—Joyce Reese

Visiting: Deanna Sjogren, Sue Helget

## Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Ben Radke & Andrew Radke

Acolyte: Douglas Henderson

Readers: 5-Ruth Klossner; 12-Sarah Johnson; 19-Shaun Anderson; 26-Steve Sjostrom

Ushers: Dwayne Ross, Judy Ross, Jason Ross, Joel Anthony, Wanda Anthony

Communion (Jan. 19): S-Dwayne Ross, C-Jerry Oscarson, U-Rosanne Johnson, Tim Anderson

Coffee Servers: 5, 12 & 19-volunteers needed; 26-Adrianne Sjostrom & Donna Webster (Joint service)

## Christian Education schedule

### Sunday School

Regular classes resume January 5

### Wednesday School—Grades 5-9

Classes resume January 8

Confirmation will be Palm Sunday, April 5

## Support group available

A general loss support group will meet for six Mondays in January and February in New Ulm. Registration is required by December 30. Check the poster on the back page.

## Upcoming Community Event

- Lafayette Lions' Dad's Belgian Waffle Breakfast—Sun., Jan. 12, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Lafayette Community Center.



## Community Hymn Sing

The 48th annual Lafayette Area Community Hymn Sing was held at St. Gregory the Great Sunday evening, December 15. Musicians from area churches took part, singing solos or in a choir. As always, there was group singing—but the kids' nativity stole the show. Also pictured are the First Lutheran choir, the St. Gregory's choir, Jim Van Maasdam, and Charles Youngblom. Everyone enjoyed refreshments in the church fellowship hall afterwards.





# Sunday School Christmas Program

The First Lutheran Sunday School students presented their Christmas program during the Sunday service December 15. Working together, they told the story "Christmas by the Book." Carmen Broste directed the program, with Jorja Langhoff directing the bell choir. Laurie Larson accompanied the students.

A BBQ lunch was served in the church fellowship hall afterwards.





## GENERAL LOSS **SUPPORT GROUP**

6-WEEKS ~ SUPPORT FOR THE GRIEVING

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**MONDAYS [JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>- FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>]**

**6:30-7:30PM**

ALLINA HOSPITAL BOARD ROOM

1324 5<sup>TH</sup> ST N  
NEW ULM, MN 56073

**COST**

NO COST, BUT REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED ~ PLEASE REGISTER BY DEC 30TH

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“Listen to the guidance of your heart  
It is your guide on this journey  
Other hearts can accompany you  
Reach out to support and steady  
Offer thoughts and advice  
But only your heart can guide you.”  
~ Tanya Lord (TheGriefToolbox.com)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: [EMILY.HOFFROGGE@ALLINA.COM](mailto:EMILY.HOFFROGGE@ALLINA.COM)/#507-299-0567