



# Fields of Grace Newsletter

<https://fieldsofgracemn.com/>

Vol. 9, Issue 8

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

March 2020



## Lent & Holy Week Schedule

All Lenten services at 7:00 p.m.

FOG youth will serve soup suppers at 6 pm before the Midweek services

Feb. 26	Ash Wednesday	Swan Lake with imposition of ashes
Mar. 4	Midweek worship	Swan Lake
Mar. 11	Midweek worship	First Luth.
Mar. 18	Midweek worship	First Luth.
Mar. 25	Midweek worship	Bernadotte
Apr. 1	Midweek worship	Bernadotte
Apr. 9	Combined Maundy Thursday/ Good Friday Service	Bernadotte
Apr. 5	Palm Sunday	Each church
Apr. 12	Easter, 6:30 am	Bernadotte
	Easter, 8:00 am	Swan Lake
	Easter, 9:30 am	First Luth.



## First Communion instruction

FOG's fifth graders and their parents will meet with Pastor Heidi three times before receiving Holy Communion for the first time on Maundy Thursday. Dates are Thursdays, March 12 and 26 and April 2.

The sessions will be from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., with the first time at First Lutheran. Location for the others will be determined by the group.

## Looking ahead...

**FOG Youth Ham Bingo**  
**Sat., April 4, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Lafayette Fire Hall**  
**Come early to eat!**

## FOG council workshop rescheduled

The FOG council's first quarterly workshop meeting with the councils of all three churches—set for Monday, February 17 was wiped out by the snow. It has been rescheduled to **Monday, March 16, 6:30 p.m. at Bernadotte.**

FOG asks that members of the individual church councils meet with it to get a better grasp of who the Fields of Grace parish is and what direction it wishes to go.

## World Day of Prayer at Scandian Grove

Scandian Grove WELCA will host World Day of Prayer Friday, March 6, starting with coffee hour at 9:00 a.m., with the program at 10:00 a.m. Check for a poster at your church.

Everyone is welcome!



Served by  
the confirmation  
classes  
6 pm  
each week

## Annual meetings battled the weather

Bad weather delayed annual meetings, scheduled for the weekend of January 19 at all three churches. First Lutheran held its meeting February 2 but Bernadotte's (set for February 9) was again delayed and is now set for March 8. (The BLC council did elect its new officers at a reorganizational meeting.)

Church officers, as reported, are as follows.

### First Lutheran

President Traci Abrahamson  
Vice president Randy Altmann  
Secretary Marti Uhde  
Treasurer Brad DeBoer

### Bernadotte Council

President Ruth Klossner  
Vice president Trish Gieseke  
Secretary Shaun Anderson  
Treasurer Tim Anderson  
New member John Nelson

## Council Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Council—Mon., Mar. 2, 5:30 p.m., FLC
- Bernadotte Council—Mon., Mar. 16, 5:30 p.m., BLC
- FOG Council—Wed., Mar. 16, 6:30 p.m., BLC

# 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 Reflection—Loved into Being

Immediately after Jesus is baptized by John in the Jordan river, he is led by the Holy Spirit into the desert. I tend to think of the desert experience as Jesus' initiation ritual because it is after his baptism that he begins his earthly ministry. But he doesn't face that desert—which is a kind of death experience—until he experiences one very important thing during his baptism: Jesus hears his Father say, "You are my beloved one!" (Matthew 3:17)

At our baptism we also hear "You are my beloved one." We can imagine the baptismal font like a reflecting pool, and Jesus drags us to this pool through the church and says, "Look: there is my reflection and there is yours. This is who you are: the image of God, a temple of the Holy Spirit, a well-spring of life-giving water, the Beloved one, God's son, God's daughter, the one in whom the Father delights!"

But we aren't claimed by God simply to rest in our beauty and dignity until we die. Baptism is about receiving Life, not avoiding the cemetery. As such we can see our baptism, like Jesus, as an initiation into a way of life, a way of baptismal living that includes:

Living among God's faithful people

Hearing the word of God and share in the Lord's supper

Proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people

Following the example of Jesus.

Striving for justice and peace in all the earth

Baptismal living is about being loved into being, so that we can love each other into being. In this way, our belovedness is manifest in our servanthood. We build up the self, in the community of the church, to give the self away. We are blessed and then bless each other. This is what the church is supposed to be and do. It is the Spirit who empowers us to offer ourselves as living sacrifices: God's servant whom God upholds; God's chosen one in whom God delights.

We will explore this baptismal way of life each Wednesday night. We start at 6:00 p.m. with a simple soup supper served by the confirmation (and pre-confirmation) students and their families, followed by worship at 7:00 p.m.

## The Lenten Schedule

February 26, Ash Wednesday, Swan Lake

Soup providers: Zelli Kamm, Landon and Zoe Uhde

March 4, LIVE among God's faithful people, Swan Lake

Soup providers: Jenna & Kaitlin Donnay, Noah Krueger

March 11, HEAR the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, First Lutheran

Soup providers: Tate & Saige Isaacson, Tarik Gavranovic

March 18, PROCLAIM the good news of God in Christ, First Lutheran

Soup providers: Avery Roiger, Brooklyn Hagberg, Tristan Sjogren

March 25, SERVE all people, following the example of Jesus, Bernadotte Lutheran

Soup providers: Jayden Broste, John Haler, April Rose

April 1, STRIVE for justice and peace in all the earth, Bernadotte Lutheran

Soup providers: Tanner Johnson, Jayden & Nykita Youngblom

## Holy Week

April 5, Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m. worship, Swan Lake

9:30 a.m. worship and Confirmation, First Lutheran

11:00 a.m. worship, Bernadotte

April 9, Maundy Thursday/Good Friday, 6:00 p.m., Bernadotte

We are combining these two sacred days. On Maundy Thursday we remember the night when our Lord shared a meal with and loved others even when they would betray him. We will start with a meal and Holy Communion. Then we will move to the sanctuary where we will hear and remember the events of Jesus' death. We will be invited to open ourselves to the meaning of Jesus' death for us, and commit ourselves to renewed prayer and dedication.

April 12, Easter

"Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!"

6:30 a.m. worship, Bernadotte

8:00 a.m. worship, Swan Lake

To contact Heidi: 507-766-3471 or [pastor@fieldsofgracemn.com](mailto:pastor@fieldsofgracemn.com)



***Daylight Savings Time starts March 8!***

*Turn your clocks AHEAD one hour or you'll be late for church*

# MARCH 2020 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

## First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 1-Brian & Mary Martens; 8-Tristan & Eric Sjogren; 15-Steve Langhoff & Al Pehrson; 22-Tristan & Dennis Sjogren; 29-Landon & Marti Uhde

Reader: Linda Youngblom

Liturgist: 1 & 8-Jim Van Maasdam; 15, 22 & 29, Brad DeBoer

Coffee Servers: 1-Ann Gieseke & Shauna Hoffmann; 8-Sandy Donnay & Tristan, Eric, Den & Deanna Sjogren; 15-Sue Helget & Carrie Nelson; 22-Tristan, Eric, Den & Deanna Sjogren; 29-Wendy & Emily Hagberg.

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

Altar & Visiting: Lila Ellies & Myra Kienlen

## Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Ben & Andrew Radke

Acolyte: Mia Ross

Readers: 1-Judy Radke; 8-Lori Fenske; 15-Rosanne Johnson; 22-Joint Worship-FLC; 29-Ruth Klossner

Ushers: Steve Radke, Pam White, Brad White, Brent Peterson, Brad Peterson

Communion (March 8): S-Steve Radke, C-Dwayne Ross, U-Rosanne Johnson, Tim Anderson

Coffee Servers: 1-Pam White & Wendy Schulz; 8-WELCA/LCM; 15-Doris & Myron Kaduce; 22-Joint at FLC.

---

## The Rite of Confirmation

Four young people will be confirmed on Palm Sunday (April 5) at First Lutheran. They are Noah Krueger, son of Shannon and Larry Krueger; Landon Uhde, son of Marti and Jeff Uhde; Nykita Youngblom, daughter of Diane and Tom Youngblom; and Tarik Gavranovik, son of Beth Gavranovik and grandson of Ann and Tom Gieseke.

First Lutheran will host a confirmation breakfast for the young people, their families, and the congregation at 8:30 a.m. that morning. Everyone is invited.

## Marshyl Wenninger benefit

A community benefit to help Drew and Jenna Wenninger with continuing medical expenses incurred by their son, Marshyl, will be held Sunday, March 1 at the UFC Berdan Center in Winthrop. Check the poster on the back page.

Marshyl was born on July 16, 2019 with a rare and complex congenital heart defect (CHD) called Hypoplastic Right Heart Syndrome (HRHS). He was born with half a heart—the right side did not and will not fully develop. Marshyl has already undergone two open-heart surgeries—one at just three days old and one at four months. He will have at least one more open-heart surgery around the age of three. Marshyl's heart condition does not have a cure and is something he will live with the rest of his life.

## Conversations about worship

Two pews were removed at First Lutheran to create a welcoming space for small children in worship. Pastor Heidi and Mark Haler created that space with a gift from Thrivent that facilitated the purchase of the furnishings. The gift was contingent on a training on Lutheran worship.

Join us on Sunday, March 1, at noon, for a light lunch and conversation about why and how we worship God. Childcare will be available.

## It's 'Grandpa Dave' now

Dave Nelson of Bernadotte added the title "Grandpa Dave" on January 10. A son, Frederick James, was born to Nicholas and Ashley Nelson of Woodbury.

## Host families needed

BLC will again host a concert by the Vettern College Choir from Jonkoping, Sweden on Wednesday, April 22, at 7:00 p.m.

Approximately 30 homes are needed to host two or three students overnight. A comfy bed, breakfast and transportation from/to the church is all that is needed. Please contact Deb Sjostrom at [debrsjostrom@gmail.com](mailto:debrsjostrom@gmail.com) or 507-276-0452 if you are willing to host.

## Christian Education schedule Sunday School

Regular classes each Sunday in March.  
No Sunday School on April 5 (confirmation)  
and April 12 (Easter)

## Wednesday School—Grades 5-9

No Wednesday School during Lent—  
students are expected to attend midweek Lenten  
services; Classes resume April 15 & 22

## Equipping Congregations Day

Pastor Heidi doesn't want to go alone—for another year—to the annual Equipping Congregations Day. Please let her know if you'd like to accompany her to Willmar on February 29, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

## Note for Thrivent members

Thrivent members are reminded that the deadline to direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars for 2019 is March 31. The dollars expire if not directed.

## First Lutheran notes

The FLC choir will practice Sundays, March 15 - April 12 at 8:50 a.m. The choir will sing March 22 and 29, April 5 and 12. All FOG members are invited to practice on March 22 to sing at the joint service at First that day. The choir will sing a familiar song.





## SafeT Homes Spaghetti Feed February 16



Members from the Fields of Grace churches worked together to serve a free will offering Spaghetti Feed Sunday, February 16. Proceeds from the meal will go toward two SafeT Homes for Haiti.



### Upcoming Events at Bernadotte

- Joint LCM/WELCA meeting, Sunday, March 8, 9:30 a.m. Hosts: Jerome & Shaun Anderson, Jim & Stacy Kline
- Mission Sunday with Food for Kidz food packing & Joint Service, Sunday, April 19, 9:00-11:00 a.m.; devotions, pizza at 11:00 a.m.
- Concert by Vettern College Choir from Jonkoping, Sweden, Wednesday, April 22, 7:00 p.m.
- Outdoor Services—Sundays, July 5 (Joint Service), and August 2 & 30, 9:30 a.m. Music with a message.

### Community Events to check out

- Lafayette Ambulance Steak/Crab Fundraiser, Sat., Feb. 29, 5-9 pm, Dave's Place, Lafayette.
- Bloodmobile, Mon., Mar. 9, 12:30-5:30, Lafayette Community Center; contact Traci Abrahamson to make appointment, 507-276-3778.
- LCS PROS Live & Silent Auctions/Pulled Pork Meal, Sun., March 15, Lafayette Charter School Gym, 11 am meal, 1 pm live auction. Info: 507-228-8943.
- Lafayette Fire Dept. Ham Dinner, Sun., Mar. 22, Fire Hall, 10:30 a.m.



# Marshyl Wenninger Benefit

Silent Auction

Wine Pull

Raffle



**\$20 per ticket**

Three \$500 prizes

Two \$250 prizes

**Free Will Donation**

BBQ

Chips

Bars

Pickles

**Marshyl Wenninger Benefit**

**%United Prairie Bank**

**200 N Broadway**

**New Ulm, MN 56073**



Drew, Ella, Marshyl and Jenna Wenninger

UFC Berdan Center

705 East 4th St Winthrop

**01 MARCH 10-2p**

**Lafayette Area Lions**





**FOG  
Youth**

# **HAM BINGO**

**Saturday, April 4**

**6:00 p.m. start**

**Lafayette Fire Station**

**40 Games including 2 blackouts**

20 Games — \$10.00    40 Games — \$20.00

**All Ages Welcome**

*Ham Door Prizes, too!*

***Come Early—Doors open at 4:30 p.m.***

Beverages & Lunch Available—

Plate specials or a la carte

*All proceeds to  
Fields of Grace Youth Group*

Need more  
info?  
Call Mark  
at  
507-766-6327