



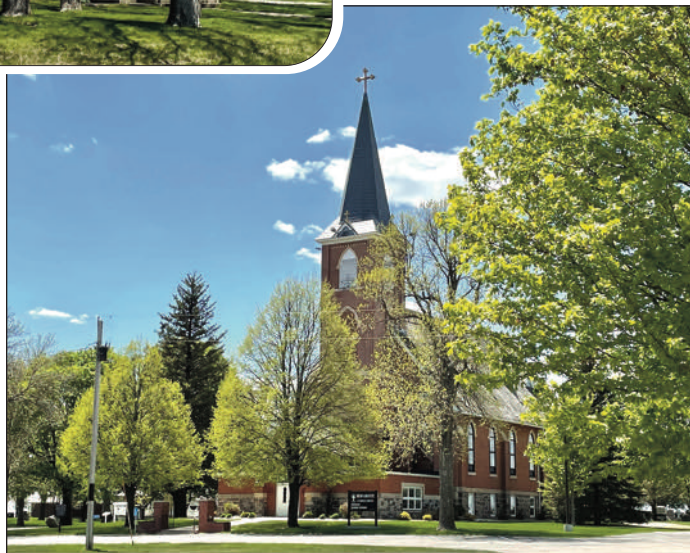
# Fields of Grace Newsletter

<https://fieldsofgracemn.com>

Vol. 10, Issue 11

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

June 2021



Beautiful  
springtime,  
all around  
God's  
creation

## Summer Services

*9:30 a.m. each Sunday*

- June 6—First Lutheran
- June 13—Swan Lake
- June 20—Bernadotte Park
- June 27—First Lutheran
- July 4—Swan Lake
- July 11—Bernadotte Park
- July 18—First Lutheran
- July 25—Swan Lake
- Aug. 1—Bernadotte
- Aug. 8—First Lutheran
- Aug. 15—Swan Lake
- Aug. 22—Bernadotte Park
- Aug. 29—First Lutheran

## **Bernadotte graduates to be honored May 30**

Bernadotte Lutheran's four high school graduates—Marissa Anderson, Austin Gieseke, Brock Peterson, and Mia Ross—will be recognized at the May 30 joint service. Coffee and cake will be served after the service in honor of the graduates. Everyone is invited to join in the celebration.

The worship service will be “back to normal” with walk-through communion, use of hymnals, and offering plates passed. Masks are optional.



## **‘Music with a Message’ outdoor services set at Bernadotte Church park**

“Music with a Message” outdoor services are back for another season at Bernadotte’s church park and bandstand.

They’ll kick off with the Larsons—Gerry and Carol, accompanied by vocalist Jody Poehler—on Sunday, June 20. The Norells will be back at Bernadotte with fun and entertaining singing on Sunday, July 11. And, on August 22, Mary Kavan of Lafayette will sing and play guitar for the final outdoor service.

All services will begin at 9:30 am. and will be followed by fellowship and refreshments.

# FIELDS OF GRACE WORSHIP SERVICES

For the foreseeable future:

**One 9:30 a.m. service with communion on a rotating schedule between churches**

*Swan Lake & First Lutheran will have coffee hour before the services they host, Bernadotte after*

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**‘A New Day’ radio broadcast on KNUJ Radio, 10:05 a.m. Sunday  
with the broadcast available online on the KNUJ web page afterwards**

The cost of broadcasting is \$160 per week, split between FOG, Scandian Grove & Trinity/St. Paul’s.

If you’d like to sponsor a broadcast, contact Brad DeBoer at [abdeboer57@gmail.com](mailto:abdeboer57@gmail.com).

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## Pastor Heidi’s reflection

I struggled to write this month’s Pastor’s Reflection, not because I didn’t know what I wanted to write but because I did.

Frankly, I was afraid that you’d dismiss it as another one of Pastor Heidi’s reflections about change. That is only partially true. I am not trying to change Fields of Grace or any of the three congregations that make up Fields of Grace. What I am attempting to do, as your pastoral leader, is position us to serve God’s mission well into the future. That means assumptions may need to be questioned, organizational structures may need to be reconfigured, some traditions may need to be reevaluated, and none of us can function on autopilot any longer.

That sounds like work, and many of us are at the point in our lives when we don’t want to do that much work, especially at church.

I get it. But, as people of faith, we don’t have the privilege of ignoring Jesus’ *Great Commission* to “go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19-20)

The *Great Commission* used to be understood literally as bringing the gospel to people who had never heard about God’s saving action through Jesus Christ. Conversion was the goal.

That is a very narrow understanding of Matthew’s text. We need to bear in mind the scope of God’s redemptive ac-

tivity. From the beginning, God’s design for creation was for it to flourish and become inhabitable. Humanity was charged with the task of caring for the earth and creating culture, making the uninhabitable habitable.

Adam failed to trust God with this task and sought to rule not only over creation, but also over God. And, as we have been reminded in our walk through the bible, Israel followed in Adam’s footsteps. But, then came Jesus. Jesus preached a restorative message that put the creation project back on track. When he returned to the Father, Jesus gave his Church the Spirit, and the responsibility to continue his restorative work.

One of the gifts of the Spirit is the ability to speak new languages (Mk. 16:17-18). That can mean literal languages like Swahili or French or Mandarin Chinese, and it can also mean cultural languages.

For example, if the pandemic has taught us anything, it is that we need to speak to people where they are. For many people that is online. When we figured out that many in our community aren’t active on social media, we started the radio ministry because that is more accessible.

Similarly, we need to evaluate all of the unspoken assumptions about why we do what we do, and discern if the “language” is still understandable and relevant in today’s reality. Does how we function still support our mission? To answer that question we first need to identify our mission at this time in our parish’s history. Then we can go about constructing ministries to serve the mission. That will take some work, and I hope you are up for it. I am for as long as I can be.

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## Late addition to Pastor’s reflection

In an effort to position us for the future, the Fields of Grace Council approved hiring Trish Gieseke as the new parish administrative assistant to serve the needs of the parish. That action was approved at the council’s May 26 meeting.

In this new position, Trish will work with me to align our ministries and our messaging to serve our purpose, our mission. In addition to facilitating administrative tasks like bulletin prep and record-keeping, she will also work in part-

nership with me to build and nurture a loving community that is equipped to serve God’s mission every day.

One of our first projects will be to get the house(s) in order. Record-keeping has been hit ‘n miss at each FOG congregation. We’ll be going through file cabinets and closets to unearth historical records and we’ll attempt to create systems that honor each congregation’s witness over the years and into the future.

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

# JUNE 2021 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

## First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 6-Al Hagberg, Marlin Wendorff; 27-Arden & Marilyn DeBoer  
Reader: Sandy Hartley  
Liturgist: 6-Jorja Langhoff; 27-Brad DeBoer  
Communion Bread (1st & 4th Sundays)—Joyce Reese  
Altar: Traci Abrahamson, Cindy Youngblom  
Visiting: open  
Coffee: 6-Kris Hagberg and Charlene Nelson; 27-Amy Davies and Susie Wendorff. *Note: Coffee hour is at 8:30 a.m. BEFORE the SERVICE*

## Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Renee Rasmussen, Andrew Rasmussen  
Acolyte: Brock Peterson  
Readers: 20-Sarah Johnson  
Ushers: Rosanne Johnson, Kevin Johnson, Bruce White, Romi White, Konnie Bartels  
Communion (June 20): S-Rosanne Johnson, C-Tim Anderson; U-Tim Schulz, Jim Bartels

## First Lutheran notes

• First Lutheran Church will celebrate its 125th anniversary in 2022. The council is looking for committee members and ideas of how to celebrate this occasion. Please contact a council person if you would like to be on the committee or have some ideas. Thank you.

## Council Meeting Dates

- FLC Council—Mon., June 7, 5:30 p.m.
- BLC Council—Mon., July 19, 7:00 p.m.
- FOG Council—Wed., July 21, 6:30 p.m., FLC  
~ joint meeting with all church councils  
to discuss our mission as a parish

## Covid clinics for students

Nicollet County Public Health will host three free Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine clinics for children 12 years and older. All are at St. Peter High School, by or enter door W6.

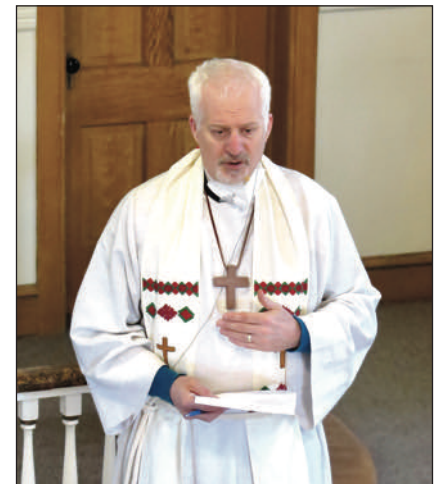
- Wed. Jun. 2, 4-6 p.m., drive thru. Sign-up: <https://prepmod.health.state.mn.us/appointment/en/reg/3516296051>.
- Thurs., Jun. 3, 6-8 p.m., in the commons. Sign-up: <https://prepmod.health.state.mn.us/appointment/en/reg/2653655109>.
- Sat., Jun. 5, 9-11 a.m., drive-thru. Sign-up: <https://prepmod.health.state.mn.us/appointment/en/reg/5951630262>.

Pre-register using the provided links or call 507-934-8557. There will be limited supply for walk-ups. Individuals living or attending school in Nicollet County are eligible.



## Bishop Jon returns to Swan Lake

Bishop Jon Anderson—who was a member at Swan Lake for 12 years—returned to conduct the joint worship service May 2. Swan Lake hosted a joint service again May 23.





## First Lutheran honors high school graduates May 16

The Sunday, May 16 joint service at First Lutheran church recognized the church's two high school graduates—Tyson Hutton and Harley Sjogren. Only Hutton was able to attend to receive a specially made tied blanket and a gift card from the WELCA

ladies. Making the presentation, left, were Sandy Hartley, Linda Youngblom, Laura Isaacson, and Lori Brethorst. Hutton is pictured with his mom, Heidi, and Pastor Heidi in the photo on the right. Linda Youngblom made and presented the blanket.



The Bernadotte church park was certainly in bloom Friday and Saturday, April 30 and May 1 when a stock trailer FULL of flower baskets arrived, after the baskets were sold through BLC's Blooming in Bernadotte plant sale. The committee had a lot of sorting to do when the plants arrived. A wine pull and raffle were also part of the fun.



Raffle winners were Jason Anderson, Bruce Beatty, Duane Eckberg, Raelynn Fenske, Gene Johnson, Denise Johnson, Graham Langhorst, Ryan Peterson, Dwayne Ross, Wendy Schulz, and Lilly White.