



Fields of Grace Newsletter

<https://fieldsofgracemn.com>

Vol. 11, Issue 1

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

August 2021



Church councils meet with FOG council

The church councils from First, Swan Lake, and Bernadotte joined the FOG Council for a joint session Wednesday, July 21 at the Lafayette Community Center. Pastor Steve Cook from the synod office led the meeting.



Summer Services

9:30 a.m. Sunday services
8:30 a.m. coffee at SL & FLC
Refreshments afterwards at BLC

Aug. 1 — Bernadotte
Aug. 8 — NO FOG service *
Aug. 15 — Swan Lake
Aug. 22 — Bernadotte Park
Aug. 29 — First Lutheran
Sept. 5 — Swan Lake

* this will allow people to attend St. Gregory's closing service

Service times for worship after September 5 will be set by the FOG council at its August 18 meeting.



Final 'Music with a Message' outdoor service at Bernadotte Lutheran church park

The third and final "Music with a Message" outdoor service will be held Sunday, August 22 at Bernadotte's church park and bandstand...weather permitting!

Mary Kavan of Lafayette will sing and play guitar for the 9:30 a.m. service. Fellowship and refreshments will follow.

Council Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Council — Monday, August 2, 5:30 p.m.
- Bernadotte Lutheran Church Council — Monday, September 20, 7:00 p.m.
- Fields of Grace Council — Wednesday, August 18, 7:00 p.m., FLC

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 have coffee hour before the services they host, Bernadotte after

**‘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.

Pastor Heidi’s reflection

You have heard me talk many times about liminal space. The Latin root for liminal means “threshold.” Liminal space is the “crossing over” space – a space where you have left something behind, yet you are not fully in something else. Carmelite scholar, Connie Fitzgerald, calls it “impasse,” the space between what was and what can be. In that space we are often frozen (at an impasse), she says, by factors of fear, distrust, anger, darkness, and many layers of memory. She claims that is the space in which Christ’s Church finds itself today. Dr. Fitzgerald says “We are encumbered by old assumptions, burdened by memories that limit our horizons and, therefore, un-free to see God coming to us from the future.”

I am intrigued by the phrase “God coming to us from the future.” We don’t know what the future holds so, therefore, have to rely on God to reveal to us God’s plan for God’s church. That is why I have suggested that we enter into a process of discernment about the future of Fields of Grace. The

landscape of our culture is changing rapidly, but the church seems to be stuck in its old ways. To simply replicate those ways would, in my opinion, not only be a death sentence, it would be unfaithful.

FOG leaders stepped into a liminal space of unknowing a couple weeks ago. Some were disappointed that we didn’t talk about concrete directions our parish might take, but it is too early for those kinds of conversations, primarily because we would be inclined to simply modify what we have been doing rather than birthing something new.

Prior to the meeting, I attempted to communicate the counter-cultural, non-linear, non-cognitive nature of discernment. It is a process I have been through many times, and I trust it. It is messy, laborious, non-concrete, and deeply spiritual. I want FOG leaders to enter into that process with open minds and hearts, knowingly/faithfully taking on the challenge over the next few months.

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

Administrative assistant Trish Gieseke responds to phone calls to parish phone

At this time, Fields of Grace administrative assistant Trish Gieseke has the parish phone (507-766-3471). She will answer all calls and forward texts and voicemails to Pastor Heidi as needed.

Two Neighborhood Night Out events

- The 24th annual Bernadotte/Brighton Area Neighborhood Night Out will be held Tuesday, August 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bernadotte Church Park. Anyone with “ties” to the area is invited to join in a potluck meal and an evening of fellowship.

- A Night to Unite will be held the same evening at Lund Park in Lafayette, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Check the poster on page 5 for all the details.

**New email addresses: Trish Gieseke, FOG administrative assistant: trish.fieldsofgrace@gmail.com
Ruth Klossner, FOG communications coordinator: fogcommunications2@gmail.com**

Early deadline for September FOG newsletter

Since the newsletter editor will spend 10 days working at the state fair, all news for the September newsletter will be due Thursday, August 19 (earlier if possible).

Thank you for your cooperation!

AUGUST 2021 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 8-Tom Sandberg, Doug Durham; 29-Brad Woller, Al Youngblom
Reader: 8 & 29-Deb Grant
Liturgist: 8-Jim VanMaasdam; 29-Charlie Hartley
Communion Bread–Joyce Reese
Altar: Traci Abrahamson, Cindy Youngblom
Visiting: open
Coffee: 8-Diane Durham, Mindy Engel; 29-Wendy Woller, Marti Uhde. Note: Coffee hour BEFORE the SERVICE, at 8:30 a.m.

Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Sally Webster, Elias Webster
Acolyte: Tanner Johnson
Readers: 1-Steve Sjostrom; 22-Tim Schulz
Ushers: Neil Rasmussen, Renee Rasmussen, Jim Kline, Stacy Kline, Andrew Rasmussen
Communion (Aug. 1 & 22): S-Neil Rasmussen, C-Shaun Anderson; U-John Nelson, Steve Radke

First Lutheran Church serves ice cream social

It may have been called a pie social, but the feature of First Lutheran's social Friday evening, July 23 was taco salads. Church members had all the fixings for the salads—and also offered hot dogs, pie, ice cream, and yummy desserts!

The Lafayette Band has played seven Friday night concerts so far—with their eighth set for this Friday, July 30. (There is no social planned.) The band will be back on Saturday, August 28, at the Lions Hog/Corn Roast which will be served at the Fire Hall (4:30-7:30 pm.).





Second Music with a Message service held at Bernadotte

The Norell family from Norseland led the July 11 outdoor service at Bernadotte. Jill Norell gave the sermon while Pastor Heidi did the prayers and communion.



FOG taking part in St. Greg's closing service

Fields of Grace will participate in several ways when St. Gregory the Great holds its final mass and closing celebration Sunday, August 8.

- A FOG choir will take part in the 10:30 a.m. mass. Final practices will be held Saturday, July 31, and Saturday, August 7, both at 9:00 a.m. at First Lutheran.

- FOG will serve a hot dog meal from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help serve the dogs and chips for a few hours (11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. or 1:30-4:00 p.m). If you can help, contact Mark Haler or Trish Gieseke.

- If anyone has a pop-up canopy that could be used there, please contact Mark or Trish.

- There will be NO Fields of Grace service that day so people can take part in the St. Greg events.

First Lutheran notes

- A tentative date of July 31, 2022 has been set for First Lutheran Church's 125th anniversary. The FLC council is looking for committee members and ideas of how to celebrate the event. Please contact a council person with ideas or to volunteer.

- The FLC Fall Bazaar has been set for the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 21. It's likely that only one worship service will be held that day, at 10:30 a.m., with the same band as the church had before.

FOG web guru has health problem

Our Fields of Grace web coordinator, Steve Briggs, has been slowed down as the result of a stroke he suffered a few weeks ago. He is currently taking outpatient therapy. Steve has some left hand problems so we're not sure how he's doing with inputting things on our web page. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Night to Unite

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3
5:30-7:30 p.m. LUND PARK

5 STAR TOWING

JERSEY'S SWEET SPOT

SNOWMOBILE GROOMER

FIRE TRUCK

AMBULANCE

LIONS FOOD STAND

SCHOOL BUS

And more!



*BRING OWN CHAIR,
PICNIC TABLES WILL
BE PROVIDED.



AMERICAN DAIRY ASSOCIATION

*IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, FIRE & AMBULANCE
WILL NEED TO LEAVE.