



Fields of Grace Newsletter

<https://fieldsofgracemn.com>

Vol. 11, Issue 7

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

Feb. 2022

Fields of Grace Schedule

One worship service each Sunday, at 9:30 a.m., on a rotating schedule

Coffee & fellowship at 8:30 a.m. at Swan Lake; at 10:30 a.m. at Bernadotte & First

Jan. 30—Bernadotte
 Feb. 6—First Lutheran
 Feb. 13—Swan Lake
 Feb. 20—Bernadotte
 Feb. 27—First Lutheran
 Mar. 6—Swan Lake
 Mar. 13—Bernadotte
 Mar. 20—First Lutheran
 Mar. 27—Swan Lake

During Lent, we will have ONLY Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday services. Members are encouraged to attend Lenten services at area churches—or to help with Wednesday evening confirmation classes which will continue through Lent.

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FOG council seeks new treasurer

After serving as the Fields of Grace treasurer for a number of years, Brad DeBoer has resigned, effective soon. The FOG council is looking for someone to step up to handle the financial matters of the parish as treasurer, with a possible stipend attached. If you're willing to do that job, please contact Karlen Nelson at 507-351-1963 or another FOG council member.



Helping Haiti through the F.A.R.M program

The money collected at the October 3 "Noisy Offering" at Bernadotte was sent to Gaylord native Mary Anderson Harris who travels to Haiti to help farmers there. The F.A.R.M. organization she started works to empower people through sustainable farming and reforestation. She sent the following letter and photos in thanks for our help.

Fields of Grace—

Thank you for your donation to help in Haiti. I thought you might enjoy a few pictures of what we did with the money. We blessed people in the community that needed help with food. I let my staff select families they thought were most in need and then we went out and they shared a Bible verse and prayed over the family and blessed them with food. It was a wonderful time. Thank you for thinking of us.

Mary Anderson Harris
 F.A.R.M. Haiti

FIELDS OF GRACE WORSHIP SERVICES

For the foreseeable future:

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

Fellowship and coffee hour before the service at Swan Lake; afterwards at Bernadotte & First

‘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.

Thank you to retiring FOG council members

The Fields of Grace council will have three new members for the new year as one member from each church has completed their years on the council.

President Karlen Nelson from Swan Lake will leave the council, but is staying on the call committee. Alan Youngblom finishes his service for First Lutheran and Neil Rasmussen for Bernadotte.

New FOG council members are Lorie Giefer from Swan Lake, Wendy Hagberg from First, and Jim Bartels from Bernadotte. Welcome to them!

Quilting at Bernadotte February 14-15

The ladies will be quilting again at Bernadotte Monday, February 14 and Tuesday, February 15; hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Everyone welcome! There will be great refreshment breaks and lots of great conversation. No need to bring lunch—sloppy Joes will be served!

You don’t have to know much about quilting—the experienced ladies will help you. (It does help if you know how to make coffee!)

Fun is had by all. Please join us!

Calls to parish phone go to administrative assistant

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 the proper person.

Trish can also be reached at trish.fieldsofgrace@gmail.com.

Bernadotte Council re-organizes

The BLC church council held a reorganizational meeting following the annual meeting Sunday, January 23. Steve Sjostrom will continue as president, with Elias Webster as vice president, and Shaun Anderson as secretary. Brent Johnson will be treasurer, replacing Tim Anderson who has completed two terms on the council. Steve Radke also completed his second council term. Thank you to Tim and Steve.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Church Council—Monday, February 7, 5:30 p.m.
- Fields of Grace Council, Wednesday, February 16, 7:30, First Lutheran Church
- Bernadotte Lutheran Church Council—Monday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.

Mobile Food Shelf in Lafayette

The New Ulm Mobile Food Shelf comes to Lafayette the third Thursday of each month and stops in the FLC parking lot. Pre-registration is required. Call 507-254-7668 to sign up and to get the schedule.

Mark your calendar with these April events at Bernadotte

- Father-Son Brunch, Saturday, April 16 (Easter Saturday); everyone welcome.
- Food for Kidz Food Packing, Sunday, April 24 (joint FOG event).

Send bulletin announcements and prayer requests to Trish

Bulletin announcements and prayer requests should be sent to FOG Administrative Assistant Trish Gieseke.

They can be phoned or texted to her at 507-766-3471 or can be emailed to her at trish.fieldsofgrace@gmail.com.

FEBRUARY 2022 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 6-Jeff Donnay, Kaitlin Donnay; 27-Dean Pehrson, Al Pehrson
Reader: Cindy Youngblom
Liturgist: (open)
Altar: Tracy Hofstad, Mary Martens
Visiting: Mary Martens, Lila Ellies
Coffee: 6-Ann Gieseke, Beth Gavranovic; 27-Lindsay Benson, Jo Pehrson.

Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Jerome & Shaun Anderson
Readers: Jan. 30-Steve Sjostrom; Feb. 20-Tim Schulz.
Ushers: Brent Johnson, Tim & Beth Anderson, Bob & Jackie Helget
Communion (Feb. 20): S-Brent Johnson, C-Rosanne Johnson;
U-John Nelson, Steve Sjostrom
Coffee: (volunteers needed)



WELCA Brunch



Nearly 20 ladies from Bernadotte, Fields of Grace, and friends gathered for the annual Bernadotte WELCA brunch at Hahn's in Winthrop Saturday, January 8. It's fun to get together and the food was great, as always!



Thrivent Associate membership can mean \$250 towards church project

FOG members are encouraged to consider applying for Thrivent "Associate Memberships" that cost just \$19.95 a year. Once enrolled, Associate Members can apply for a \$250/year Thrivent debit card that can be applied toward expenses related to any worthy church or non-profit community project. Some examples of projects include pizza to feed the volunteers at Food for Kidz, advertising expenses for events (like ice cream social), food expense for special events, meal for Swedish college choir students, paper supplies for special events, supplies for quilts given to graduates, etc.

To enroll online, go to thrivent.com. Once the membership is set up, you may apply for the \$250 Action Team award online. Anyone needing help with applying by computer can contact Deb Sjostrom (507-276-0452) who will assist.

Those who are already Thrivent Benefit Members, and have annuities or policies, may apply for two \$250 debit cards each year. And, there are additional ways to give back with regular policies through Thrivent—contact Rosanne Johnson or your agent to learn how additional monies can be given to your church or other non-profits.

Thank You

notes received by our churches

Dear First Lutheran Church,

I would like to sincerely thank you for your support with the Roman Fischer and John S. Johnson scholarship programs. It has been very helpful throughout the years while completing my education. Currently I am halfway through my three-year doctoral program for physical therapy at the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND. I have one more full-time semester of classes and then three internships where I'll get hands-on experience working in the field in different settings and three five-week semesters. After graduation, my plan is to become a traveling therapist for a couple years to work in different locations throughout the country, gain experience and knowledge. Once again I would like to thank you for helping my dreams become reality, and your continued support has helped make this possible.

Dylan Burger, Student Physical Therapist

To Bernadotte Lutheran Church,

Vern and Neva Paulson extend a heartfelt thanks for the beautiful poinsettia, tasty foods (sausage is one of Vern's favorites) and nice visits from the Bernadotte Women of ELCA/LCM and the Bernadotte LCM members. It truly means a lot during the holiday season. Wishing our church family a wonderful 2022.

Vern and Neva

To Bernadotte Lutheran WELCA,

Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia I received from the Bernadotte LCW. Your thoughtfulness was appreciated!

Verone Langhorst

To First Lutheran Church,

Thank you to FLC for the Christmas cards and gift cards to Winthrop Market LLC and Fill Me Up LLC. It is appreciated.

Laurie Larson

To First Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the gift cards from the church. Much appreciated.

Myra Kienlen

FLC 125th Anniversary

First Lutheran Church will celebrate its 125th anniversary at some point this year. The FLC council is looking for committee members and ideas of how to celebrate this occasion.

Please contact a council member if you would like to be on the committee or have ideas on how to celebrate.

Good News from FOG

A belated
Happy Birthday
to Bernadotte
member
Verone Langhorst
who celebrated
her 101st birthday
on December 31.
Wishing Verone
all the best!



Renee
Rasmussen,
also of
Bernadotte,
celebrated her
retirement from
Oak Terrace,
after 26 years
as a
kitchen aide.



As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient it's important to remember why church attendance for you and your family matters so much.

You can't serve from your sofa. You can't have community of faith on your sofa. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa.

Christians aren't consumers. We are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We pray by laying hands on the hurting. We do life together.

The church needs you.

And you need the church. 🏛️❤️🙏