



# Fields of Grace Newsletter

Website: [fieldsofgracemn.com](http://fieldsofgracemn.com)

Vol. 12, Issue 8

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

March 2023

## Worship schedule

Two services are held each Sunday, at 8:00 a.m. and at 9:30 a.m., with the exception of holiday weekends and the fifth Sunday of the month. In months that have five Sundays, there will only be one service on that Sunday. Holiday, Lenten, and Holy Week Services are rotated between the churches.

### FOG SERVICE SCHEDULE, MARCH-MAY

#### MARCH 2023

		8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Lenten Serv.	March 1	7:00 PM	BLC
Week 1	March 5	SL <b>C</b>	BLC <b>C</b>
Lenten Serv.	March 8	7:00 PM	BLC
Week 2	March 12	BLC	FLC <b>C</b>
Lenten Serv.	March 15	7:00 PM	SL
Week 3	March 19	SL <b>C</b>	FLC
Lenten Serv.	March 22	7:00 PM	FLC
Week 4	March 26	FLC	BLC
Lenten Serv.	March 29	7:00 PM	FLC

#### APRIL 2023

		8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Palm Sunday	April 2	SL <b>C</b>	BLC <b>C</b>
Maundy Thursday	April 6	7:00 PM	SL <b>C</b>
Good Friday	April 7	7:00 PM	BLC <b>C</b>
Easter Sunday	April 9	7:00 - FLC <b>C</b>	9:00 - SL <b>C</b>
Easter Sunday	April 9	9:00 AM —	BLC <b>C</b>
Week 3	April 16	Food/Kidz 9:00 AM—	BLC
Week 4	April 23	FLC	BLC
Week 5	April 30	SL <b>C</b>	FLC

#### MAY 2023

		8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Week 1	May 7	SL <b>C</b>	BLC <b>C</b>
Week 2	May 14	BLC	FLC <b>C</b>
Week 3	May 21	SL <b>C</b>	FLC
Memorial Wk.	May 28	-	SL <b>C</b>

**C** indicates communion service

## Council Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Council—Mon., March 6, 6:00 p.m.
- FOG Council—Wed., March 15, after 7:00 p.m.  
Lenten Service at Swan Lake
- Bernadotte Council—Mon., March 20, 7:00 p.m.

## Fields of Grace notes

- Confirmation classes are on hold during Lent. Students are expected to attend the Lenten services each Wednesday during Lent. The youth will serve soup suppers before each Lenten service; serving will be from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.
- Sunday School classes will be held each Sunday in March, from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m., at First Lutheran.

## Bernadotte notes

- BLC will hold a special congregational meeting Sunday, April 2 following the 9:30 a.m. service to vote on a constitution change in regard to council member numbers and terms.
- Bernadotte will host Food for Kidz food packing on Sunday, April 16, starting at 9:00 a.m. This will be a joint service, as the April 16 and April 30 service schedule has been swapped.
- BLC will host a concert by the Vettern College Choir from Jonkoping, Sweden on Tuesday, April 18 at 6:00 p.m. The concert will be early as the group will begin its trek to Chicago yet that night—so will not be staying with host families.
- BLC's ice cream social will be held Wednesday, June 7.

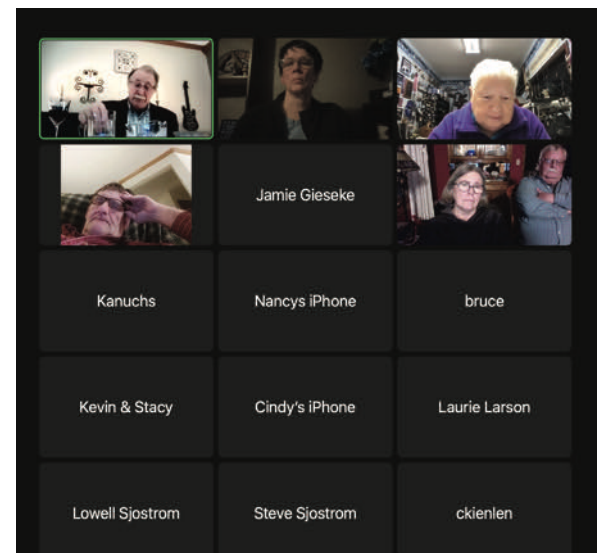
## First Lutheran notes

The spring gathering of the Minnesota Valley Conference women's organization will be held Saturday, April 15 at First Lutheran Church at Hector. Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., with a meal at noon.

First Lutheran of Lafayette is looking for volunteers to attend the conference. Anyone interested is asked to contact Sue Helget at [sjnelson74@hotmail.com](mailto:sjnelson74@hotmail.com).

## Ash Wednesday took on a new look

With snow falling and a blizzard forecast, the Ash Wednesday service was held by Zoom.



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# MARCH 2023 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

## First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 12-Tristan & Eric Sjogren; 19-Doug Durheim, Randy Sandquist; 26-Denny & Eric Sjogren  
Reader: Linda Youngblom Liturgist: (open)  
Altar: Lila Ellies & Myra Kienlen  
Coffee: 12-Katie Decko, Carrie Nelson; 19-Linda Youngblom, Lori Brethorst; 26-Kris Hagberg, Emily Hagberg  
Visiting: Lila Ellies, Myra Kienlen

## Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Ruth Klossner, Trish Gieseke  
Readers: 5-Jim Bartels; 12-Rosanne Johnson; 26-Ruth Klossner  
Ushers: Andrew Rasmussen, Brad & Pam White, Brent Peterson, Brad Peterson  
Communion (Mar. 5): S-Andrew Rasmussen; C-Judy Ross; U-Rosanne Johnson, Brent Johnson  
Coffee: Volunteers needed

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## They Were There

by Pastor Bob Stover

A few years ago, I enjoyed reading *Mexico*, a novel by James A. Michener. This author has a knack for taking the historical record and imagining what it must have been like to have actually been there himself. The detailed interactions between ancient southwestern civilizations weren't preserved, but Michener eavesdrops on their conversations and thoughts, transporting you back in time and space to experience their decisions and dilemmas.

Have you ever wondered how you would have reacted to the happenings in Jerusalem on that the original "Holy Week" when Jesus was first hailed as king, then betrayed by his closest friends, turned over to be tried, and eventually crucified? Though none of us were actually present, this year's Lenten dramas will allow us to see what happened through the eyes of some of the people who "Were There!"

Our KFOG radio reporters will interview five guests, some of the key players in the drama that actually unfolded in Jerusalem over 2,000 years ago. Judas Iscariot shares the dilemma he found himself in that week. Pontius Pilate explains why he did what he did. Pilate's wife Claudia tries to make sense of her dreams and how she responded to her hus-

band having to pass judgement on Jesus. Listen to how the condemned prisoner Barabbas felt when he was released, while Jesus was condemned to die instead. Hear the story of Peter's betrayal of Jesus and what happened next.

We will also use some select portions of Holden Evening Prayer, an evening worship service that Marty Haugen wrote for Holden Village, a remote retreat center in Washington state. Several of our parish members have helped to form a small choir to lead us in some beautiful prayers, blessings, and liturgy that has become loved and used throughout the world by Lutherans, especially during the season of Lent.

I hope you find yourself challenged and inspired by our Wednesday evening services throughout March. We'll begin each week with a soup and sandwich supper made and served by our confirmands and their families. This midweek time of fellowship and worship promises to be one you won't want to miss. I hope you join us every week, right up into Holy Week being ushered in by Palm Sunday. A few of the services will happen at each of our three Fields of Grace churches, so what a great opportunity to come out and celebrate the unity we share as a parish together. See you there!!

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## Called to their heavenly home

Swan Lake member Duane Olson, 69, of rural New Ulm died unexpectedly Monday, February 6 at his home.

Funeral service was held Saturday, February 11 at Swan Lake; burial followed in the church cemetery.

He is survived by a daughter, three sons, 11 grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Duane was an avid outdoorsman his entire life. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, spending time with his dogs, and working and participating in local tractor pulls.



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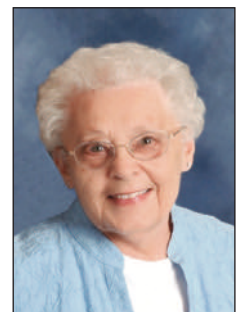
First Lutheran member Dorothy Martens, 95, of New Ulm and formerly Lafayette, died Monday, February 20 at the

New Ulm Medical Center.

Funeral service will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 11 at First Lutheran in Lafayette, with burial in the First Lutheran Cemetery. Visitation will be 9:00-11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 11 at First Lutheran Church.

Dorothy is survived by her husband of almost 75 years Carl; children Debbie Riemenschneider, Wendy (Tim) Schulz, Brian (Mary) Martens, and Pam Martens; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was a farmer's wife, 4-H leader, member and officer in the FLC women's group, taught Sunday school, and an American Legion Auxiliary member.



## Two baptisms at BLC

There were two baptisms at BLC in February.

Chet LeRoy Sjostrom, son of Jacob and Lindsay Sjostrom, was baptized on February 5. His grandparents are Steve and Deb Sjostrom and his great-grandparents are Lowell and Adrienne Sjostrom. His sponsors are Megan Jacobsen, Nathan Thomes, and Austin Frauendienst.

Wesley James Kline, son of Jim and Stacy Kline, was baptized Sunday, February 12. He's the grandson of Neil and Renee Rasmussen. His sponsors are Connie Rasmussen, Paula Thaumert, and Chris and Tamera Kline.



Chet Sjostrom



Wesley Kline

## Upcoming community events

- The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Lafayette Community Center Monday, March 6 from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. To make an appointment, contact Lori Dick or Traci Abrahamson.
- Lafayette Fire Department Relief Association Ham Dinner will be held Sunday, March 26, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the fire station. Ham, German potato salad, and more.



## MN Valley Conference met at Bernadotte

BLC hosted the MN Valley Conference annual meeting Sunday, February 9. The "R Crew"—Renee, Rosanne & Romi—served refreshments.



## Candlelight service at Swan Lake

Bad weather may have cancelled the Christmas Eve candlelight service at Swan Lake but that didn't mean that one couldn't be held. It was just postponed until the joint service at the church on January 29.



# 90-year-old Bernadotte member takes up painting



Bernadotte member Dennis Swenson will be 90 years old on March 14, but he's proving that one is never too old to learn something new.

Dennis lives at Presbyterian Homes in the Twin Cities and always likes to be busy. One day in 2021, he saw the ladies at the home doing some painting, so he asked if he could paint, too. They welcomed him and he has enjoyed it ever since, using acrylic paints. Dennis also likes to put puzzles together and play card games.

Dennis' parents were members of Bernadotte Lutheran when he was born. He was a premature baby—so, to keep him warm, his parents put him in a shoe box and kept him by the stove. Bernadotte pastor C.L.B. Boman was moving to a new community, but went to the Swenson home to baptize Dennis the day after he was born, then moved away.

Dennis does not have a mail box at Presbyterian Homes so, if you'd like to send him birthday greetings, please send them to his daughter, Denise Downhour, at 6441 Barclay Ave., Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077.



## Quilting at BLC



Where there's a will, there's a way—to get to the center of the quilt!



The Bernadotte ladies—with reinforcements from Lafayette—completed lots of quilts when they worked at the church Monday and Tuesday, February 13 and 14. (Half are pictured below.)



**FIELDS OF GRACE YOUTH**

# **HAM BINGO!**

**SATURDAY,  
APRIL 1**

**LAFAYETTE FIRE HALL**

**DOORS OPEN  
4:30 PM**

**BINGO  
6:00 PM**



**40 GAMES  
\$20.00**

38 Regular Games  
2 Blackout Games

Prizes include Half Bone-in  
Hams for Regular Games  
and Whole Bone-in Hams  
for Blackout Games,  
PLUS other Door Prizes

**BBQS, HOT DOGS AND  
OTHER CONCESSIONS  
FOR SALE**

**ALL AGES WELCOME!**

Proceeds to FOG Youth  
Contact Mark Haler with any questions  
at 507.766.6327

# Blooming in Bernadotte PLANT SALE

## SATURDAY MAY 13, 2023

Just in time for Mother's Day and Memorial Day!

Preorders are required and can be placed  
now through April 1, 2023

Order forms are available via the Fields of Grace Website  
([fieldsofgracemn.com](http://fieldsofgracemn.com)),

Fields of Grace MN Facebook Page, at the church or by  
contacting Carol Young at 507-720-8882 or 507-237-2181

Email: [Carol.young12@icloud.com](mailto:Carol.young12@icloud.com)

Mailing address: 50894 316th St. Winthrop, MN 55396

You may pick up your flower orders at Bernadotte Lutheran  
Church Park on Saturday May 13, 2023 from 10:30 am– 1:30pm

### PLANT SALE

*TO-Go box lunches  
available for purchase*

### PLANT SALE

*Kids Activities  
or Fun!*

### PLANT SALE

Opportunity  
Tickets  
are available  
\$10



## BLOOMING IN BERNADOTTE

Quantity	Hanging Baskets	Size	Color	Cost	Total
	Mixed Petunia Basket	10"	Pink Mixed	\$35.00	
	Mixed Petunia Basket	10"	Red Mixed	\$35.00	
	Mixed Petunia Basket	10"	Blue Mixed	\$35.00	
	Trailing Wave Petunia	10"	Purple	\$35.00	
	Trailing Wave Petunia Mix	10"	Mixed	\$35.00	
	Impatiens	10"	Pink Mixed	\$32.00	
	Ivy Geranium	10"	Red Mixed	\$35.00	
	Zonal Geranium	10"	Red Mixed	\$35.00	
	Mixed Basket	10"	Shade or Sun	\$35.00	
	Mixed Basket	12"	Sun	\$44.00	
	Mixed Basket	12"	Shade	\$44.00	

Quantity	Colorful Containers	Size	Color	Cost	Total
	Combo Patio Planter	10"	Pink Mixed	\$35.00	
	Combo Patio Planter	10"	Red Mixed	\$35.00	
	Combo Patio Planter	10"	Blue Mixed	\$35.00	
	Combo Patio Planter	12"	Pink Mixed	\$44.00	
	Combo Patio Planter	12"	Red Mixed	\$44.00	
	Combo Patio Planter	12"	Blue Mixed	\$44.00	
	Oval Planter	16"	Mixed	\$40.00	
	Geranium Tub	12"	Red Mixed	\$44.00	
	Suncoleus Planter	12"	Mixed	\$44.00	
	Succulent Mixed Planter	12"	Mixed	\$44.00	
	Color Bowl Mixed Annuals	12"	Mixed	\$38.00	
	Color Bowl Mixed Annuals	14"	Mixed	\$40.00	

Quantity					Total
	\$25 Hacker's Gift Certificate (Redeemed at Hacker's Tree Farm Nursery/Greenhouse 45372 190th Street Sleepy Eye MN OR Hackers Garden Center 15th S Broadway New Ulm MN <b>Not for use at A2Zinnia</b> )				\$25.00

<b>Customer Name and Address:</b>

<b>Customer Telephone Number and e-mail address:</b>

<b>TOTALS (cash or checks payable to BLC Fundraiser due at time of order)</b>	
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Completed order forms and checks can be sent to Carol Young 50894 316th St. Winthrop, MN 55396  
If questions, call 507-720-8882 or e-mail carol.young12@icloud.com