



# Fields of Grace Newsletter

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

Vol. 13, Issue 2

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

Sept. 2023

## Worship schedule

Two services will be held each Sunday, with the exception of holiday weekends and the fifth Sunday of the month.

### FOG SERVICE SCHEDULE, SEPT.-OCT.

#### SEPTEMBER 2023

	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Sept. 3	-	SL
Sept. 10	BLC	FLC
Sept. 17	SL	FLC
Sept. 24	FLC	BLC

#### OCTOBER 2023

	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Oct. 1	SL	FLC
Oct. 8	FLC	BLC
Oct. 15	SL	BLC
Oct. 22	FLC	BLC
Oct. 29	-	SL

## Support for South Africa

The Fields of Grace council reiterated its support for the South Africa Partnership at its July meeting. Each church will donate to the cause and individual members will have a chance to do so at the October 1 services when a Noisy Offering will be collected to help the South African churches.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF, SUN., SEPT. 24, 9 AM-12 PM**  
Bounce house, crafts, games, snacks and lemonade.  
First Lutheran Church. Bring a friend!
- **FIRST LUTHERAN FALL BAZAAR, SUN., OCT. 1**  
Drive-thru meal, bake sale, more. See page 4
- **SWAN LAKE BREAKFAST, SAT., OCT. 7, 6:00-9:30 A.M.**  
Proceeds from the free will breakfast will go to Kurt Karstens who has esophageal cancer and is now receiving radiation and chemo and will later have surgery.  
The breakfast menu includes ham, pancakes, scrambled eggs, toast, and beverages.

## First Lutheran notes

- Job duties for First Lutheran's Fall Bazaar October 1 are now in the FLC mailboxes. Those unable to do their assigned job duties are asked to exchange with someone or should contact Sue Helget (507-276-5536) or Wendy Hagerberg (507-276-4421) as soon as possible.
- First Lutheran has a challenge put forth by a member. If the church can gather donations totaling \$5,000 towards its heating bill, the member will contribute \$1,000. This is a donation above and beyond regular donations. Please designate on your donation that it is to go towards the challenge.

## Looking forward to Sunday school

Plans are "in the works" for Fields of Grace Sunday School this fall.

While the S.S. kickoff won't be until September 24, coordinator Kayla Campbell would like to start sign-up. If your kids will take part, please contact her at [kayla.altmann@gmail.com](mailto:kayla.altmann@gmail.com).

October 1 will be the first day of class. Starting time/place will be same as last year—10:45 a.m. at First Lutheran.

## Called to her heavenly home



First Lutheran member Sandy Donnay, 54, passed away Thursday, August 3, 2023 at the New Ulm Medical Center. Funeral service was held Thursday, August 10 at Bernadotte Lutheran.

Sandy is survived by her husband, Jeff; daughters, Kaitlin, Jenna, and Addison; and other family members. The Donnays have been members of First Lutheran since September 2019.

Sandy was born in Germany, and later moved to Canada, then to Wisconsin, Missouri, and Mississippi before coming to Minnesota in 1977, first living at Buffalo Lake and later at Stewart and Lafayette.

Sandy worked at the Hutchinson Medical Center and at the New Ulm Medical Center as a diagnostic sonographer. She also had her own business with partner and friend, Jolene Field O'Hare, called Complete Relocation out of Lafayette.

The Lafayette Lions Club is currently doing a raffle to help the family with medical expenses. The drawing will be Tuesday, September 12. Raffle tickets might still be available.

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# SEPTEMBER 2023 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

## First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 10-Mark Hagberg, Jay Hagberg; 17-Myron Isaacson, Al Youngblom; 24-Jacob Broste, Jim Langhoff  
Readers: Linda Youngblom, Sandy Burger  
Altar: Sheri Portner, Angie Hartmann  
Coffee: 10-Wendy Hagberg, Angie Hartmann; 17-Ann Gieseke, Sandy Burger; 24-Shelly Langhoff, Jorja Langhoff  
Visiting: Arden & Marilyn DeBoer

## Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Pam White, Lori Fenske  
Reader: 10-Shaun Anderson; 24-Ruth Klossner  
Ushers: John Nelson, Dave Nelson, Brad & Pam White, Ruth Klossner  
Communion (Sept. 24): S-John Nelson; C-Tim Schulz; U-Elias Webster, Judy Ross  
Coffee: 24-Romi White, Rosanne Johnson (LCM/WELCA/ meeting)

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## It was Bernadotte day at the county fair farm program

The Sjostrom family of Bernadotte Township was recognized as Nicollet County Farm Family of the Year at the farm and senior program at the Nicollet County Fair August 11. In the same program, Ruth Klossner was recognized as the county's Outstanding Senior Woman.

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In 1980, when Steve was just 19 years old, Lowell and Steve Sjostrom formed the "Sjostrom Farms" partnership. Prior to that Lowell and Adrienne milked 65 cows. With the new partnership the herd was increased to 80 cows, while continuing to farm approximately 500 acres. Although Lowell is now semi-retired, he still works on the dairy about eight hours/day, and usually seven days a week.

Steve and Deb keep the farm running, and son Jacob has joined the operation. The dairy herd is now near 100 animals and they farm 900 acres of corn, soybeans, and alfalfa. The family raises their own, as well as purchased dairy steers. With Jacob's help, they do a fair share of custom work including round baling, silage harvesting, and trucking.

Off the farm jobs include Deb as postmaster in Winthrop, Jacob doing additional trucking, and his wife Lindsay is a busy realtor. Adrienne has long retired from daily milking but she and Lowell continue to live on her family's "Sesquicentennial Farm" just north of Bernadotte where she enjoys gardening, and

baking.

In addition to son, Jacob, the Sjostroms have two older children, Megan (Karl) and family reside in Champlin, and Lucas (Alise) and family live in rural Brooten. Steve and Deb have seven grandchildren, six of them boys.

The Sjostroms enjoy being part of the community, being involved in a number of organizations—Bernadotte Lutheran Church, Nicollet County ADA, Nicollet County DHIA, Lafayette Lions, Heartland Ethanol Board, and Bernadotte Town Board.

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Klossner was recognized for her volunteer work with numerous organizations—Bernadotte Lutheran, FOG, Lafayette Lions, New Ulm Farm-City Hub Club, Nicollet Public School, Connecting Nicollet County, Nicollet American Legion Auxiliary, Nicollet County Holstein Assn, 4-H, and the county fair.

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## Bernadotte Notes

- The BLC WELCA and LCM groups will hold joint meetings on Sunday, September 24 after the 9:30 a.m. service. Romi White and Rosanne Johnson will serve.
- A large gold bead with multi-colored rhinestones was found at BLC. If it's yours, contact Trish Gieseke.





## Final Summer Events

The last Beverages & Hymns and Campfire Church gatherings were held in mid-August. Attendance was down for the final Beverages event but the group enjoyed singing favorite hymns. Over at Swan Lake, the group had a good time roasting weiners, making S'mores, and enjoying the good food provided, including cupcakes for Marvin Gieseke's 60th birthday.



Bernadotte's last two Music with a Message summer services were held July 30 and August 27. Larry Mages and daughter Amanda provided the music for the July 30 service and Mary Kavan for August 27.



## Council Meeting Dates

- Bernadotte Council—Monday, September 18, 8:00 p.m.
- FOG Council—Wednesday, September 20, Swan Lake, 7:30 p.m.
- First Lutheran Council—Monday, October 2, 6:00 p.m.

### A rather late birth announcement

We didn't catch up to the news right away, but Bernadotte members Amy (Anderson) and Wade Wagner became the parents of a son on June 8. Little Walker Lee Wagner came into the world five weeks early, but everything went well.

Walker weighed 5 lb. 3.5 oz. and was 19.5 inches long. Amy is a labor/delivery nurse and got extra help from Grandma Shaun the first few weeks. Not sure if Grandpa Jerome helped out!

## Lafayette Memorial Park dedication September 17

The public is invited to the dedication of the Lafayette Memorial Park Sunday, September 17 at 4:00 p.m. The event will include the Lafayette Band, Lafayette Legion and area color guards, guest speaker, presentation of the bricks, a past military uniform display in the Community Center, and a free-will donation meal.

The renovation of the former "Mini Park" was sponsored by Lafayette Legion Post #300. The project was led by Joe Mages of Evolve Landscape and Lafayette Boy Scout Landon Uhde, who completed the work for his Eagle Scout Award. Numerous community members assisted.



# Fall Festival

First Lutheran Church

October 1<sup>st</sup>

Farmer's Market  
& Bake Sale

OUTSIDE 10:30A.M.-1P.M.

Quilt Raffle

DRAWING AT 1P.M.

Lafayette, MN



Meal  
10:30a-1p \$15

HAM, MEATBALL, MASHED  
POTATO, GRAVY, CORN,  
COLESLAW, BUN, PUMPKIN BAR