



# Fields of Grace Newsletter

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

Vol. 13, Issue 4

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

Nov. 2023

## FOG SERVICE SCHEDULE, NOV.-DEC.

NOVEMBER 2023			
		8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Week 1	Nov. 5	SL	BLC
Week 2	Nov. 12	BLC	FLC
Week 3	Nov. 19	SL	FLC
Thanksgiving	Nov. 21 (Tues.)	7:00 PM	FLC
Week 4	Nov. 26	FLC	BLC

DECEMBER 2023			
		8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Week 1	Dec. 3	SL	BLC
Week 2	Dec. 10	BLC	FLC
Week 3	Dec. 17	SL	FLC
Christmas Eve	Dec. 24	7:00 PM	SL
Christmas Eve	Dec. 24	9:00 PM	FLC
Christmas Day	Dec. 25	8:00 AM	BLC
Week 5 - Joint	Dec. 31	-	BLC

*December services are subject to change, depending on availability of pulpit supply.*



**We get that hour of sleep back!!**  
**Daylight Savings time ends early Sunday, November 5!**  
**Don't forget to set your clocks back!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**QUILTING AT BLC, MON.-TUES, NOV. 13-14, 9:00 A.M.**

Everyone welcome! BBQ Lunch for all.

**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE**

Tues., Nov. 21, 7:00 p.m., First Lutheran Church

**COMMUNITY CAROL SING, SUN., DEC. 10, 7 P.M., BLC**

Participants welcome—singers, instrumental, more

## Interim pastor update

Fields of Grace is entering into an agreement with Pastor Mike Zaske as interim pastor for the coming months. The parish council is waiting for the paperwork to be completed, but is anxiously waiting for Pastor Zaske to begin serving FOG, likely around January 1. Zaske, a native of Gaylord, is currently serving a church in Rosemount as an interim.

In the meantime, confirmation classes have started with the assistance of Mark Haler and Charlie Hartley. The curriculum was set up before Pastor Stover left.

## Council Meeting Dates

- FOG Council—Wed., Nov. 15, First, 7:30 p.m.
- Bernadotte Council—Mon., Nov. 20, 8:00 p.m.
- First Lutheran Council—Mon., Dec. 4, 6:00 p.m.

## Sunday School kids paint pumpkins



The Sunday school kids had a fun time painting pumpkins Sunday, October 22. The pumpkins were grown at the Bernadotte parsonage gardens in memory of Pastor Heidi. Laura Dalquist reported that the gardens produced 18 beautiful pumpkins.

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# NOVEMBER 2023 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

## First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 12-Todd Nelson, Jon Hartley; 19-Myron Isaacson, Randy Altmann; 26-Mike Hoffmann, Connor Hoffmann  
Reader: Linda Youngblom  
Altar: Jorja Langhoff, Shauna Hoffmann, Shelly Langhoff  
Coffee: 12-Charlene Nelson, Deb Grant; 19-Jean Ahl, Amy Sjogren; 26-Sue Helget, Carrie Nelson  
Visiting: Sandy Burger, Sandy Hartley

## Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Myron Kaduce, Doris Kaduce  
Reader: 5-Steve Sjostrom; 12-Jim Bartels; 26-Rosanne Johnson  
Ushers: Jerome & Shaun Anderson, Brian Pettis, Steve & Mary Langhorst  
Communion (Nov. 5): S-Steve Sjostrom; C-Neil Rasmussen; U-Lori Fenske, Jim Bartels  
Coffee: 5-Trish Gieseke, Deb Sjostrom (WELCA/LCM meeting); 12 & 26-Volunteers needed

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## Fields of Grace churches host visitors

Dear Swan Lake Lutheran members,

On behalf of the group from St Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church in Plymouth, THANK YOU!

We had a wonderful time on our tour of churches in southern Minnesota. We greatly appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the history and ongoing ministry of Swan Lake.

Our congregation is a mere 65 years old . . . it is impressive to think about your deep and rich history! It was particularly interesting (and exciting) to see how God's work is being done in different communities. Lois and Darwin were wonderful hosts, with tremendous heart for your congregation. I have attached a photo from our visit.

Again, thank you for your gracious hospitality. Blessings,

Cindy Carlson

St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church



Greetings, Members of Bernadotte Lutheran Church

As Lutheran Women in Mission from Zion, Cologne, we were thrilled to participate in a tour of your historic church in Bernadotte.

Although our original church burned in the 1950s and our church was built into a bit more mid-century style, I believe we all appreciate the love, care, and maintenance that goes into a historic church such as yours.

We appreciate the fact that yours is a farmer-supported Lutheran church in the country, as is our Zion Lutheran, Cologne, which is approximately four miles southwest of Cologne, in the midst of farm fields and God's beautiful world of the ever-changing seasons.

We thank you and your tour guide and ask you to accept this contribution as a token of our appreciation for allowing us to visit. (*A check for \$100.*)

May God bless and sustain your churches and their members as we are ever mindful of God's goodness, mercy, and grace, especially as the fall harvest is brought in.

To God be the Glory—forever.

Roxanne Pieper

and the Lutheran Women in Mission of Zion, Cologne

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## First Lutheran Church notes

- Choir practice will be held at FLC following the 9:30 a.m. services on November 12 and 19 to prepare for Thanksgiving and Christmas. This is an opportunity for all FOG church members to participate.

- First Lutheran has a challenge put forth by a member. If the church can gather donations totaling \$5,000 towards the heating bill, the challenger 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. The challenge will continue through December 31.

- Scholarship applications for the Roman Fischer and John S Johnson Scholarships are now being accepted at First Lutheran Church. Application deadline is December 24, 2023. Applications are in the church entryway on the east side of the front door. Completed applications should be placed in the offering plate at First Lutheran or into the night drop at Citizens Bank Lafayette Branch, Attn. Laura. Once a student's first trimester grades have been posted, they should be turned in in the same manner as the application. Checks will be awarded once grades have been submitted.

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## Community events

- Scandian Grove will host its annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner Saturday, November 4, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$22 per meal, \$12 for 10 and under. For more info, call 507-246-5195.

- The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Lafayette Community Center from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. Monday, November 20. To make an appointment, call Lori at 507-276-0876, call 1-800-733-2767, or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "Lafayette" as the location.

# Swan Lake Harvest Benefit Breakfast



The men of Swan Lake Lutheran Church extend a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who came out for Kurt Karstens' benefit breakfast. It was a huge success, and that is owed to the wonderful support and generous donations. We also thank all the volunteers and donators for their time and supplies in order to be able to put this benefit on.

The Karstens family is very thankful for each and every one of you. They said, "We are blessed to have such a wonderful and supporting community. Thank you!"



## Noisy offerings for South Africa



Bernadotte Lutheran, along with First and Swan Lake, collected a "noisy offering" for the South Africa churches at an early October service. Offerings were brought forward in a processional at BLC, with the youngsters especially enjoying dumping their family's collections into an old milk can.

## Bernadotte notes

- BLC WELCA and LCM will meet after the November 5 worship service. Trish Gieseke and Deb Sjostrom will serve.

- A collection box for gifts for the Forensic Mental Health Program & Forensic Nursing Home at St. Peter Regional Treatment Center will be in the entryway at BLC until Sunday, November 19.

Hygiene products, socks, underwear (men's & women's), sweatpants (men's M-5XL), sweatshirts (men's M-5XL), shoes (men's 9-14), and gift cards are appreciated. Check with Rosanne Johnson for more details.

## Good News items from Fields of Grace

**Jim Bartels** of Bernadotte was one of five inducted into the Minnesota Broadcasters Hall of Fame during the association's annual conference Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at the St. Paul Hotel.

With 40 years in the industry, Bartels is a long time voice of the area, both in local sports and community events, and as the general manager at KNUJ. Though "semi-retired" Jim is still heard often on the radio.



Also inducted this year were Boyd Huppert, Tim Russell, Mary Campbell, and Lee Valsvik. Inductees are selected based on their unique and outstanding contributions to broadcasting in Minnesota.

Fields of Grace organist **Laurie Larson** will be recognized as Winthrop's Good Citizen at the annual Winthrop Chamber Banquet this Saturday, October 28; social hour at

5:30, with dinner at 6:30 p.m. at Hahn's Dining and Lounge. Hahn's Dining owner Tracy Hahn will receive the 2023 Chamber Award.

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After 20 years of dedicated cleaning at First Lutheran, **Myra Kienlen** decided it was time to hang up the mop. FLC thanked Myra for her years of service and dedication to First Lutheran and for



keeping the church sparkling clean by presenting her with a bouquet of flowers during the October 15 church service.

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**Abby Bartels and Jeremy Balduan** were married in an outdoor ceremony at the Bernadotte Church Park on Saturday, September 23. Abby is the daughter of Jim and Konnie Bartels of Bernadotte Lutheran.



### Pastor Bob's final FOG service

Pastor Bob Stover completed his interim service at Fields of Grace on Sunday, October 15. On behalf of FOG, council president Traci Abrahamson presented him with a gift at the start of the service.

The Sunday School kids created special "leaves" using their hands, then presented them to him during



the coffee hour. The kids also sang a special song for him. The FLC ladies served cake and coffee during the social hour.





## FLC Fall Festival

First Lutheran's annual Fall Festival Sunday, October 1 was a success.

With most expenses paid off, approximately \$8,100 was made from the annual donations/

farmers market/bake sale/raffle and approximately 300 meals served.

Congratulations to quilt raffle winner, Dean Pehrson.

Thank you to Doug Durham who sold 770 raffle tickets!!



A big hank you to all who worked, sold raffle tickets, brought farmers market or baked goods, donated items for the raffle, and purchased meals to again make the Fall Dinner a success for your church. It would not be possible without everyone's hard work!

Thank you to Tami and Nancie who worked tirelessly to make sure a great meal was served!



## Baptism at First Lutheran

Maren Mable Montgomery was baptized at First Lutheran Sunday, October 15 by Pastor Bob Stover. Born February 26, 2022, she is the daughter of Corben and Aimee Montgomery and the grand-daughter of Darrell and Traci Abrahamson. Her sponsors are Jenna Dick and Kelsey Montgomery.



Like her cousin Brixtn Roslyn Abrahamson, Maren wore a baptismal gown made of satin fabric that Traci's dad sent home from Japan in 1947 while he was in the service. Traci's grandmother Esther Anderson Cox Morshare asked Edith Hedberg to make the gown in 1955.

Maren and Brixtn are the third generation to wear the gown for baptism. Grandmother Traci (Cox) Abrahamson and her children



Corey and Aimee wore the same gown.

Brixtn was baptized Saturday, July 9, at Christ the King Church in New Ulm. She's the daughter of Corey Abrahamson and Calleigh Buechner.

