



# Fields of Grace Newsletter

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

Vol. 14, Issue 8

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

March 2025

## FOG SERVICE SCHEDULE, Mar.-Apr.

MARCH 2025			
		8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Week 1	March 2	SL*	BLC*
Ash Wednesday	March 5	7:00 PM	BLC*
Week 2	March 9	BLC	FLC*
Lenten Week 1	March 12	7:00 PM	FLC
Week 3	March 16	SL*	FLC*
Lenten Week 2	March 19	7:00 PM	FLC
Week 4	March 23	FLC	BLC
Lenten Week 3	March 26	7:00 PM	SL
Week 5	March 30	Joint	FLC*

APRIL 2025			
		8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Lenten Week 4	April 2	7:00 PM	BLC
Week 1	April 6	9:00 FOG Food for Kidz at BLC	
Lenten Week 5	April 9	7:00 PM	BLC
Week 2	April 13	BLC	FLC*
Maundy Thursday	April 17	7:00 PM	FLC* (1st Communion)
Good Friday	April 18	7:00 PM	SL
Easter Sunday	April 20	7:00 AM	SL*
		8:30 AM	BLC*
		10:00 AM	FLC*
Week 4	April 27	FLC	BLC

\* communion

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5, 7:00 p.m., Bernadotte

### FOG MISSION SUNDAY—FOOD FOR KIDZ

Sunday, April 6, 9:00 a.m., Bernadotte

### FOG HAM BINGO

Saturday, April 12, 7:00 p.m., Lafayette Fire Station

### EASTER COMMUNION SERVICES

Sunday, April 20

7 a.m. SL; 8:30 a.m., BLC; 10:00 a.m. FLC

### CONFIRMATION/GRADUATION RECEPTION

Sunday, May 11, 9:30 a.m., First Lutheran



Set your clocks  
AHEAD  
Saturday  
night!

## FOG youth to serve soup suppers

Soup and sandwich suppers will be served by the Fields of Grace youth from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. before each of the Wednesday evening Lenten services. Volunteers are needed to bring cookies or bars for the suppers. Three or four volunteers are needed each Wednesday. Please contact Mark Haler at 507-766-6327 if you can bring cookies or bars.

## Congregational officers/church council members elected

**First Lutheran:** Laura Isaacson, president; Carmen Broste, vice president; Sara Kanuch, secretary; Brad De-Boer, treasurer; Marti Uhde, Stacy Reinhart, Jean Ahl, and Jeff Donnay, council members.

**Bernadotte:** Steve Sjostrom, president; Elias Webster, vice president; Brent Johnson, treasurer; Steve Radke, secretary; John Nelson, Neil Rasmussen, Judy Ross, Jim Bartels, and Tim Anderson, council members.

**Swan Lake:** Darwin Gieseke, president; Karlen Nelson, vice president; Jeanne Cox, secretary; JoAnn Gieseke, treasurer; John Maass and Jaime Gieseke, council members.

## FOG, FLC and BLC Notes

- The FOG choir will sing during 9:30 a.m. communion services March 2 at BLC and March 9, 16, and 30 at FLC. The choir will also sing during communion at the March 5 Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m. at BLC.

- The WELCA group at First Lutheran is doing a stewardship drive to help with the church's anticipated budget needs for 2025. WELCA will do a quarterly match of funds raised from donations given above and beyond individuals' normal church offerings. Each quarter, the ladies will do a max of

\$2,500 for a total donation of \$10,000 during the year. Those giving extra are asked to note "Stewardship Drive" on their extra donations so WELCA can track the donations for the match.

- Mission Sunday/Food for Kidz at Bernadotte April 6 will be a joint service. Set-up will be at 8:00 a.m., with food packaging from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., and a devotion and lunch at 11:00 a.m. There will be no Sunday school that day so youngsters can help.

- Outdoor music service dates at Bernadotte will be June 22 with the Larsons, July 13, and August 10.

# Lenten Series this year—Amazing Grace-Lent

by Pastor Bruce Bringle

Our Wednesday night Lenten series will have as its theme “Amazing Grace-Lent.”

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the writing of “Amazing Grace,” this worship series for Lent by theologian Michael Hoy ties the words of the beloved song to our lives today as Christ’s disciples. Those in the Bible who experienced the amazing grace of God help us each week to realize that though we once were lost in sin, we now have been found by Jesus, and though we once were blind to God’s mercy, we now can see his love at work in us through our Savior’s death and resurrection.

Services will begin at 7:00 p.m., preceded by suppers at 5:45 p.m. served by the FOG youth.

Here is the full schedule:

- Ash Wednesday, March 5, at Bernadotte.

Service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes. Biblical Character, King David. No Supper that night.

- Wednesday, March 12, at First Lutheran.

Biblical Character, Isaiah of Babylon. Sermon Theme, Grace for the Despairing.



• Wednesday, March 19, at First Lutheran. Biblical Character, The Prodigal Son. Sermon Theme, Grace for the Lost.

• Wednesday, March 26, at Swan Lake. Biblical Character, the Blind Man. Sermon Theme: Grace for the Blind.

• Wednesday, April 2, at Bernadotte. Biblical Character, the Woman at the Well. Sermon Theme, Grace for Those Ashamed.

• Wednesday, April 9, at Bernadotte. Biblical Character, Paul. Sermon Theme, Grace for the Wretched.

• Maundy Thursday, April 17, at First Lutheran. Service of Holy Communion and First Communion. Biblical Character, John. Sermon Theme, Grace for the Loveless. No Supper.

• Good Friday, April 18, at Swan Lake. Tenebrae Service.

Come and grow in your faith this Lenten season!

Pastor Bruce

## Nelson retires from Bismarck town board



Bernadotte member Arlin Nelson has retired from his position as Bismarck Township treasurer—a role he had held since 1981.

Arlin liked to work with numbers and the position was a good fit.

Nelson felt that the position was a good way to keep in touch with the township and its residents. With elections moving to mail-in ballots, Nelson commented that he didn’t get to know the residents as much.

Arlin was the township’s treasurer at the time that a hazardous waste site was proposed to be placed there, back in the early 1980s—and the board and residents fought hard to get it removed from the list of potential sites.

*“A New Day,” the Fields of Grace Sunday morning radio church broadcast, continues on KNUJ at 10:05 each Sunday morning. To listen live, go to KNUJ 860 AM or online by going to [knuj.net](http://knuj.net).*

## Thank you notes received

The family of Verone Langhorst would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to everyone at Bernadotte for the kindness shown over the past years and upon Mom’s death.

Bernadotte has always been very important to her.

Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered.

Dear Field of Grace Church,

Thank you very much for the multiple scholarships that I have received. I cannot even put into words how much this means to me and how I can use it to further my education. Currently I am taking my generals at Western Technical College in La Crosse, Wisconsin. I was in the PTA program, but I am planning on transferring to a different program but am still undecided on one that I would like to peruse to make my future career. I am very grateful for what this church has done for me and my family and how loyal they have been. Again, thank you very for the multiple scholarships that I received and hope to do some work for the church in the future.

Saige Isaacson

I am grateful to be selected as a recipient of the scholarships from the church. The generosity is very appreciated and will be helpful in continuing my schooling and funding my tuition. Thank you again!

Landon Uhde

Thank you to Bernadotte Lutheran Church for the card and Kwik Trip gift card I received at the annual meeting. It is greatly appreciated.

Laurie Larson

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*Thank you to Myron and Doris Kaduce for sponsoring a Sunday broadcast of a New Day*

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## MARCH 2025 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 9-Stacy & Kevin Reinhart; 16-Eric & Heidi Sjogren;  
23-Eric & Heidi Sjogren; 30-Eric & Heidi Sjogren  
Altar: Trudy Hofstad, Carmen Broste  
Reader: Cindy Youngblom  
Coffee: 9-Lori Brethorst, Sheri Portner; 16-Sandy Hartley,  
Laurie Larson; 23-Sandy Burger, Linda Youngblom; 30-  
Sue Helget, Katie Decko

### Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Trish Gieseke, Ruth Klossner  
Ushers: Tim Anderson, Brad & Pam White, Brent Johnson,  
Brad Peterson  
Readers: 2-Steve Sjostrom, 9-Ruth Klossner; 23-Laura  
Dalquist  
Communion (Mar. 2 & 5): S-Tim Anderson; C-Judy Ross;  
U-Brent Johnson

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### SW MN Synod Assembly delegates needed

The SW MN Synod Assembly will be held from 6:00 p.m. Friday, June 6 through 5:00 p.m. Saturday, June 7 at Gustavus Adolphus College. Delegates may attend either in person OR online by ZOOM.

For First Lutheran, one male voting member and one female voting member are being sought.

For Swan Lake, one male voting member AND/OR one female voting member are needed.

If interested, please talk to Pastor Bruce or a council member.

### Upcoming community events

The City of Lafayette will celebrate its 125th anniversary with special events July 23-27, 2025. Many different events are being planned. The 125th anniversary committee will meet next on Tuesday, March 25 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lafayette City Office. Open to anyone interested in helping in any way.

In conjunction with the anniversary, Lafayette's history since 2000 will be reported in an update book, possibly called, "The Next 25 Years." Information on all area businesses, organizations, and activities will be included. Contacts are being made—but it would be very helpful if people would offer information and photos to history book author Ruth Klossner at [cowladyruth@gmail.com](mailto:cowladyruth@gmail.com) or 507-240-0048.

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The New Ulm Lions Club will host an all-you-can eat Dad's Belgian Waffle fundraiser Sunday, March 2 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Social Hall at 417 South Minnesota Street. It will help support the children of New Ulm.

Advance tickets are available at Hy Vee, Cash Wise, New Ulm Chamber Office, or Sid's Signs on Broadway. Tickets are \$11.00 in advance, \$12.00 at the door; children under 5 free.

### Council Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Council—Tues., Apr. 1. 6:30 p.m.
- FOG Council—Wed., Mar. 19, FLC, 8:00 p.m.
- Bernadotte Council—Sun., Mar. 23, 7:00 p.m.



### Royal family photo donated to BLC



Denise Downhour, daughter of former Bernadotte member Dennis Swenson who passed away in December 2023, presented a special photo to BLC at the church's annual meeting January 26.

The photo is rare, one of only three known to exist. It pictures the Swedish royal family, the Bernadottes.

Denise purchased the photo at an auction up north. She and husband Doug donated it to the church that's named after the family.

# Fields of Grace Worship

March through August

Please *SAVE* this schedule for reference over the next months.

Note that the *Sunday, July 27* service will be held at the band shell in Lafayette's Memorial Park, as part of Lafayette's *125th* celebration

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		8:30 AM	BLC*
		10:00 AM	FLC*
Week 4	April 27	FLC	BLC

MAY 2025			
		8:00 AM	9:30 AM
Week 1	May 4	SL*	BLC*
Confirmation & Grad.	May 11	BLC	FLC*
Week 3	May 18	SL*	FLC*
Week 4	May 25	Joint	SL*

JUNE 2025			
		9:30 AM	5:00 PM
Week 1	June 1	BLC	-
Week 2	June 8	FLC	-
Week 3	June 15	-	SL
Week 4	June 22	BLC	-
Week 5	June 29	FLC	-

JULY 2025			
		9:30 AM	5:00 PM
Week 1	July 6	-	SL
Week 2	July 13	BLC	-
Week 3	July 20	FLC	-
Week 4	July 27	Lafayette Community Service	

AUGUST 2025			
		9:30 AM	5:00 PM
Week 1	August 3	SL	-
Week 2	August 10	BLC	-
Week 3	August 17	FLC	-
Week 4	August 24	-	SL
Week 5	August 31	BLC	-

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**PLEASE NOTE:**  
The Fields of Grace cell phone service plan has been cancelled. All calls should go to Pastor Bringle on his cell phone or to administrative assistant Trish Gieseke on her cell phone.

Pastor Bruce Bringle—  
507-381-7301 or  
bjrjbringle@outlook.com  
OR fieldsofgrace.pastor@gmail.com

Trish Gieseke—  
507-514-1022 or  
trish.fieldsofgrace@gmail.com

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Prayer requests and announcements for the church bulletin should be sent to Trish Gieseke.

Newsletter items should be emailed or phoned to Ruth Klossner at cowladyruth@gmail.com or 507-240-0048.

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