



Fields of Grace Newsletter

Website: fieldsofgracemn.com

Vol. 14, Issue 9

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

April 2025

FOG SERVICE SCHEDULE, Apr.-May

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

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*

* communion

FOG, FLC and BLC Notes

• 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., devotion and pizza lunch at 11:00 a.m., followed by clean-up; done by noon. There will be no Sunday school that day so youngsters can help.

• BLC is doing a flower fundraiser, with orders due by April 15. See the poster in this newsletter; contact Sarah Johnson at sarah.danielle.johnson@gmail.com or 507-327-8852 for more information.

• Quilting Days will be held at Bernadotte April 29-30. Watch for more information in the weekly announcements.

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

• The Bernadotte Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4 in the Bernadotte Park. Work assignments will be in the May newsletter—and will likely be similar to last year. Contact Deb Sjostrom if you have any questions or concerns. Please mark your calendars.

• First Lutheran WELCA met its first quarter match to help with the church's anticipated 2025 budget needs. Thanks to all who are helping with the challenge. WELCA will match funds raised from donations given above and beyond individuals' normal church offerings. The ladies are doing a max of \$2,500 each quarter 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

BLOOMING IN BERNADOTTE 2025

Saturday, May 10, 10:00 a.m.-noon

Orders due April 15

CONFIRMATION/GRADUATION RECEPTION

Sunday, May 11, First Lutheran

8:30 a.m. Breakfast, 9:30 a.m. Service

BERNADOTTE ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Wednesday, June 4, 5:00-7:30, BLC Park

FOG YOUTH ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Friday, June 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Laf. Comm. Center

FOG youth serving soup suppers

Soup and sandwich suppers are being served by the Fields of Grace youth from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. before each of the Wednesday evening Lenten services. The final two suppers and services will be at Bernadotte April 2 & 9.

FOG choir notes

There are no scheduled choir practices in April. New participants are welcome to join in at any time.

The choir will sing during communion at these services:

- Sunday, April 13, 9:30 a.m., First Lutheran.
- Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7:00 p.m., First Lutheran, (First Communion for FLC students)
- Easter Sunday, April 20, 8:30 a.m., BLC; 10:00 a.m., FLC (First Communion for BLC students at Bernadotte)

FOG youth ham bingo

The annual FOG Youth Ham Bingo event will be held Saturday, April 12 at the Lafayette Fire Hall. Check the poster in this newsletter for more details.

The Triduum

by Pastor Bruce Bringle

It's called the Triduum. Triduum is a word that means "three days."

Yet, in some ways, it is really one very long day. It begins Thursday evening, Maundy Thursday, and it ends Sunday, Easter Sunday. It is treated as one very long worship service, which it was centuries ago.

The high point of the whole year was the celebration of the Resurrection of Christ at the Easter Vigil, which began around mid-night and continued until dawn on Easter day. Later, the Easter Vigil was divided into its separate parts and spread out over the three days, which yet today is the high point of the whole Christian year.

It begins with the Maundy Thursday celebration of the intimacy of the Christian community—its mutual forgiveness, absolution, and peace. While we most often think of Maundy Thursday as the anniversary of the institution of the Lord's Supper, we ought to understand that gift in its wider terms. It is a meal of the community, given to the community whereby the community of Christ receives Christ in, with, and under the forms of bread and wine. Christ is really present in the community. Maundy Thursday is a time of reconciliation in the community, the community in which we not only "do this in remembrance of me," but where we "love one another as I have loved you."

At the end of the Maundy Thursday liturgy, there is no benediction or dismissal. The three-day, three-part liturgy of the Triduum has begun; it continues with the liturgy of Good Friday.

Good Friday is the day that the community gathers to



celebrate our Lord's sacrifice on the cross, through the hearing of the passion according to St. John. The passion according to St. John, through which the glory of the victorious King radiates, is most appropriate for this solemn day, which commemorates the destruction of death by death. Again, there is no benediction or dismissal. The service is not yet over; it continues with the Easter Vigil.

The Easter Vigil is the culmination of the Triduum. In keeping with the Easter Vigil, the church celebrates the entire paschal mystery, the passage of Christ through suffering and death to resurrection and new life. The Alleluias, absent during Lent, return to worship. Surely, this is the feast of victory for our Lord. (Unfortunately, most congregations do not celebrate the Easter Vigil.)

The next morning, Easter morning, we gather to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. We begin the "Great Fifty Days" of rejoicing, ending on the fiftieth day, Pentecost. And we hear the benediction and dismissal once again. The worship service, which began on Thursday evening, is not complete. I encourage you to worship with us through the Triduum—Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. If you attend only Easter it is like coming in the middle of the worship service. You are really missing something!

See you in church!

Pastor Bruce

Help with this above article came from Commentary of the Lutheran Book of Worship, by Philip Pfatteicher.)

Lenten, Holy Week and Easter services

This year's Lenten series has a theme of "Amazing Grace-Lent." Evening services are at 7:00 p.m., soup suppers will be served before the April 2 and 9 services.

- Wednesday, April 2, Bernadotte; Grace for Those Ashamed.
- Wednesday, April 9, Bernadotte; Grace for the Wretched.
- Maundy Thursday, April 17, First Lutheran; Service of Holy Communion and First Communion for FLC students; Grace for the Loveless.
- Good Friday, April 18, Swan Lake, Tenebrae Service.
- Easter, April 20, 7:00 a.m., Sunrise Service with communion, Swan Lake; 8:30 a.m., Festival Worship with Holy Communion and First Communion for BLC students, Bernadotte; 10:00 a.m., Festival Worship with Holy Communion, First Lutheran.

Council Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Council—Tues., Apr. 1. 6:30 p.m.
- FOG Council—Wed., May 14, SwLk, 7:30 p.m.
- Bernadotte Council—May date to be determined

Conference/synod gatherings

The Minnesota Valley Conference Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering will be Saturday, April 12 at Christ Lutheran Church in Glencoe. Registration is at 11:30 a.m., with lunch at noon. The theme is Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice, featuring Christian musician/speaker Doug Larson. Cost is \$12.00. FLC members wishing to attend should contact Sue Helget at 507-276-5536; BLC members contact Rosanne Johnson at 507-276-8251.

SW MN WELCA will do a bus trip to LWR and Global Health Ministries on June 16. The cost is \$20, plus lunch on your own.

The SW MN Synodical Convention will be held May 3 at Vinje Lutheran Church with a theme of "I Love to Tell the Story." Cost is \$25.

Contact Rosanne for information on SW events.

March 30 notes

Joint worship with communion at FLC at 9:30 a.m., no coffee after the service as the Fire Department ham dinner is being held at the Fire Hall.

APRIL 2025 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 13 & 20-Eric & Heidi Sjogren; 27- Alan Hagberg, Jeff Donnay
Altar: Sandy Hartley, Amy Sjogren
Reader: Linda Youngblom
Coffee: 13-Sue Helget, Katy Decko; 20- Sandy Burger, open; 27-Lori Brethorst, Kris Hagberg

Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Tim & Beth Anderson
Ushers: Jim, Konnie & Adam Bartels, Abby Bolduan, Scott Johnson
Readers: 13-Tim Schulz; 20-Jim Bartels; 27-Laura Dalquist
Communion (April 20): S-Jim Bartels; C-Elias Webster; U-Neil Rasmussen
Coffee: 6-pizza; 13-open; 20-WELCA coffee & rolls; 27-Sjostrom family will serve coffee and cake in honor of Lowell & Adrienne's 65th wedding anniversary; everyone welcome!



Fields of Grace youth serve weekly Lenten soup suppers



The confirmation students have taken turns serving soup and sandwiches after each of the Lenten services. Church members have volunteered to bring bars and cookies to add to the meal. Photos are from March 19.



Upcoming community events

The City of Lafayette will celebrate its 125th anniversary with special events July 23-27, 2025. Many fun events are being planned and many volunteers will be needed to help with the various events.

In conjunction with the anniversary, Lafayette's history since 2000 will be reported in an updated book, possibly called, "The Next 25 Years."

Information on all area businesses, organizations, and activities will be included. It would be helpful if people would offer information and photos to history book editor Ruth Klossner at 507-240-0048 or cowladyruth@gmail.com.

The 125th committee will hold a pork chop dinner Sunday, April 27, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., at the Lafayette Community Center to raise funds for the anniversary. See poster on last page.

All Lafayette area seniors—80 years old and older—are invited to ride on a Senior Float in the 125th Anniversary Celebration Parade Sunday, July 27 at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Kayla Altmann at kayla.altmann@gmail.com with your name and age. This is open to ALL seniors with ties to Lafayette.

FIELDS OF GRACE YOUTH

HAM
BINGO!

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 12TH**

Lafayette Fire Hall

**Doors Open
4:00 pm**

**BINGO
6:00 PM**

**40 GAMES
\$20.00**

**38 Regular Games
2 Blackout Games**

20 GAMES FOR \$10

**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 2025

Saturday, May 10

Order just in time for Mother's Day or Memorial Day
PRE-ORDERS & PREPAYMENT REQUIRED

Order forms were mailed/emailed out or are available at BLC.



Tulips 6.5" pot
\$20



Bulb Garden
\$35



Wreath
\$35

Wreath w/embellishments
\$40

Flower pick-up will be in the park shelter at Bernadotte Lutheran
from 10 AM until NOON on Saturday, May 10

ORDER FORMS & MONEY DUE NO LATER THAN APRIL 15, 2025

Mail to: Sarah Johnson 51145 336th St Winthrop MN 55396

Fields of Grace Worship

April 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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Easter Sunday	April 20	7:00 AM	SL*
		8:30 AM	BLC*
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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	-

Prayer requests

Fields of Grace welcomes prayer requests and the names of loved ones or friends of the parish to be listed in the bulletin each week and included in our spoken prayers. To have a request listed, call or text Trish at 507-514-1022 or email trish.fieldsofgrace@gmail.com. The churches are happy to include prayers for those special people each week. Please let Trish know if names should no longer be included in the weekly list.

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

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.

PORK CHOP DINNER!

LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY CENTER!

APRIL
27
10A-1P

FREE WILL
DONATION!
TAKE OUTS
AVAILABLE!

AMERICAN POTATO SALAD
COLESLAW
BEANS
BUN
COOKIE



ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS
EXPENSES FOR THE 125TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION