



Fields of Grace Newsletter

Website: fieldsofgracemn.com

Vol. 14, Issue 11

Bernadotte, First & Swan Lake Lutheran

June 2025

FOG SERVICE SCHEDULE, June-July

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 PARK	-
Week 5	June 29	FLC*	-

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

* communion

The FOG Choir will continue to sing during communion at services this summer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BERNADOTTE ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Wednesday, June 4, 5:00-7:0, BLC Park

FOG YOUTH ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Friday, June 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m.,
Lafayette Community Center

FLC WELCA ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Friday, June 20, 5:30-7:00 p.m.,
Lafayette Community Center

BLC OUTDOOR SERVICES

9:30 a.m., Bernadotte Church Park
Sundays, June 22, July 13, August 10



Confirmation at First Lutheran Sunday, May 11

Three young men affirmed their baptism at the Sunday, May 11 service at First Lutheran Church. Brec Reinhart, Bodey Hagberg, and Madden Hagberg were confirmed by Pastor

Bruce Bringle. Before the service, the three were recognized at a combined confirmation and graduation breakfast put on by the WELCA ladies. (See page 6)

From the Pastor's Desk

by Pastor Bruce Bringle

School is just about out! Summer is just around the corner, and that usually means that the tide is out as far as church activities are concerned. We don't plan to have as many things going on in our congregations during the summer—even though, from the looks of it, our three congregations DO seem to have some neat fellowship opportunities coming up. Vacations and other summer activities take much of our time.

Maybe that makes it seem like a strange time to talk about worship as a means of witness to the world. Yet I think it is important for us as Christians to recognize how our worship does witness to Jesus Christ.

Usually, we tend to think of what we can get out of worship. We come to worship to see the other members of our church family. We want to hear something that will help us during the week. We want to bring our requests to God. We want to experience some good music. There is nothing wrong with looking for all of these things and others from our worship experience.

Nevertheless, I want us to consider what we can offer when we come to worship. Worship is an opportunity to present ourselves "as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God" (Romans 12:1). Our worship is a service we offer to God. We worship God, we praise God and, in doing so, we give honor and glory to the Lord.

Worship can also be a powerful witness to the God who is revealed in Jesus Christ. It is a witness when someone drives

by our churches and sees them surrounded by cars on Sunday morning. They know that here is a congregation of worshipers. It is a witness when a stranger shows up at a worship service and sees a host of people praising God with enthusiasm.

But, whenever our members fail to attend worship, for whatever reason, whenever we allow our worship to become lackluster and anemic, whenever we start to believe that regular worship attendance isn't important, we cripple the witness of our congregation. Our worship can be a powerful means to proclaim our faith to the world. But it takes numbers for the witness of worship to reach its potential.

What I am trying to say is that we need you at worship whenever you possibly can be here to help us witness to the world. We need your active and involved participation at worship, to proclaim the gospel in a powerful way. We need people filling our pews, and we need those who will help lead our worship—musicians, those who read lessons, those who take time to welcome and to get to know the stranger, helping them feel comfortable at our worship. Everyone has a part to play.

The commission that Jesus gave to us all just before he ascended into heaven is this, "You shall be my witnesses."

Our worship is a crucial way that all of us can participate in the task of witnessing to the world. Please join us for worship and help us make our worship services an offering pleasing to God and a powerful witness to all. See you in worship!

Pastor Bruce

New members at Bernadotte



Bernadotte welcomed five new members at the May 11 service. They are Keith and Barb Foster from Christ the King Lutheran Church in New Ulm and Pastor Bruce, Jennifer, and Jacob Bringle from Garfield Lutheran Church in Madison, MN.

BLC and FLC Notes

- The Bernadotte Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4 in the Bernadotte Park. Work assignments were in last month's newsletter. Contact Deb Sjostrom if you have any questions or concerns.

- FLC WELCA will serve the Lafayette Friday Night Social June 20, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Ham and turkey wraps will be served with various toppings, chips, and cookies. Co-chairs are Sandy Burger and Linda Youngblom. Workers are Bill Youngblom, Dave Burger, Jeff and Addy Donnay, Traci and Darrell Abrahamson, and Brian and Mary Martens. Asked to bring two to three dozen cookies are Laurie Larson, Carmen Broste, Trudy Hofstad, Lori Brethorst, Traci Abrahamson, Heidi Hutton, Lindsay Benson, Jo Pehrson, and Angie Hartmann.

- First Lutheran is looking for one or two people to serve coffee/snacks at the Lodge in Winthrop Sundays June 8, 22, and 29 at 2:00 p.m. for approximately 16 residents. If you could help with one of those Sundays, call Wendy Hagberg at 507-276-4421 or Sue Helget at 507-276-5536.

Council Meeting Dates

- First Lutheran Council—Wednesday, June 18, 6:00 p.m.
- FOG Council—Wednesday, July 16, BLC, 7:30 p.m.
- Bernadotte Council—Sunday, September 21



Austin Gieseke
 SDSU, Brookings
 Bachelor of Science
 Landscape Architecture
 Project Designer, Stuart, FL



Ben Radke
 SDSU, Brookings
 Bachelor of Science
 Agricultural Business
 Ag Lender, Ruthton, MN



Caroline Kienlen
 Winona State University
 Masters w/Academic Distinction
 Social Work
 Trauma & Mental Health Work



Kaylyn Broste
 St. Catherine University
 Assc. Applied Science, High Honors
 Physical Therapist Assistant

**2025
 Fields of
 Grace
 College
 Graduates**



Landon Uhde
 Ridgewater College, Willmar
 Assoc. of Applied Science
 Power Ag Mechanics
 Miller Sellner Impl., Sleepy Eye



Marissa Anderson
 Minnesota State, Mankato
 Bachelor of Science, Summa Cum Laude
 Exercise Science
 St. Catherine's, Further Education



Nick Gjerde
 Harvard Extension School
 Master's Degree
 Global Development Practice
 State of MN, Energy Resources



Rachel Bringle
 Concordia College, Moorhead
 Bachelor's Degree, Magna Cum Laude
 Music
 Graduate School for Music

JUNE 2025 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 8-Open; 29-Open
Altar: Jorja Langhoff, Shauna Hoffmann
Reader: Open
Coffee: 8-Lori Brethorst, open; 29-Laurie Larson.

Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Renee Rasmussen, Andrew Rasmussen
Ushers: Steve Sjostrom; Bruce & Romi White, Jim & Konnie Bartels
Readers: 1-Ruth Klossner; 22-Trish Gieseke
Communion (June 1): S-Steve Sjostrom; C-Brent Johnson; U-John Nelson
Coffee: No fellowship time during summer



Special thanks to Laura and Kyle Dalquist for leading Sunday School this year.

Sunday School wraps up for the year



The kids searched for plastic eggs with messages inside and planted flowers to take home.

The Fields of Grace Sunday School kids closed out the year with a fun day Sunday, May 4. The kids enthusiastically sang during the morning service, enjoyed root beer floats afterwards, then headed out to the church park for more fun.



Thank yous

Dear First Lutheran Church,

I am writing to sincerely thank you for awarding me the Roman Fisher and John S. Johnson scholarships. I am truly honored to have been selected as a recipient over several years, and I am deeply grateful for your generosity and support. This scholarship has greatly assisted me in pursuing my educational goals at South Central College and Saint Catherines University. I have now finished up my college career to become a physical therapist assistant debt free thanks to the support from the church as well as others. Thank you once again for everything and helping me to now give back to others with my new career.

Kaylyn Broste

I would like to thank the First Lutheran WELCA ladies for the wonderful brunch that they served for the Confirmation/Graduation reception! It was delicious! I heard so many compliments on the meal and the graduation blanket gifts—and the service as a whole was very nice.

Thank you to the gals that worked on your Mother's Day to make it special for the kids! So grateful for our church family!

Wendy Hagberg

Thank you to Elaine Holberg for sponsoring a recent broadcast of "A New Day".

2025 Friday Night Socials and Band Concerts

The Lafayette Band will perform regular Friday evening concerts from May 30 through July 25. The concerts will begin at 7:30 p.m., following socials in the Community Center. The July 25 concert for Lafayette's 125th anniversary will begin at 6:30 p.m., to allow for the transition to the Concord Singers and Narren that will follow.

Several dates are still open; anyone interested in serving a social or another meal is asked to contact Sandy at the City Clerk's Office.

May 30 – Open

June 6 – Fields of Grace Youth

June 13 – Lafayette Area Lions

June 20 – First Lutheran WELCA

June 27 – West Newton 4H Club

July 11 – Open

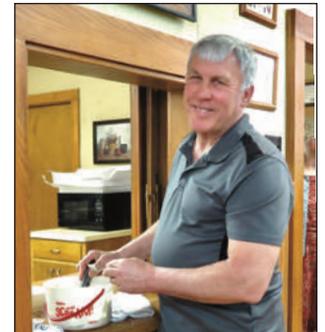
July 18 – Open

July 25 – Legion 125th Celebration Meal



Sjostroms celebrate 65th

Lowell and Adrienne Sjostrom celebrated their 65th anniversary at Bernadotte on Sunday, April 27. Their family served cake and ice cream during the coffee hour after the service. Friends from the area joined BLC members in congratulating the Sjostroms.



Conference/synod gatherings

- 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 Synod Assembly will be held from 6:00 p.m. Friday, June 6 to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, June 7 at Gustavus Adolphus College. Delegates may attend either in person OR online by Zoom. First Lutheran is looking for one male voting member and one female voting member. Swan Lake is looking for one male voting member and/or one female voting member. If interested, please talk to Pastor Bruce.

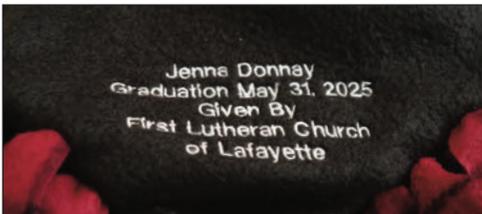




High school graduates recognized at First Lutheran

This year's high school graduates, Jenna Donnay and Avary Roiger, were recognized before and during the May 11 worship service at First Lutheran. Donnay will graduate Saturday, May 31 from GFW and Roiger from New Ulm High School Friday, May 30.

The WELCA ladies served the combination confirmation/graduation breakfast before the service. They also presented each grad with a tied blanket specially made for them and personally embroidered.



Some thoughts about fathers...

To all Fathers...

"A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society."
~ Billy Graham, Christian Evangelist

"My father used to play with my brother and me in the yard. Mother would come out and say, "You're tearing up the grass." Dad would reply, "We're not raising grass. We're raising boys."

~ Harmon Killebrew, Famed baseball player with the Minnesota Twins

"We are given children to test us and make us more spiritual."
~ George Will, U.S. Journalist

"I don't care how poor a man is, if he has family, he's rich."

~ Colonel Potter, M*A*S*H

To those who owe it all to their fathers...

"My father didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it."

~ Clarence Budington Kelland, U.S. Writer

"The greatest gift I ever had came from God; I call him Dad!"

~ Anonymous

"My greatest fear is that I won't live up to my father's dreams for me."
~ Anonymous

Happy Father's Day!



Busy at Bernadotte



Saturday, May 10 was pick-up day for this year's Blooming in Bernadotte. The committee also held a bake sale and served a lunch.

The Bernadotte ladies, along with friends from around the area spent two days, April 28-29, quilting at the church, making a lot of beautiful quilts.



Baptism at FLC



Korbin Jean Broste, daughter of Jacob and Bergan Broste, was baptized Sunday, April 27 at First Lutheran. Korbin's grandparents are Carmen and Jeremy Broste and her great-grandparents are Jim and Jorja Langhoff. Korbin's sponsors are Josh and Cassie Kraus.

Bernadotte Lutheran Church

Summer Outdoor Service 'Music with a Message' Schedule-2025

- Join us at our beautiful park, and band shell. Light beverage/treat provided after each 'music based' service.

Sunday, June 22nd: Mary Kavan--9:30 am

Sunday, July 13th: The Larsons, with Pastor Bruce Bringle leading the Vocals --9:30 am

Sun., Aug. 10th: Larry Mages--9:30 am

Services will move indoors if inclement weather.
Bernadotte Lutheran Church—5 miles east of Lafayette.
BLC is a member of Fields of Grace Parish.

Lafayette's 125th anniversary

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. Please offer your time.

Among those events will be a community prayer service, followed by a Dad's Belgian waffle breakfast and the 125th Anniversary Celebration Parade on Sunday.

All Lafayette area seniors—80 years old and older—are invited to ride on a Senior Float in the 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.

Any businesses, groups, or individuals that would like to take part in the Sunday, July 27 parade are asked to contact Deb Sjostrom at 507-276-0452 or debrsjostrom@gmail.com. There is no cost to be in the parade, but donations are appreciated. Deadline to enter is June 10. Finally, several more volunteers are needed to help with the parade that day—please contact Deb if you can help on July 27.

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

Information on all area businesses, organizations, and activities will be included. This is a last call for information for the book.

A complete schedule and information will be shared in next month's newsletter.



125TH PARADE

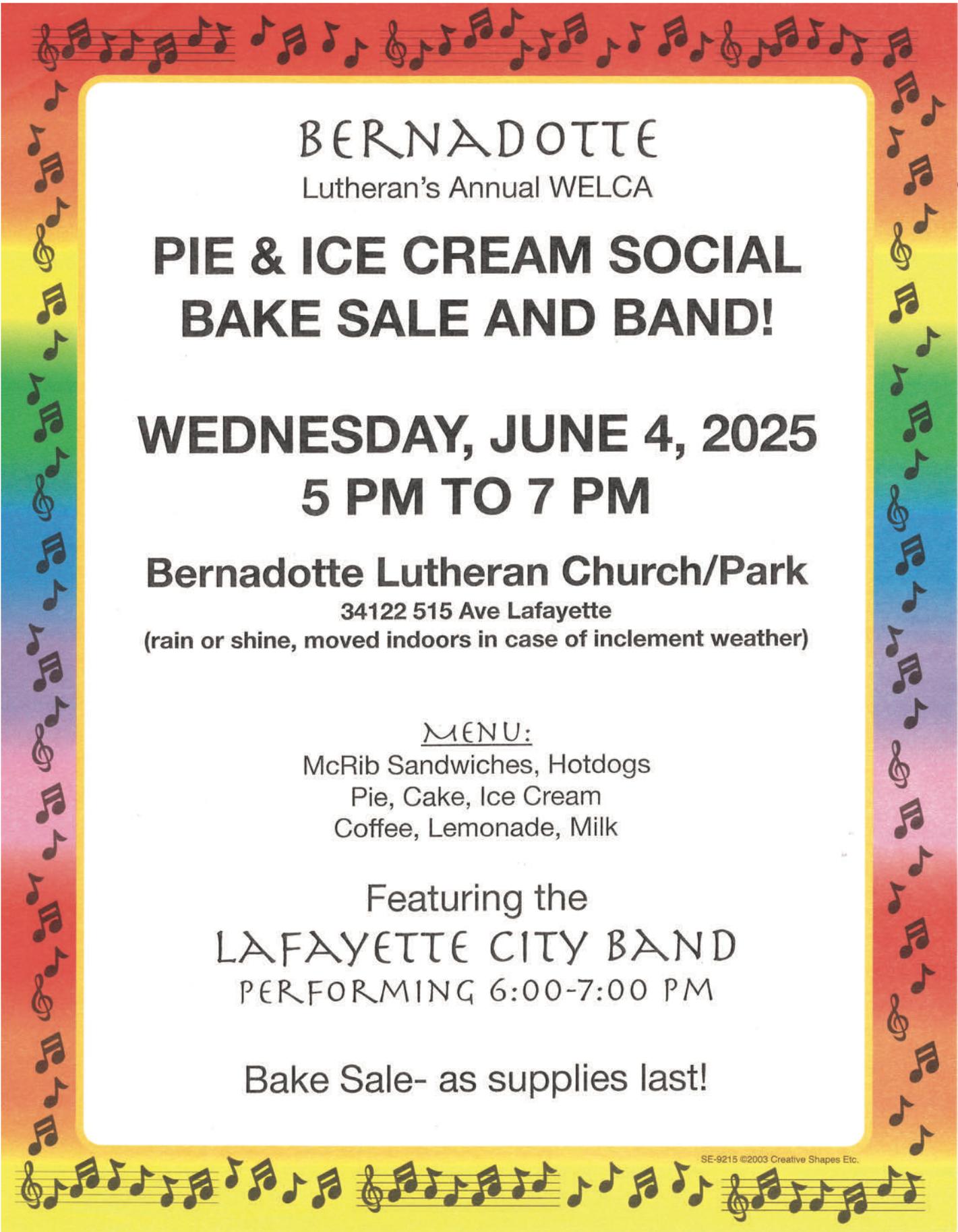
Are you interested in being in the
125th Anniversary Parade?
Free Entry. Donations appreciated.

SUNDAY, JULY 27

2P.M. 

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

 Contact Deb Sjostrom
debrsjostrom@gmail.com

A decorative border surrounds the central text, featuring a rainbow gradient from red at the top to yellow at the bottom. The border is composed of a continuous line of musical notes and treble clefs.

BERNADOTTE

Lutheran's Annual WELCA

PIE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL BAKE SALE AND BAND!

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025
5 PM TO 7 PM**

Bernadotte Lutheran Church/Park

34122 515 Ave Lafayette

(rain or shine, moved indoors in case of inclement weather)

MENU:

McRib Sandwiches, Hotdogs

Pie, Cake, Ice Cream

Coffee, Lemonade, Milk

Featuring the
LAFAYETTE CITY BAND
PERFORMING 6:00-7:00 PM

Bake Sale- as supplies last!

FIELDS OF GRACE YOUTH

FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL

JUNE 6TH

5:30 TO 7:30 P.M.

LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY CENTER

**Pork Chops, Potato Salad, Chips & Beans
PLUS Ice Cream Sundaes**

FREE WILL OFFERING

*Come for the food,
stay for the band...*

**LAFAYETTE BAND
PLAYS AT 7:30 PM**

