



Fields of Grace Newsletter

Website: fieldsofgracemn.com

Vol. 15, Issue 8

Bernadotte & First Lutheran Churches

March 2026

FOG SERVICE SCHEDULE, Mar.-Apr.

MARCH 2026			
		8:30 AM	10:30 AM
Week 1	March 1	FLC*	BLC*
Lenten Week 2	March 4	7:00 PM	BLC
Week 2	March 8	FLC	BLC
Lenten Week 3	March 11	7:00 PM	FLC
Week 3	March 15	FLC	BLC
Lenten Week 4	March 18	7:00 PM	FLC
Week 4	March 22	FLC*	BLC
Lenten Week 5	March 25	7:00 PM	FLC

APRIL 2026			
		8:30 AM	10:30 AM
Maundy Thursday	April 2	7:00 PM	FLC*
Good Friday	April 3	7:00 PM	BLC
Easter Sunday	April 5	8:00 AM	BLC*
		9:30 AM	FLC*
Week 2	April 12	9:00 FOG Food for Kidz at BLC?	
Week 3	April 19	FLC	BLC
Week 4	April 26	FLC*	BLC

* Communion

The FOG Choir will meet Sunday, March 1 after the 8:30 worship service at FLC to discuss singing during Lent, Easter, and future events. Watch for more information in the weekly FOG email. All are welcome.

FOG Worship Schedule now through April

- 8:30 a.m. Morning Worship at FLC
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship at BLC and FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School at BLC
- 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship at BLC

Blooming in Bernadotte is back

The annual Blooming in Bernadotte flower fundraiser is happening now through April 1, with flower pick-up on Saturday, May 9 at BLC from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Flowers will come from Hacker's Nursery and Greenhouse. Gift certificates from Hacker's will also be available.

See pages 6 and 7 for complete information.

Contact the fundraising committee of Jim and Connie Bartels, Nancy Reinhart, John and Gretchen Petterson, Trish Gieseke, or Elias Webster with any questions.

Orders can be placed in a basket on Trish's desk in the BLC office or can be mailed to BLC, PO Box 173, Lafayette, MN 56054.

Confirmation will NOT meet Wednesdays during Lent, but will resume on April 1.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• **FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS' MEETING**
SUN., MAR. 1, 9:45 A.M., BLC

• **LENTEN SERVICES**
WED., MARCH 4, 7:00 P.M., BLC
WED., MARCH 11, 18 & 25, 7:00 P.M., FLC

• **FOG YOUTH HAM BINGO**
SAT., MARCH 28, 6:00 P.M., FIRE HALL

• **HOLY WEEK & EASTER**
Maundy Thursday, April 2, 7:00 p.m., FLC
Good Friday, April 3, 7:00 p.m., BLC
Easter Sunday, April 5, 8:00 BLC, 9:30 FLC

• **CONFIRMATION CLASS**
WED., APR. 1, PRACTICE FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

• **FOOD FOR KIDZ MISSION SUNDAY**
Sunday, April 12, 9:00 a.m., BLC

REMINDER: DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME



MARCH 8TH, 2026

Spring Forward!
Set clocks ahead one hour.

LIFE8TORNLIFE888.COM

MARCH 2026 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 1-Kevin & Stacy Reinhart; 8-Brad Woller & Jason Gronewald; 15-Haley & London Kanuch; 22-Eric & Denny Sjogren; 29-Brian & Mary Martens
Altar: Amy Sjogren & Angie Hartmann
Reader: Sandy Hartley
Coffee: 1-Arden & Marilyn DeBoer, 8-open, 15-Lori Brethorst, 22-open; 29-open
Reminder Calls: Susie Wendorff

Bernadotte Lutheran

Ushers: Tim Anderson, Brad & Pam White, Brent Peterson, Brad Peterson
Readers: 1-Trish Gieseke; 8-Sarah Johnson; 15-Tim Schulz; 22-Rosanne Johnson; 29-Laura Dalquist
Communion (Mar. 1): S-Tim Anderson; C-Steve Langhorst; U-Andrew Rasmussen.
Coffee: 1-Wendy Schulz & Pam White, 8-open, 15-Jennifer Bringle, 22-open (WELCA/LCM Meeting); 29-open.

From the Pastor's Desk

by Pastor Bruce Bringle

We are now into the season of Lent. This time in the church year seems to have lost some of its impact on the world. Lent is now known for other things.

In our nation, it's now known as the season of "March Madness" and the NCAA tournament. Or, the season of "spring break," which means for many college students party, party, party. When we lose Lent, we will have lost much of what makes us who we are—the baptized children of God.

Will Lent be different for you this year? Lent serves as a vital purpose in our daily walk with Christ. We live our life, day in and day out, at a frenzied pace. We take no time for contemplation of life, and even less time for amendment of life. And then we wonder why things never change in our life. Things never change because we do nothing to allow the Holy Spirit to change them.

Lent comes at the perfect time of the year. Lent comes at the end of winter and just before the busy-ness of spring comes upon us. Lent is celebrated in the church as a time to slow down a little, to take a look at one's life, to become more intimate with God's Word, to repent of one's life before God—and that means making some changes—and to be prepared by the Holy Spirit of God to live the Easter life.

Will Lent be different for you this year? What will you do to make the difference? I would suggest a few very simple things. First, if you're not already doing so, make time in your day for prayer, reading the Bible, and meditating upon what you read. If this means getting up earlier, so be it. Make it a habit, a deeply ingrained habit, a habit you cannot break. Become addicted to it. Second, do not miss an opportunity to worship both at your own church on Sundays. and at Bernadotte and First communities of faith on Wednesdays. Hear the Word, taste the sacrament, see your brothers and sisters in Christ. Third—through prayer, meditation, and worship—do an audit of your life. Be especially attentive to the voice of God speaking to you. Ask yourself, "What is God leading me to change?" Find a way to make those changes. Fourth, find a way to connect your life with the life of someone else, someone who needs you. Fifth, meditate on the cross of Christ and come to understand what it means to give. Look

at your own giving in the terms of what God in Christ has given you. How could you become more of a giver of your time, talents, and treasures than you presently are? Sixth, take another look at that old Lenten standby—give something up for Lent, something that will call you to your newly acquired Lenten discipline. Will Lent be different for you this year? It could be.

See you in church!

Lenten Series—'Facing the Cross'

Our Wednesday night Lenten series have as its theme "Facing the Cross."

When the days drew near for him to leave this earth, Jesus "set his face" to Jerusalem to encounter the pain of the cross on our behalf (Luke 9:51). In the same way in this Lenten series, we set our faces on the cross of Christ that lies before us. As we face the cross during these Lenten days, we also face certain aspects in our lives which are not always in line with the cross. We come to terms with them in this series through the cross of Christ—who came to save us that we might see him face-to-face in heaven.

Services are at 7:00 p.m., preceded by suppers served by the FOG youth, from 5:45 to 6:40 p.m.

Here is the schedule for the month of March.

- Wednesday, March 4 at Bernadotte; "Facing Our Fears," Isaiah 41:10. Recognizing what strikes fear in our hearts helps us to grab on more tightly to Christ.

- Wednesday, March 11 at First; "Facing Our Worldliness," Matthew 6:19-21. Accepting we are often all too dependent on worldly goods opens the door to seeing the value of everlasting blessings.

- Wednesday, March 18 at First; "Facing One Another," Ephesians 4:31-32. Confessing that we have not always treated each other in a Christlike manner helps to build better relationships.

- Wednesday, March 25, at First. "Facing Suffering," Romans 8:18-19. Enduring suffering in this world connects us to Christ and points us to the joy to come.

Come and grow in your faith this Lenten season!



The FOG confirmation students served the first Lenten soup supper Wednesday, February 25, above and left. The Sunday School kids made Valentines earlier in the month, right and below.



Spotlight on Fields of Grace youth



Church councils reorganized

The new members of the Bernadotte Lutheran Church Council were installed at the February 1 worship service. They are Steve Sjostrom, president; Elias Webster, vice president; Steve Radke, secretary; Tim Anderson, treasurer; Wendy Schulz, financial secretary; and Jim Bartels, John Nelson, Savanna Clemon, Steve Langhorst, and Andrew Rasmussen, members at large.

First Lutheran council members were installed at the Sunday, February 22 worship service. They are Carmen Broste, president; Stacy Reinhart, vice president; Sara Kanuch, secretary; Brad DeBoer, treasurer; and Charlie Hartley, Jean Ahl, Jeff Donnay, and Sandy Burger, at large.

Thank yous

Dear John S Johnson and Roman Fisher Scholarship Board Members,

I want to write this letter to express my gratitude for selecting me for this scholarship. This money will be put towards my college tuition and other school supplies that I require. Becoming a medical assistant and going into the medical field is something that I have always been interested in since I was a little kid. This money is an investment towards my career and future as a medical assistant and will allow me to make a difference in the world.

Thank you again for selecting me for this scholarship.

Sincerely, Saige Isaacson

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We would like to thank First Lutheran and the scholarship committee for the scholarships we received. We are grateful to have received these scholarships and will use them to pay for tuition expenses this semester.

Kaitlin and
Jenna Donnay

FOG youth ham bingo

The annual FOG Youth Ham Bingo event will be held Saturday, March 28 at the Lafayette Fire Hall. Doors open at 4:30 with bingo at 6:00 p.m. Check the poster in this newsletter for all the information.

FOG youth serving soup suppers

Soup and sandwich suppers are being served by the Fields of Grace youth from 5:45 to 6:40 p.m. before each of the Wednesday evening Lenten services.

The youth are looking for two desserts for the Lenten soup and sandwich meals March 11, 18 and 25 at First.

If you can provide one, please contact Laura Isaacson.

Bernadotte Notes

- Joint WELCA/LCWM meetings will be held Sunday, March 22 during coffee hour.

- Mission Sunday/Food for Kidz at Bernadotte April 12 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 all ages can help.

- Outdoor music service dates at Bernadotte will be June 28 with the Larsons, July 26, and August 23.

Council Meeting Dates

- FLC Council—Tues., Mar. 24, 6:00 p.m.
- FOG Council—Wed., Apr. 8, 7:30 p.m., FLC
- BLC Council—In April, to be determined

GOD IS STILL WRITING
YOUR STORY. QUIT TRYING
TO STEAL THE PEN.

TOBYMAC #SPEAKLIFE



FIELDS OF GRACE YOUTH

HAM
BINGO!

**SATURDAY,
MARCH 28**

Lafayette Fire Hall

**Doors Open
at 4:30**

**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

FLOWER FUNDRAISER

Petunias, Impatiens, Geraniums, Mixed Annuals, Succulents, and Suncoleus available in a variety of Hanging Baskets, Planters and Bowls

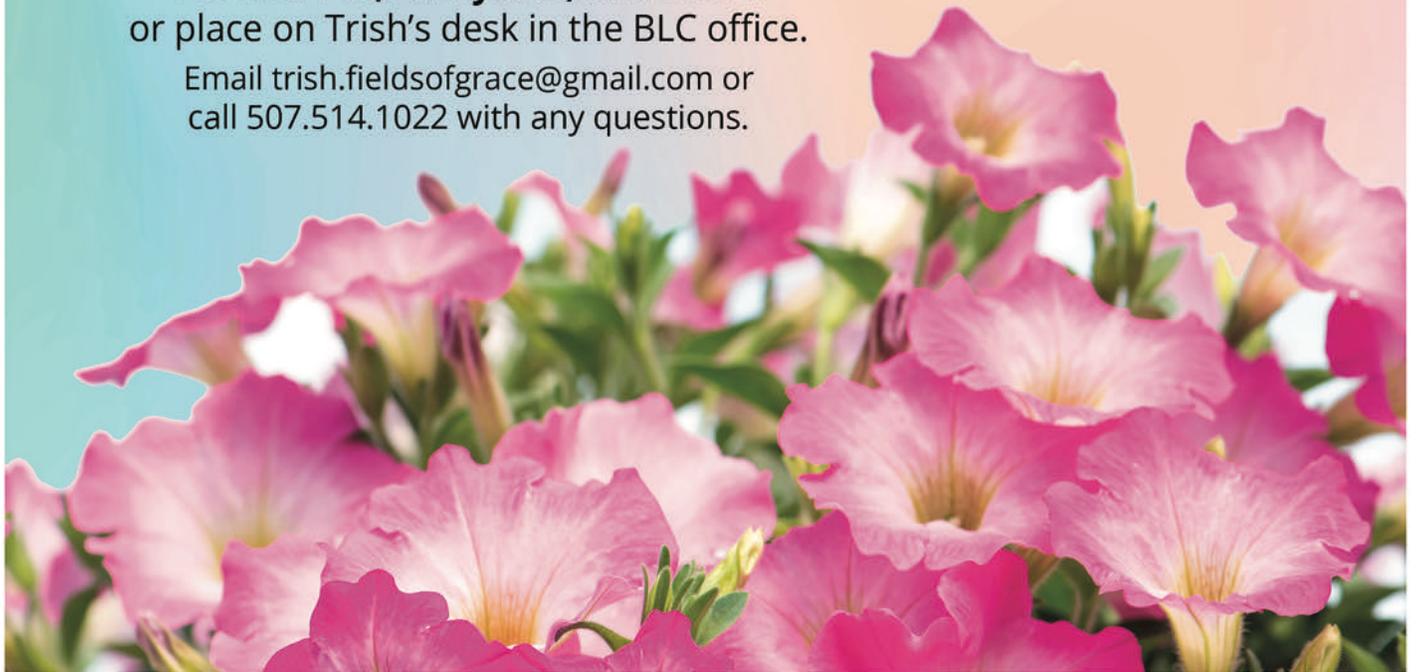
Gift Certificates Also Available

**Orders and payment due by April 1, 2026
Pick-Up Saturday, May 9 • 9:00 am - Noon
Bernadotte Lutheran Church**

Mail order forms with payment to:
Bernadotte Lutheran Church
PO Box 173, Lafayette, MN 56054
or place on Trish's desk in the BLC office.

Email trish.fieldsofgrace@gmail.com or
call 507.514.1022 with any questions.

Cash or Check payable to
Bernadotte Fundraiser.



Blooming in Bernadotte

FLOWER FUNDRAISER

**Orders and
Payment due
by April 1**

Pick-Up Saturday, May 9

Name _____ Cash or Check
Phone _____ payable to
Email _____ Bernadotte
Fundraiser.

HANGING BASKETS	Size	Price Each	Quantity	Total
Mixed Petunia Basket	10"	\$30.00		
Trailing Wave Petunia	10"	\$30.00		
Trailing Wave Petunia Mix	10"	\$30.00		
Impatiens Basket	10"	\$30.00		
Ivy Geranium Basket	10"	\$30.00		
Zonal Geranium Basket	10"	\$30.00		
Mixed Basket Annuals	10"	\$30.00		
Mixed Basket Annuals	12"	\$40.00		

COLORFUL CONTAINERS				
Combo Patio Planter	10"	\$30.00		
Combo Patio Planter	12"	\$40.00		
Geranium Tub	12"	\$40.00		
Suncoleus Planter	12"	\$40.00		
Succulent Mixed Planter	12"	\$40.00		
Color Bowl of Mixed Annuals	12"	\$30.00		
Color Bowl of Mixed Annuals	14"	\$36.00		
Hackers Gift Certificate*		\$25.00		
TOTAL DUE				

Order forms and payment can be mailed to:

Bernadotte Lutheran Church • PO Box 173, Lafayette, MN 56054

or placed on Trish's desk in the BLC office.

Email trish.fieldsofgrace@gmail.com or call 507.514.1022 with any questions.

*Gift certificates can be redeemed at Hacker's Tree Farm & Greenhouse, 45372 190th St, Sleepy Eye or Hacker's Garden Center on Broadway in New Ulm. Not redeemable at A2Zinnia Floral.