



Fields of Grace Newsletter

Website: fieldsofgracemn.com

Vol. 15, Issue 9

Bernadotte & First Lutheran Churches

April 2026

FOG SERVICE SCHEDULE, Apr.-May

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

MAY 2026		
		9:30 AM
Week 1	May 3	FLC*
Week 2	May 10	BLC
Week 3	May 17	FLC
Week 4	May 24	BLC
Week 5	May 31	FLC

* Communion

- FOG Choir practice for Easter Sunday will be Sunday, March 29, following the 8:30 a.m. service at FLC.
- FOG Choir practice for Maundy Thursday will be at 6:15 p.m., prior to the 7:00 p.m. service at FLC.
- FOG Choir practice for May events will be Sunday, April 19 and 26, following the 8:30 service at FLC.

Food for Kidz Mission Sunday

The Food for Kidz Mission Sunday at Bernadotte April 12 will be a joint service. Set-up will be at 8:00 a.m. (volunteers welcome), with food packing from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., followed by a short devotion and pizza for all. Sunday school will meet briefly at 9:45 a.m.

Blooming in Bernadotte is back

The annual Blooming in Bernadotte flower fundraiser is happening 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 Konnie 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **CONFIRMATION CLASS**
WED., APR. 1, PRACTICE FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY
- **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
- **FOOD FOR KIDZ—FOG MISSION SUNDAY**
Sunday, April 12, 9:00 a.m., BLC
- **BLC Quilting**
Monday & Tuesday, April 13 & 14
- **BLOOMING IN BERNADETTE 2026**
Saturday, May 9, 9:00 a.m.-noon
Orders due April 1



Two baptisms on March 22

After being weathered out by snow on March 15, baptisms at both Bernadotte and First Lutheran were rescheduled to Sunday, March 22.

Landen Bradley Peterson was baptized in the 10:30 a.m. service at Bernadotte, above. Turn to page 3 for more photos.

Enzo Reed Gonzales, son of Anthony Gonzales and Faith Siegfried, was baptized at the 8:30 a.m. service at First. Enzo's sponsors are Pat Sandberg, Brooklyn Schuelke, and Tesah Gonzales.

APRIL 2026 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

First Lutheran Church

Ushers: 5-Eric & Heidi Sjogren; 12-Mission Sunday at BLC; 19-Kevin Reinhart, Bill Youngblom; 26-Al Hagberg, Alan Youngblom

Altar: Amy Sjogren & Angie Hartmann

Reader: Cindy Youngblom

Coffee: 5-open; 19-Wendy Hagberg, Linda Youngblom; 26-Kris Hagberg

Reminder Calls: Susie Wendorff

Bernadotte Lutheran

Greeters: Tim & Beth Anderson

Ushers: Jim & Konnie Bartels, Adam Bartels, Abby Bolduan, Scott Johnson

Readers: 5-Jim Bartels; 19-Kyle Dalquist; 26-Steve Sjostrom

Communion (Apr. 5): S-Jim Bartels; C-Elias Webster; U-Savanna Clemon

Coffee: 5-LCM; 12-Food for Kidz Pizza; 19-Pam White, Wendy Schulz; 26- Doris Kaduce

From the Pastor's Desk

by Pastor Bruce Bringle

We are now entering Holy Week. We have been on a journey now these last weeks, a journey to the cross of Christ. At our Lenten services, we have focused on the theme "Facing the Cross."

Palm/Passion Sunday will soon be here, starting out with its hosannas and ending in a more somber tone, marking the beginning of Holy Week. We will then journey on to Maundy Thursday, to the Passover remembrance and our Lord's sharing of the Last Supper with his disciples. Soon after we walk on to Good Friday, to the crucifixion of Christ, contemplating the meaning of such an event in our lives.

But our journey is not done yet. For the events of Good Friday are not the end. We then travel on to Easter with the women who went to the tomb.

We hear the words "Jesus is not here! He is risen!" And now we know the meaning. Death could not hold him. Through Christ's death and resurrection, God has victory over Satan. And through our Baptism, we share in that victory. God has given us His love and grace and hope to strengthen us on our walk, on our journey, as we follow in the path of our Risen Lord.

Pastor's Update

by Pastor Bruce Bringle

As you are well aware, with Swan Lake leaving our parish and the ELCA, their financial obligation to our parish ended on December 31, 2025. That means Bernadotte and First have to come up with roughly \$30,000 to keep things the way they were.

The FOG Council asked me to find part-time employment to help out financially. I am happy and excited to say that I will be a part-time spiritual care coordinator (chaplain) with Superior Hospice out of Golden Valley, MN. They are looking to have more of a presence in the southern part of the

state. I will be working for them two days a week (probably Mondays and Fridays) and maybe as other time is needed.

After orientation April 13-17 in Golden Valley, I will start with them, most likely April 20.

I would transition, then, at Fields of Grace, to 75 percent time. This means, of course, that I will not be available on Mondays and Fridays for things such as answering questions, funerals, etc.

Please keep me and our Fields of Grace parish in your prayers in this time of transition. Thanks!

First Communion

The First Communion class will meet Sunday, March 29 from 9:35 to 10:20 a.m. at Bernadotte Lutheran.

Apple Gronewold will receive First Communion at the 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday service at First Lutheran.

Will Dalquist will receive First Communion at the 8:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Service at Bernadotte.



Email addresses

If you change your email address—or if you know of family members who have changed theirs—please notify the newsletter editor at cowladyruth@gmail.com.

Every now and then we get notice that an email we sent is undeliverable. There's no way to find new addresses if someone doesn't provide them.

And, if you know of family members that aren't getting FOG newsletters and notices, please let the editor know so they can be added to the mailing list.

Confirmation will resume April 1 at FLC, with practice for the Maundy Thursday service.

Event news from our churches

- Quilting Days at Bernadotte will be Monday and Tuesday, April 13-14, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Everyone welcome. Come and go as it fits your schedule.
- The Fields of Grace Sunday School kids will sing at the 10:30 a.m. April 26 service at Bernadotte.
- The Bernadotte WELCA ice cream social has been set for Wednesday, June 3, 5:00-7:30 p.m., with a concert by the Lafayette Band at 6:00 p.m. More details next month.
- Outdoor music service dates at Bernadotte will be June 28 with the Larsons, July 26, and August 23.
- First Lutheran WELCA will host the July 10 Friday night social at the Lafayette Community Center.

Prayer requests

Fields of Grace welcomes prayer requests for 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. Please let Trish know if names should be removed from the weekly list.

**Follow Fields of Grace on Facebook
and on our website—
fieldsofgracemn.com**

Conference/synod gatherings

The Minnesota Valley Conference Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering will be Saturday, April 11 at American Lutheran Church in Gaylord. Registration is at 11:30 a.m., with lunch at noon. The theme is “We All Are One in Mission.” 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.

The SW MN Synodical Convention will be held May 2 at Calvary Lutheran Church in Willmar with a theme of “Rising in Faith, Leading with Courage.” Registration is at 7:30 a.m. with the convention opening at 9:00 a.m. with worship with communion. Service opportunities, business meeting, elections, and a concert by Sweetwater Revival continue to 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$40, including lunch and the concert. Contact Helget or Johnson for information and registration.

Council Meeting Dates

- FOG Council—Wed., Apr. 8, 7:30 p.m., FLC
- BLC Council—Sun., Apr. 19, 7:00 p.m.
- FLC Council—Tues., May 12, 6:00 p.m.

Baptism at Bernadotte Sunday, March 22



Landen Bradley Peterson, son of Brock Peterson and Kiersten Pietsch, kept an eye on everything during his baptism by Pastor Bruce Bringle



at Bernadotte March 22. Landen's sponsors are Karissa Peterson and Justin Pietsch.

**Bring the kids to the Lafayette Easter Egg Hunt,
Saturday, April 4 Lafayette City Park, 10:00 a.m.
2000 eggs to “hunt” for plus a goodie bag for each child**



FOG youth serve soup suppers

The FOG confirmation students served the Lenten soup suppers each Wednesday during Lent. The first two were at Bernadotte, with the last three at First Lutheran. The suppers were a nice get-together before the services.

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**

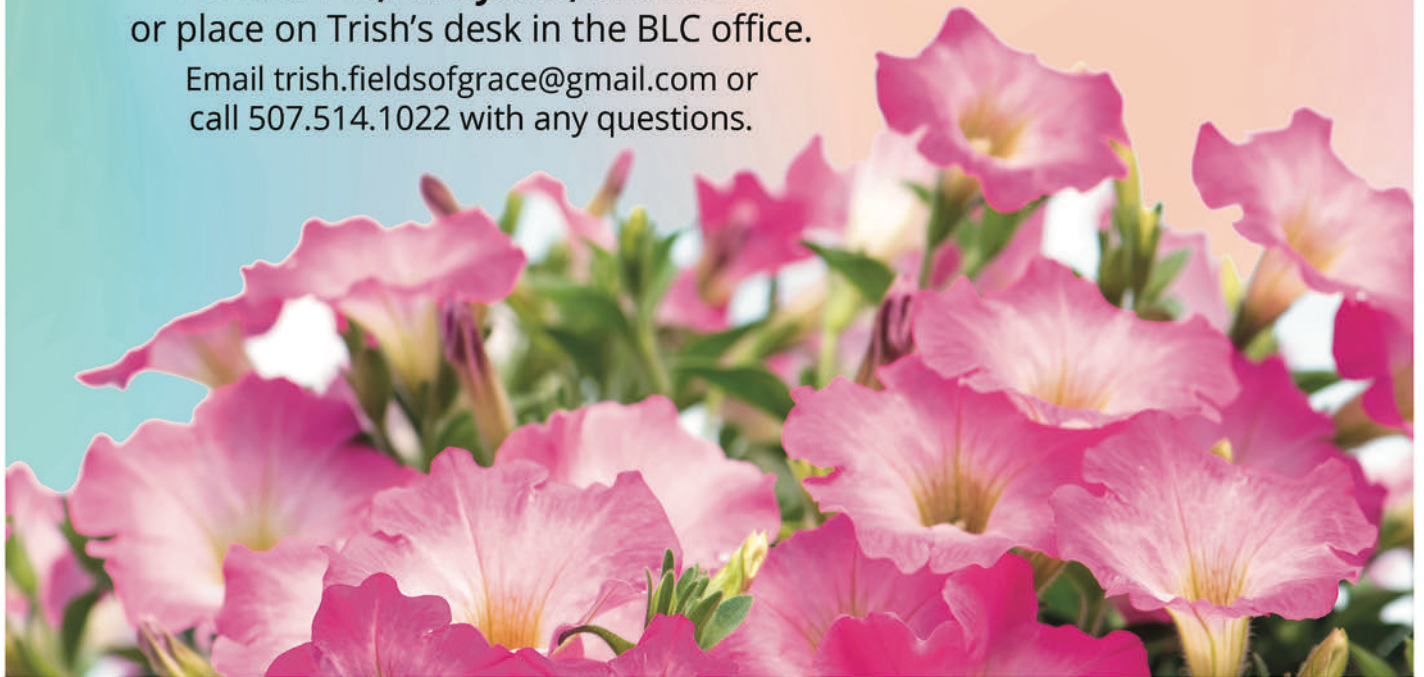
Gift Certificates Also Available

**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.