



MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

October 2008

VIEW FROM THE HILL

Our Unitarian Universalist faith leads people to action. The stories of our religious tradition show the accomplishments of our spiritual ancestors to create an environment of



freedom of belief *and* their acting in the world according to shared values and principles. In our time, our efforts continue to recreate and maintain this environment.

In Georgia, many Unitarian Universalists have joined with people from other faith or secular traditions as allies to act together on our shared value of the inherent worth and dignity of all persons. Together, we have opposed the death penalty in general and advocated for one Troy Anthony David specifically. I believe, along with many others, that Troy is an innocent person who has been on Georgia's death row for seventeen years.

And so we act with rallies, marches, and letter or email writing initiatives, in order to prevent an injustice from occurring. Yet, time and time again we failed. We failed at the Georgia Court of Appeals, we failed in the U.S. Court of Appeals, we failed at the Georgia Supreme Court, and we failed at the Georgia Board of Pardons and Paroles. Troy's date of execution is Tuesday, September 23.

Still, we continue to act because it is the right thing to do, regardless of the outcome of our ac-

tion. The agitation on behalf of Troy Davis may shed some light on Georgia's abysmal justice system. He is not the first, nor the last African-American man in the U.S. wrongly accused of a capital crime and given an inadequate public defense. Maybe our actions will show the illogic of the state killing people to show that killing people is wrong. Maybe we demonstrated that people of differing faith traditions can share the same values.

If it is the right thing to do, then we have to act, especially when our principles and values are challenged. When it isn't clear whether something is right or not, we can turn to each other for wisdom, for insight, and for affirmation or correction. This is what a religious community does, it creates and maintains an environment of freedom of belief and the mutual support of each member to act on shared values and principles. This is preferable in my mind to standing alone. Let us continue to stand together in love.

From Dana, your interim minister: "For those of you who would like to be a part of this year's "UU & You," please let me know. I am looking for feedback about how it went earlier this year (January to May, as I understand) AND I am looking for those who can help put this program together, which means sharing creative ideas, participating in the program, or any other way you would like to help. Contact me by email (danafr3@gmail.com) or by phone (507-493-6240 or 612-229-5907). Thank you."

GROWTH ON THE PRAIRIE

As always a new church year brings new work to be done. On Saturday, September 20th, the Board and Committee on Ministry met again with the consultant Lyn Burton to look at prioritizing that work and figuring out how to get it done.

We meet with Wendy Jerome on September 27th. to help us begin the transition process to having a new settled minister next year. The outcomes of these meetings provide all of us with new opportunities to give of our time and to lead.

Remember, leadership is not just about chairing a committee, although that is nice. It can be about seeing a job that needs to be done and doing it. You could teach a class on Sundays, greet a guest, sing in the choir, do a reading at UU & You, and so much more. Do not worry about doing it perfectly, just be sure to do it. If we all do this, both Nora and ourselves will be the better for it.

Sheldon Rieke,
Board Chair

THANKS FROM THE BOARD

Thanks go to Nancy Brudellie for the beautiful quilt which she made and donated to the NWS to be raffled off. To the unpacking crew who helped Dana unload: Darrell Hinsman, Mark Wiger, Sheldon and Fritz Rieke.

FOOD SHELF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

October is Nora Church and the UCC church's month to volunteer at the New Ulm Area Food Shelf (12 area churches each volunteer 1 month a year). 2-3 Volunteers are needed on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:45am to 3 pm. The work involves packing orders according to family size. Angie or Darrell will be there to show you how it's done if you haven't done it before. Please contact Darrell Hinsman at (507) 359-7494 or contact Darrell or Angie at church.



The Lunch Bunch will dine at the Kaiserhoff in New Ulm this month. Join us October 14 at 11:30 AM.

SPIRITUALITY GROUP

All are invited to participate in a nondenominational spirituality group that meets the first and third Wednesday each month at South Point Federal Credit Union in New Ulm at 6:30 PM. Meetings usually last around two hours. The topics for October are 10/1 - View an interview with Bryon Katie, an author, speaker and spiritual teacher who has developed a process of self-inquiry called "The Word," discussion will follow. 10/15 - A discussion of the book, "Return to Love," by Marianne Williamson - you can participate even if you have not read the book. If you have any questions, please talk with Anne Rieke.

THE NORA WOMEN'S SOCIETY

After many years of discussion pro and con, the NWS finally acted on ordering cushions for the church pews. We hope they will add to your appreciation of your church experience.

At its Sept. 3 meeting, the NWS members made plans for Smorgasbord and the fall bake sale. The meatballs will be prepared on Friday, Oct. 3. On Saturday, Oct. 4, the rest of the preparations will be done. It is hoped that spreading out the work load will lessen the fatigue factor. All who are able to help -- men and women -- are urged to come when they can. The fall bake sale will be Saturday, Nov. 1, in the Rhein River Room.

A special feature for these events will be the sale of raffle tickets for a beautiful quilt made and donated by Nancy Brudellie. Thanks, Nancy, for your efforts.

The NWS also agreed to contribute \$1,000 toward the church's contribution to enable a woman from our partner church in Benced, Transylvania, to attend a UUA meeting in Houston next February.



Choir rehearsals will be held the 12th and 19th of October from 9 to 10 AM. We will be singing for the service on the 19th. Please come and join us! The November schedule will be decided on the 19th.

TRANSYLVANIA CONNECTIONS: From Benced to Hanska

During the September 21, 2008 church service, the Nora congregation affirmed and endorsed a church project to help reconnect Nora to our sister church in Benced, Romania. Our church will sponsor a visit from the Benced Unitarian Religious Educator coordinator, Krisztina Pall, in February 2009. While in Minnesota, Krisztina will deliver a Sunday message at Nora. She will also fly to Texas to participate in the UU Women's conference.

We are committed to raise \$3,000-\$3,500 to support this trip. Committees have already been very generous with their support: The Women's Society has pledged \$1000, Board \$500-\$1000, Social Justice committee \$1000. A grant application for \$500 will be submitted to the Partner Church Council soon. In addition to the monetary commitment, we will need Nora families to open their homes and dinner tables to host Krisztina and offer her Minnesota experiences!

If you would like to see more about Benced, Romania, check out their website: www.benced.ro (it is all in Hungarian, but there are lots of pictures in the 'fotoalbums.')

The most recent pictures are from the summer camp that Krisztina led.

For more information about this project, please see a member of the social justice committee.



LIFE-WORK PLANNING CENTER NETWORKING EVENT

Discover possibilities - That's what Networking Is...

Would You like to:

- Continue to work on your goals?
- Learn new skills in fun, friendly ways?
- Find (as-of-yet) undiscovered opportunities?
- Be inspired by people with similar interests & dreams?
- Create unique ways to enjoy your life & advance your career?
- Eat cookies and drink coffee?

Saturday, October 18 from 1 to 3 PM
Blue Earth County Library, Mankato,
100 East Main St (corner of main & Riverfront)

Call Marlene at 345-1577 or 800-369-5166 or Chris Olson at 354-3112 or 800-505-9073 for more information and to RSVP.
Please RSVP by Monday October 6.

To Keep In Touch



If you know of anyone needing our assistance of attention...please call one of the committee members:

Georgine Tepley (chair)
359-3060 (weekdays after 5 pm)
Shirley Olson - 439-6879
Carol Chambard - 354-2242

THANK YOU! - Caring Committee

We continue to collect information for the new Directory. If you haven't returned your information, won't you please help us out by doing so today? It'll be greatly appreciated.

Even if your information hasn't changed, it still should to be sent in.



NORWEGIAN SMORGASBORD & COUNTRY STORE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2008

Coffee, Country Store,
Children's Activities - 10:00 a.m.

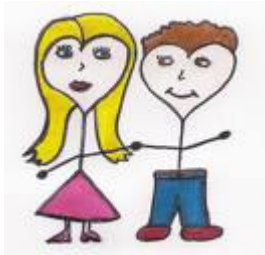
Church Service - 10:30 a.m.

Dinner Served - 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Adults: \$11.50 ~ Children 10 & under: \$4.00
6 and under—free

THE COUNTRY STORE will feature craft items, garden produce, baked goods, and various children's activities.

THE JORGENSEN LOG CABIN MUSEUM will be open to the public that day with someone present to answer questions and discuss museum items.



MENU

appetizers

tongue, deviled eggs, herring

dinner

meatballs, ham, turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, glazed carrots, sot suppe, rice pudding, rommegrot, lefse, flatbrod
milk, coffee, lemonade

Norwegian Cookies

rosettes, krumkake, sandbakkels, fattedmand, and more

Take-outs available

Nora Church is handicap accessible
located one mile east of Hanska, just off Highway 257

Come join us & Bring a friend!!

SMORG NOTES

Smorgasbord is Sunday October 5th. On Friday, October 3rd we'll be making meatballs. The remainder of the preparations will be done on Saturday.

Bring your items for the Country Store to the fellowship Hall on Saturday. Please have them in proper containers and mark the price on them that you think would be appropriate. Baked goods, flea market items, garden produce, etc., are all welcome. If you are not able to come Saturday, please come early Sunday morning with your items. Thank you. - The Committee

NORA SMORGASBORD ~ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2008

FOOD LIST

Bread

Kate Monnens

Carrots and Celery

Janet Rosenbloom

Cookies-Fancy

Julie Peck
Julie Schmitt
Shannon Weiss
Ann Rieke
Laurie Kunerth
Jeannie Hinsman
Susan Allen
Anne Makepeace
Vicki Sieve
Angie Becker-Kaduelka
Louise Guggisberg
Colleen Tasto
Tracy Schmeising
Karen Farrell

Berliner Kranser

Michelle Bethke
Muriel Fredrickson
Diane Becken

Fattigmand

Susan Evers

Rosettes

Bev Wellmann
Norma Breu

Kringla

Julie Sellner
Joy Rathman

Sandbakkels

Chrissie Schmitt
Edith Beckius
Carol Chambard

Scrullers

Susan Evers
Georgine Tepley

Romme Grot

Edith Beckius
Janet Rosenbloom
Brenda Wiger
Vicki Sieve
Georgine Tepley
Carol Chambard

Rice

Joy Rathman
Muriel Fredrickson
Kristine Paulson
Julie Sellner
Ardis Wellmann

Flat Bread

Shirley & Clayton Olson

Sot Suppe

Bonita Blomquist

Cottage Cheese (3#)

Janet Johnson
Lorraine Becken
Ardelle Becken
Doug Anderson

Milk (1 gal)

Rieke's
Kunerth's
Bodick's
Makepeace's
Scott Chambard
Jeremy Schmitt
Christopher Olson
Mimi Kamleiter
Lee Drogemiller

WORK LIST

Country Store

Jerry Allen
Sandi Bengé
Bonita Blomquist
Mimi Kamleiter
Shirley Olson
Ardis Wellmann

Museum

Algot Blomquist
Lee Schmitt

Parking

Jeremy Schmitt
John Schmitt
Elroy Wellman

Tickets

Kristine Paulson
Warren Paulson
Wendy Tuttle (caller)

Coffee Hour

Ellen Byro
Janet Johnson
Laurie Lilleodden

Hosts

-Kaffe Stua:
Jeannie Hinsman
-Steps:
Noah & Janet Rosenbloom
-Fellowship Hall
Mark Wiger

Buffet Table

Julie Sellner
Shannon Weiss

Coffee

Christopher Olson

Beverages

Susan Allen

Appetizers

Vicki Sieve
Bev Wellmann
Brenda Wiger

Meat Server

Chrissie Schmitt

Meat Slicers

(Sat., - 12 pm)
Roger Breu
Tony Erickson
Wally Wellmann

Potatoes

Edith Beckius
Georgine Tepley

Carrots

Diane Becken

Cookie Trays

Michelle Bethke
Julie Schmitt

Take-Outs

Norma Breu
Ann Rieke

Wait Staff

-Kaffe Stua
*Laurie Kunerth
Colleen Tasto
Tessa Makepeace
Courtney Schmitt
Sydney Byro

Wait Staff

-Fellowship Hall
*Julie Peck
Angie Becker-Kaduelka
Nora Peck
Reggie Peck
Anne Makepeace

Wait Staff

-Iverson Room
*Tracy Schmiesing
Kristi Paulson
Fritz Rieke
Kate Makepeace

Quilt Raffle

Carol Chambard

Dishes-Kaffe Stua

Scott Schmiesing
Wayne Johnson
Gene Tepley
Kevin Weiss

Dishes-Fellowship

Daryl Hinsman
John Makepeace
Ron Peck
Chris Bodick

Fish Pond

Louise Guggisberg
Ben Rieke
Alex Guggisberg
Jack Bodick
Nick Bodick
Eva Kunerth

Clean-up (1:00)

Ross Chambard
Scott Chambard
Lee Drogemuller
Scott Kaduelka
Dave Wenk
Jean Wenk
Doug Anderson

Substitutes

Clayton Olson
Alon Chambard
Charles Anderson
Sheldon Rieke
Eric Byro
Kay Steff
Susan Evers
Joy Rathman
Karen Farrell
Ann Nelson

Music

Jordan Rathman
Sally Hanson

***In the past some members of Nora Church had been asked to donate money to help defray the costs of the meal. This year Nora Women's Society has decided to ask for a free-will donation from all members. Monetary donations along with ticket sales may be given to Shannon Weiss prior to October 5, 2008 or Bonita Blomquist in the Country Store on the day of Smorg. Your contributions help make Smorgasbord a successful fundraising event year after year. Thank you in advance for your donation!!*

You are invited!

American Lutheran Church of Windom, MN is having an organ recital series.

Sun. October 19 ~ 2:00 PM ~ Karen Wojahn
Sun, November 16 ~ 4:00 PM ~ Dr. Stephen Gabrielsen*
A freewill offering will be received

We hope you can join us!
Melvin & Romelle Wojahn

American Lutheran Church of Windom
906 Prospect Avenue

*Dr. Gabrielsen is organist for Augsburg College
And the Minnesota All-State Lutheran Choir

CAREGIVER AND SENIOR EXPO

Event Highlights Include:

- Keynote Speaker, Ted Bowman
 - Morning Session: "As a Family Ages: Responses to Multiple changes"
 - Afternoon Session: "Crossroads: Stories at the Intersections"
- Break-out Sessions:
 - "Homebound Adult Exercise Program"
 - "Aids for Daily Living"
 - "The ABC &D's of Medicare"

- Exhibits focusing on Senior and Caregiver needs
- Respite Care available (reservation required)
- Lunch and Refreshments
- Door Prizes

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27 ~ 9 AM to 3 PM
Springfield Community Center, 33 North Cass Avenue
Cost: \$6.00

Yes, I would like to attend the Expo.

Name _____ Phone # _____

I am a (please circle) Senior, Caregiver, Professional (Cost is \$6 per person)

Number Attending: _____

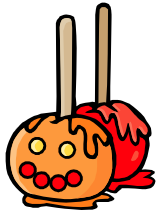
Do you need respite care? _____ Yes _____ No

Lunch is included in the cost
Of the Expo. Are you
Planning to eat lunch with us?

_____ Yes _____ No

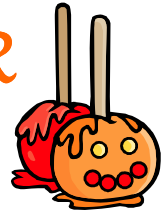
How many lunches? _____

Expo Registration due by
October 13.
Make checks payable to:
Volunteers for Seniors of Brown County
Fill out and send registration for and payment to:
VFSBC, PO Box 582
New Ulm, NB 56073



NORA CHURCH CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 
5 SMORGASBORD 10:30 Service 11 - 1:30 Dinner	6	7	8	9	10	11
Dana will be at PSD Ministers' Conference 6th thru 9th						
12 9:00 Choir 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:00 Choir 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	20 	21	22	23	24	25
26 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	27	28	29	30	31 	NOVEMBER 1 Turn your clock back before you go to bed.


MUSICIAN	SERVERS	GREETERS - USHERS
5 Muffy Rathman	SMORGASBORD	Gil & Sally Hanson
12 Jordan Rathman	Vicki Sieve, Colleen Tasto	Doug Anderson Ann Nelson
19 JoAnn Huss	Noah & Janet Rosenbloom	Edith Beckius Louise Guggisberg
26 Sally Hanson	Sheldon & Anne Rieke	Roger & Norma Breu

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
ARE DUE BY THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH.

WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS
ARE DUE BY THURSDAY NOON

cindymo@sleepyeyetel.net
please be sure to include "NORA"
in the subject line
(507) 439-6380

20894 County Road 6, Hanska. MN 56041
Thanks for your help in getting articles to me.
Cindy Mosenden, Office Administrator



PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Reynolds will be at the parsonage late Tuesday/early Wednesday thru Sunday afternoon/evening. This is, of course subject to change depending on what's going on.



Nora Unitarian Universalist Church
12333 155th Avenue
Hanska Minnesota 56041-4310

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
United States Postage Paid
Permit No. 2
Hanska, MN 56041

October 2008



EMAIL
norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

WEB SITE
<http://www.norauchurch.org>

Nora Church Sunday Services OCTOBER 2008

Social Hour 10:00 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

October 5 "When Thomas Jefferson Guessed Wrong: An Introduction to Unitarian Universalism." Jefferson once wrote to a Dr. Thomas Cooper in 1822, "That this (Unitarianism) will, before long, be the religion of the majority from north to south, I have no doubt." We will look, not at why Jefferson was wrong, but why he might have thought the way he did.

October 12 Guest speaker Rev. Fred Doty will be with us. His book, "A Ministry Remembered," was recently published and he will be sharing some of his recollections with us.

October 19 Guest speaker Rev. Nels Oas will be with us. He will speak on "The Religious Convictions and Spirituality of the Presidential Candidates."

October 26 "The Thin Veil." The Thin Veil is the archetypal viewpoint that late October - early November in which this world and the "other" world are closer than at other times of the year. What do we think of this and what in the Dickens does 'archetypal' mean?

