



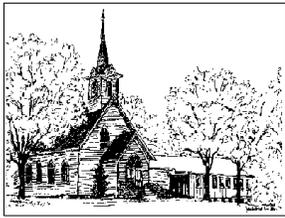
# MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

October 2013

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## VIEW FROM THE HILL



God, I know nothing, my sense is all nonsense,  
And fear of You begins intelligence:  
Does it end there? For ... love, for food,  
For books and birch trees I claim gratitude,  
But when I grieve over the unripe dead  
My grief festers, corrupted into dread,  
And I know nothing.  
Give us our daily bread.

~Donald Hall

The poet knows whereof he writes. His wife, fellow poet Jane Kenyon, died of leukemia at age 47, just fifteen months after her diagnosis.

Purveyors of common wisdom tell us that, “That which does not kill us makes us stronger.” And, “God never gives us more than we can handle.” And, “Every cloud has a silver lining.” And “Always look on the bright side of life.” But the truth is—and you know this as well as I—some times, some events are only bad. No silver lining, no making us stronger, and way more than we can handle.

There is much to be gained from the ability to shake off disappointments and make the best of awkward situations. In fact, the overall quality of our lives might be largely shaped by the degree to which we embrace either the positives or negatives of any given situation. But there is little to be gained from denying the fact that sometimes there is no immediate or even eventual upside to the events that befall us. There are times when wailing, rending our clothes, shaking our fists at the sky, taking to our beds, and asking why, why, why a thousand times are the only fitting response. (And allowing our loved ones to do the same when life deals them such a blow, to sit with them in patient, anguished silence while they do the same, without trying to make it all better, is the only loving thing to do.)

The day will come, maybe months or years later, when we are ready to see the sun on the water, or hear the laughter that was always there, when we are ready to acknowledge that we were not defeated and we did handle it. And then we will be able to give thanks that we yet live. But that day is not to be rush. That day cannot be rushed. Because life is full and complex and mysterious; a blessing we do not control.

## THANKS FROM THE BOARD

Thanks from the Board - to all the lefsa makers, near and far, and to all those who helped get the prep done for Smorg

## RE NEWS

### *A free and responsible search for truth and meaning*

Greetings and welcome back! It is that time of year when many of us have returned back to school, the weather is turning cooler and the fall colors are beginning to show. Our church school year has begun as well. This year our Religious Education focus will be on our Seven Principles and how we shall apply them in our daily lives. You might notice that we have already had some changes! New this year, we are going to have RE every week! My associate teachers and I hope to provide a rich and welcoming curriculum to everyone, young and old, who wishes to join us each Sunday during the weekly sermon after the story.

Each week our lessons will be focused on one or more of the Seven Principles and will include at least one of the following: an emphasis on spiritual growth through direct experience; stories of prophetic women and men who have helped shape humanity for the better, Judeo-Christian stories about caring for the earth and the people on her; Humanist teachings that tell us to use reason, logic and the scientific method in our explorations of mind, body and the world around us; spiritual teachings of earth centered beliefs that help us celebrate the sacredness of life and how to live meaningfully with the earth.

Our structure is changing as well. We will not have a feast (snack) at every lesson. Feasts will be on specific days, such as our 'Day of the Dead' celebration. As we move through this year our lessons will become more centered on another "story" as told interactively by a story teller. After the quiet story, our learners will then participate in a work time of their choice.

There will be more about the changes in the October and November newsletters!

In love and Peace,  
Ms. Jennie

## LUNCH BUNCH

There will be another hot time at the Searles Bar and Grill when the Lunch Bunch gathers there on Tuesday, Oct. 15, at 11:30 a.m. Of course this depends on the Searles restaurant being open again after a recent fire in its kitchen. If it isn't open by the 15th, Plan B (to be announced) will be activated. Hope to see you then.



**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

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20 JoAnn Huss	Julie Schmitt- John Schmitt- Susan Evers
27 Mimi Kamleiter	Wendy Tuttle- Carol Chambard- Alan Chambard

### PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Lisa will have Mondays off.  
Friday will be sermon writing day.  
She can be reached on her cell when not in the office:  
763-656-7533





# NORWEGIAN SMORGASBOARD AND COUNTRY STORE

## Sunday, October 6, 2012



Coffee at 10:00 AM, Church Service 10:30

Country Store 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM  
Smorg Serving: 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM

Adults: \$14.00  
Children (6-12) \$7.00  
5 and under: Free

Tongue, Deviled Eggs, Herring  
Meatballs, Ham, Turkey, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Glazed Carrots,  
Sot Supe, Rommegrot, Rice Pudding, Lefse, Flatbread  
Norwegian Cookies including:  
Rosettes, Krum Kake, Sandbakkels and more

***Drive-up take-outs available***

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

### SMORG NOTES

We will be making meatballs on Friday October 4th beginning at 9:00. We'll be back at it at 9:00 on Saturday morning with cooking, cleaning, etc. Many hands make light work!

*(Friday we usually finish up by early afternoon, Saturday-late afternoon. You can always come and help with the clean-up fun later in the day)*

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

### To Keep In Touch

♥ ♥ ♥

Please keep our military personnel in your thoughts and prayers.

♥ ♥ ♥

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

♥ ♥ ♥

Georgine Tepley (chair)  
359-3060 (weekdays after 5 pm)  
Shirley Olson - 354-1866  
Carol Chambard - 354-2242

**THANK YOU! Caring Committee**



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

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# October 2013



EMAIL  
[norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net](mailto:norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net)

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

## Nora Church Sunday Services OCTOBER 2013

Coffee Time 10:00 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

October 6 "Cook's Surprise"

October 13 "Holding a Light to the Ineffable"

October 20 "Make of Our Lives a Study"

October 27 "Treasures in our Midst" featuring Ardell Becken

