



# MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church  
January 2014

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## VIEW FROM THE HILL

I'm thinking about resolutions. 'Tis the season, after all.

All kinds of resolutions. The lose-five-pounds-stop-smoking-join-a-gym type resolutions we ordinarily associate with this time of year. And also resolutions to problems, puzzles, conundrums--the solutions or explanations that make us open our eyes wide or slap our foreheads and say, "ohhhh! Now I understand!" And the resolution to stories and movies and plays that wrap up all the loose ends, allowing us to feel we know the whole story. And the resolution of binoculars, microscopes, telescopes and cameras and printers that changes the clarity of focus on things we view through or print on such devices.

Despite our general propensity for *what should I change about my life* January resolutions, it seems to me we could benefit from employing all these resolutions here in these waning days of 2013, dawning days of 2014 (2014!!). Might we not make better resolutions, after all, if we changed the resolution through which we view our lives--zooming way in to examine the details or pulling way back to get a handle on the big picture? And if we're pretty satisfied with the over-all direction of our lives as well as the majority of details, then maybe there isn't a problem, puzzle or conundrum that needs resolving; this might be the year to skip self-improving resolutions, too.

I may be trying to force a square peg into a round hole here, but I think even the literary resolution, tying up the loose ends fits this season. Of course, while it may sometimes seem that Woody Allen is scripting our lives or that *All My Children* has nothing on all your children and grandchildren, our lives don't have season finales and our epilogues and final curtain come only at death, not December 31. Still, some story-lines fade away and some cast members move on to other projects or spin-offs, even in real life. And this may be the perfect time to take stock of those resolutions that have wrapped up chapters of our lives in the past twelve months. To mourn what needs mourning. To celebrate what calls for celebration. And thus to make space for new story-lines to emerge and new characters to join the cast.

Wishing you fruitful resolution and a new year full of blessings.

Lisa





## **SECOND SUNDAY OFFERING**

Loose change on the 2nd Sunday of each month will go to "Local Food Shelves", Sleepy Eye SHEAF and Watonwan County Food Shelf. Please consider a generous donation. Many are less fortunate than us and need a helping hand.

## **GUEST AT YOUR TABLE**

Boxes & envelopes should be returned Jan. 5

## **FEBRUARY POTLUCK, SOMETHING DIFFERENT**

It's been quite a while since the congregation has engaged in any intentional dialogue about church programming, church life, or identifying members' needs/wants. So here's a painless way to engage in that type of discussion.

The February potluck time will be dedicated to conversation addressing four questions that will be posed in the next Mere Lys.

Each table should identify a recorder who will summarize that table's comments to the group at large.

If we talk while we eat and spend just a bit longer after dessert to listen to the summaries, it won't take too much longer than a regular potluck schedule.

If you are unable to join us for potluck but wish to share your thoughts, put your ideas on paper and give to any church board member. Looking forward to hearing what you have to say.

## **LOOKING WAAAY AHEAD**

August 10, 2014 is the date for the next Tri-State UU Gathering at Pioneer Village in Worthington, Minnesota. Further information in the new year.

Thank you,  
Marilyn Hromatko  
The Acting Honorary Swanson

Oh, the weather outside is frightful-and we want all Nora folk to stay safe. If/when we decide to cancel church service or other activities we will announce the cancelation on KTOE and KNUJ. We will send out a grapevine. And Gil will put a banner on the church website. When in doubt about the weather and church events, please check all these places (or give the parsonage a call). More importantly, stay in touch with the conditions in your specific area. Take a look at <http://hb.511mn.org/main.jsf>. And stay home, stay safe if weather/road conditions look bad. We'll miss you but we'll see you in church next Sunday or next month or next Spring!

## **LUNCH BUNCH**

"The Adventures in Eating" Lunch Bunch gang will sample the new eatery in New Ulm: Pepperboys in the Grand on 2nd North and Minnesota, on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2014, (Happy New Year), at 11:30 a.m. Hope to see you there.

## **GOODIES AND GLUTEN, VARIETAL VEGGIES, POTLUCK PIG-OUT!!**

We all love our first Sunday of the month potluck lunches, but some of us have trouble finding foods we can eat--even on that laden table of delicious delicacies.

Some of us are vegetarians and some of us require gluten-free dishes. Thanks to all who have already expanded their offerings to take these dietary needs into consideration.

Let's keep up the experimentation and start labeling our contributions to make selection as easy as it is difficult (you know, because how do we choose between so many wonderful hot-dishes and salads!!).



SERVERS ~  
GREETERS/USHERS:

- ⇒ If your name is not on this list and you would like to participate, please call Susan Allen 359-2856.
- ⇒ If your name is on this list and you are not able to help, please call and try to arrange to switch with someone else.
- ⇒ The first Sunday of each month is potluck.
- ⇒ Greeters who are scheduled for Pot Luck Sunday, please check with Servers to see if they need additional cakes. Our numbers are growing smaller and we are looking at making adjustments.

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

**WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
ARE DUE BY THURSDAY NOON

cindymo@cccinternet.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

## January - June 2014

Please disregard the schedule in the December newsletter

Jan	<u>MUSICIAN</u>	<u>SERVER/GREETER/USHER PARTNERS</u>
5	Sally Hanson	POTLUCK Kristine Paulson- Warren Paulson- Kristy Paulson- Scott Chambard
12	Jordan Kuelbs	Susan Allen- Jerry Allen- Vicki Sieve
19	JoAnn Huss	Shirley Olson- Nancy Bruderie- Bonita Blomquist
26	Mimi Kamleiter	Jennie Gazdik- Matthew Hellendrung- Cael Roettger- Raquel Heiderscheidt
Feb		
2	Muffy Kaim	POTLUCK Jeanie Hinsman-Darrell Hinsman- Peter Hemberger- Katy Hemberger
9	Sally Hanson	Kate Monnens- Jason Monnens- Mimi Kamleiter
16	JoAnn Huss	Karen Farrell- Julie Peck- Ron Peck
23	Mimi Kamleiter	Georgine Tepley- Gene Tepley- Nancy Bruderie
Mar		
2	Jordan Kuelbs	POTLUCK Carol & Alan Chambard- Kristy Paulson- Scott Chambard
9	Sally Hanson	John Schmitt- Julie Schmitt- Susan Evers
16	JoAnn Huss	Lynn Schmitt- Lee Schmitt- Jeremy Schmitt
23	Jordan kuelbs	Tracey & Scott Schmiesing- Julie Sellner
30	Muffy Kaim	Norma Breu- Roger Breu- Michelle Bethke
Apr		
6	Sally Hanson	POTLUCK Colleen Hokenson-Ardis & Elroy Wellman-Christina Schmitt
13	Jordan Kuelbs	Kristine Paulson-Warren Paulson- Shannon Weiss
20	Muffy Kaim	EASTER Diane Becken- Edith Beckius- Kate & Jason Monnens
27	JoAnn Huss	Joy Rathman-Wayne Johnson- Ellen Byro
May		
4	Sally Hanson	POTLUCK Susan Allen- Jerry Allen- Diane Becken- Karren Farrell
11	Mimi Kamleiter	Syttende Mai
18	JoAnn Huss	Edith Beckius- Shirley Olson- Nancy Dickson
25	Jordan Kuelbs	Peter Hemberger- Katy Hemberger- Nita Gilbert
June		
1	Sally Hanson	POTLUCK Beverly & Wally Wellman- Shannon Weiss- Christina Schmitt
8	Mimi Kamleiter	Janet Rosenbloom- Louise Guggisberg- Kristine Paulson
15	Muffy Kaim	Sally Hansen-Gil Hansen-Julie Sellner

### 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:

507-766-5682



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



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Hanska, MN 56041

## Nora Church Sunday Services JANUARY 2014

Coffee Time 10:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:30 AM

**January 5** - One More time

**January 12** - Crowd Sourcing

**January 19** - These Were Royal-  
Hearted, Rare

**January 26** - This I Believe  
(program committee)

### To Keep In Touch



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**