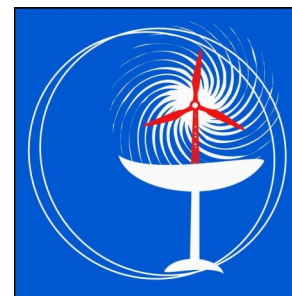


NORA LYD

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

Hanska, MN

November 2014 Newsletter



A VIEW FROM THE HILL

The view from the hill these days is windy. And leafy. And most of all, dusty.

Most of the beans have been harvested and now it's the corn's turn. We haven't had much rain, so all that field work raises a lot of dust. Even when I can't see the machines, the dust tells me the work goes on.

I still haven't figured out the complicated algebra of farm prices—or is it calculus? A 'bumper crop' sounds good, but then does that mean the price goes down? I'll get it sooner or later. Perhaps I can find a class or a tutor. In the meantime, I'm thinking about less traditional harvests and bumper crops.

In spring or winter we talk about how the beginnings of new growth are unseen—within seeds or bulbs that have not yet sprouted and in tendrils still working their way to the surface or in swelling buds that have not yet burst into flower. We forget, I think, that the fruits of growth are oftentimes just as invisible to the common sight. Mechanisms of harvest may be out of sight and the evidence of ongoing harvest might be dusty or hazy or otherwise not as crisp and clean and tidy as we'd like. But harvest goes on and crops are gathered in.

Sobriety. Reconciliation. Forgiveness. Healing of so many kinds. Awakened sense of self.

Each the bounty of planting seasons long past, fruit of hidden growth, reaped by unseen hands. And no less rich, no less colorful, no less hearty, no less life-giving for our limited sight.

Let us give thanks, this season of gratitude, for these and all the harvests of our lives.

-Lisa

Services

Coffee 10:00 am

Worship 10:30 am

~

November 2nd

"The Pact"

November 9th

"Need and the Network"

November 16th

"What's the Take Away?"

November 23rd

"It's All About the Cranberry Sauce"

November 30th

"The Pure Self Casts No Shadow"

Susan Allen, Nora Member

A Note From the Treasurer

Monthly Income and Expenses

At the suggestion of the Nora Church Board of Trustees, Sunday plate collections and total monthly expenses are listed for the full month prior to the *publication* of the newsletter. Totals indicated do not include special collections for area food shelves or memorial gifts.

September:

Income: \$ 5,359.71

Expenses: \$15,717.50

(includes the propane summer-fill and pre-paid fuel contract)

This does not include the floor refurbishing or the tree trimming, as we have not been billed for these yet.

Thank You!

From the Board **a BIG Thank You!**

.....to EVERYONE who worked so hard for the Smorg!

.....to Warren Paulson, for his many years of service on the Board.

.....to Sally Hanson for joining us on the Board.

Save the Date: December 7th

A *special event* honoring Lisa Doege will be held on December 7th. More information will be announced in church in November and posted in the December Mere Lys.

Nora Church Board Meeting

The next Nora Board meeting will be Sunday, November 9th, following the service.

Lunch Bunch for November

Lunch Bunch hits the road in November with a jaunt to Whiskey River in St. Peter on Tuesday, November 18th at 11:30 am. Gather for a pre-holiday opportunity to give thanks for good food, good friends and, hopefully, good weather. *See you there!*

Nora Adult R.E.

Six inquisitive, opinionated UUs gathered for a mini-potluck and discussion after church on October 19th.

We'll meet again after service on November 16th. Bring a dish to share and your willingness to engage!

Nora Church Powers Me WITH:

...Acceptance.

...serenity and peace.

November 2014 Religious Education

Greetings From Sunday School/Religious Education!

We are having a great time learning about Symbols of faith in our year of religious symbolism. In September we connected to our UU roots with the flaming chalice and the surrounding double rings.

In October we started a two month unit on symbols in Judaism. The kids are really engaged in this unit! So far we have discovered that the Star of David is a recent symbol of faith, which is also called Magen David or the Shield of David. Also, the Menorah can have any number of candles or oil reservoirs but usually has 7, except for during Chanukah when it has 9. We also learned why candle sticks are so important to Shabbat (the Sabbath) and read a creation story from Genesis 1 and 2 that helped explain why Shabbat is so important in Judaism.

Karen will be joining us in November to help us learn about Mezuzah, the Tallit and the Shofar. I think the neatest thing for me is seeing the students make the connections between the symbols of Judaism and Unitarian Universalist principles and symbols.

In December we will begin a 8 week unit (2 week break in December) on Christianity. This will coincide with our winter holiday celebrations at Nora as well.

I hope to see everyone!

Important dates to remember:

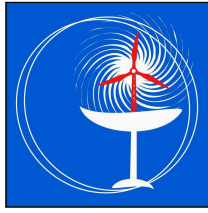
No RE on Sunday November 30th, December 28th, 2014 and Jan 4th of 2015.

As always, Love and Peace- Ms. Jennie

Pastor Lisa's Schedule

Pastor Lisa has Mondays off.
Friday is sermon writing day.

She can be reached on her cell when not in the office:
507-766-7822.



Lisa will be in Georgia, November 3-5, attending Small Churches: Adventures in Vitality. The workshop is being held on the campus of Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta.

From November 10-13, she will be in Dayton, Ohio, attending the annual gathering of her Unitarian Universalist ministers' study group—Ohio River Group. The topic of discussion this year is Race: Creating a Community of Larger Memory. Read along! One of the assigned texts—A Larger Memory by Ronal Takaki is available at the New Ulm Library (or will be when Lisa returns it).

Lisa will be available by cell phone (507-766-7822) and e-mail (revlmd.nora@gmail.com) during her trips. In case of immediate emergency please contact Nora Church President Karen Farrell.

Church Night

A group for Nora youth (in grades 7-12 or the equivalent) on Wednesday evenings, led by Rev. Lisa. Meet in the church social hall from 7-8:30 for opening ritual, conversation, guided discussions, snacks and games.

November: Wednesday the 19th

Nora youth who have not yet Come of Age will have the opportunity to be recognized this year. Non-Nora friends are welcome to participate, with parents' permission (permission forms available).

Nora Church Powers Me FOR:

...thought and inner peace.

...accepting change.

...for speaking up to my beliefs and life in general.

Ofrenda/Day of the Dead Altar

On Sunday, November 2, All Soul's Day, we'll celebrate our continuing relationship with loved ones who have died. Please bring a photograph, favorite food item or other memento to place on the ofrenda, in remembrance of your deceased family members and friends. Here is a link to site with pictures, explanations and ideas about what you might bring. <http://www.celebrate-day-of-the-dead.com/day-of-the-dead-altars.html>. (Our altar will be both family-friendly and church-friendly, so let's avoid alcoholic contributions.)

Thanksgiving Eve Service

This year's community Thanksgiving Eve service will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 26th, at First United Methodist Church in New Ulm. Pastors from First United Methodist, Oakwood United Methodist, Grace Evangelical Free Church and Nora Unitarian Universalist Church will lead the service. All are welcome.

To ♥
Keep
In
Touch

If you know of anyone needing our assistance Or attention...please call one of the **Caring Committee** members: Georgine Tepley (chair) 359-3060 (weekdays after 5 pm), Shirley Olson - 354-1866, or Carol Chambard - 354-2242

Notes from the Nora Office...

Hello! There are always a few questions from folks about events, the directory, newsletters and changes to contact information. The best way to reach me about this information is via the Nora email below. Also, there are Directory/contact information update forms available in the entryway to the church. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions at norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net. Thank you!

Newsletter Articles and Information Are due by the 20th of each month.

Weekly Order of Service Content is due Thursdays at noon.

Church Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

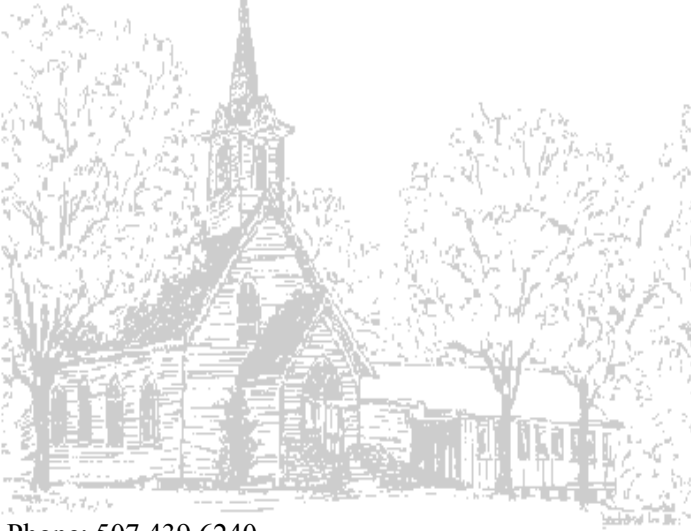
Brooke Knisley, Office Assistant

In the office Tuesdays and Fridays.

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church
 12333 155th Avenue
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Address Service Requested

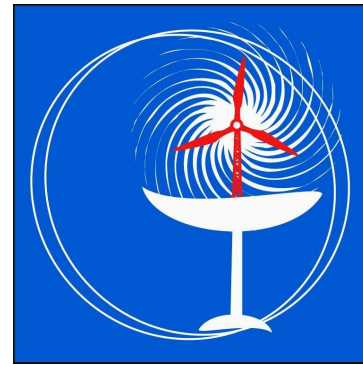
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Phone: 507.439.6240
 Website: www.norauuchurch.org
 Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/NoraChurchUU

Nora Church Powers BY:

- ...helping me meet cool people.
- ...helping me find center and foundation, even when I'm not here.
- ...helping to create a pause in my life to reflect, connect and ground myself in the spirituality that life offers.
- ...Community!
- ...Equality.
- ...vulnerability and strength.
- ...wanting to be a better person.
- ...being a place for inspired conversations, wonderful music, and messages that are wonderfully relevant to my life. Thank you.
- ...connecting me to the Source.
- ...by being a place of welcome and love to me.
- ...finding a place to fit in.
- ...giving me a place where I feel accepted.



<i>Date</i>	<i>Pianist</i>	<i>Greeters, Servers and Ushers</i>
Nov. 2	Muffy Kaim	<i>Potluck</i> —Norma & Roger Breu, Michele Bethke, Wayne Johnson
Nov. 9	Jordan Kuelbs	Edith Beckius, Vickie Sieve, Christopher Olson
Nov. 16	JoAnn Huss	Lee Drogenmuller, Jeanie & Darrell Hinsman
Nov. 23	Sally Hanson	<i>Thanksgiving Sunday</i> —Lynn & Lee Schmitt, Jeremy Schmitt
Nov. 30	Mimi Kamleiter	<i>Advent</i> —Alicia Bayer & Daryl Hrdlicka