

MERE LYS

September 2015 Newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

Services

Coffee 10:00 am
Worship 10:30 am



September 6th

*“The Relationship
Between Your Faith
and Your Work”*

Nora Members Speak

September 13th

*“Legos and Minecraft
and Prayers”*

September 20th

“Life Wishes Us Love”

September 27th

*No Service, Smorg
Clean Up Sunday*



A View From the Hill

I walked into the screen porch recently and found a Monarch butterfly clinging to the inside of the screen. There was no mystery about how it got there; it was pretty miraculous all the same.

Weeks earlier the girls found some Monarch caterpillars and we hastily dropped them into plastic take-out containers with some milkweed and a twig or two (after the girls played with them during their bedtime story, letting them crawl up and down their arms and in and out of their belly-buttons). The next day we left for our ten days in Iowa. I expected dead caterpillars (or worse, missing caterpillars, dead somewhere in the house) when we returned home. Instead there was one caterpillar crawling around nearby, one brown and oozing chrysalis, and one large, bright green chrysalis. It was lying loose at the bottom of the container—unattached to twig or leaf. The girls took it out, passed it from hand to hand, dropped it on the kitchen table, and photographed it before finally dropping it back into the container. The next day the girls moved on to their new foster home, and I put the container out on the screen porch to deal with later. And promptly forgot it.

Until one day there it was. An aptly majestic Monarch, wings still a bit crumpled, clinging to the inside of the screen. I gave it a few hours to flex and dry its wings, then shooed it out the door. I hope it is one of the Monarchs I see flitting around the churchyard each day.

I don't know if Monarchs are making a comeback; I know one survived the girls' roughly enthusiastic handling and my inattention. As I noted on Facebook that day, nature doesn't require my attention to do what it does, be what it is.

Some living creatures, however, namely the human kind, do require our active attention in order to survive and thrive. Foster kids, kids in general, parents of all kinds, ministers, teachers, siblings, widows, newlyweds, teenagers, all of us—like Monarch caterpillars, chrysalises, butterflies—we're more fragile than our hardy, energetic behavior suggests and we're stronger and more resilient than our delicate appearance suggests. That makes it hard to know what kind of attention to offer. Saying, “I see you and that makes my heart glad” is always a good place to start.

Church is back in full swing. I'll see you there and my heart will be very glad.

-Lisa

Thank You!

Thanks from the board...

...members who made summer pledge payments;
...NWS for their pledge payment.

Board Meeting

The next Nora Board meeting will be on Sunday, September 13th after church.

September Lunch Bunch

School is back in session so Lunch Bunch will be meeting and eating at Martin Luther College cafeteria in New Ulm for our usual philosophical discussion of current events. The date is Thursday, September 10, at 11:30 a.m. Attendance will be taken. See you there.

Religious Education

Kids, parents and everyone else, join Lisa for story, discussion and hands-on activities on the theme of houses. Saturday, September 12, from 10:00 - noon at the church. We'll have snacks, too!

Lonely and Looking for Lefse

Lefse Ladies Unite!

To Lefse or Not to Lefse

Lotsa Lefse Day September 3rd!

Learn the art of lefse making, or keep your lefse making skills sharp – all hands on deck to reach our goal of 80 pounds for the smorgasbord!

Young and old, new or experience, it's sure to be a fun day. Call Carol Chambard 507-354-2242, or email norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net, if you can help.



Lisa on the Loose!

Lisa will hold "office hours" at area coffee houses once a week. Join her in your community and grab coffee, tea or snack and a mid-week check-in.



Wednesdays from 10:30—Noon

September 2 at River City Eatery, Windom

September 16 at Lola, New Ulm

September 23 at Coffee Hag, Mankato

September 30 at Café Euro, Sleepy Eye

A Note From the Treasurer **Monthly Income and Expenses**

July

Income, Pledges: \$2,710.00

Nora Women's Society: \$5,000.00

Expenses: \$5,179.63

Pledge cards received to date will cover less than 17% of the 2015-2016 proposed budget.

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 or memorial gifts. Note: The tree removal project has not been completed or paid.

Direct Deposit for Pledges

Some people have requested direct deposit for pledges. To initiate this, anyone interested would have to set this up with their bank, much like an automatic payment for a utility or credit card.

If you would like to make electronic pledge payments, please contact Julie Peck for Nora Church account information.

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.



Smorgasbord Work List

Country Store: Jerry Allen, Sandi Benge, Mimi Kamleiter, Shirley Olson, Ardis Wellmann, Matt Hellen-drung

Museum: Lee Schmitt, Algot Blomquist

Parking: Jeremy Schmitt, John Schmitt, Elroy Wellmann

Tickets: Warren Paulson, Kristine Paulson, Wendy Tuttle (caller)

Hosts: Jeanie Hinsman (Kaffe Stua), Julie Pec (Fellowship Hall), Nancy Brudelic (Foyer)

Buffet Table: Julie Sellner, Shannon Hoechst

Coffee: Christopher Olson

Beverages: Susan Allen

Meat Server: Christina Schmitt

Meat Slicers: (Saturday @ 12pm) Roger Breu, Lee Schmitt, Wally Wellmann, Tony Erickson, Carson Erickson

Potatoes: Edith Beckius, Kate Monnens

Carrots: Diane Becken

Cookie Trays: Michelle Bethke, Kate Becken

Appetizers: Susan Evers, Vicki Sieve, Bev Wellmann

Wait Staff-Kaffe Stua: Katie Hemberger, Colleen Tasto, Courtney Schmitt, Toby Weiss, Thor Weiss

Wait Staff-Fellowship Hall: Nora Peck, Nita Gilbert, Victoria Bayer, Tracy Schmiesing, Kristi Paulson, Anna Bayer

Wait Staff-Iverson Room: *Karen Farrell, Jay Gazdik, Anton Hellendrung, David Gazdik

Take Outs: Norma Breu, Georgine Tepley

Publicity: Georgine Tepley, Jeannie Hinsman

Dishes-Kaffe Stua: Scott Schmiesing, Wayne Johnson, Gene Tepley, Lee Drogenmuller

Dishes-Fellowship: Daryl Hinsman, Alicia Bayer, Ron Peck, Jennie Gazdik, Daryl Hrdlicka, Dick Gurska

Clean Up (1:00): Ross Chambard, Scott Chambard, Dave Wenk, Jean Wenk

Greeters: Gil & Sally Hanson

Floaters: Joy Rathman, Carol Chambard, Louise Guggisberg, Peter Hemberger

Bread: Kate Monnens

Carrots and Celery: Janet Rosenbloom

Scrullers: Susan Evers, Georgine Tepley

Cookies-Fancy: Julie Peck, Shannon Hoechst, Colleen Tasto, Karen Farrell, Susan Allen, Tracey Schmiesing, Vicki Sieve, Louise Guggisberg, Nita Gilbert

Romme Grot: Edith Beckius, Janet Rosenbloom, Carol Chambard, Vicki Sieve, Georgine Tepley

Flat Bread: Shirley Olson, Carol Chambard

Rice: Muriel Fredrickson, Kristine Paulson, Jeannie Hinsman, Julie Sellner

Sot Suppe: Kristine Paulson

Cottage Cheese (3#): Wayne Johnson, Lorraine Becken, Ardelle Becken, Lisa Doege

Berliner Kranser: Michelle Bethke, Muriel Fredrickson, Diane Becken

Sandbakkels: Chrissie Schmitt, Edith Beckius

Milk (1 Gal): Daryl and Alicia, Scott Chambard, Jeremy Schmitt, Christopher Olson, Mimi Kamleiter, Lee Drogenmuller, Matt and Jennie, Ross Chambard, Nita Gilbert, Hembergers

Fattigmand: Susan Evers

Rosettes: Bev Wellmann, Norma Breu

Kringla: Julie Sellner, Joy Rathman

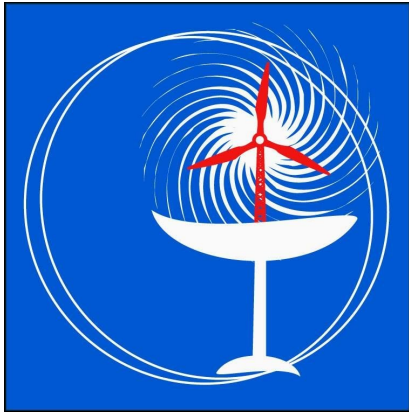
A black banner with white text that reads "See You At the Smorg!". The banner has a ribbon-like shape with pointed ends.

Nora Moments: Remember the time

There are many moments in Nora Church History that should be preserved. They are captured on film, on tape, or in personal memory banks in the form of stories. Please share these.

Bring them to church in a bin, a folder or a manila envelope. If you prefer to keep the original, bring a copy of it. Phil Hahn has agreed to be coordinator of the project. We are looking for “remember the time stories”, and also readings, writings, newspaper articles, sermons, prayers. Whatever has meaning to you and helps to define us as the church we are.

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 Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/NoraChurchUU

Harvest Campaign

Donate fresh produce to our local food shelf during the 1st annual Harvest Campaign. August 1st—September 30 we will work to take up weekly harvest collections during our services. Fresh produce can come from community gardens, congregational members' home gardens, farmers' markets—see a list of good items on the bulletin board.

Congrats!

Congratulation Shannon (Weiss) and Dave Hoechst on your marriage!

Notes from the Nora Office...

Please send announcements, events and content of any kind, for the newsletter or order of service to the Nora email. Announcements will generally run for two weeks.

Order Of Service ~ content due on Thursdays

October Mere Lys ~ content due Sept. 22nd

Be well, Brooke

Church Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

Brooke Knisley, Office Assistant

In the office Tuesdays and Fridays.

Date	Pianist	Greeters, Servers & Ushers
Sept. 6	Sally Hanson	Jeanie & Darrell Hinsman, Dave & Sally Anne Benson
Sept. 13	Jordan Kuelbs	Edith Beckius, Ardis & Elroy Wellman
Sept. 20	JoAnn Huss	Carol Chambard, Wendy Tuttle, Janet Rosenbloom
Sept. 27		<i>No Service, Smorg Clean Up Sunday</i>
		<i>Thank you greeters & pianists!</i>

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
 Carol Chambard: 354-2242

A Prayer to Share

You who are smaller than the smallest seed; more beautiful than the rarest gem; Who hold the mountains and oceans in Your hand; Who breaths us with the breath of life; enfold us in Your great love that we may open our hearts to all mankind..

-Annabelle Woodard

Local Blood Drive

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in New Ulm at the Vogel Family Recreation Center:

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 2 from 1-7:00 pm

THURSDAY, Sept. 3 from 1-7:00 pm

FRIDAY, Sept. 4 from 8am -1:00pm

There is an urgent need for all blood types. Walk ins are welcome or make an appointment on line at redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-REDCROSS

