



MERE LYS

October 2017 Newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

Services

Coffee 10:00 am

Worship 10:30 am

*Please note the time
change!*



October 1

***“Comfort Food—Body
and Soul”***

October 8

“Our Magic Pennies”

October 15

“What About Jesus?”

Program Committee

October 22

***“The Hellenization of
Christianity”***

Program Committee

October 29

“Asking For Help”



A View From the Hill

As I write this month’s column it seems likely Nora Church will gather a team to participate in the United Way of the Brown County Area’s 2017 Day of Caring. This plan brings me much quiet joy. That emotion may seem a bit strong but it’s the right one.

Most years, you see, Day of Caring falls on the weekend immediately following our Smorg. We don’t even consider participating because we know we will be recovering still from both the preparation for and execution of that signature event in our church year. But this year’s calendar brings us Smorg on the very first day of October, and Day of Caring has been moved to the end of the month. And we’ll be there. Venturing off our hill and out into the community.

Mental health professionals have long recognized the benefits of volunteering to help others. Individuals who volunteer experience increased happiness and self-confidence, a greater sense of purpose, and reduced stress, anger and anxiety. I’m betting we’ll reap similar benefits as a congregation when we take part in the Day of Caring. Focusing on our neighbors instead of ourselves. Putting our muscles and our generous natures to work for the good of others. Remembering how much we have to give.

Nora’s board and other church leaders are following up on last winter’s session with MidAmerica Lead Staff, Ian Evison, taking a close look at the intersection between our congregation’s desire for full-time ministry and the reality of our congregation’s financial resources. It’s a deliberate, inward examination that is overdue and will lead us to next steps in envisioning our church’s future. But Nora’s existence has never been solely about serving those who are already members. So, I repeat, I’m quietly joyful that Day of Caring (and another event, Love Reaches Out, scheduled for mid-November), offer us the opportunity to continue, with a renewed energy, ministering to our larger community. I’ll be on Nora’s Day of Caring team. Join me?

-Lisa

Thank You!

From the board...

...to the Lefse makers.

...to Jerry Brown for the touch up painting of the church.

...to the Art with Attitude group making such nice items for the Country Store.

Board Meeting

Nora Church Board will meet again Sunday, October 15, following the service.

Art with Attitude

Art with Attitude has been making tote bags, fabric bowls, painted rocks and more. All items will be donated to the Country Store at our Smorgasbord, October 1.

October will be a month to regroup. Our only meet day in October will be Friday, Oct 20. November dates are November 3 and 17. Come with new ideas, UFO's that need attention to be finished or a project you've been wanting to try!

As always everyone is welcome. Join us for coffee and good conversation.

Lunch Bunch

The footloose Lunch Bunch band has decided to take its well-earned post-Smorg break in Mankato in October. We'll be meeting and eating at Pappageorge Restaurant at 1028 N. Riverfront Dr., Mankato, on Thursday, October 12, at 11:30 a.m. Road construction season is winding down, so we hope you all can find your way there.

Lunch Bunch is a monthly, social lunch gathering, open to any Nora members, friends or visitors.

RE New Sound System Approved

At the September 10 congregational meeting it was decided to spend \$5,000 on installation of an improved sound system. A dedicated 15 amp service has been installed by St. James Electric. It is possible that Rhapsody Music will have installation complete by Smorg. The actual bid was \$4,479 to include a mixing console, amplifier, CD player, one wireless headset system, two handheld microphones and installation. The board is looking into the addition of a few additional wireless headsets for use by attendees and guests who may need additional amplification.

Change in coffee hour time

The congregation voted to continue the 10:30 start time for church service. Coffee hour will move to 10:00 a.m., effective October 8. Anyone wishing to stay after service for more conversation is welcome to do so. Please be considerate in caring for your own dishes, cups, etc. and clearing of any leftover food items.

United Way Day of Caring, Can You Help?

2017 marks the 20th annual Day of Caring for United Way of Brown County. Day of Caring is an effort to provide service to local individuals or families, usually elderly or disabled, who are in need of support with home care or yard projects. This may include raking, washing windows, other housework projects, small painting jobs, cleaning gutters, whatever tasks the applicant has requested that can be reasonably accomplished by nonprofessional volunteers. Teams of individuals from churches, civic organizations, schools, etc. have donated their time to reach out in support of their neighbors. Nora Church youth did participate years back but it has been a while since we have done so. Day of Caring was most often scheduled the week after Smorg and often we were still resting up. This year the date is October 28. Sign up for teams must be completed by October 8. Some interest has already been expressed by one Nora family. Let Jeanie Hinsman know if you would like to join a Nora Team and we will submit a team application. If possible we would request a Hanska project but that will not be guaranteed.

Thanks, Algot!

Algot Blomquist gave a generous donation towards the sound system upgrade. He encourages others to think of doing the same. Whether an additional amount dedicated to the sound system or an extra gift with your pledge giving, any donations to church operating expenses is appreciated. Julie Peck has prepaid a full year's supply of fuel to insure the best pricing, so September expenses will be somewhat increased.

Market @ the Farm

Wednesday, October 25th from 4:00-7:00 pm we will hold our second Fall Market @ the Farm, featuring our organic produce, apple sauce, apple butter, honey from our partner farm and more! Alternative Roots Farm 11197 130th St., Madelia— from Nora take 257 East, left on Hwy 15, right on 130th St. Stop and say hello! -Brooke Knisley

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 on the Loose

Lisa will hold "office hours" at area coffee houses. Join her for drop-in conversations in New Ulm, Mankato and Windom.

Stay tuned for Lisa's October excursions! Details will be forthcoming in the Grapevine, on facebook and in the Sunday service programs.



October Program Committee Services

The October 15 service "*What About Jesus?*" is inspired by the ongoing question regarding the proper "place" for the painting in the Nora altarpiece, the idea of how we might reclaim Jesus of Nazareth, Son of Man will be explored.

The October 22 service "*The Hellenization of Christianity*" is an exploration of how Greco/Roman concepts of god-figures influenced the developing Christian religion.

Lorraine Becken Service

A funeral service will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 7 at the Nora Unitarian-Universalist Church in Hanska, with Reverend Lisa Doege officiating. Burial will be in the Mount Pisqua cemetery. Visitation will be 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 7, 2017 at the church.

Brief memories may be shared with Rev. Lisa, email her directly at revlmd.nora@gmail.com.

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

Income:	\$7,589.13
Expenses:	\$5,911.45

Most of Nora Church's annual income comes in the form of pledge payments from members and friends.

Income and expenses are listed for the full month prior to the publication of the newsletter, not including special collections or memorial gifts.

"It used to be thought that the events that changed the world were things like big bombs, maniac politicians, huge earthquakes, or vast population movements, but it has now been realized that this is a very old-fashioned view... The things that really change the world, according to Chaos theory, are the tiny things. A butterfly flaps its wings in the Amazonian jungle, and subsequently a storm ravages half of Europe."

—Neil Gaiman, in *Good Omens*

Prayer

May we all be reminded of our own agency in changing the world. Let us all take small actions that build off each other and change the world in beautiful and unexpected ways.

Send your news, announcements, congratulations and events to us at norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net or put hard copies in Brooke's mailbox!

In Memoriam

Gudrun "Goodie" Kjelskus

Feb. 16, 1932 — Sept. 17, 2017

In Memoriam

Lorraine Viola Becken

Dec. 31, 1921 — Sept. 15, 2017

Notes from the Nora Office...

Order Of Service ~ content due Thursdays

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

November Mere Lys ~ content due

Thursday, October 23

Church Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

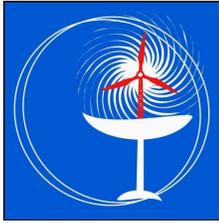
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*Brooke Knisley, Office Assistant
In the office Tuesdays and Fridays.*

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Smorgasbord Work List

Country Store: Sandi Bengé, Mimi Kamleiter, Shirley Olson, Lara Fletcher

Museum: Lee Schmitt, Algot Blomquist

Parking: Jeremy Schmitt, John Schmitt

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

Hosts: Jeanie Hinsman (Kaffe Stua), Julie Peck (Fellowship Hall), Nancy Brudelié (Foyer)

Buffet Table: Julie Sellner, Shannon Hoechst

Coffee: Christopher Olson

Beverages: Susan Allen

Meat & Carrot Server: Christina Schmitt

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

Potatoes: Edith Beckius, Kate Monnens

Cookie Trays: Kate Becken, Diane Becken

Appetizers: Susan Evers, Vicki Sieve, Bev Wellmann, Jordan Kuelbs

Wait Staff-Kaffe Stua: Colleen Tasto, Courtney Schmitt, Toby Weiss, Thor Weiss, Kadence Hesse

Wait Staff-Fellowship Hall: Nora Peck, Nita Gilbert, Victoria Bayer, Kristi Paulson, Ria Bayer

Wait Staff-Iverson Room: *Karen Farrell, Cynthia Becker, Lucia Reyes

Take Outs: Norma Breu, Georgine Tepley

Publicity: Georgine Tepley, Jeannie Hinsman

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

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

Clean Up (1:00): Ross Chambard, Scott Chambard, Sally-Anne & Dave Bensen, Jerry Allen

Greeters: Gil & Sally Hanson

Floater: Joy Rathman, Carol Chambard, Louise Guggisberg

Donations

Bread: Kate Monnens

Carrots and Celery: Janet Rosenbloom

Coffee: Ryann Kaim

Scrullers: Susan Evers, Georgine Tepley

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

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

Flat Bread: Shirley Olson, Carol Chambard

Rice: Jeannie Hinsman, Julie Sellner, Jordan Kuelbs, Nancy Brudelié

Sot Suppe: Kristine Paulson

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

Berliner Kranser: Michelle Bethke, Muriel Fredrickson, Diane Becken

Sandbakkels: Chrissie Schmitt, Edith Beckius

Milk (1 Gal): Scott Chambard, Jeremy Schmitt, Christopher Olson, Mimi Kamleiter, Lee Drogemuller, Ross Chambard, Nita Gilbert, John Schmitt, Wayne Johnson

Fattigmand: Susan Evers

Rosettes: Bev Wellmann, Norma Breu

Kringla: Julie Sellner, Joy Rathman

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