

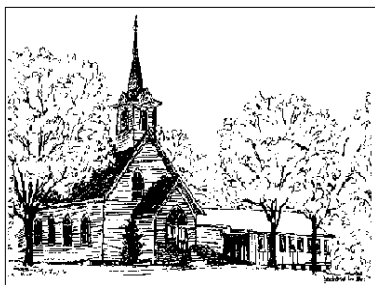


MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

December 2012

VIEW FROM THE HILL



The Unitarian Universalist church in which I grew up used to (and still does) have a carol shout on the Sunday before Christmas each year. A carol shout is like a hymn

sing, except the only hymns sung are Christmas carols and anyone wishing to sing a particular carol next must shout his/her choice above the din of a few hundred other voices shouting out the number of their favorite carol.

I always shouted # 292. These days I'd be shouting # 242. Either way it would be the same carol. In the Lonely Midnight, a fairly obscure carol, evidently, but also my favorite for almost as long as I can remember. # 292 was rarely chosen during the carol shout. Silent Night was the perennial favorite. So was Watchmen, Tell Us of the Night because everyone knew that was the minister's favorite, and other traditional, familiar carols: O Come, All Ye Faithful, O Little Town of Bethlehem, and It Came Upon the Midnight Clear. One year when I was disappointed yet again that we didn't sing In the Lonely Midnight during the carol shout my mood shifted abruptly after the short sermon when the minister announced that our closing carol would be # 292.

One other detail I remember about those annual, raucous carol shouts: the minister always said, as he closed the shouting/singing period of the service, "Remember, if we didn't sing your favorite carol here this morning, there are still lots of days of Christmas left. You can sing your favorite carol in the car on the way home. Or if you go Christmas caroling in your neighborhood. Or to yourself just before falling asleep."

That's the thing about Christmas, and Hanukkah, and Solstice, and New Year's and just about every holiday. There are dozens of songs to be sung. Hundreds of special holiday treats to be savored. Scores of television specials and community concerts: the Nutcracker Suite, Amal and the Night Visitors, the Black Nativity, a Charlie Brown Christmas Special, Rudolph's Rocking New Year's Eve. Myriad decorating options-star or angel atop the tree; homemade Menorah or fancy heirloom; theme tree or mis-mash; flashing lights or steady.

Sometimes families can't agree on the ones they will sing, bake, eat, watch, string on tree. And sometimes they can agree but just can't fit them all in. Choices have to be made, even during December. Some things will be left off the party menu or the Christmas Day schedule of events. Compromises will be reached. Disappointments are inevitable.

But remember, the traditional twelve days of Christmas START on December 25 and last until January 6. And the contemporary winter holiday season of Christmas, Yule, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, seems to begin around Thanksgiving and last until school starts up again right after January 1. And some where in that span of weeks, there is time for you to sing your favorite carol. Make or nibble your favorite treat. Read your favorite seasonal story. Switch the tree top star for an angel, even if only for an hour or two when you are the only one home to enjoy it. You have the power to make the holiday one that will feed your soul and lift your spirit.

Let the shouting begin.



COMING OF AGE CONTINUES

During the service on Sunday, December 2, we will recognize Eva Kunerth and her friend Abby for coming of age.

TRIM THE TREE

We will decorate the sanctuary for Christmas following the potluck on Sunday, December 2. Plan to stay for the fun!



THANKS FROM THE BOARD

Our thanks this month goes to Roger Breu for installing the door at the parsonage.

NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT

So we enter another holiday season. We will again experience all the hustle and bustle, the making of the food, the buying the gifts, the organizing of family, the worry that we'll get it all right. We clean, we cook, we send out cards and all that other stuff (I guess Tracey does a lot of this though). As we go through all this, I think about the past year. It went fast. It was good for us. We had bumps in the road but we drove over them. I look forward to our children coming home, watching the grandchildren get excited over Christmas gifts, and seeing other friends and family members. I hope your holiday season is joyful and filled with friends and family also.

I'd like to leave you with a quote from my cousin Shana who quoted Laura Ingles Wilder:)

"The real things haven't changed. It is still best to be honest and truthful; to make the most of what we have; to be happy with simple pleasures; and have courage when things go wrong."

LUNCH BUNCH

Take a few minutes to relax with the Lunch Bunch before getting caught in the pre-Christmas whirlwind. We'll be meeting and eating at the New Grand Moon Buffet, 1702 Westridge Rd., New Ulm (near Walmart) on Thursday, Dec. 6, at 11:30 a.m. Nothing says Christmas like Chinese food, so we hope to see you there.

Thanks from the Johnson Family

Becky Johnson, her children and their families would like to extend a gracious "Thank You" to all involved in helping with the Celebration of Al Johnson's Life, held Nov. 3, 2012 at the church. Nora is home to so many giving people from the lunch workers to cake bakers, parkers, ushers, and so many more. We appreciate your warmth and caring.

For Church Administrators,
Ministers & Letter Writers

Celebrate the Holidays with the Church of the Larger Fellowship

www.QuestForMeaning.org



Notecards and Order of Service Covers



Notecards and Order of Service Covers



Notecards only

UU Holiday Notecards
4 1/4 x 5 1/2"
Blank inside
Printed on high quality paper
\$12 per pkg of 10 cards and envelopes
quantity discount available

UU Holiday Order of Service Covers
5 1/2 x 8 1/2" folded
Printed on bright white paper
Suitable for your copier.
Shrink-wrapped in 100s
\$22.50 per 100

To order:
www.QuestForMeaning.org
click on "Shop"
617-948-6150

All proceeds from sales support the many ministries of the Church of the Larger Fellowship,
serving UU individuals and small groups all over the world.
The Church of the Larger Fellowship is supported by its membership.



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



New Ulm Food Shelf Items Needed:

Peas
Carrots
Mixed vegetables
Chicken Noodle Soup
Tomato Soup
All Cream Soups
Bathroom Tissue
Boxed Potatoes
Instant Oatmeal (all sizes)



November 2012

January-June 2013 Server/Greeter/Usher Partner List

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 someone on the list and try to arrange a switch.

ATTENTION PARTNERS:

Please communicate with each other regarding food provision.

January

6

SERVER/GREETER/USHER PARTNERS

POTLUCK

Kristine Paulson-Warren Paulson-Kristy Paulson-Scott Chambard

13

Jennie Gazdik-Matthew Hellendrung-Joy Rathman

20

Shirley Olson-Clayton Olson-Bonita Blomquist

27

Susan Allen-Jerry Allen-Vicki Sieve

February

3

POTLUCK

Jeanie Hinsman-Darrell Hinsman-Christopher Olson

10

Kate Monnens-Jason Monnens-Mimi Kamleiter

17

Karen Farrell-Julie Peck-Ron Peck

24

Georgine Tepley-Gene Tepley-Nancy Brudelle

March

3

POTLUCK

Carol Chambard-Alan Chambard-Kristy Paulson-Ross Chambard

10

John Schmitt-Julie Schmitt-Susan Evers

17

Lynn Schmitt-Lee Schmitt-Jeremy Schmitt

24

Tracey Schmiesing-Scott Schmiesing-Julie Sellner

31

EASTER

Diane Becken-Edith Beckius-Janet Johnson-Wayne Johnson

April

7

POTLUCK

Colleen Hokenson-Ardis Wellman-Elroy Wellman-Christina Schmitt

14

Kristine Paulson-Warren Paulson-Jerry Peterson

21

Norma Breu-Roger Breu-Michelle Bethke

28

Cleanup

May

5

POTLUCK

Susan Allen-Jerry Allen-Ross Chambard-Diane Becken

12

Syttende Mai

19

Shirley Olson-Clayton Olson-Nancy Dickson

26

Sally Hansen-Gil Hansen-Pat Kunerth

June

2

POTLUCK

Beverly Wellman-Wallace Wellman-Shannon Weiss-Christina Schmitt

9

Janet Rosenbloom-Noah Rosenbloom-Bonita Blomquist

16

Sally Hansen-Gil Hansen-Algot Blomquist

GLASS OF MILK

One day, a poor boy who was selling goods from door to door to pay his way through school, found he had only one thin dime left, and he was hungry.

He decided he would ask for a meal at the next house. However, he lost his nerve when a lovely young woman opened the door.

Instead of a meal he asked for a drink of water! . She thought he looked hungry so brought him a large glass of milk. He drank it so slowly, and then asked, How much do I owe you?"

You don't owe me anything," she replied. "Mother has taught us never to accept pay for a kindness."

He said ... "Then I thank you from my heart.."

As Howard Kelly left that house, he not only felt stronger physically, but his faith in God and man was strong also. He had been ready to give up and quit.

Many year's later that same young woman became critically ill. The local doctors were baffled. They finally sent her to the big city, where they called in specialists to study her rare disease.

Dr. Howard Kelly was called in for the consultation. When he heard the name of the town she came from, a strange light filled his eyes.

Immediately he rose and went down the hall of the hospital to her room.

Dressed in his doctor's gown he went in to see her. He recognized her at once.

He went back to the consultation room determined to do his best to save her life. From that day he gave special attention to her case.

After a long struggle, the battle was won.

Dr. Kelly requested the business office to pass the final bill to him for approval. He looked at it, then wrote something on the edge, and the bill was sent to her room. She feared to open it, for she was sure it would take the rest of her life to pay for it all. Finally she looked, and something caught her attention on the side of the bill. She read these words ...

"Paid in full with one glass of milk"

(Signed) Dr. Howard Kelly.

Tears of joy flooded her eyes as her happy heart prayed: "Thank You, God, that Your love has spread broad through human hearts and hands."

There's a saying which goes something like this: Bread cast on the water comes back to you. The good deed you do today may benefit you or someone you love at the least expected time. If you never see the deed again at least you will have made the world a better place - And, after all, isn't that what life is all about?




NORA CHURCH CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2012

Parsonage: 507-439-6240



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service RE 11:30 Pot Luck	3	4	5	6 LUNCH BUNCH- NEW GRAND MOON BUFFET, New Ulm	7	8
9 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service RE	17	18	19	20 Newsletter articles due	21	22
23 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	24 5:30 PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27	28	29
30 NO SERVICE	31	NEW YEAR'S DAY				

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

MUSICIAN

SERVER/GREETER/USHER PARTNERS

2	Mimi Kamleiter	POTLUCK Janet/Wayne Johnson-Ellen Byro-Shannon Weiss
9	Sally Hanson	Beverly Wellman-Wallace Wellman-Algot Blomquist
16	JoAnn Huss	Mimi Kamleiter-Scott Schmiesing-Tracey Schmiesing
23	Jordan Rathman	Janet Rosenbloom-Noah Rosenbloom-Nita Gilbert
24	Muffy Rathman	CHRISTMAS EVE



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



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

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
United States Postage Paid
Permit No. 2
Hanska, MN 56041

Happy
Holidays!



EMAIL
norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

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

Nora Church Sunday Services DECEMBER 2012

Coffee 10:00 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Dec 2 ~ "But I'm Not Ready!"

Dec 9 ~ "Precious Oil for Body and Soul"

Dec 16 ~ "Not Very Far"

Dec 23 ~ "Possibly Incarnate"

Dec 24 ~ 5:30 PM "Candle Lighting Service"

Dec 30 ~ No Service

