



MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

September 2009

VIEW FROM THE HILL

The other day I saw an office supply store commercial featuring ecstatic parents gleefully outfitting their children for the return to school. The background music, more typically heard in December than August, “the most wonderful time of the year.” I don’t have kids to send back to school, but late each summer I begin to feel a similar anticipation and delight, a sense that something truly special is just around the corner. It *is* a wonderful time of the year--the beginning of the church year, the season in Unitarian Universalist congregations when children return to Sunday school, individuals and families return to worship, and I return to the pulpit.

You’ve gotten a jump on me this year, starting services almost a full month before I make my debut, but that doesn’t diminish my excitement even a tiny bit. As I write I’m in the midst of packing for my move to the parsonage and my eagerness grows each day. You’re famous, you see, in the UU world, the little church in the cornfield with the Norwegian roots, serving rural Minnesota for well over one hundred years, and I can’t wait to take up ministry to and among and with you.

Allow me to introduce myself. I’m the Reverend Lisa Doege, and your interim/consulting search committee found me and your board hired me and I will be your minister for at least the next two years. My last name is pronounced ‘day’, but please call me Lisa. I was raised at Unity Church Unitarian in St. Paul, Minnesota and ordained there in 1994. I hold degrees from Hamline University and Harvard Divinity School, and have served congregations in Bemidji and Fridley, Minnesota, and South Bend, Indiana. I was a teenager when I felt called to ministry and after 15 years in this vocation, I can’t imagine a life more fitting for me than parish ministry in the Unitarian Universalist tradition.

We’ll get to know each other over the next months. Here are a few random tidbits to start the process off:

- I like reading, writing, swimming, singing and making a mess with craft projects;
- yellow and purple and gray are my favorite colors;
- I’m a weaver and an aunt and a baker;
- I not only know what lefse is, I am the Doege family lefse-maker;
- I love turkey dinner, rhubarb pie, garden tomatoes, German potato salad;
- I can live without mushrooms, oatmeal and green peppers.

Most importantly, perhaps, for our purposes, I love stories. I love to read stories. I love to weave stories into the fabric of worship. And I love to hear stories--especially the stories of folks in a community. I’m looking forward to lots of things about my move to Hanska--giving the rural life a try, preaching in your lovely sanctuary, settling into the parsonage--but I look forward to nothing more than hearing your stories. The stories of Nora Church. The stories of your life in Unitarian Universalism or your journey to it. The stories of your marriages, partnerships, children and careers. The stories of your passion and fear and wondering.

So be prepared! At coffee hour, in my study, in your homes, at special story-telling sessions in the church hall, I’ll be drawing up a chair, making myself comfortable, and begging, “tell me a story!”

See you in church! (I’ll be the one who’s all ears!)

Lisa

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

We at Nora will be seeing a new face on the hill. Lisa Doege, our new minister will be moving into the parsonage the first part of September. We welcome her into our little community in the Hanska area. I am looking forward to working with Lisa and seeing what ideas she will bring with her from her former congregations! Welcome Lisa! -Scott

LUNCH BUNCH



Here's an offer you can't refuse! Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, Sept. 10, 11:30 a.m., at Goodfellaz in Madelia (604 E. Main St.). Shannon and Kevin Weiss are part owners of this newly reopened restaurant (formerly Blackbeard's), so we hope you will come out to support them.

THANKS FROM THE BOARD

Thanks from the Board goes to everyone who helped make our "Music on a Summers Eve" a success. Kristine Paulson for lining up the wonderful, talented performers. To the bakers of so many delicious pie, the servers and clean up crew and last but not least the entertainers for such an enjoyable evening.

One more thank you to Sally Hanson, we appreciate so much what you've done as the Nora Church Treasurer.

CONCERT SUCCESS!

Our "Music for a Summer's Eve" Concert held on July 30th exceeded our expectations as a near full house enjoyed a variety of music and stories provided by several members and friends of Nora. Several ladies of the church offered a wide assortment of delicious pies and ice cream following the concert, which provided much quality fellowship time together.

Participants on the program were: Mimi Kamleiter, Doug Howard, Charles Luedtke, Julia Beckius, Monica Sturm, Ardelle Becken, Doug Becken, Britta Bauer, Jordan Rathman, Hailey Pidde, and Algot Blomquist. A sincere thank you to all participants and the ladies in the kitchen for a most enjoyable night out. We hope we can do the same thing next summer. -the Committee

MEET & GREET

By Jeanie Hinsman

Meet and Greet..... Ann Nelson

Ann says she has been "flirting" with Nora Church off and on for a few years but is increasingly aware of the sense of community and the sense of "feeling at home" she experiences here. It was because of Susan Allen's persuasiveness that she first visited. (Did you know Susan can be a bit "sneaky" when it comes to animals and Nora?)

Ann is attracted to the openness to different philosophies of life and spirituality that is part of our UU practice. She appreciates a religion based on freedom of thought rather than fear and prescribed beliefs. Ann believes in a higher power. Some might call the power God. Some might call it Love. She also believes numerous prophets have come from many religions to remind us of the power of love. It is Ann's desire to be in a community of people who understand that love can be the centerpiece of a spiritual life. Because she finds much of mainstream culture has an upside down value system, she appreciates the opportunity to share in her spiritual seeking with the people at Nora.

Ann grew up in Windom. She graduated from the Univ. of Minnesota with an undergrad degree in American Studies because it included so much of what she enjoyed reading. After living in St. Paul for many years, she became enchanted with the quaint buildings, the quiet and charm of New Ulm, and moved there eleven years ago.

Ann's passion is art. She enjoys sculpture, painting, and design, making her livelihood by selling her pieces on the internet. Presently Ann is doing coursework with the Wind and Water School of Feng Shui. Ann states she is best at any work involving the use of space and design. Her dream is to one day start her own business incorporating Feng Shui principles with interior design. With her coursework, parents, and a brother living in the Twin Cities area, she spends a lot of time on highway 169 but hopefully will find time to head south on Brown Cty 13 whenever possible.

ADULT RE

A spirituality group continues to meet on the first and third Wednesday in New Ulm at approximately 6:30 p.m. The location of the gathering varies from meeting to meeting. We'll try to keep you updated in the Sunday service program about our topics and meeting locations. If you have questions or

would like to meet with us, please feel free to talk with Anne Rieke, Colleen Tasto, Vicki Sieve, Nancy Bruderie, Kristine Paulson or Nancy Dickson and we will give the most current information.

A BOOK TO BORROW

Jerry Peterson has written a book "99 Doorways to High Level Wellness."

99 simple ideas of how to live to 100: A picture of a door from around the world with an idea opposite.

The book will be left at Nora in the entryway....if you would like to borrow it for a week or so and return it. Thank you. -Jerry

CHURCH OF THE LARGER FELLOWSHIP DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- would benefit by a spiritual community available 24/7?
- works on Sunday mornings?
- lives in an isolated area?
- does not have access to a local UU church?
- is housebound and unable to attend a local church?
- is an active member of a local congregation who wants even more?
- is a church staff person or religious professional who would enjoy a congregation of their own?

Invite a friend to check us out.

For more information about the Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF):

Go to www.clfuu.org

Click on the "Welcome Banner" across the screen. Questions about the Church of the Larger Fellowship?

Contact Beth Murray:

bmurray@clfuu.org

617-948-6150

We'd love to hear from you.

The Church of the Larger Fellowship is a UU church by mail and email. We have substantial online worship and religious education resources. Learn more about the CLF at www.clfuu.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NEW ULM AREA FOOD SHELF

September 2009 is the UCC's and Nora UU's month to provide volunteers to the New Ulm Area Food Shelf.

Volunteers are needed while the food shelf is open to the public (Monday and Wednesday 12-3). You will work in the back room to assemble packages of food for families.

Can you help on a Monday or Wednesday?

Nora's dates are: 2, 14, 16, 28, 30.

Each day needs 2-3 volunteers. Volunteers are asked to arrive 10-15 minutes early (11:45-11:50) and plan on staying until 3 pm.

Please contact

Angie Becker Kudelka

with your availability at

359-3834

Thanks so much!



PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Doege will have Mondays off. Friday will be sermon writing day.

To Keep In Touch



Keep our youth in your thoughts as they head back to school.

Be extra cautious driving in school activity areas.



If you know of anyone needing our assistance or attention...please call one of the following Caring Committee members:

Georgine Tepley (chair)

359-3060 (weekdays after 5 pm)

Shirley Olson - 439-6879

Carol Chambard - 354-2242

THANK YOU! - Caring Committee

The following are excerpts from the two newsletters we have received over the summer from our friends at our partner church in Benced. The entire copy of the newsletters is available via Nora's email newsletter. The writers of these newsletters include not only the minister from Benced, Ildiko, but also Krisztina who visited us this winter. They are filled with information about not only Transylvanian history, but of the events that have been occurring throughout their summer. This includes information about the reconsecration of the church which we (members of Nora church) helped to revitalize with our donations.

Winning Grants for Benced

Iltre Benced Foundation together with Unitarian Church of Benced this year earned again four grants for the community. The grants were written by Pall Krisztina, the president of the NGO (Non-Governmental Organization). :

1. **Youth Program- English Ecocamp** in it's 4th year- The theme is: English language and environmental protection. The project is sponsored by Harghita Council, Local Council.

2. **Telecottage program – Telecottage, the heart of community-** theme is buying equipments, especially video projector. The project is sponsored by Harghita Council, Local Council

3. **Senior's Program – Let's stroke the old heads –** theme is buying food package for seniors. The project is sponsored by Harghita Council, Local Council

4. **Modernization of Cultural House** from Benced. - The project is sponsored by Local Council, Project Harvest Hope, Civitas.

Thank you the unforgettable festivity **Thanking lines of Pall Krisztina**

While Sunday of 2009. will be forever in my mind. After my accident, during my recovery, we went to Benced with my family, and we celebrated Sunday with them, with my boyfriend and with his family. In House of God we returned thanks for my recovery, that God was with us in hard moment in my life.

And not just GOD, my family, all my friends from all part of the world and of course all member of Benced. They waited for me, welcomed me with tearful eyes and said goodbye after the church service.. I felt that the community loves me.

I promise I will be the best in the future, too for the community, as best is it possible.

Thanks GOD that I have so many good friends! I finish with my best quote:

If life gives you lemon, make lemonade!

(Update of Krisztina's recovery: she is making every day special exercises, swimming exercises. She still cannot get dressed alone, cannot lean, but she is walking with one helper stick. And being very optimist, she is working very hard, she earned a lot of grants for the community and her school, too. She will have another operation next year)

Reconsecration of the Church from Upper Benced



12th of July is the celebration of the reconsecration of the church from Upper Benced. It was an unforgettable event for the community. In spite of rainy day, it was uplifting seeing the community celebrating together.

From this place I would like to thank for all those persons, who were there in spite of rainy day, assuming ups and downs of the weather, and cele-

brate with us.

With words of our writer Tamasi Aron I saluted the attendees.

"We are on the world to be at home somewhere"

And I felt that my heart will be full of great and general warm, my spirit be-

come full of calmness of cheerful time, and my eyes with dew of dawn.



Orban Balazs farm-wagon tour

The members of the tours gathered together from Hungary, Sweden, USA and local youth, being religiously a colorful team, but in Hungarian nation's feeling, who were ready to go on way of Orban Balazs, visiting Szekler villages.

The farm-wagons, pilgrim pedestrians went through hills, fields feeling the Szekler villages' old, traditional life. In Unitarian, Reformat, Catholic churches, but on fields, on hills, near rivers, near birds songs, in friendships we looked for God and possibility of perseverance. And we looked for the way, that how can we make more from beautiful Szekler hospitality, our spirit near God, near nature, near history, making the possibility to make with our light a lighter world., with our faith a rich world, and a coherent Hungarian community.

Smorg Work List...

Country Store

Jerry Allen
Sandi Bengé
Bonita Blomquist
Mimi Kamleiter
Shirley Olson
Ardis Wellmann

Museum

Algot Blomquist
Lee Schmitt

Parking

Jeremy Schmitt
John Schmitt
Elroy Wellman

Tickets

Kristine Paulson
Warren Paulson
Wendy Tuttle (caller)

Coffee Hour

Ellen Byro
Janet Johnson
Laurie Lilleodden

Hosts

Jeannie Hinsman (Kaffe Stua)
Noah & Janet Rosenbloom (Steps)
Julie Peck

Buffet Table

Julie Sellner
Shannon Weiss

Coffee

Christopher Olson

Beverages

Susan Allen

Appetizers

Vicki Sieve
Bev Wellmann
Karen Farrell

Meat Server

Chrissie Schmitt

Meat Slicers (Saturday @ 12pm)

Roger Breu
Tony Erickson
Wally Wellmann

Potatoes

Edith Beckius
Kate Monnens

Carrots

Diane Becken

Cookie Trays

Michelle Bethke
Julie Schmitt

Take-Outs

Norma Breu
Ann Rieke

Wait Staff-Kaffe Stua

*Laurie Kunerth
Colleen Tasto
Tessa Makepeace
Courtney Schmitt
Sydney Byro

Wait Staff-Fellowship Hall

*Angie Becker Kudelka
Anne Makepeace
Nora Peck
Ruth Thornton

Wait Staff-Iverson Room

*Tracey Schmiesing
Kristi Paulson
Fritz Rieke
Kate Makepeace

Publicity

Ann Nelson
Georgine Tepley

Dishes-Kaffe Stua

Scott Schmiesing
Wayne Johnson
Gene Tepley
Kevin Weiss

Dishes-Fellowship

Daryl Hinsman
John Makepeace
Ron Peck
Sheldon Rieke

Fish Pond

Louise Guggisberg
Ben Rieke
Alex Guggisberg
Jack Bodick
Nick Bodick
Eva Kunerth

Clean-up (1:00)

Ross Chambard
Scott Chambard
Lee Drogemuller
Scott Becker Kudelka
Dave Wenk
Jean Wenk
Doug Anderson

Substitutes

Clayton Olson
Alon Chambard
Charles Anderson
Chris Bodick
Eric Byro
Kay Steffl
Susan Evers
Joy Rathman
Ann Nelson
Georgine Tepley

Smorg list to bring...

Bread

Kate Monnens

Carrots and Celery

Janet Rosenbloom

Cookies-Fancy

Julie Peck

Julie Schmitt

Shannon Weiss

Ann Rieke

Laurie Kunerth

Jeannie Hinsman

Susan Allen

Anne Makepeace

Vicki Sieve

Angie Becker-Kudelka

Louise Guggisberg

Colleen Tasto

Tracey Schmeising

Berliner Kranser

Michelle Bethke

Muriel Fredrickson

Diane Becken

Fattigmand

Susan Evers

Rosettes

Bev Wellmann

Norma Breu

Kringla

Julie Sellner

Joy Rathman

Scrullers

Susan Evers

Georgine Tepley

Romme Grot

Edith Beckius

Janet Rosenbloom

Carol Chambard

Vicki Sieve

Georgine Tepley

Rice

Monica Sturm

Muriel Fredrickson

Kristine Paulson

Karen Farrell

Ardis Wellmann

Flat Bread

Shirley and Clayton Olson

Sot Suppe

Bonita Blomquist

Cottage Cheese (3#)

Janet Johnson

Lorraine Becken

Ardelle Becken

Doug Anderson

Sandbakkels

Chrissie Schmitt

Edith Beckius

Milk (1 gal)

Rieke's

Kunerth's

Bodick's

Makepeace's

Scott Chambard

Jeremy Schmitt

Christopher Olson

Mimi Kamleiter

Lee Drogemiller

Lee Schmitt




**In the past some members of Nora Church have been asked to donate money to help defray the costs of the meal. This year Nora Women's Society has decided to ask for a free-will donation from all members. Monetary donations along with ticket sales may be given to Shannon Weiss prior to October 4, 2009 or Bonita Blomquist in the Country Store on the day of Smorg. Your contributions help make Smorgasbord a successful fundraising event year after year. Thank you in advance for your donation!!

NORA CHURCH CALENDAR

September 2009

Parsonage: 507-439-6240



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Spirituality Group	3	4	5
6 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service POTLUCK	7 	8	9	10	11 	
13 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	14	15	16 Spirituality Group	17	18	19
20 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	21 	22	23	24	25	26
27 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	28	29	30			

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	SERVERS	GREETERS - USHERS
6	Muffy Rathman	Darrell & Jeanie Hinsman Charles Anderson	Wendy Tuttle, Karen Farrell
13	Sally Hanson	Gil & Sally Hanson	Diane Becken, Nancy Brudelie
20	Jordan Rathman	Pat & Laurie Kunerth	Doug Anderson, Ann Nelson
27	Mimi Kamleiter	Sheldon & Anne Rieke	Christopher Olson, Lee Drugemuller

Remember SMORGASBORD OCTOBER 4th



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

September 2009



EMAIL
norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

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

Nora Church Sunday Services September 2009

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

September 6: Guest Pastor Fred Doty "How to Handle Conflict"

September 13: "The Brilliance and Blessings of Gathering"

September 20: "Just Seven Words"

September 27: "Rebels (with Causes)"

