



MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church
January 2011

VIEW FROM THE HILL

What's a minister to write in a New Year's column?

"Be all that you can be" belongs to the Army. "Just do it" is taken by an athletic shoe company. And "today is the first day of the rest of your life" is too ubiquitous to be of much use, despite the obvious truth it captures.

Billboards and tag-lines and sound-bites are powerful for a reason. They are easy to learn. They are easy to remember. They are easy to apply to almost any situation. Read my lips?

Life, however, can't be captured on a poster or a billboard, not in any meaningful way (with the possible exception of 12 Step mantras such as Easy Does It and One Day at a Time). Ministry isn't about sound bites, either. Like life, mostly it's about questions. Questions and stories. Stories without beginning or ending. Stories to be told and stories to be heard.

As a minister, at the turning of the year, I have only one single catchy word of wisdom and advice. It's ancient. Doctors recognize its power. So do musicians and athletes and divers and midwives and practitioners of yoga and meditation and prayer.

Breathe.

Breathe.

Breathe out the old year.
Breathe in the new year.
Breathe out the old.
Breathe in the new.

Breathe.

-Lisa



HAPPY
NEW YEAR



POTLUCK CONFUSION

We will have a potluck lunch following our first Sunday back on January 9, 2011 (even though it is technically the second Sunday of the month).

WIND TURBINE AT NORA CHURCH GETS STARTED

Nov. 11, 2010 Prairie Beacon received word on the approval of a USDA small wind grant. A Sunday ground breaking ceremony complete with musical procession, pinwheels, readings on wind, shovels and the press, was quickly scheduled for Nov. 21. A slide show from the morning can be seen on the church's web site (nora-uu-church.org/photo.shtml).

The actual groundbreaking, however, took place on Nov. 18. An 18'X18' hole was dug, reinforced with re-rod and cemented. Three cement pillars are situated above ground. They will support the tower. Most critical was to dig in the electrical line conduit to the church before frost. The work was done by Steiner Electric of River Falls, WI. (steinerinc.net). They have experience with several wind projects and will also do the electrical work for Prairie Beacon. The tower and turbine have been ordered but not yet delivered. The tower will be assembled on the ground and raised with a crane. The general contractor, Energy Concepts of Hudson, WI (energyconcepts.us) hopes to complete the work this winter.

Check out the Nora website for a wonderful slide show of the November 21 Groundbreaking, and check back regularly for updates.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As a result of the Cottage meetings, Rev Lisa will be candidating for minister here at Nora. We will be consulting with people who are experts with this procedure, and will pass the details along as we receive them. We did set up the week of March 27th to April 3rd as candidating week for Rev. Lisa. April 3rd would also be a good time to have a congregational meeting and take a vote on keeping Rev. Lisa as our settled minister. -Scott

LUNCH BUNCH

It looks like it's going to be a long winter, so the Lunch Bunchers are opting for some comfort food. We'll meet Thursday, Jan. 13, 2011, at 11:30 a.m. at the Perkins restaurant in New Ulm. We hope to see you there.

SECOND SUNDAY OFFERING

Loose change on the 2nd Sunday of each month will go to "Food For All". Please consider a generous donation. Many are less fortunate than us and need a helping hand.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Have you been wondering about Guest At Your Table? Rather than the traditional holiday season collection, Nora Church will participate in the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's Guest At Your Table program during Lent this year. Boxes will be available at church on Sunday, March 13th, the Sunday following Ash Wednesday. We will collect boxes (or checks) on Easter Sunday, April 24.



ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Brown County continues to accept applications for Energy Assistance through May 31, 2011. Contact Lisa for information or application forms.

**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



David Gehrke
 Minnesota humorist and author of
A Shiver Runs Through It
 Monday, January 10, 2011

Jan Jenkins
Disappearance or Foul Play?
 A mother's message of awareness and prevention after her son

disappears in St. Cloud in 2002
 Monday, January 17, 2011

Rachel's Challenge

The family of Columbine's first victim shares their story.
 Monday, January 24, 2011



If you have any questions or desire additional information, please call Carol Davis at (507)359-8561

You are invited:
 to come hear an incredible story of courage and hope.

Rachel Scott was the first person killed in the Columbine High School Tragedy on April 20, 1999. She left behind an amazing legacy and a simple challenge to anyone who will accept it—treat others with kindness and compassion and you just may change the world you live in.

WHERE/WHEN:

It is a great line-up of speakers this year and USAC wants to point out the last speaker of the series - Rachel's Challenge. This speaker is being sponsored by many organizations, and businesses and will be part of the teacher workshop days on Monday the 24th and 6-12th grade students in New Ulm will see this presentation on Tues. the 25th. We hope parents will be attending the evening presentation as bullying is a topic all parents need to be aware of.

Thanks -Kim Janke



Proceeds support CLF's work to bring Unitarian Universalism to isolated religious liberals throughout the world.

CLF provides yet another UU connection for people who

- ⇒ do not have access to UU services
- ⇒ are housebound, especially during these cold, winter months!
- ⇒ work on a Sunday morning
- ⇒ may want UU resources beyond your congregation
- ⇒ are looking for UUism 24/7

What resources can the CLF provide?

- ⇒ *Quest*, a monthly publication of sermons and other material
- ⇒ Lifespan Religious Education resources
- ⇒ A library including books, CDs, and DVDs
- ⇒ Online classes
- ⇒ E-mail lists, cyber communities, and online covenant groups focusing on sharing ideas and spirituality
- ⇒ Online worship and religious education resources for small groups and individuals
- ⇒ The CLF Prison Ministry
- ⇒ The CLF Military Ministry

January - June 2011

SERVERS ~ GREETERS/USHERS:

- ⇒ 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 and try to arrange to switch with someone else.
- ⇒ The first Sunday of each month (with the exception of January) is potluck.
January's potluck is on the 9th.
- ⇒ Greeters who are scheduled for Pot Luck Sunday, please check with Servers to see if they need additional cakes. Our numbers are growing smaller and we are looking at making adjustments.



January 2011

MUSICIAN	SERVERS	GREETERS/USHERS
2	NO SERVICE	
9	Janet & Noah Rosenbloom	Diane Becken
16	Kevin & Shannon Weiss	Lee Drogemuller
23	Clayton & Shirley Olson	Jerry Peterson
30	Jerry & Susan Allen	Doug Anderson

February 2011

MUSICIAN	SERVERS	GREETERS/USHERS
6	Darrel & Jeanie Hinsman	Joy Rathman
13	Gene & Georgine Tepley	Mimi Kamleiter
20	Wally & Beverly Wellman	Christopher Olson
27	Elroy & Ardis Wellman	Diane Becken

March 2011

MUSICIAN	SERVERS	GREETERS/USHERS
6	Warren & Kristine Paulson	Vicki Sieve
13	Norma & Roger Breu	Colleen Tasto
20	Ron & Julie Peck	Edith Beckius
27	Lee & Lynn Schmitt	Doug Anderson

April 2011

MUSICIAN	SERVERS	GREETERS/USHERS
3	Julie Sellner & Susan Evers	Karen Farrell
10	Jason & Kate Monnens	Kristi Paulson
17	Wayne & Janet Johnson	Ellen Byro
24	EASTER Sheldon & Anne Rieke	Scott & Angie Becker Kudelke

May 2011

MUSICIAN	SERVERS	GREETERS/USHERS
1	CLEAN UP SUNDAY	
8	Gil & Sally Hanson	Nancy Dickson
15	Syttende Mai	service @ Hanska Park
22	Darrell & Jeanie Hinsman	Jerry Peterson
29	Alan & Carol Chambard	Christina Schmitt

June 2011

MUSICIAN	SERVERS	GREETERS/USHERS
5	Warren & Kristine Paulson	Nancy Brudelic
12	Noah & Janet Rosenbloom	Edith Beckius
19	Pat & Laurie Kunerth	Mimi Kamleiter

Please remove this page and put it with your calendar so know when your duties are. Thank you.

NORA CHURCH CALENDAR

JANUARY 2011

Parsonage: 507-439-6240
 Lisa's cell: 507-766-5682



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 No Service	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Pot Luck	10	11	12	13 Lunch Bunch @ Perkins, New Ulm	14	15
16 9:00 Choir 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Worship	17	18	19	20	Multigenerational RE 1 - 4 pm Topic-Neighbors	
23 9:00 Choir 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Worship	24	25	26	27		
30 9:00 Choir 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Worship	31					

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
2	NO SERVICE	
9 Sally Hanson	Janet & Noah Rosenbloom	Diane Becken
16 JoAnn Huss	Kevin & Shannon Weiss	Lee Drogemuller
23 Jordan Rathman	Clayton & Shirley Olson	Jerry Peterson
30 Muffy Rathman	Jerry & Susan Allen	Doug Anderson



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

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United States Postage Paid
Permit No. 2
Hanska, MN 56041



EMAIL
norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

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

Nora Church Sunday Services JANUARY 2011

Coffee Time 10:00 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

January 2 - No Service

January 9 - "So, What's New?"

January 16 - "Seven of Nine (one of 7,000,000,000)"

January 23 - "Friendling"

January 30 - "Here a Vent, There a Vent, Everywhere a Vent, Vent"

Venting can be healthy, but it can also be detrimental. It all depends on... -Nita Gilbert, speaker