



MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

August 2011

VIEW FROM THE HILL



My heart breaks these late days of July for the citizens and residents of Norway.

I feel a special connection to Norway, since I have come to Nora Church and the Hanska community. But even without that tie my heart would be breaking. Like my Facebook friends who announced “today we are all Norwegians” and the other ones who changed their profile pictures to a flag of Norway, I am caught in the undeniable reality that terror can be unleashed in the world in any place at any moment.

Funeral processions, churches, school yards, college campuses, government buildings, summer camps, centers of business and industry and finance, on nearly every continent.

There will be/are already calls for immediate, swift and decisive action. Gun control, greater freedom to arm and protect ourselves, tighter borders, job creation, more liberal governments and policy, more conservative governments and policies. And none of the immediate simple answers will be **the** answer, because society isn't simple and the issues that drive individuals and groups into acts of terror aren't simple.

The religious response in the face of such acts is straightforward:

Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. (Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. (Matt. 5:44)

Do not do to others what you would not like yourself. Then there will be no resentment against you, either in the family or in the state. (Analects 12:2)

No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself. (Sunnah)

What is hateful to you, do not do to your fellowman. This is the entire Law; all the rest is commentary.

(Talmud, Shabbat 31d)

Love. Compassion. Straightforward but far from simple. They ask us to slow down. To listen. Pray. Weep. Question and listen more. To change our hearts and change our minds. To expand our definitions of “us” and “we” and “our world”. To love and love again and yet again love.

- Lisa

SUMMERTIME AT NORA

Our new church year began July 1, 2011 and runs through June 30, 2012. We do not have church services the month of July so our Minister has a one month vacation. At least she would if she did not live in the parsonage on the church grounds. This year she chose to stay pretty close to "home", making just a few occasional, shorter trips throughout the area for a few days at a time.

Lisa found out Nora Church is a very busy church in the summer months whether we have church services or not. We have many summer visitors who stop to visit the church, the cemetery and the museum, and most will check to see if the Minister is home. The addition of our wind turbine has brought even more visitors.

We all appreciate the interest so many past members still have in our church "life", and we appreciate also the visits of everyone, from far and near, who are just stopping by to see what goes on up here on the "Hill ". Many past members or friends of the church will stop by to see the museum and will bring treasures to add to our collection. Our thanks once again to Henry J. Lokke of Omaha, Nebraska for his latest gift to our museum which he left with us on his visit this summer. Henry is a nephew of the late Hans Jorgensen.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you on our "Gathering Weekend" August 20th and 21st.
- Algot and Bonita Blomquist

THANKS FROM THE BOARD

Thanks from the Board goes to Julie Peck for her years of service on the Board of Trustees, and her willingness to continue helping us as bookkeeper.

Welcome to Warren Paulson, who is willing to serve on the Board again, this time in the position of Treasurer.

Thanks also to Warren, Wally Wellman and any others who spent time disinfecting our water supply, not once, but twice.

Thanks to Julie Sellner who spends many hours cleaning and sprucing up the church, not only before our services, but also before all other scheduled events.

THE LUNCH BUNCH



The Lunch Bunchers will travel to New Ulm for lunch on Thursday, August 25. We'll be dining at "Joni's" - 24 North Minnesota Street. Come join us.

COME HEAR THE CHOIRS



The Nora UU church choir and the Mankato Fellowship choir will combine for a program celebrating Nora UU Church's Gathering Day - 1881.

This will be a program of popular music of the late 1800s. Soloists in the program will be from the Nora choir and also Michelle Sturm who is the director of the UU Fellowship choir of Mankato.

The program is scheduled for 2:00 pm on August 21 at the Nora Church.

The choirs will also sing for the 10:30 am service at the Nora church for the installation of Reverend Lisa M. Doege.

For more details of the program go to <http://norauuchurch.org/popup/schedule11-12.html>

- Gil Hanson, Nora choir director

NORA IN THE NEWS

I'm writing to let you know that your congregation (or one that you represent) was featured in *Going Green Beyond Belief: The UUA President's Report in Response to "The Green Revolution in Religion Business Resolution"* – perhaps a picture, reference, or story. I encourage you to check it out at www.uua.org/president/goinggreen.

Robin Nelson
Environmental Stewardship Manager
Unitarian Universalist Association
25 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108

INVITATION FROM ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IN HANSKA

We are invited to Zion W.E.L.C.A. Guest Day at the Zion Lutheran Church in Hanska for a Noon Luncheon on Thursday, August 4, 2011.

We will be entertained by "Rural Route 4" from the Mankato area. Rural Route 4 is a quartet that sings farm-related songs to familiar tunes. Come and enjoy an afternoon of a "neighborly" get-together of fun and relaxation. Please R.S.V.P. to Gudrun Kjelskus- 507-439- 6837 by Monday, August 1, 2011 Everyone Welcome.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EVENT

Our "Music for a Summers' Eve" program held Thursday evening, July 21st, proved once again to be an enjoyable summer night out for the many people who braved the heat and humidity to attend our musical variety show. A pie and ice cream social followed in our air-conditioned Fellowship Hall.

Out thanks to those who coordinated the evening music and lunch. What would any church be without the women of the Church? The proceeds from the lunch were donated to the New Ulm Medical Center Ontology Department.

Our thanks also to the following who provided the entertainment for the evening: Charles Luedtke, Doug Howard, Sally Hanson, Mimi Kamleiter, Monica Sturm, Jordan Rathman , and Nita Gilbert.

- Algot and Bonita Blomquist



You all received the "Gathering Day Gazette" a couple weeks ago. If you plan to attend and have not returned your RSVP, please do so as soon as possible (no later than August 10th) so the committee can plan accordingly. Thank you.

Gathering Events

Saturday, August 20th

7:00 PM - KICK-OFF BONFIRE -
a time of celebration

Sunday, August 21st

10:30 AM Installation Service
with Combined Choirs MUUF and NORA

12:30 PM Picnic Buffet

2:00 PM Program

Combined Choirs
Angie's Prairie Pickers
Barbershop Quartet
Doug Becken

Dessert, ice cream, coffee, lemonade:
available at the Gazebo throughout the afternoon.

- Games of horseshoe and croquet will be set up for those who wish to play
- Memory Walk of photo displays will lead from near the church to the Museum
- Information about the wind tower will be posted near the museum

To Keep In Touch



Jon W. Walen, age 71, of Burnsville, MN passed away July 24 2011. He was the son of Rev. George Walen and Irene Walen. Funeral Services were held Friday, July 29, at the MN Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Bloomington, MN



Please keep our military personnel in your thoughts and prayers.



THANK YOU! Caring Committee

Georgine Tepley:359-3060 (weekdays after 5 pm) Shirley Olson: 354-1866 Carol Chambard: 354-2242

AUGUST - DECEMBER 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.
- **GREETERS:** if you are scheduled for a Pot Luck Sunday, please check with the servers to see if they need cakes.

2011-2012 LEADERS AT NORA

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

President: Scott Schmiesing
 Vice President: Joy Rathman
 Secretary: Diane Becken
 Treasurer: Warren Paulson

Pat Kunerth
 Karen Farrell
 Darrell Hinsman

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Edith Beckius

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Edith Beckius

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 Bev Wellman Vicki Sieve

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 Lee Drugemuller

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 Kristine Paulson Christopher Olson
 Mimi Kamleiter Karen Farrell

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Georgine Tepley Carol Chambard
 Shirley Olson

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 Carol Chambard Jeanie Hinsman

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President: Joy Rathman
 Secretary: Janet Rosenbloom
 Treasurer: Shannon Weiss

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Darrell Hinsman
 Warren Paulson
 Karen Farrell
 Julie Sellner

MT PISQUA:

PRESIDENT: Warren Paulson
 SEC/TREAS: Algot Blomquist
 MEMBERS: Scott Chambard
 Wayne Johnson
 Clayton Olson

SERVERS

GREETERS/USHERS

AUGUST

21	GATHERING DAY - 130th ANNIVERSARY OF NORA	Susan Evers Edith Beckius
28	Clayton & Shirley Olson	Christopher Olson

SEPTEMBER

4	POTLUCK	Nancy Dickson
	Jerry & Susan Allen	
11	Gil & Sally Hanson	Diane Becken
18	Gene & Georgine Tepley	Scott Chambard
25	Ron & Julie Peck	Karen Farrell

OCTOBER

2	SMORGASBORD	Nancy Dickson
9	Elroy & Ardis Wellman	Lee Drugemuller
16	John & Julie Schmitt	Mimi Kamleiter
23	Alon & Carol Chambard	Susan Evers
31	Joy Rathman & Julie Sellner	Jerry Peterson

NOVEMBER

6	POTLUCK	
	Roger & Norma Breu	Colleen Tasto
	Michele Bethke	
13	Lee & Lynn Schmitt	Jeremy Schmitt
20	Darrell & Jeanie Hinsman	Vickie Sieve
27	Wendy Tuttle & Kristi Paulson	Edith Beckius

DECEMBER

4	POTLUCK	
	Wayne & Janet Johnson	Shannon Weiss
	Ellen Byro	
11	Wally & Beverly Wellman	Karen Farrell
18	Scott & Angie Becker Kudelka	Jerry Peterson
24	CHRISTMAS EVE	
25	NO SERVICE	


NORA CHURCH CALENDAR

AUGUST 2011

Welcome Back!



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Zion WELCA Guest Day (Hanska)	5	6
7 		9	10	11	12	13
14	15	<p>Dog Days of Summer <i>The origins of the name for the most sultry days of the season</i></p> <p>Source: Columbia Encyclopedia Dog Days is the name for the most sultry period of summer, from about July 3 to Aug. 11. Named in early times by observers in countries bordering the Mediterranean, the period was reckoned as extending from 20 days before to 20 days after the conjunction of Sirius (the dog star) and the sun. In the latitude of the Mediterranean region this period coincided with hot days that were plagued with disease and discomfort. The time of conjunction varies with difference in latitude, and because of the precession of the equinoxes it changes gradually over long periods in all latitudes.</p>				20 Gathering Day Kick-off Bonfire 7:00 PM
21 Gathering Day 10:30 AM Installation Service	22	23	24	25 Lunch Bunch @ Joni's in New Ulm 24 N Minnesota St	26	27
28 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	29	30	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
21 JoAnn Huss	GATHERING DAY - 130th ANNIVERSARY OF NORA	
		Susan Evers Edith Beckius
28 Sally Hanson	Clayton & Shirley Olson	Christopher Olson



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



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

August 2011



EMAIL
norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

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

Nora Church Sunday Services

AUGUST 2011

Coffee Time 10:00 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

AUGUST 21: Installation of the Reverend Lisa Doege, the Reverend Dr. Laurel Hallman preaching

AUGUST 28: "Now as Then"

