



MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

August 2012

VIEW FROM THE HILL



Poet Mary Oliver says:

*To live in this world
you must be able
to do three things:
to love what is mortal;
to hold it against your bones
Knowing your own life depends on it;
and, when the time comes
to let it go, to let it go.*

The prayer attributed to St. Francis says:

*... it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

And the poet W. H. Auden wrote:

*... life is the destiny you are bound to refuse until
you have consented to die.*

The same wisdom appears over and over again, in contemporary poetry, in Western religion, in Eastern religion: the harder we clutch something, the faster it runs through our fingers and disappears. I know this observation is wise and true and oh so worthy of trying to apply to my life. But just at the moment I'm preferring the words of Anne Lamott. She writes of her infant grandson:

He also wants things now, and holds on - our two most human tendencies.

Oh, yeah. That's what *feels* true. And maybe it is true. Maybe that's why the wise ones so insistently urge us to behave otherwise; because they know our most human tendencies are to want and to hold. And they also know that sometimes, not always but often enough, wanting and holding (people or possessions or experiences or ways of being) are born of fear and so in the long run cannot possibly sustain joy or contentment or growth or safety or whatever it is we think they bring to our lives.

I'm not sure I'm ready to turn over a new leaf. To hold lightly to life and all its fleeting experiences. But I am ready to start paying greater attention. *What do I want? What do I hold? What rewards do wanting and holding bring me? What happens when I let go?* Maybe, just maybe, if my personal experience backs them up, I'll accept the wisdom of the teachers. And maybe the next time, I'll trust them without finding out the hard way first.

- Lisa

THE LUNCH BUNCH



The long, hot summer may be winding down, but Lunch Bunch is going strong! The next gathering will be on Thursday, August 16, 11:30 a.m., at George's in New Ulm. We look forward to seeing you all there and catching up on summer vacation news.

INVITATION FROM LAKE HANSKA LUTHERAN CHURCH

The members of Nora are invited to a Family Night Program at Lake Hanska Church on Wednesday evening, August 1, 2012 at 7:00 PM. Clarie Broste will present a power point presentation on her trip and adventures to Ethiopia. She was on a Mission Trip which focused on the work being done to promote the building of wells. Volunteer contributions will be taken to support the "Water to Thrive, Build Wells, Change Lives" project.

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 8, 2012.

We will be entertained by "Benny Seifert" of New Ulm. He is a "One Man" Band. Also, we have a surprise planned! Mark your calendars. Come and enjoy an afternoon of a "neighborly" get-together of fun and relaxation. Please R.S.V.P. to Darlene Odegard - 507-439- 6806 by Monday, August 1, 2011 Everyone Welcome.

THE BOOK

"The Book" is available. It contains the history of Nora Church as well as the history of U-Uism. It is also an overview of religion in general and of our belief system in particular. Members and friends of Nora contributed credos, meaningful thoughts, notable quotes and memories that they chose to share. "The Book" is geared towards our youth and young adults, but anyone who has ever tried to describe who we are and what we believe, would find it beneficial. The cost is \$10.00.....for more information call Kristine at 507-439-6316.

LEFSE MAKING

It's that time again! My how the year has flown by! We have scheduled a "lefse time" for Tuesday August 14 at 9:00 AM. Maybe thinking about Smorg and the fall weather will make us cooler! Let's give it a try. There's plenty to do even if you don't know how to make the lese - weighing, packaging. Etc. Come and have some fun!

NOTES ABOUT AUGUST 7TH

Anyone wishing to perform can contact Kristine Paulson and those willing to bake pies or help in the kitchen can contact Julie Sellner.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi all! Hope everyone is having a great summer. We recently returned from a trip to Alaska. A trip to Alaska certainly helps one realize how small a person is in relation to this incredible world we live on. It was an experience to remember. The trip in a small airplane around Mt. McKinley and landing on a glacier was certainly a highlight for me! See you in church. -Scott

Quest
for meaning

Church of the Larger Fellowship
on Facebook

Join our UU conversation
2,300+ and counting!

Joanna Crawford
Intern Minister

Rev. Lynn Ungar
Minister of Lifespan Learning

Rev. Meg Riley
Senior Minister

<http://www.facebook.com/CLFUU>

Join the Spiritual Expedition
www.QuestForMeaning.org

NORA CHURCH CALENDAR

AUGUST 2012

Welcome Back!



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Music for a Summer's Eve	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 10:00 AM Coffee Time 10:30 AM Worship Time	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 10:00 AM Coffee Time 10:30 AM Worship Time	27	28	<p>To Keep In Touch Know of someone who needs special mention? please let us know. Caring Committee members: Georgine Tepley (chair) 359-3060 (weekdays after 5 pm) Shirley Olson - 354-1866 ~ Carol Chambard - 354-2242</p>			

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

19 JoAnn Huss

26 Jordan Rathman *servers and greeters/ushers will be contacted*



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



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Hanska Minnesota 56041-4310

Address Service Requested

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Hanska, MN 56041

August 2012



EMAIL
norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

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

Nora Church Sunday Services

AUGUST 2012

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

AUGUST 19: "Who Are the People in
Your Neighborhood?"

AUGUST 26: "Stranger Danger"



Join us on Tuesday evening,
August 7 beginning at 7 pm

Various musicians will entertain us at
the Nora Church.

We will also be serving
PIE & ICE CREAM
Come and enjoy a fun
summer evening! Bring your friends
and relatives for a night to remember