



MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church
January 2013

VIEW FROM THE HILL

The newsletter deadline is December 20, so I am writing this column-even though it is wasted effort, since the world is going to end on December 21.

Or not. One (very long) cycle of the Mayan calendar comes to end on December 21 (or possibly 23) but that is a simple, clear-cut matter of time-keeping. There is no religious or scientific basis for believing that the end of the Mayan calendar predicts the end of the world. A new cycle will begin the next day.

Every doomsday throughout recorded time has failed to live up to its advanced press:

- Harold Camping's prediction of the end of the world on May 21, 2011
- Harold Camping's predictions of the end of the world on October 21, 2011
- everyone's prediction of the end of the world (or at least the computerized world as we know it) at Y2K
- Pope Innocent III's prediction that the Apocalypse would arrive in 1284
- German mathematician and astronomer Johannes Stöfler's prediction that an apocalyptic flood would devastate the world on February 20, 1524
- various predictions of Halley's Comet-caused doom in 1910.

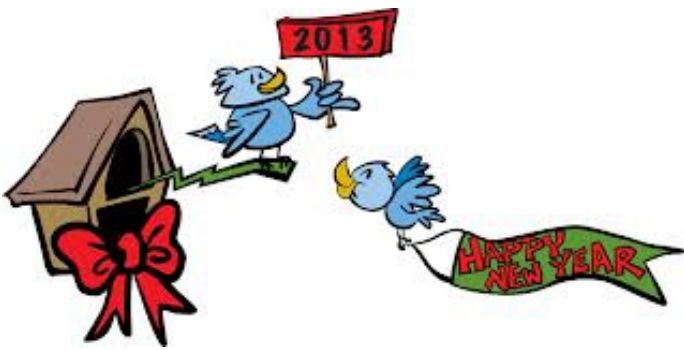
Needless to say, the world survived every one of those doomsday dates and years. And chances are way better than even the world will survive this week, too. (You'll know it did if you're reading this column.)

But some people won't. Some people won't survive December 20 or January 3 or 2013. The end of the world is possible for any one of us, any day of the week, any month of any year. Events in Connecticut in mid-December brought that reality into stark focus, but it is always there, on the edges of our awareness.

"So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart," prayed the psalmist. There is some wisdom to that prayer. Knowledge of the fleeting nature of any pleasure, gift, or experience makes the pleasure sweeter, deeper, more precious. It can't be Christmas every day of the year or Saturday every day of the week. Likewise as mortals we cannot live forever, and it is good to know that our time for living, for loving, for serving, for learning and dancing and playing and working and making love and looking at the stars and screwing up, too, is limited. But we couldn't function, living with that acute awareness, very long.

Our personal doomsday will dawn. But probably not today and probably not tomorrow. And in the meantime the calendar will turn to another year and we'll get to make a new beginning, just because we want to. And Sunday will come round again and we'll get to gather in church, just because we want to. It's hard for me to think of a greater cause for happy celebration-even if the days are still getting shorter as I write, even some ancient calendar ends day after tomorrow.

Happy New Year. Happy New Year. Happy New Year.



LUNCH BUNCH

Happy 2013 (I'm practicing writing 2013) to all Lunch Bunchers, and you know who you are! The January 2013 meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013, at 11:30 a.m. at Plaza Garibaldi in honor of the birthday of a certain fan of Mexican food and Susan's husband. Let's start out the new year (did I mention that it's 2013?) on a festive note. Hasta la vista. -Janet Rosenbloom

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.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

Special thank you to Diane Becken and Gene Tepley for helping to deliver Christmas plants to our nursing home members and other special members of Nora Church. It was appreciated.

THANKS FROM THE BOARD

- ⇒ to Gordy Bentsdahl for decorating the tree and for cleaning up the cemetery and grounds.
- ⇒ to Nita Gilbert for hanging the lights.
- ⇒ to Julie Peck for straightening the branches.
- ⇒ to Cael Roettger for helping decorate the tree.

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Lisa has information and application forms for Brown County Energy Assistance. She also has minister's discretionary funds available for those in the congregation or wider community in need of food, prescriptions, or other vital assistance.



NORWEGIAN BLESSING

May da ruts always fit da wheels
in your pickup.
May yur ear muffs always keep out
da nort wind.
May da sun shine varm on yur lefse.
May da rain fall soft on yur lutefisk.
And until ve meet again,
May da Good Lord protect ya from
any and all unnecessary Uff Das.

dan holter

Central Midwest District of UUA Presents
Winter WomanSpirit 2013 Conference

Hosted by Unitarian Universalist Church West
13001 West North Avenue, Brookfield, WI 53005

There Is Something About The Women:
The Art of Activism

Featuring

Holly Near

Dates:

February 1st – Conference Opening Ceremony
February 2nd – Workshops, Lunch Included and Closing Ceremony
February 3rd – Sunday Worship Service

Holly is an entertainer, teacher and activist whose career as a singer has been defined by her passion for human dignity. She is a skilled performer and an outspoken ambassador for peace whose portrait hangs at The Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio along with those of other social change artists including Paul Robeson, Marion Anderson, Pete Seeger, Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon, Joan Baez, Harry Belafonte and Woody Guthrie – www.hollynear.com

Holly will present Saturday morning's keynote speech and will lead a workshop on the Art of Activism Saturday afternoon. Holly is the pulpit guest on Sunday morning.

Conference Cost includes Friday Opening Services, Saturday Workshops & Lunch

Early Registration: 140.00 through 12/31/12

Late Registration: 155.00 through 01/21/13

At the Door: 175.00

Saturday Concert: 35.00

Register at <http://www.womenandreligion.org>

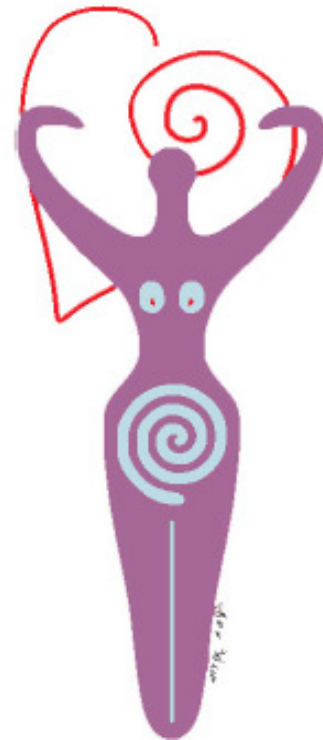
Lodging

Radisson / (414) 257-3400

2393 Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Use code **Woman Spirit Conference** when registering

\$94.00 / night – reduced rate through 12/31/12



*'The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything;
They just make the most of everything they have.'*

January - June 2013



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 is potluck.
- ⇒ 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.

Please remove this page and put it with your calendar

January			
	6		POTLUCK
		Sally Hanson	Kristine Paulson-Warren Paulson-Kristy Paulson-Scott Chambard
	13	Jordan Rathman	Jennie Gazdik-Matthew Hellendrung-Joy Rathman
	20	JoAnn Huss	Shirley Olson-Clayton Olson-Bonita Blomquist
	27	Mimi Kamleiter	Susan Allen-Jerry Allen-Vicki Sieve
February			
	3		POTLUCK
		Sally Hanson	Jeanie Hinsman-Darrell Hinsman-Christopher Olson
	10	Jordan Rathman	Kate Monnens-Jason Monnens-Mimi Kamleiter
	17	JoAnn Huss	Karen Farrell-Julie Peck-Ron Peck
	24	Mimi Kamleiter	Georgine Tepley-Gene Tepley-Nancy Bruderie
March			
	3		POTLUCK
		Sally Hanson	Carol Chambard-Alan Chambard-Kristy Paulson-Ross Chambard
	10	Muffy Kaim	John Schmitt-Julie Schmitt-Susan Evers
	17	JoAnn Huss	Lynn Schmitt-Lee Schmitt-Jeremy Schmitt
	24	Mimi Kamleiter	Tracey Schmiesing-Scott Schmiesing-Julie Sellner
	31	Jordan Rathman	EASTER
			Diane Becken-Edith Beckius-Janet Johnson-Wayne Johnson
April			
	7		POTLUCK
		Sally Hanson	Colleen Hokenson-Ardis Wellman-Elroy Wellman-Christina Schmitt
	14	Muffy Kaim	Kristine Paulson-Warren Paulson-Jerry Peterson
	21	JoAnn Huss	Norma Breu-Roger Breu-Michelle Bethke
	28		Cleanup
May			
	5		POTLUCK
		Sally Hanson	Susan Allen-Jerry Allen-Ross Chambard-Diane Becken
	12	Jordan Rathman	Shirley Olson-Clayton Olson-Nancy Dickson
	19	JoAnn Huss	"Syttende Mai" in the park
	26	Muffy Kaim	Sally Hansen-Gil Hansen-Pat Kunerth
June			
	2		POTLUCK
		Sally Hanson	Beverly Wellman-Wallace Wellman-Shannon Weiss-Christina Schmitt
	9	Mimi Kamleiter	Janet Rosenbloom-Noah Rosenbloom-Bonita Blomquist
	16	Jordan Rathman	Sally Hansen-Gil Hansen-Algot Blomquist

NORA CHURCH CALENDAR

JANUARY 2013

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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Worship Potluck	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Worship	14	15	16 Lunch Bunch @ Plaza Garibaldi, New Ulm	17	18	19
20 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Worship	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Worship	28	29	30	31		

Newsletter articles
 due - Thanks for
 being prompt!

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
6 Sally Hanson	POTLUCK Kristine Paulson-Warren Paulson-Kristy Paulson-Scott Chambard
13 Jordan Rathman	Jennie Gazdik-Matthew Hellendrung-Joy Rathman
20 JoAnn Huss	Shirley Olson-Clayton Olson-Bonita Blomquist
27 Mimi Kamleiter	Susan Allen-Jerry Allen-Vicki Sieve



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 2013

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

January 6 - Pictures of Our Partner
Church-Visions of Shared Faith

January 13 - Clarity of Hindsight

January 20 - Seeing Into Being

January 27 - Guest Day

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