



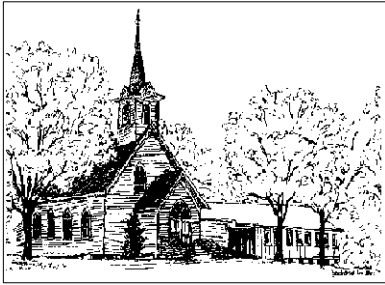
# MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

November 2013

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## VIEW FROM THE HILL



You've heard me say that "thank you" is the prayer that comes most naturally, most readily to my heart. My life overflows with blessings and I am abundantly grateful. I know some of you feel the same.

But this year? This Thanksgiving month? Still reeling from the deaths of two beloved community members, with all the losses, great and small in your lives I naught of, all the fears and setbacks and uncertainty? How now do we feel grateful, much less "celebrate" Thanksgiving?

This is how: Within our hearts, refusing to be crowded out or extinguished by anger, grief or fear, love resides.

If we hadn't loved so well we wouldn't grieve so deeply. That's worth a thousand thanks. Janet and Gordy and all who we have loved and lost live while we yet remember them. That calls forth a million more thanks. As long as we draw breath life blesses us in ordinary and extraordinary and hidden and plain ways. And thanksgiving with tears in our eyes, with sadness in our hearts is still thanksgiving.

Poet Ezra Pound says it with such piercing beauty:

“Thank you, whatever comes.” And then she turned  
And, as the ray of sun on hanging flowers  
Fades when the wind hath lifted them aside,  
Went swiftly from me. Nay, whatever comes  
One hour was sunlit and the most high gods  
May not make boast of any better thing  
Than to have watched that hour as it passed.

~*Erat Hora*

Happy Thanksgiving, beloveds.



## LUNCH BUNCH



Failing to reach consensus at our October gathering on when and where to hold the November Lunch Bunch, an executive decision was made to go to Whiskey River in St. Peter on Wednesday, Nov. 13, at the usual time, 11:30 a.m. Hope this meets with your approval and we'll see you there.

## THANKS FROM THE BOARD

To everyone who helped with Smorg and those who helped take down the tent and put the benches away on the following Sunday.

To Darrell Hinsman for his many years of service as a board member and volunteer of the Food Shelf. He is retiring and if there is someone who would be interested in taking his place, please let Lisa know.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all the Nora people, friends and neighbors for concerns and cards when we lost our dear friend Gordy Bendtdahl. Thanks to Pastor Lisa for the memorial service, and to all who served the wonderful lunch. We will greatly miss Gordy. -Algot & Bonita

## Welcoming a GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Guest At Your Table boxes will be available at church beginning November 10. We will collect them on January 5, 2014.

## CLF NEWS

Are your young adults away from home, and/or on a schedule not conducive to worship? The Church of the Larger Fellowship, an online Unitarian Universalist congregation without walls, invites young adults to join the conversation and fun by connecting with the [Church of the Younger Fellowship on Facebook](#).

## FROM THE OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Please note I have a new email address:

[cindymo@cccinternet.net](mailto:cindymo@cccinternet.net)

Contact me for Sunday announcements by Thursdays at noon. Newsletter articles are due on the 20th of each month. Thanks for all your help in getting information to me. -Cindy Mosenden

## CELEBRATION OF SONG

Join us on November 17 for our worship service as the Program Committee presents "Celebration of 'song'", a worship service in the tradition of a good old-fashioned hymn sing! The Nora Choir will be performing.

## TIME FOR A CHANGE



It's that time again. Day light savings time changes kick in on November 3rd. Remember to turn your clocks back an hour before you retire for the evening on Saturday night, November 2nd.

## THANKS FROM THE MINISTER

- Nora Women's Society (and others) who brought cakes and salads and helped serve the memorial service lunches and clean up afterwards;
- The men who helped dig graves and bury urns;
- All who ushered, tolled the bell, and supported Janet's and Gordy's family.

## ATTENTIION THRIFT SHOPPERS!

As our Religious Education program moves toward a more child-centered, child-directed curriculum in the new year we need a few supplies. Please keep your eyes out for sturdy, wide, shallow (no handles) baskets, clip boards (both letter and legal sized), and small, clean throw rugs. Any items you find may be left in the church basement. Please contact Jennie Gazdik with question. We're also looking for someone who is handy with a jig-saw. Contact Jennie to volunteer.



In Memoriam

Janet Johnson  
April 22, 1944 - October 14, 2013

Gordy Bentsdahl  
June 12, 1945 - October 16, 2013

**OF INTEREST**

Pastor Lisa: I'm writing to request an address change for the mailing of the MERE LYS Newsletter. Although I no longer live in Minnesota, Nora Church is very important to me and my family. Both my parents are buried there, Elmer and Elda Halvorson. My wife and I recently moved to California to be closer to our daughter & family but plan on making return trips to Minnesota and to Nora Church.

Thank you in advance for your assistance. Both my wife and I treasure reading the newsletter and most especially the October 2013 edition as we are settling in a new location. The message brought us peace and understanding...thank you for the thoughtful words of wisdom and hope.

Best regards, David Halvorson

**Over the River and Through the Woods**

Over the river and through the wood  
To Grandmother's house we go.  
The horse knows the way  
To carry the sleigh  
Through white and drifted snow.

Over the river and through the wood  
Oh, how the wind does blow!  
It stings the toes  
And bites the nose,  
As over the ground we go.

Over the river and through the wood  
To have a first-rate play.  
Hear the bells ring,  
Ting-a-ling-ling!

Hurrah for Thanksgiving Day!  
Over the river and through the wood,  
Trot fast, my dapple gray!  
Spring over the ground  
Like a hunting hound,  
For this is Thanksgiving Day.

Over the river and through the wood,  
And straight through the barnyard gate.  
We seem to go  
Extremely slow~

It is so hard to wait!  
Over the river and through the wood~  
Now Grandmother's cap I spy!  
Hurrah for fun!  
Is the pudding done?  
Hurrah for the pumpkin pie!  
*-Lydia Maria Child*

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

ARE DUE BY THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH.

**WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ARE DUE BY THURSDAY NOON

[cindymo@cccinternet.net](mailto:cindymo@cccinternet.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
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10	Jordan Rathman	Edith Beckius- Vickie Sieve- Christopher Olson
17	JoAnn Huss	Lee Drogenmuller- Jeanie Hinsman- Darrell Hinsman
24	Muffy Kain	Lynn Schmitt- Lee Schmitt- Jeremy Schmitt



**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  
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# NOVEMBER 2013



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[norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net](mailto:norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net)

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

## Nora Church Sunday Services

### NOVEMBER 2013

Coffee Time 10:00 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

- Nov. 3 "Woven Fine"
- Nov. 11 "Just Who IS the Guest at Our Table?"
- Nov. 17 "Celebration of Song"  
(program committee)
- Nov. 24 "What If We didn't Give Thanks?"

