

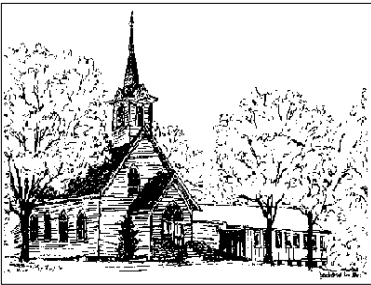


MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

December 2013

VIEW FROM THE HILL



The Creator of night and of birth
Was the Maker of the stars.
Shall we look up now at stars in Winter
And call them always sweeter friends
Because this story of a Mother and a Child
Never is told with the stars left out? (Carl Sandburg)

In the Nativity story as we commonly conflate it, the Wise Men or 3 Kings or visitors from the East followed a star until it led them to Bethlehem, where it came to rest above a stable and they discovered therein the infant Jesus and his parents. Sometimes our songs and stories tell us that shepherds followed the same star, leaving their flocks in the field, to go to the humble birthplace of Jesus.

So what of us, we Unitarian Universalists who have long proclaimed that “every night a child is born is a holy night”? We who say each one of us is as much the child of God as Jesus was?

Do you believe that a star hovers above your house, your apartment, your farm or assisted living center? Hanging there to guide unexpected guests (known or unknown) to the holiness that dwells within your home and your heart? How are you giving birth to Jesus, to divine mystery in this season of lights against deep darkness? In song or prayer? With sugar and butter and flour? In stillness or activity? Giving or receiving? Perhaps Being, being who you already are and are becoming and have always been meant to be...

And even as that star rests atop your dwelling, what star are you following into the season nigh upon us? And where is it leading you? To long lost love or new found friendship? Into the heart of community? The possibility and uncertainty of wilderness? Will it come to rest over the place of holiness in familiar surroundings or a secret nativity scene, hidden in plain sight?

They looked up and saw a star...

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by...

Magi three find their way by a star's shining ray to the child in the hay...

Star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright...guide us through this perfect night.



TRIM THE TREE

Calling all elves! If you, like me, prefer to avoid Black Friday crowds, here's an alternative, heart healthy activity. Darrell and I would welcome help in setting up the church's Christmas tree, roping, lights, and whatever else we can prepare in advance of Sunday potluck. If we get some of the preliminary decorating done, then the youth and anyone else interested, can do ornaments and other finishing touches after potluck on the 1st.

Decorating sessions-

- Friday, Nov. 29, 9:30 a.m.
- Dec. 1st after potluck.

Thanks! Jeanie Hinsman

LUNCH BUNCH

Can the Holiday season be upon us already?! And it's also time for another Lunch Bunch date. Where does the time go? Come relax with us at Turner Hall in New Ulm on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 11:30 a.m. Enjoy good company and food, and maybe even get some Christmas shopping done while you're at it. Hope you can make it.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Guest At Your Table envelopes and a few boxes are available at church. Please return your donations to church on January 5, 2014, so we can send them all to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

THANKS FROM THE BOARD

To all the helpers who worked to get the church ready for Jordan's wedding.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Still looking for a replacement for Darrell Hinsman on the New Ulm Area Food Shelf Board of Directors. Please contact Lisa if you are interested

FOR SALE

Trying to figure out what to serve the extra guests that are visiting for the holidays?

There are still plenty of meatballs and lefse left for sale. Meatballs — \$7.50 per bag, (1 doz meatballs) Lefse — \$12.00 per pound.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT



The annual Christmas Music Night is set for Wednesday December 18 at 7:00 at Nora. Singers, musicians, storytellers, poets and audience welcome!

GIVE BLOOD



SAVE LIFE

The Red Cross blood Drive will be at the Hanska Community Center on Friday, December 6, 1 - 6 PM.

Give the "gift of life" this Christmas season.

Call Darlene Nelson 439-6302 for an appointment, or come as a walk-in.

Carry the flame!

CLF
Pendants
Lapel pins
Notecards

At Amazon

Type CLF UU in the search field

Proceeds support the many Unitarian Universalist ministries at QuestForMeaning.org * CLFun.org * DailyCompass.org

MUSICIAN

- | | |
|----|----------------|
| 1 | Mimi Kamleiter |
| 8 | Jordan Kuelbs |
| 15 | JoAnn Huss |
| 22 | Sally Hanson |
| 24 | Muffy Kaim |

SERVER/GREETER/USHER PARTNERS

POTLUCK

Karen Farrell- Julie Peck- Ron Peck- Christopher Olson
Beverly Wellman- Wallace Wellman- Algot Blomquist
Mimi Kamleiter- Scott Schmiesing-Tracey Schmiesing
Janet Rosenbloom - Nita Gilbert- Joy Rathman
Christmas Eve



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

And so the children come
And so they have been coming.

Always in the same way they come
Born of the seed of man and woman.

No angels herald their beginnings.
No prophets predict their future courses.

No wisemen see a star to show
Where to find the babe that
Will save humankind.

Yet each night a child is born is a holy night,

Fathers and mothers-
Sitting beside their children's cribs
Feel glory in the sight of a new life beginning

They ask, "Where and how will
This new life end?
Or, will it ever end?"

Each night a child is born is a holy night-
A time for singing,
A time for wondering,
A time for worshipping.

~Sophia Lyon Fahs

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE BY THE 20TH OF EACH
MONTH. **WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**
ARE DUE BY THURSDAY NOON

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

Writing out your Christmas Cards?
Take a card and send it to:
HOLIDAY MAIL FOR HEROES
PO BOX 5456
CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MD 20791- 5456

Pass this on and think of how many
military men and women would receive
cards for the sacrifice they make for
us. PLEASE SHARE. It's the least we
can do to show our love and support.



DEADLINE to be
In Maryland is
DECEMBER 6TH

January-June 2014 Server/Greeter/Usher Partner List

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 someone on the list
and try to arrange a switch.

ATTENTION PARTNERS:

Please communicate with each other regarding
food provision.

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



Nora Unitarian Universalist Church
12333 155th Avenue
Hanska Minnesota 56041-4310

Address Service Requested

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Permit No. 2
Hanska, MN 56041

Happy
Holidays!



EMAIL
norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

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

Nora Church Sunday Services DECEMBER 2013

Coffee 10:00 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Dec 1 ~ "Get Ready, Get Set! Wait!"

Dec 8 ~ "How the Grinch Did the Whos a Favor"

Dec 15 ~ "Love Is Love"

Dec 22 ~ "Really? Onto *Us*?"

Dec 24 ~ 5:30 PM "Candle Lighting Service"

Dec 29 ~ No Service

