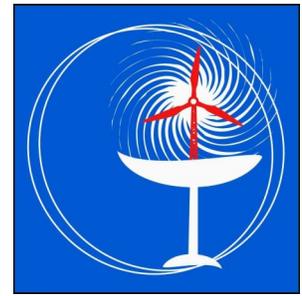


NORA LYS

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

Hanska, MN

June and July 2015 Newsletter



A VIEW FROM THE HILL

In this refulgent summer... was our best season: it was sleeping in the back screened porch in cots... was everything good to eat... but most of all summer... time and the living is easy...

Right on schedule.

Without fail as the submission deadline for the June newsletter approaches (dawns, and slips by), my fingers automatically type lines of poetry and song lyrics and poetic prose. Emerson, Harper Lee, Gershwin.

Maybe this is a direct result of the fact that here in Minnesota, despite all our earlier declarations of spring's arrival, by late May the world outside finally is lush and green, colorful and fragrant. Poetry and song are the right and proper response whether winter has been easy or spring long and cold.

On the other hand, knowing that some of my Unitarian Universalist ministerial colleagues suffer from the same condition, I've sometimes interpreted this malady as a sign of tired a brain that can't generate original thought as the end of the church year approaches, and I join the ranks of school teachers, professors and students of all ages with the count-down. (Only I'm counting the number of sermons left to preach, not the number of days of class left before summer break.) But I'm fooling myself when I think of this season as an ending.

Yes, June 21 will be our last Sunday service until the middle of August. And June 30 marks the end of our fiscal year. The 2014/2015 church year is winding down. But time cycles on, and we're not slowing down. We had 52 people in church this past Sunday and more than 20 at Lunch Bunch yesterday!

In June we'll hold our annual meeting, have our Flower Ceremony, and meet at Lake Hanska Park for a Father's Day service, potluck picnic and the kick-off of our fishing club. Before we know it we'll be making lefse again.

Time cycles on, at church and in our lives—with a bumper crop of high school graduations this year, with members moving into new homes, planning family reunions near by or at the other end of road trips, celebrating marriages and welcoming new babies. And, come to think it, poetry and song are the right and proper response for all of it, whatever tomorrow holds or next week or next month or next year.

For all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise, for all life is gift which we are called to use to build the common good and make our days glad.

-Lisa

Services

Coffee 10:00 am
Worship 10:30 am



June 7th

“Risky Business”

June 14th

“The Problem with Secret Gardens”

Flower Ceremony. Bring a flower or flowering branch for each member of your family in attendance this week.

June 21st

Lake Hanska Park

“Fishing and Fathers?”

Fishing for Fathers?

Fathers Fishing?”

Meet at the South Area/
Fishing Pier Picnic Shelter
at 10:30



A Note From the Treasurer

Monthly Income and Expenses

At the suggestion of the Nora Church Board of Trustees, Sunday plate collections and total monthly expenses are listed for the full month prior to the publication of the newsletter. Totals indicated do not include special collections or memorial gifts.

April

Income: \$7,645.16

Expenses: \$9,980.22

Note: The tree removal project has not been completed or paid. New envelopes for cash pledges and memorials are now available. They have several categories for givers to indicate choice of gift recipient.

THANKS!

Thanks from the board...

...to our church members who went to Benced and delivered the computers.

...to the choir for a great year!

Board Meeting

The next Nora Board meeting will be on Sunday, June 14th after church.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual meeting of Nora Unitarian Universalist Church will take place at approximately 11:35 a.m. on Sunday, June 7th, 2015.

At that time the congregation will vote to approve a budget for the 2015/2016 church year, elect members to the Board of Trustees, consider an amendment to the by-laws and undertake other business as set forth in the agenda or proposed from the floor.

Youth Church Night

Church night will break for the summer and resume in August.

June 21st Extravaganza?

Possibly 1st Annual Service, Picnic, Fishing Extravaganza. Meet at the South Area/Fishing Pier Picnic Shelter at 10:30 for a brief Father's Day worship service, followed by pot-luck lunch, the kick-off of our proposed Fishing Club, and other family friendly activities.

Please bring a place setting and a dish to share; coffee, water and lemonade will be provided. Contact Dick Gurska or Scott Chambord to assist with the Fishing Club. Let Lisa know if you'd like to organize other activities.

Graduation Announcements!

You are invited to Abby Linh Safford's Graduation Party May 31st at 1 pm, located at 119 Tile St., Mankato, MN 56001.

Open house graduation honoring Cole Elliott Spilde Saturday, June 6th from 2-5 pm at Hanska City Park. Son of Dean Spilde & Kristy Paulson. Grandson of Warren & Kristine Paulson.

Alex Guggisberg is graduating from Minnesota New Country School (public project-based high school in Henderson). Celebration will be on Saturday, June 13, 5-10 pm at Hermann Heights park. He will be attending college at UMD in the fall. All are very invited to the celebration.

**Save The Date
for the
2015
Tri-State
Gathering!**

sunday, august 9th

*Rev. David Kraemer
All Souls Unitarian
Universalist church, Sioux
Falls, preaching*

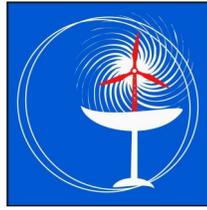


Gather

Pastor Lisa's Schedule

Pastor Lisa has Mondays off.
Friday is sermon writing day.

She can be reached on her
cell when not in the office:
507-766-7822.



In early June I will be back and forth from the Twin Cities several times in order to attend high school graduations, and around the parsonage and church most of the rest of the time.

I will be in North Carolina from June 23 to June 30, for a time of silent retreat at the beach, bookended by some vacation time with friends.

I will be available by cell phone or e-mail in case of pastoral emergency.

In July I will be on vacation, more or less. I'll spend a week in the Twin Cities and a week working with the Iowa Lakes UU Fellowship in Spirit Lake, Iowa. I'll also officiate at a wedding in New Ulm and preach in Mankato in the middle of the month. Again, whether in Hanska or away, I'll be available by cell phone or e-mail in case of pastoral emergency.

May's End

June is around the corner
and soon it will bring
the sound of the June bug

strumming it's wings.

The waters are warming and
swimsuits are in.

A wonderful sunny season will

soon begin.

Watermelon freshly sliced
a wonderful gathering of friends.

Company is so very nice as we
welcome May's end.

Adult RE

Adult RE will break for the summer. Please join us again the 3rd Sunday in August as we resume the Building of Our Own Theologies.

Helping Hands Needed at Nora!

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help with necessary projects around the building and grounds. There are still more opportunities to help! Maintenance and repairs are needed for the parsonage railing, the women's bathroom ceiling, as well as the Nora Church sign and continued work on the gazebo. Please contact Darrell Hinsman for details at dhinsman@newulmtel.net or 507-276-6044.

Keep in Touch!

Abby Safford would like to share her change of address, effective June 2nd. This will be included in the summer Directory as well:

Abby Safford and Cameron Keller
1800 Fifth Ave. NE, Apt #E16
East Grand Forks, MN 56721

June Lunch Bunch

Summer is the time when thoughts turn to visiting home, among other things, so the Lunch Bunch High Council decided to return to the Home Town Cafe, 403 1st Av. S., St. James. The date is Thursday, June 18 at 11:30 a.m. Not quite summer, but close enough. See you there.

Lisa on the Loose!

Lisa on the Loose will resume in August. Please let Lisa know if you have feedback or suggestions (when is the best time for her to be in your community? what venues work well? how often?).



Notes from the Nora Office...

As we head into our summer break I maintain my regular schedule here in the Nora office. There will be no July Mere Lys newsletter. The next newsletter will be delivered for August. Announcements may still be sent to norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net during the summer break. Occasional Grapevines will be emailed out.

Be well, Brooke

Church Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

Brooke Knisley, Office Assistant

In the office Tuesdays and Fridays.

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



Phone: 507.439.6240
 Website: www.norauuchurch.org
 Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/NoraChurchUU

A Prayer to Share

Peace be to me.
 Peace be to my brothers and sisters
 who are one with me.
 Let all the world be blessed with peace through us.
 -Adapted from *A Course in Miracles*

Habitat for Humanity Seeking Volunteers

At Habitat for Humanity we are gearing up for our 2015 build that will be built at 605 Pfaender Drive. If you are interested in volunteering on the build site, please sign up at: <http://bit.ly/1DEKkLkX> (the link will redirect you to signupgenius.com) or you can sign-up by calling 507-354-4287 or by emailing browncofh@gmail.com. There are different ways that you can volunteer. You can volunteer, be a site leader (but you have to know how to build houses) or bring lunch for the volunteers. Can't wait to see you on the build site!

Call for Artists!

Unity Church has gallery space for the showing of works of visual art. It is anticipated that these exhibitions provide spiritual enrichment and liveliness for those attending the church and its functions. At the same time the gallery provides an opportunity for artists so show, share, and sell their

Date	Pianist	Greeters, Servers & Ushers
June 7	Mimi Kamleiter	Beverly & Wallace Wellman, Shannon Weiss, Christina Schmitt
June 14	Jordan Kuelbs	Jeanie & Darrell Hinsman, Colleen Hokenson
June 21	Muffy Kaim	Sally & Gil Hanson, Julie Sellner
		<i>Have a wonderful Summer!</i>

work. Submit your work for consideration! The deadline for submitting applications for the 2015-16 church year is June 20, 2015. Exhibit guidelines, policies, procedures, and an application are available online at: <http://www.unityunitarian.org/parish-hall-artists.html>.

Blood Drive

The Red Cross Blood drive will be in New Ulm at Vogel Fieldhouse. Walk ins are welcome or make an appointment by calling 1-800-REDCROS or online at redcrossblood.org. The need is great during the summer months. Give blood: Wednesday, June 3rd 1:00- 7:00 pm, Thursday, June 4th 1:00-7:00pm, or Friday, June 5th 8:00am-1:00pm.

“In June, as many as a dozen species may burst their buds on a single day. No man can heed all of these anniversaries; no man can ignore all of them.”

-Aldo Leopold

To ♥ Keep In Touch

If you know of anyone needing our assistance or attention, please call one of the **Caring Committee** members:
 Georgine Tepley (chair): 359-3060 (weekdays after 5 pm)
 Shirley Olson: 354-1866