



# MERE LYS

## August 2015 Newsletter

### Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

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#### Services

Coffee 10:00 am  
Worship 10:30 am



**August 9th**

*Tri-State Gathering*

*Worthington, MN*

***“Roots and Stems”***

***Rev. David Kraemer***

**August 16th**

***“We Gather Together”***

**August 23rd**

***“We Create Holy Time  
and Sacred Space”***

**August 30th**

***“We Go Forth to Bless  
the World”***



#### *A View From the Hill*

It's a metaphor for something; I'm just not sure what!

As I write I'm in Iowa on my busman's holiday. The girls and I are staying in a lovely lakeside condo, curtesy of the Iowa Lakes UU Fellowship. In return for the hospitality I'm preaching two Sundays and doing two adult RE programs. In between these obligations we've seen a play, gone swimming five times, spent a day at Arnold's Park Amusement Park and bickered some. And we still have five and a half days left!!

Life doesn't get much better. But there is no wifi in the condo and my iPhone—while functioning perfectly as a hotspot—refuses to connect to a network or allow me to check mail or messages. It's almost as though I'm being reminded that I'm on vacation and should be paying attention to the water, the sky, and the kids!! And yet, the congregation that's hosting us needs to be in touch with me, and so does Brown County. And back at Nora we're smack in the middle of that short season when church is still out and the minister is on vacation, but the office assistant is busily trying to put out the first newsletter of the new year—and she needs stuff from me to do so!

Whatever God or the fates or the universe is trying to tell me about connections and connectivity and living in the moment and seeking balance, I'll soon be back to my accustomed routine. Church, Lisa on the Loose, United Way Board, NUMAS Haus Board, columns for the Plaindealer and the Times Messenger. I'll be at the Tri-State Gathering on August 9, eager to hear David Kraemer preach; and on August 16 I'll be back in the pulpit at Nora. I can't wait to see you and to hear all about what God or the fates of the universe have been trying to tell you in these weeks apart.

*-Lisa*

# Thank You!

## Thanks from the board...

..Darrell for delivering new stoves and for his years of service on the board;  
...Gil for all the work he did on modifying the church website so that it is cell phone friendly;  
...Jenny for teaching Sunday school;  
...Wayne for dragging and grading the driveway;  
...John M. for continued painting of the gazebo.

## Board Meeting

The next Nora Board meeting will be on Tuesday, August 4th at 5:30.

## Tri-State Gathering

Join members from Nora Church and other congregations in the Southern Minnesota, Eastern South Dakota and Northwestern Iowa area for the Tri-State Gathering in Worthington, MN. Bring a dish to share, for the potluck, along with your own place settings. This will be a great start to the year!

Gather at 10:30, Service at 11:00, Potluck at Noon

Service "*Roots and Stems*" Rev. David Kraemer

Details on the facebook event and on the Nora Church website.

## August Lunch Bunch

As usual, summer is flying by, and the Lunch Bunch is going to grab a flight to St. Peter for lunch at an old favorite, Whiskey River. The date is Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 11:30 a.m. We'll save a seat for you.

## Pledges

Only 3 pledge cards have been received for the upcoming year.

Cards are available at church or will be mailed upon request. You can also email your intended pledge to Julie Peck, Treasurer at:

juliegrouphug@charter.net

For information about direct depositing pledges please see the *Note From the Treasurer*.

## Harvest Campaign

Donate fresh produce to our local food shelf during the 1st annual Harvest Campaign. August 1st—September 30 we will work to take up weekly harvest collections during our services. Fresh produce can come from community gardens, congregational members' home gardens, farmers' markets—see a list of good items on the bulletin board.

## Lisa on the Loose!

Lisa will hold "office hours" at area coffee houses once a week. Join her in your community and grab coffee, tea or snack and a mid-week check-in.



Tuesday, August 11, 10:30—12:00 at Coffee Hag, in Mankato.

Tuesday, August 18, 10:30—12:00 at Encore Coffee, in St. James.

Tuesday, August 25, 10:30—12:00 at Dan's Coffee Shop & Bakery, in Sleepy Eye.

## Religious Education for Children (Sunday School)

Our Nora children have benefited from the dedication, expertise and enthusiasm of Miss Jennie Gazdik for the past several church years. A lifelong Unitarian Universalist, a teacher in training, and a mother, Miss Jennie was the perfect RE volunteer. But alas, she has finished her bachelor's degree and is moving with Matt and the rest of the family to St. Paul where she will begin working on her master's degree. Congratulations from us all, Miss Jennie! We miss you already.

We'll have to get creative about RE again. If you have ideas or are dying to teach Sunday School a couple times a month, let Lisa know. In the meantime, watch the September newsletter for information about a Saturday RE activity for all ages.

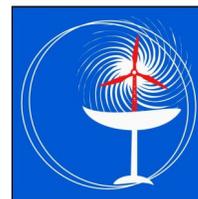
## Pastor Lisa's Schedule

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.



## 2015 – 2016 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. Please let Lisa or Brooke know so the order of service can be corrected – [nor-achurch@sleepyeyetel.net](mailto:nor-achurch@sleepyeyetel.net).

**ATTENTION PARTNERS:** Please communicate with each other regarding food provision, as necessary.

### AUGUST

9—Tri-State Worthington—TBA  
16—Sally & Gil Hansen, Nita Gilbert  
23—Vickie Sieve, Julie & Ron Peck  
30—Shirley Olson, Jennie Gazdik & Matthew Hellen-drung

### SEPTEMBER

6—Potluck: Jeanie & Darrell Hinsman, Sally Ann & Dave Benson  
13—Edith Beckius, Ardis & Elroy Wellman  
20—Carol Chambard, Wendy Tuttle, Janet Rosenbloom  
27—Clean-up Day

### OCTOBER

4—Smorgasbord: Greeters for Church—Sally & Gil Hansen  
11—Georgine & Gene Tepley, Wayne Johnson, Ellen Byro  
18—Colleen & Glenn Hokenson, Lee Drogenmuller  
25—Alicia Bayer & Daryl Hrdlicka, Nita Gilbert

### NOVEMBER

1—Potluck: Karen Farrell & Dick Gurska, Shirley Olson, Lara Fletcher  
8—Susan Evers, John Schmitt, Scott Chambard  
15—Cindy Backman, Diane Becken, Mimi Kamleiter  
22—Peter & Katy Hemberger, Shirley Olson  
29—Kristine & Warren Paulson, Christopher Olson

### DECEMBER

6—Potluck: Susan & Jerry Allen, Diane Becken, Vickie Sieve  
13—Louise Guggisberg, Janet Rosenbloom, Carol Chambard  
20—Beverly & Wallace Wellman, Julie Sellner  
24—Christmas Eve Greeters: Scott Chambard, Mimi Kamleiter

### JANUARY

10—Potluck: Colleen Hokenson, Norma & Roger Breu, Michelle Bethke  
17—Joy Rathman, Christina Schmitt, Shannon Weiss  
24—Jordan Kuelbs, John Schmitt, Jeremy Schmitt

## Youth Church Night

Church night is on break for the summer and will resume in September.

### Adult RE

Adult RE is on break for the summer and will resume in September.



### *A Note From the Treasurer* Monthly Income and Expenses

#### 2014-2015 Church Year

Total income: \$92,850  
*includes \$9,555 in memorials*

Total expenses: \$101,184

Budget for the year: \$105,720

Expenses met by \$10,000 memorial received in May 2014.

#### New Church Year 2015-2016

July expenses have been paid, but current checking account balance of \$3,800 will not cover all of August expenses.

#### Direct Deposit for Pledges

Some people have requested direct deposit for pledges. To initiate this, anyone interested would have to set this up with their bank, much like an automatic payment for a utility or credit card.

If you would like to make electronic pledge payments, please contact Julie Peck for Nora Church account information.

*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.*

**Note:** *The tree removal project has not been completed or paid.*

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NoraChurchUU](http://www.facebook.com/NoraChurchUU)

*A Prayer to Share*

To the good I am good;  
 To the non-good I am also good,  
 For Life is goodness.  
 To the faithful I am faithful;  
 To the unfaithful I am also faithful,  
 For Life is faithfulness...  
 The person of calling accepts them all as his or her children.

*-Tao Te Ching*

*Notes from the Nora Office...*

Nora directories are in the entry way, be sure to grab one of the new ones. As always you may make changes at any time, there are forms for updates to any contact information, for the directory or newsletter delivery, in the entry way.

I look forward to serving as your office assistant in this new church year!

*Be well, Brooke*

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

Brooke Knisley, Office Assistant

*In the office Tuesdays and Fridays.*

Date	Pianist	Greeters, Servers & Ushers
August 9		Tri-State Gathering, Worthington
August 16	JoAnn Huss	Sally & Gil Hansen, Nita Gilbert
August 23	Jordan Kuelbs	Vicki Sieve, Julie & Ron Peck
August 30	Mimi Kamleiter	Shirley Olson, Jennie Gazdik & Matthew Hellendrung
		<i>Thank you greeters &amp; pianists!</i>

**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

Carol Chambard: 354-2242

*Musician Schedule for September—December*

**SEPTEMBER**

- 6 • Sally Hanson
- 13 • Jordan Kuelbs
- 20 • JoAnn Huss
- 27 • No Service

**October**

- 4 • Sally Hanson
- 11 • Mimi Kamleiter
- 18 • JoAnn Huss
- 25 • Jordan Kuelbs

**November**

- 1 • Sally Hanson
- 8 • Mimi Kamleiter
- 15 • JoAnn Huss
- 22 • Jordan Kuelbs
- 29 • Sally Hanson

**December**

- 6 • Mimi Kamleiter
- 13 • Jordan Kuelbs
- 20 • JoAnn Huss
- 24 • Muffy Kaim