

Services

10:30 Services
First and third
Sundays.



Schedule

November 6
Title TBA

Guest Speaker: Rev.
Laurie Bushbaum

November 20
Video Sermon
Details TBA, Brown
Bag Lunch



Nora Unitarian
Universalist
Church
12333 155th Ave.,
Hanska, MN 56041

MERE LYS

November 2022 Newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

Thanksgiving Day

Lydia Maria Child, 1844

Over the river, and through the
wood,
To grandfather's house we go;
The horse knows the way
To carry the sleigh
Through the 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-ding",
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 barn-yard
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 the fun!
Is the pudding done?
Hurrah for the pumpkin-pie!

Social Hour

Coffee hour will continue after the
service. The first Sunday of each
month will be the traditional pot-
luck Sunday. The third Sunday
bring a sack lunch and stay for cof-
fee and conversation, as your
schedule allows.

News from the Program Committee

November 6 *Rev. Laurie Bush-
baum to Preach & Potluck*

We look forward to Laurie Bush-
baum's return. Potluck will follow
the service.

November 20 *Video Sermon*

Details forthcoming. Video sermon
is part of the Mid American UUA
series.

November Board Meeting

The next Nora Board meeting is on
Tuesday, November 15 at 8:00 pm,
on Zoom.

Braver/Wiser: Part of the Mystery

By Laura Shay

October 19, 2022

"I come into the peace of wild
things who do not tax their lives
with forethought of grief."
—Wendell Berry, "The Peace of
Wild Things"

When my spouse decided to raise Monarch Butterflies, I thought she had gone a bit overboard in her search for meaningful retirement activities. Although I have to admit, the plump, striped caterpillar she named Slinky quickly piqued my interest. I checked on Slinky daily waiting to see what would happen next.

Each day was an unknown. Will Slinky start to create a chrysalis today? How does it know when it's time? How does it know what to do? I became fascinated. I kept thinking about my hospice families as they watch their loved ones, wondering Is today the day? How will we know?

It was amazing to see Slinky stop eating, then slowly crawl up the side of the cage getting into proper position at the top. Slinky seemed a bit agitated trying to figure out what to do next, but eventually Slinky stopped moving and hung in the shape of a J. By the next morning Slinky was entombed in a beautiful, jade-colored chrysalis.

My watching and waiting continued. Without food or water for days, how does Slinky survive? My hospice families often ask, "They haven't had anything to eat or drink for days;

A Note From the Treasurer

September Income and Expenses

Income:	\$2,092.00
Expenses:	\$8,217.00

Income and expenses presented at the last board meeting. Income does not include memorials and gifts.

how long do you think it will be?" We can make our best guess but we never know.

After almost two weeks, I watched as the chrysalis turned a deep purple. Then bright yellow and black colored wings broke through the green shroud. Slinky patiently waited for the wings to dry then fluttered about the cage. With a little coaxing, Slinky flew away, quickly disappearing into the sky.

Witnessing the lifecycle of a monarch butterfly has made me a better chaplain. The time it takes for someone to die can seem long. It's part of the mystery. I often share what Slinky went through to help ease the burden of this watchful waiting. Slinky needed to quietly wait in a chrysalis to allow wings to grow. Maybe the same is true for us. It takes time to grow wings strong enough to fly.

Prayer

Spirit of Love and of Loss, help us find peace in the wild things who teach us to trust in this great mystery of life, and to be patient as we learn to fly.

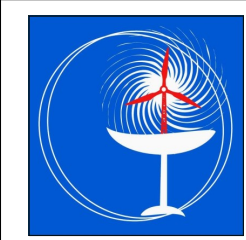


Notes from the Nora Office...

Mere Lys Newsletter content due the 20th of each month

Please send content of any kind, for the newsletter, grapevines, and more, to the Nora email.

Brooke Knisley, Office Assistant
In the office 1-2 times a week, generally Tuesday and Friday, as well as working from home.



Nora Unitarian Universalist Church
12333 155th Avenue, Hanska, Minnesota 56041
Phone: 507.439.6240
Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net Website: www.norauuchurch.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/NoraChurchUU