

# MERE LYS

## April 2023 Newsletter

### Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

#### **April Services**

**April 2—No Service**

#### **Potluck Swap!**

The potluck scheduled for April 2nd has been cancelled. Instead Nora members will meet at 10:00 at the Hanska Community Center for Dad's Belgian Waffle Feed to support the Hanska Fire and Rescue Department.

**April 9 Service—Easter Service**

#### ***The Seed and the Sowers***

*Guest Speaker: Rev. Wes Hromatko*

April 9 Sunday's sermon is about the Easter story, and how it relates to Hanska, immigrants, and the planting of churches by the Iowa Sisterhood in the Tri State area. No Easter meal.

Wesley Hromatko our speaker grew up on the Century Farm where he still lives and manages. He served congregations in the Midwest and on the East Coast. He has been a speaker in the Tri-State area. His education began with five years in a one room school without running water but with a great teacher. After the University of Minnesota where he was active with the UU student group and Twin Cities congregations, he studied at the Univer-

sity of Chicago and Meadville/Lombard receiving a Doctor of Ministry. He was a member of the Church of the larger Fellowship religious education committee and has written for the Dictionary of UU Biography.

**April 16 Service—Earth Day Service**

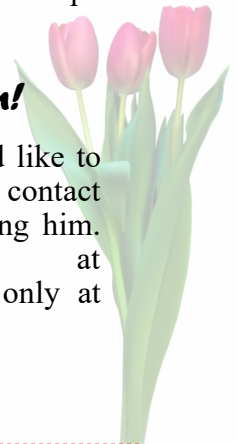
#### ***My Nature Journey***

*Guest Speaker: Scott Kudelka*

We welcome Scott Kudelka for our Earth Day service titles My Nature Journey. Former park ranger and naturalist, Scott Kudelka will talk about how the natural world has been a major part of his life while growing up in rural North Dakota. Scott started his natural resource career as the seasonal park ranger in charge of Little Missouri Bay State Park in the North Dakota badlands in 1986 and recently retired after working as the Minneopa Area Naturalist for over ten years.

#### ***April 9 Lunch Invitation!***

After Easter service, Rev. Wes would like to go out for lunch at a restaurant, please contact Wesley if you are interested in joining him. You can email him at [wes.hromatko@outlook.com](mailto:wes.hromatko@outlook.com) or text only at 507-760-0876.



### ***Nora Services***

**10:30 Services**

**First & Third Sundays**

*Potluck follows 1st*

*Brown Bag Option 3rd*

[www.norauuchurch.org](http://www.norauuchurch.org)

**April 2  
No Service**

**April 9  
*The Seed and The  
Sowers***

*Rev. Wes Hromatko*

**April 16  
*My Nature Journey*  
*Scott Kudelka***

### **February Income and Expenses**

**Income:** \$ 602.00  
**Expenses:** \$2,653.00

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

### ***Ukraine Family Update***

On Sunday March 19 we learned that the immigration application for Pavlo Bohomaz had been accepted. You may recall that in January the family decided that Pavlo, the father, would come alone.

When he had employment and a permanent place for the family to live then his wife, son, and mother would apply for immigration. Travel documents were processed within two days of acquiring immigration status which was MUCH faster than we were led to believe. This being the case, the Bohomaz family asked if we would immediately put in an application for Pavlo's mother. Because she has very little travel experience Pavlo thought it would be reassuring for her to make the trip with him. The application for his mother will be submitted by the end of March. If all goes as smoothly as with Pavlo's application this means we should hear by early to mid-May and the two of them would come the end of May or early June. Pavlo's travel documents require him to arrive no later than June 20.

The parsonage is nearly completely repainted. Plumbing repairs have been made to the upstairs bathroom. Julie Peck has acquired very nice pieces of living room furniture. Before their arrival we will finish furnishing the parsonage. Most household items can be acquired from Heart to Home in New Ulm. As we get closer to arrival we can post a list of needed items but the greater need will be transportation to various appointments for insurance, social security, medical appointments, and

### **Nora Unitarian Universalist Church**

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the refugee resettlement office in Mankato. It has been a long process from November to now, but the end is in sight. Pavlo's messages are filled with gratitude and hope and relief!

### ***April Board Meeting***

Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month, via Zoom. Contact any board member for updates.

#### **My creed:**

To love justice, to long for the right,  
to love mercy,  
to pity the suffering, to assist the weak,

to forget wrongs and remember benefits,  
to love the truth, to be sincere,  
to utter honest words, to love liberty,  
to wage relentless war  
against slavery in all its forms,

to love family and friend,  
to make a happy home,  
to love the beautiful in art, in nature,  
to cultivate the mind,  
to be familiar with the mighty thoughts  
that genius has expressed,  
the noble deeds of all the world;

to cultivate courage and cheerfulness,  
to make others happy,  
to fill life with the splendor of generous acts,  
the warmth of loving words;

to discard error, to destroy prejudice,  
to receive new truths with gladness,  
to cultivate hope,  
to see the calm beyond the storm,  
the dawn beyond the night,  
to do the best that can be done  
and then be resigned.

This is the religion of reason,  
the creed of science.  
This satisfies the brain and the heart.

Robert G. Ingersoll