

November 2007



# A·L·U·U·C NEWS



Newsletter of the Abraham Lincoln  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Office Hours:

Monday & Friday  
11:00am to 2:30pm  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
11:00am to 5:00pm  
Available other times by appointment

**217.585.9550**  
**www.aluuc.org**

## Minister:

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## Minister Emeritus:

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**November Newsletter Deadline:**  
November 23, 2007

## SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

Services are held Sunday morning at 10:30am. Guests are welcome. Religious education and child care are provided for children of all ages.

### November 4

#### **"The Secret of Spirituality" by Rev. Martin Woulfe**

In recent years, there have been various books and films that claim profound spiritual insights; these often attract many fans and adherents. Rev. Woulfe will consider the spiritual merits of one recent work, "The Secret" by Rhonda Byrne. (This is a "Change for Change" Sunday) **Important Note: Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00am this Sunday. Set your clocks back 1 hour, Saturday night, before going to bed.**

### November 11

Nationally acclaimed historian Dr. Jim Loewen will speak on the 1908 Springfield Race Riot. Page 5 has more detailed information.

### November 18

#### **"Charisma and its Consequences" by Rev. Martin Woulfe**

This Sunday marks the 30th anniversary of the Jonestown tragedy. Rev. Woulfe will explore the ambiguous roles of charisma in religious leadership and its consequences.

### November 18

#### **Greater Springfield Interfaith Association Thanksgiving Service**

Join your neighbors from Springfield's different faith traditions at the Church of the Brethren (2115 Yale Blvd) for a special evening service of thanksgiving. The time will be announced at a later date.

### November 25

"Oh, the places you'll go and the people you'll meet!" by Kavitha Cardoza. Ms. Cardoza, an award-winning WUIS public radio reporter, will present insights and stories from her years "on air."

### December 2

#### **"The Value of Silence" by Rev. Martin Woulfe**

The Illinois legislature has recently passed a law requiring a "moment of silence" in public schools. In this service, Rev. Woulfe will ponder the presence, meaning and practice of silence in our regular and religious lives. (This is a "Change for Change" Sunday)

#### **What is Change for Change?**

On "Change for Change Sundays," we take a special collection during the service. Half of the money collected helps support the general mission of ALUUC; the other half is used to support various Social Justice Initiatives of the congregation. Past beneficiaries have included the Springfield Overflow Shelter and Peace Camp.

## *From the Minister. . .*

Much of what passes for pastoral care by a minister is listening and then naming the stress experienced by the person seeking counsel. My experience, both in my own life and gleaned from others, is that stress tends to breed anxiety and is a more tenacious hobgoblin than even foolish consistencies. Anxious thoughts have a way of haunting the imagination and thereby affecting one's mindset and actions. Which leads, of course, to more stress.

I have noticed that people who suffer from stress generally do not hear the counsel offered by the "better angels of their nature." Instead, an oversight can become a slight; an unexplained action becomes an affront.

Once a person can perceive their stress in its proper context, both in terms of oneself and others, most people may then wrestle with it, not unlike Jacob wrestling with his angel. If one is victorious in this match, one may even perceive that he/she has been blessed by the encounter. And, like Jacob, there may be a wound. But I think that the blessing outweighs any injury.

In this season, as the shadows of autumn extend more and more, it is well to become aware of the sources of stress in one's own life. Some are self-evident; others may be quite subtle. Such factors are all the more important to consider as the major religious & cultural holidays approach; stress factors tend to multiply. Let us confront and dispel them, either individually or with people we love and trust. The blessing that will surely follow will benefit oneself, one's household, and one's religious community.

~ *Martin*

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### *New to UU Class*

Now that you've found us, are you thinking about joining? Do you want to know more about Unitarian Universalism and what it means to become a member? If so, then this orientation is for you. Rev. Martin Woulfe will conduct a class that will present the fundamentals of liberal religion and the history of this congregation. The class will meet on Tuesday, November 27 from 7:00 to 9:30pm at the ALUUC. Please let us know if you will need child care. You can sign-up by contacting Rev. Woulfe at 585-9550 or email [minister@aluuc.org](mailto:minister@aluuc.org).

## *From the Board President. . .*

### A Wonderful Gift...

This is the time of year when we traditionally set aside time to reflect on what we are grateful for. We as a congregation can be grateful for the wonderful building we have. Our gratitude can be extended to the people that made this possible, the people who volunteered their dollars, time, and skills so that we all could enjoy the facilities we have today. This gratitude can be extended even further back to those who started this congregation over fifty years ago, and those in history who contributed to Unitarian and Universalist movements and stood up for the principles we hold dear.


After taking our “trip into history” we can also come back, look around us, and find people today who continue these giving traditions to ensure that the facilities we enjoy will remain. It would take too much space to list all of these wonderful people here, but I will single out one individual in particular who wishes to remain anonymous. This person found it within their means and within their heart to make a donation of a little over \$35,000.00 to our congregation. This has made for some rather excited discussions among our board members to say the least, and we are continuing to look into plans for both the near and distant future.

I am certain that upon receiving this news, several of you will no doubt see visions of great things you would like to see happen for this congregation, how this wonderful gift could best be used, etc. I invite you all to share those visions and ideas with me or any of the other board members.

We all share our dreams and hopes with each other, we all share our joys and concerns with each other, we all make decisions together, and together we can make good things happen. Every voice has a chance to heard, and for all this I am truly grateful.

~ *Mike Haynes*

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### ~ Special Meeting of the Congregation ~

For some time now it has been apparent that our congregation is out-growing the parking lot. Kurt Deweese has done the research and gotten an estimate for extending the parking lot by 200 feet with packed gravel. The estimate for this project is \$9,000 and requires a congregational vote before we can move forward with it. Therefore I am calling for a special congregational meeting following the service on **Sunday, November 18, 2007**. All voting members are encouraged to attend.

Mike Haynes  
ALUUC Board President

# Group Meetings & Other Events. . .

## Book Discussion Group

[BookGroup@aluuc.org](mailto:BookGroup@aluuc.org)

The next meeting will be held at 7:30pm, Tuesday, November 27 at 27th at Jim & Mary Beaumont's home, to discuss "Everyman" by Philip Roth. Contact Jim or Mary if you have any questions.

## Bridge Group

[BridgeGroup@aluuc.org](mailto:BridgeGroup@aluuc.org)

This group meets at the ALUUC on the second Friday of every month at 7:00pm. Group contact person is Chris Romaine.

## Build Your Own Theology Group

[BYOTG@aluuc.org](mailto:BYOTG@aluuc.org)

The next meeting will be held at 7:00pm, Monday, November 19th at the ALUUC. Sarah Rodems will be discussing a public talk His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet gave entitled "Cultivating Happiness" at Purdue University on Friday, October 26th. In addition, there will be a brief presentation and conversation about one of the Dalai Lama's books, written with Howard C. Cutler, called The Art of Happiness.

## Christian Interest Group

[ChristianInterestGroup@aluuc.org](mailto:ChristianInterestGroup@aluuc.org)

The next meeting will be held at 7:30pm, Monday, November 12 at the ALUUC. John Glosser will present a program entitled "On Being Influenced: A Discussion of Our Mentors and Our Teachers." Mr. Glosser will discuss ways in which we are shaped by teachers. Those in attendance will be invited to talk about specific teachers and professors who have influenced them in significant ways. Craig Bailey will be in charge of the closing communion service.

## Dream Group

[DreamGroup@aluuc.org](mailto:DreamGroup@aluuc.org)

This group meets at the ALUUC on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm. In a relaxed atmosphere, each person in the group will share a recent dream of his or her own choosing. Then two dreams will be selected for further discussion. It is an opportunity to exchange insights without engaging in group therapy as such. Contact John Glosser for more information.

## Humanist Discussion Group

[HumanistGroup@aluuc.org](mailto:HumanistGroup@aluuc.org)

The next meeting will be held at 7:00pm, Monday, November 26 at the ALUUC. Wes Duiker will summarize and comment upon the writings of Sam Harris—primarily but not exclusively The End of Faith and Letter to a Christian Nation. Discussion will follow. All are welcome. If you have questions about the Humanist Group, please contact Carol Floyd.

## Meditation Groups

Simple Meditation is hosted every Thursday night from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

The Sangamon Zen Meditation Group sits most Saturday mornings at the ALUUC from 9:00am to 11:30am. Please check the website calendar for dates.

## Movie Night

Join fellow film lovers at the ALUUC on Sunday, November 25 at 6:00pm. The film will be Michael Moore's, Sicko (2007), which explores the state of the health industry in America.

## News Covenant Group

[NewsGroup@aluuc.org](mailto:NewsGroup@aluuc.org)

The next meeting will be held at 7:30pm, November 1 at the Buchloh's home. Contact Renata if you have any questions.

## The Occasional Choir

Check the online calendar for rehearsal dates. For more information about the choir, please contact Jim Redlich or Bonnie Ettinger.

## Prairie Wind CUUPS Chapter

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

The Prairie Wind Chapter of the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans is an eclectic Earth-centered group. We host several rituals throughout the year. The next ritual will be Samhain on November 3 at 7:00pm at the ALUUC.

## Special Presentation on the 1908 Springfield Race Riot

Nationally acclaimed historian Dr. Jim Loewen will speak on the 1908 Springfield race riot. His talk is scheduled for Sunday, November 11th at 10:30am. This is the Sunday morning service of the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation at 745 Woodside Road, on the southern edge of Springfield. The public is invited.

Dr. Loewen is a retired professor from the University of Vermont. He is currently a visiting professor at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He is the author of several books including a best seller, Lies My Teacher Told Me; a comparative study of the inaccuracies in 7 commonly used high school U.S. History texts.

He has also written Sundown Towns, a study of cities and towns where African-Americans (and often other minorities) had to be out of town by sunset each evening for their safety. A new book by Dr. Loewen will soon be published: Surprises on the Landscape: Unexpected Places that Get History Right. A chapter in the book tells the story of the walking tour of the 1908 race riots in Springfield. This is a collaborative project developed by local and state historical agencies.

Dr. Loewen was born in 1942. He attended Carleton College in Minnesota and has a Ph.D. in sociology from Harvard University. Early in his career, he taught at Tougaloo College, a historically black college in Mississippi. He then taught race relations at the University of Vermont for 20 years. Since 1997 he has been a Visiting Professor of Sociology at The Catholic University of America. There is no charge to attend Dr. Loewen's presentation at the November 11 church service.

## Marina V Concert

Mark your calendar now! On Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, for a second Marina V concert at ALUUC. Marina V is a Russian born musical artist who now lives in the Los Angeles area. Marina's music has been described as "an unusual mix of Tori Amos, Jewel and Paul McCartney," and it has been written that "with her unique phrasing, breathless, smokey-sweet and compelling vocals, she's got a sound all her own." The concert begins at 8:00pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for youth under 12 years. All ages are welcome. A share of the proceeds will benefit the ALUUC.

For further information about this artist, go to [www.MarinaV.com](http://www.MarinaV.com)



Marina's CDs are available online at [www.MarinaV.com](http://www.MarinaV.com)

"hauntingly beautiful" ~ L.A. Times  
 "the voice of an angel" ~ The Prague Post  
 "inspirational lyrics and a soaring voice" ~ Music Connection  
 "timeless quality and ethereal beauty" ~ Las Vegas City Life

Simple Magic  
**marina v**

## *From the Coordinator of Religious Education. . .*

Fall is marching on. The fields are plowed in preparation for the coming winter. Many of us have plans solidified to gather with our families for Thanksgiving. Another late fall tradition in the UU family is "Guest At Your Table", otherwise signaled by the appearance of a dandy square cardboard box that lives on your kitchen table during the month of November. Many of us may remember Trick or Treating for UNICEF or other childhood experiences that mirror this time of giving. In the UUA, this tradition is sponsored by the UUSC. Take a special moment at home this month to be thankful for the bounty your family enjoys and make a ritual out of filling the 'little cardboard box'.

~ *Meg Schnake*

## *Adult RE Class*

**"Exploring Genesis"  
November 21 – December 19**

Sign up now for an adult religious education series that will examine Genesis, one of the more influential books of the Hebrew Bible. Led by Rev. Martin Woulfe, participants will read and discuss the various chapters and their historical background over five consecutive Wednesday evenings, 7:00pm at the ALUUC. Class size will be limited to twelve persons. Please let us know if child care will be needed.

The Mythic Cinema Circle will meet at ALUUC on Monday November 12 at 6:30pm. Two inspirational shorts will be screened. Mary Ryan will facilitate a film discussion afterwards. This event is free; anyone who wishes may make a good will offering to benefit the Prison Parenting Program.

## *Small Group Ministry News*

The fall session of Small Group Ministry kicked off on Oct. 24th. Brenda Wade is facilitating the 8 week session on "Planet Earth" which is being held at the church. We are excited about the topics this fall which include Animals, Beauty and Finding Our Tribe. These small ministry groups are designed to deepen spiritual growth and to promote connections between church members. We will be forming new groups in the spring, so if your schedule wouldn't permit you to participate now, you will have another chance to sign up later. For more information, please contact Gwen Childs.

# November 2007

\* Event not held at the ALUUC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
				<b>1</b> Simple Meditation 7:00pm * News Covenant Group - 7:30pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Zen Meditation Group - 9:00am CUUPS Samhain Ritual - 7:00pm
<b>4</b> Worship Service 10:30am	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Board Meeting 7:00pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Simple Meditation 7:00pm	<b>9</b> Bridge Group 7:00pm	<b>10</b> Zen Meditation Group - 9:00am
<b>11</b> Worship Service 10:30am <b>VETERANS            DAY!</b> 	<b>12</b> Mystic Cinema Circle - 6:30pm Christian Interest Group 7:30pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Simple Meditation 7:00pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Zen Meditation Group - 9:00am
<b>18</b> Worship Service 10:30am Special Congregational Meeting after service	<b>19</b> Build Your Own Theology Group 7:00pm	<b>20</b> Committee Night 7:00pm	<b>21</b> Adult RE 7:00pm	<b>22</b> <b>HAPPY            THANKSGIVING</b> 	<b>23</b> Labyrinth Walk - 7:00pm	<b>24</b> Zen Meditation Group - 9:00am
<b>25</b> Worship Service 10:30am Movie Night 6:00pm	<b>26</b> Humanist Discussion Group - 7:00pm	<b>27</b> Dream Group 7:00pm New to UU Class 7:00pm * Book Discussion Group - 7:30pm	<b>28</b> Adult RE 7:00pm	<b>29</b> Simple Meditation 7:00pm	<b>30</b>	

Dates & Times subject to change. Please check the website calendar for any changes/updates.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Clergy:

<i>Minister</i>	Rev. Martin Woulfe	minister@aluuc.org
<i>Minister-Emeritus</i>	Rev. Berkley Moore	minister-emeritus@aluuc.org

### Board of Directors:

<i>President</i>	Mike Haynes	president@aluuc.org
<i>Vice President</i>	Gwen Childs	vicepresident@aluuc.org
<i>Treasurer</i>	Ken Wade	treasurer@aluuc.org
<i>Secretary</i>	Carol Floyd	secretary@aluuc.org

<i>Board Members</i>	Carley Mattimore Bill McCall Delinda Chapman Henry Farrington Ceceilia Haasis Scott Wade
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### Committees:

<i>Committee on Ministry</i>	Frank Kopecky, Chair Michael Plog Perry Hines Rebecca Anderson Myra Epping TBD	CoM@aluuc.org
<i>Endowment Trust</i>	Dave Braddock Kurt DeWeese Frank Kopecky Nancy Standen Victoria Vincent	Endowment@aluuc.org
<i>Nominating</i>	Roger Powers, Chair John Malan Berkley Moore Debby Hagan	Nominating@aluuc.org
<i>Aesthetics subcommittee</i>	Debby Hagan, Chair Victoria Vincent Gwen Childs Nancy Ray Anna Williams	Aesthetics@aluuc.org
<i>Electronics &amp; Communications</i>	Scott Wade	ECC@aluuc.org
<i>Facilities</i>	Kurt DeWeese	Facilities@aluuc.org
<i>Fellowship</i>	Linda Haynes	Fellowship@aluuc.org
<i>Finance</i>	Barbara Moore	Finance@aluuc.org
<i>Flowers subcommittee</i>	Vi Lanum	Flowers@aluuc.org
<i>Membership &amp; Publicity</i>	Renata Buchloh	MPC@aluuc.org
<i>Pastoral Care</i>	Jodi Perko	
<i>Program</i>	Craig Bailey	Program@aluuc.org
<i>Religious Education (RE)</i>	Brenda Wade	RE@aluuc.org
<i>Social Action</i>	VACANT	SAC@aluuc.org

## FYI. . .

### NAMETAGS

If you need a replacement nametag, please either email your request to [Nametags@aluuc.org](mailto:Nametags@aluuc.org), or print your name on a piece of paper and place it in the nametag slot on the nametag rack.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Change of address notices and other subscription request can be done by completing the ALUUC Update Form found in the church office. You can email the information to [ECC@aluuc.org](mailto:ECC@aluuc.org), or by mail to:

ALUUC Attn: ECC  
745 Woodside Road  
Springfield, IL 62711-7346

### ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMING EVENTS

Submission for Announcements and Coming Events should be submitted electronically to [Office@aluuc.org](mailto:Office@aluuc.org) no later than Wednesday at 12:00 noon.

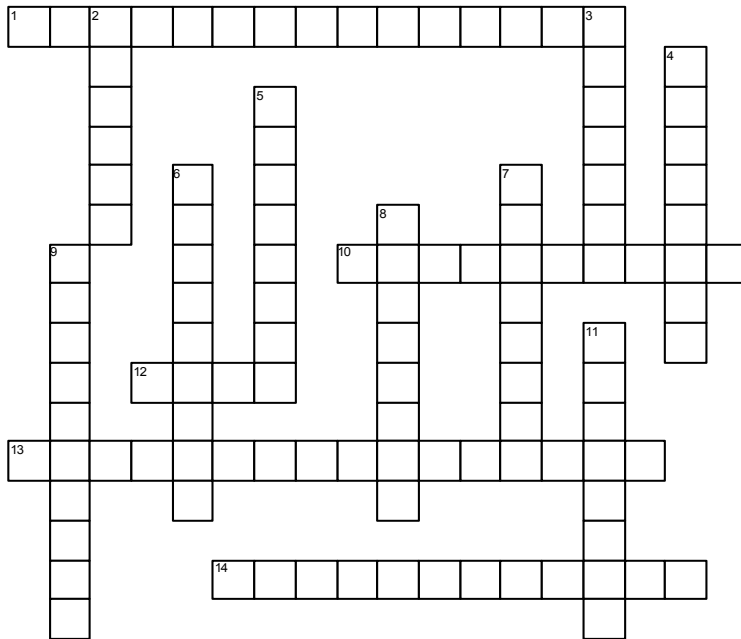
### NEWSLETTERS ON TAPE

If you would like an audio tape of the ALUUC Newsletter, please contact Jim Redlich. A cassette is produced every month and duplicates are available upon request.

### \*\*\* Reminder \*\*\*

Please remember when participating in meetings held in the RE classrooms to clean up afterwards. We want our youth and our volunteer teachers to know that we value their efforts by respecting their space. Thank you!

# Thanksgiving



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

## ACROSS

- 1 Helped teach the new settlers how to plant, harvest, and cook native foods (2 wds.)
- 10 "Horn of Plenty" that symbolizes abundance
- 12 A popular vegetable introduced to the new settlers when they reached America that grows in ears on tall stalks
- 13 Year The First Thanksgiving took place (written out, no hyphens)
- 14 Place on the Northeastern coast of America where the new settlers landed (2 wds.)

## DOWN

- 2 Animal that is the "symbol" of Thanksgiving, often the main dish at Thanksgiving dinner
- 3 Native American man credited with helping the new settlers to survive their first winter in America
- 4 English settlers that arrived on ships and settled in America
- 5 Settlers came to America particularly seeking freedom of \_\_\_\_
- 6 Famous ship that brought the new settlers to America
- 7 Day of the week that Thanksgiving Day is always held on
- 8 Month Thanksgiving Holiday is in
- 9 Popular dessert made at this time of the year from an orange gourd (2 wds.)
- 11 A common two-word phrase said when we appreciate what someone has done for us (2 wds.)

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## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Carol Bailey, Martha Bray, Mick Bray, Carol Floyd, Ceceilia Haasis, Jeff Johnston, Andy Jolly, Lauren Kriel, Carley Mattimore, Michael Naber, Martha Plog, Jim Redlich, Missy Thibodeaux-Thompson and Rachel Walker

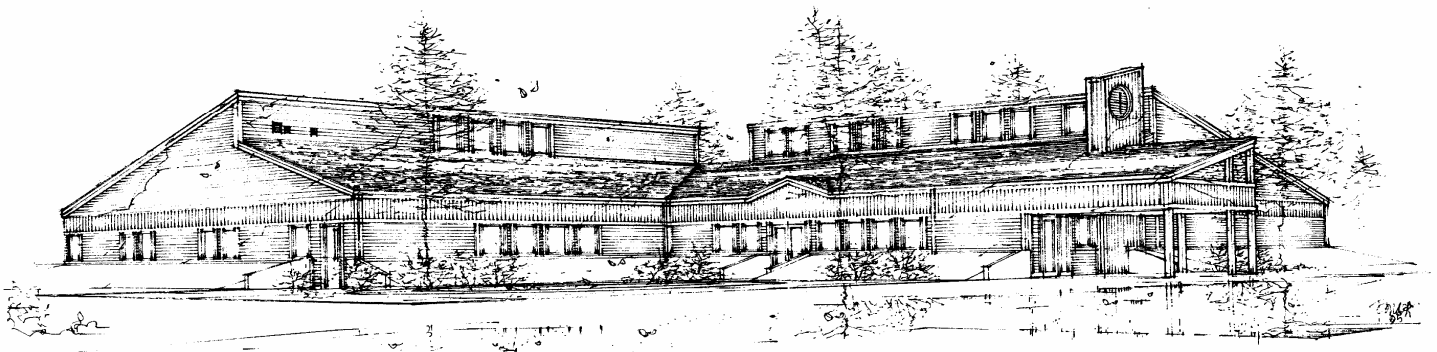


## Green Sanctuary Committee REVIVED

Our first meeting will be on November 4th after worship service. Anyone who is interested in continuing the congregational work on greening our sanctuary and greening our lives are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Jan Droegkamp.

### *Breadline Sunday*

On Sunday, November 18, ALUUC will join with many other congregations from all denominations throughout Springfield in collecting donations to assist St. John's Breadline.



ALUUC \* Since 1953 \* Celebrating over 50 years of liberal religion in Springfield