



Announcements for Sunday, December 4, 2011



Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Next Sunday, December 11, 2011: "The Best Christmas Ever" by Rev. Martin Woulfe

***** HAPPENING TODAY *****

Today is a Change for Change collection. The Social Action Committee has selected the Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery for the December Change for Change Program. Community volunteers started the Crisis Nursery in 1989. Its mission is to prevent child abuse and neglect by providing emergency, temporary care, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for children who may be at risk or whose parents are experiencing some type of crisis. Services provided by Crisis Nursery staff include in-home parent education classes, monthly parent support group meetings, and crisis counseling. Families receive follow-up home visits and advocacy and referrals to other needed services such as drug or alcohol abuse treatment, medical, food, clothing and shelter. As with the care of the children, the family support services are free.

This year we will again be collecting gloves, mittens, hats and scarves for the Contact Ministries for their Christmas Assistance Giveaway program that will be held on December 15, 2011 at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Please bring new gloves, mittens, hats and scarves to ALUUC **TODAY, December 4** and next Sunday, **December 11**. If you would prefer to make a financial contribution, please deposit your check in the offering (make check payable to ALUUC with Contact Ministries in the memo line) on December 4 and 11.

Guest at Your Table Announcement: Each year at this time, friends and families in our congregation participate in Guest at Your Table. This is an opportunity to give thanks for the many gifts we have in our lives every day. Please pick up a Guest at Your Table box and Stories of Hope; and commit to taking the opportunity to reflect, learn, and share. Boxes will be collected on **Sunday, December 18**. Before bringing back your Guest at Your Table box, be sure to complete the form on the box. And please convert your cash and coins to a check made out to "UUSC". On behalf of UUSC, we thank and commend every person who has chosen to share their blessings through Guest at Your Table.

The children are hard at work for the Holiday Pageant and will continue to be for a couple more Sundays. Today, December 4, Group 3 will rehearse; Sunday, December 11, we need everyone available for a complete run through; and please remember the Saturday dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 17 from 2-4 pm at the church. The pageant is the next day, December 18, 2011 so everyone needs to be here. Everyone, please, join us for the performance during the regular church service hour on December 18, 2011. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at cre@aluuc.org. Thank you. Marla Johnson, CRE.

Photo request: Please email individual or family photos to Cheryl office@aluuc.org and watch for the new ALUUC Directory updates.

In an effort to save trees and decrease our recycled paper, we will begin reducing the number of printed Announcements. Copies are now placed on the hallway table near the Guest Registry book for anyone who prefers a paper copy. Email notices continue to provide the link to the online version.

***** COMING SOON *****

A traditional Walk 'n Talk will be held December 8th, 6:00 pm for the annual Old Capitol Holiday Walk downtown Springfield. We will meet at Café Andiamo, 204 South Sixth Street at 6:00 p.m.

The Fellowship Committee has scheduled a Holiday Gala, December 10th, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. It is a simple holiday party for our congregation. This is the time for holiday cheer, so let us get together and have fun. There will be food, drink and entertainment. Currently, we have a few performers scheduled but we need more. A performance can be anything from reading a poem, singing a song, playing an instrument or telling a tale. If you are interested in performing, please contact Randy Pratt, at rebusrandy@yahoo.com or by phone at 494-5118. We invite the entire congregation to come and have some holiday fun. Fellowship will provide snacks and beverages but you are encouraged to bring a treat or two. There will not be a Game Night in December but it will resume in January.

The Book Discussion Group will not meet in December. Future books we will read include “The Abstinence Teacher” by Tom Perotta and “My Name is Mary Sutter” by Robin Oliveira. Call Barb Moore at 523-6241 if you have any questions.

The Humanist Discussion Group will not meet in December or January. The next meeting will be February 27 at ALUUC. If you have questions about the group, contact Carol Floyd at HumanistGroup@aluuc.org or 787-1174.

****This Week at a Glance ****

DATE	EVENT	Starting Time	Room
Sunday, Dec 4	Choir Practice	9:30 am	Sanctuary
	Change for Change program	10:30 am	Sanctuary
Monday, Dec 5	Dream Group	7:00 pm	Sanctuary
Tuesday, Dec 6	GSIA Meeting	11:45 am	Sanctuary
	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Fuller
Thursday, Dec 8	Walk 'n Talk	6:00 pm	Café Andiamo
	Meditation	7:00 pm	Sanctuary
Friday, Dec 9	Bridge Group	7:00 pm	1800 Hastings
Saturday, Dec 10	Zen Meditation	9:00 am	Sanctuary
	Holiday Gala Party	6:00 pm	Sanctuary

**** Other Items of Interest ****

The American Red Cross Illinois Capital Area Chapter is in critical need of volunteer drivers for their Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for the upcoming winter months. You can volunteer according to your schedule and convenience; each route only takes an hour or less. You can volunteer for just the winter or beyond. If you are interested, contact Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant at dcg5512@yahoo.com or you can call Meals on Wheels Coordinator Albert Marin at 787-7602, ext. 237 or email him at amarin@il.redcross.org.