



# ALUUC Focus

February 2012

## Special points of interest:

- UUA
- CMWD
- Borderlinks Trip
- Chalice Lighters
- Movie Night
- March Concert

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## From the Board President

Members of the ALUUC may still be determining New Year's Resolutions for 2012, including particular aspects of their relationship to the ALUUC and greater Unitarian Universalist Movement. I sincerely hope that this can include involvement in the governance and upcoming activities and events, aside from regular Sunday services. Our congregation thrives on active participation by everyone, as we share the worship, business and fun of our religious community. Membership can be enriched by committee meetings, singing with the choir, and activities associated with other ALUUC-sponsored groups or events. I encourage everyone to become actively connected.

An important connection for me has been service on the Board of Directors. My 2<sup>nd</sup> stint as President of the Board of Directors runs through the end of June 2012. Individuals may not serve more than 2 consecutive 1-year terms as President. So, I encourage ALUUC Members to seriously consider notifying the Nominating Committee of their interest in seeking election to fill vacancies on the Board or Directors, including the officers (Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President and President).

Two very important events should further enrich this ALUUC year: (1) the concert by Charlie King and Karen Brandow, Sunday, March 4, 2012, for which additional information is included in this newsletter; and (2) the Fantasy Auction now scheduled for April 21, 2012. These are fun and fund-raising events that, when combined with the successful Trash & Treasure Sale, help us to meet a critical budget goal.

And 2 additional events should connect you to the larger UU Movement outside of the

ALUUC, about which additional information is being included in this newsletter: (1) the Annual Meeting of the Central Midwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association April 27-29, 2012 in Oak Brook, Illinois; and (2) the General Assembly of the national Unitarian Universalist Association June 20-24, 2012 in Phoenix, Arizona. Members are encouraged to attend, and those attending may be appointed as delegates representing the ALUUC.



ALUUC members at MLK Breakfast.

To further your connections, Members of the ALUUC should be receiving quarterly editions of the UU World magazine. They may connect to the website of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Or they may become members of the UU Church of the Larger Fellowship and receive monthly newsletters of that UUA affiliate. To spark you interest and connection to the greater UU Movement, I am including in this newsletter an excerpt from a special message by the President of the UUA, Reverend Peter Morales. The full text is available at the UUA website <http://www.uua.org>.

*Kurt DeWeese,  
Board President*

## From the Minister



2012 is shaping up to be “the year of the calendars.”

I read that several academics have recently proposed a modified calendar that would standardize each year with months of thirty or thirty-one days, replacing the Gregorian Calendar. The authors of the “Hanke-Henry Permanent Calendar” hope that their proposal will be universally adopted by 2017. Not likely, I think. I for one detest this effort to impress uniformity upon time, preferring the variety that arises when particular dates fall on different days of the week in successive years. Personally, I also cringe at the thought of February always having thirty days. No doubt, the disappearance of October 31st altogether will not be popular in certain circles. Another casualty would be the old rhyme that begins “thirty days hath September.” Finally, I flinch when I consider that my birthday would always be on a Wednesday, and that Christmas would always fall on a Sunday. I vote no!

It is worth noting that yet another fundamentalist has predicted a date for the rapture: this time, the target date is 05/27/12. Others continue to speculate that the Mayan calendar heralds doom on 12/21/12. I despise such predictions for several reasons, not the least of which

is that it is grounded in superstition and it gives such people an all-too-convenient excuse to turn their backs on the problems that beset the planet.

By the way, if you search for failed prophecies via the internet, you will discover dozens and dozens of examples. But, as one critic has observed, the reputations of false prophets somehow are not diminished among their followers -- when the predicted doom fails to materialize, they simply recast their predictions and try again. Apparently, such people have too much time on their hands. This February, they will have one more full day in fact. Hopefully, there will be those who use that same time more constructively.

- Rev. Martin Woulfe

**Variety  
is the  
spice of  
life.**

## Voting & Membership Notice

Those persons who wish to become voting members of ALUUC need to sign the membership book ninety days prior to the Annual Meeting. Since the 2012 Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 3, interested people should sign the Membership Book by March 3rd if they want to be eligible to vote.



UIS Theatre's spring faculty-showcase production of Sam Shepard's TRUE WEST opens Friday, February 24th and continues Saturday, Feb 25, Sunday, Feb 26 & Thursday, March 1, Friday, March 2, and Saturday, March 3, 2012. All per-

formance times are at 7:30pm, except for Sunday, Feb 26 at 2:00pm. All performances will be in the Studio Theatre, Level 1 of the Public Affairs Center on the UIS campus.

This production is directed by Missy Thibodeaux-Thompson.

The cast includes: Susan Jeffers, Tom Hutchinson, Craig Rauch, and Eric Thibodeaux-Thompson.

Tickets go on sale, beginning January 30th, at the Sangamon Auditorium Ticket Office on Level 2 of the PAC, M-F: 10-5 or online or by phone. Tickets are \$12 Gen Admission; \$10 Seniors 65 or better; \$8 UIS Faculty/Staff; and \$6 UIS students. Please note: there is at least a \$2 Sangamon Auditorium surcharge for each ticket price. Call 217-206-6160 for further ticket information and/or visit UIS Theatre online at [www.uis.edu/theatre](http://www.uis.edu/theatre).

Join ALUUC Fellowship Committee, which is going as a group Feb. 26, at 2:00 pm. Please see page 11, Walk & Talk, for more information.



## Sunday Morning Services

**February 5, 2012**  
**Faith at the Edge**  
**The Rev. Molly Housh Gordon**

Traveling to the edges of our understanding and the frayed edges of society takes both curiosity and courage. But travel we must, if we are to transform our spirits and our corner of the world. Let us gather in worship together to find sustenance for the journey. Will include a "Change for Change Collection."



**February 12, 2012**  
**Evolving Faiths: Lincoln & Darwin**  
**Rev. Martin Woulfe**

As is well known, Lincoln and Darwin were born on the same exact birthday, and both are recognized for their respective contributions to the modern world. How were their religious journeys alike? How different? How did their faiths evolve?

**February 19, 2012**  
**Spiritual Benefits of Anger**  
**Rev. Martin Woulfe**

Anger is of course a part of the human condition. Might Anger be a spiritual asset? If yes, when might it be beneficial, and to whom? When would Anger not be beneficial?

\* This sermon topic was assigned by the winners of the last Fantasy Auction.

**February 26, 2012**  
**Is the Internet Killing Spirituality?**  
**Rev. Martin Woulfe**

As we move deeper into the 21st Century and have more information within easy reach of our fingertips, what has been the impact on spirituality? Has it been a hindrance or a blessing?

**March 4, 2012**  
**Lynnda White**

Lynnda White will be doing her first sermon for our congregation. Be sure to mark your calendars so as not to miss her debut. We welcome Lynnda with open arms. Will include a "Change for Change Collection."



**Lynnda  
 White's  
 first  
 sermon  
 for  
 ALUUC  
 March  
 4th**

Worship services are held Sunday mornings at 10:30 am. Religious education & child care provided for children of all ages. Large print bulletins & hymnals, as well as hearing devices, are available upon request.



## Religious Education



The Religious Education Sunday programming is in full operation. The children as well as the teachers appear excited to have returned to their classrooms. As we return to our familiar schedule, plans are also underway for new future events. One such event it being planned by our Senior Youth Group under the guidance of Kelly Anderson and Tara Crowley.

The SYG is planning a Con for the adults in the congregation. "Con" is short for conference and is something the youth get to experience two or three times a year. Sometimes they travel to other congregations and other times other congregations send their youth to us. During the Cons, workshops are held and opportunities for building community are given. Our youth want us

to know what that is like for them and decide that holding a Con is the best way to do so. The **Adult Con** is planned for **February 18th** at the ALUUC beginning at 1 pm. I am planning to attend and hoping many of you will join me. I know it will be well worth the time taken from our busy schedules.

*Marla Johnson*  
Religious Education Coordinator

**Adult Con**  
hosted by  
senior  
youth  
group  
February  
18th.

## Kids Club & Junior High Youth Group

The Kids Club and the Junior High Youth Group will be meeting Friday February 3, 2012 at the church from 6 pm til 8 pm. The Junior High Youth Group will be discussing the book "Into the Wild" (part of the Warriors series) by Erin Hunter.

**Please RSVP for both to Marla at [cre@aluuc.org](mailto:cre@aluuc.org).**

## Religion In Life- For UU Scouts & Interested Youth

Coming This February: The Religion in Life Course For UU Scouts & Interested Youth.

At the request of several families with children in the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Rev. Wolfe will conduct a seven part series for chil-

dren who wish to earn the Religion in Life award. This class will be open to any child aged 10 – 15 who is either currently in a Scouting program OR who wishes to acquire an in-depth understanding of UUism. Parents are asked to pay \$15.00 per participant to

cover materials.

The class will be conducted at ALUUC on seven consecutive Wednesday evenings, from 7 – 8:30 pm, beginning on February 1st.

A sign up sheet is posted on a clipboard near the drinking fountain.

## Third Sunday Kicks Off



On Sunday, February 19, a new program will start up at ALUUC. Third Sunday is a way to give back to the larger community around us. Inspired by a desire to help, Third Sunday combines donations and recycling to benefit a different charity each month.

Led by Marla Johnson and Victoria Vincent, and endorsed by the Social Action Committee, the Third Sunday program will collect

donations for a charity each month. Sometimes donations will be items that you can recycle from your homes. Other times, they will be things that need to be bought. Our first six will be the Animal Protective League, Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery, Computer Banc, Ronald McDonald House, the Red Cross and Peace Camp.

Marla and Victoria will be at church on Jan 29, Feb 5 &

12 to explain and publicize the program's first Third Sunday. The first charity we'll be donating to is the Animal Protective League.

**Please look at their wish list on the next page.**

Sort through your cabinets for worn bedding and also pick up a few items off their list to donate on February 19. Our goal is to fill Marla and Victoria's cars with donations for this great charity.

Third Sunday kicks off Feb. 19, featuring the APL.



ANIMAL PROTECTIVE LEAGUE'S

# wish list



*Cash and Gift Cards are always greatly appreciated to off-set medical costs and to help buy desperately needed supplies to properly take care of the animals.*

## animal care

Canned cat food (ground formula, NO gravy)  
 Dry cat food  
 Dry dog food (for "Lending a Helping Paw" program)  
 Small/Large canned puppy food (Purina/Pedigree)  
 Meat formula baby food  
 Leashes (preferred)  
 Pet carriers / Taxis  
 Pillow cases / Bath towels / Blankets  
 Baby and adult thermometers

Heating pads  
 Small buckle dog collars  
 Pinch collars (all sizes)  
 New litter pans (all sizes, kitty and large)  
 Litter scoops  
 Cat toys / Dog toys  
 Veterinary staple removers (3 or 4)  
 Kennel clips  
 Big stainless steel water bowls

New kitty condos/trees  
 Feral gloves  
 Muzzles (all sizes)  
 Pooper scoopers (ask for specifics)  
 Dog houses (all sizes)  
 Pet blood pressure cuffs  
 Puppy pee pads  
 Rubber backed mats (2 x 3 preferred)

## cleaning supplies

Paper towels  
 Liquid laundry detergent  
 Bleach  
 Dawn dish detergent  
 Moisturizing hand soap

Fabric softener sheets  
 Garbage bags (13, 33 & 39 gallon)  
 Window cleaner  
 No scratch Comet  
 Spray bottles

## general supplies

Ink Pens  
 Copy paper  
 File folders  
 Rubber backed rugs and mats  
 Postage stamps  
 Correction tape  
 Point and shoot digital cameras (2 or 3)  
 Storage tubs (different sizes)

Outside storage pod (secured, mouse-proof, large)  
 White board markers (black, red, green, blue)  
 Two or three white boards (2 x 3 and next size up)  
 Light weight folding 6 foot tables  
 Gas powered weed eater  
 Wall pocket/folder units  
 Message pads (carbonless 2 part, spiral bound, 3 or 4 to a page, usually 400 "sets")  
 Staple removers / Clipboards / Erasers

Hand sanitizer  
 Rubber gloves (re-useable)  
 5 gallon buckets  
 Toilet paper  
 Outside hoses / Power washer  
 Locking office storage area for materials needing to be secured (two door locker style - need 4 - will take 6)



*Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity!*

1001 Taintor Road • Springfield, Illinois 62702 • 217-544-PETS • [www.apl-shelter.org](http://www.apl-shelter.org)



## Fair Trade Products

Thanks to those ALUUC members and friends who purchased Fair Trade products in December. The ALUUC Social Action Committee (SAC) will be selling Fair Trade products (coffee, teas, cocoa, and chocolate bars) the second Sunday of each month. The purchase of fair trade goods through

the UUSC Coffee Project benefits agricultural cooperatives through UUSC's Small Farmer Fund. The UUSC Coffee Project is collaboration between the UUSC and Equal Exchange, a worker-owned, fair trade, company based in West Bridgewater, MA. UUs have the highest participation

rate of any denomination in Equal Exchange's Interfaith Program!

Coffee from the UUSC Coffee Project is now being served on Sundays, following the service.

Next sale date: February 12.

**Social  
Action  
Committee  
&  
Unitarian  
Universalist  
Service  
Committee**

## We Are One: Crossing Borders as UUs

In preparation for "Justice General Assembly" in Phoenix, Ariz., (June 20–24, 2012) the Unitarian Universalist Association's (UUA's) Faith Without Borders program (FWB), and UUSC have jointly organized opportunities for service-learning trips to the U.S./

Mexico border with our partner organization, BorderLinks.

All Unitarian Universalists over 16 years of age are invited! For more information: <http://www.uua.org/international/engagement/travel/190290.shtml>

Trip dates: April 20-23, 2012 - Application deadline: March 10

Trip dates: May 25-28, 2012 Application deadline: April 10

To register email: Eric Cherry, in the UUA's International Office, at: [echerry@uua.org](mailto:echerry@uua.org).

## Dine Out With Your Values In Mind

Restaurant Opportunities Center (ROC), a UUSC partner organization, has released the ROC National Diners' Guide 2012: A Consumer Guide on the Working Conditions of American Restaurants. Go to this web site to download the guide

and use it to choose compassionate consumption when you dine out:

<http://rocunited.org/dinersguide/>

With the launch of our Choose Compassionate Consumption campaign this fall, UUSC supporters

joined together to form a powerful consumer advocacy block. Let's use our power to make a positive difference in the lives of restaurant workers, by making our dining choices based on how restaurants treat their employees.

## International Women's Day



Violence against women — one of the most pervasive violations of human rights — affects women's abilities to achieve legal, social, political, and economic equality. As we work with partners around the world to protect women, we need your help to ensure that U.S. policy makers are doing their part! The original

U.N. resolution for the day to end violence against women calls for the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). UUSC invites you to order free women's rights postcards to use in gathering signatures in support of CEDAW, as well as

free buttons and stickers to raise awareness.

We have the goal to collect 3,000 signed postcards by February 15 to be delivered to Senator John Kerry's office on International Women's Day, March 8, 2012. [Order your materials today](#) and share them with your community.

## Change For Change

Thanks to the generosity of ALUUC members and friends, \$75 was collected for the Central Illinois Foodbank. The Social Action Committee has selected the Animal Protective League as our next charity. For over 50 years, the Animal Protective League (APL) has been the voice for animals in

Springfield and Sangamon County. APL operates a shelter for sick, injured, abused and abandoned dogs and cats, along with comprehensive animal-welfare programs. APL is a private, not-for-profit organization. It operates entirely by donations. APL strives to match animals with carefully

screened, loving, permanent owners. APL also develops programs, participates in many events and offers services of benefit to our community. Programs include: weekly visits to residents in area nursing homes and "APL Paws to Read" reading enhancement program in Springfield schools.



## Springfield Overflow Shelter

Once again this year the Social Action Committee will provide a meal at the Springfield Overflow Shelter (SOS) one evening a month. The evening chosen for ALUUC will again be the first Sunday of each month, November through March. The next dates are February 5 and March 4. Past workers and new volunteers are welcome to join us in serving the meals on these nights. If you are interested in participating, please contact Delinda Chapman, SOS Coordinator, by phone or email, 529-9330 or delindac@gmail.com. If there are volunteers who would like to provide desserts each of these Sundays, please see

Delinda to make these arrangements. Whatever gifts we give be it time or money or desserts is most appreciated.

A huge thank you is due not only the SOS server volunteers, but ALUUC's Simple Elegance Supper Club and Detective Agency Covenant Group who made the meal for the SOS women and men a real treat for New Year's Day. Members who contributed to the planning shopping and preparation are Susan Solon, Greg Greeley, Nancy Standen, Vickie Locke, Jodi Perko, Peggy Fenley, Pat Goller, Will Burpee and Randy Pratt. The servers who

not only served but cut meat, hauled food, set up and down, and washed pans afterwards were Meg Evans and Pete Lazare, Vinnie Gupta, Mary Beaumont, Jim Custer, Tom Vaught, Debby Hagan and Delinda Chapman. The meal of ham, black-eyed peas and rice, cornbread, coleslaw, and apple crisp was a huge success and much appreciated. Another big thank you to all those who have donated to cover the cost of doing service. Happy New Year to all!

**Next meal will be served on February 5.**

**Thanks you  
for helping  
the Central  
Illinois  
Foodbank!**

## Action and Support for Immigrants (ASI)

ASI was born as a response to a family in crisis facing deportation and with the hope to help others in need. As part of this work, we would like to invite you to participate in our upcoming

meeting to discuss immigrant related topics and how you can support the organization by becoming a member, proving resources or simply by participating as part of our community.

For more information contact Diane at dianelopez-hughes@gmail.com or 217 544-3997 or Claudia Fabian at claudia.l.fabian@gmail.com



## Social Action Committee Members

SAC members include Bernie Carver, Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant, Delinda Chapman, Peggy Fenley, Pat Fletcher, Vinnie Gupta, Linda Haynes, Doug Lib-

erati, Teresa Liberati, Vicki Lock (UUSC Local Rep), John Malan, Sally Millichamp, Neha Patel-Dunkirk, Michael Plog (Board Committee Liaison)

and Susan Solon. If you are interested in becoming a member of the ALUUC Social Action Committee, contact Deborah at ALUUC.



*Chalice Lighter*



Dear Central Midwest Chalice Lighters,

We are very pleased to announce our Winter Chalice Lighter Call! Your donations for the Winter Call will go to a consortium of Chicago area congregations for continuation of "Food for the Soul," a radio program featuring Chicago Unitarian Universalist ministers, recorded services and discussions on social justice issues. Rev. Brian Covell of Third Unitarian Church, Rev. Alan Taylor of Unity Temple, Oak Park and Rev. Emmy Lou Belcher, Dupage UU Church in Naperville, are working together to bring these programs to Chicago Progressive Radio.

They started a six-month pilot run of the program last March and it has resulted in almost 2,000 "hits" on the Facebook page during each of the past few months, in addition to an increasing number of listeners to the broadcast. There have also been a growing number of visitors to the three participating congregations for Sunday services who cite the broadcast as how they heard about Unitarian Universalism and the congregations.

The group sponsoring this is asking for \$12,000 to cover half the cost of the broadcasts for the next year. Fourteen other Chicago congregations are planning to contribute, so the Chalice Lighter grant will keep the broadcasts going until the annual program is fully funded. For more information, visit either the radio website: [www.chicagoprogressivetalk.com](http://www.chicagoprogressivetalk.com) (under "programs" link) or their Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/FoodfortheSoul.UURadio](http://www.facebook.com/FoodfortheSoul.UURadio).

Our CMWD Chalice Lighter program funds growth programs in UU congregations across our five-state district. These programs include outreach/publicity, hiring new staff and increasing/improving facilities. Your donation of \$20 or more (\$10 minimum per Call to be a Chalice Lighter) to each of the three Calls throughout the year strengthens Unitarian Universalism in the Midwest. There are several options to donate – online or by check mailed to the District office, 1555 Sherman Ave Suite 345, Evanston, IL 60201. And, you may donate one amount per year that we will split equally among the three Calls.

Donations to this Winter Call to fund the radio Outreach program for Chicago area congregations will be accepted from now until March 15.

We thank you for your generosity!

Sincerely,

The Chalice Lighter Committee: Matthew Brenner (Evanston, IL), Nicolas Cable (Divinity School student), Rev. Lori Hlaban (Brookfield, WI), Karen McMillin (Oak Park, IL), Kimberly Perry (St. Louis, MO), Rev. Martin Woulfe (Springfield, IL) and Dori Thexton, Central Midwest District Staff liaison

## District Assembly of the Central Midwest District of the UUA

"Leadership Development with a UU Spiritual Core" will be the theme of the 2012 District Assembly, to be held in the Chicagoland area at the Marriot Oak Brook Hill Resort on April 27-29. Friday night's opening ceremony will feature special guest Reverend Bill Schulz, president of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and past president of the UUA. Reverend Marylyn Sewell will

be our keynote presenter on Saturday morning. She has been interested in the theological and spiritual dimensions of leadership development for some time and is looking forward to exploring this with us. There will be two sessions of workshops on Saturday afternoon and then in the evening, we will show Rev. Sewell's documentary film, "Raw Faith". Sunday morning, the winner of the District Assembly Sermon

Contest will lead a worship service open to all. There will be lots of music throughout the weekend, opportunities to connect with old friends and meet new ones, and times for spiritual reflection. More information about the CMD and the Annual Meeting can be found at the following website: <http://www.cmwd-uua.org>

## Charlie King and Karen Brandow

The ALUUC will be hosting the Charlie King/Karen Brandow Concert on March 4th, 2012 at the church beginning at 7:00 pm (see article below). Charlie and Karen will sing songs in celebration of workers, their unions and their families, and the need to work for peace, justice, and equality. Sponsors at the \$100 level (and up) are being sought to defray costs so that any proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the ALUUC. Volunteers will also be sought to help provide refreshments and assist with set up and clean up. We hope you will plan to attend

Persons interested in volunteering for or sponsoring the event may contact Bonnie Ettinger or ALUUC.



**MARCH 4, 2012**

*Special Musical Presentation for the entire family  
at ALUUC with*

## Charlie King and Karen Brandow

Charlie King has been at the heart of American folk music for over 40 years. His songs have been recorded and sung by other performers such as Pete Seeger, Holly Near, Ronnie Gilbert, John McCutcheon, Arlo Guthrie, Peggy Seeger, Chad Mitchell and Judy Small.

Honors include an "Indie" award for one of the top three American folk recordings of 1984. In May of 1998 the War Resisters League gave their Peacemaker Award to Charlie and to Odetta. Pete Seeger nominated Charlie for the Sacco-Vanzetti Social Justice Award, which he received in November 1999.

Folk legend Peggy Seeger says, "If we had more Charlie Kings in the world I'd be less worried," and Tom Paxton adds, "Luckily, we have him!"

Karen Brandow has been performing with Charlie King since 1998. While doing human rights work in Guatemala from 1986-1994, Karen studied voice, performance and classical guitar. She performed at political and cultural events in that country as a soloist and was a founding member of the a cappella singing group, the Non-Traditional Imports.

## General Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona: June 20-24, 2012

General Assembly (GA) 2012 will be a gathering with multiple ways of engaging in justice work for people of all ages. Joining with the people of Arizona, we will worship, witness, learn and work together. We will leave General Assembly grounded in our faith, energized for justice and with resources to bring this work home to our congregations. For more information go to the following UUA website: <http://www.uua.org>.

## Directory Photos

If you would like a new or updated photo for the ALUUC directory, please see Rev. Woulfe after the service.



**Welcome to Carolyn  
Harmon, who signed  
the membership book  
on January 23.**



**Newcomer's  
are always  
welcome  
to all  
ALUUC  
Groups!**



## Groups & Events

### BRIDGE GROUP

The February meeting of the Bridge Group, on Friday evening, February 17th at 7:00 pm, is scheduled to be at the home of Barbara Moore. Those not on the calling list are also most welcome to attend, but need to contact Barbara in advance (see directory or contact ALUUC).

### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Book Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Join us on February 28th at 7:30 p.m. at Barbara Moore's, 1800 Hastings Road to discuss "My Name is Mary Sutter" by Robin Oliveira. The story opens with young midwife Mary Sutter of Albany, New York being denied another apprenticeship in her quest to become a doctor. At a time when there were virtually no female physicians, Sutter is gifted, driven and unyielding. She pursues her desire into the heart of the Civil War.

### DREAM GROUP

The Dream Group will have its monthly meeting at the church on Monday, February 6, at 7:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for folks to share their recent dreams in a relaxed and informal setting. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information call ALUUC.

### CHOIR

February is the time for choir members to begin practicing again each Sunday at 9:30!

Thank you to all members involved in the past Christmas Eve program and December songs--we put a lot of hard work in to the music as well as having fun with the singing. Took a nice break in January, and now is the time to sing again for Sunday services.

If you are interested in joining the choir please contact Kathy Schultz at: [choir@aluuc.org](mailto:choir@aluuc.org)

### NEWS COVENANT GROUP

The News Group meets on the first Thursday of each month. Join us at 7:00 pm on February 2, 2012 at Renata and Heiko Buchloh's. Everyone is welcome.

### FLUTE CIRCLE

The Sangamon Valley Flute Circle meets in the Sanctuary on the second Wednesday of every month from 7 - 9 pm. Our next gathering is February 8th. Anyone who has an interest is welcome to join us. No experience or flute ownership required.

### SPANISH CLUB

A Pot Luck at the home of Angela Aznarte & Martin Woulfe, 1 Timber Hill Lane, Springfield, on Sunday Feb 26th, beginning at 6 pm. Please RSVP Come and enjoy an evening of Espanol & fellowship!

### HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP

The Humanist Discussion Group will meet on Monday February 27 at 7 pm at ALUUC (sanctuary). Mike Haynes will show the video of and then lead discussion on physicist Lawrence Krauss' 2009 presentation, "A Universe From Nothing." The Krauss presentation was designed for general audiences and has been viewed nearly a million times on the internet. One review—"The best-selling author of The Physics of Star Trek, Krauss possesses a rare talent for making the hardest ideas in astrophysics accessible to the layman, due in part to his sly humor. In another universe, Krauss could have been a stand-up comedian."

If you have questions about the Humanist Group, please contact Carol Floyd or send email to: [HumanistGroup@aluuc.org](mailto:HumanistGroup@aluuc.org)

### MOVIE NIGHT

Join us at 6 pm on Sunday February 19th to view the 2011 film "The Help." This film depicts the lives of women in the South during the 1960's, featuring a stellar cast led by Emma Stone, Viola Davis, and Octavia Spencer. This film is rated PG-13 and has been nominated for 4 Academy Awards. This is a free event; refreshments will be available.

## LABYRINTH WALK & ONENESS BLESSING

Come, Friday, February 17th at 7:00 pm and experience the ALUUC Labyrinth! Walking the labyrinth is an ancient practice, older than most religions and is a wonderful way to center.

Labyrinth walks have grown in popularity not only among UUs, but among other faith traditions. Our labyrinth has been in use longer than most in central Illinois, come see why.

Adding to the spiritual depth of the experience, Carley Mattimore-Malan will be offering a Oneness Blessing to participants.

## UU COMMUNION

Those members who desire to share an informal UU communion are invited to join Rev. Woulfe at ALUUC following the Labyrinth Walk. Blessing to participants.

## SIMPLE ELEGANCE SUPPER CLUB & DETECTIVE AGENCY COVENANT GROUP

Thank you to all who opened their hearts in January to donate food, planning, shopping or cooking time to provide a New Year's Day meal for 70 at the Springfield Overflow Shelter. The Simple Elegance Supper Club and Detective Agency Covenant Group (SESCDA) covenants to provide service to the congregation or greater community quarterly. The group meets monthly on the second Tuesday to share recipes, cook or investigate food-related topics. In the month of February SESCDA will meet at ALUUC on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM to share Mardi Gras, Cajun or Creole recipes and taste sensations. For information about joining us contact Pat Goller.

## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Thanks to everyone for a wonderful potluck on Sunday. (January 22) There was an abundance and a variety of delicious foods and treats. A big thank you to Pat Goller, Mike Haynes, Diana and Kurt DeWeese, Mark Hansen, Fred Dietz, Jodi Perko, Jim Custer, Mary Ryan, Vi Lanum and to the countless number of people who brought food, set up tables, carried out food and helped to cleanup.

Our next **potluck** will be a celebration of our congregation's beginning. On **Feb 12th**, after the service we will have a Founder's Day Potluck. We will have various people come up to the mike during the potluck and share their fondest memories of ALUUC. We also are asking people to remember a favorite dish from a past potluck and recreate the dish to share with the congregation.

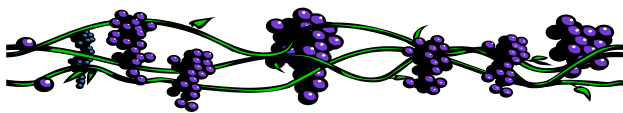
The annual Founder's Day **Mexican Train Tournament** is scheduled for Friday **Feb 10th** at 6:00 pm. The travelling trophy is at stake. If you do not know how to play, just Google it or show up and we will give you a quick lesson. It is an extremely easy game to learn. Everyone has a chance at winning. But remember you can't win unless you play.

We have one **Walk and Talk** scheduled for Sunday, **February 26th at 2:00 PM**. We will be attending the UIS production of Sam Shepard's True West. The play is directed by Missy Thibodeaux-Thompson and will feature Eric Thibodeaux-Thompson; both are active members of ALUUC. The price of admission is \$12. If you need a ride let Randy Pratt know.

Coming next month, a **St. Patrick's Day Coffeehouse Celebration, March 17th**.



**Labyrinth  
Walk &  
Oneness  
Blessing the  
third Friday  
of every  
month.**



## PRAIRIE GRAPEVINE CONCERT

Join us in welcoming string band music & song to the Prairie Grapevine concerts.

**Sangamo Stemwinders**

**Tuesday, February 21, 2012**

**7:30 pm at ALUUC**



## Congregations and Beyond

The Rev. Peter Morales, President, Unitarian Universalist Association



**Invite people  
to connect to  
our UU  
movement.**



We Stand on the Side of Love  
**WILL YOU?**

... (UU) core values appeal to far more people than are attracted to (or likely to be attracted to) our congregations. We have always treated this as a problem to be solved by devising ways to get people to become members of our congregations. But the reality of today's world is that not everyone who shares our core values will want to become part of a traditional congregation. The fact that so many share our values is an enormous opportunity, not a problem. The future relevance of our faith may well depend on whether we can create a religious movement beyond, as well as within, the parish. I am confident that together we can seize this historic opportunity for our faith. ...I am also convinced that our movement has enormous potential to involve more people and have a greater impact. That conviction is based on a number of facts. Chief among them are:

- We have scores of examples of thriving and growing congregations of varying sizes, in all parts of the country and in different kinds of settings. Vital UU congregations fill a basic human need and attract people.
- The great cultural shift in America (and in the world, for that matter) is on our side. One indication is the rapidly growing number of people with no religious affiliation. Attitudes of younger people on such issues as marriage equality, environmental justice, and immigration are further examples. Consider how many of the values of the "Occupy" movement align with ours.
- The internet has created opportunities for scattered pockets of UUs and individual UUs in the U.S. and around the world to forge a connection with us.
- The implications of thinking of ourselves as a religious movement rather than only a collection of congregations are profound and liberating. Here is an initial list:
  - Focus more on connection and less on "membership." Paying attention to who our ministry serves, how many lives we change, and the difference we are making in the world can help us redirect our efforts outward.
  - Invite people to connect to our UU movement whether or not they choose to join a congregation. We can reach out to young adults, students, snow birds, people living in foreign countries, linguistic and ethnic minorities, etc. They can all be part of the UU movement.
  - Find ways to invite the 500,000 or so people who say they are UUs but are not members of a congregation into our movement.
  - We have a way of inspiring people who share our values, want to be part of our movement, but are not ready to join a congregation.
  - We have a natural way to engage with groups that were once affiliates - groups like UUs for a Just Economic Community (UUJEC), Latino(a) UU Networking Association (LUUNA), Diverse & Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries (DRUUMM), seminarians, etc.
  - We continue our efforts to connect with UU college students. We would make clear that they are still a part of our movement.
  - We have a good way of taking in people through such portals as "Standing on the Side of Love."

For more information see:

<http://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/officers/president/moralespeter/192145.shtml>

Phoenix Center

# Trivia Nite III

February 25, 2012

At Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Doors open @ 6 pm, Trivia @ 7 pm

\$10 per person Teams of 8-10 people

Bring your on snacks &amp; beverages.



## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will be meeting over the next several month to seek candidates for various ALUUC leadership positions including President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, several Board members at large, as well as personnel for the Endowment

Trust and the Nominating Committee itself. The committee is also assigned to appoint two persons to the Committee on Ministry. All candidates will be elected to office or announced at the 2012 Annual Meeting in June.

If you know of persons suitable for any of these positions please contact a member of the Nominating Committee, Frank Kopecky, Buffy Lael, Kitty Wrigley, or myself.

-Berkley Moore, Chair

**Nominating  
Committee  
seeks  
candidates.**

## New to UU Class

Have you been attending ALUUC and feel that this should be your "spiritual home?" Would you like to learn more about UUism and this congregation? Please sign up for this infor-

mal session, and meet other new people as well as Rev. Woulfe and our Membership Coordinator, Susan Solon. The next session will be held on Monday, February 13th, 7 pm at ALUUC.

Please sign up on the sheet posted by the water fountain. Child care will be provided if requested.

## FYI

### Newsletter Option:

To stop receiving this newsletter by mail or to change to receive it by email, please email your request to Linda Haynes at: [newsletter@aluuc.org](mailto:newsletter@aluuc.org)

### Change of Address or Email:

Changes can be submitted by email to [Updates@aluuc.org](mailto:Updates@aluuc.org) or by completing the ALUUC Membership Update Form found in the office.

### Nametags:

If you need a replacement nametag, please email your request to our Membership Coordinator, Susan Solon, at [welcome@aluuc.org](mailto:welcome@aluuc.org) or print your name on a piece of paper and place it in the nametag slot found on the nametag rack.



## Contact Information



### Clergy:

Minister	Rev. Martin Woulfe	minister@aluuc.org
Intern	Lynnda White	
Minister Emeritus	Rev. Berkley Moore	minister-emeritus@aluuc.org

### Staff:

Office Manager	Cheryl Wycoff	office@aluuc.org
RE Coordinator	Marla Johnson	CRE@aluuc.org
Membership Coordinator	Susan Solon	welcome@aluuc.org
Music/Pianist	Bonnie Ettinger	music@aluuc.org

### Board of Directors:

President	Kurt DeWeese	president@aluuc.org
Vice President	Phillip Anderson	vicepresident@aluuc.org
Treasurer	George Metcalf	treasurer@aluuc.org
Secretary	Carol Bailey	secretary@aluuc.org

Board Members	David Brunson	
	Carol Floyd	
	Chelsea Fry	
	Brian Reynolds	
	Michael Plog	
	Kathy Barnes Schultz	

**ALUUC**  
**745 Woodside**  
**Road**  
**Springfield, IL**  
**62711**  
**217-585-9550**

### Committees of the Congregation

Committee on Ministry	Debby Hagan	com@aluuc.org
Nominating Committee	Berkley Moore	nominating@aluuc.org
Endowment Trust	Jeff Bennett	endowment@aluuc.org

### Committees of the Board



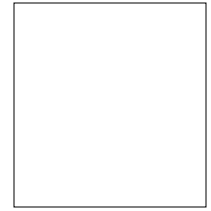
Electronics & Communication	Jason Kluge	ecc@aluuc.org
- Newsletter	Linda Haynes	newsletter@aluuc.org
- Webmaster	Carol Kneeder	webmaster@aluuc.org
Facilities	Kent & Gwen Childs	facilities@aluuc.org
- Aesthetics	Gwen Childs	aesthetics@aluuc.org
- Flower	Vi Lanum	flower@aluuc.org
Fellowship	Randy Pratt	fellowship@aluuc.org
Finance	Roger Powers	finance@aluuc.org
Green Sanctuary	Meg Evans	greensanctuary@aluuc.org
Welcoming & Publicity	Susan Solan	welcome@aluuc.org
Pastoral Care	Michael Plog	pastoralcare@aluuc.org
Program	Jeff Bennett	program@aluuc.org
Religious Education (RE)	Dianne Roberts	RE@aluuc.org
Social Action	Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant	SAC@aluuc.org

# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  Religion in Life Class 7- 8:30 pm	2  *News Group 7:00 pm Meditation 7-9:00 pm	3  Kids Club & Jr. High Group 6-8:00 pm	4  Zen Meditation 9-11 am
5  Sunday Service 10:30 am Change for Change  Springfield Overflow Shelter	6  Dream Group 7:00 pm	7  Board Meeting 7-9:00 pm	8  Religion in Life Class 7- 8:30 pm Flute Circle 7-9:00 pm	9  Meditation 7-9:00 pm	10  Mexican Train Tournament 6-9:00 pm	11  Zen Meditation 9-11 am
12  Choir Practice 9:30 am Sunday Service Potluck Fair Trade Sales	13	14 <b>Valentine's Day</b>  Simple Elegance Supper Club 6-8:00 pm	15  Religion in Life Class 7- 8:30 pm	16  Meditation 7-9:00 pm	17  *Bridge Group 7:00 pm Labyrinth Walk 7-9:00 pm	18  Zen Meditation 9-11 am  Adult Con 12 (noon)-9 pm
19  Choir 9:30 am Sunday Service 10:30 am 3rd Sunday -APL Committee Meetings 12 noon Movie Night 6:00 pm	20  Presidents Day	21  Prairie Grapevine Concert 7:30 pm	22  Religion in Life Class 7- 8:30 pm	23  Meditation 7-9:00 pm	24	25  Zen Meditation 9-11 am  Phoenix Center Trivia Night 7:00 pm
26  Choir Practice 9:30 am Sunday Service 10:30 am *Walk & Talk 2:00 pm *Spanish Club 6:00 pm	27  Humanist Group 7-9:00 pm	28  *Book Group 7:30 pm	29  Religion in Life Class 7- 8:30 pm			

\* Events held at another location, rather than Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation building.

**Abraham Lincoln  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
745 Woodside Road  
Springfield, Illinois 62711**



ALUUC - Since 1953 Celebrating over 50 years of liberal religion in the Springfield area.

Visit us on the web at [www.aluuc.org](http://www.aluuc.org)

The Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Springfield, IL is a religious community of individuals coming together for spiritual growth and fellowship. Whether you're looking for a church to call home or just curious about Unitarian Universalism, we invite you to get to know our congregation and the people who make it so special.

