



# ALUUC Focus

Newsletter for the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
www.aluuc.org



## NOVEMBER 2010

Worship Services are held Sunday mornings at 10:30am.  
Religious education and child care are provided for children of all ages.  
Large Print Bulletins and Hymnals, as well as hearing devices, are available upon request.

### November 7 ~ Reflections on Regrets

**Rev. Jackie Ziegler**

Rev. Ziegler, the minister of the UU Congregation in Bozeman, Montana will be visiting us to share her insights on one of the most common human experiences: that of regret.

*\* This is a "Change for Change" Sunday.*

*\*\* Please note that Daylight Savings Time ends – set your clocks back one hour before you go to sleep!*

### November 14 ~ Hinduism as a World Religion

**Dr. Nandi**

Dr. Proshanta Nandi, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the University of Illinois Springfield, is scheduled to make a presentation on Hinduism as a world religion. Dr. Nandi has written extensively on, among others, issues relating to peace and non-violence, and most recently, offered a new paradigm for religiosity. He is a member of Illinois Board of Higher Education, Illinois Board of Professional Regulation, and a former Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, Prevention First.

### November 21 ~ How Gratitude Can Lead to Happiness

**Rev. Martin Woulfe**

In her book, "The How of Happiness," author Sonja Lyubomirsky identified Gratitude as a key method to achieving happiness. As we approach the holiday of Thanksgiving, let us explore her theory and see how the practice of gratitude might enrich our lives. This is the Annual "Guest at Your Table" Sunday.

### November 28 ~ The Spirituality of Mark Twain

**Rev. Martin Woulfe**

This week marks the 175th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Clemens, aka Mark Twain. In addition to his familiar literary works, Mr. Clemens was an ardent writer about religion.

What did his "pen warmed up in hell" reveal?

This service will include a Child Dedication Ceremony for Antonea, daughter of Buffy Lael & Jon Wolf.

### December 5 ~ The Battle for Christmas

**Rev. Martin Woulfe**

Many of the familiar traditions currently associated with Christmas were the result of a deliberate effort by a handful of individuals in early 19th century America to change how the holiday was then being celebrated. What did they change, and how did they do it?

*\* This is a "Change for Change" Sunday.*

**Check out the new ALUUC website! Go to [www.aluuc.com](http://www.aluuc.com)**

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

## *From the Minister...*

I recently spoke with a writer who is preparing a story about immigration for The UU World magazine. Evidently, a colleague had suggested my name to her. When I spoke with this writer, I recounted what I still regard as a nightmare for my family. In brief: in May, 2001, Angela and Celeste had travelled to Spain to visit her family; when they returned to O'Hare Airport, they were denied entry into the US by an INS agent and then deported. Mind you, Angela & I had been married for two years and Celeste had been born here. That particular experience and several more related to INS during the next few years were mostly awful. To make a very long story short, our story ended on a positive note: suffice it to say that Angela & Celeste were permitted to return.

On October 10, Shelly Heidemann, Executive Director of Faith Coalition for the Common Good, spoke here on the immigration issue. As the service description noted, Ms Heideman has worked more than 10 years with Latino and African immigrant families who live, work and attend school in Beardstown and Rushville, IL. She knows their stories and their struggles. Shelly shared some of these stories and discussed how US immigration policies are affecting over 11 million people living in the United States.

I found Ms. Heidemann's presentation engaging. It also reminded me of my family's former nightmare. In retrospect, I realize that I was quite fortunate to have had the means and connections to marshal on behalf of my family. I empathize with those whose stories have not been as fortunate. I am pleased that the UUA included the Immigration Issue as part of its Standing on the Side of Love campaign and I hope that the charged rhetoric of the debate will give way to a more somber discus-

sion once the elections are behind us. I consider how my own ancestors arrived here more than a hundred years ago (one of whom evidently jumped ship) and I wonder how much consideration they would receive in today's debate. I do not doubt that immigration, as an abstract issue, is a very complicated affair. As the UUA and our nation continues to wrestle with this issue, I hope that we will always remember that the very fabric of peoples' lives are at stake.



- Martin

### **New to UU Orientation**

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 informal session, and meet other new people as well as Rev. Woulfe and our Membership Coordinator, Susan Solon. There will be two separate opportunities to attend in November: **Sunday, Nov. 14**, after coffee hour and on **Tuesday Nov. 23**, from 7 – 9:30 pm. Please sign up on the sheet posted by the water fountain.

### **We Are All Welcomers!**

Do you remember how you felt when you first discovered ALUUC? Were you warmly welcomed and did you feel like you had finally found the right religious home? Remember that everyone who comes to ALUUC hopes to be welcomed, recognized, and valued. Remember too that hospitality is part of our identity -- we have many visitors every Sunday, and many newcomers to other events. **Let us create a welcome place for all! Let's get acquainted!**

## *From the Board President...*

The participation of so many members and friends of the ALUUC in the annual Trash & Treasure sale generated a terrific return on investment (ROI) in terms of the cash balance and contributions to the spirit of our church community. I would especially like to thank Delinda Chapman for leading this team effort, and Reverend Martin Woulfe for arranging for and coordinating the pickup and return of tables, risers, clothing racks, and other material required for the sale. There were many others who contributed time and effort and I hope you realize how much it was appreciated.

November 2010 will be another watershed period throughout the country, and the pace of life will quicken with the upcoming holidays. I hope that everyone can manage to hold on and maintain an even pace, so that you can fully enjoy each moment.

I am please to report that most ALUUC committees are organized and fully operational, except for Welcoming & Publicity. In that regard, a special Welcoming Roundtable was conducted October 23, 2010 by Megan Renner, who is continuing to provide expert consultation with respect to the special related Chalice Lighters grant awarded this year to the ALUUC. It was an excellent meeting involving several interested congregation members who I hope will transition to regular committee work or help to finally fill that remaining committee roster. Expect a report on the Welcoming Roundtable soon.

*~ Kurt DeWeese*



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### **Another Productive Work Day at ALUUC**

We had another productive work day at ALUUC Saturday, October 30th. We completed the following projects: Replaced light bulbs, replaced dimmer switches, re-positioned rocks around the pond, installed reflector posts at entrances to the parking lot, repaired wood trim on kitchen cupboards, cleaned kitchen carts, glass surfaces, sanctuary chairs, chairs in RE rooms and banquet tables, organized the library and RE bookcases, vacuumed furniture in Channing, pulled weeds and trimmed off plants in the flower beds in the courtyard, weeded all over the property, trimmed trees, washed all windows, replaced toilet paper holders, and many other projects.

A big thank you to the following people: Todd Babcock, Debby Leahy, Kurt and Diana DeWeese, Victoria Vincent, Phil Anderson, David Brunson, Kim Nair, Monica Chyn, Brian and Keegan Otwell, David Whitworth, Meg Evans, Anna Pearson, Debby Hagan, Bill McCall, Linda Kopecky, Jack Kriel, Michael Plog, Susan Solon, Ken Wade, Martin and Celeste Woulfe and Gwen Childs. If I omitted anyone, please forgive me. We have great fun and get to know each other better during these work days. We are all responsible for maintaining our building and grounds, so please join us in the future.

*- Kent Childs*

### *Thank You!*

Thank you to everyone who had anything to do with the Trash and Treasure sale. To let all readers know we made \$7,554, quite a haul. Congratulations to all!! Thank you very much.

*- Delinda Chapman, chair*

*Board of Directors Report*

The President reported that the main entryways to the church will soon be rehabilitated to prevent the heaving of concrete slabs that blocked access to the building last winter. Preventive steps to resolve occasional backup of the septic system has been postponed.

Reverend Martin Woulfe reported that he has been especially busy with his regular Sunday duties and a considerable amount of time devoted to pastoral care, memorial services, weddings, and community affairs on behalf of the ALUUC. He proposed that he become a “Teaching Pastor” and that the ALUUC become a “Teaching Congregation” for a ministry student of the Meadville-Lombard seminary program, Lynnda White, who will soon be introduced to the Board as a prospective first trainee.

Newly-installed Treasurer Victoria Vincent reported that the Trash & Treasure Sale should generate a good net profit, and that the Endowment Trust Fund and other ALUUC financial Reserves have been transferred to B.F. Edwards & Company. Victoria also reported that fund balances for the past fiscal year should enable the ALUUC to cover rising costs of building maintenance projects (rehabbing the entryways, for example). She also reported that the interest rate has dropped significantly for that portion of the ALUUC mortgage financed by the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Change-for-Change allocations were given to the Youth Service Bureau in October and will be given the Central IL Food Bank in November.

**Program Committee Topical Survey a Success!**

After the Sunday service on September 19, 2010, members of the congregation participated in a survey of topic categories they would like to hear presented during Sunday services. For the two weeks prior, members posted at least 25 ideas for various presentations such as having Chris Britt, cartoonist for the State Journal Register speak, “Parenting skills and communication for adolescents and older”, “Art as a tool for social change”, and “A Pagan’s Perspective on Halloween”. Congregants voted anonymously by sticking dots to the categories or specific ideas posted. The results are listed below.

<b>Topical Category</b>	<b>Count</b>
State Legislature or Current Events Services	7
Interfaith and Unitarian-Universalism Introspective Services	34
Healthcare and Healing Services	18
Economics and Finance Related Services	4
Intercultural, Art, and Aesthetics Related Services	49
Societal Change Related Issues	32
Educational and Education-Related Services	12
Science-Related Services	40
Historical or Biographical Services	37
Personal Reflection, Philosophical, Subjective Religious Experience Related Services	78

The members of the Program Committee will use the posted ideas and survey results to guide selection of lay topic Sunday presentations. Thanks to all participants in the survey!

## Contact Information

<b>CLERGY:</b>			
Minister Minister Emeritus	Rev. Martin Woulfe Rev. Berkley Moore		minister@aluuc.org minister-emeritus@aluuc.org
<b>STAFF:</b>			
Office Manager RE Coordinator Membership Coordinator Music/Pianist	Cheryl Wycoff Marla Johnson Susan Solon Bonnie Ettinger		office@aluuc.org CRE@aluuc.org welcome@aluuc.org music@aluuc.org
<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS:</b>			
President Vice President Treasurer Secretary  Board Members	Kurt DeWeese Doug Liberati Victoria Vincent Kelly Anderson  Phillip Anderson Chelsea Fry Brian Reynolds Carol Floyd Roger Powers Cathy Talano		president@aluuc.org vicepresident@aluuc.org treasurer@aluuc.org secretary@aluuc.org
<b>COMMITTEES OF THE CONGREGATION</b>			
Committee on Ministry Nominating Committee Endowment Trust	Pending Appointment* Berkley Moore Jeffrey Bennett		CoM@aluuc.org nominating@aluuc.org endowment@aluuc.org
<b>COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD:</b>			
Electronics & Communications - Newsletter - Webmaster Facilities - Aesthetics - Flower Fellowship Finance Green Sanctuary Welcoming & Publicity Pastoral Care Program Religious Education (RE) Social Action	Jason Kluge Pam Daniel Carol Kneedler Kent Childs Renata Buchloh Vi Lanum Randy Pratt  Meg Evans  Michael Plog Jeff Bennett Dianne Roberts-Hill Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant		ECC@aluuc.org newsletter@aluuc.org webmaster@aluuc.org facilities@aluuc.org aesthetics@aluuc.org flower@aluuc.org fellowship@aluuc.org finance@aluuc.org greensanctuary@aluuc.org  pastoralcare@aluuc.org program@aluuc.org RE@aluuc.org SAC@aluuc.org

\*Contact Office Manager for further information.

*F Y I*

**Change of Address or Email:** Changes can be submitted by email to Updates@aluuc.org or by completing the ALUUC Membership Update Form found in the office.

**Newsletter Option:** To stop receiving this newsletter by mail or to change to receive it by email, please email your request to Pamela Daniel at newsletter@aluuc.org

**Nametags:** If you need a replacement nametag, please email your request to our Office Manager, Cheryl Wycoff, at office@aluuc.org or print your name on a piece of paper and place it in the nametag slot found on the nametag rack.

## Groups and Other Events

### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Book Group meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Join us on November 23rd at 7:30 p.m. at Barbara Moore's home. We will discuss "Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe" by Fannie Flagg. Harper Lee gave a recommendation for the book, saying, "Airplanes and television have removed the Threadgoodes from the Southern scene. Happily for us, Fannie Flagg has preserved a whole community of them in a richly comic, poignant narrative that records the exuberance of their lives, the sadness of their departure. Idgie Threadgoode is a true original: Huckleberry Finn would have tried to marry her!"

Everyone is welcome. Call Barbara if you have any questions. Future books we will read include "The Book of Ruth" by Jane Hamilton; "To Kill a Mockingbird", Harper Lee; and "A Thousand Splendid Suns", Khaled Hosseini.

### DREAM GROUP

The Dream Group will meet in the Emerson Room at the church on Monday, November 1, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting is an opportunity for folks to share and discuss their recent dreams in a relaxed and informal setting. Newcomers are most welcome. For more information about this group, please contact John Glosser.

### BRIDGE GROUP

The November meeting of the Bridge Group, on Friday evening, November 12th at 7:00, is scheduled to be at the home of Barbara Moore. Call Chris Romaine to confirm that we will meet or talk to Barbara Moore.

### HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP

The group will meet Monday November 22 at 7 pm in the ALUUC sanctuary. Stu Jacobsen will review the book the Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals (by Michael Pollan). Pollan follows each of the food chains from the source to the final meal, emphasizing our coevolutionary relationship with the plant and animal species we depend on.

Some background : <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/04/23/books/review/23kamp.html>

(Q and A with Pollan): <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/29/magazine/29questions-pollan.html>

(16 pg. magazine article adapted from the book): <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/26/magazine/carnivore.html>

### FLUTE CIRCLE

This group meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00pm at the ALUUC. Flutes will be made available for others to try. The focus of this circle will be the care and playing of the Native American Style Flute, but other types of flutes are welcome. Any questions can be directed to Mike Haynes.

### KIDS' CLUB

Kid's Club will meet Friday November 5, 2010 at the church from 6-8 pm. Join us in celebrating our favorite sports teams! Represent YOUR team by wearing their t-shirt, hat, or by carrying their banner. Please, RSVP to Marla Johnson, CRE at [cre@aluuc.org](mailto:cre@aluuc.org). We are fully funded this year, so no donations are required!

### LABYRINTH WALK

The regular Labyrinth Walk will be held here on Friday, November 19th, 7 – 9 pm. All are welcome to join us in this ancient spiritual practice. Free. Participants will have the opportunity to receive a "Oneness Blessing" during this event. The public is invited to attend; admission is free.

**A UU Communion** - Those members who desire to share an informal UU communion are invited to join Rev. Woulfe at ALUUC on the evening of Friday, November 19th, following the Labyrinth Walk.

## Meet Kurt DeWeese

*It was suggested at the Welcoming Roundtable that we occasionally feature the personal story of one or more ALUUC Members. Kurt, the ALUUC Board President volunteered to provide the first installment, so here goes.*

Kurt DeWeese was born in Bloomington, IL August 20, 1947 and was soon connected by his parents H.L. and Jewel DeWeese to the Unitarian Church of Bloomington associated with former Illinois Governor and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Adlai Stevenson II. H.L. DeWeese was a Science professor @ IL State University, then moved the family to New Jersey in 1956 as he took on a teaching job at New York University. The family then moved to Carbondale, IL in 1959 in connection with SIU-Carbondale, where Kurt graduated from University High School in 1967 (closed in 1969). The family spent 1-year in Saigon, South Viet Nam (1965-66) when Dr. DeWeese became the Chief of Party for an SIU team providing professional assistance in the development of teacher education programs in that country. Kurt was active in competitive athletics throughout his school career, as a swimmer, baseball, basketball, track and football player, but that did not continue into his collegiate years. Kurt attended Oregon State University in 1967-68 but then transferred to and graduated from IL State University in 1971 with a B.S. in Education. Kurt and Diana Margaret Malone of Stanford, IL, were married in 1970. He became an Illinois Legislative Staff Intern in October 1971 assigned to then House Democratic Leader Clyde Choate of Anna, IL. Kurt remained with the IL House Democratic Leadership as the Health & Human Services Analyst until his recent retirement December 31, 2009. Kurt has also been politically active, including unsuccessful attempts at elective office. Although he has been a life-long UU, Membership with the ALUUC did not formally begin until 1989, but since then has been a primary personal avocation. He has been on the Board of Directors, previously served as President and has been the long-time Chair of the Facilities Committee prior to accepting the draft as your current President. Kurt helped in the search, selection, securing and financing of the current church facility @ 745 Woodside Road. He is committed to ensuring that the ALUUC will sustain its growth and vitality as a strong liberal religious institution in Abraham Lincoln's Hometown welcoming all to join.

## Groups and Other Events

### **NEWS COVENANT GROUP**

The News Group meets on the first Thursday of each month. Join us on November 4 at 7:00 p.m. at Renata and Heiko Buchloh's home. Call Renata or Heiko if you have any questions. Everyone is welcome.

### **SENIOR YOUTH GROUP**

Will meet from 3:00 to 5:00pm, in the Channing room, on the following Sundays:

November 7, 14, 21

December 5, 12, 19

If you have any questions, please contact either Scott Wade or Buffy Lael.

### **SPANISH INTEREST GROUP**

La Grupa Espanol will meet for a pot luck dinner, spiced with a hearty dose of "conversacion en espanol," at the home of Angela Aznarte & Martin Woulfe on Sunday, November 28th at 6 pm. All are welcome; please RSVP.

### **THEOLOGIES IN DIALOGUE**

The Theologies in Dialogue group has decided to take a hiatus for the 2010-2011 church year. We will not be meeting from September, 2010 through the following August. Before the 2011-2012 church year we will re-examine the purposes of the monthly meeting and decide if new and challenging ideas or purposes will lead us to reconvene. Please contact John Glosser or Craig Bailey with questions or comments.

### **UPIC (Unitarian Universalist Pagan Interest Connection)**

Formed for all members and friends of ALUUC, who are interested in earth-based spirituality. UPIC will meet Wednesday, Nov. 24 at 6:00PM. Please feel welcome to join us, even if you are just curious.

*Groups continued on page 9.*

## *ALUUC Social Action Committee and Unitarian Service Committee (UUSC) Update*

### **Fair Trade Products**

The ALUUC Social Action Committee (SAC) will be selling Fair Trade products (coffee, teas, cocoa, and chocolate bars) on the third 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. Next sale date – November 21. Coffee and assorted teas from the UUSC Coffee Project will now be served on Sundays, following the service.

### **Change for Change**

The Social Action Committee has selected Central Illinois Food Bank for the November Change for Change program. The Central Illinois Foodbank was established in 1982 by a coalition of churches and distributes nearly 6.4 million pounds of food annually to over 165 food pantries, soup kitchens, residential programs and after-school programs in a 21 county region. The mission of the Foodbank is to collect donated food and grocery items from growers, manufacturers, processors, wholesalers and retailers for distribution to charitable agencies serving people in need. Central Illinois Foodbank operates a 22,000 square foot distribution facility located in Springfield, Illinois. For more information, <https://www.centralilfoodbank.org>

### **Welcoming a Guest at Your Table**

Each year at this time, friends and families in our congregation participate in Guest at Your Table – a UU tradition. This year, the Guest at Your Table program will begin on Sunday, November 21, 2010. By bringing home a beautiful Guest at Your Table box, families and individuals learn about how the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee puts our shared principles into action in the United States and around the world. Through a potent combination of advocacy, education, and partnerships with grassroots organizations, UUSC promotes economic rights, advances environmental justice, defends civil liberties, and preserves the rights of people in times of humanitarian crisis. In each household, the Guest at Your Table box is placed in a prominent spot, often at the family meal table. When family and friends gather to enjoy their blessings, they can reflect on the contributions of their “guests” to the movement for universal human rights — and share generously. Sharing our blessings through Guest at Your Table ensures that UUSC's human-rights work continues. Please consider making a contribution that meets membership levels. Since UUSC is an independent organization that receives no funding from the UUA or the U.S. government, UUSC members are vitally important. If you would prefer not to bring home a box, you can take a donation envelope or support UUSC directly online at [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org).

### **Support UUSC by Purchasing Holiday Cards**

This year, UUSC has added four new card designs (Wishing Star, Snow Globe Kids, People Tree, and Plant Justice, Harvest Peace) to the online store. Download the flyer [http://www.uusc.org/files/UUSC\\_holidaycardflyer2010.pdf](http://www.uusc.org/files/UUSC_holidaycardflyer2010.pdf) to order your holiday cards. See the new designs and the messages printed inside, along with some of the previous year's designs that are still in stock. Each pack comes with 10 cards and 10 envelopes, and the cost is just \$10 per pack. That's only a dollar per card! All proceeds from holiday card sales support UUSC's work.



## *ALUUC Social Action Committee and Unitarian Service Committee (UUSC) Update*

### **This Thanksgiving, Support Justice for Food-Sector Workers**

This Thanksgiving, as we reflect on our blessings, we can learn about the rights of workers in the food sector, with simple action steps to get involved in their fight for justice. UUSC is creating resources, which will be available soon, to help families and congregations learn about and take action on the injustices that food-system workers face. In the United States alone, 20 million people work in the food system, which is built on the cheap or slave labor of mostly people of color and immigrants, who are among the poorest and most exploited workers. While interest in community gardens, urban agriculture, and healthy, local, and “slow” food, have been increasing, the issues of labor rights in the food system have not received equal attention. UUSC has begun to collaborate with the Food Chain Workers Alliance to advance the rights of the workers in the food system to work in dignity for a living wage and to organize in defense of their labor rights. We hope you will join us this season of giving by learning about this effort and taking action to make a difference for economic justice. Look for more information in the December.

### **Become a UUSC Member**

As your UUSC local representative, I invite you to speak with me to renew your membership — or you can renew online today at [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org) UUSC is a membership-based organization, separate from and independent of the UUA. It receives no funding from the UUA. For more information contact Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant, Local Rep.

Social Action Committee Members include David Brunson, Bernie Carver, Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant, Vinnie Gupta, Teresa Liberati, John Malan, Sally Millichamp, Kim Nair, Brian Otwell, Susan Solon, and Doug Liberati (ALUUC Vice-President/Committee Coordinator and Board Committee Liaison). If you are interested in becoming a member of the ALUUC Social Action Committee, contact Deborah.

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## *Groups and Other Events*

### **A Special MOVIE NIGHT**

Would you like to see Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 1? Members and friends are invited to go as a group to this latest installment in the Harry Potter series on Saturday, November 27th. The show times have not yet been published; a late afternoon show is likely. Once show times are known, we will choose which show our group will attend. Please sign up on the list posted by the drinking fountain; if it seems like the show will be sold out in advance, Rev. Woulfe will reserve tickets for those interested individuals. Once the time has been chosen, we will meet at ALUUC and then carpool to the theater. Attendees will purchase their own tickets.

### **Prairie Grapevine Folklore Society presents**

**“Strong Old Music” from Cooper & Nelson**  
The duo gives you starkly beautiful songs, guitar/ percussion arrangements of lively Celtic dance tunes, the occasional lovely slow air, and the best (or worst) jokes you can imagine.

**Saturday November 6, 7:30 PM  
at ALUUC**

Donation: \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors,  
\$8 for members, \$5 for students,  
\$25 for family

For more information log onto the Prairie  
Grapevine Folklore Society Website at:  
<http://www.prairiegrapevine.org>

## CRE NEWS

A busy time is ahead of us all with the holidays soon upon us. There are many activities included in celebrating the holidays. One of those activities happens to be near and dear to my heart and that is the Winter Pageant. Though the Winter Pageant requires a great commitment of time and energy, the end result is always worth while.

My hope is that everyone involved and other's in the congregation are in agreement with that statement. In order to bring that to fruition, takes not only my commitment and that of the RE



Committee, but also the commitment of many others. The children will begin rehearsals in November and it will be very important for them to attend them all. Parents will need to pay close attention to announcements in order to remain informed. Volunteers will have to follow through with their duties. I have no doubts that we have those from the congregation willing to make those commitments. I know everyone will also make the commitment to being present the day of the pageant and to then say, "Wow, that was worth it." If you are interested in being involved with the pageant in any way, contact Marla Johnson, CRE at cre@aluuc.org.

- Marla Johnson, CRE

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## Fellowship Committee

As we head into the holiday season the Fellowship Committee is looking forward to bringing ALUUC a "Season of Love". From Halloween to New Years Day during the next two months we celebrate many different traditions. It truly is a time for gathering and fellowship; unfortunately it also a time of stress and pressure. It is the goal of Fellowship to bring a balance to our congregation presenting activities aimed at easing the stress and increasing the fun.

### **We will kick off our "Season of Love" with the following events in November:**

- November 2nd - Talk and Walk- Sunset Walk Lincoln Memorial Gardens 5:30pm - Everyone is invited to join us at Lincoln Memorial Garden to enjoy an autumn sunset. We will meet at the entrance of the garden at 5:30 pm and will walk to the Lincoln Council Ring to enjoy the sunset. Poems, songs and forms of expression are encouraged.
- November 12th – Game Night – ALUUC 6:30 pm - game night and if weather permits a campfire. Whether it is cards, a board game or something original the whole family is invite to come out and play
- November 14th - Autumn Birthday Treatluck – ALUUC After the service - We will celebrate the birthdays of friends, members and notables that happen in the months of autumn. Instead of a full potluck we only have treats and of course a birthday cake. Everyone is encouraged to attend, especially those with a birthdays in the autumn months.
- November 26th- Leftover Day – ALUUC Noon till 7:00 pm- the day after Thanksgiving. It is our answer to the self induced stress of "Black Friday". Take refuge in our sanctuary by coming out to the church to share your leftovers and friendship. We have an Open Mic setup for anyone who would like to perform. We also encourage anyone who would like to be a Holiday Caroler to come out and share your voice.

We have many more activities, "Walk and Talks", "Christmas Cookie exchanges", singing, games and much more planned for December. Please check the announcements, the calendar and next month's newsletter. If you would like to work with the Fellowship Committee, (maybe host a "Walk and Talk") or if you have any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to contact the Fellowship Chair, Randy Pratt. Please come join us and have fun.

# November 2010

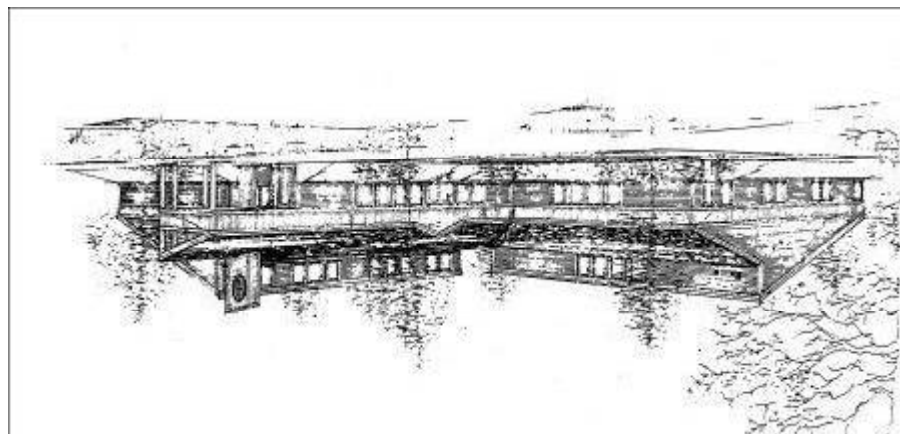
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Cakes... Group 6:30 pm  Dream Group 7 - 9:00 pm	2 Talk and Walk- Sunset Walk Lincoln Memorial Gardens 5:30pm  Board Meeting 7:00 pm	3 Happiness Adult RE Group 7:00-9:00 pm	4 Cakes... Group 6:30 pm  * News Covenant Group 7:00 pm  Meditation 7:00 pm	5 Kids Club 6 - 8:00 pm	6 Zen Meditation 9:30 - 11:30 am  Prairie Grapevine Folklore Society 7:30 pm
7 Worship Service 10:30 am  Change for Change Sunday  Senior Youth Group 3 - 5:00 pm	8 Cakes... Group 6:30 pm	9	10 Sangamon Valley Flute Circle 7 - 9:00 pm	11 Cakes... Group 6:30 pm  Meditation 7:00 pm	12 Game Night 6:30 pm  * Bridge Group 7:00 pm	13 Zen Meditation 9:30 - 11:30 am
14 Worship Service 10:30 am  New to UU 12:00 pm  Autumn Birthday Treatluck 12:00 pm  Young Adult Brunch 12:00  Senior Youth Group 3 - 5:00 pm	15	16	17 Happiness Adult RE Group 7:00-9:00 pm	18 Meditation 7:00 pm	19 Labyrinth Walk 7:00 pm	20 Zen Meditation 9:30 - 11:30 am
21 Worship Service 10:30 am  Commitee Mtgs 12:00  Senior Youth Group 3 - 5:00 pm	22 Humanist Discussion Group 7:00 pm  Newsletter Submissions Due 9:00 pm	23 * Book Discussion Group 7:30 pm  New to UU 7:00 - 9:30 pm	24 UPIC 6:00 pm  Happiness Adult RE Group 7:00-9:00 pm	25 Thanksgiving	26 Leftover Day 12 - 6:00 pm	27 Zen Meditation 9:30 - 11:30 am  * Movie Night TBA
28 Worship Service 10:30 am  * Spanish Interest Group 6 pm	29	30				

**POTLUCK on Sunday November 14 - Theme: Autumn Birthday Treatluck**  
 \* Events not held at the ALUUC Dates and Times are subject to change.  
 Please check the web site calendar for any changes.

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



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



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