The Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a religious community of individuals coming together for spiritual growth and fellowship. We respect the diverse faiths and ethical traditions of every person and honor their cultural traditions, ages, abilities, economic status, race, sexual orientation, and gender identity, as well as their theologies, philosophies and political persuasions. We are formally recognized as a “Welcoming Congregation” by our national UU Association affirming and promoting the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender persons, and those individuals who self-identify their gender, in the life of the congregation and the community.

ALUUC Focus

ALUUC is a Welcoming Congregation

From Your ALUUC Minister:

I must have looked like an easy target. There I was on a subway, wearing a touristy shirt and shorts, my pale legs advertising the fact that I was a relative newcomer to this sunny clime. As I was leaving the station, I felt a light brush against my pants. I stopped, turned around and looked at the person behind me — he was a man maybe late 20s facial hair and a backpack. Something seemed wrong but I resumed walking. Several steps later, I froze, patted my pockets, instantly knew that my wallet was gone. Along with my passport. And various IDs.

We’ve all read about these things happening to other people. But today, it was my turn. What to do?

A younger version of me might have been beset by either rage or panic. Perhaps because of my age, or perhaps because of my vocation, I managed a different response. I still had access to a cell phone, so I was able to immediately call and cancel my credit cards. Everything else in my wallet could be replaced. But it was relatively easy to minimize the damage. That makes me one of the fortunate ones, I guess. Calls completed, I was faced with the choice. Do I continue with this excursion into the city with Angela, or cancel our plans and return home?

It took me several minutes to decide. Oh, yes, I was agitated by the incident, and was equally annoyed with myself for being careless while out and about in Madrid. We discussed our options, and decided to go forward. In retrospect, I’m glad that we did.

I offer this as a brief primer on a spirituality in progress. I make mistakes. I do not always have a handle on my emotions. But through my years of being with others who were in deep crisis, coupled with grace and reflection, I keep steering myself towards a better path.

As I often say during a wedding, “we cannot choose which changes and chances will befall us, but we can choose the spirit with which we will meet them.” Those words actually came to mind, and I’m grateful for that. In that spirit, I recognized that this incident had created more of a nuisance than a catastrophe. It could have been worse, much worse.

I am suddenly reminded of the recurring refrain from the veteran police sergeant on the old TV series “Hill Street Blue,” — “Be careful out there.” In our world, that’s sage advice. But that’s only half of it. Let us be careful, true, but may we never permit apprehension to stifle our senses of wonder or gratitude.

Martin

Congratulations to Cheryl Wycoff who will be celebrating her 10 year work anniversary on August 13th!
From Your Director of Religious Education

Summer has been a surprisingly busy time for RE. Of course, we have Eco Camp, and THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered. A double thank you to everyone for being so kind about the learning curve I experienced during my first Eco-Camp. Knowing I have such caring support makes my job that much easier.

We have some very important dates coming up in August, with the Senior Youth Group enjoying a camping outing at Lincoln’s New Salem the weekend of August 4-6th. Highlights of the trip are the personal tour of Starhill Arboretum and a trip to Theater in the Park to see Arsenic and Old Lace. We believe in camping combined with culture!

We’ve selected the World Religions curriculum from UUA’s Building Bridges, which you can preview at www.uua.org/re/tapestry/youth/bridges. We plan to spend about 2-4 weeks on a variety of world religions, using Children’s Worship days as a kickoff or a culmination of the study we are doing. That means we want to tap into the wide expertise and interests of our congregation. So, if you would like to help us as we explore Buddhism, Christianity, Paganism, Judaism, Islam, Taoism, Hinduism or any of the many other -isms in our world, please contact me and let me know as I’m developing the schedule in early August. Contact me at dre@aluuc.org or call/text.

Our grade groupings will be the same as last year: Pre-K; 1-3; 4-6; 7-8; and Senior Youth. We like to have three teachers at each level, as it reduces the time commitment for all concerned, so if you’d like to volunteer for one of our classes, please contact me soon. We will hold a teacher inservice on Sunday, August 13 at ALUUC at Noon. The training will last one hour. It would be a good idea to get background checked before that time, as all volunteers working with youth must be background checked. It takes about 2-3 weeks for the background checks to process.

We will not have online registrations this year. Instead, we’ll conduct RE registrations on August 20 and 27th, though students are always welcome to register/attend at any time. Each RE room will have registration forms, and we will ask that all attendees fill out the registration form, even if they only attend once. It makes record keeping much easier.

This year should be an OWL (Our Whole Lives) year, and we are working with our currently trained volunteers to see if we can offer the program this year. I will be taking training this September so we’ll have more trained facilitators on hand. Watch the announcements for updates on OWL.

Thanks, Pat Marshall, Director of Religious Education, dre@aluuc.org

The Change for Change Sunday Collection for August will be NTOSAKE 2017 Nation Leadership Training!

CHANGE THINGS UP WITH FEMALE LEADERSHIP. In South Africa, NTOSAKE means She who walks with lions; she who carries her own things. Gamaliel is sponsoring this, a 3-day leadership development program September 15-17, 2017 in Kansas City, Missouri. It was designed by women for women, creating a safe, creative environment that allows time and space to learn essential tools of change in our lives, congregations, organizations and communities. Faith Coalition for the Common Good (ALUUC is a member) plans to send 12 Springfield women at $345.00 each. You can assist them in doing this by: a) Donating to ALUUC Change for Change August 6 and Sept 10, b) Helping with T-shirt sales after Sunday Services beginning in August - buy one, help us sell them, c) Participating in FCCG fundraisers (to be announced) d) Attending the training yourself – scholarships available from SJC! Talk to Meg Evans Lazare or Nancy Derrig for more information. Thank you! — Nancy Derrig
Sunday Morning Services
10:30 am

Would you like to be a **Sunday Greeter**? See **Tracy Zieber**

August 6, 2017
**Unknown Faces of Islam**
Maryam Mostoufi, President, Greater Springfield Interfaith Association (GSIA)
This is an opportunity to learn about historical and contemporary individuals who influence our lives even today.

*There will be a “Change for Change” Sunday collection for NTOSAKE 2017 Nation Leadership Training.*

August 13, 2017
**My Irresponsible Search**
Andy Grizzle, Seminarian
Our fourth principle sets out a free and responsible search for truth and meaning, but it can be difficult to know how to speak responsibly about Unitarian Universalism to people of other faiths. If “experience” is the set of failures that we survive, this is a story of how I built a tall pile of experience in a short period of time.

August 20, 2017
**5-Star Education**
Jennifer Gill, Superintendent, School District 186
Superintendent Gill will discuss what it takes to provide a 5-star education that prepares students for college and career. Preparing students for the future is much different than how we prepared students in the past. The District’s Strategic Priorities align to provide a path forward for all students.

*Be sure to stay afterwords for our “Sundae Sunday” Ice Cream Social!* 

August 27, 2017
**The Spirituality of Resistance**
Rev. Martin Woulfe
Over the past two centuries, many significant religious leaders have grounded their spirituality and actions in the realm of resistance. What might Gandhi, Dr. King, Mandela, and others teach us in the present era?

*There will be a Pathways Session #1 after the service for those whom are interested in becoming members—all are welcome!* 

September 3, 2017
**Sr. Marcelline Koch, OP**
Sr. Marcelline Koch, OP will be speaking about the internal Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression work that her faith community has been engaged in.

*“Change for Change” Sunday collection.*

September 10, 2017
**Water and Stone Communion**
Save the Date for our Annual Water and Stone Communion service — be sure to bring your rocks, your water and your stories!
Membership Committee Update

Summer is definitely here! The outrageously high temperatures may have some people feeling sluggish, but the Membership Committee is already planning for Fall.

At our latest meeting, we developed a working calendar for such events as Pathways to Membership Classes, and New Member Ceremonies. We also collaborated with Minister Martin Woulfe and the Kitchen Coordinator, Marissa DeWeese, to set dates for the upcoming favorite Sundae Sunday, and the always popular Potluck Sundays.

Speaking of sweet treats, the Membership Committee invites everyone to join us after services on August 20 for SUNDAY SUNDAY! We’ll dish out ice cream, sherbet, and a variety of toppings to help beat the summer heat. This special favorite is a great way to introduce the congregation to guests and newcomers, and to help us reconnect to familiar friends. You don’t want to miss it!

After you have joined us for a chilly treat on August 20, we invite all guests and visitors to stay with us on Sunday, August 27 after services for Pathways to Membership, Session One: Sharing Our Stories. If you are interested in becoming a member of ALUUC, the Pathways to Membership classes are a great way to learn more about Unitarian Universalism, about UU history, and about ALUUC in particular.

If you would like more information about Pathways to Membership classes, or if you would be interested in being a Sunday morning Usher or Greeter, please contact the Membership Coordinator, Tracy Zieber, at welcome@aluuc.org.

The next Membership Committee meeting will take place August 24, at 6 pm, in the ALUUC Fuller Room. All are welcome to attend. For more information about the Membership Committee please contact Dianne Roberts or Carol Kneedler, Membership Committee Co-Chairs, at membership@aluuc.org.

For more information about Kitchen Coordination and how to volunteer for events like Sundae Sunday, Potluck Sunday, and Coffee Hour, please contact Marissa DeWeese at email@aluuc.org.

We look forward to seeing all of you for the exciting events in August and all the way into the fall.

Upcoming Fellowship Events

August 6  Movie Night — Moonlight — 5:00pm
“Police SUVs surround the house where 17-year-old Chiron lives. His mother, Antoinette, drags him inside where she finds him selling drugs. He is порядок, as his mother and the police leave, Antoinette tells him that he will never be a successful drug dealer and he should leave his neighborhood, go to school, and stay out of trouble. Chiron leaves with his mother’s permission and goes to his grandmother’s house where he begins a new life as a young ballerina. Later, he is taken home by his mother and told by his grandmother that he is going to spend the next 14 years living with her.” 111 minutes. Rated R. Popcorn will be provided, along with subtitles for those who are hard of hearing.

August 20  Sundae Sunday — After the Sunday Service
Celebrate the beginning of the liturgical year with an Ice Cream Social after the service!

Coffee Hour—Every Sunday!
Join us every Sunday morning after service for coffee (or tea...or lemonade) and conversation. If you are interested in helping out in the Kitchen on a Sunday, click here to sign up or contact Marissa at email@aluuc.org.

*** Game Night and the Labyrinth Walk will be on hiatus until September.
Big Garage on the Prairie Update

by Bob Croteau

After a couple of weeks of vacation, I turned into the ALUUC parking lot for services and was wowed by the progress made on our new addition. The long envisioned garage for storage and mowing equipment was quickly becoming a reality. The work crew headed up by Dave Cation has pulled in many volunteer members and non-members to work in the hot sun to frame, install trusses and sheath the 30x40-foot structure. It should be big enough with its 12x40-foot attic storage area to receive all that stuff stored in member’s basements, garages and attics and still leave room for mowers, vehicles and floor and table space to work on large projects.

There is still work to be done to finish it including roofing, siding, doors and the stand alone Solar system that is allowing us to save $3,500 on electrical costs while giving us full functionality of garage door openers, lighting and occasional power equipment. Progress continues as weather permits. Lend a hand as you can. Contact Dave Cation, Phil Anderson or Kent and Gwen Childs.

Treasures In Our ALUUC Prairie!

By Becky Croteau

We found many treasures amongst the goldenrod last night! I am very encouraged to see the perennial native plants starting to get a better foothold. I would also like to express my gratitude to the students from Lincoln Land Community College who came out to help. They did a great job! We dug out sixteen ornamental plum trees and one Bradford Pear, all carried in by the birds. We also removed the only thistle we could find. Then we cleared several dozen square yards of common goldenrod. We are reducing the goldenrod population to encourage the native perennials. There is a lot more work to be done.

If you would like to help, contact Becky Croteau by phone or by text.

She will add you to the Prairie People contact list.
Eco Camp 2017: Guardians of the Phoenix Fire was so much FUN!
Thank you to everyone who attended, everyone who donated so children and youths could attend for free, and everyone who donated their time and skills as we teach the next generation to care for Mother Earth! Below is some of the photos from camp, with more Flickr.com (contact email@aluuc.org for access info). Thank you to Angela Wright, Pat Marshall, Diana DeWeese, and Elaine Orr for the photos.

Volunteers Needed at State Fair
As in years past, members and friends of ALUUC are invited to assist EQ IL at the Illinois state fair this August, affirming the LGBTQ. A sign up sheet for various shifts will be available on Sundays and on-line. Stay tuned to the weekly announcements for the latest information!
ALUUC hosts our local PFLAG chapter (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) on the Third Monday of every month. The next meeting will be held at ALUUC on Monday, August 21 at 7 pm. This is a safe and confidential gathering of LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, & Queer) people, their families, friends and allies to meet and share. This PFLAG group is open to all and welcomes your energy!

Visit our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/PFLAGSpringfieldIL.

To contact the group by email: pflag-springfieldil_1@juno.com.

### Join the UU Women’s Connection for our FIRST ANNUAL SUMMER RETREAT: COMING HOME TO OURSELVES!

From Aug. 18 - 20 we will be at the Ronora Lodge and Retreat Center in Waterveit, Michigan.

We’ll gather in Trilogy Lodge, a dorm-style lodge that sleeps up to 25. Two or three twin beds per room, and bathrooms down the hall. Catered gourmet Vegan meals, nourishing workshops, wildflower walks and worship circles will make up this weekend “back to the land” on the 400+ acres of woodland and lake within the spirit-filled place called Ronora. A few workshops, plus time to explore, relax, drum, sing and commune with nature and each other.

Cost is $200, including 3 meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. Snacks will be provided Friday evening as people arrive.

Please visit: www.uuwomensconnection.org for more information and to register. But act fast, as spaces are filling up. Hope to see you there!

### Coming Soon: Roy Zimmerman Concert

**September 6, 2017**

**ROY ZIMMERMAN: THIS MACHINE**

“This Machine” is ninety minutes of Roy Zimmerman’s hilarious, rhyme-intensive original songs. The title is a reference to Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger to be sure, but also an acknowledgement that songwriting does good work in the world. “Sometimes I think satire is the most hopeful and heartfelt form of expression,” says Roy, “because in calling out the world’s absurdities and laughing in their face, I’m affirming the real possibility of change.” Roy’s songs have been heard on HBO and Showtime. He’s shared stages with Bill Maher, Robin Williams, Ellen DeGeneres, John Oliver, Kate Clinton and George Carlin. He’s been profiled on NPR’s “All Things Considered,” and he’s a featured blogger for the Huffington Post.

### Flowers

August 6 – Penny Wollan-Kriel
August 13 – Vi Lanum
August 20 – Robert Kaige
August 27 – Sandra Creasey

As always your tax-deductible $20.00 donation is payable the week before the Sunday requested. Thank you for your continued support!

Vi Lanum, Flower Committee
Chairwoman, flower@aluuc.org
A COURSE in MIRACLES RE CLASS

A goal of *A Course in Miracles* is to train us to listen to God’s voice, the Holy Spirit. This extension of God’s mind serves as our inner guide, who will direct our thoughts, telling us exactly what to do, and directing all our efforts. To be truly effective, we must learn to rely on our own internal teacher rather than looking for help outside ourselves. We are thus guided to discover our own God-given function.

As we are led from the world of the ego to the world of love, our perception of ourselves as separated persons is corrected, and we remember our higher, or true Self. We remember we were created by God as His Child, and we are enabled to accept the Christ within, and to see with Christ’s vision. We recognize our oneness with God, our Self, and all our brothers, and are able, finally, to “teach only love,” which is our true function as Children of God.

We meet in the Barton classroom at ALUUC at 6 pm every Tuesday to read and discuss these concepts and how they apply to our lives. Please note that we will not be meeting on September 5 (the day after Labor Day). Questions? Please email acim@aluuc.org.

PAGAN GROUP

The Pagan Group is like-minded and curious people who gather together to learn about and celebrate Earth-centered spirituality. Generally, we celebrate the Wheel-of-the-Year, which includes eight festivals or Sabbats. Celebrations include planned ritual, drumming and song, crafts, a decorated altar, and a potluck dinner. For more information about the ALUUC Pagan Group, please contact Tracy Zieber at aluucpagans@gmail.com, or call.

MEN’S GROUP

The Men’s Group meets on the first & third Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. We vary our meeting locations between church and nearby restaurants. Join us for insightful discussion, dinner, drinks and merriment. Feel free to bring thought provoking books, articles or poems for examination and reflection. Contact Jim Curran to get on the mailing list for meeting locations and details (mensgroup@aluuc.org or phone).

HUMANIST GROUP

Our ALUUC Humanist Group emphasizes humanitarianism as a way of life with core values of dignity, equality, and social justice for all individuals. We routinely discuss matters of morality/ethical values, separation of church and state, science/evolution/neuroscience, behavioral economics and occasionally non-partisan politics as it relates to the human spirit. Programs focus on humanity book reviews and/or media presentations followed by lively group discussion. Other formats can and will be considered by Chair Sarah Iaiennaro.

On August 28, at 7:00pm at ALUUC, Frank Kopecky will facilitate the Humanist Group’s discussion of *Viking Economics: How the Scandinavians Got It Right-and How We Can, Too*. “Liberals worldwide invoke Scandinavia as a promised land of equality, while most conservatives fear it as a
Groups at ALUUC and Lifespan RE for Adults (cont’d)

hotbed of liberty-threatening socialism. But the left and right can usually agree on one thing: that the Nordic system is impossible to replicate elsewhere. The US and UK are too big, or too individualistic, or too… something. In *Viking Economics*, George Lakey dispels these myths. He explores the inner-workings of the Nordic economies that boast the world’s happiest, most productive workers, and explains how, if we can enact some of the changes the Scandinavians fought for surprisingly recently, we, too, can embrace equality in our economic policy.” — from Amazon Book Reviews

For more information, contact Sarah Iaiennaro at humanistgroup@aluuc.org.

HIKING GROUP

**Lincoln Memorial Gardens Hike**

Join Green Sanctuary for a hike at Lincoln Memorial Gardens. This native woodland garden was designed by internationally known landscape architect Jens Jensen in the 1930s. The 100 acre site has miles of hiking trails and a wonderful nature center. An added plus, we’ll check out the newly renovated 70 foot Walgreen Bridge.

We’ll meet at the Nature Center building at 10:00am which is a short walk from the main parking area on East Lake Drive (bear left upon entering from the parking lot). The hike is approx. 2 miles long and will take about 1.5 hours at a leisurely pace. A good part of the hike is along the lake and has wonderful views.

Note: Kids ok, doggies not ok :-(

If questionable weather, confirm with Jim Curran by phone or at hiking@aluuc.org.

**Let’s take a hike!**

**Just the facts:**

Date / Meet Time: Sat, Aug. 19th / 10:00 am
Distance: 2 miles
Difficulty level: easy to moderate
Hiking time: 1.5 hours
Kids: Yes
Dogs: No
Address: 2301 East Lake Drive, Spfld, IL 62712
Website: www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The ALUUC Book Group will meet on **Tuesday, September 26 at 7:00pm in the Channing Room.** As this is the first meeting, in hopes of re-establishing the Group, we will determine if the time and dates of future meetings work for those interested. For the September meeting, we will each report on a recent, favorite “read” and then decide what we want to read as a group for the next few months. We hope folks will join the group and enjoy reading and discussing books together. For questions, contact Penny Wollan-Kriel or bookgroup@aluuc.org.

The Choir will be taking their regular summer break from May 29 through August 26, and will resume in **September**. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Schultz at choir@aluuc.org.

FABULOUS FUNDRAISING

Scrip is a cooperative that allows congregation members to buy gift cards to national retailers at face value. A percentage of each card sold comes back to ALUUC. Gas stations, grocery and clothing stores, drugstores and restaurants are well-represented on the list of 400+ vendors.

Go to www.aluuc.org/about-aluuc/members/scrip-program for step-by-step instructions on how to register for this program. Use the code provided by Kerri Skrudland to join the ALUUC’s program. Scrip gift cards are sent to ALUUC; members then can pick them up and use them. Many scrip cards are reloadable, and you can also buy scrip as a ScripNow eCard, which can be printed from your computer and used immediately.

**Our next order deadline is August 20.** Please contact Kerri Skrudland at scrip@aluuc.org or phone for more information about this exciting program.
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* indicates event takes place off-site. **Bold** text indicates an ALUUC-sponsored event. Check online at [www.aluuc.org/events](http://www.aluuc.org/events) for the most up-to-date calendar.
# Contact Information

## Clergy:
- **Minister**: Rev. Martin Woulfe, minister@aluuc.org
- **Minister Emeritus**: Rev. Berkley Moore, minister-emeritus@aluuc.org

## Staff:
- **Office Manager**: Cheryl Wycoff, office@aluuc.org
- **Accountant**: Frank Darneille, accountant@aluuc.org
- **Director RE**: Pat Marshall, dre@aluuc.org
- **Membership Coordinator**: Tracy Zieber, welcome@aluuc.org
- **Music Pianist**: Kathy Schultz, choir@aluuc.org
- **Music**: Bonnie Ettinger, music@aluuc.org

## Board of Directors:
- **President**: Kim Villanueva, president@aluuc.org
- **Vice President**: Debby Hagan, vicepresident@aluuc.org
- **Treasurer**: Dianne Roberts, treasurer@aluuc.org
- **Secretary**: Alison Stachera, secretary@aluuc.org

## Committees of the Congregation
- **Committee on Ministry**: Gwen Childs, com@aluuc.org
- **Nominating Committee**: Roger Powers, nominating@aluuc.org
- **Endowment Trust**: Gwen Childs, endowment@aluuc.org

## Committees of the Board
- **Electronics & Communication**: Marissa DeWeese, email@aluuc.org
- **Newsletter**: Cheryl Wycoff & Marissa DeWeese, newsletter@aluuc.org
- **Webmaster**: Carol Kneedler, webmaster@aluuc.org
- **Facilities**: Gwen Childs & Kurt DeWeese, facilities-com@aluuc.org
- **Aesthetics**: Gwen Childs, aesthetics@aluuc.org
- **Flower**: Vi Lanum, flower@aluuc.org
- **Fellowship**: Phil Anderson, fellowship@aluuc.org
- **Finance**: Kurt DeWeese, finance@aluuc.org
- **Green Sanctuary**: Jim Curran, greensanctary@aluuc.org
- **Long Range Planning**: Debby Hagan & Carol Kneedler, plan@aluuc.org
- **Membership**: Carol Kneedler & Dianne Roberts, membership@aluuc.org
- **Pastoral Care**: Delinda Chapman, pastoralcare@aluuc.org
- **Personnel**: Frank Kopecky, personnel-com@aluuc.org
- **Program**: Elaine Orr, program.com@aluuc.org
- **Religious Education (RE)**: Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant, re@aluuc.org
- **Social Justice**: Nancy Derrig, sac@aluuc.org
- **Welcoming Congregations**: Meg Evans & Tracy Zieber, wcc@aluuc.org

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