In several short hours, I will be gathering with interfaith colleagues and congregants from diverse traditions, to co-lead yet another vigil. This is what we do now in the aftermath of a horrific attack, especially when one is directed against a faith community. This time, the victims were hundreds of Christians at worship on Easter Sunday in Sri Lanka. Our venue tonight will be the First Presbyterian Church. We will sing, pray, offer encouragement and take up a collection to help the victims. But it never seems to be enough.

Only one short month ago, we had gathered at the Islamic Center to offer prayers of compassion and solidarity, following a ghastly attack upon Muslims in New Zealand. Not long before, many of the same people had gathered at an outdoor event in front of the Lincoln statue, as we sought to comfort one another, especially the Jewish community, after the murders in a Pittsburgh synagogue.

I could go on and name many other observances during the past few years. Concert venues, movie theaters, supermarkets, schools, etc., have all been drawn into the web of violence. I have introduced the ritual of lighting candles, usually after we light our chalice, to remember the victims of violence. Such rituals have become commonplace here and elsewhere. For example – during worship at Unity Temple in Oak Park, the congregation invokes the names of those slain in the Chicago area during the past week, followed by silence.

I think about a man I met just last night. He was about my age and celebrating his birthday. Within minutes, he had shared his views on concealed carry, the President, and how this country would be better if we sought out and killed our enemies, especially Muslims. I challenged his views, but he was passionate in their defense. If anything, he doubled down, and began to cite religion as justification. I was appalled, naturally.

This chance encounter validated my sense that we live in a toxic culture. More and more, innocents are maimed or killed in places where they should be safe. Houses of worship are not immune. The interfaith community recently had a conversation with law enforcement and city officials to discuss our mutual vulnerability. I know of several other UU congregations in central Illinois that have installed “panic buttons” and we are likely to install several here soon as well. And yet, the commitment to fulfill our mission remains. We will continue to welcome all people. We will not live in fear.

Continued on page 2
By coincidence, the media is filled with stories on the 20th anniversary of the tragedy at Columbine High School. It is difficult to accept that our leaders cannot – or will not – take common sense steps to protect the innocent from harm. I believe that this is a one of the greatest moral failures of our generation, a fundamental threat to our democracy. I earnestly hope that we will do more than merely rely upon “thoughts and prayers.” These are clearly not enough. But now I have to leave off typing and attend the vigil. More thoughts will follow, later.

Postscript: The value of the service was, I think, to remind everyone, myself included, that in the aftermath of such tragedies, there is always a healing response. There are far more good people than evil in this world, and tragedies like this generally result in a flood of efforts by those who would repair the brokenness and mend the wounds of the world. If violence seems a constant in our lives, so too are acts of healing. Let us be reminded that it takes a stout heart to love the world. We must not give in to despair or hopelessness. This is one of the reasons why people of faith gather, especially on such occasions; to once again ground ourselves in compassion and to renew our work within the world.

Sincerely, Rev. Martin Woulfe, minister@aluuc.org

Membership Committee Update

May is going to be a busy bee month for ALUUC. Be sure to check out all the fun and informative activities on this month's schedule -- everything from music and mythology, Springfield Pridefest, and even end of life planning. There will be something for everyone. We're even looking ahead to June and planning for a summer fellowship picnic at a nearby park. Keep watching the calendar for updates.

Besides all the wonderful activities on the May calendar, we will have a Pathways to Membership class in a “3 in 1” session on Sunday May 19th after services. Please join us if you are a friend or recent attendee and are interested in becoming a member of our congregation. This will be the final opportunity during this liturgical year to join ALUUC.

Session Descriptions:

May 19: Session #1 Seeds: Sharing Our Stories. This session focuses on sharing important themes and stories from our own life stories, with a special emphasis on our faith journeys.

Session #2 Roots: An inside scoop on UUism and ALUUC. This session is intended to present and discuss various themes and developments within UUism as a whole and ALUUC in particular. We will explore the Principles & Purposes, the Sources, and some important milestones.

Session #3 Branches: Fostering Growth & Creating Connections. This session is an opportunity for newer people to meet some of the leaders and mentors within the congregation, to discuss how one might become more active and engaged!

If you are a member or friend of the congregation, and if you have difficulty with transportation to and from Sunday services, please contact the Membership Committee. We are working to coordinate solutions for those in need.

Member feedback is invaluable for letting us know how we are doing as a congregation to help meet spiritual, mental, emotional, and sometimes physical needs. Please let us know what we are doing well, and the places where we can improve. We would love to have your ideas at the next Membership meeting on Thursday, June 20th, at 6:30.

Please contact the Membership Committee for more information at membership@aluuc.org. Contact the Membership Coordinator at welcome@aluuc.org for information about Pathways.

Tracy Zieber, Membership Coordinator welcome@aluuc.org
Sunday Morning Services

10:30 am

May 5, 2019

Does Channing Still Matter?, Rev. Martin Woulfe
Exactly two hundred years ago, the Rev. William Ellery Channing gave a sermon entitled “Unitarian Christianity” that heralded a new birth of liberal religion on this continent. During his lifetime, Channing was the most famous liberal Christian preacher and author – but he seems to have fallen out of favor with most current UU adherents. What may be still relevant of his spiritual insights and opinions?

Change for Change, Birthday Song

May 12, 2019

RU a Universalist Unitarian or UU?, Rev. Martin Woulfe
Half a century after the merger of two distinct streams within liberal religion, the older labels seem to be in decline. And yet, there are people and congregations that emphasize one identity over another. What’s at stake?

Sung Milestones

May 19, 2019

Lessons in Welcoming, Rev. Martin Woulfe
How has our understanding of “welcoming” changed over the years? Do we truly welcome all people, on equal terms, or are some more welcome than others? How can we live out the gospel of “The Larger Hope” in the modern era.

Traditional Milestones, Story by Martha Plog

May 26, 2019

Religious Education Recognition Service

June 2, 2019

UU Values and Ethics, Rev. Martin Woulfe

Save the Date: Our Flower Communion will be held on June 9th.
Following the service, we will hold our Annual Meeting.

Milestones
The Program Committee is pleased to share that Milestones will be included during the following worship services during May.

May 12 - Sung Milestones
May 19 - Traditional Milestones

MINISTER’S OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Off
Tuesday - 10:30 - 3:00 pm
Wednesday - 10:30 - 2:00 pm
Thursday - 10:30 - 3:00 pm
Friday - 10:30 - 3:00 pm
Saturday - Sermon Preparation Day
Sunday - Available after coffee hour

Please call to schedule an appointment during evening hours.
The month of May actually brings an end to many things—winter, for one, is generally forbidden after May 1st, which I think is a good thing. May also brings an end to the regular Religious Education program. We’ll be wrapping up our programming with lessons on Peace and Contribution, followed by an RE Appreciation service on May 26th. It’s shaping up to be something special, so we hope everyone can come join us.

Our Senior Youth Ryan Croteau and Sabrina Vining participated in their final CON this year, including their bridging ceremony, and we’re looking forward to hearing their credos (along with those of other graduating seniors) in the coming weeks as part of our Sunday services. For those unfamiliar with CONS, they are a weekend-long gathering of young people planned by youth with adult support for youth ages 14-18. Between 30 and 100 youth attend each one. At heart a youth con is an experience in building covenantal community. Each con has a different theme and focus, but they all incorporate community building, fun, worship, spirituality, and youth leadership.

Our 1-8th youth had the opportunity to visit Cherry Hills Baptist Church, and were rather in favor of the event, as they discovered they knew people who regularly attend our neighboring church. Students learned the story of the Good Samaritan and stuffed bags for homeless people, as well. Making the effort to engage with people of other faith congregations gave us an opportunity to appreciate the values we share.

In out other classrooms, we’re having larger than typical numbers of students, which is great, but that also means we’d like to expand the pool of volunteers we currently have. If you’re interested, contact Pat Woods at DRE@aluuc.org or call/text.

And, we’ll be bringing our RE survey results to the next RE Committee meeting, and we thank everyone who participated in helping us gather data so we could plan the best possible RE experience for the coming year.

Pat Woods, Director of Religious Education, dre@aluuc.org
ALUUC's free ecology camp for children is this summer, and planning is in full swing! At Eco Camp, campers and teen counselors learn about environmentalism and working together through workshops and various activities - with a little Harry Potter magic thrown in! This year, we will focus on what we can do to protect the different realms of the Earth such as land, sea, and the sky.

Volunteers Needed!
We will need lots of volunteers before and during camp - if you can help out in any way, please sign up! We have many different opportunities that our UU community can help:

- planning,
- setting up on Sunday afternoon,
- helping with registration on Monday,
- assisting during the lunch hour either in the kitchen or on the playground during the week,
- donating supplies, food, or funding,
- teaching a class,
- assisting a class,
- taking part with our Friday "Hogsmede" Party,
- cleaning up on Friday afternoon,
- helping at our Saturday Action on the Downtown Springfield Farmers Market.

We will be passing around signup lists during services, will have a volunteer registration form online, and look for an email later this month with more details and links!

For more information about how you can volunteer, contact Phil Anderson at eco2019volunteer@aluuc.org.
If you are more interested with helping with the food and/or the kitchen during Eco Camp, then contact Elaine Orr at eco2019food@aluuc.org.

*Save the Month* - we will have a "Volunteer"-raiser in July - date is still to be determined, so stay tuned.

Registration Opens Soon!
For Campers & Prefects (our teen counselors):

- **Registration for returning campers will open May 12** -- check your email parents & guardians!
  Registration will open to the public on May 26, so don't delay -- spots fill up quickly.

If you have any questions about registration, please contact Diana DeWeese at eco2019register@aluuc.org.
Campers can be 5-12 years old (5 year old’s must be going into the 1st grade this August) and prefects are 13-18. More information is on the church website at http://www.aluuc.org/eco-camp, along with registration forms when registration opens.

Our next planning meetings will be:
- **Wednesday, May 8** at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary,
- **Tuesday, May 28** at 6:30pm in the Fuller Room.

All are welcome to attend!

If you have any questions, please contact ecocamp@aluuc.org
Pollinators are declining worldwide, threatening the world’s food supply. The International Union for Conservation of Nature indicates that 16.5 percent of vertebrate pollinators (such as bats) are threatened with global extinction. According to that report, there are no global assessments of insect pollinators because of difficulty gathering data, but regional and national assessments indicate high levels of threat to some bees and butterflies and a decline in numbers of other species.

Why are pollinators important? According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, more than three-quarters of the world’s food crops rely at least in part on pollination by insects and other animals. Pollinators carry pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thus creating fertile seed which can produce plants for the next generation. Most fruits and vegetables we eat depend upon pollinators, as do plants we use for fiber and those from which we derive medicine. Even meat, especially beef, and milk products are indirectly dependent on pollinators in that forage crops such as clover and alfalfa depend on pollinators.

Why are native plants important for pollinators? “Pollinators have evolved with native plants over thousands of years developing unique and interdependent relationships” * Flowers come in all sorts of arrangements and some flowers need a specific type of insect or animal to pollinate them. For example, native bees come with different lengths of tongues. Who would have thought of it? A short tongue bee can access an open face flower like a sunflower. A long tongue bee also can access sunflowers but is more likely to go to tubular flower like bottle gentian, which a bee with a short tongue cannot access. So if there are no long tongue bees around, tubular flowers may not become pollinated.

Caterpillars of some butterflies only will feed on a specific type of plants. Monarch caterpillars feed only on milkweeds so if there are no milkweeds, the monarch female has no appropriate place to lay her eggs, so no new generation of monarch butterflies to provide pollination for many flowers.

Who pollinates? A lot of pollination is performed by non-native honey bees, due to beekeepers transporting thousands of hives from one crop to another. In addition to honeybees, there are thousands of native pollinators out there busy collecting nectar and pollen and in the process doing the job of carrying pollen from one flower to the next. Pollinators include insects, such as butterflies, native bees, beetles and flies; birds such as hummingbirds, and mammals such as bats.

What are the causes of pollinator decline? The causes of decline are many. One is habitat loss. In Illinois with vast amounts of land taken up with corn, soybeans and development, there are fewer and fewer acres of habitat for insect species, meaning fewer plant communities for shelter or fewer species of plants some pollinators need for food and reproduction. Other causes of pollinator decline are use of pesticides both in managed bee colonies and in agriculture, home and garden. Alien species of plants are invading natural communities, displacing native plants and thus the homes and food for pollinators. Alien diseases and parasites are an increasing problem both for honey bees and native species of insects. And, as the climate changes, species unable to adapt to new weather conditions may decline or become extinct.

So what can we do? Plant more native plants. Plants like hostas and daylilies are of minimal use to pollinators. Instead of hostas, plant calico aster, Solomon’s seal, wild geranium. Instead of daylilies, plant pale

Continued on page 8
purple coneflower, rattlesnake master, and smooth aster (from monarchgard.com) According to Illinois Audubon, scientists say 1.8 billion more stems of milkweed plants may be needed to sustain the monarch population, so plant milkweeds. **Buy native plants at the Native Plant Society annual sale at the Illinois Fairgrounds Commodity Pavilion across from the grandstand on Saturday May 11 from 9 - 1 or the Lincoln Memorial Gardens Prairie Plant Sale on May 11 from 9-1 and Sunday May 12 from 1-4.** And you can help plant new plants in the ALUUC prairie for added diversity. (See Jim Curran, Tony Gambiani, or Virginia Forrer).

*Pollinators of Native Plants* by Heather Holm

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**UUA General Assembly - June 19 - 23, Spokane, WA**

**The Power of WE**

The Unitarian Universalist Association will hold its 2019 General Assembly on June 19-23 in Spokane, WA. At this year’s General Assembly we will explore the power, possibility, purpose, struggle and joy of finding the path forward together as Unitarian Universalists. Attendees will leave inspired, with the tools needed to carry on the work into their own congregations and communities. Join us as we work for collective liberation inside and outside our faith.

Please go to [https://www.uua.org/ga](https://www.uua.org/ga) for details about Registration, which is currently open (rates increase May 1.) plus Housing options, the Schedule of Events, etc. Among the many special events will be the Ware Lecture, delivered by Richard Blanco who was selected by President Obama as the fifth inaugural poet in U.S. history. Richard Blanco is the youngest and the first Latino, immigrant, and gay person to serve in such a role.

All ALUUC members are welcome to attend; if you would like to represent ALUUC as one of our 6 credentialed delegates, please contact Kim Villanueva at president@aluuc.org.

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**COFFEE HOUR**

Join us every Sunday morning after service for coffee and conversation!

If you are interested in helping out with Coffee Hour on Sunday, go to [aluuc.org/kitchen](http://aluuc.org/kitchen) to sign up or contact [email@aluuc.org](mailto:email@aluuc.org).

**FLOWERS**

- **May 5** - Art Darken
- **May 12** - available
- **May 19** - available
- **May 26** - available

As always your tax-deductible $25 donation is payable the week before the Sunday requested. Thank you!

*Vi Lanum, Flower Committee, flower@aluuc.org*
ALUUC Social Justice Committee (SJC) Update

Sunday Service SJ Moment lets you know what you can do to promote social justice.

Environmental Advocacy Day Thursday, May 9, 1 pm in front of the Capitol
Are you frustrated with the federal administration’s regressive environmental policies? Have you bemoaned the state of things in Illinois? Want to do something about it? Join supporters of the Illinois Environmental Council, Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club and Faith in Place at the Capitol in Springfield for the 2019 Environmental Lobby day. In past years, these events have been vital in passing important environmental policies, including the Future Energy Jobs Act. It’s now more important than ever to make sure that legislators hear our concerns loud and clear. (Please join us and UUs from all over Illinois (please wear your ALUUC t-shirt).

The petitions below will be presented. There is a box in the ALUUC foyer for them.

Dear Gov. Pritzker, State Sen. ________________, and State Rep. ________________,
As your constituent, I believe we need to stop climate change and transition to a green economy as soon as possible. I urge you to support the following goals of the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition:

- Clean energy job growth and training, especially for economically disadvantaged communities, communities of color, communities impacted by pollution, and former fossil fuel workers.

- Replacing one million fossil fuel-powered vehicles with electric vehicles, mass transit, and other alternatives.

- A carbon-free power sector for Illinois by 2030, and 100% clean renewable energy for Illinois by 2050.

Sincerely,

Name

Address___________________________ City/Zip_________________________

Email___________________________ Congregation_____________________

Sign me up for UUANI Actions of the Week
**Change 4 Change** - Thank you for your most appreciated and needed generosity.

**April:** You raised $532.7 for *Springfield Immigration and Advocacy Network (SIAN).* SIAN is presently assisting Springfield area immigrants interned by ICE (U.S. Immigration & Custom Enforcement) and federal authorities. SIAN has an urgent need for resources (money, food, clothing, etc.) for these families. SIAN is people from diverse cultural backgrounds, faiths and organizations united to educate and work with leaders, community members and institutions to bring support to our immigrant communities facing crises due to present government policies & actions. SIAN supports immigrant & refugee advocacy and contributes to a Springfield in which **ALL** feel included, safe, valued, and welcome. Contact Larry Golden, or Meg Evans for more information or to help. **Checks still most welcome made out to ALLUUC with SIAN noted in the memo line.**

**May:** *Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.* is the largest African-American women’s organization in the world, and was founded by 22 college women in 1913 on the campus of Howard University. The Springfield-Decatur Area Alumnae Chapter is dedicated to assisting high achieving young African American adults in continuing their education at institutions of higher learning. Annually the Chapter awards several $500 scholarships to graduating seniors in the Springfield/Decatur area who are continuing their education at an accredited college or university. Since 1979 the Chapter has awarded over $100,000 in scholarships. Students receiving scholarships demonstrate high academic ability and outstanding community service. [https://www.deltasigmatheta.org/](https://www.deltasigmatheta.org/) Please make checks to ALUUC with DSTS noted in the memo line.

**Recent ALUUC Social Justice and Racial Justice Activities**
A dozen folks from ALUUC attended the April Crossroads training *Understanding and Analyzing Systemic Racism* here at ALUUC. A big thank you to all who contributed in Change for Change to send 2 of those folks. An enormous thank you to the Covenant Group who provided a delicious lunch.
A car full from ALUUC attended an April *UUANI Statewide Justice Gathering in Alton, IL.* Kurt DeWeese presented on the Fair Tax. We discussed environmental justice, immigrant justice, economic justice and racial equity. We were also prepped on how to meet with legislators.

**SJC Racial Justice Project Meetings**
We are now meeting on the 4th Thursday on the month, 6:30 pm, ALUUC. We are open to all and need your input and ideas. Please join us May 23rd.

**SJC Regular Meetings**
We usually meet the 3rd Sunday at 12 noon in the Berkley Moore room. **Next meeting May 19th.** All are welcome; we need **You** and welcome your concerns and ideas. **Be the change you want to see.**
Nancy Derrig and Meg Evans, SJC Co-chairs

**Community Opportunities for Helping Homelessness**

**St. John’s Breadline** 430 N. 5th St., Springfield, IL 62702, (217) 528-6098
Volunteers provide and serve meals weekdays 8:00 - 10:00 am or 2:00 – 4:00 pm; 10:30 am –1:30 pm weekends and holidays. Groups welcome. [http://cc.dio.org/programs/st-johns-breadline](http://cc.dio.org/programs/st-johns-breadline)

**Helping Hands** 1023 E. Washington Springfield, IL 62703, (217) 522-0048
Provide a meal: [http://www.helpinghandsofspringfield.org/](http://www.helpinghandsofspringfield.org/), click the meal train picture; select & book a date. Or call 522-0048 ext 5; Brandy. (Thanks to Delinda Chapman)
LOCAL CONTACTS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES

**UUANI (UU Advocacy Network of Illinois)**

uuani@uuani.org

Through Actions of the Week, over the past 2 years, nearly 1000 Illinois UUs have sent messages to elected officials to advocate for our UU values. UUANI is launching a program to create a **Social Justice Leadership Corps**, with teams from congregations participating in a 6 month program to develop our capacity for spiritually grounded and strategically effective action.

Please contact us at uuani@uuani.org if you are interested or would like to nominate someone.”

Our connection to this group is Deb Hagan.

More information and/or Email alerts www.uuani.org or www.facebook.com/UUANI.

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**GSIA Greater Springfield Interfaith Association Meetings**

**May 7, 2019 at 11:45 am - 1:30 pm**

Members & Friends of ALUUC are invited to join with the Interfaith Community on **Tuesday, May 7** as GSIA hosts a conversation on “The Boundaries of Inclusivity Within Our Faith Communities.” Participants will gather at the First Congregational Church (2100 S. Bates, Springfield, IL 62707) from 11:45 am - 1:30 pm. Please bring your own lunch; some refreshments will be provided by our host.

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**May 18 – PrideFest, Downtown Springfield**

Local UUs have participated in this annual street fair since its inception! Join us again as we embrace diversity, inclusivity & celebrate the LGBTQ community. This year’s theme is “GENERATIONS OF PRIDE" - Celebrating 50 years since Stonewall!” Attendees are encouraged to wear clothing of the decade that you most identify with – 60’s, 70’s, 80’s, 90’s, 00’s, 10’s.

UU & PFLAG Volunteers are needed to help with Pridefest on May 18, 11:30am – 6pm, with set-up & take-down of a UU booth, to sit in shifts at the UU table and to march in the Pride Parade. Set up begins around 10 am. Please contact Rev. Woulfe (minister@aluuc.org). The parade starts at 5th & Allen at 11:30 AM and proceeds North on 5th to Jackson. All friends & members of ALUUC & PFLAG will form one walking unit - please join the fun and bring Pride flags!

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, May 20 at 7 pm**. This is a safe and confidential gathering of LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer) people, their families, friends and allies to meet and share. This PFLAG group is open to all and welcomes your energy!

If you have not yet paid your dues for 2019, please write a check made out to PFLAG of Springfield for $3 per household and send to Rev. Martin Woulfe.

Visit our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/PFLAGSpringfieldIL. To contact the group by email: pflag-springfieldil_1@juno.com.
Adult RE Class – How to Get Published:
Monday May 13, 7 pm

Author Elaine Orr will lead a special two-hour workshop offering guidance on how to get your work into print – either self-published or by an established publisher. Among her published works are In the Shadow of Light, Underground in Ocean Alley, Demise of a Devious Suspect - River's Edge #3 and Final Cycle, and Logland Mystery #2.

A Virtual Conversation with Fr. James Martin, SJ - May 15th

ALUUC will host a special, live-streamed conversation with noted author, Fr. James Martin, SJ. Also known as Jim Martin, is a progressive American Jesuit priest, a writer, and editor-at-large of the Jesuit magazine America. Fr. Martin has addressed some of the key social and religious issues of our day, including the current Administration’s response to Immigration. Through his writings and witness, Fr. Martin has encouraged leaders within his tradition to embrace a more inclusive approach to faith, one that celebrates inclusivity, respects the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and creates a sacred space for people and ideas.

This presentation, followed by interaction with the audience, begins at 7 pm at ALUUC. Only 100 people will be admitted; admission is by ticket only. Tickets are $10 per person; sales and reservations are being handled by Rev. Woulfe. Several books written by Fr. Martin will be available for sale as well.

Adult RE Class: Finding Joe (Joseph Campbell)
May 23, 7 pm – Fuller Room

When was the last time you considered the work and insights of Joseph Campbell? Did his writing unlock layers of understanding for you about yourself and the mythology of the world? Join us on Thursday, May 23 as we revisit an old friend – participants will watch a special DVD presentation and then discuss Joseph Campbell and the Hero’s Journey.”

SERVICE LEADER TRAINING

There will be a Training and Review session on Sunday, May 5 at noon (following the service) in the Berkley Room for anyone interested in acting as a Service Leader. Members and friends from high school age and up are welcome to check out this volunteer opportunity. Commitment is regular church attendance and being Service Leader about 4-6 times a year. If interested, please contact Rev. Martin Woulfe (uurevmartin@gmail.com) or Penny Wollan-Kriel.
Committees and Groups at ALUUC

A COURSE IN MIRACLES RE CLASS

“A Course In Miracles is a self study system of spiritual awakening that teaches the way to inner peace and awakening through the power of love and forgiveness.”
Alan Cohen
We meet each Tuesday at 6 pm to read and discuss A Course In Miracles. Most weeks, we meet in the Berkley Room but sometimes in Fuller.

Questions? Please email acim@aluuc.org.

HUMANIST GROUP

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, the ALUUC Humanist Group will meet one week early at 7 PM, Monday, May 20, at ALUUC. Sarah Iaiennaro will facilitate our discussion of David Brook’s book The Road to Character.

“The road to exceptional character may be unpaved and a bit rocky, yet it is still worth the struggle. This is the basic thesis of Brooks' engrossing treatise on personal morality in today's materialistic, proud world...Brooks puts forward exemplary figures who recognized their inner weaknesses and overcame those flaws through love of God, family, country, and vocation. They include governmental figures like Gen. George Marshall and President Dwight Eisenhower; Catholic social worker Dorothy Day; theologian St. Augustine; "humanist" writers George Eliot, Samuel Johnson, and Michel de Montaigne; and civil rights leaders A. Philip Randolph and Bayard Rustin. Brook's poignant and at times quite humorous commentary on the importance of humility and virtue makes for a vital, uplifting read.” ~ Publishers Weekly

Questions? Please contact Sarah Iaiennaro at humanistgroup@aluuc.org.

NEWS GROUP

The News Group will meet at its regular time and place Thursday May 2nd at 7:00 pm in the Channing Room. The News Group is a monthly discussion group meeting on the first Thursday of each month. We discuss whatever is in the national, state, or local news.

All are welcome to attend. For further information contact Kurt DeWeese, or Frank Kopecky, or email newsgroup@aluuc.org.

All groups must reserve their meeting space in advance for meetings and/or events through Office Manager Cheryl Wycoff at office@aluuc.org.
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The ALUUC Book Group will meet on **Tuesday, May 28 at 7 PM** in the Channing Room. *A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole will be the book selection to be discussed.

Our June selection is *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead. This was on Barack Obama’s reading list for 2017.

We also will determine the selections for the next few months which may include *Fantasyland, How America Went Haywire* by Kurt Anderson. Join us and suggest books for the group to consider.

We welcome anyone to join us whether you have read the book selection or not. For questions, email Penny Wollan-Kriel at bookgroup@aluuc.org.

COMPASSION & CHOICES GROUP

Members and friends of this group are invited to join a meeting at ALUUC on **Wednesday, May 1 @ 7 pm** to discuss our efforts to promote a compassionate alternative for terminally ill patients in Illinois. This is the first regular monthly meeting, which will be held on the first Wednesday of each month. We will schedule the next viewing of "How to Die in Oregon." If you can attend, please notify Rev. Woulfe, so we will know how much snack food to bring. Thank you!

COVENANT GROUPS

Covenant Groups are a great way to get to know other ALUUC members in a group that values listening and deep sharing on a variety of chosen topics. Participants commit to meet regularly: twice a month for about two hours each meeting.

The spring groups are currently running through the end of May; most will either not meet or meet a few times socially during summer. The groups will start again this September. To learn more, visit [http://www.aluuc.org/aluuc-covenant-groups](http://www.aluuc.org/aluuc-covenant-groups), contact Stu Jacobson, or email covenantgroups@aluuc.org.

Board Meeting Dates

The ALUUC board has scheduled two meetings for May:

- **6 PM, Tuesday, May 7** (budget review)
- **6 PM, Tuesday, May 14** (regular meeting)

Both sessions will start at 6 PM at ALUUC.
Fellowship Events

**RiZe Up with Roy Zimmerman: A Special Concert at ALUUC:**
**Friday, May 10, 7:30 pm**
A frequent guest of UU Congregations, Roy Zimmerman promises music and laughter that will brighten our days, even during the heaviest of political storms. He asserts that his signature blend of heart and hilarity has never been more necessary. RiZe Up is ninety minutes of Roy Zimmerman’s original songs, a funny and forceful affirmation of Peace and Social Justice. Roy’s CDs & more will be available for sale. Adult admission is $20 – or pay what you can, at the door.

![Roy Zimmerman](image)

**Movie Night: Kubo and the Two Strings**  
**Sunday, May 26, 5 pm**
"Kubo (Art Parkinson), a young boy who wields a magical shamisen (a Japanese guitar) and whose left eye was stolen during infancy must subdue his mother’s corrupted Sisters and his power-hungry grandfather Raiden (The Moon King). This gorgeous stop-motion action fantasy film also stars the voices of Charlize Theron, Ralph Fiennes, Rooney Mara, George Takei, and Matthew McConaughey."

102 minutes. Rated PG. Popcorn will be provided, along with subtitles for those who are hard of hearing.

![Kubo and the Two Strings](image)

**Labyrinth Walk**  
**Friday May 17, 7 - 9 PM**
Looking for a quiet yet invigorating spiritual exercise? This unique and ancient pathway offers an opportunity to ground yourself in the present moment & explore the contours of your consciousness. Each walk starts at 7 pm. There will also be an opportunity to receive a Oneness Blessing before and after you walk; those who wish to stay after the walk may join in an informal Vespers service-UU Communion held in Rev. Woulfe’s office.
UU Volunteer of the Year Award

Members and friends of ALUUC are invited to nominate their choices for the most deserving volunteer for special recognition.

Please submit your recommendations to either Rev. Woulfe or Jodi Perko, including your reasons for nominating them.

Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendars: The Congregational Annual Meeting will take place June 9, 2019, immediately following the morning service. We will vote on board officers and members, the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget, and any changes to our ALUUC bylaws.* Details will be published within 15 days of the June 9 date, so be on the lookout for these important details.

*A person must be a member for at least ninety (90) days to be eligible to vote at a Congregation meeting or be counted towards a quorum.

Fundraise for ALUUC While You Shop!

Are you an Amazon customer? You can help ALUUC!

When Amazon customers shop on smile.amazon.com, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. For example, if you make a $100 purchase, Amazon will donate 50 cents to ALUUC.

Every time you make a new purchase on Amazon, be sure to start at smile.amazon.com! Learn more about how to set this up at www.aluuc.org/amazon-smile.

Shop With Scrip

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

Physical scrip gift cards are sent to ALUUC; members then can pick them up and use them. Digital and Reloadable scrip gift cards are also an option.

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 the Scrip Coordinator to join the ALUUC’s program.

Please contact Marissa DeWeese at scrip@aluuc.org for more information, and to complete your registration. Our next order deadline for physical cards is May 19th.
May 2019

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<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Sunday Service</td>
<td>6 7 pm Covenant Group</td>
<td>7 7 pm Compassionate</td>
<td>1 7pm Compassionate</td>
<td>2 6:30 pm Meditation</td>
<td>3 9:30 am Zen Meditation</td>
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<td>Change for Change</td>
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<td>12 pm Service</td>
<td>12 pm Covenant Group</td>
<td>13 7 pm Adult RE</td>
<td>15 7 pm A Virtual</td>
<td>16 6:30 pm Meditation</td>
<td>17 7 pm Labyrinth</td>
<td>18 9:30 am Zen</td>
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<td>Leader Training</td>
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<td>Class: “How to</td>
<td>Conversation with Fr.</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>Walk</td>
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<td>12 pm Covenant Group</td>
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<td>Get Published”</td>
<td>James Martin, SJ</td>
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<td>*11:30 am PrideFest</td>
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<td>12 Sunday Service</td>
<td>19 Sunday Service</td>
<td>20 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>23 6:30 pm Racial</td>
<td>24 9:30 am Zen</td>
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<td>Sung Milestones</td>
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<td>Pathways to</td>
<td>A Course in Miracles</td>
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<td>9:15 Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Mother’s Day</td>
<td>Class: “How to Get Published”</td>
<td>7 pm Humanist Group</td>
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<td>12 pm Anti-Racism Mtg</td>
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<td>31 6:30 pm Meditation</td>
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<td>RE Recognition</td>
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<td>Eco Camp Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>5pm Movie - Kudo and the Two Strings</td>
<td>6:30 pm Eco Campus</td>
<td>7pm Book Group</td>
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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

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Larry Quivey  
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Visit us on the web at www.aluuc.org

ALUUC - Since 1953 Celebrating over 66 years of liberal religion in the Springfield area.