From Your ALUUC Minister:

At times, the distinctive threads of church & state seem to be hopelessly intertwined. This is all the more so when major election cycles arrive — a spate of conversations crop up concerning what is appropriate to say from different venues — most particularly when the pulpit is involved. This is a perennial conversation and the internet seems to amplify its tenor. But so too do current events; occasionally, a candidate will court endorsements from prominent faith leaders, speak in churches, or even announce that “God” told them to run in the first place. More recently, the issue gained heightened scrutiny when, during one of the recent political conventions, some advocated that the “Johnson Amendment” ought to be repealed.

A letter received this very morning from a group called “Americans United for Separation of Church and State” addresses that issue: Claims have been made that the Johnson Amendment prohibits clergy from discussing political issues in the pulpit. This is not true. The Johnson Amendment...is an amendment to the federal tax code that makes it illegal for houses of worship and other 501 (c)(3) non-profits to endorse or oppose candidates for public office (their italics).
From Your Minister (Continued from page 1)

Their website (www.au.org) elaborates further, “Religious groups have the right to speak out on political and social issues. Federal law, however, prohibits most tax-exempt bodies, including houses of worship, from intervening in elections by endorsing or opposing candidates for public office. Churches are not political action committees and should not act like them. Religious leaders should abide by the law and refrain from turning their congregations into cogs in a political machine.”

Such conversations are dominating collegial on-line groups. Today I read a post from a minister who says that several lawyers in her congregation have warned her that it is illegal to denounce any particular candidate from the pulpit. Another describes “getting pressure to speak directly on the election.” The comment section sprawls on and on.

The basic issue involves the IRS code as it pertains to tax exempt groups. I have always understood that a minister, priest, imam or rabbi must refrain from publicly endorsing/denouncing a particular candidate in our capacity as a faith leader. We may endorse voter registration on the premises. We may even address issues and values from the pulpit. Sometimes, our words and phrases do no doubt betray a bias. But my training is that we must never be explicit towards the candidates themselves or their political affiliations. You can imagine how taken aback I am when other faith leaders brazenly ignore “the rules.” How can one leader, for example, assert that the immortal souls of any followers would be eternally jeopardized should they vote for a particular party? How is it that some televangelists publicly turn a worship service into a partisan bully pulpit, seemingly without fear of consequence?

Blatant examples abound every election season, but many matters are more subtle. For example, I have also understood that any clergy may openly support one or another candidate as a private citizen, e.g., by the displaying of yard signs, volunteering for a campaign, etc. But when we do that, we must set aside the title “Reverend.” That’s not always easy to do. Still, I endeavor to maintain a difference between my public and personal personas. Imagine the message I would send if my car carried multiple political bumper stickers, or if I wore a candidate’s button on my preaching robe. Personally, I would be offended if a colleague crossed that line — maybe that line between church and state must truly be, as one of the founders argued, a shifting line, rather than a wall.

And now, if you’ll excuse me, today is the first day for early voting, and I have a civic duty to perform.

Sincerely, Martin Woulfe

Pastoral Care Notice Rev. Martin Woulfe will be attending the UUMA Retreat in Racine, WI, Oct. 3-6. Please refer any pastoral care concerns during that time to Jodi Perko or Delinda Chapman.

From Your Board President (Continued from page 1)

chivalry expected from the Knights of Olde England. Bullies, discrimination, and abuse of power were the kinds of destructive behavior that the Knights fought against. We UU’s fight with the pen rather than the sword, but we know which is mightier.

There many changes taking place as we reassess our priorities and search for the path to reach them. The board has decided to forego the Trash and Treasure sale this year due to the extreme toll it takes on volunteers and the facility. If you have items for the TNT, you can hold them until next year or donate them to Goodwill. We have an ad hoc committee to search for new fundraising ideas which are not so arduous and destructive. Something fun would be ideal. Bear with us in these times of change. Consider it an opportunity to be like the Knights who set the example for others to follow. Whatever changes may come, we must continue our fight against injustice.

Sincerely, Phillip Anderson
Sunday Morning Services  
10:30 am

October 2, 2016  
**New Trends within Unitarian Universalism**, by Rev. Martin Woulfe
During the past few months, I have noticed that the UU Minister’s Association and the UUA have been promoting new emphases and issues. What are these, and how might they impact the future of UUism on the Illinois Prairie?

*This will be a “Change for Change” Sunday collection for the Winter Warming Center.*

October 9, 2016  
**The Divide**, by Paula Brayden
Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy. This equates to our first principle which is "The inherent worth and dignity of every person". Such a simple sentence, a simple concept, but incredibly difficult to put into practice. Intern Minister Paula Brayden’s sermon The Divide will explore our first principle.

October 16, 2016  
**Spiritual Practices**, by Rev. Martin Woulfe
How do we center and restore ourselves? Over the millennia, various faith traditions have advocated many methods: prayer, meditation, painting, reading, music, labyrinth walking, etc., to name but a few. Many even subscribe to “spiritual direction.” What might one gain from such practices? Are some more typical among Unitarian Universalists?

*New Member Welcoming Ceremony during the service.*

October 23, 2016  
**ALUUC’s Strategic Vision**, by the Long Range Planning Committee
Join the Long Range Planning Committee as we share ALUUC’s Strategic Vision for the next 10 years. UU Consultant Steve Mennerick will provide an overview and benefits of long range planning in UU congregations. We will explore specific goals already collected from cottage groups, the board, staff and committee chairs — and ask you to bring your insight to those goals — or add your own goals.

*There will be a potluck after the service—please bring a dish to share!*  

October 30, 2016  
**The Politics of Now**, by Jordan Abudayyeh, Political Reporter, ABC Newschannel 20
The country is just a few days away from heading to the polls in an election that has defied convention. We’ll breakdown what’s at stake with both the national and statewide races and how your vote could impact the future of policy making.

*The Pagan Group will present the Story for All Ages.*

**Please stay after the service for our annual Costume Parade! Children are invited to wear their Halloween costumes to church, and trick-or-treat in the Sanctuary with ALUUC Members and Friends.*

November 6, 2016  
**Who are the Elect?**, by Rev. Martin Woulfe
An important election is nigh! But there was a time when the term had far different connotations. On this Sunday, we will consider the religious notion of being among “The Elect” and what it means to “be saved.”

*This will be a “Change for Change” Sunday.*
From Your Intern Minister:

Fall is one of my favorite times of the year. Last month I told you that small group ministry is one of my biggest passions. The reason I love fall is because that is the season that starts off chalice circles in most congregations. I love the magic that happens within these chalice circles. You gather with a group of people who have committed to coming to the same meeting, twice a month, to get to know the others in the group. The topics of discussion vary but are designed to spark conversation and give you a glimpse of the true person. In doing this you get to know the others in the group in a deep and meaningful way. I don’t know any other avenue to learn this much about another person at church. Some of my fondest memories and deepest friendships come from chalice circles. Chalice circles can meet in one another’s homes or at church.

Below are some of the Chalice Circles that will be/are being offered:

**New to ALUUC** — for those who have joined ALUUC in the last 2 years

**CEG** — A chalice circle that is already going is our Couples Enrichment Group that meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month from 7-8:30 pm in the Channing room.

- A Couples Enrichment Group (CEG) is an ongoing small group that provides a safe place for couples to explore their relationship among supportive peers. All couples are there for the same purpose – to strengthen and grow their relationship. Learning from and sharing with other couples is a positive and relationship affirming experience. While no two relationships are the same, we are all traveling on the path to a Better Marriage, so why not travel with friends?

- Please feel free to join us for communication exercises and practice. This is for any committed couple, married or not.

**A House for Hope** — Authored by two leading progressive theologians, A House for Hope affirms that the shared hopes of religious progressives from many traditions can create a movement far stronger than fundamentalism: a liberal religious renaissance. Yet for it to flourish, progressive people must rediscover the spiritual sustenance available in the theological house our liberal forebears built, and embrace what our tradition truly holds sacred, as well as understanding what it rejects.

**Understanding the Bible** — Understanding the Bible is designed to help empower skeptics, seekers, nonbelievers, and those of a liberal and progressive outlook to reclaim the Bible from literalists.

If there is a chalice circle you would like to see formed please email me at intern@aluuc.org and let me know. There will be sign up lists each Sunday or you can email me and let me know which circle you are interested in.

Paula

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**New ALUUC Cookbooks are on the Way!**

A new edition of the ALUUC Cookbook will be ready by Christmas. Great for a present or stocking stuffer!

If you have a recipe you want put in (or a revision to a previously submitted recipe), please send to: Robert Ewart. by **November 1. All recipes welcome!**
From Your Religious Education Committee

The Religious Education Committee welcomes children, parents, teachers, congregants, and visitors to the new RE year with an Open House. Please join us in the Commons on Sunday, October 2 directly after services for delicious coffee and treats. We’ll meet the RE teachers, tour the classrooms, view artwork, play games, and maybe even sing some songs. While you’re enjoying the welcoming and educational atmosphere, please be sure to thank ALUUC’s amazing volunteer religious education staff who work so hard to ensure the implementation and variety of curriculum that honors every child in our outstanding program.

To ensure we have the most accurate information, we ask that all ALUUC students be registered or re-registered in the Religious Education program. To complete a registration form and photo permission slip for your child please visit our website at www.aluuc.org/lifespan-education/childrens-education, or see Tracy Zieber Minks or Caitlin McDonald for a paper copy.

We look forward to seeing you at the Oct. 2 RE Open House.

— ALUUC RE Committee

Senior Youth Group meets Sundays, after Service

The Senior Youth Group meets every Sunday starting 5-10 minutes after each service. All high-school aged youth are welcome!

For more information, please contact Jordan and Brie at senioryouth@aluuc.org.

October 2 RE Open House

Trick or Treat!

The Annual Trick or Treat event will be Sunday, October 30, in the Sanctuary immediately following services. Children & adults alike are invited to come in costume to enjoy this event. Adults are encouraged to bring treats to share with the children. Contact Pat Marshall, DRE at dre@aluuc.org with any questions.

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 September 16. Please contact Kerri Skrudland at scrip@aluuc.org for more information about this exciting program.
ALUUC Long Range Planning

For this year’s long range planning effort, we are using a modified version of the Appreciative Inquiry process recommended by our consultants. The most important aspects of the AI process are that it: avoids focus on problems; recognizes and celebrates past successes and what works well; builds on congregation strengths, talents and skills; encourages participation, input, ownership by the entire community; and creates positive energy and enthusiasm to implement goals.

Five Strategic Visions for ALUUC have been created by the LRP Committee from your Cottage Group input. If you haven’t already seen them as a board member, staff or committee, you will hear about them at the Sunday service on October 23rd. The most important aspects of our strategic visions are that they are: meaningful to ALUUC; grounded in the best of the past; describe a challenging but achievable future; and stated in the present tense (by stating our vision as if it is already happening, we are already taking action to create our future.)

The Committee is working to merge goals from the Board, Staff and committees. At a Sunday service on October 23, our consultant, Steve Mennerick, will join us as we share our strategic plans with the congregation as a whole and share goals from the board, staff and committees. That Sunday through October 30, congregation members and friends will have the opportunity to contribute additional goals to achieve our Strategic Visions. The committee will merge your goals with other goals; the result will be specific goals for each strategic vision that will be considered for action over the next 5-10 years.

At a special congregational meeting on Sunday, November 13, we will:
1. Vote to formally adopt the strategic plans, and
2. Prioritize specific goals to be accomplished within the next 18 months.

Please reserve October 23 and November 13 on your calendar - and join us to help guide our congregation’s next steps.

For more information

Long Range Planning Committee Members: Co-Chairs Debby Hagan and Carol Kneedler, Gwen Childs, Kurt DeWeese, Posy Robertson, Stu Jacobsen, and Dianne Roberts. Email plan@aluuc.org or call Carol (leave a message) or Debby.

ALUUC Choir

Rehearsals on Sundays!
Our choir is singing with joy! Learning music in the rehearsals is fun with laughter.

If you’re thinking about joining us, give it a try by coming on a Sunday morning at 9:15am in the Fuller room. We also need more people who have a low voice for singing the bass and tenor lines. For more information, contact Kathy Schultz at choir@aluuc.org.

October 23
Long Range Planning Sunday

November 13
Special Congregational Meeting

Vinnie Gupta will be having a pizza party again this year for his 78th birthday for our homeless brothers and sisters on October 28, 5 pm, Kumler UMC, 5th and Carpenter. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Vinnie by phone or email.
Membership News

The Membership Coordinator Hiring Committee has received applications and is considering candidates and planning interviews. We’ll provide an update via email and Sunday service announcements when we have hired our new Membership Coordinator.

The Membership Committee met Sept 20. We reviewed what has been accomplished, heard an update on hiring a Membership Coordinator, discussed committee responsibilities, invited long range goals as input to the Long Range Planning process, and discussed hospitality, including a new member mentor program. Future meetings will deal with additional responsibilities of the Membership Committee.

The next Membership Committee meeting will be Thursday, October 20 at 6pm at ALUUC.

If you are interested in joining the Membership Committee, being a Sunday morning greeter, being a mentor or calling guests and members, please email Membership@ALUUC.org.

Please Welcome Our New Members!

Celeste Woulfe joined August 28
Alice Robb joined September 4
Angela Rivera joined September 14
Gordon Davis joined September 14
Laura Davis joined September 14
Randall (Randy) Vaughn joined September 21

A New Member Welcoming Ceremony will happen October 16.

Pathways to Membership

Pathways is a special series for people interested in membership at ALUUC. A special 2-hour Pathways session will be held after the service on Sunday, October 16. Please sign up in advance with Rev. Martin Woulfe (minister@aluuc.org) if you would like to attend.

“The decision to formally join a congregation marks the beginning of the membership journey rather than its end.”
— adapted from The Membership Journey

In Memoriam

Margaret Demaree, 64, who joined ALUUC in 2013, passed away on September 21, after a lengthy illness.
A Celebration of Life ceremony was held at ALUUC on Monday, September 26.

Flowers for October

October 2 — Posy Robertson
October 9 — The Vining Family
October 16 — Art Darken
October 23 — Penny Wollan-Kriel
October 30 — Sandra Creasey

Member & Friend Photo Directory Update!

Work is in full swing on our 2016-17 directory – many thanks to Peggy Fenley, Mindy Miller, and Alice Cobb who have contributed many hours into this effort!

October 9th is the last day to have your photo taken or to submit one to the Directory Editor (Rev. Woulfe). Please also check your contact information. You may submit a photo or update to minister@aluuc.org. We expect to have the finished directory available by mid month.
Notes from the ALUUC Prairie

by Virginia Forrer

September and October in the prairie is the time for asters and goldenrods. Looking out, one sees gorgeous yellows, purples and whites. Here are butterflies (probably two cloudless sulphurs) nectaring on New England Asters. We also saw honey bees, bumble bees, a skipper (probably a fiery skipper) and a cute little fly with a long proboscis called a bee fly on the New England Asters as well.

On a beautiful September Sunday, Larry Muir and Virginia Forrer joined Vern LaGesse and the Friends of the Sangamon Valley to collect Rosin Weed and Sweet Black Eyed Susan seed at Nipper Wildlife Sanctuary. (Picture to the right) Some of these seeds will be added to the ALUUC prairie to add more color and diversity. For those who are not aware, the ALUUC prairie is just north of the church playground. Take some time and go out and see what is blooming.

Prairie fact: Prairie (not lawn grass) can sequester as much carbon as a forest.* Most of it is underground in the prairie plants’ deep root systems (up to 15 feet). So ALUUC is making an important contribution to combating climate change.

Solar Report for October 2016

by Bob Croteau

ALUUC Getting Money Back for its Solar Generation

The Solar Panels have begun paying back on our SRECs (Solar Renewable Energy Credits). A quarterly check for $203.00 is on its way from Carbon Solutions Group to pay us for the renewable energy attribute of our clean electric generation by the panels. These credits are purchased by businesses or governmental bodies that are trying to meet their environmental commitments and that money is funneled back to us in a 5-year contract that will give us $90 per SREC up to a total of 13 or $1170 over 5 years. Part of the check is to return a deposit bond of $275 that we had to provide but that will all be returned to us over the length of the term, and guarantees the production. This helps the panels to pay back even sooner.
Facilities Workday—Save the Date!

We have scheduled our Fall Workday on Saturday, November 5th, at 10:30 am until about 4:00 pm. We will do some fall cleanup outside, but most tasks will be inside. Afterwards, we’ll gather at my house for a little social time. Suggested attire: Grubby.

Our building is very busy on Saturdays, so it is sometimes difficult to schedule big workdays. As a result, we are hoping to organize mini-workday teams to work on specific projects occasionally. Ideally, we will schedule these during the daytime hours on Monday or Friday when the building is not in use. If you are available during the day and are interested in helping in this way, please let me know. New helpers are always welcome!

Gwen Childs, Facilities Committee Co-Chair

Notice about Trash and Treasure Sale

This year the Board has decided to explore other ways to meet the Fundraising line items in our Budget. In lieu of holding the Trash and Treasure sale, the Board has appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to pursue other fundraising sources. The Board considered the amount of volunteer time necessary to organize the sale and the unintended but unfortunate damage such a large sale has caused to the interior of our building including walls, doors, woodwork and carpet. If you have any great ideas for fundraising ideas, please contact Gwen Childs.

If you were holding items to donate to the sale, consider that better items can be taken to Patricia Doyle auction and credited to our ALUUC account there, or very nice items could be saved for the fantasy auction. All other items could be given to the Salvation Army or Goodwill to support their good work.

UU Women’s Connection News

Don’t miss out! Registration for the UU Women’s Connection Fall Retreat is filling up fast.

On October 14-16, the UU women of the mid-west will gather together to welcome Dr. Kayta Gajdos, a renowned psychologist and author of Quiet Wisdom in Loud Times: Rise of the Wounded Feminine as our keynote speaker. We will also feature workshops on moon cycles, kindness as a spiritual path, and creating your own life book as an art piece. There’s going to be something for everyone!

Visit our website, www.uuwomensconnection.org for registration information, or see Tracy Zieber Minks or Diana DeWeese for more information. But don’t delay, space is limited.

We’ll see you in beautiful Racine WI. this Oct. for the UU Women’s Connection Fall Retreat!

Labyrinth Walk

Our monthly meditative walks resume on Friday, October 21. This is a unique, ancient pathway to greater spirituality that incorporates body and 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 a UU Communion held in Rev. Woulfe’s office.
Analyzing and Understanding Systemic Racism Workshop

This workshop helps participants take a deeper look at: the historical development of racism in the U.S., how it manifests itself and is perpetuated in institutions today and how it affects both people of color and white people. Several ALUUC members attended this workshop last year and strongly recommend it. **December 1, Thursday, 6 pm – Saturday, December 3rd, 4:30 pm at Sacred Heart Convent in Springfield.** Fliers and registration forms are on the table in the foyer & the ALUUC website. Contact John Record 217-414-1772, jrecord29@gmail.com. Click here to download the flyer...

UUANI (UU Advocacy Network of Illinois)

UUANI works "to build our collective power to act effectively for justice by building relationships within our congregations and with other congregations." Their major issue areas for this year are Environmental Justice, Economic Justice, and Racial Justice.

The UUANI newsletter is on ALUUC web page at [www.aluuc.org/category/unitarian-universalist-advocacy-network-of-illinois](http://www.aluuc.org/category/unitarian-universalist-advocacy-network-of-illinois), or the link on the right hand side of the first page. It lists many opportunities for social and environmental action in Illinois.

September 12th National Moral Day of Action

At State Capitols around the nation, 11 am in every time zone, justice rolled across the country as faith leaders from diverse traditions and people impacted by poverty, racism, and injustice came together. In Springfield one hundred strong - UUs from Peoria, Carbondale, Urbana, Quincy, Springfield, Oak Park, DeKalb, Hinsdale, DuPage, Evanston, Rockford, Bloomington, and the UU Prison Ministry, together with partner community churches and organizations declared that it is time for a moral revolution of values. We demanded that our elected leaders and candidates move to higher ground, away from extremist politics and policies that benefit the few, and toward policies and laws that value people and the planet.

The Moral Declaration was read, proclaimed, and delivered to our Governors, [www.moralrevival.org/signmoraldeclaration](http://www.moralrevival.org/signmoraldeclaration).

The Faith Coalition for the Common Good

FCCG is a local association of over 25 churches (including ALUUC), faith-based organizations and labor unions. It provides opportunities for us to work on SAC focuses of Racial Justice & Homelessness with people of different faith traditions.

The vision of the Faith Coalition is Racial and Economic Equity for All across Central Illinois. Much of their work is done through the 4 task forces described below.

1) **Education for All Task Force** – “a very dynamic and positive group” according to Stu Goal: Create ed. focused campaign aimed at closing academic opportunity gap in District 186 ALUUC Reps: Stu Jacobson; District 186 parents or prospective parents needed

2) **Jobs and Economic Equity**
Goal: Promote opportunity for meaningful employment with a living wage for all.
ALUUC Reps: no one at present; new members would be most welcome

Continued on Page 11
3) **Civic Engagement and Policy Involvement**
   Goal: Create systemic, economic & social change in our communities (and lives) thru Policy & Legislation.
   ALUUC reps: Jan Droegkamp & Virginia Forrer; other ALUUC members most welcome.

4) **CUJO: Restorative Justice (Citizens United for Justice and Order)**
   Goal: Work with local, state & federal agencies to ensure equity & justice for those in danger of becoming incarcerated, those incarcerated and those who have been released from prison.
   ALUUC reps: no one; would be great to tie this into our new Illinois UU prison initiative.

If you are interested in the task forces, contact the Faith Coalition office at www.faithcoalition-il.org or at 544-2297. The website does not have contact information for task force leaders, but has a calendar of the meetings under the heading News and Events. There is strength in numbers and diversity folks. (Thanks to Stu Jacobson for researching and writing this article)

**Change for Change**

*Change for Change October* will go for the **provision of meals for the homeless**. ALUUC is a continuing contributor of meals for the homeless through the **Winter Warming Center** (formerly known as SOS, Springfield Overflow Shelter). We are providing dinner on the fourth and fifth Sundays of November-March, a total of 6 meals. Arena Foods provides the food at $333/month. ALUUC provides drinks, utensils, desserts, service and good cheer to our homeless brothers and sisters. Donations are also most welcome by check to ALUUC with WWC (Winter Warming Center) noted on the check. Anyone wishing to join the service team, please contact Delinda Chapman.

Change for Change September raised $302.20 for Springfield based International Assist Medical Missions (IAMM). Sandy Hudgins Brewer and Dr. Michael Brewer founded. IAMM in 2012 as a not for profit organization that focuses on short term medical trips to underserved areas. Check out their website for more information and photos at www.iammspringfield.com.

**October SAC Meeting — October 16**

Sac meets after services on Sunday once a month on the third Sunday. The next SAC meeting will be October 16. Everyone is welcome. **In a year of social change, be a change agent.**

— Nancy Derrig, SAC Chair, SAC@aluuc.org

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**Greater Springfield Interfaith Association**

**Annual Welcoming Banquet**

GSIA will hold its annual welcoming banquet on Tuesday, October 18, 11:45 am to 1:30 pm, at the Islamic Society, 3000 Stanton in Springfield. All are invited to attend, especially those professionals in ministry (lay leaders as well as ordained clergy) who are new to the Springfield area.

This event will feature a vegetarian meal catered by our hosts. The program will consist of Sr. Mary Linda Hayes speaking about the work of the Faith Coalition for the Common Good. Also, the “Humanitarian of the Year” award will be presented.

**Faith Coalition for the Common Good: 6th Annual Fundraising Banquet**

FCCG is a community-based organization that has emerged as dynamic coalition that works to promote racial equality, civic engagement, a fair economy and participatory decision-making. Please join Rev. Woulfe, Jan Droegkamp and Laura Marlow at this important event and learn how FCCG is enriching Central Illinois. The Banquet will be held at the **Union Baptist Church**, 1405 E. Monroe Street on **October 15**. The opening reception begins at **5 pm** and the Dinner & Program starts at **6 pm**. **Each ticket is $40** and may be obtained from Rev. Woulfe.
Our 4th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair—Saturday, December 3
Preview Night Friday, December 2

Congregations traditionally ask for our TIME, TREASURE and TALENT, and we are asking you to let us know your TALENT!

Led by Diana DeWeese, we are working on plans to expand and enhance our Holiday Arts and Crafts Event on the first weekend in December.

In addition to renting tables to private vendors, we want to engage church members who enjoy creative activities to help us contribute our own products.

- Do you like to paint, draw, knit, crochet, sew, quilt, or do counted cross-stitch?
- Do you have pottery, woodworking, scrapbooking or baking skills?
- Do you have craft items that might be helpful?
- Would you enjoy attending workshops to create quality products that we can sell?

We have much to do before this year’s event on the first weekend in December, and we would love to have your help, as well as your IDEAS!

We plan to continue meeting throughout the year to make our Holiday Fair one of the best in town, but we especially need help now—so please see Diana DeWeese or Gwen Childs if you would like to join this really fun team.

Donations Desired:

- canning jars with a smooth side,
- other nice little jars with lids,
- felt or other fabrics,
- nice costume jewelry,
- jewelry boxes,
- jewelry display items,
- scrap wood in very good condition,
- scrapbook paper and cardstock,
- blue wine bottles,
- wine corks (real cork),
- glass beads,
- vintage buttons,
- and jewelry findings

Roy Zimmerman Concert
Tuesday Oct 18, 7 pm

We are pleased to announce that Roy Zimmerman has recovered from his illness and will resume his “This Machine” 2016 tour this month – he is scheduled to perform here on Tuesday, October 18, at 7 pm. Tickets are still $18 (or pay what you can) at the door.

October Quote
“Too often, governments are quick to use excessive force and even pervert the course of justice to keep oil and gas flowing, forests logged, wild rivers dammed and minerals extracted. As the Global Witness study reveals, citizens are often killed, too - especially if they're poor and indigenous.”

— David Suzuki
Couples Enrichment Group (CEG)

Are you curious about what CEG is?

A Couples Enrichment Group (CEG) is an ongoing small group that provides a safe place for couples to explore their relationship among supportive peers. All couples are there for the same purpose — to strengthen and grow their relationship. Learning from and sharing with other couples is a positive and relationship affirming experience. While no two relationships are the same, we are all traveling on the path to a Better Marriage, so why not travel with friends?

Better Marriages (bettermarriages.org) has found that couples who are part of a Couples Enrichment Group (CEG) thrive. They experience a safe environment in which to explore and grow their relationship – with each other and with other couples committed to growing their own relationships.

Couples that “dialogue” experience more fulfilling and enjoyable relationships, better understand each other, and develop a way to communicate effectively even when dealing with difficult issues. Dialogue skills are learned in the context of a MEG, but a couple can use those skills any time, any place to more effectively discuss any topic.

WHAT IS COUPLE DIALOGUE?

Couple dialogue is intentional conversation between partners. Each partner takes turns expressing his or her thoughts, feelings and wants. Each partner strives to truly hear and understand the other.

A couple faces each other, makes eye contact, and makes physical contact, such as holding hands. This is an opportunity for couples to give each other the gift of undivided attention, free of distractions.

In the context of the Couples Enrichment Group (CEG), couples use “private” couple dialogue. Each couple finds a quiet place to sit, away from the other couples, and they simply talk privately with their partner. Once back in the larger group, couples are invited to talk with each other in front of the group. This is called “open” couple dialogue. The couples in the group provide a quiet, reassuring presence as the dialoguing couple shares in one-on-one conversation with each other while the other couples quietly listen. Open couple dialogue encourages couples to use their best talking and listening skills. During their dialogue, other couples in the group ponder their own relationship. Over time, the couples in the CEG develop a strong bond, having intimately shared their relationship within the group.

If you have any questions or would like to attend a CEG meeting please contact Paula Brayden, Intern Minister at intern@aluuc.org.

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, October 17 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, use: pflag-springfieldil_1@juno.com.
ALUUC Fellowship Events

Game Night — October 14 at 6 pm.

Come out for a night of fun, food, and of course, games! Pizza will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own sides, snacks, drinks, and games!

Potluck Sunday — October 23 at 12 noon.

Please join us in fellowship as we celebrate our progress and share our goals for Long Range Planning. Bring a dish to share or a small donation!

Please sign up to help on a Sunday! Sign up by clicking here or contacting Marissa DeWeese (email@aluuc.org).

Circle Suppers return this Autumn!

Please sign up for this delightful & delicious opportunity to meet other members and friends! Hosts may commit to either Friday November 11 or Saturday, November 12. Please sign up to be a host — or to attend — by contacting Rev. Woulfe (minister@aluuc.org).

What’s a Circle Dinner? Attendees bring a side dish or a dessert and the host provides the main dish. Breaking bread with your fellow humans — what a wonderful simple tradition! It is really the best way to find out what we mean when we say, “We are a Welcoming Congregation!”

ALUUC Fall Movie Series — Cultural Enrichment

This Fall for Movie Night, we will host a film series full of movies that are culturally important. Watch some great movies with your UU family - all are welcome! Movies will have subtitles (when possible) for those who have a hearing impairment. Popcorn will be provided.

Movie Series Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Movie Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 9, 3pm</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Lawrence of Arabia (1962)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6, 5pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb (1964)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 20, 5pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>On Golden Pond (1981)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 4, 5pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Some Like it Hot (1959)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 18, 5pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Life of Brian (1979)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Movie Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 30, 3pm</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Rear Window (1954) (3pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6, 5pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>“A newspaper photographer (James Stewart) with a broken leg passes the time observing his neighbors through his window. When he sees what he believes to be a murder, he decides to solve the crime himself. Helped by his nurse and girlfriend (Grace Kelly), he tries to catch the murderer without being killed himself.” 112 minutes. Rated PG.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 20, 5pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alien (1979) (starting approx. 5:15 pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 4, 5pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>“After a space merchant vessel perceives an unknown transmission as distress call, their landing on the source moon finds one of the crew attacked by a mysterious lifeform. Continuing their journey back to Earth with the attacked crew having recovered and the critter deceased, they soon realize that its life cycle has merely begun.” 117 minutes. Rated R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 18, 5pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aliens (1986) (starting approx. 7:30 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The sequel to Alien. 154 minutes. Rated R.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A COURSE IN MIRACLES

After the first few weeks of *A Course In Miracles*, we’ve had a mix of several people who have studied the Course for years and some who are just beginning. *A Course In Miracles* is a journey of self discovery and self acceptance. Like any other journey, it is more enjoyable when shared with others. Those who have been on the journey for years delight in explaining each step to the new ones. We hope you’ll join us along the way. We meet every Tuesday at 6 pm in the Barton Room at ALUUC.

If you have any questions, please email acim@aluuc.org.

BOOK GROUP

The Book Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Join us on October 25 at 7:30pm at Barbara Moore’s home.

We will be discussing *Lila* by Marilynne Robinson. A GoodReads review says, “Revisiting the beloved characters and setting of Marilynne Robinson’s Pulitzer Prize-winning *Gilead and Home*, a National Book Award Finalist, *Lila* is a moving expression of the mysteries of existence that is destined to become an American classic.”

Everyone is welcome. Contact Barbara Moore at bookgroup@aluuc.org if you have questions.

COUPLES ENRICHMENT GROUP

We usually meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month in the Channing room from 7-8:30 pm, which is October 12 & 26. This is a group for people in committed relationships, married or not, who want to have some dedicated time together to work on communication and to meet other couples who want the same. Whether your relationship has just begun or you’ve been married for years; we all want a healthy, mutually satisfying relationship.
with the one we love. I invite you to come check it out. Read more about this group on page 13.

Please contact Paula Brayden (intern@aluuc.org) if you would like to sign up.

**DREAM GROUP**

This is an opportunity for folks to discuss their dreams in a relaxed, friendly, informal setting. The Dream Group is using an online format for our conversations about participant’s dreams. Occasionally we’ll have informal gatherings. For more information, call or email Phil Gregg by phone or email at uudreamgroup@aluuc.org.

**DRUM CIRCLE**

The ALUUC Drum Circle meets on the first Monday and third Thursday of the month (FM-TT) at 6:30 pm at Diana DeWeese’s studio, which is October 3 and October 20. Everybody is welcome, including first-time drummers.

For the location of Diana’s studio, parking information, or any other questions, please contact Diana by phone or email at drumming@aluuc.org.

**HIKING GROUP**

Thanks for coming out to September’s hike at Centennial Park! See more photos at flickr.com

**Mark your calendars.** Jim Curran will lead a MYSTERY HIKE (?) on Saturday, October 22 at 10 am. Details will follow later in October.

Contact Jim Curran with questions or to confirm if questionable weather — phone or email at hiking@aluuc.org.

**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 Co-Chairs Vi Lanum & Sarah Iaiennaro.

On Monday, October 24, 2016 at 7 pm in the ALUUC Sanctuary Carol Floyd will review Grace Without God: The Search for Meaning, Purpose and Belonging in a Secular Age by Katherine Ozment. Read more about it here.

Questions? Please contact either Vi Lanum or Sarah Iaiennaro at humanistgroup@aluuc.org.

**MEN’S GROUP**

The Men’s Group meets on the first and third Wednesdays at 6 pm at ALUUC. The next meetings are scheduled for October 5 and October 19. Please join us for insightful discussion, support and fun. We typically start off with a noncompetitive sports activity, like bocce ball or Frisbee golf, then meet in the church commons area. Please join us, bring a friend! Contact Jim Curran for more info or to get on our mailing list (mensgroup@aluuc.org).

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**Continued on page 17**
GROUPS at ALUUC (cont’d)

NEWS GROUP

The News Group Meets on the first Thursday of each month. Everyone is welcome. Join us on October 6 at 7 pm at the Commons Room at the ALUUC. Come 10 or 15 minutes early and help set up the tables and chairs if you can. Since the Meditation group is also meeting at that time please be quiet as you enter the church and the Commons area. Bring some snacks if you would like to.

If you have any questions call Frank Kopecky by phone or email at newsgroup@aluuc.org.

PAGAN GROUP

On Saturday, September 17, the ALUUC Pagan Group celebrated not only the Autumn Equinox, but also our five year anniversary. We were pleased to meet new faces, see cherished friends, and gather to honor the changing season.

All ALUUC members, friends, and visitors are welcome to Pagan Group gatherings and rituals, and to planning meetings which are usually held after service on the first Sunday of every month. For more information please contact Tracy Zieber Minks at aluucpagans@gmail.com or by phone.

The Pagan Group will have a planning meeting on Sunday, October 9 in the Fuller room at 12:30 pm. All are invited to come share their ideas as we plan for our annual Samhain Silent Dinner. For more information, please contact Tracy Zieber Minks.

Be sure to look for us on Sunday, October 30 as the Pagan Group members share The Story for All Ages. We ask the members of the congregation to please bring candy to share that day for the little trick-or-treaters who will delight us with the Parade of Costumes after services have concluded. Thank you.

October 30

Costume Parade after Service

bring candy!

WOMEN in the RED TENT

Our next Red Tent will be October 29 at 1:30 pm. Come join us as we tell our stories with a soul collage!

The ALUUC Red Tent is open to any individual who identifies as a woman and who is looking for a sacred space with other women. What is a Red Tent? A Red Tent is a red textile space where women gather to rest, renew, and often share deep and powerful stories about their lives. A Red Tent offers women a state of beingness rather than our continual doing mode.

Moms!—Your girls are welcome to join us in the red tent and become part of our sacred space for women. We leave it to each Mom because she knows her girl the best. Activities/topics will be posted well in advance of our gatherings so you can decide. Nursing babies are always welcome!

Interested in learning more about our Red Tent? Come join us! For more information, or if you would like to join our Facebook group, email redtent@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. If you aren’t on the reservation calendar, you could find yourself bumped by another group who followed procedures. Thanks.
# October 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
**Sunday Service**  
Change for Change collection: Winter Warming Center  
RE Open House  
Senior Youth Group (SYG) | 2          | 3                   | 4                   | 5                   | 6          | 7                   |
| 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
**Sunday Service**  
SYG  
12:30 pm Pagan Group: planning meeting  
3 pm Movie Series: *Lawrence of Arabia*  
*Photo Directory Deadline* | 9          | 10                  | 11                  | 12                  | 13         | 14                  |
| 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
**Sunday Service**  
New Member Welcoming Ceremony  
12 pm Pathways Meeting  
12 pm RE Committee Meeting  
SYG  
*Scrip Deadline* | 16         | 17                  | 18                  | 19                  | 20         | 21                  |
| 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
**Sunday Service**  
Potluck Sunday  
SYG | 23         | 24                  | 25                  | 26                  | 27         | 28                  |
| 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
**Sunday Service**  
Costume Parade!  
SYG  
3 pm Movie Series: *Thriller/Horror Marathon* | 30         | 31                  |                      |                      |            |                    |

* 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  
  Email: minister@aluuc.org
- **Minister Emeritus**: Rev. Berkley Moore  
  Email: minister-emeritus@aluuc.org
- **Intern Minister**: Paula Brayden  
  Email: intern@aluuc.org

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

#### Board of Directors:
- **President**: Philip Anderson  
  Email: president@aluuc.org
- **Vice President**: Frank Kopecky  
  Email: vicepresident@aluuc.org
- **Treasurer**: Tina Bennett  
  Email: treasurer@aluuc.org
- **Secretary**: Kim Villanueva  
  Email: secretary@aluuc.org
- **Board Members**: Melissa Bernhardt, Kent Childs, Debby Hagan, Dianne Roberts, Posy Robertson, Ricky Stead

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

#### Committees of the Board
- **Electronics & Communication**: Marissa DeWeese  
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- **- Newsletter**: Cheryl Wycoff & Marissa DeWeese  
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- **- Webmaster**: Carol Kneelder  
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- **Program**: Diana DeWeese  
  Email: program.com@aluuc.org
- **Religious Education (RE)**: Caitlin McDonald & Tracy Zieber Minks  
  Email: RE@aluuc.org
- **Social Action**: Nancy Derrig  
  Email: SAC@aluuc.org
- **Welcoming Congregations**: Tracy Zieber Minks & Meg Evans  
  Email: WCC@aluuc.org

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**ALUUC**

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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.