There’s a frantic busyness that disrupts one’s routines, the day before leaving on a vacation. Normal tasks are temporarily cast aside and a new check list governs the hours of the day. I find myself in such a state today, yet I must pause to attend to my duty, e.g. writing an article for FOCUS.

There’s a lot to think about. When you arrived on a recent Sunday, did you notice the stakes and orange lines in the yard, just west of the Meditation Garden? Something is afoot – something large, and grand. You might say that we are staking out our future.

But first, a nod to the past. Has it really been sixteen plus years since we first became acquainted? I was ALUUC’s first (and thus far only) full time settled minister, and you were my first (and thus far only) full time settlement. You might think that after so many seasons, the seasoning might have begun to lose its flavor. Not so for me. Somehow, there are still hundreds of sermon topics that I’d like to address, classes that I’d like to teach, fellowship events that I’d like to partake of, etc. And I look forward to those rituals and celebrations that will serve to reconnect us with each another. Everything old will be new again.

Which brings us to the present. Come September, we will once again assume the role of a Teaching Congregation as we officially welcome our new Intern Minister, Dee Evans, who introduced herself to you in the last issue of FOCUS. Meanwhile, the search process for our first Assistant Minister is moving ahead – I am thrilled at the prospect of welcoming a partner in ministry, someone who will not only collaborate with our Social Justice goals but also increase their impact. But wait, there’s more. As we live our mission, we know that new people will seek us out. Our aspirations match those of a much wider community. They will come, searching for meaning and new friends – how we greet them matters, as does our willingness to include them in the many aspects of congregational life. Opportunities abound. How many more people, newcomers and “seasoned” members alike, will join a Covenant Group? Will the launch of a new “Listening Campaign” by members of our very own Racial Justice Project transform our commitment to social justice? Will the conversation about expanding the present building adequately express how...
bricks and mortar can lay the foundation of the future of liberal religion on the Prairie?

I hope that throughout the coming year, we will envision even more ways to promote healing to a bruised and broken world. I sense that we are ready for this next step in our growth as a congregation. One might almost call it a sacred task. Onward and upward, let our aspirations soar!

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

Membership Committee Update

It seems the summer is truly on the way out. We’ve had a good one - attendance has been good, we celebrated the Fourth of July with frozen treats and fireworks, children's RE was creative and colorful, and just recently our annual Sundae Sunday was a big hit!

The fall means things get busy for a lot of people: children and teachers head back to school; new college students may nervously step into their first 101 course; and it seems there is always something for which to prepare. ALUUC and the Membership Committee always has something going on, and you can find us involved in almost all aspects of congregational life.

Don’t miss the Water and Stone Communion on Sunday, September 8, our official welcome back to Rev. Martin Woulfe from his summer holidays, and our opportunity to share our own journeys from the past year. That same Sunday will also be part one of Pathways to Membership. Monday, Sept. 9 will be Pathways to Membership parts two and three, at 6:30pm. For more information about any of these events, please contact minister@aluuc.org or welcome@aluuc.org

Pathways to Membership Sessions

September 8
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.

September 9
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!

Also coming up in September is one of our amazing potlucks on Sunday the 22nd. If you've not experienced one of our potlucks before, you're definitely going to want to stay for this one because we're combining it with our annual Involvement Expo. The Involvement Expo is your chance to learn about all the groups, committees, and activities ALUUC has to offer. Are you into electronics and technology - maybe the EEC is a good fit for you. Or perhaps you're looking for small group ministry - check out a covenant group. And as always, the Membership Committee would love to have you share ideas.

Lots going on to kick off our fall. Come join us!

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

10:30 am  
September 1, 2019

**LOCAL, LOCO: Public Radio Filling the Local News Vacuum**, Randy Eccles, NPR Illinois/WUIS General Manager  
State is local at NPR Illinois. The local television and print newsrooms have reduced their commitment to coverage of the Springfield community. NPR Illinois wants to prevent Springfield from becoming a news desert. How can public media grow to fill this vacuum? How can it host informed conversations to improve our quality of life?  
*Change for Change, Birthday Song*

September 8, 2019

**Water and Stone Communion**, Rev. Martin Woulfe  
It is no accident that on the first Sunday following Labor Day, many UUs will return to their respective faith communities and participate in a ritual of re-connection, often referred to as “Ingathering Sunday.” We blend mineral and water, poetry and poignancy. Our contributions to the Communion Bowl convey far more than some may suppose.  
*Special Drumming, Sung Milestones*

September 15, 2019

**Making Deeper Connections**, Covenant Groups and Rev. Martin Woulfe  
Whether you are new to ALUUC or have been active for years, we all can appreciate the deep human desire to be heard by others and to feel connected with one another. In this service, we will offer an opportunity to appreciate the dynamics and benefits of joining a Covenant Group. This service will include a homily called “Can You Hear Me Now?”

September 22, 2019

**That Time I Searched for God**, Rev. Martin Woulfe  
Rumi wrote, “I searched for God and found myself. I search for myself and found God.” In this service, Rev. Woulfe will share his insights into the significance of this poetry, and what he himself discovered through the process.  
*Intern Commissioning Ritual, Potluck, Involvement Expo*

September 29, 2019

**The Spirituality of Salsa**, Rev. Martin Woulfe  
ALUUC’s very own Salsa Ambassador, Julio Barrenzuela, won the right during the 2019 Fantasy Auction to assign a topic of his choice to Rev. Woulfe. This could prove to be a quite memorable pulpit performance.  
*Traditional Milestones, Special Congregational Meeting*

October 6, 2019

**Sermon by Dr. Dee Evans, Ministerial Intern**  
*Change for Change, Birthday Song*

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Rev. Woulfe will be on vacation August 24 through September 3. If there are any pastoral cares or concerns contact the Pastoral Care Chairs or Deb Hagan at pastoralcare@aluuc.org.

Rev. Woulfe will be attending the ministers’ retreat in Racine, Wisconsin from September 30 until October 3.
Henry Rollins opined that “in September, we will wander through the warm winds of summer's wreckage,” but I prefer to think of fall as a fresh breeze that clears the cobwebs and brings crisp weather. Summer, at least at ALUUC, was a building time, anyway—no “wreckage” here! With the help of volunteers Shatriya Smith, Sabrina Vining, and Heather Vining, the students created marvelously self-expressive art projects. Shatriya led a class in sticker painting, and the Vinings shared their love of sand art with our youth.

If you haven’t already registered your child(ren) for RE, please be sure you do the next time you bring them on Sunday. As a reminder from last month, the Pre K-2 youth will be in a Montessori based classroom focused on exploring UU principles and values; the 3-5 and 6-9 graders will be delving into world religions, and our 10-12 grade youth will learn more about their own UU identities in a mentor-based Coming of Age program.

If you’d like to volunteer for the RE program, we have many opportunities that do NOT involve teaching a classroom:

- Substitute Teacher
- Classroom Aide
- Snack Donation
- Supplies Donation
- Special event assistance Halloween costume parade
- Special event assistance Pageant assistant
- Special event assistance Easter egg hunt
- Special event assistance Off-site field trip chaperone/transport

Just drop an email with your name, area of interest, and best contact method to DRE@aluuc.org. We’d be happy to put your skills to use in service of our youth.

If you happen to take a stroll into our outdoor playground, you may see some new equipment the RE Committee purchased recently. We have a giant Connect 4 game, which has been tested by some of our more discerning youth and declared a fabulous (if very noisy) success. We also have a toddler-sized climb-on slide in the playground and will soon have a Jungle Jumparoo.

We’re pleased to announce that, although there is NO FALL CON for 9-12 youth, the Central Illinois UU congregation DREs met and decided to hold a mini con this November 15-16. We have agreed to let the hosting congregation “borrow” our Friendsgiving theme, so we will be going to Conuptopia at Bloomington this year. Spring Con is likely the first weekend in April at Eliot Chapel.

Rumor has it that the Champaign Urbana UU will host an OWL training later this fall, so if you are interested in taking that training, please talk to me (Pat Woods) on Sunday or text me so I can discuss the possibility with you.

Continued on page 5
It’s shaping up to be a really splendid fall, so fie on Henry Rollins. I’m siding with Helen Hunt Jackson, who said “By all these lovely tokens September days are here, With summer’s best of weather and autumn’s best of cheer.” Cheers to you all!

*Pat Woods, Director of Religious Education, [dre@aluuc.org](mailto:dre@aluuc.org)*

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### Milestones

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

- **September 8** - Sung Milestones
- **September 29** - Traditional Milestones

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### MINISTER’S OFFICE HOURS

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

Please call to schedule an appointment during evening hours.

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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).

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### FLOWERS

- **September 1** - Jim Curran
- **September 8** - Jim Curran
- **September 15** - available
- **September 22** - available
- **September 29** - 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](mailto:flower@aluuc.org)*
As presented at the Annual Meeting on June 9th, the ALUUC Board appointed a Building Expansion Committee to explore the feasibility of building a new Sanctuary addition. This project was part of the 4-phase plan adopted when our current facility was built, and completion of the Sanctuary was identified as a top priority in our latest Long Range Planning process. We have been working with an architect, who has designed a Sanctuary about 1.5 times the size of our present multi-purpose room, which will then become a dedicated Fellowship Hall. This will allow us to have tables set up in advance for coffee hours, potlucks, wedding and funeral receptions, fundraisers, party and community group rentals, and so forth. The prospect of not having to constantly move chairs and tables for Sunday services is very exciting! The preliminary estimate for this addition is approximately $1.5 million.

This sounds daunting, but we have a very strong foundation to build upon:

- We have several very generous bequests earmarked for expansion, primarily from beloved members Posy Robertson, Berkley Moore and Fred Dietz.
- We have had good investment returns in recent years. Our Treasurer and Finance Committee feel confident that we can afford to use $200,000 from our Endowment Fund, which was created to help us with major projects.
- As of August 18th, congregational pledges have reached $117,000, and we hope to add more pledges in the coming month.
- We will need to secure bank financing for the portion that we cannot raise. The Building Expansion Committee will continue to work with the architect to get firmer estimates on certain items, discuss ideas to lower costs, and make necessary revisions. Every dollar donated by ALUUC members and friends will help us reduce the final mortgage amount needed!

SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING SEPTEMBER 29TH

Please plan to attend a Special Congregational Meeting after the service on September 29, 2019. We will need to vote on two resolutions:

- To approve the Sanctuary Addition Building Project, with authorization to obtain a mortgage
- To approve the transfer of $200,000 from our Endowment Fund to help fund this project

If you have questions or concerns, or if you would like to make a donation, please feel free to contact the Committee members.

Deborah Hagan, Chairperson
Gwen Childs, Larry Muir, Kurt DeWeese, Diana DeWeese, Lori Leytem, Bob Croteau, David Cation, Martin Woulfe, Kim Villanueva
**Fundraising Events**

**ALUUC Flea Market Saturday, October 5th**

The morning of October 5th ALUUC will be hosting an Outdoor Flea Market! 10’x10’ booths will be available to rent for $30 a booth! You may take advantage of this opportunity to rent a booth and sell your gently used items, or come and wander through the booths to find the perfect treasure you didn’t yet know you need! We hope to have a fun morning and help get the word out in our community about ALUUC!

Please note, all items are the seller’s responsibility at all times and any unsold items at the end of the day must be taken with the seller.

Please contact Anna Sabin with any questions or if you are interested in volunteering to help the day of!
For More Information, including Booth Reservations, go to [www.aluuc.org/fleamarket](http://www.aluuc.org/fleamarket) or contact fleamarket@aluuc.org.
*Rain Date October 12th*

**Fundraise for ALUUC While You Shop!**

**Are you an Amazon customer? You can help ALUUC!**

When Amazon customers shop on [smile.amazon.com](http://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](http://smile.amazon.com)! Learn more about how to set this up at [www.aluuc.org/amazon-smile](http://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. See the list of retailers here at [shopwithscrip.com](http://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](http://www.aluuc.org/about-aluuc/members/scrip-program) for step-by-step instructions on how to register for this program. Use ALUUC’s code to join 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 September 29.
Green Sanctuary Report

ALUUC Getting An Expansion Of Its Solar Array
by Bob Croteau

We are adding 2.32 kilowatts of solar panels and nearly doubling the size of our solar array on the sanctuary roof from 2.7 kilowatts to 5.0 kilowatts of pure carbon free clean renewable energy.

Thanks to restricted funds for solar expansion from donations from members, quarterly payments for SRECs (Solar Renewable Energy Credits) and extra help from unspent maintenance funds, we were able to complete the original dream array of spanning the whole top of the sanctuary roof.

The weather was perfect on Saturday August 25th, but rain kept Dave Brunson and Bob Croteau from completing the task on Sunday. Here you can see the racking in place at both ends of the original array to accommodate four new panels at each end.

As soon as the weather allows, we will finish and have a picture in next month’s newsletter. In the meantime, you can see it if you are driving in from the East on Woodside Road, walk around to the east side of the sanctuary or get a ladder and climb up for an even better view.

If you are interested in joining the Green Sanctuary Committee contact Jan Droegkamp or David Cation and Tony Gambiani at greensanctuary@aluuc.org

Choir Rehearsals Begin September 1

“Return again, Return again, Return to the home of your soul.
Return to who you are, Return to what you are, Return to where you are born and reborn again.”
--Shlomo Carlebach, Singing the Journey, #1011

We welcome returning and new choir members to join together on Sunday mornings at 9:20 and begin singing music for services. We meet in the Fuller room for rehearsals and prepare songs for usually two services each month, except January and summer months. There are no auditions, though it is important to be able to match pitches and feel the rhythm of music from old times and new, and of different styles. Singing together is a time of uplifting joy and learning, a time to “Return to the home of your soul.” Please feel free to contact Kathy Schultz at choir@aluuc.org for questions.

Notice of Building Usage by the Mexican Consulate

The Mexican Consulate will conduct an outreach program here from Noon on Wednesday, October 16 through 4 pm on Saturday, October 19. During this time, no other activities will be scheduled for the sanctuary. All other rooms may be utilized.
Sneak Preview of Martin Woulfe’s Odyssey:
Thursday September 26, 7 pm

In various religious traditions, including Unitarian Universalism, ministers who have acquired some seniority are invited to share a presentation about their life and ministry. Such a presentation is commonly called an “Odyssey.” Rev. Woulfe will be sharing his narrative to his peers at the UU Ministerial Retreat in October and will offer members and friends of ALUUC a sneak preview.

Faith Coalition For The Common Good Awards Banquet
Saturday, September 28, at the Orr Building

This year the Faith Coalition for the Common Good’s annual fall banquet will be held to celebrate our 10th year anniversary! In recognition of this important milestone, our theme is “Fighting for Equity and Justice.” The banquet will be held on Saturday, September 28, from 5:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the Orr Building, at the State Fair Grounds. A celebration reception will begin at 5:00 p.m. (with a photo booth and vendors) and dinner will begin at 6:03 pm. The Faith Coalition is pleased to announce that its featured speaker will be former US District Attorney Jim Lewis. Tickets are $40 per person and may be purchased from either Jan Droegkamp or Rev. Woulfe.

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, September 16 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.

GSIA Greater Springfield Interfaith Association Meetings

September 3, 2019 at 11:45 am - 1:30 pm

Members & Friends of ALUUC are invited to join with the Interfaith Community on Tuesday, September 3 as GSIA hosts a conversation about The Center for Health and Housing with Erica Smith. Participants will gather at the First Presbyterian Church (321 S. 7th St) from 11:45 am - 1:30 pm. Please bring your own lunch; some refreshments will be provided by our host.
**ALUUC Social Justice Committee (SJC) Update**

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

**Immigration Action**
Many of you have asked what you can do to help the immigration situation in Springfield and on the border. SJC would like to begin an Immigration Alert Network of ALUUC members and friends interested in immigration issues. Alerts would be about both events you can attend and activities you can do. SIAN (Springfield Immigration Advocacy Network) is very busy and could use our help and numbers. If interested, contact Nancy Derrig.

**Change 4 Change** - Thanks for your most needed generosity.

**September: UU Prison Ministry of Illinois**
Through advocacy, education, inside ministry and congregational work, “We equip UU's in Illinois to transform institutions and support people harmed by the prison industrial complex. Congregations are an integral part of our work at UU Prison Ministry. Congregations take our work further than we can as individuals both by participating directly with those returning to our communities in Solidarity Circles and by writing and visiting those who are locked up. We affirm this extension of our work through education and supportive events.”

[www.uupmi.org](http://www.uupmi.org)

Checks made out to ALUUC with UUPMI noted in the memo line please.

**August:** August raised $350.42 for the Scholarship fund for ALUUC members to attend CROSSROADS TRAINING. “The Mission of Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training is to dismantle systemic racism and build antiracist multicultural diversity within institutions and communities implemented primarily by training institutional transformation teams.” This is a fund supports any ALUUC member or friend interested in attending training. That could be you! Next training is 10/3-10/5 in Springfield. If you would like to attend, please contact John Record or Lisa Udel ([rjp@aluuc.org](mailto:rjp@aluuc.org)) [http://crossroadsantiracism.org/about-us/mission/](http://crossroadsantiracism.org/about-us/mission/)

Checks made out to ALUUC with Crossroads noted in the memo line please.

**SJC Regular Meetings**
We meet the 3rd Sunday at 12 noon in the Berkley Moore room.

**Next meeting is September 15th.** 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

**Racial Justice Project (RJP)**
This project meets on the 4th Thursday of the month, 6:30 pm, ALUUC and is open to all. We can use your input and ideas. Please contact co-chairs John Record or Lisa Udel ([rjp@aluuc.org](mailto:rjp@aluuc.org)) if you would like to join us.
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 7:30 - 10:00 am or 1:30 – 4:00 pm; Shifts are also available Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays from 10:00 am – 1:30 pm. Groups welcome.
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/, click the meal train picture; select and book a date. Or call 522-0048 ext 5; Brandy. (Thanks to Delinda Chapman)

LOCAL CONTACTS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES

**Springfield Immigration and Advocacy Network (SIAN)**
SIAN is presently assisting Springfield area immigrants interned by ICE (U.S. Immigration and 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 and actions. SIAN supports immigrant and 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.

**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.

**Faith Coalition for the Common Good (FCCG)**
This local association made of faith-based organizations (including ALUUC) and labor unions provides opportunities to work on Antiracism, Immigration, and Homelessness with people of different faith traditions. The work is done by 4 task forces: Education, Jobs and Economic Equity, Civic Engagement and Policy Involvement, and CUJO (Citizens United for Justice & Order). ALUUC members on these task forces would love to have you join them. www.faithcoalition-il.org or Shelley Heideman at 544-2297. Go to http://faithcoalition-il.org/what-we-do/ for a meetings calendar under News and Events.
There is strength in numbers and diversity folks. (Thanks Stu Jacobson)

**Moms Demand Action For Gun Sense in Illinois**
Moms Demand Action is a program of Everytown for Gun Safety, the largest gun violence prevention advocacy organization in the country. momsdemandaction.org
ALUUC Fellowship Events

ALUUC Drum Circle
Drum Circle gatherings will be held twice in September in the Sanctuary at ALUUC! Beginners are welcome!

- **Sunday, September 1** - 12:15pm-1:30pm - if the weather is nice we will go outside
- **Monday, September 16** - 6:00pm-7:00pm - if the weather is nice we will go outside

If you would like to participate:
1. Contact Diana DeWeese to tell her you are going at drumming@aluuc.org OR say you are going at https://www.aluuc.org/drum
   AND
2. Let her know if you need a drum.

*Happy Drumming!*

The ALUUC Covenant Groups invite you to a Covenant Groups Open House

**Date:** Sunday, September 15th  
**Time:** 12 pm (after service)  
**Where:** ALUUC RE Commons

Enjoy a light lunch while learning about the benefits of joining a covenant group this September. Covenant Groups are a great way to get to know others while practicing in active listening and engaging in thought-provoking conversations. Childcare will be available.

*All Are Welcome*

Adult RE Class - The Power of Myth  
September 18 & 25, October 16, 23 & 30, and November 6  
6 PM @ ALUUC (room to be assigned)

In 1988, Bill Moyers and Joseph Campbell joined together for a series of celebrated conversations about the influence of mythology upon the larger cultures of the world and personal lives. Originally broadcast on PBS, this series was hailed as a tour de force. Presented by Rev. Woulfe, attendees will view one episode each week and then reflect on its relevance. This series will conclude just before Rev. Rebecca Armstrong, a noted scholar on Joseph Campbell, speaks here on November 10. Sign up sheets are available during the service and by the drinking fountain.

1. **September 18:** "The Hero's Adventure"  
2. **September 25:** "The Message of the Myth"  
3. **October 16:** "The First Storytellers"  
4. **October 23:** "Sacrifice and Bliss"  
5. **October 30:** "Love and the Goddess"  
6. **November 6:** "Masks of Eternity"
**Movie Outing - Downton Abbey**
**September 20th or 21st**

Yes, they made a movie that it is a continuation of the long running and award winning series about the life and times of the people who live and work at the fictional Downton Abbey during the 1910s-20s. Are you a fan? Then join a group of UUs to see the movie! If you are interested, please tell Marissa DeWeese (email@aluuc.org) or give your availability to see the movie at https://www.aluuc.org/da.

Deadline to sign up is September 15!

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**Save the Date! Chili Cookoff**

October is National Chili Month, so we will do a Chili Cookoff on **Saturday, October 19th, with doors open at 6pm**. More details to come in the October newsletter. Questions? Contact Marissa DeWeese at email@aluuc.org.

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**SAVE THE DATE!**
**Arts and Crafts Fair**

We are changing the date of our Arts and Crafts Fair from December to November. It will be the middle of November – **Friday, November 15 & Saturday, November 16**.

If you would like to be included in the list of vendors to be invited to participate this year, please contact Diana DeWeese, Vendor Coordinator.

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**Ice Cream Social Photos**

![Ice Cream Social Photos]
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 have now finished the Text portion of A Course In Miracles (in only 2 years and 9 months). We have begun studying the Manual for Teachers and two other sections of the Appendix. We expect to start from the beginning in a few weeks.

We meet each Tuesday at 6 pm to read and discuss A Course In Miracles. We meet in the Berkley Room. For more information contact acim@aluuc.org.

HUMANIST GROUP

Sarah Iaiennaro will facilitate the ALUUC Humanist Group’s discussion of Natalie Wexler’s book The Knowledge Gap: The Hidden Cause of America’s Broken Education System—and How to Fix It at 7 PM on Monday evening, September 23, at ALUUC. “Education journalist Wexler mounts a compelling critique of American elementary schools, which, she argues, focus exclusively—and futilely—on boosting reading and math test scores, ignoring social studies, history, and science....An informative analysis of elementary education that highlights pervasive problems.” ~ Kirkus Reviews

Please contact Sarah Iaiennaro at humanistgroup@aluuc.org.

NEWS GROUP

The News Group will meet Thursday, September 5, at 7:00 pm in the Channing Room. Please join us in an open discussion of events in the national, state or local news.

All are welcome to attend. For further information contact Kurt DeWeese, 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, September 24 at 7 PM** in the Channing Room.
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, October 2, at 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. The film “How to Die in Oregon” will be shown here on Sunday, October 13. Additional details will be published next month.
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 groups continue through December or - in many cases - into May, 2019.
You can sign up for the next set of Covenant Groups that will start meeting in September.
To learn more, visit [https://www.aluuc.org/aluuc-covenant-groups](https://www.aluuc.org/aluuc-covenant-groups), contact Stu Jacobson, or email covenantgroups@aluuc.org.

Pastoral Care
Do you know someone who would benefit from a friendly call or visit? Someone undergoing surgery or hospitalization, or recovering from either? Someone who would appreciate a meal?
Please notify one of the co-chairs of the Pastoral Care Committee, Delinda Chapman or Jodi Perko, or Rev. Woulfe. If you would like to join the Pastoral Care Team, let us know! pastoralcare@aluuc.org
# September 2019

<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>
| **1** Sunday Service  
  9:20am Choir Rehearsal  
  12pm Covenant Group Com Meeting  
  12:1pm Drum Circle | **2** Labor Day  
  9:20am Choir Rehearsal  
  12pm Pathways to Membership | **3**  
  6pm A Course in Miracles  
  7pm Compassion & Choices Mtg | **4**  
  7pm Compassion & Choices Mtg | **5**  
  6pm News Group  
  7pm Moms Demand Action Meeting | **6** | **7**  
  9:00am Zen Meditation |
| **8** Sunday Service  
  9:20am Choir Rehearsal  
  12pm Pathways to Membership | **9**  
  9:00am Zen Meditation  
  6pm Pathways to Membership | **10**  
  6pm A Course in Miracles  
  7pm Moms Demand Action Meeting | **11**  
  6pm ALUUC Board Meeting | **12**  
  6:30pm Meditation Group | **13** | **14**  
  9:00am Zen Meditation  
  11am Shravan “Art of Living” Session |
| **15** Sunday Service  
  9:20am Choir Rehearsal  
  12pm Covenant Group Open House  
  12pm Program Com Mtg  
  12pm RE Com Mtg  
  12pm Social Justice Com Mtg | **16**  
  6pm Drum Circle  
  7pm PFLAG Meeting | **17**  
  6pm A Course in Miracles  
  7pm Book Group | **18**  
  6pm Adult RE Power of Myth Class | **19**  
  6:30pm Meditation Group  
  6:30pm Membership Com Mtg | **20** | **21**  
  9:00am Zen Meditation |
| **22** Sunday Service  
  9:20am Choir Rehearsal  
  12pm Potluck  
  12pm Involvement Expo  
  12pm Social Justice Com Retreat | **23**  
  7pm Humanist Group | **24**  
  6pm A Course in Miracles  
  7pm Book Group | **25**  
  6pm Adult RE Power of Myth Class | **26**  
  6pm Racial Justice Mtg  
  6:30pm Meditation Group | **27** | **28**  
  9:00am Zen Meditation |
| **29** Sunday Service  
  9:20am Choir Rehearsal  
  **12 pm Congregational Meeting**  
  Scrip Deadline | **30** | **31** | **32** | **33** | **34** | **35** |

* indicates event takes place off-site.  
**Bold** text indicates an ALUUC-sponsored event.
## Contact Information

### Minister:
- Rev. Martin Woulfe

### Ministerial Intern
- Dee Evans

### Staff:
- **Office Manager**
  - Cheryl Wycoff
- **Accountant**
  - Brenda Elam
- **Director RE**
  - Pat Woods
- **Membership Coordinator**
  - Tracy Zieber
- **Music**
  - Kathy Schultz
- **Pianist**
  - Bonnie Ettinger

### Board of Directors:
- **President**
  - Debby Hagan
- **Vice President**
  - Gwen Childs
- **Treasurer**
  - Tina Bennett
- **Secretary**
  - Elaine Gambiani

### Committees of the Congregation
- **Committee on Ministry**
  - Jodi Perko
- **Nominating Committee**
  - Michael Plog
- **Endowment Trust**
  - Frank Kopecky

### Committees of the Board
- **Electronics & Communication**
  - Marissa DeWeese
  - Carol Kneedler
- **Facilities**
  - Larry Muir & Kurt DeWeese
  - Gwen Childs
- **Aesthetics**
  - Vi Lanum
- **Flower**
  - TBD
- **Fellowship**
  - Stu Jacobson
- **Covenant Groups**
  - Kurt DeWeese
- **Finance**
  - David Cation & Tony Gambiani
- **Green Sanctuary**
  - Debby Hagan
- **Long Range Planning**
  - Anna Sabin & Dianne Roberts
- **Membership**
  - Jodi Perko & Delinda Chapman
- **Pastoral Care**
  - Dianne Roberts
- **Personnel**
  - Eric Stachera
- **Program**
  - Deborah Cavanaugh
- **Religious Education (RE)**
  - Nancy Derrig & Meg Evans
- **Social Justice**
  - Meg Evans & Tracy Zieber
- **Welcoming Congregations**

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**ALUUC**

745 Woodside Road

Springfield, IL 62711

(217) 585-9550
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