The meeting was initiated by and presided over by Brian Otwell who read an inspirational quotation from Emerson as the secretary established that a quorum was present. Minutes from June 12, 2005 meeting, Proposal on Lay Officiants, and Budget were distributed.

President’s Report (Otwell):
The year was good but challenging. The Fantasy Auction was not held, but donated items will be sold via silent auction. Thanks to Board Members, Officers, Tina Layer for her work as Treasurer, RE teachers, Marla Johnson (CRE), and other volunteers who work behind the scenes. Carley Mattimore was thanked for her work developing strategies for handling complaints. Thanks given to Kurt DeWeese and Jeff Johnson in orchestrating the paving of the parking lot, a major accomplishment this year. Thanks also to Kurt DeWeese and Jack Kriel for his work arranging for the installation of siding. Mary Salisbury and Mary Jo Stevens have been active in the Fellowship Committee. Carley Mattimore was able to coordinate and arrange for Circle Suppers. Thanks to Electronics & Communications Committee (Scott Wade) for work on the Website. Pastoral Care Committee (Perko) has done extremely good work. The Religious Education Committee has developed new curricula and moved forward significantly. Two substantial financial gifts received from Ruth Heckathorn. ALUUC has a new accountant. Victoria Vincent noted that an internal audit is required by the congregational bylaws, but has not been accomplished this year. Those interested in participating in such an audit should contact the incoming president, Jim Redlich. The Social Action Committee has been quite active through the work of John Malan, Jack Kriel, and others. Of note, the SCRIP program has gotten underway.

Kurt DeWeese noted that there was a need for better equipment in the RE area and that hearing assist technology was needed. John Malan mentioned that the Social Action Committee also was able to arrange for assistance at the Springfield Overflow Shelter. Craig Bailey noted that the Program Committee had had a successful year through the work of Penny Wollan-Kriel and himself.

Secretary’s Report (Burpee): Minutes from last meeting were presented and reviewed by Will Burpee. A motion to accept the minutes and second were made. The motion was passed by a majority.

Minister’s Report (Rev. Martin Woulfe): This is the third of Reverend Woulfe’s annual reports. He will post to the Website a 10 page document listing the many accomplishments this year. He has conducted 31 Sunday services, 9 wedding services, 3 memorial services, 1 child dedication service, and 1 civil union. Thanks to Kurt DeWeese for recording the services. (Full Report has been posted). Scott Wade mentioned that Reverend Woulfe’s Blog called “the Woulfe’s Den”

Religious Education (Marla Johnson):
First Friday’s Kid’s Club has been established whereby kids gather and produce thematic project of some sort. Marla has arranged volunteers to assist Jane with teaching responsibilities,
attended all RE Committee meetings. She attended several trainings including a Hospitality Meeting as well as an OWL. She encouraged the continuation of the Kid’s Club. Thanks given to Lisa Pauley and the rest of the congregation.

**Treasurer’s Report (presented by Brian Otwell):**
Financial statements are posted on bulletin board. The congregation is running in the black due to gifts from Heckathorn and the Kendalls. One highlight was noted, that of funding two mortgages for the Parking Lot Paving Project, one with the UUA and one with a local lending institution, Illinois Marine Bank. Questions and comments were taken from the floor. The monthly payments for the mortgages are the same as they have been in the past.

A motion to accept the treasurer’s report was made, seconded, and passed by a majority.

**Endowment Committee Report (presented by Brian Otwell):**
Gifts by Kendalls now in the endowment fund. The committee seeks a 4% return on investments; comments by the committee chair, Dave Braddock, were made, noting that Frank Kopecky has been working on a statement regarding the Heckathorn gift. The exact amount in the fund is nearly $40,000.00. Questions and comments were taken from the floor. Note was made that Stacy Tischkau, the office secretary, has been ill and the office administration managed by volunteers. Stacy is expected back soon. Commentary was made

A motion to accept the Endowment Committee Report was made, seconded, and passed by a majority.

**Budget (presented by Brian Otwell):**
The proposed Budget was presented and discussed by Brian. Highlights of the proposed Budget were reviewed. Janitorial services were proposed to be funded thanks to the work of Deb Hagan. Child care monies were restored as a line item and this year, ALUUC has relied on volunteers to provide childcare services. While volunteers will still be needed, funds will be made available for a paid provider. Reverend Woulfe’s salary package was increased by $2000.00. Members of the Finance Committee were polled for comments. Kurt DeWeese noted that fund raising efforts projected for the coming year were ambitious and asked for ideas and initiative from the congregation. He mentioned that the telephone system was not reliable and suggested that savings be used for a better system. The CUUPS group will be sponsoring a fund raiser. Plans are being made by the incoming president, Jim Redlich, to develop a fund raising task force. Brian encouraged volunteers interested in such activity to contact Jim. Approximately 90% of Pledge Cards have been submitted; as of two days ago, $121,000.00 has been pledged. Mike Haynes mentioned that the Trash and Treasures sale will be chaired by Linda Haynes and himself.

A motion to approve the Budget was made and seconded; the motion was passed by a majority.

**Nominating Committee Report (presented by Brian Otwell):**
Nominated Board Officers and members follow:
- Jim Redlich, President
- Carol Floyd, Vice-President
- Tina Layer, Treasurer
- Jeffrey Bennett, Secretary
- Henry Farrington, member
Further nominations were taken from the floor for the Board, Endowment Committee, and Nominating Committee. Members of the Board, Endowment Committee, and Nominating Committee were introduced and made to stand.

**The full slate nominated by the Nominating Committee was voted in by the congregation.**

Berkeley Moore noted Gwen Childs and Perry Hines will join the Committee on Ministry. Frank Kopecky, the Chair of the Committee on Ministry noted the current members and function of the committee.

A resolution to initiate a Lay Officiant Policy was presented by Frank Kopecky for approval by the congregation. Questions from the floor were taken and addressed by Reverend Martin and Frank Kopecky. Reverend Woulfe mentioned that he would continue to officiate at rites of passage as required for congregational members, but would “farm out” the officiating role at marriages as requested by lay officiants. Frank mentioned that the congregation would probably adopt a model similar to the Bloomington, Illinois Unitarian Universalist Congregation. A committee would submit a proposal for such a policy

**A move was entertained to amend the resolution so that before the Board adopts such a policy, the proposed policy be made public at least one meeting before the meeting at which a vote by the Board is made.** The move was seconded. Reverend Woulfe noted that such a Lay Officiant Policy would allow him to focus more on other duties. He noted that Lay Officiants would not be recognized as Ministers but merely Representatives. **The amendment was approved by a majority of the congregation. A move was made and seconded for approval of the Lay Officiant resolution and passed by a majority of the congregation.**

Carol Floyd presented a book as gift to Brian Otwell for his work on the Board. Brian Otwell passed the gavel to Jim Redlich and thanked the congregation.

The meeting was adjourned.