

LCUUF NEWS OF THE WEEK



Lake Chapala Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship



Issue 111

May 4 - May 11, 2025

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Attend our weekly services in person or via Zoom on Sundays at 12:00pm CST. We are located at St. Andrew's Anglican Church, San Lucas 19, Riberas del Pilar.

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UPCOMING SERVICES



This Week: May 4, 2025

"We Are The Gratitude People"



Next Week: May 11, 2025

"Imagine That"

Presenter: Rev. Matt Alspaugh

Service Associate: Ted Fahy

UU Minister Galen Guengerich believes our unique religious virtue is gratitude, saying, "In the same way that Judaism is defined by obedience, Christianity by love, and Islam by submission, I believe that Unitarian Universalism should be defined by gratitude." He goes on, "Our bumper sticker could be: We are the gratitude people." We'll consider what it means to be 'gratitude people': why and how we might practice gratitude in our daily lives.

NOTE: This service MAY be held outside in the garden due to construction in the sanctuary.

May 11, 2025

Presenter: Rev. Matt Alspaugh

Service Associate: Priscilla Taylor

It's been suggested that imagination is a uniquely human trait. It's something that we can develop; we can use it to connect with one another, it connects us with things larger than ourselves, perhaps with the divine. It can also lead to trouble. Together we'll imagine just what imagination is about.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The quarterly Sunday Service Planning Meeting for June, July and August will be this Sunday immediately following the regular service



Why Quarterly Planning Meetings by D'vorah Kelley

The Quarterly Planning Meetings is how we get things done and we need your help! When I joined the Sunday Service Committee, now the Sunday Service Team, we were "expected" to take responsibility for two months' worth of services – find the speakers to fill in around Matt's two services – so usually we were responsible for four services – in the recent past, before I joined, members were responsible for three months!

Lucky for us, Matt conceived of a different model -one that would involve more of the congregation in shaping the services. Beginning in January 2023 we began to hold a meeting after the service once a quarter, inviting members and friends to participate in planning the outline of the upcoming month's services – usually the speaker, service associate, and topic. To our amazement, and joy, we very easily filled three months' worth of services! And perhaps as a result, our SST has grown – we now have nine members and two "adjunct" members - Matt and Cate Howell.

FAQ

Q: "If I come to a QPM, does that mean I have to give a service?"

A: Not at all! (But you would be helped all along the way if you decided to!)

Q: "I'm new to LCUUF. Would this be a good way to get involved?"

A: Absolutely! It would give you an idea of how we operate, what topics are of interest, and you might even be willing to try a small part in a service.

Q: "What would a small part be?"

A: We always need readers, people to look up information for the presenter, people to light the chalice, pass the mike.

Q: "What is a Service Associate?"

A: Our Service Associates (SA) play a very important role – they are the front-line folks who are responsible for reading the opening words, the chalice lighting words, the Share the Basket, etc. Their role can range from just showing up to read the teleprompter, to finding readings, and/or brainstorming with the presenter. We ask that any first-time presenters serve as a SA first to become acquainted with our process.

Q: "When is the next Quarterly Meeting?"

A: May 11th after the service for about an hour. We will plan for June/July/August.

D'Vorah Kelley, Chair
Sunday Service Team



Remembering Al Castleman

Al Castleman passed away on Thursday, May 1. Please keep Jane in your hearts during this very difficult time.

Al most recently served as LCUUF treasurer for two years and was a board member on our US non-profit LCUUF.Inc.

Editors note: It was my great pleasure to work closely with Al during the two years he served as treasurer. I am very grateful to have gotten to know him.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

LEW CRIPPEN

17 MAY, 2025
A HYBRID SERVICE

5:00 PM EDT ON ZOOM:
[HTTPS://US04WEB.ZOOM.US/J/233941792](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/233941792)
&

3:00 PM GUADALAJARA TIME:
THE LCUUF AT ST. ANDEWS
CALLE SAN LUCAS #19 45906 CHAPALA, MEXICO

SUE KELLEY MEMORIAL SERVICE POSTPONED

We are postponing the Celebration of Life service for Sue Kelley, one of the founding members of the fellowship. The recent change of date (due to the repairs of the building) meant that many people could not attend. We want to be more inclusive, so we will reschedule, probably for next February. Write to me if you have any questions.

With apologies,
Matt



May Share The Basket Recipient: Poco A Poco

Poco a Poco supports youth and women in the San Pedro Itzicán and Mezcala area east of us through education, teaching local organic food growth, providing food and drinking water to renal patients, feeding over 300 children 5 days a week, offering health services, as well as literacy and English as a second language classes.



Video Recording For Sunday April 27



Mindfulness With Richard Clarke: Thursday May 1

Monthly Women's Group Brown Bag Lunch!

In addition to the 1st & 3rd Mon ZOOM women's group meetings we are adding an IN PERSON BROWN BAG LUNCH at 12N on the 4th Monday. Please contact Trudy if you plan to attend.

trudycrippen@gmail.com

Click on the "+" for details

+



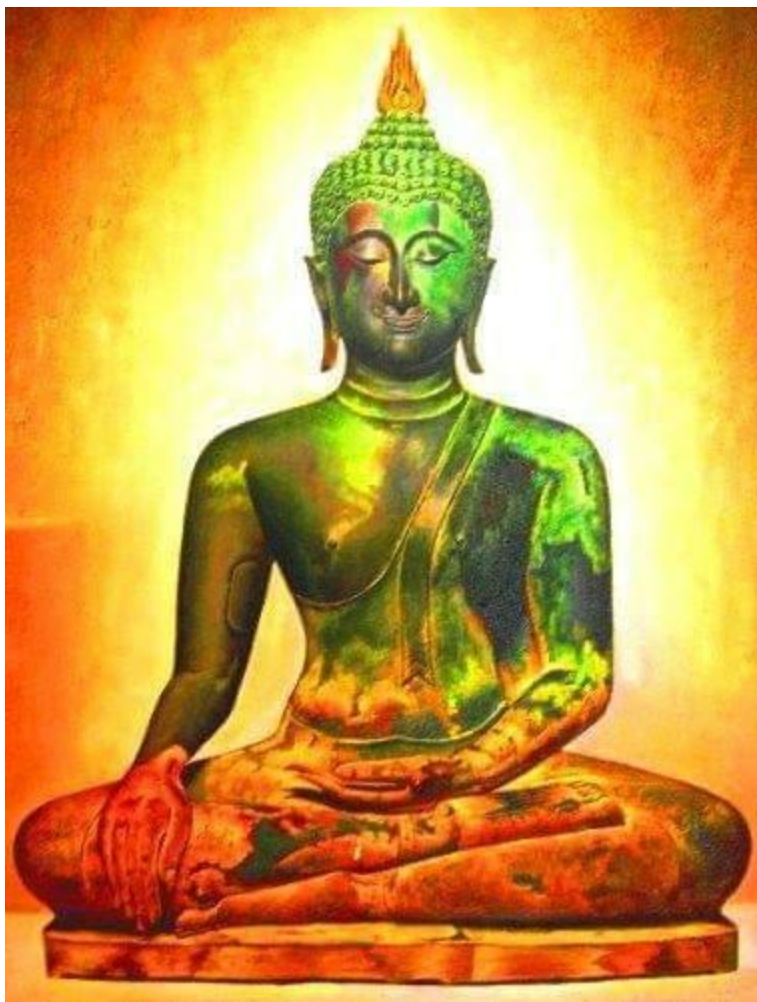
In macroeconomics, the "chess vs. checkers" analogy is often used to describe the difference between strategic planning and reactive decision-making. Chess, with its complex rules and diverse piece capabilities, represents a proactive approach where players anticipate and plan for long-term outcomes. Checkers, on the other hand, with its simpler rules and limited piece movement, is more about immediate, reactive moves. Go, with its vast board and focus on territorial control, offers a nuanced perspective, suggesting a balance between strategic planning and the need to react to evolving circumstances. We will explore these distinctions as applied to our current global situation. The Humanist Discussion Group will meet Wednesday May 28 at 11am Central Standard Time Via Zoom. Please note that some US states will be on Daylight Savings Time. The zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86577912863> If you want to be added to the reading list, contact Bob Koches at bobkoches@gmail.com

Click to join on Zoom

Women's Group: 1st , 3rd and 4th Mondays +

12pm - 1pm 1st and 3rd Mondays Monthly Catherine Luria, Facilitator: Contact CLuriaARNP@gmail.com for topics. Now you can join us for a brown bag lunch on the 4th Monday of each month at Trudy Crippen's house. RSVP Trudy if you plan to attend. trudycrippen@gmail.com

Zoom Meditation Lessons: 3-4pm Thursdays +



Mindfulness is the fountain of youth for the mind. It enhances clarity, boosts mood, and keeps stress at bay. Meditation not only helps you age gracefully but also lets you savor life's every moment. Richard Clarke, Facilitator. To find out more contact: riberasmeditation@gmail.com

[Click to join on Zoom](#)

Coffee "Above" The Plaza: Thursdays 10:30am

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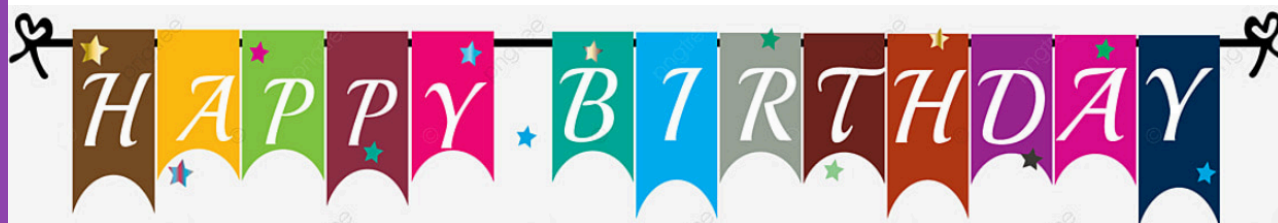
Meet other UUs for weekly conversations at Los Gringos (above the ice cream place) on the Plaza. Bring a friend!

Open Zoom Conversation: Fridays 2pm

+

Conversation is open to all questions. Email Richard Clarke at arunachalakinle@gmail.com

[Click to join on Zoom](#)



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Thomas McLure, May 7

Mark Etkin, May 8

Al Castleman, May 9

Cate Howell, May 11



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