

LCUUF NEWS OF THE WEEK



Lake Chapala Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship



Issue 113

May 18 - May 25, 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 18, 2025



Next Week: May 25, 2025

**"Who Are We, Where
Are We Going"**

“Being Here Now”

Presenter: Annie Morris

Service Associate: Deb Gang

Do you sometimes realize you've been driving for 15 minutes and have no idea how you got to where you are? Have you ever eaten a half a bag of chips while watching TV and not even registered that you were doing it? This week we will explore how to be present in our lives and learn to fully experience each moment as it happens.

Presenter: Rev Matt Alspaugh

Service Associate: Tim Boeve

Among the most fundamental of spiritual questions are those asked in the title of this service: “Who are we?” “Where Are We Going?” These, along with questions like “Where Do We Come From?” and “Why Are We Here?” form the core of most legitimate spiritual explorations, even if they are not asked directly. Further, we can ask these questions about ourselves as individuals, and also about our communities, cultures, even humanity itself.

For this service, we'll consider the title questions, as they apply to ourselves as individuals as well as our fellowship as a community. We won't try to find hard and fast answers (I'm not sure those exist), but we'll begin thinking about possible answers that fit us.

We Have Air Conditioning

The sanctuary at St. Andrew's will now be air-conditioned when temperatures require it. A big Thank You to Trudy Crippen who gave a donation that enabled LCUUF to have AC paid for and installed. LCUUF had a significant portion of the cost for AC included in this year's budget already. Trudy's donation made the completion of the job possible. Thank You!



Rev. Matt Alspaugh

A few weeks ago, I attended a Zoom meeting for Unitarian Universalist leaders on using AI. This meeting was not so much focused on the existential dangers of AI, or dreams of how it will change the world economy. It was simply how we might use AI in our daily lives. Admittedly, this has been a subject that's been on my mind for the past few months. I have played with using AI tools in my work with very mixed results. I've been able to use an AI tool to do tedious tasks like translate a table of phrases to Spanish. I've also been able to



use AI graphics tools to create occasional images for Sunday service slides. I'm currently experimenting with a tool that helps me organize and summarize my sources as I write sermons. That tool promises to be very helpful. I've also had some misses. I asked one AI tool to find real-life stories on 'awe', and the most promising story it found appeared to have been fabricated, a hallucination, by another AI! So I've come to use these tools with a rather skeptical mind. I visualize AI as a fairly enthusiastic, but somewhat naïve intern or new employee, one who very much wants to please, but sometimes will go off in very odd directions to please.

Can AI write sermons, newsletter columns like this, and other items? I'm quite reluctant to use these tools to write materials for me. I think that to fully honor you, the listener or the reader, my words need to be my words. That being said, I think there is a place for AI to help me get started, help me gather my thoughts, and help me find resources.

I do think that AI will bring profound changes to how we live our lives – changes as significant, maybe more significant, than social media or the Internet itself. But rather than read and wonder — or read and worry — I think the best thing to do right now is to try out various AI tools. See how they can handle simple questions and requests.

One particularly good place to start is Poe, (poe.com), which is a website that allows you to try out a wide variety of AI tools. Have fun with these tools, but be a little bit skeptical. Just as we've learned with other things on the internet, like search, and social media, be watchful. Get to know AI, play with it, but don't trust AI completely.

IMPORTANT CLARIFICATION

The Memorial Service **will be at St Andrew's** Saturday May 17th at 3:00pm local time. See additional details below:



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

imagine
that



Rev. Matt Alspaugh, Speaker
Priscilla Taylor, Service Associate
May 11, 2025



Lake Chapala UU

Video Recording For Sunday May 11



Mindfulness With Richard Clarke: Thursday May 15

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

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY EVENTS

Click on the "+" for details

Humanist Discussion Group Wed May 28-11am **+**

+



Chess vs. Checkers

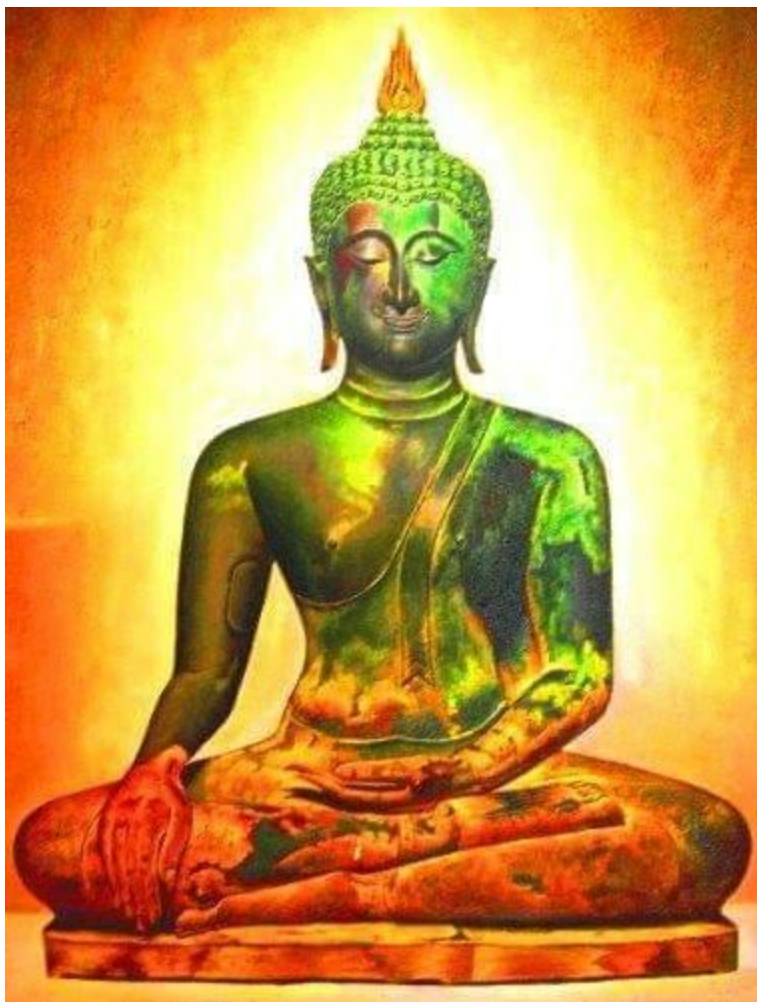
In macroeconomics, the "chess vs. checkers" analogy is often used to describe the difference between strategic planning and reactive decision-making. Chess, with its complex rules and diverse piece capabilities, represents a proactive approach where players anticipate and plan for long-term outcomes. 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

+

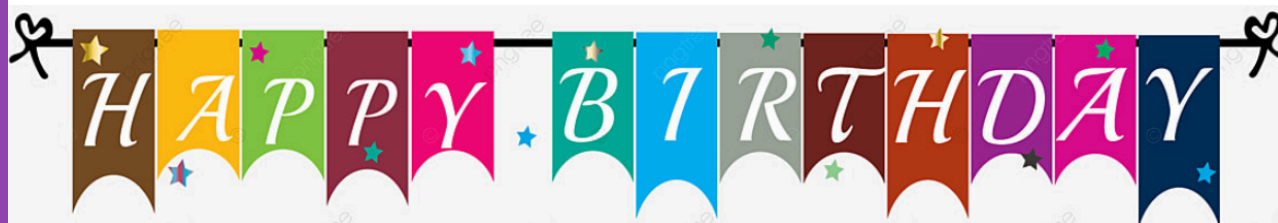
Meet other UUs for weekly conversations at Los Gringos (above the ice cream place) on the Plaza. Bring a friend!

Open Zoom Conversation: Fridays 2pm

+

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

[Click to join on Zoom](#)



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Liz Hill, May 19

Fred Koesling, May 20

Adele St. Pierre, May 23

Ilona de Borhegyi, May 24



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