

# Albion Area Lifelong Learners

AN INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LEARNING IN COOPERATION WITH ALBION COLLEGE

## Greetings

Dear Friends,

The Spring Assembly is the time for our Annual Meeting. We will provide financial updates and vote for new Board members.

As we welcome Spring, so we look forward to the great selection of classes once again prepared by our Curriculum Committee. These include: The Foundations of Financial Investment Decision-Making; Animal Communication; Ancient Faith, Modern World; and Music, It Inspires. The Curriculum Committee, and I, always welcome suggestions for future classes, and feedback related to previous classes.

We are once again considering a group "field trip." The Chelsea Area Players is performing "The Only Man in Town," an old-fashioned musical based on the true story of the rise and fall of former Chelsea entrepreneur, Frank Glazier.

We are able to get group tickets for Sunday, June 11, 3 p.m., for \$10, at Chelsea High School. If you are interested, please email me at [mary\\_slater@hotmail.com](mailto:mary_slater@hotmail.com). There will also be a sign-up sheet at the Assembly. Depending on how many people attend, we may car-pool or rent a van for an additional fee.

Finally, the Board has determined that it is necessary to increase the annual dues to \$25. We will continue to offer one free class each term. If the class has a materials fee, or rental fee (Bohm), you still need to pay that.

Mary Slater, President

## Upcoming Events

**Spring Assembly - Music and Sound for Healing**  
**Tess Miller, DMA, CMP, CPC**

**Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 10 a.m.**

## **Tennant Hall at the First United Methodist Church**

600 E Michigan Ave  
Albion, MI 49224

"Music has Charms to soothe a savage Breast." William Congreve

"Whenever the evil spirit from God came on Saul, David would take up the lyre and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him."

- 1 Samuel 16:23, The Bible

When Dr. Miller was asked as a high school student what she wanted to do for a career, the first thing that came to mind was playing music for people in hospitals, hospices, and assisted living facilities. Many suggested Music Therapy as a focus of study, however, that was not quite what she had in mind. She decided instead to major in music performance and graduated with a DMA from Michigan State University in 2004.

After 15 years of performing and teaching in the field of Western Classical music, Dr. Miller felt that something was missing from her music offerings. In 2012, she remembered her original musical service interest and discovered the Music for Healing and Transition Program™ (MHTP), a Board-Certified Program that trains people to provide live, prescribed music at the bedside of the ill and dying. She became a Certified Music Practitioner (CMP®) in 2014 and works at McLaren Greater Lansing.

How is therapeutic music different from regular music for entertainment? What's the difference between music therapy and therapeutic music? How does therapeutic music help in the healing process? And how is sound healing different from therapeutic music? These questions will be explored and interspersed with demonstrations.

In addition to her CMP work at the hospital, Dr. Miller is the Flute Instructor at Alma College and the MSU Community Music School. She performs regularly with the Traverse Symphony Orchestra and the Durant Street Wind Quintet. A lifelong learner herself, she became certified as a Professional Coach through the Institute for Professional Excellence in Coaching in 2019 and is currently a Counselor in Training through Central Michigan University.

## **Guest Speaker, Richard Norton Smith**

**Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m.**

The Gerald R. Ford Institute for Leadership in Public Policy and Service is hosting an evening with nationally renowned historian, Richard Norton Smith, who will discuss his

new book, *An Ordinary Man: The Surprising Life and Historic Presidency of Gerald R. Ford*.

**Upper Baldwin Hall, Albion College**

203 S. Hannah St. (Ditzler Way)

Albion, MI 49224 United States

## **Group Trip - The Only Man in Town**

Sunday, June 11, 3 p.m.

A group trip is being planned to see the Chelsea Area Players production of "The Only Man in Town" Sunday, June 11, 3:00 p.m. at Chelsea High School. This true story is set as a musical about the rise and fall of early Chelsea entrepreneur Frank Glazier. Group rate is \$10 per ticket. Contact [mary\\_slater@hotmail.com](mailto:mary_slater@hotmail.com) if you are interested.

## **Upcoming Courses**

### **The Foundations of Financial Investment**

#### **Decision-making**

**Presenters include:**

- Dr. Zhen Li, Professor of Economics at Albion College
- T. J. Whitehouse, (Investment Banker), Executive Director, J. P. Morgan
- Diane Housley Peters, Estate Planning Attorney
- Scott Evans, President and CEO, Homestead Bank
- Brandy Eggleston, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. EXCEPT May 23, when class will be 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.  
May 2, May 9, May 16 and May 23, 2023

Location: TBA

Class Size Limit: unlimited

Coordinator: James Whitehouse. email: [jkwhitehouse5@yahoo.com](mailto:jkwhitehouse5@yahoo.com)

As ordinary people, we make a variety of investment and financial decisions, from budgeting to estate planning, from investment portfolio choices to choosing professionals to help us navigate the maze. This class, presented by a variety of professionals, will look at the policies, procedures and institutions that form the bedrock upon which these decisions are made and implemented. You will learn about the governmental policies, regulations, protections and institutions that shape the landscape of the transfer and investment of property. We will explore the worlds of commercial and

investment banking, laws and customs affecting wealth transfer during and after life, marketing of stocks, bonds, annuities and other investments and the institutions that protect and enable those investments.

## **Animal Communication**

**Dale Kennedy, Ph.D., Professor of Biology emerita, Albion College.**

Mondays. 10 a.m. – 12 noon. May 1, 8, 15, 22. In person. Ludington 113, with one class at Whitehouse Nature Center. Class limit: 25.

Coordinator: Carolyn Gaswick. Email: [cgaswick@albion.edu](mailto:cgaswick@albion.edu)

Animal communication has long been of interest to humans, and writings on this topic have come from many people, including Aristotle, Charles Darwin (1872 book, *On the Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*), and E. O. Wilson (a theory of chemical communication). In this class we will examine some of the diverse systems of communication among animals from an evolutionary perspective.

We will begin by asking, what is communication? We will briefly discuss a model by Claude Shannon (1948), an engineer for Bell Labs who grew up in Michigan. His model involved several components: a sender (signaler), a signal, and a receiver (perceiver), and, importantly, added the impact of noise on the transmission of a signal.

We will then address a variety of questions:

How do non-human animals communicate?

- What are examples of the different types of signals (acoustic, visual, chemical, and others) used by animals?
- Are signals honest from the perspectives of both sender and receiver?
- Is there eavesdropping on signals by non-target species? Which types of signals of other animals can we detect (and which not)?
- How do environmental factors and changes to the environment such as acoustic noise, light pollution, and water pollution impact signals and communication? (And what can we do to help reduce some of the problems caused to animals?)
- What is vocal learning, and what animals exhibit it?
- What, if anything, distinguishes non-human animal communication from human language?

We will meet for one class, probably the last one, in Whitehouse Nature Center, to look for local examples of animal communication. I will send out materials, including some writings and some videos, before each class. If you want a book on the topic, I

recommend *Animal Talk: Breaking the Codes of Animal Language*, by Tim Friend (Free Press, Simon & Schuster, 2004). Used copies of this book are available through many sources online.

## **Ancient Faith, Modern World**

**Jocelyn McWhirter, Ph.D., Stanley S. Kresge Professor of Religious Studies, Albion College.**

Phone 517-629-0268, email [jmcwhirter@albion.edu](mailto:jmcwhirter@albion.edu)

Tuesdays. 2 – 4 p.m. May 2, 9, 16, 23. In person. Ludington 113. Class limit: 35.

Coordinator: Donna Ward. Email: [dward@albion.edu](mailto:dward@albion.edu)

Who are we, and how did we get here? Since most scientists agree that the world was created with a Big Bang and that we evolved over billions of years, how do Jews and Christians understand the traditional belief that God created everything in seven days? Why do so many people believe in some sort of higher power yet differ so much on the details? In general, how and to what extent have Jews and Christians adapted their ancient faith to a modern world? In this course, we will consider various answers to these and other questions as presented in the Bible as well as by modern (and postmodern) scientists, philosophers, and religious thinkers. We may or may not discover the truth! Our objective is rather to turn the questions inside out, to understand the perspectives of others, and to appreciate the multi-faceted adventures of Pi Patel.

We will read selections from the Bible (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition, New Revised Standard Version, New International Version, or New American Bible preferred). We will also read the novel *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel (Orlando: Harcourt, 2001) as well as primary texts available online.

## **Music, It Inspires**

**Nancy Doyal, United Albion glassblowers, president.**

Email: [nkdoyal@me.com](mailto:nkdoyal@me.com).

Thursdays. 2 – 4:30 p.m. May 4, 11, 18, 25. Bohm Theatre.

Class Limited to 80 participants—if you are interested in this class, be sure to read the “Policy for Limited Enrollment Classes.”

Coordinator: David Hogberg. Email: dhogberg@albion.edu.

**Movie 1: Bathtubs Over Broadway (2018, Netflix)**

Run Time: 1 hr. 27 mins.

A Late Night comedy writer stumbles upon a hilarious, hidden world of corporate entertainment and finds an unexpected connection to his fellow man. Tribeca and WGA Award winner.

**Movie 2: Dionne Warwick: Don't Make Me Over (2021, HBO Max)**

Run Time: 1 hr. 35 min

Set against a music world profoundly divided between black and white, DON'T MAKE ME OVER tells the dramatic story of Dionne Warwick's meteoric rise from New Jersey gospel choirs to international cross-over super stardom.

**Movie 3: Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, A Journey, A Song (2021, Netflix)**

Run Time: 1 hr. 58 mins.

This feature-length documentary explores the life of singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen as seen through the prism of his internationally renowned hymn, Hallelujah.

**Movie 4: Miles Davis – Birth Of Cool (2019, Netflix)**

Run Time: 1 hr. 55 mins.

The life story of the legendary musician Miles Davis.

There is a \$10 charge to help cover the cost of the theatre rental.

## **Reminders for Spring 2023:**

1. Annual membership dues for 2023-2024 are \$20. Members may take one class each term without additional fee; each additional class is \$10. If you have questions, you can call the Registrar, Mary Deardurff at 517-990-4158.
2. The Spring Assembly (on Thursday, April 6, 2023) will be held in Tennant Hall at the First United Methodist Church. You may register in person from 9:30 to 10 a.m. Please bring your completed registration form (or facsimile) with you.
3. Mail-in registration forms (along with a check or money order made out to AALL) must be received by Thursday, April 13, 2023. Mail the completed form along

with a check or money order payable to AALL to: AALL Registrar, P. O. Box 188, Albion, MI 49224.

## Registration Information

- For each course for which you want to register, place a number in the box in front of the course name: 1 for the course you most want to take, 2 for the second course you wish to take, etc. (NOTE: If you only wish to take one course, mark it with the number 1)
- If you wish to indicate an alternate choice (in case one of your choices is oversubscribed and you are not admitted to that course), mark an X in the box before your alternate choice.
- In the column marked FEE, indicate the appropriate cost. The first course (each term) is free with your AALL membership; simply write FREE in the FEE column. Each additional course is \$10 (plus any special fees). All fees need to be paid at the time of registration. If your "free class" is one that includes a fee, you must pay the fee even though the class is free for you.
- If you are unable to attend a course for which you have registered, fees can be refunded up until the start of the course.

## Policy for Limited Enrollment Classes

When a course with limits is over-enrolled, the names of all those who had it listed as #1 shall be entered in a lottery. Those randomly drawn shall be placed in the class. Those not selected will comprise the waiting list and also be given first access if that course is offered again. The Registrar will keep a record of those on the waiting list until the course is offered again.

Those selected for the course in its first offering will not be eligible to retake it until all those on the waiting list have had the opportunity to take the course.

Those who have signed up for a class with limits and listed it as #1 are encouraged to sign up for at least one additional class. Members are also encouraged not to sign up for a course with limited enrollment if they know they won't be there for all four sessions.

# AALL Winter Term 2023

Registration deadline: Sunday, April 23, 2023

## Registration 1

	Cost
2022 - 23 annual dues (\$20)	
The Foundations of Financial Investment Decision-making	
Animal Communication	
Ancient Faith, Modern World	
Music, It Inspires	
<b>Total:</b>	

Name:

Phone:

Email:

## Registration 2

	Cost
2022 - 23 annual dues (\$20)	
The Foundations of Financial Investment Decision-making	
Animal Communication	
Ancient Faith, Modern World	
Music, It Inspires	
<b>Total:</b>	

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Yes, I am 55 or older (spouse/partner could be younger)

**MAIL form and check or money order to: AALL Registrar, P. O. Box 188, Albion,  
MI 49224**