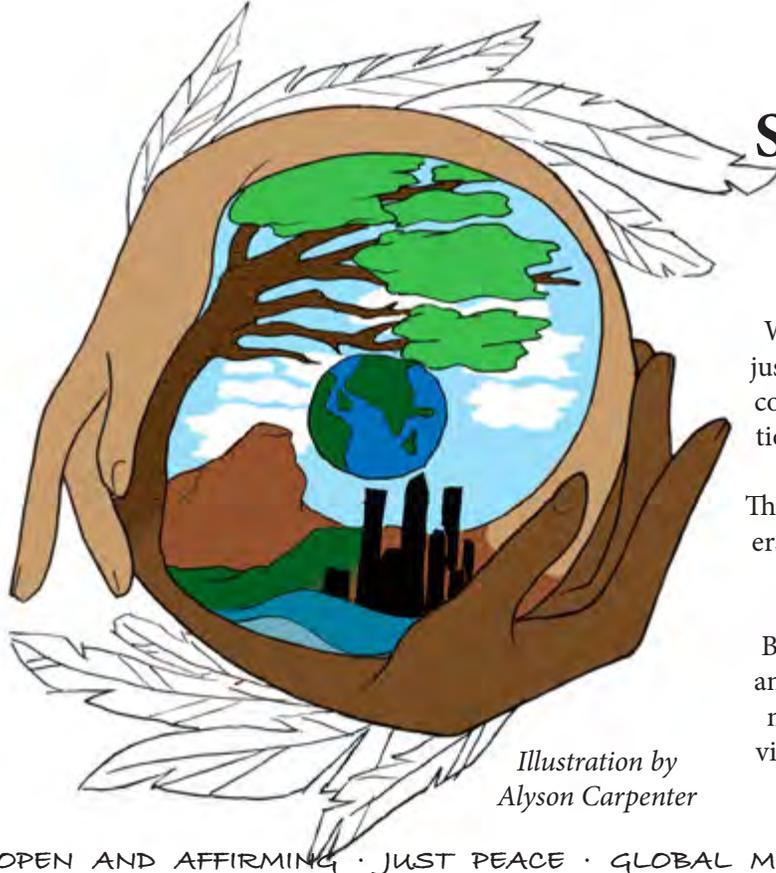


June 2018 | www.iucc.org | Join us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#)

OPEN AND AFFIRMING · JUST PEACE · GLOBAL MISSION · CREATION JUSTICE/GREEN FAITH



*Illustration by
Alyson Carpenter*

OPEN AND AFFIRMING · JUST PEACE · GLOBAL MISSION · CREATION JUSTICE/GREEN FAITH

The IUCC Chancel Choir presents
Singing Our Convictions

Sunday | June 10 | 7 p.m.

IUCC Sanctuary

We hear it every Sunday. We are an open and affirming, just peace, global mission, and creation justice/green faith congregation. The IUCC Chancel Choir, under the direction of Dr. John St. Marie, will take that a step further for the Spring Choral Concert.

The concert features music from a wide variety of composers and in many styles. Each reflects the commitment this church has made toward creating a just world for all.

Check the [IUCC website](#) for alternate parking.

Bonus activity: Take a tour of the new addition between 6 and 6:45 p.m. with the last tour starting at 6:30 pm. Don't miss this rare opportunity for a behind-the-scenes preview. Closed-toed shoes are required and all tour participants should be mobile.

Farewell reception for Church Administrator Michael Spindle: June 24 at 12:15 p.m.

oc pride
LGBT FESTIVAL

IUCC is joining with UCC-affiliated churches in Brea, Costa Mesa, Fullerton, Laguna beach, Los Alamitos, and more to form a marching team for the OC Pride parade.

IUCC will also have a table at the festival. This is a great opportunity to show our commitment to being an open and affirming church.

You can participate. Parade spaces are limited but volunteers can also help at the IUCC table or just attend the festival to show support. For more information, contact Cindy O'Dell, chair of the Communications Ministry at

odellcindy19@gmail.com. The Communications Ministry is responsible for the newsletter you're reading, keeping the website up-to-date, sharing information on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and making sure that IUCC is represented at public events such as OC Pride.

OC Pride takes place Saturday, June 23. The parade is at 10:30 a.m. beginning at 4th and Ross Streets in Santa Ana, proceeding along 4th Street to French Street, where the festival begins.

Information: www.ocprideoc.com

From The Pastor

by The Rev. Dr. Paul Tellstrom



June and July are full of transitions at the church. In these two months, we will see the new building extension finished, a new patio upon which to gather, and our parking lot put back together.

Come to the choir concert early (6:15) on Sunday, June 10, and you will get a tour of where we are right now in

small groups. I'll be happy to be your guide, along with others who have been involved in the project. We will hold it open for half an hour so as not to compete with our concert.

As you know, Michael will be leaving at the end of June. As difficult as it will be to replace him, the answer was under our own nose. Michael worked very well with Steve Swope before I came to the church, and he easily convinced me that Steve would be a good "fit." Our moderator, Renae, Admin Board Chair, Dave Schofield, and other leaders as well saw the wisdom in this potential hire. A job description was drafted, and soon we had an interesting possibility.

Fortunately, Steve liked the possibility as well.

On June 15, the Rev. Steve Swope will be our full-time, "Administrative Pastor." He has been hired (not "called") to oversee the running of our facilities and to give guidance to our Adult Ed programs. This work is expected to take 75% and 25% of his time, respectively.

By creating the position of an, "Administrative Pastor," we honor Steve's status as an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. IUCC is fortunate to have such a detail-oriented and organizational wizard working with me on the staff.

So, does that mean we now have three pastors on staff? Yes...and No. Here is a subtle distinction that needs to be made. Sarah and I are the "on-call" pastors. If I am away, Sarah is the next pastor to call.

Steve is very much with us, but he is sitting on the other side of the workings of the church. He will be seated on the administrative end, working more closely with Heidi, our bookkeeper. Of course his ordained status is honored in his staff title, and you will see him in worship from time to time.

I am honored to work with such a capable individual as Steve. I'm happy to spend time with Steve and Mary, and I know you will love them even more, as he becomes more present on our campus. Welcome Steve!



Moderator's Column

by Renae Boyum



One of the hallmarks of IUCC is our incredible lay leadership. At the recent Spring Congregational meeting, we elected a slate of nominees to serve as members of the Administration Board, the Ministries Board, and to chair the standing committees of IUCC. See the complete list of these newly elected leaders elsewhere in the newsletter. However, in addition to this talented, dedicated group of leaders there are many others members and friends of IUCC who serve on committees and task forces.

Let me highlight a few of those. One of the most active committees is the Green Faith Committee, chaired by Tony Dover and includes Judy Curry, Nancy Dreckman, Howard Emery, Martha Hansen, Vivian Johnson, Bonnie Shaffstall, Anita Schwab, and Eileen Vincent. Their mission is to inspire, educate, and mobilize people for the care of the earth. The following belief statement addresses the motivation behind their work:

We believe. . .

- * in the sacredness of nature
- * people grow spiritually through a strong relationship with the earth
- * all people deserve a healthy environment
- * when we do damage to the land we do damage to the people, especially to the poor
- * our consumption habits can destroy or help heal and restore the earth
- * the flourishing of humanity depends on the flourishing of

the whole creation

The Green Faith Committee is a part of the Ministry of Advocates for Peace and Justice and is hoping to become a ministry of IUCC in the future.

An important task force that aids with making sure that IUCC runs smoothly is the **Bylaws, Policies and Procedures Task Force**. The Task Force is chaired by Anne Rosse and has as its current members, Don Bjorklund, Keith Boyum, J.S. Coke, and Ron Steiner. At this time, they will be looking at the policies and procedures that govern accessibility and use of the various spaces on campus, especially our new meeting spaces.

The Finance Committee, chaired by treasurer, Mark Allen acts as an advisory group and assists the treasurer with formulation of the budget. Members of this committee are Penny Portillo, Greg Guth, Tiffany Wilding, and Scott Bollens.

The Pastoral Relations Committees serve as a key communication element between our two pastors and the congregation. Members of Pastor Paul's Committee are Howard Emery, Steve Goetz, and Susie Lang. Members of Pastor Sarah's Committee are Jessie Billings and Roni Portillo. These committees serve a personal support group to the Pastors and as a confidential communication link for members of the congregation to our pastors.

Obviously, this is not a definitive list and the various ministries and standing committees have members and friends who give countless hours to the purposes and programs of IUCC. All of these volunteers make for a vibrant, caring community of faith, that I am so proud be a part of!

In faith and community,
Renae Boyum

2018 IUCC Leadership

Moderator: Renae Boyum

Administrative Board

Chair: Daniel Blackburn
Treasurer: Mark Allen
Admin. Clerk: Laura Palen
Congregational Rep.: Scott Bollens
Congregational Rep.: J.S. Coke
Congregational Rep.: Penny Portillo

Ministries Board

Chair: Felicity Figueroa

Adult Programs: Allison Singer
Advocates: David Smith
New Member Development:
Tommie Kozlov/Randy Romine
Congregational Care: Lorraine Fox/Barb Carse
Communications: Cindy O'Dell
Deacons: Cheryl Trobiani
Fellowship: August Lobato
Hospitality: Sandy Exelby/Jan Wilson
Mission and Service: Steve Goetz/Sharon Lynn

Clerk: Peggy Goetz
Music: oni Baker
Stephen Ministry: Janet Johnson
Worship: Michelle Lin
Young People: Jessie Billings/Lauren Fleming
Buildings and Grounds: Teri Houston
Child Care Center: Keith Boyum
Fund Development: Susie Lang/Janet Emery
Human Resource: Dale Vaughan
Technology: Ben Allen

Adult Education

by the Rev. Steve Swope



The summer will be filled with Adult Programs and educational opportunities! I hope you'll take advantage of more than one of these events and series.

Adult Sunday School

In June, GREENfaith Team member Anita Schwab will lead an exploration of Food & Faith, beginning with a look at how different religions relate to food in general and to specific foods.

In July, Bil Aulenbach will re-open his informal yet informative "Let's Talk" sessions, focusing on progressive Christianity. August? Wait and see!

Bil will also be leading three different weekday series, and you'll want to sign up in advance! June will be 3 weeks on The Historical Jesus (June 13/14, 20/21, 27/28). July will be Learning the Art of Midrash Using the Gospel of John (July 11/12, 18/19, 25/26, and Aug 1/2). And he'll finish up with Charting a 21st Century Reformation (Aug. 22/23, 29/30 and Sept. 12/13, 19/20).

All topics will be given on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 and Thursday mornings at 9:30 in Plumer Hall – pick the time that's most convenient for you. See Bil after worship for more information!

Midweek Salon

If you weren't there, you really missed an informative, even eye-opening conversation with Shanthi Nataraj, who has been leading a RAND study on refugees from the Syrian civil war. Did you know that more than 50% of Syria's population are refugees?

With everything we're doing over the summer, our next Midweek Salon will be in October. I'm still looking for people with interesting, little-known talents and interests – maybe you?

Bible Study

Ken Wyant will be back to lead Bible study on Tuesdays at 4 pm, starting June 12. Until then, I'm having fun filling in – let's see how far we can get through Luke's Gospel!

Special program on human trafficking

And don't forget about the program on human trafficking, on Sunday, June 10 at 12:15 pm in Plumer Hall. This will be led by the Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force's faith-based outreach, and there will be time for questions. A light lunch will also be served, with donations accepted. Contact Pam Kamps for more information: pamkamps@gmail.com

A correction to my Spring Meeting report – please include Keith Dillon as one of those who led Adult Sunday School during the past year. My apologies, Keith – and thanks again to all who share their knowledge and interests through IUCC's Adult



Building Project Update

by Anne Rosse, Chair of Building Task Force



It's hard to believe -- we have just two more months of construction! Our current timeline has construction wrapping up in late July, with occupancy in early August. Of course, there are still opportunities for delays — the City of Irvine is always a wild card. But we remain hopeful that we can hold to this schedule.

Our project is currently at the “rough in” stage — that phase in construction after basic framing is completed but before the walls and ceilings are closed up with drywall. Ceiling ductwork and sprinklers are being installed, along with utilities. The new HVAC system will be mounted soon and, later this month, widening of our driveway entrance will begin.

Our plan is to deliver a functional building - as in, it will have enough furnishings to be functional on day 1 so that our dedicated staff members have what they need and the meeting rooms are useable immediately. Our gratitude to Michael Spindle for taking the lead on furnishings.

Everything that has been chosen is doable within our current soft costs budget. We're compiling a “wish list” of items that will make life in our new space even better – that list will be shared at the Building Dedication in September. Even if you can't afford much, there should be options so that everyone in our church family can take part in making this new space happen.

In terms of our current facility, the newly-vacated adult education office will be converted for use by our active ministries. Complete with mailboxes, countertops, a copier, etc., this new space will be an easy stop on Sunday mornings. Remodeling of the current church office into a new classroom for our very busy preschool will begin as soon as that space has been vacated.

At weekly meetings with the architect and contractor, IUCC is well-represented by Pastor Paul, Mark Allen, Jim Raver, Anne Rosse, Michael Spindle and Steve Swope. Many thanks to Heidi Willcox for her outstanding support of this project.

We are incredibly grateful for your speedy payment of campaign pledges, which helps IUCC stay financially strong. Our greatest current need is to eliminate the remaining \$75,000 campaign shortfall so we're making a last



call for campaign pledges. Without these funds, we'd have to rely on IUCC's reserves even more, something we don't want to have to do.

Running throughout this month, our mini campaign is affectionately called the “Raising Money to Lower Mark Allen's Blood Pressure Mini Campaign.” And, thanks to your generosity, we're already 40% of the way to our \$75,000 goal!

If you have been procrastinating making a campaign pledge. . .or you are a new member and haven't yet joined your church family in supporting this project. . .or you have made a pledge but can do just a little more, the time is now! Every single gift – no matter the size – will make a difference.

Our deadline for new pledges is June 30, with pledge completion by July 31, 2019. Pledges can be made online at iucc.org/giving/ or by emailing capitalcampaign@iucc.org for a pledge form. To ensure that we are applying your gift correctly, please indicate “Mini Campaign” on your check or online payment.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, September 9. On that day, we will dedicate the new building and thank this church community for its generosity and vision for IUCC's future. Our thanks to Jessie Billings and the many folks who have stepped up to plan this fabulous celebration.

By coming together and stepping forward in faith, this church community is creating strengthened facilities to support our desire to grow in community significance through strong programs and service. As Pastor Paul recently posted to Facebook, “We are seeing a dream come alive.” Indeed!

A Month in the Life of IUCC

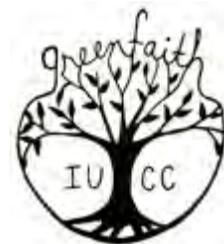
Photos courtesy of Pastor Sarah Fiske-Phillips, Cindy O'Dell



Clockwise from upper left: The Youth Group cleans up the beach; Keith Boyum leads the election forum; Pastor Paul and Renae Boyum with outgoing Admin Chair Dave Schofield, who was honored for the many roles he's taken on at IUCC; Frank Lyman puts our youth under one umbrella; Paul at rally in Santa Ana; a happy acolyte: Pastor Paul and Pastor Sarah visit longtime member Helen Swanson

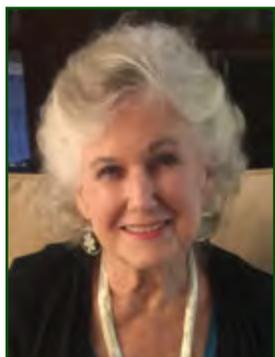


GreenFaith Team



GREENfaith * Committed to Environmental Justice *
IUCC is a Creation Justice Church of the UCC

Rise Up and Follow



Should we follow the Consumerism crowd?

Aldo Leopold is seen as a key figure in framing how we need to consider ethics in our day-to-day relationship with the land. Anita Schwab, a member of the GREENfaith committee, called his writings to my attention. Leopold states,

“ . . . Our bigger-and-better society is now like a hypochondriac, so obsessed with its own economic health as to have lost the capacity to remain healthy. The whole world is so greedy for more bathtubs that it has lost the stability necessary to build them, or even to turn off the tap. Nothing could be more salutary at this stage than a little healthy contempt for a plethora of material blessings.”

Leopold’s words are reminiscent of G. K. Chesterton’s:

“There are two ways to get enough. One is to continue to accumulate more and more. The other is to desire less.”

Our consumption habits can destroy or help heal and restore the earth. Are we following the crowd heading for the store and/or for online purchases? Do we ask the question as to whether we really need, or simply want an item?

Should we follow an Environmental Movement?

Bill McKibben, author and environmentalist, reports that the question about climate change he most often is asked is, “What can I do?” While that is an important question, he urges us to now ask, “What can we do?” He believes that since climate change is coming far faster than anticipated a couple of decades ago, individual action can’t alter the momentum. However, MOVEMENTS may do it. McKibben suggests that people organize with others to gain power - “enough power, in this case, to perhaps overcome the

financial might of the fossil fuel industry.”

By no means does he imply that we should not continue to live our individual lives with the environment in mind. Among other things, he has solar panels on the roof, drives a plug-in car that draws its power from those panels, eats low on the food chain and buys products close to home. In his words:

“I’m glad we do all those things, and I think everyone should do them, and I no longer try to fool myself that they [alone] will solve climate change.”

Movements by five or ten percent of the population can effect change. The civil rights movement and the Tea Party are examples in our lifetime. McKibben says the most important thing an individual can do is to join the movement. He suggests joining organizations such as 350.org or Green for All. IUCC is a member of Interfaith Power and Light. There are numerous effective organizations available. You could join GREENfaith right here at IUCC where our mission is to inspire, educate and mobilize people for the care of the earth. Let’s follow this crowd!

Every Day is Earth Day!



(GREENfaith team: Judy Curry, Tony Dover, Nancy Dreckman, Howard Emery, Carol Getz, Martha Hansen, Bonnie Shaffstall, Eileen Vincent, Anita Schwab, and Vivian Johnson)

Troop 602 News

Article and photos by Matt Mirmak

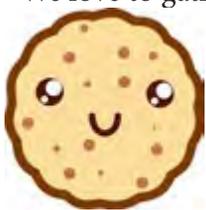
On Memorial Day, Troop 602 helped out with the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Bill Barber Park. The Scouts handed out programs and placed American flags along the walkway towards the seating area.

Thanks to Keith, Ben, Josh, Jacob, Colin, and Harry for helping out.



Want a Cookie? Of course you do!

We love to gather round the snack table after church and visit with friends. The cookies, fruit, cheese, crackers, and other snacks are the perfect complement to our warm and vibrant congregation, and they help make all of us feel warm and welcome. But wait



- they do not appear by magic! The tasty treats are provided by smiling and generous volunteers like you. If we don't have sign-ups, we don't have snacks - it's as simple as that. Don't let it happen here! Won't you add your name to the calendar? Sign up sheets are on the patio on Sunday mornings. If each of us committed to one Sunday each year, our calendar - and our tummies - would be full.



06/14	Jennifer Blackburn	06/30	Sylvia McDonald
06/29	Jake Campbell	06/21	Lester Ricks
06/10	Rianne Campbell	06/10	Cara Ruiz
06/19	Howard Emery	06/19	Joan Thompson
06/17	Stefania Forner	06/15	Cheryl Trobiani
06/12	Melissa Gaskill	06/06	Jonathan Trout
06/10	Reefa Hanenberger	06/17	Emily Wetherby
06/12	Cliff Kenny	06/26	Lesley Wheland
06/08	June Kenny	06/08	Carl Whidden
06/16	Judy Lucas	06/09	Greg Woolfson
06/06	Eric Lutz	06/09	Ken Wyant
06/06	Rachel McCallum	06/02	William Zane
8 06/18	Sara McComb		

PC at IUCC - On the Road

by Bil Aulenbach, retired Episcopal priest



Annie and I spent 3 weeks and 7,000 miles driving around our fantastic country telling folks about my new book, "Cramming for the Finals" and sharing the power of thinking Progressive Christianity. For the most part, my presentations were well received but for some, their faith was threatened, which is never my intention. I simply want people to think about their faith and to listen to some 20th/21st century new approaches to Christianity.

With that in mind, I am offering 3 different classes to anyone in our IUCC family, as well as friends who might be interested. All classes are FREE and will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 9:15 PM, then repeated on Thursdays from 9:15 to 11:30 AM in Plumer Hall. I do understand that's it's summer and people have other obligations, so might not be able to attend all the sessions. That's fine.

June 13/14, 20/21, 27/28

"The Historical Jesus." We're going to look at the data which will give us a clearer idea of the man Jesus and his message.

July 11/12, 18/19, 25/26, August 1/2

"Learning the Art of Midrash (biblical interpretation) Using the Gospel of John." We gentiles tend to read the Bible literally, thus missing many of the truths found within the story. We're going to dig into many of John's stories to reveal what they're really telling us. Lots of discussion with his one.

August 22/23, 29/30, Sept 12/13, 19/20

"Charting the 21st Century Reformation." Every 500 years the Church needs changes. Time's up. This is a course that discusses the changes we need to examine to stay relevant.

IUCC is a Progressive Christian church. If you are new to IUCC or PC, we think you might find this interesting. There is further information and registration forms at church on Sundays or call Bil at (949) 240-2933

PeaceLoveJoyHope



The Eight Points of Progressive Christianity:

By calling ourselves Progressive Christians, we mean we are Christians who...

1. *Believe that following the path and the teachings of Jesus can lead to an awareness and experience of the Sacred and the Oneness and Unity of all life;*
2. *Affirm that the teachings of Jesus provide but one of the many ways to experience the Sacredness and Oneness of life, and that we can draw from diverse sources of wisdom in our spiritual journey;*
3. *Seek community that is inclusive of ALL people, including but not limited to: * Conventional Christians and questioning skeptics, * Believers and agnostics, * Women and men, * Those of all sexual orientations and gender identities, * Those of all classes and abilities;*
4. *Know that the way we behave towards one another is the fullest expression of what we believe;*
5. *Find grace in the search for understanding and believe there is more value in questioning than in absolutes;*
6. *Strive for peace and justice among all people;*
7. *Strive to protect and restore the integrity of our Earth;*
8. *Commit to a path of life-long learning, compassion and selfless love.*

June Films - Robter Altman

by Keith Dillon



Beginning this month, I'm trying something new. Instead of rattling off film titles, I'd like to begin introducing some of my favorite movie makers. First, Robert Altman.

Robert Altman was born on February 20, 1925 in Kansas City, MO. After a tour in World

War Two as an U.S. Army Air Corps pilot, Altman settled in Los Angeles where he soon began work as a director of episodic drama in television. In 1970, his film *M*A*S*H** won the Palme D'Or at Cannes and was nominated for 5 Academy Awards. 10 years later, however, his career stalled after releasing the live-action cartoon *Popeye*. He spent time working in the theatre and in academia, then returned to Hollywood to make such films as *The Player*, *Short Cuts*, *Gosford Park* and *A Prairie Home Companion*. In 2006, Mr. Altman received an Academy Award for special achievement in film. He died of Leukemia that same year.

Robert Altman was, first and foremost, a naturalistic storyteller. His goal was to allow fascinating tales to bubble out of the hubbub of everyday life. He never bowled one over with photography or special effects. Sure, he had a few tricks up his sleeve. There's that whole live-action cartoon thing with *Popeye* (didn't really work, though). There are the helicopters that open both *M*A*S*H** and *Short Cuts*. And, of course, there's that 8-minute credit sequence that opens *The Player*. The main objects of Altman's interest, however, were interesting human beings telling fascinating stories in everyday settings.

- 1 *M*A*S*H** (1970) – Trust me, this ain't nobody's sit-com.
- 2 *McCabe and Mrs. Miller* (1971) – Julie Christie and Warren Beatty open a brothel in the Wild West, so put the kids to bed.

- 3 *Nashville* (1975) – Mr. Altman's satiric tribute to middle America and its favorite music. Features Keith Carradine's hit song "I'm Easy."

- 4 *Three Women* (1977) – One of Mr. Altman's first collaborations with Shelly Duvall. It was also an early production by his new company, Lions Gate Films.

- 5 *Secret Honor* (1984) – A mono-drama about Richard Nixon's last night in the White House. The crew were students from the University of Michigan.

- 6 *Tanner '88* (1988)/*Tanner on Tanner* (2004) – Actor Michael Murphy seeks the Presidential nomination of the Democratic party against Michael Dukakis.

- 7 *The Player* (1992) – Mr. Altman's wise critique of Clinton-era Hollywood. It featured a number of cameos by Hollywood A-listers.

- 8 *Short Cuts* (1993) – Mr. Altman's take on Raymond Carver's short stories.

- 9 *Gun* (1997) – Mr. Altman exec produced and directed the first episode of this anthology series about...well, you know. It originally aired on ABC.

- 10 *Dr. T & The Women* (2000) – The story of OB/GYN Dr. T and his complicated relationships with the women in his life. Warning: the film closes with graphic footage of a woman giving birth.

- 11 *Gosford Park* (2001) – This comic mystery about the death of the lord of the manor is a must for *Downton Abbey* freaks, like myself.