



April 2019



**Upcoming Events and Classes at
Unity of Fox Valley**
Sunday Service and Youth Education
Come join us at 10:00 am

Ministerial Musings

Dear Spiritual Family,

Spring, at last! Easter is just a few weeks away. Both Spring and Easter represent times of new life, new growth and transformation. This April holds a significant time of life, growth and transformation for our beautiful spiritual community.

It's said that the only constant is change. During our 14 years together we have undergone many changes and our own transformation. Our loving creative energy has made us what we are today – a beautiful, strong supportive spiritual community. Along the way we've had our growing pains, our challenges and also many celebrations of our accomplishments.

As this time for yet more new growth approaches, both on your part and mine, know that I hold all of you in a grateful heart for all of the joy and gifts you have given me. You have always been and continue to be a community based in strong spiritual principle and prayer. This is a special place and Spirit has a unique vision for Unity of Fox Valley.

Stay open and receptive to Spirit's higher vision for yourselves and this community, continue to deepen your own spiritual growth and always surround yourselves in prayer.

Thank you for a truly amazing fourteen years.

With love and blessings,

Rev Jan



A Little Something to Keep in Mind

We have always been a congregation of “Huggers.” However, not everyone is as outgoing – some of us are a little more shy.

To those in the “Hugger” camp – please be mindful, to those in the “Shy” camp. If you are someone who isn’t up to a hug, when you see a potential hugger bearing down on you – just hold out your hand for a shake.

Everyone is different and isn’t that a wonderful thing?

Real Is As Real Does

I remember back eighteen plus years ago shortly after my first grandchild, Ben, was born. Three days after bringing him home from the hospital, my wife and I received an email from our son-in-law telling us we were irresponsible, and asking us how we could possibly leave our new grandson in the hands of two people who had no idea what they were doing. We laughed when we read this, and I smile now as I think back about it. His fears notwithstanding, my son-in-law stepped up big time and answered his call to parent.

We all have had the experience of not knowing if we were up to the task, and likely fearing that perhaps we were not. That is because the world tells us that “failure” is such a terrible thing. In fact failure is not terrible at all. Failure is a learning experience. Failure is a blessing because it indicates that we are participating in and accepting the gift of Life. If there is a failure of any kind, it could only be in refusing to try.

Life and all that it brings is very real and is intended to be enjoyed. My son-in-law had the challenge of parenting. When it suddenly was real, it smacked him in the face. By stepping up he converted his fear and dread to joy and meaning by embracing it. All of us have a much easier task. Our only significant challenge is embracing that we are beloved children of Spirit. This is what makes what is real truly Real.

Note from the Board

Hello from the Board!

Hope the spring weather arrives soon. The Board is working with Reverend Mike on his first solo contract at Unity of Fox Valley. Eric Hage installed the new dishwasher in the kitchen. We are working on the issues with the sprinkler system first. Then will be the bathroom upgrades. We will be setting a date for the Volunteer Dinner. We are all looking to having a great time at Reverend Jan's Retirement Party. Thanks!

The Board

Hospitality



In case you have not noticed, our hospitality service downstairs after the service has evolved into quite a wonderful experience. There is plenty to eat of different foods and desserts, almost all of which are the result of the generous loving efforts of volunteers. In addition, it has grown into a time of camaraderie, giving our church family members an opportunity to bond and share.

Please do come and join in the fun. **Please also note that the hospitality service begins after the service ends.** This is important as our children's program on occasion has been interrupted if people come downstairs for hospitality early. Your understanding of this is much appreciated.

Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

For the month of April, the youth will be exploring the Power of *Good Judgment*. The disciple is *James* and the color is **Yellow**. To enhance the youth's understanding of discernment (making choices), we will delve into the Proverbs of Solomon and the story of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane as well as Unity's Third Principle, "*I create my life by the choices I make.*"

Youth Service Sunday, April 7, at 10 am: This service will be facilitated by our Teens along with the younger youth. Please give our youth a "high-five" as they offer their services as ushers, greeters, Daily Word readers and Love Offering collectors. To make this event extra special, the Teens will be presenting the message, and all of the youth will sing at least two songs to reflect on the metaphysical message of the presentation. We are looking forward to a memorable, inspiring service.

Family Movie Night, Saturday, April 13, at 6:30 pm: The youth will be showing Disney's *Mary Poppins Returns* (rated PG 13). All ages are invited for this highly acclaimed and very entertaining movie. Please arrive by 6:15 pm to get settled in with popcorn/healthy treats for the show to start at 6:30 pm. You are welcome to bring a pillow/blanket to get comfy. We hope to see all of you there for a fun Family Movie Night!

Sunday, April 14, the morning after Movie Night, is **Palm Sunday**, and that day the youth will be excitedly waving palms for "Jesus" as he rides on a donkey into the sanctuary. Also, they will join the choir in singing "Prepare 'Ye" and "Day by Day". Afterwards, everyone will "break bread" together for the church's annual **Easter Feast**. Please bring a dish to share.

Also, we will be having our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** during service for youth of all ages on **Easter Sunday, April 21**. Weather permitting, eggs will be hidden outside among the church grounds; however, if it is cold and/or rainy, we will have just as much fun with an indoor Hunt!

April 21 is also **Rev. Jan's** last day serving as Minister of our church. We deeply appreciate Rev. Jan for her many years of loving, dedicated service and hold her in prayer and many blessings as she moves onto new, exciting adventures that await her.

Happy Easter!

Many thanks and blessings,

[Ms. Mary, LUT](#)

Men's Ministry



Tuesday, April 2nd & 16th, 7:00 pm

The Men's Group meets the first and third Tuesday of each month,
September through May at church. All men are invited to join!

A Course In Miracles



Every Thursday, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

The emphasis for this session will be the Workbook from A Course in Miracles.

Everyone is welcome - you may join in at any time!

The class will be facilitated by Warren Wakerlin: wwakerlin@aol.com

Healing and Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

Friday, April 5th, 7:00 pm

Please join us in our once-a-month service filled with music, chant, prayer, and hands on healing conducted by members of our music team and our prayer chaplain team.

If you've ever wanted a time and place where you could just be open and surrendered to the healing power of Spirit this will a wonderful opportunity to be surrounded in love, prayer, and peace.

First Friday of every month!

For more info., please contact Rose Maxson: singingalong77@gmail.com

Youth Service



Sunday, April 7th, 10 am

The Teens will be facilitating the [Service](#)! Please give our youth a “high-five” as they offer their services as ushers, greeters, Daily Word readers and Love Offering collectors. To make this event extra special, the Teens will be presenting the message, and all of the youth will sing at least two songs to reflect on the metaphysical message of the presentation. We are looking forward to a memorable, inspiring service.

For more info, please contact Mary Nowroozi: marynowroozi@comcast.net

Family Movie Night

A poster for a family movie night featuring the movie 'Mary Poppins Returns'. The background is a light blue sky with a dark blue silhouette of a city skyline. Mary Poppins is depicted in her iconic black coat and red skirt, floating in the air while holding a black umbrella and a black suitcase. The title 'MARY POPPINS RETURNS' is written in a large, red, stylized font at the top. Below it, 'FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT' is written in a smaller, black, serif font. The text 'All ages are invited for this highly acclaimed and very entertaining movie. Please arrive by 6:15 pm to get settled in with popcorn/healthy treats for the show to start at 6:30 pm. You are welcome to bring a pillow/blanket to get comfy.' is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below this, 'We hope to see all of you there for a fun Family Movie Night!' is written in a white, italicized, sans-serif font. The date and time 'SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 6:30 PM' are written in a large, white, serif font. At the bottom, a red banner contains the text 'For more info, please contact Mary Nowroozi: marynowroozi@comcast.net' in a white, sans-serif font.

MARY POPPINS RETURNS

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

All ages are invited for this highly acclaimed and very entertaining movie. Please arrive by 6:15 pm to get settled in with popcorn/healthy treats for the show to start at 6:30 pm. You are welcome to bring a pillow/blanket to get comfy.

We hope to see all of you there for a fun Family Movie Night!

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 6:30 PM

For more info, please contact Mary Nowroozi: marynowroozi@comcast.net

Palm Sunday

A detailed illustration of several green palm fronds, some pointing upwards and others downwards, creating a symmetrical, fan-like shape. The fronds are layered, with some in the foreground and others behind, giving a sense of depth. They are set against a plain white background.

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 14th, 10:00am

Easter Feast



Set Up will be **Friday, April 12th, 4:30pm**

Outreach Ministry



Thursday, April 19th, Noon-3:30pm

Throughout the school year there are dates on which local school children are let out after half a day.

In some cases parents of those children are working and unable to be home early. Volunteers are needed to assist in attending to those children for a couple of hours.

If you think you would like to work with those children doing crafts or other activities, please sign up! To be eligible you need to be high school age or older, and willing to undergo a background check.

Please contact Beth Johnson, Outreach Chair, for more info or to sign up:

bethmjohnson@comcast.net 630-336- 6159

Taize Service



Taize Service

**Good Friday,
April 19th, 7pm**

*The Taize Service engages
all of the senses through music,
prayer, chants, scripture readings,
and periods of silent contemplation
to attain a state of deep contemplative
awareness.*

**All are invited to this beautiful,
soulful, candlelight ceremony
celebrating the light that
is not overcome by darkness.**

This service is a beautiful way to commemorate Good Friday.

Easter



Easter Egg Hunt



We will be having our annual Easter Egg Hunt
during service for youth of all ages on

Easter Sunday
April 21st, 10am

Weather permitting, eggs will be hidden
outside among the church grounds; however,
if it is cold and/or rainy, we will have just
as much fun with an indoor Hunt!



Retirement Party



After 14 years, Rev. Jan has decided to retire!

Please stop in the sanctuary to sign her 'Going Away Book'. If you don't get to sign it right away, no worries! It will be there till her party!

Please join us as we celebrate her!

RSVPs requested! Please let us know if you will be attending and how many will be in your party. You may RSVP at the Welcome Desk at the Church or email

Kathleen: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

We need your help!

We are putting together a slide show for Rev. Jan's Retirement Party! If you should have any pictures of Rev. Jan, please send them to either of the following for consideration

ASAP:

Rick McKay: visdomr2@aol.com or Kathleen: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

Green Team



The Friends of the Fox River executive director, Gary Mechanic, made a sterling and valuable presentation at the Green Team event Sunday, March 24 at Unity. We will join his organization and the Batavia Environmental Commission at the annual **Batavia Fox River clean-up event** from **8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 11**. The Green Team will join with the

Unity of Fox Valley Outreach Committee to perform a community service in Batavia. We should dress appropriately. Bring boots, the deeper the better, and long-sleeve clothing. The group will meet at the Blackard Skate Park on Route 25 only a few blocks from the Unity of Fox Valley building. Individuals can help with Fox River clean-up in Aurora, Saturday, April 13, and in Elgin, Saturday, May 18. Going Green includes keeping our rivers clean from clutter and in the case of the Fox River, clean for drinking.

Our April event will be **Sunday, April 28**. Our guest speaker will be Grace Grzanek from Just Foods Initiative. We will start at **11:45 a.m.** following food and conversation.

We have confirmed that the Conservation Foundation will be the focus of our program September 22, the fourth Sunday of the month.

We will not meet in May or June and will resume in July.

We continue to accept polystyrene (Styrofoam) in the bin downstairs to take to Dart in North Aurora.

Thank you to several individuals who returned the videos they had used from our collection on the Green Team table adjacent to the polystyrene bin.

We Go Green in 2019!

Prayer Chaplains

Did you know that when our prayer chaplains pray with you, they listen and hold everything said in confidence? Your chaplain places your requests in the sacred space of limitless possibilities of God's love, that place we often are unable to see our ourselves.



Namaste!

Volunteer Ministry



April is always a busy month for us, starting with our [EASTER FEAST](#) on **April 14th!!** Thank you Diane for Chairing this event! She will need lots of helpers to set up, serve, and cleanup. Please sign up and let her know how you would like to help!!

[Taize' Service](#) is on Good Friday, **April 19th**. This is a beautiful Service, not to be missed. And of course, Easter Service on April 21st!!

April 26th is [Rev. Jan's Party!!](#) I know Kathleen is doing a great job planning this event!! Thank you to those that have volunteered to help her!!

Spring is coming and that means planting and cleaning up. If you would like to put that green thumb to work this season, I know the [Landscape committee](#) can always use help!! Contact Larry Shaeffer for work dates and how you can support him.

Volunteering comes in so many different ways!! Thank you to everyone that opened your homes and hearts to host our Untethered Soul book discussion. I have heard great comments about it!! I know I thoroughly enjoyed my group!!

Thank you to Carl and Lucy for taking on the Book Sale this year!! Always a big task!!

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the Memorial Service for Rev. Billings!! Kathleen, you were our organizer extraordinaire that guided us through this big event!! We were a blessing and we were blessed!!!

Happy April everyone!!

Love and blessings!!

Bobbi Severson, bsever4785@gmail.com

Young Living

Did you know that when you purchase Young Living products Unity of Fox Valley benefits in more ways than just the cost of the item purchased? Young Living products are the highest quality and have many health benefits.



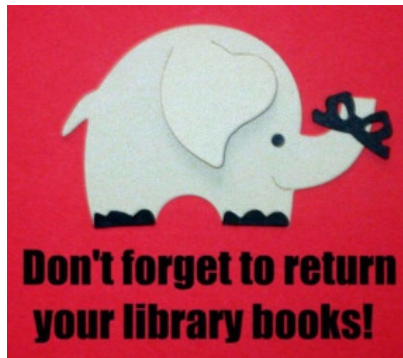
We have a good selection of Young Living Products available for sale. From agave nectar to an array of toiletries and cleaning products! We also have Essential Oils available for calm & healing.

Do you need us to order anything?

Place your order in the Fellowship Hall by the 15th of each month!

For more information, please contact Barbara DuRocher barbarajdurocher@gmail.com

Library



Please remember to return your library books!

If you have books out from the Library and you have had them for awhile, please remember to return them!

AmazonSmile



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Unity of Fox Valley every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile will donate a percentage of the purchase price of eligible products to Unity of Fox Valley!

Just click on the link below and make a purchase!

Use this link over & over all year round!

Please click on this [link](#) next time you need something
& help raise money for Unity of Fox Valley!

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2889899>

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 5th, after the Service



Please click [here](#) for a list of items needed.

To sign up to bring something, an updated list, more info or any questions, please contact Wanda

Faye: geminiangoddess2000@yahoo.com



News from the Church Office

*A section in the Newsletter to fill you in on some of the fun doings
of our Office Manager, Kathleen Malick.*



On Tuesday, March 19th at 7:16am, I had a Mid-Life Crisis Freak Out. I realized I could potentially be halfway through life!

I mean really ---> *Is there time to become a divorce attorney & open a bakery?!*

I never thought I would actually go through one but there I am...PANICKING! I was wondering if I had enough time to do everything I wanted to do or needed to do and

my poor hubby listened calmly as I spewed out my concerns between gasps! What a guy.... But with all this, I know I have accomplished so much with my life already. After my heart rate came down, I also realized that my future seems glaringly bright 🌞

Please remember that it is never too late to eat right, get up and get moving! Love yourself by treating your body right. It's the ONLY one you have!

Blessings!

[Kathleen Malick](#)

Follow us on FACEBOOK!



Connect with us on Social Media by liking our Facebook page! There you will find updates on our events and general news.

<https://www.facebook.com/unityoffoxvalley>

On Going Activities

- [A Course in Miracles](#) - 7:30-9:00 pm every Thursday evening, Unity of Fox Valley facilitates A Course in Miracles discussion group. This is an ongoing class rain or shine. Each week a new topic is discussed. Everyone is welcome at any time and the class is always open to new attendees.
- [Alcoholics Anonymous](#) meeting. Tuesdays at 6:00pm.
- [Men's Group Meeting](#) - the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm, September through May.
- [Overeaters Anonymous](#) meeting. Sundays at 5:00pm.
- [Unity Green Team CommUnity Event](#) - 4th Friday or 4th Sunday, January through April and July through October.

Contact Information

phone: 630.879.1115 churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

fax: 630.879.1728 www.unityoffoxvalley.org

prayer line: 630.879.1129

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