



July 2020

Ministerial Musings

Orthodox or Paradox?

As I write this article, I find myself in the midst of a tug-of-war going on in my own brain. Primarily this is due to the whole Covid-19 pandemic. As we move along government paths or phases to return to normal(?), more and more discussions, comments and opinions are emerging about what is right to do and what is a good decision. Are we moving too fast or not fast enough? There seems to be an unofficial message: Continue to walk the Path but be very careful what you step in.

The coronavirus seems to have given us a quandary, or has it given us a gift? There is an old adage that says, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder." Paradoxically, there is another that says, "Out of sight, out of mind." Good Lord, is it possible that they both are true? Even scarier, can they both be true at the same time and in the same set of circumstances?

Orthodoxy is conforming to what is generally or traditionally accepted as right or true. Orthodox religion is and always has been about laying claim to truth and righteousness, and the need to get with the program. Unity is far from an orthodox religion, but even Unity lays claim to espousing Truth in its five principles. This is not to criticize our movement, but rather to make a point. We need stability. We need confidence that when we take our next step, it will be on solid ground.

Still waters are peaceful, but high waves are exhilarating. Orthodoxy may be reassuring, but it is from chaos that new creation is birthed. The gospels tell us that our Way-shower came to bring the sword. Really still waters bring stagnation.

Is the disruptiveness of Covid-19 a tragedy or a blessing? It need not be an either-or answer. We all long for orthodoxy, or what used to be normal. Now we are forced to look for the so-called new normal. We can do so with fear and dread or with anticipation and enthusiasm. The question of, "What am I supposed to do?" can be so annoying. Paradoxically, it can be so empowering. Eventually, the night of Covid-19 will pass. What will the dawn look like?

Peace,

Rev. Mike

revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Note from the Board



Town Hall Meeting

On the evening of Tuesday June 16th, our first virtual Town Hall Meeting was conducted.

We want to thank all of you who attended the Town Hall Meeting. Many great questions were asked of the Board and Rev. Mike at the end of the presentation.

Please click [here](#) for the minutes from the Town Hall Meeting.

Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

As we continue with Zoom at this time till we can return safely to our church, we will celebrate the month of July by exploring the **Power of Understanding**. The **disciple for this month is Thomas** and the color is brilliant **Gold**. Through Bible and contemporary stories, we will guide the youth to come to an understanding that the Light of God is the loving, brilliant, dazzling force in and through all things.

As the brilliant, dazzling colors of fireworks - though likely only a few this year - light up the skies in honor of our independence, our youth will be enlightened by learning the story of how Unity began through the unwavering faith of Charles and Myrtle Fillmore. Not only does this story reveal to the youth how the independent thinking of the Fillmore's expounded the Unity movement, it is also a perfect example of how they "can do even greater things."

Speaking of “greater things”, our Y.O.U. (Youth of Unity) teens have been invited to attend the great **IYOU Event 2020**. The “I” stands for International meaning that Y.O.U from all over the world are invited for this an online event titled “Illuminate” that will be offered to collaborate at designated times from **Thursday, July 9 through Sunday, July 12**.

The Purpose Statement of this event is, “to create an inclusive community of love and support where people are inspired to learn and grow spiritually and experience an understanding of their endless potential.” Through an online platform, they will be encouraged and empowered to connect with teens from around the globe as they explore a deeper awakening of their spirituality as individuals and as a whole. All detailed information has been emailed to the Y.O.U. parents, and we encourage all Y.O.U. to join this memorable, uplifting event!

Aria King, representing our Unity of Fox Valley, has graciously accepted to host/lead Y.O.U. class on Sunday, July 19, at 11:15 am for Y.O.U. in the Chicagoland area. Zoom link for our Y.O.U. will be provided soon. Thank you, Aria! We know you will do great!

Furthermore, we are encouraging all of our youth to attend a **Gathering in the Lot** on Saturday, **July 18 from 1 to 2:30 pm!** Here, our youth will meet safely in our church parking lot to joyfully reunite with radiant smiles and distant hugs! We will offer activities that will provide a sense of feeling connected yet from a safe distance. We are looking forward to seeing each other at our gathering! We visualize it being extremely heartwarming!



Stay safe, well and at peace!

Thank you all with many blessings,

Ms. Mary, LUT, CSE

marynowroozi@comcast.net

Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



Every Thursday, 10:30am, on the Church Lawn

Please join us for our weekly chat but now we will be taking advantage of the summer weather and meeting on the church lawn! Please bring your drink of choice, a comfy lawn chair and enjoy conversation and the summer with us!

You can still join us online!

Just look for the weekly email with the login information or go to the [website](#).

Please also note the time change! It is now at 10:30am.

A Course In Miracles



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

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

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

Please click [here](#) to take you to the info you need to join in on the class.

The links changes every week so be sure you have the most up to date info.

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

Healing and Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

There will be no Healing & Wholeness Service in July.

**Please join us on
Friday, August 7th, 7:00pm**

1st Friday of every month at 7pm. This once-a-month service will be filled with music, chant, prayer, and healing conducted by members of our music team and our prayer chaplain team.

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

Online Sunday Services



Every Sunday, 10:00am

Attend our Online Sunday Service from the comfort of your own home!

Please click [here](#) to take you to the info you need to join in on Online Sunday Service! The links changes every week so be sure you have the most up to date info.

If you have trouble accessing the meeting, please contact

Zoom: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

Online Sunday School



Every Sunday, 11:30am, Online

We are encouraging youth of all ages - Children's Church, Juniors, Uniteens and Y.O.U. (Youth of Unity) - to join us for an hour of spiritual connection through prayer, story, meditation, and singing! ***Parents are welcome to join in on the fun, too!***

Please click [here](#) to take you to the info you need to join in on Online Sunday Service! The links changes every week so be sure you have the most up to date info.

Please contact Mary Nowroozi for more info.: marynowroozi@comcast.net

Bhagavad Gita Class



**1st & 3rd Sundays
July 5th & 19th, 1:00pm**

The Gita is the essence of the perennial wisdom of the Universe. It maps the stages of the mystical journey of our soul as we travel, each on our individual path to knowing we are all part of the interconnectness and oneness of the Creation. The class is based on the American teacher, Sat Shree's commentary on the Gita.

This class will be held ONLINE. Please contact Carl or Lucy Klemaier for log in information to join in.

For more info. or any questions, please contact Carl or Lucy Klemaier:

colonelklay@yahoo.com

Zoom Prayer Class

ZOOM Unity
PRAYER Class

**Wednesdays, July 8th - August 12th,
6:30-8:30 PM, Online**

When human circumstances seem overwhelming, we instinctively turn to prayer. There is something comforting about taking time out to commune with a Higher Power. In this time

of COVID-19 and social unrest, it is a great time to look at our prayer process and support one another as we move through challenges.

Affirmative meditative prayer is at the heart of the Unity spiritual path. The Unity way of prayer is ultimately aimed at experience of the Divine and Realization of the practitioner's Divine Potential. Along the way there are practical benefits, including guidance, healing and abundance. In this course, students are introduced to Unity's Five Step Prayer Process and supported in developing their daily prayer practice.

Required Text/Readings:

Available on Amazon.com

- [Handbook of Positive Prayer](#) by Hypatia Hasbrouck
- [Discover the Power Within You](#) by Eric Butterworth

Available for Free on Truthunity.net

- [Effectual Prayer](#) by Frances Foulks
- [Lessons In Truth](#) by Emilie Cady

Facilitated by Maria Cosentino, L.U.T. / On a love offering basis.

All are most welcome to attend!

TO REGISTER or for more info., please contact

Maria Cosentino: mlcosentino@gmail.com

Prayer Chaplain Ministry



Last month we prayer chaplains decided to each take a month and share a favorite prayer with you, our spiritual family. This month's prayer is from Bobbi:

AFFIRMING PRAYER:

Dear Sweet Spirit, I am an instrument of your goodness and love today. When I feel lost, I affirm Divine Guidance.


When I feel unsure, I practice the Power of Faith. When I don't know what to do or say, I open to Divine Understanding. The Power of Wisdom is my source for each decision; clarity, patience, and peace guide my words and actions. As Love and kindness seek me today, I am open and receptive to its calling.

Your Prayer Chaplains, Eliza, Wanda Faye, Lucy, Carl, Maria, Mary, Bobbi and Marie, are committed to making periodic Caring Calls to all our members. We make these calls to support you, our spiritual family, with your prayer needs. As we continue to live in these “consciousness raising” times, we encourage you to call on us if you need prayer support in between our calls.

If you are a member and have not been receiving a call, or have not previously signed up and want to now, please contact the office at 630-879-1115 or churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org and a Prayer Chaplain will call you.

We affirm that you are surrounded, enfolded, protected and watched over by God's loving, healing and sustaining grace - always and in all ways.

Blessings and (energetic) hugs,
Bobbi and Marie

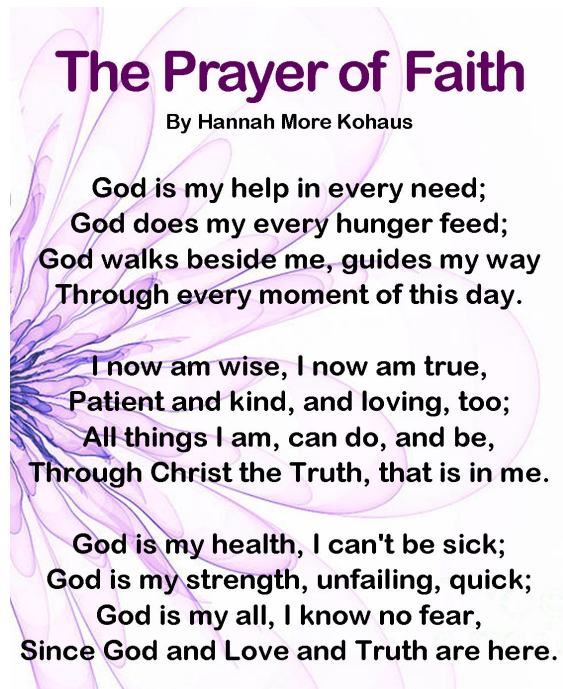
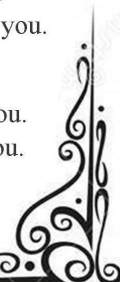


The Prayer of Protection
Written by James Dillet Freeman

The Light of God surrounds you.
The Love of God enfolds you.
The power of God protects you.
The Presence of God watches over you.

The Mind of God guides you.
The Life of God flows through you.
The Laws of God direct you.
The Peace of God abides within you.

The Joy of God uplifts you.
The Strength of God renews you.
The Beauty of God inspires you.
Wherever you are, God is!
And all is well. Amen.



The Prayer of Faith
By Hannah More Kohaus

God is my help in every need;
God does my every hunger feed;
God walks beside me, guides my way
Through every moment of this day.

I now am wise, I now am true,
Patient and kind, and loving, too;
All things I am, can do, and be,
Through Christ the Truth, that is in me.

God is my health, I can't be sick;
God is my strength, unfailing, quick;
God is my all, I know no fear,
Since God and Love and Truth are here.

Volunteer Ministry

It has been a strange volunteer year so far. Maybe I just need to correct that to, it's been a strange year for life so far!



Our current **VOLUNTEER NEED** is for someone or someones (preferably) to chair our Silent Auction fund raiser!! Please let us know if this is something that speaks to your heart!!!

I just want to thank Rev Mike, Mary Nowroozi, Rob Orland, and our Music Team that continue to keep us connected through our Zoom experiences. We have also been fortunate to carry on with all of our classes without interruption thanks to our LUT teachers, and our SPIRITUAL teachers. This has done so much to keep us all connected in some small way or even big ways!! So THANK YOU, Marge and Maria, Warren, Carl & Lucy. We are truly blessed.

Even though we aren't visiting our Spiritual home each week, I can't say enough about Cecilia and the love and energy she pours into keeping our outside looking beautiful and inviting. She blesses us in so many quiet ways!!! THANK YOU, CECILIA!!

Our volunteer Prayer Chaplains continue to hold that prayer energy for all of us. Feel free to reach out for that always available prayer support!!!

So even though the world at large is in chaos and hurting, we at Unity of Fox Valley are so very blessed by the love and support of our Spiritual Family!!! Carry on!! We are not alone!!!

Peace, love, and blessings!!

Bobbi Severson

bsever4785@gmail.com

Green Team



There have been changes in our lives with COVID-19.

Nonetheless, there are constant themes, including recycling.

Dart Container, 310 Evergreen Drive, North Aurora continues to accept polystyrene for both food containers and packing foam, seven days a week, 24 hours each day in bins. Access is west from Route 31, or, Sullivan Road, west of Route 31 to Evergreen Drive, just west of the RR tracks.

County recycling centers include, in Kane County, 517 E. Fabyan Parkway across from the deadend of Raddant Road, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., to include televisions and monitors, for which there may be modest fees; and in DuPage County, to include Naperville Environmental Campus, 156 Fort Hill Drive, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and in Wheaton, 820 W. Liberty Street, 9 a.m. to noon, the second Saturday of each month.

There are no planned Green team events, however, think Green and Be Green for the benefit of our children's and grandchildren's futures!

For more info, please contact Carter Crane: cartercrane@thevoice.us

Food Initiative

Dear UFV Family & Friends,

We have established a UNITY OF FOX VALLEY FOOD INITIATIVE. This is to assist those who may be facing difficulties due to the current coronavirus situation. The program is being administered by a very small committee to try to main the privacy and anonymity of those in need. If you and your family are in need, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Blessings,

The [UFV Food Initiative](#) Committee

Rick McKay, Chair

RECIPIENTS: If you or your family is in need of assistance, please contact the church at churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.com, and you will receive further information regarding the program. All of your communications will remain confidential.

DONORS: If you would like to participate as a donor, you may send a check to the church designating that it is to be applied to the UFV Food Initiative. We also will continue to collect non-perishable can goods in the bin at the parking lot door if this is the most comfortable way for you to participate.

Daily Word

July/August Daily Word

The latest edition of the Daily Word has arrived and it is ready to be sent to you!



If you would like one:

1. Please email Kathleen and let her know if you would like the regular print or large print and your mailing address churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org
2. Once you get your email acknowledgement back from Kathleen, please send in \$6. Please make your check out to 'Unity of Fox Valley'. Please also write in the memo section of your check 'Daily Word'. We ask that it be a separate payment from your donations.
3. It will then be sent off to you!

There are limited copies of large and regular print. First come first serve.

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 with Barbara DuRocher by the 15th of each month!

For more info. or any questions, please contact Barbara

DuRocher barbarajdurocher@gmail.com

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>

**Donate items from our Charity List
Shop Now**

charity lists
amazonsmile

Occasionally, we need to restock our supplies. You can help!

Just click on the [here](#) to see what we need!

or, copy and paste this link:

https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/l/5I9LM5FXITZG/ref=smi_ext_lnk_lcl_cl

Tithes & Offerings



***We'd so appreciate it if you please remember Unity of Fox Valley
financially at this time.***

- Please click [here](#) or copy and paste the following link in your browser: <http://ufvweb-new.unityoffoxvalley.org/donation/>

- You may contribute any amount and you do not need to have a PayPal account to contribute but you do need an email address.
- ***Paypal does take a fee from your donation.*** If you would like to be sure your entire donation is given to the church, feel free to mail in your donation: Unity of Fox Valley, 230 Webster Street, Batavia, IL 60510. If your donation is for a specific event, please be sure to write that in the Memo area of your check.

News from the Church Office

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



My plant collection has gotten a little bit bigger recently. Pictured are just some of my many! Watching my babies grow is satisfy to me. Although slow, the happiness when you see a new leaf about to emerge is wonderful! Knowing you took care of it well enough that it keeps going - well.... what a feeling!

Pictured in the first row from left to right:

- Sansaveria Laurentii / Snake Plant 🐍
- Zamioculcas Zamifolia / ZZ Plant
- Monstera deliciosa / Swiss Cheese plant
- Ficus lyrata / Fiddle Leaf Fig

You can always see more of my collection and pictures of my MANY, MANY hobbies by going to my Instagram page. Just click on my name below.

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

Please contact each group for more info. regarding their meetings

- [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. Please contact AA for more info regarding their meetings.
- [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. Please contact OA for more info regarding their meetings.
- [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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