

March 2018



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,

Well, it's happened again - another school shooting! With everything parents have to be concerned about – their children's life and safety while in school shouldn't have to be one of them. How many more of these shootings of innocents will it take before effective steps are taken?

The moral character of our leaders in government was blatantly visible the moment the shooting survivors confronted their Florida legislators and received a slap in the face. When will we have leaders who will be strong enough and moral enough to do the right thing instead of raking in campaign contributions from the NRA?

What is next? Let's arm our teachers. Will teachers have in-service days so they can spend time on the shooting range learning how to handle AR-15s to be prepared to defend their classrooms against shooters also armed with AR-15s?

This issue is about more than the right to bear arms. Weapons for hunting and recreation are not the same as weapons designed for war. I just finished reading the gut wrenching

autopsy report findings by the Las Vegas ME after the mass shooting in October. Its one thing to read about 59 killed and 527 injured, it's another thing to read about the damage and devastation to the human body caused by high velocity ammunition fired from weapons like AR-15s,

As for leadership coming from Washington – in this current budget just passed by Congress, 12 million dollars has been cut from 2 programs which gun dealers use to verify if someone is banned from buying a gun before selling it to them.

All of our legislators, state and federal, need a wake up call. I pray that we have long memories when our primaries and elections occur. That's the only message they seem to understand.

I'm just saying . . .

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?

Thank You

One of my favorite quotes is from Meister Eckhardt: "If the only prayer we ever pray is 'Thank You,' it would be enough."

Most of us are pretty appreciative. Somebody does something for us or gives us something, and we say, "Thanks" or "Thank You." It seems reflexive sometimes, but rarely is it mindless.

I think though that perhaps what Meister Eckhardt may have been suggesting was a different type of mindfulness. So much of our lives revolve around putting out fires and getting things done that it is easy to lose focus of the overall blessings of life.

Last week I had lunch with a close friend who asked how things were going with my return to Fox Valley. I said, "Great!" Then he asked, "How are the congregants treating you?" I answered that I was really grateful for the kindness, support and love that people were giving me. It made me realize however that even though it was true that I was grateful, I had not yet let that specific truth into my conscious thoughts. In other words, I had not prayed my thankfulness.

I think we do this all the time. We are so immersed in our lives and get caught up in all that living involves, that we do not give thanks for the miracles that surround us. It does not mean we are taking things for granted; it just means we are not taking a moment to appreciate how incredible life really is.

So, starting someplace... Thank You to my family at UFV. I am truly blessed by you, and so delighted to share the gift of Life with you.

Rev. Mike

Note from the Board

The Board rescheduled the Volunteer Dinner for February 23rd. Revs Jan & Mike attended a Digital Marketing Workshop on February 20th. Lastly, On February 18th, the Board held a short Town Hall Meeting to update our family on 2017 finances and 2018 plans.



Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

For the month of March, the youth will be exploring the Power of Strength. The color for this power is **Light Green** (think Spring) and the Disciple is Andrew. For fun, we will lift weights and do power yoga! These activities are not only to enhance our physical strength, but to also empower our mental and spiritual strength with an understanding that all strength comes from the Christ within.

As the Lent Season continues into March, the youth will reflect on the Parables of Jesus through prayer and meditation and by acting out these stories through role play. Also, the youth are excitedly looking forward to <u>Palm Sunday</u>, March 25, to join the choir in singing "Prepare 'Ye" and "Day by Day", while waving palms for "Jesus" as he rides on a donkey into the sanctuary. "Oh, Hosanna!"



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

Many thanks and blessings,

Ms. Mary, CSE, LUT marynowroozi@comcast.net

Healing and Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

Please join us on Friday, March 2nd, 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

Book Sale



Sunday, March 4th, after the Service

Please stop at the Fellowship Hall and take advantage of the Book Sale. We have a large selection!

For more information, please contact Carl & Lucy Klemaier: colonelklay@yahoo.com

Men's Group



Tuesday, March 6th & 20th, 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!

Oil A Day Class



Sunday, March 11th, 11:45-12:15pm

2nd Sunday of the month - Adult Ed Room

We will be picking an oil a month and have a brief 30 minute class as to where the oil comes from, how it is diffused, the properties it contains, what it can be used for and how to apply/diffuse it.

The oil for March is Forgiveness.

Walks ins are always welcome but signing up will help make sure there are enough materials for everyone. If your schedule frees up at the last minute we still would love to have you.

Please register at the Young Living Table ~ Love Offering Basis.



We will also be discussing a field Trip to the Essence Essential Energy Center for the Zyto Scans..

For more information, please contact Lisa Carpenter: 630-632-2105 or <u>familyof3plus2@sbcglobal.net</u>

Game Night

GAMENIGHT

Please join us on Friday, March 16th, 7:00pm

Let's have some fun together! We have Rummikub, Quirlkle, Oh Hell, Scrabble, & of course, Dominoes. We also encourage you to bring your own favorite games and share

them with us. Children are welcome with a responsible Adult. Light refreshments will be provided, but we won't mind if you bring a snack to share!

For more info., please contact Mickey Cowles: 630-937-4338

Green Team

March evolves with a modified schedule for the Green Team. We will attend and participate in the Batavia Environmental Commission (BEC) <u>Green Movie</u> <u>Night Saturday, March 10.</u> The movie, "Wasted" is a focus on how our society wastes good food. The movie will begin at 7 p.m. at the Batavia City Council chambers on Island Avenue, just off of Wilson Avenue. The vendor fair will begin at 6 p.m. in the annual visit for the Green Team. We show our support.



The Green Team March event in the church building moves to the third **Sunday, March 18**, because the Easter Feast will be the fourth Sunday. We will make plans to help facilitate the recycling and waste products for those who attend in joy the annual sharing of food and community. We will plan an event for March 18, likely a productive movie. Our recycling event February 25 should give impetus to our understanding better the importance and methods of recycling. We will return to meeting the fourth Sunday in April, which is Earth Day, April 22.

There is a container downstairs in the church building adjacent to the Green Team food table for recycling of polystyrene, commonly referred to a styrofoam. The container is for everyone to drop off the No. 6 polystyrene to be recycled. Most governments' recycling programs do not recycle the No. 6 items, and instead, will throw them away. Landfills are bulging already.

Let's Go Green!

The Green Team thrives in 2018.

Prayer & Meditation Class

PRAYER & Second Second

S.E.E. Class Wednesdays, March 21st – April 11th, 6:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

The Unity movement truly was founded on the concept of prayer and meditation. This course introduces the Unity perspective of affirmative prayer. It will provide traditional Unity definitions of prayer and assist you in formulating a prayer definition that is meaningful for you and your life. The class will support you in your personal prayer discipline by giving you an opportunity to explore your own prayer life and attitude. This class is especially recommended for review for Prayer Chaplains and Silent Prayer Ministry members.

Required Textbooks:

• <u>A Practical Guide to Meditation and Prayer</u> by <u>J. Douglas Bottorff</u> (Available on Amazon.com)

• <u>**Teach Us to Pray (Unity Classic Library)**</u> by Charles Fillmore's and Cora Fillmore (Available in the church library & Amazon.com)

Presenter: Marge Orchard, L.U.T. ~ Offered on a Love Offering Basis

Please contact Marge Orchard for more info: margeorchard@gmail.com

Palm Sunday



Easter Feast



Please contact Diane Crompton with any questions or for more info.: <u>dianeLcrompton@gmail.com</u>

Outreach Committee



We will have a table set up with copies of their Needs List by March 4th. Please have all donations to the church by Sunday, March 25th.

Lazarus House helps people in need find the shelter, food and other support services they need to get back on their feet. They help men, women and children from Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles and western rural Kane County. For more information about their services, please visit <u>lazarushouse.net</u>. They are located at 214 Walnut, St. Charles.

Please contact Beth Johnson for more information: bethmjohnson@comcast.net

Taize Service



Taize Service

Friday, March 30th, 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.

Volunteer Ministry

Thank you to everyone that signed up for our two Hessed House volunteer opportunities



in February!! This is a much needed and appreciated outreach program.

<u>Book Sale</u> is ending March 4th. Thank you to everyone that brought in books and purchased books. If anyone can help pack up after the service, that

would be awesome!!

March 25th is the <u>Easter Feast</u>!!! Thank you to Diane Crompton who is leading the team this year. Sign up is available in the fellowship area if you are coming and if you would be able to help setup and cleanup. Extra hands make light work to pull this all together!!

Thanks again to everyone that is always ready, willing, and able to help out where needed. You are so appreciated!!!

Happy Spring!!! Bobbi Severson, <u>bsever4785@gmail.com</u>

Prayer Chaplains

Did you know that our prayer chaplains are available to Unity of Fox Valley members for home, hospital and nursing home visits? You may request them to pray with you at anytime. Call the office at 630-879-1115 or email us at <u>churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org</u>



Young Living

Did you know that when you purchase Young Living products Unity of Fox Valley benefits in more ways that 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 info, please contact Lisa Carpenter: <u>familyof3plus2@sbcglobal.net</u>

Easter Sunday

aster Sunday

April 1st, 10:00am



Easter Egg Hunt



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

Easter Sunday April 1st, 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!



Save The Date



Saturday, May 5, 7:00pm

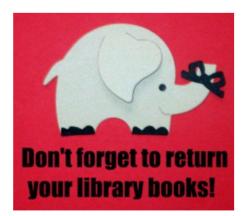
Daniel Nahmod ~ Megon McDonough ~ Sue Riley

Stay tuned for more info!

Tickets are only \$20 for adults Children under 12 are FREE!

Tickets can be purchased now by clicking <u>here</u>.

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!

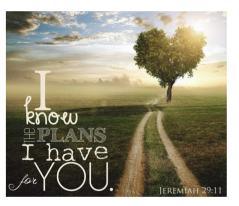
Please click on this link next time you need something & help raise money for Unity of Fox Valley!

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

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.

It's with great sadness that I have decided to not race at all this year. Unless the planets decide to align.



Please remember that it is never too late to eat right,

get up and get moving! Love yourself by **treat**ing **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.



On Going Activities

• <u>A Course in Miracles</u> - 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.

- <u>Alcoholics Anonymous</u> meeting. Tuesdays at 6:00pm.
- <u>Men's Group Meeting</u> the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm, September through May.
- **Overeaters Anonymous** meeting. Sundays at 5:00pm.
- <u>Women's Group</u> Stay tuned for upcoming events.
- 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

