



March 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,

Ash Wednesday is just a few days away and that marks the beginning of the Lenten season. Why should we even take time to observe the period of Lent? It seems like an old tradition coming out of old time religion. But we need to give it another look with new eyes - or should I say "New Thought" eyes.

Charles Fillmore, the co-founder of Unity, was ever the metaphysician. He knew that spiritual rituals and traditions serve many purposes. Often we either go into these traditions without giving them much thought or we ignore them completely. Fillmore interpreted long-standing spiritual traditions metaphysically and gave us new insights into their spiritual significance for us on our spiritual journey.

The period of "Lent" was a particular favorite for Charles. Where traditional religions talked about Lent as a time of penance and fasting to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter, Charles put a different twist on fasting and denial to prepare ourselves for a celebration of the Resurrection.

Instead of giving up something physical, like smoking or sweets, Charles felt Lent was a perfect time to give up the negative thoughts, self talk, and programming that we carry around and affect our world view and inhibit our spiritual growth. Looking at Lent

metaphysically, Charles asked us to "fast" from all that negativity so that we may also participate in the resurrection as a new spiritual being.

Fast from words that pollute.

Fast from complaining.

Fast from judging others.

Fast from emphasizing differences.

I'm sure you'll come up with your own list. What's essential here is to come up with a list so that these 40 days of Lent will be productive to your "Christ" self and this Easter will be a celebration like none you've had before.

Wishing you a fruitful, metaphysical Lent,

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?

Change of Heart

Well, recent events and happenings have reaffirmed that the only thing that is certain in life is change. I know many of you are wondering what the future holds as our ministry embarks upon a new era. The good news is that Rev. Jan has been raising the bar for UFV consistently and prayerfully and lovingly for the last 14 years. Most congregants are not the same as they were when she first arrived. My time here at UFV is way shorter of course, but I know I am different as well. In all cases, I sincerely hold that as we have changed under her leadership, it all has been positive.

We turn the page seasonally this month. The weather and winter will yield to warmth and the reappearance of new life. We will witness it all around us, and the birds will remind us by their chirping and song. Hopefully, we all can take deep breaths and take it all in.

It might be a good time to celebrate the changes in ourselves. The change referenced above is something that we have experienced internally. It is a change of heart brought about by a new awareness, and a greater consciousness that loving and caring for one another really can make a difference. It gives the end of winter and the coming of spring a whole new dimension.

As we celebrate with Rev. Jan her remaining time at UFV, what greater tribute and appreciation can we give her than perhaps to do a little chirping and singing? Oh yeah, I almost forgot. We can also thank her by showing her how high she has taught us to fly.

Note from the Board

Hello from the Board!

First on Rev. Jan's retirement. The Board is sad and happy. Sad to say goodbye, but happy for wherever the spirit takes her. She will do amazing things. Next Rev. Mike and Kathleen are working with our snow removal vendor on reducing the impact of the snow and ice on Sunday services this winter. We hope all can make it to the Town Hall Meeting. A lot of information on the changes at Unity of Fox Valley church will be addressed. Thanks for your support.

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 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! Not only do these activities enhance the youth's physical strength, but they also empower their mental and spiritual strength with an understanding that all strength comes from the Christ within.

Speaking of empowerment, I'm sure the teens will be spiritually empowered while having fun at their upcoming **Teen Lock-In** to be held from Saturday, March 23, at 4 pm till Sunday, March 24 at 11 am. Sarah and Joey DuRocher (former YOUers/YOU Regional Officers) and I will be sponsoring the teens. All Registration and Heart Agreement forms are due by Sunday, March 17.

Please mark your calendars for **Family Movie Night**, Saturday, April 13! Starting 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!

Last, but not least, the Teens are deeply grateful to all who gave Love Offerings for the **Bake Sale** last month which totaled \$330! Some of the offerings came from the Café donations as well which are greatly appreciated. The offerings will be applied to the Teen Fund to be used for upcoming retreats/rallies. Thank you to the teens and their parents for baking all the yummy goodies!

Way to go, Teens!

Happy Spring!

Many thanks and blessings,

[Ms. Mary, LUT](#)

Healing and Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

Friday, March 1st, 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



Sundays, March 3rd & 10th, after the Service

Please stop by the book sale and shop our vast selection!

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

Men's Ministry



Tuesday, March 5th & 19th, 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!

Ash Wednesday



Wednesday, March 6th, 7:00 pm

Lent officially begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6th. Please mark your calendars. On this date Unity of Fox Valley will hold a special meditation service. The service will be officiated by Rev Mike.

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

Oil of the Month



Sunday, March 10th, 11:45-12:15pm
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.

In recognition of our Lenten practice, March 10th the oil(s) of the month will be two exquisite emotional/spiritual blends, Release and Gratitude. We will use our brief 30 minutes together to sample the oils with a reading or two from Unity's "Fasting and Feasting" followed by a meditation to allow the oils to bring the Lenten messages into deeper personal meaning. Please join us. Guests are welcome; bring a friend.

For more information, please contact Barbara DuRocher: barbarajdurocher@gmail.com
or Nancy Gouch: nancygouch@att.net

Teen Lock In



Saturday, March 23rd, 4pm to Sunday, March 24th, 11am

The teens will be spiritually empowered while having fun!

Sarah and Joey DuRocher (former YOUers/YOU Regional Officers)
and Mary Nowroozi, LUT, will be sponsoring the teens.

All Registration and Heart Agreement forms are due by Sunday, March 17.

Any concerns/questions, please contact Mary at marynowroozi@comcast.net

Green Team



We continue our mission of collecting polystyrene, or Styrofoam, in a bin downstairs to bring to Dart Container Corporation in North Aurora. Additional individuals understand our recycling purpose and continue to bring in packaging and food containers. Dart does not accept packaging peanuts.

Our Sunday, Feb. 24 event following our Sunday service and community time with food was successful. Carolyn Burnham of the Batavia Environmental Commission (BEC) made a sterling presentation to our group on How to Be Better Stewards of the Earth. Subject range was from increased use of electric vehicles to food waste to green and natural burials.

The [Green Team](#) will support and have representatives attend the annual BEC-sponsored Green Night Out at the Movies at Batavia City Hall, 100 N. Island Avenue, Saturday, **March 9**. The event will begin at 6 p.m. with an Eco Expo and 7 p.m. movie and

presentation. The movie will be "The True Cost" which will examine who pays the price for our clothing. Guest speaker will be Mattias Wallander, CEO of USAgain.

We will have our next presentation at Unity of Fox Valley at 11:45 a.m. **Sunday, March 24.** We invite all church congregants and community members to participate and to attend our presentation. The topic will be confirmed later.

Think Green as a possible and essential way of life!

Prayer Chaplains

My dear Unity members,

For those of you whom may have heard at the Prayer Chaplain Dedication, I have resigned my Prayer Chaplain Coordinator position and will no longer be one of the prayer chaplains. It has been a challenging decision for me.



For the last eighteen years, Unity of Fox Valley has nurtured and grown me. I have been committed to being of service and to expanding my spiritual life. The commitment and dedication of 45 women and men who have served as Prayer Chaplains during my 18 years as coordinator has been an inspiration to me. Words cannot describe what this has meant to me and the love I have for this ministry and all of you, my fellow members. My heart is full of gratitude for your trust and support of me and my fellow chaplains.

My intention is to return to writing my memoirs that have been calling for completion since I started them in 1998. This has been on my bucket list since my husband, Jim, became ill and required more of my care. He was always my priority, and now it's time for me to complete my story for myself, my children and future readers.

I will remain as a teacher at Unity of Fox Valley so you will still see me as I love being a part of this community. Thank you for your love, my dear spiritual family!

I wish to introduce our two new Prayer Chaplains Lucy and Carl Klemaier who have completed their training during these last three months.

Please congratulate our seasoned Prayer Chaplains as they commit to another year of service. They are, as well as their years of service, listed below.

Wanda Faye Holmes – 2 years, Eliza Sutherland – 5 years, Bobbi Severson, one of the new co-coordinators – 15 years, and Marie Manella, the other new co-coordinator – 16 years.

Unity of Fox Valley has been blessed with the prayer consciousness of our Prayer Chaplains who are here to support you on your spiritual journey. If you have questions about joining this ministry, please contact [Bobbi](#) or [Marie](#).

Love and Blessings,
Marge Orchard

Volunteer Ministry



MARCH HAPPENINGS!!

HEALING SERVICE: March 1st. I just want to give a special THANK YOU to Rose, Kim, Jeanette, Jennifer, and our Prayer Chaplains. If you haven't attended a healing service, it would be a great way to prepare for

the Lenten season!

BOOK SALE: March 3rd and 10th. Thanks to Carl and Lucy for chairing the book sale this year!!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: We are organizing a **Decorating Team** to be headed by Diane Crompton. This new team will be responsible for seasonal decorating of the platform and church. If you have that artistic eye and would like to assist this group, please get in touch with me or contact the [office](#) for more information. Thank you Diane for stepping up to take this project on!!



WE ASKED AND YOU ANSWERED: We made a special request for additional [Usher and Greeters](#) and have had two more people step up! Thank you Pam O'Brien and Susan Korpan!! We can always use more of you and we still need a person or persons who would chair this ministry. It is a great way to meet your fellow congregants!!

THANK YOU to our February Hesed House volunteers!! We will have another opportunity in June. They certainly appreciate our help!!

THANK YOU. . . . to our [Sunday hospitality group](#), to our coffee makers, bakers, and cooks!! You continue to spoil us and feed us well!!

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.



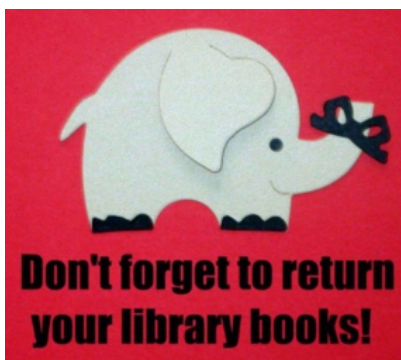
We have a good selection of Young Living Products available for sale. From agave nectar to an array of toiletries and cleaning products! We also have Essential Oils available for calm & healing.

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 Easter Events

Palm Sunday: Sunday, April 14th, 10am

Easter Feast: Sunday, April 14th,
after the Service

Taize Service: Friday, April 19th, 7pm

Easter Service: Sunday, April 21st, 10am

Easter Egg Hunt: Sunday, April 21st, 10am



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.

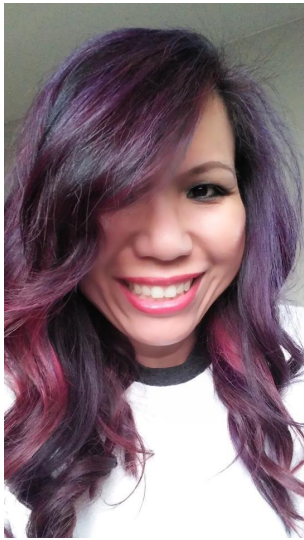
Please contact Beth Johnson, Outreach Chair, for more info or to sign up:

bethmjohnson@comcast.net 630-336- 6159

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.*

Purple Hair Don't Care! HA HA HA!



My daughter Ava joined her very first sport! She joined Badminton. I was a 3 letterman in High School and one of those letters was in Badminton so as you can imagine, I'm excited for her.

I got bad news about one of the Half Marathons that I was planning to run this year. The Batavia Half Marathon was cancelled due to costs and logistics. The Batavia Half was the VERY first Half I ever ran so naturally, I'm deeply disappointed in this cancellation.

Obviously we are going through some transition here at the church. I will do my best to accommodate & ease this season of changes.

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

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prayer line: 630.879.1129

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