## This is Timeless....

And people stayed at home And read books And listened And they rested And did exercises And made art and played And learned new ways of being And stopped and listened More deeply Someone meditated, someone prayed Someone met their shadow And people began to think differently And people healed. And in the absence of people who Lived in ignorant ways Dangerous, meaningless and heartless, The earth also began to heal And when the danger ended and People found themselves They grieved for the dead And made new choices And dreamed of new visions And created new ways of living And completely healed the earth Just as they were healed.



A neighbor sent the above poem and photograph to me. It was written in 1869 and reprinted in 1919 during the Spanish Flu pandemic. I thought it was worth passing on to you.

We all tend to think in a linear way. Our lives are geared to go from point A to point B. General Electric ran ads for years in which their slogan was, "Progress is our most important project." Of course, it is true that our lives from birth to death seems to follow a linear progression. In Unity, we often speak about the path which again suggests a liner movement.

At the same time so many of our life experiences are cyclical. Every year the earth makes its 365 day journey around the sun. Every year the seasons occur in a circular pattern, and our behavior moves with it. When spring at long last arrives, we plant flowers. Perennials reappear, and even as we plant annuals, we adhere to a repeating circular pattern. Baseball begins in the spring. Other sports begin in the fall. Every year we again watch the Superbowl. Every year at specified times we celebrate Halloween, Christmas, New Year, and on and on it goes. And bringing it home, where would we be really without our daily routines?

Making sense out of our linear thinking in conjunction with the many cycles we live seems paradoxical, but really they work together in unison. We have progressed from walking to horse and buggies to cars to planes to rocket ships. Our paths that seem to be flat or level ideally move us not just forward but upward as well. At the same time the circular patterns give us a sense of well-being, familiarity. Day following night following day gives us confidence, something solid that we can rely upon. It provides for us a Sabbath that encourages us to advance to new frontiers.

The coronavirus may be part of an historical pattern, maybe not. Either way, though it may now confine us, we will rise above it and we and the world will be better for it.

Rev. Mike revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

#### Note from the Board

Although the church is closed due to the pandemic, the Board continues to meet virtually to discuss and decide on the current and future needs of the church. We are confident the staff and congregation will be stronger and more adaptive to the needs of members and community at large. The Board is very supportive of the tremendous efforts of Reverend Mike and the staff to go 'virtual' with the many events and activities. Reverend Mike and others are investigating ways we can continue live-streaming once we open up the church. And we will be ready to resume on-site activities when the time comes – the church will be clean and safe.



#### Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

We have continued to excitedly offer our **Sunday School** through the Zoom platform. All age groups meet together **every Sunday at 11:30 am**; and, after a brief welcome, each class – Children's Church, Juniors/Uniteens and Y.O.U. – break off to their respective virtual "Break Out Rooms". The lessons for each class are displayed on Power Point enhanced with colorful images for prayer, meditation, Bible stories and song to uplift the youths' souls and to keep everyone socially connected through discussion. We have

been separated by "social distancing", yet we are all connected in Spirit and continue to grow in our spiritual endeavors.

Mark your calendars for our *Zoom Intergenerational Service* to be held on *Sunday, May 24, at the 10 am* virtual service! This service had been originally planned and ready to be held in our church for March 15; however, just a few hours after our Saturday morning rehearsal on March 14, it was cancelled due to the unprecedented virus situation. It was such a disappointment for the youth, parents, teachers and musicians; yet, we all completely understood the decision for the safety of everyone's well-being. We are now diligently working hard to make this *virtual* service in May just as exciting, heartwarming and spiritually motivating as if we were back in our lovely "brick and mortar" church. The service is titled *Empowering our Twelve Powers*, and it will involve a dedicated participation of not only the youth of all ages, but a few adults in our congregation as well. We are so appreciative of everyone's loving commitment!

In honor of Mother's Day, we will explore stories of the many loving and courageous mothers in the Bible, and we will, as always, extend our unwavering love to the fabulous "mothers" in our lives ~ moms, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, friends, neighbors, teachers, healthcare workers, politicians, office workers, store clerks, cooks, cleaners, flight attendants, firefighters, police officers, mail carriers, and the list goes on and on...



## Happy Mother's Day!

Love and blessings, Ms. Mary, LUT, CSE marynowroozi@comcast.net

#### **Healing and Wholeness Service**



## HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

#### Friday, May 1st, 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.

Please click here or copy & paste the url into your browser for instructions on how to log on: http://ufvweb-new.unityoffoxvalley.org/healing-circle/

> For more info. or any questions, 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.

hc/en-us

Taco Bar



#### This event has been POSTPONED.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this has caused and thank you for your understanding. A new date is still to be determined.

For more info. or any questions, please contact Wanda Faye: geminiangoddess2000@ yahoo.com or by cell at 586-604-6043.

**Bhagavad Gita Class** 



# The Bhagavad Gita classes are temporarily on hold until further notice.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this has caused and thank you for your understanding.

For more info. or any questions, please contact Carl or Lucy Klemaier: colonelklay@yahoo.com

**Men's Ministry** 



#### Tuesday, May 5th & 19th, 7:00pm

The Men's Group will be meeting ONLINE. This group explores spirituality and religion in diverse and exciting ways. Newcomers are ALWAYS welcome!

If you want to participate in their online meeting, please contact: Bob Anthony banthony103@comcast.net

Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



#### Every Thursday, 10:00am

Hello All,

Come join us Thursday morning for our weekly chat. It's an open forum and an opportunity to be together and talk about whatever may be on your mind. I look forward to seeing you online.

Peace, Mike revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

> Please click here to take you to the info you need to join in on the chat The links changes every week so be sure you have the most up to date info.

#### **Overview: Hebrew Scriptures**



#### Thursdays, May 7th - June 11th, 6:30-8:30 pm

## Come explore the history and development of Hebrew Scriptures and acquire a solid foundation for continuing study and exploration.

The Hebrew Scriptures (known as the "Old Testament" in the Christian world) are at the root of three major world religions - Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Hebrew Scriptures

are a collection of fascinating and sometimes confusing stories, poetry, wisdom sayings and inspired visions.

We will identify parts and origins of the Hebrew Scriptures, the writers and the times of the writings and compare time periods and explore their significance Lastly, we will explore how the Scriptures present the story of the evolution of the consciousness of humankind.

#### Required Text/Readings: Available on Amazon.com

- Reading the Bible Again for the First Time by Marcus J. Borg. Please read Ch. 1-3 prior to first class, May 7th
- The Bible in one of the following translations:
  - The NRSV: New Revised Standard Version;
  - or the NET: New English Translation

On a love offering basis. ~ All are most welcome to attend.

For S.E.E. Credit: Must register also with Unity.org - Cost \$45.00

This class is held ONLINE. Please click here or copy and paste this url into your browser: for log in information when it comes available: http://ufvweb-new. unityoffoxvalley.org/overviewhebrewscriptures/

**TO REGISTER**, more info. or any questions,, please contact Marge Orchard, LUT directly: margeorchard@gmail.com 847-912-4457

**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

### **Chicago Satsang**



#### Saturday, May 9th, 7:00-8:30 pm

Sat Shree's satsangs are an exploration into the nature of the new consciousness that is presently descending to the planet, and how the individual can integrate this new consciousness into their daily lives. Each satsang begins and ends with a period of silence, and includes a talk and interaction with the participants.

All Love Offerings will be given to Unity of Fox Valley.

For more info. or any questions, please contact Carl or Lucy Klemaier: colonelklay@yahoo.com

To join the online event, please click here or paste the following url into your browser: https://www.crowdcast.io/satshreelive

> If you have trouble accessing the meeting, please contact: New Dharma – newdharma.office@gmail.com Crowdcast – https://www.crowdcast.io/discover or Carl or Lucy Klemaier: colonelklay@yahoo.com

#### **Intergenerational Service**



#### Empowering Our Twelve Powers Intergenerational Service Sunday, May 24th, 10am

Unity of Fox Valley Spiritual Sunday School will be presenting their annual Intergenerational Service. This service promises to be very whimsical, informative an inspirational as it reflects on Unity's Twelve Powers in a whole new light! Youth of all ages will be involved to makes this a most memorable service!

#### A zoom invitation will be sent to you as the event approaches.

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

#### **Green Team**



In spite of society's situation with COVID-19, we can be conscious of being Green with our recycling and with understanding our daily habits.

Earth Day was April 22 and in celebration of its 50-year anniversary we should know of its significance. It is greater

than being a tree-hugger.

The Unity Green Team does not hold meetings in May and June, in the past because of our proclivity to be on the go in good weather. We do not have the capability to hold zoom meetings,

as of now, so the next tentative meeting would be Sunday, July 26, depending on society's situation relevant to COVID-19.

We can think Green and must act Green! Best wishes in understanding.

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

**Memorial Day** 

#### Monday, May 25th

In observance of Memorial Day, the Church Office will be closed.

Thank you so much to all the men and women who have given their lives in service of this country.



#### **Prayer Chaplain Ministry**



"Our real source of help with every need is the Holy Spirit within; and as we keep poised in Spirit, we find ways to reach others in Spirit and call out the best in them and to understand them in a wonderful new way.' (Myrtle Fillmore)

During these uncertain times, as all of us continue to experience a different way of living and interacting, it's

important to remember that, in Truth, we are whole and perfect. If there are times when outer appearances seem overwhelming, that is when we encourage you to reach out to whatever helps you to remember that the "real source of help with every need is the Holy Spirit within."

Unity's foundation is prayer and meditation. Prayer Chaplains, dedicated to carry on this sacred legacy, are trained to:

Hold Spiritual Space; Lovingly Listen

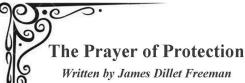
#### Pray Out Loud Hold Confidentiality

As your Prayer Chaplains, Eliza, Wanda Faye, Lucy, Carl, Maria, Mary, Bobbi and I are committed to making periodic Caring Calls to all our members. These Caring Calls are made to support you, our spiritual family, with your prayer needs. During these uncertain 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 hold you all in Spirit's love, light and healing grace...

Blessings and (energetic) hugs, Bobbi and Marie



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**

VOLUNTEERING AT ITS FINEST. ..... So what I have observed during these challenging times is how people from all walks of life come together to support one another in whatever way that they can! We are truly a country that steps up during a



crisis. I have been amazed by some of the stories I have read or heard. But it doesn't surprise me at all, because we are a committed society that steps up when needed.

We are no less proud of our church family that has

stepped up to help our fellow congregants and our local communities. Our Food Initiative was created and you answered the call by donating food, gift cards, and monetary donations. We have a team led by Rick and Marsha McKay to oversee this endeavor and we thank them and you for your generous contributions!! We asked and you delivered!!!

Through Zoom technology we haven't missed a Sunday church service. We continue to hold our classes, A Course in Miracles, The Gita class, our special classes led by our LUT's, Marge and Maria. We are able to touch base on Thursday mornings for a casual get together and discussion of whatever topic pops up. We are grateful for this technology and the people that make it happen!!! As Rev Mike talked about a few Sundays ago, "We are not alone."

We have Char O'Keefe that has been sewing masks and distributing them to needed organizations. And I am quite sure that each and every one of you are reaching out to support your Spiritual family in many small and big ways!!

This is the way that we will endure and come out on the other side of this pandemic. This is truly living our principle of Time, Talent, and Tithing and we are so very grateful and blessed!!

So just maybe in June, I am thinking a celebration feast?? We can call it *CincoEasterSpring Fling*!!!!!

Keeping you and yours in love and prayer!!!

Bobbi Severson bsever4785@gmail.com

#### **Food Initiative**

Dear UFV Family & Friends,

As of this week, we have not had any requests from our congregation for assistance with food. Therefore, the committee has decided to widen the circle to the larger community. Deb



McQuaid has informed us that the *Aurora Food Pantry* is struggling to provide for their community. The demand has TRIPLED in the last week, and they are scrambling to meet the need.

We have ordered items to assemble food packages to feed 12 families (based on recommendations received from AAIFP). These were delivered to the *Aurora Food Pantry* on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your contributions to this worthy cause!

We will continue to support local food pantries with your donations, unless or until requests arise within our own congregation. If the situation changes, we will redirect support to our own church family, which is our *first* priority. Even while donating to local food pantries, we will always keep at least \$300 in reserve, should a food emergency arise among members of the UFV congregation.

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.

## 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.



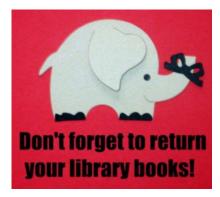
We have a good selection of Young Living Products available for sale. From agave nectar to an array of toiletries and cleaning products! We also have Essential Oils available for calm & healing.

#### Do you need us to order anything? Place your order in the Fellowship Hall by the 15th of each month! For more info. or any questions, please contact Barbara DuRocher barbarajdurocher@ gmail.com

#### Library

## Looking Ahead

# 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!



All subject to change:

- 6/5 Healing Service
- 6/7 & 21: Bhagavad Gita class
- 6/8 & 12: Hesed House Soup
  Kitchen

## 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



#### 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/ls/5I9LM5FXITZG/ref=smi\_ext\_lnk\_lcl\_cl

#### **Evolving Office Hours**



Due to the Govenor's order of Shelter in Place, our Business Manager will mostly be working from home (this is subject to change without notice). There has been a change to the office hours and they are now: Monday - WEDNESDAY 9-5pm.

Things are ever changing these days so we really do appreciate your understanding and patience as things are changed unexpectedly & without notice. Please do your part and **STAY HOME!** 

Please email (anytime) or call (Mondays only) Kathleen her if you should need anything. **Kathleen will be in the Church Office only on Mondays.** Please no visitors: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org 630-879-1115 (Emailing is preferred since she is working from home most if not all days)

#### **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.



Working from home isn't so bad because I have a snuggly 'Office Kitty'. My little Reese (YES! She has an Instagram account! DUH!) is with me in EVERY online meeting and dutifully sleeps in my office guest chair all day. Perhaps you seen her during Sunday Service? If you don't, it's because she is laying on my lap, rather than popping her head up.

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.

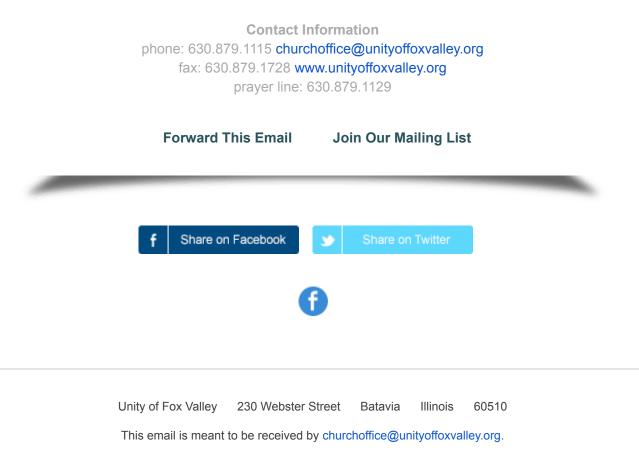
https://www.facebook.com/unityoffoxvalley

#### **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.



Got this by mistake? Unsubscribe here