

November 2020

Ministerial Musings

Count Your Blessings & Bless Your Troubles

We have long espoused that what we give thanks for expands and multiplies. This is consistent with the realization that all thoughts are prayers. By holding thoughts of appreciation, we put forth that energy into the universe, and the universe responds in kind. That is why it is so important to pause, and deliberately give thanks in prayer for everything. As Meister Eckhardt once said, "If the only prayer we ever prayed was 'Thanks,' it would be enough."

With all that in mind, every night I try to make my closing thoughts at night thoughts of appreciation; however, this year with Thanksgiving rapidly approaching, I decided to try something new. During the month of Thanksgiving I am going to pray every day for those things and persons in my life that annoy me, trouble me and worry me. My usual approach of trying to deny them and ignore them seem to have very short-term success. Perhaps blessing them will be more effective in the long run.

I did wonder if by taking this approach of giving thanks for them, might I be inviting more of the same? I do not believe so. My hope and my expectations are that by blessing them, I really am giving thanks for the creative process with which all of us are blessed. In other words, I will try to regard them more as opportunities than as problems. Ultimately, Spirit will not only hold me harmless, but also will continue to partner with me as a co-creator. To that, all I can say is THANK YOU GOD. Amen!

I also affirm a blessed and wonderful Thanksgiving for each and every one of you.

Peace,

Rev. Mike



Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

As we continue on with Zoom for our <u>Sunday School</u> classes, our youth will explore the **Power of Letting Go** for the month of November. **The Color** for this autumn month is **Russet Brown** and **the Disciple is Thaddeus**. We will reflect through prayer and meditation as ways to faithfully let go of our concerns to God, opening our hearts to hear the still small voice within. We will also explore the story of Thaddeus on his spiritual journey as a disciple of Jesus. Furthermore, we will express our appreciation during this month of Thanksgiving, sharing our gratitude for the beauty and abundance all around and within each one of us.

Our *Youth of Unity* (Y.O.U.) teens will continue to participate in uplifting, invigorating Sunday classes with the *Great Lakes Region Y.O.U*. every third Sunday of the month and with *Unity of Chicago* the other Sundays of the month.

Zoom invites for *all* youth class levels for the remaining Sundays of 2020 have been emailed to the parents; however, if you misplaced the link or if you are a newcomer wishing to join us, please contact Mary at marynowroozi@comcast.net and invites will be sent.

Our <u>Christmas Pageant</u> on the Zoom platform is just around the corner to be held on *Sunday, December 13*, at the *10 am* Service! To maintain safe, social distance for the youth and their parents, we are offering each youth an individual rehearsal session at ½ hour increments from 10 am to 2 pm on either *Saturday, Nov. 7* or *Saturday, Nov. 14*. In other words, each participant will attend only one ½ hour rehearsal on either one of those Saturdays. These individual photo/recording sessions will be uploaded onto Power Point to be presented at the Dec. 13th Zoom Christmas Pageant 10 am Service. Sign-up availability for the ½ hour sessions have been emailed to all parents. If you as a parent/guardian would like your youth to participate but have not yet signed him/her for a rehearsal time and/or if you have questions/concerns, please contact me at

marynowroozi@comcast.net. The youth are also required to attend a live Zoom rehearsal on Saturday, Dec. 12, at 10 am to coincidence with the photos/recordings taken at their individual rehearsals.

As always, we are deeply grateful to each and every one of you for your participation and support in keeping our Youth Ed program up and running during this unprecedented time.



Many thanks and blessings,

Ms. Mary, LUT, CSE

marynowroozi@comcast.net



Tailgate Trick or Treat was a great success!

Thank you to all that participated! We had such a great turn out and we appreciate everyone that made it possible!

Daylight Savings

Don't forget to set your clocks back!



Daylight Savings will be on Sunday, November 1st.

Online Sunday Services



Every Sunday, 10:00 am, Online

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

Please click <u>here</u> 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 <u>here</u> to take you to the login information.

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

Bhagavad Gita Class



1st & 3rd Sundays November 1st & 22nd, 1:00 pm, Online

The November 15th Gita Class is moved to the 22nd due to our <u>Annual Meeting</u>.

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.

Please contact Carl or Lucy Klemaier for login information.

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

Please click here to take you to the Bhagavad Gita Class website.

Men's Group



Tuesdays, November 3rd & 17th, 7:00 pm, Online

This group explores spirituality and religion in diverse and exciting ways.

Newcomers are ALWAYS welcome!

Please contact Larry Schaeffer for login information.

If you have any questions, please contact Larry Schaeffer: larrysheaffer@sbcglobal.net

Please click here to take you to the Men's Group website.

Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



Every Thursday, 10:00 am, Online

There will be NO Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me on Thursday, November 26th.

Please come and join us! Bring with you your drink of choice, a sweet treat perhaps, questions, ideas, curiosity, imagination and a friend or, you may just come to hang out for a bit. We hope to see you! All are welcome.

Just look for the weekly email with the login information sent out every Tuesday morning or go to the website.

A Course In Miracles



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

There will be NO ACIM on Thursday, November 26th.

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

Healing and Wholeness Service



Friday, November 6th, 7:00 pm, Online

1st Friday of every month at 7pm. We all can use some healing as the events in our world give testimony recently. The service features prayer and music to realign ourselves with the healing power of Spirit that resides within us and surrounds us.

Topic: UFV Healing Service
Time: Nov 6, 2020 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83935155700? pwd=VE5mUXJQcnVvSG5XbnArZGk3eHJuZz09

Meeting ID: 839 3515 5700

Passcode: 130597

One tap mobile:

+13126266799,,83935155700#,,,,,0#,,130597# US (Chicago)

If you have trouble accessing the meeting, please contact

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

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

Please click here to take you to the Healing & Wholeness website.

Annual Meeting



Sunday, November 15th, after the Service, Online

The Board of Trustees of Unity of Fox Valley cordially invites you to attend our ONLINE Annual Family Meeting.

After the Sunday Service, we will take a 15 minute break. There will NOT be separate login for the meeting so please stay logged in. The Annual Meeting will last for about one hour. We will be reviewing goals our and financial status, and electing new officers to the board. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend; however, you must be a member to vote at the election.

There will be no Sunday School that day.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org or any of the Board Members.

Please stay tuned for the login information.

If you have trouble accessing the meeting, $\underline{\text{please contact}}$

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

Please click here to take you to the Annual Meeting website.

Online Thanksgiving Service



Wednesday, November 25th, 7:00 pm, Online

Please join us for a time of expressing gratitude. A time to show from our hearts appreciation for many gifts we have received. A time to open our hearts to even greater good. A moment of quiet and reflection to give thanks for many blessing we receive each day.

Please stay tuned for the login information.

Please click here to take you to the Thanksgiving website.

Prayer Chaplain Ministry



It's November already! Fall has fully arrived, Halloween is now a memory and the holiday season is quickly approaching! Our celebrations will be different this year, but we can use our inherent spiritual gifts and manifest miracles in our lives, even during a pandemic.

A couple of years ago the chaplains studied a book,

Adventures in Prayer by Sharon Connors, which outlined "four transformative and miracle-producing practices of gratitude." As we move into the month of Thanksgiving, we invite you to make these a part of your prayer practice.

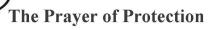
- 1. Give thanks and praise for what you have rather than complaining about what you lack.
- 2. Give thanks for the challenges and difficulties you face.
- 3. Give thanks in advance for the good you seek.
- 4. Give thanks for belonging in the world, to the family of man and to God.

"There is inherent in each of us a spirit of praise and blessing and the desire to express our joy and gratitude for all the good that we are constantly receiving." Excerpted from *Daily Word*, January 30, 1933.

Your Prayer Chaplains, Eliza Sutherland, Wanda Faye Holmes, Lucy & Carl Klemaier, Maria Cosentino, Mary Nowroozi, Bobbi Severson and Marie Manella, 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. When we pray with you, we hold everything said in confidence, placing your requests in the sacred space of limitless possibilities of God's love; that place we often are unable to see for ourselves. If you have not been receiving prayer calls and want to start now, please contact the church office at 630-879-1115 (Mon & Tues only) or churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org (Mon -Thur) and a Prayer Chaplain will be in touch.

As we observe our annual traditions during November and December, albeit in a virtual way, we encourage you to continue to take good care of yourselves; wear your masks in public spaces, practice physical distancing, and call on us if you need prayer support in between our calls.

Blessings and hugs, Bobbi and Marie



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.



AND LIFE GOES ON!!! Here we are into another month already. It seems like I just wrote this article for October. The Daily Word this morning was about Faith! I have Faith that we will get through these next few weeks of the election process. I have faith that we will survive and thrive, no matter the outcome! I have

faith that our church community will weather all the storms together!! We are guided by our Faith!!!

A big THANK YOU to all of you that supported our <u>Walk-a-thon</u> and our <u>Tailgate Trick or Treat</u> for our beautiful children!! Behind the masks there were many smiles, I could tell from your eyes!! Thanks to everyone that organized and supported these events!! Kathleen and Galen generously supplied some yummy ice cream and treats and I know there were others that helped set up and clean up. And the music at the walk-a-thon was an added treat!! Thank you Rob and Jennifer!!! We are more than blessed and grateful!!

November will be a "virtual" busy month with continued activities to keep us joined in Spirit and through the ethers!! We are revamping how to do the **Silent Auction**, Rev Mike and Dawn will keep you posted on that event. Thank you so much to everyone that has contributed to this fund raising event.

Behind the scenes, Ms. Mary and her dedicated team of parents and musicians will already be preparing for the virtual **Christmas Pageant**. Much more planning and logistics goes into planning these events and we are grateful for all who step up and step together to make this happen!!

Food for thought!!! Volunteering as we know it has changed during this pandemic and social distancing, maybe we don't even see it as volunteering when we support our events, be it virtually or in person. We are so conditioned to being there and physically doing something, that we overlook that we are "volunteering" every time we support someone, via a phone call, text, e-mail, or a card. As this pandemic lingers on and the long winter is upon us, don't forget to make that call to a loved one or a friend that you haven't talked to in a very long time. More importantly, don't forget to reach out if you are in need of a little emotional boost.

"We will survive" "With a little help from our friends".

Blessings everyone!!!
Bobbi Severson

Green Team



Think Green...

...For essential environmental existence!

We can do the little items, continually, to make our lives better, to include recycling, choosing wisely, and understanding the need to be a part of our environment and not spoilers of it.

We can think green.

We can take a few minutes to ask questions, conduct research, and be a force for good! Polystyrene recycling is available for packaging foam and food foam at Dart Container Corporation in North Aurora. The site is outside, under cover, and open 24 hours. Green Team meetings are on hold, however, we can think Green individually!

—The Green Team

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

Please click <u>here</u> to take you to the Green Team website.

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 <u>UFV Food Initiative</u> Committee Rick McKay, Chair

Please click <u>here</u> to take you to the Food Initiative website.

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



November/December 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 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 with Barbara DuRocher by the 15th of each month!

For more info. or any questions, please contact Barbara

DuRocher barbarajdurocher@gmail.com

AmazonSmile

Support us when you shop this holiday

Amazon donates when you shop at **smile.amazon.com**.





Online shopping is at an all time high! Support Unity of Fox Valley with your Amazon Purchase!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Unity of Fox Valley every time you shop, at no cost to you. Just click on the link below and make a purchase!

AmazonSmile will donate a percentage of the purchase price of eligible products to Unity of Fox Valley.

Please click on the following link to start shopping & help raise money for Unity of Fox Valley!

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

Tithes & Offerings



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

Please click <u>here</u> or copy and paste the following link in your browser: https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=44UC5B8W64KBQ

- 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



This is the 1st year I participated in Unity of Fox Valley's <u>Tailgate Trick or Treat</u> and you know me... I gotta make it good! I got my partner in crime, Joey Nelson to plan this months ahead of time. We 1st started with the yellow minions but changed to the Evil Minions from the Despicable Me 2 movie (cuz I HATE yellow). I made both sets of glasses, the patches on our overalls, made the minion wrappers for the Twinkies, assembled the treat bags complete with labels and of course, built Gru's car. The event was so successful that we ran out of our treat bags and found someone to give us some of theirs. People loved our display/costumes and many pictures were taken of us and their kids. Yes, we already have next year's theme lined up and I already bought some of my accessories. Thank you Joey for the cardboard, wigs, candy and support. (More pictures are on my Instagram. Just click on my name below to take you there)

I'm physically in the office on Mondays & Tuesdays (subject to change w/o notice) and working from home on Wednesdays & Thursdays. If you need me Wed. or Thurs., please email me: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

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. Click on any of the events below to bring you to their individual web pages.

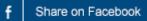
- A Course in Miracles 7:30-9:00 pm every Thursday evening, Unity of Fox Valley facilitates A Course in Miracles discussion group. This is an ongoing class rain or shine. Each week a new topic is discussed. Everyone is welcome at any time and the class is always open to new attendees.
- Alcoholics Anonymous 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.
- <u>Unity Green Team CommUnity Event</u> 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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