



April 2021

Ministerial Musings

Come Alive

April has to be regarded as one of the more glorious of months. Winter may put up a fight, but it is a fight eventually lost. Flowers will take the risk of poking out of the ground perhaps a bit too soon, but new life refuses to be denied. Unlike a year ago, the baseball season should be in full stride. The Masters Tournament will remind us it is indeed spring. The smell of freshly cut grass will be prominent. What else can I say? Oh yeah, that's right, we will be celebrating the feast of Easter.

Given how pretty much everyone looks to stave off death, it is pretty amazing how little focus is placed on Easter. Even people who wholeheartedly believe in heaven as an actual place are not in any particular hurry to get there. We take every measure to extend our human existence and spare no effort or money in the effort. Do not get me wrong. The gift of life is the most precious gift we enjoy, and it is right and proper to pull out every stop to nurture it and sustain it. Period!

But how does this all fit in with the notion of being victorious, and having the last laugh on the Grim Reaper, which is what Easter celebrates? Why is the Easter celebration so short in comparison to Christmas, and in some ways New Years and even the 4th of July? Why are there no bright lights put out? Why no fireworks? Why not Easter Carols streaming on the radio? Is the miracle of the ultimate victory over death more difficult to accept than the concept of the Christ taking flesh in the birth of Jesus?

The Easter miracle does not promise unending life. Think about how painful that could get. The promise it holds for us is everlasting life, something really very different. Easter is not a never-ending extension of the old, but rather a never-ending process of the new. The day will absolutely come when there no longer will be a Kentucky Derby, a new

baseball season or a Masters Tournament. For us though, there always will be a spring. Seems like we should at the very least shout out an Alleluia or two on Easter Sunday.



Oh, one last thing to think about: We are not supposed to wait until we pass to get into that ongoing cycle of eternal springs. So, it's Alleluia and back to work.

Peace,

Rev. Mike

revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Note from the Board

In recent months, Rev. Mike and the Church Board of Trustees have started discussions on how and when to open the church post Covid-19 restrictions. We all know that how we function as a church both in-person and virtually will be different. We know that the greeting and hugging so many of us have been used to will no longer be possible for a while. Some of you will prefer to continue to participate in the service remotely, via Zoom or through live-streaming. Please be assured that the live streaming option will continue to be available. So, how do we re-open?

First, as to the **'When will we re-open,'** this will be determined by state guidelines, correct and proper protective procedures and your input. Right now, it is too soon to tell. All we can say is that it will not happen before June.

Otherwise, this is where we want your opinions – we need your input. In preparation for a town hall meeting (see below), here are some questions to consider:

- Upon re-opening, do you want to personally come back to the church for the 10am service OR will you prefer to participate virtually?
- With social distancing guidelines, will you participate in a post-service gathering?
- How would you like to see Rev. Mike, the Prayer Chaplains and Board support you in this challenging time? Is there some different way you would like the church to help you?
- Will you participate in other activities at the church such as special services or youth activities?

Here are different ways you can provide feedback on these questions:

- We will have one or two themed town hall meetings after the Zoom service to listen to ideas on these and other questions that you may have.
- If you want, you can send Rev. Mike an email: revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

The Board

Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

As we Zoom into April, the youth will be exploring the **Power of Good Judgment. The Disciple is James** and the **color is Yellow**. Like Solomon had asked God, "Give your servant (Solomon) a discerning heart...to distinguish between right and wrong." (I Kings 3:9), the youth, too, will enhance their Power of Discernment as they delve into the Proverbs of Solomon and Unity's Third Principle, "I create my life by the choices I make."

Speaking of choices, our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** will have a fun, new twist this year for we had decided to extend an invite out to the local community through several publications. The response was overwhelming with 60 youth registered! Whoa! And, obviously, along with the youth, come the adults, so we are expecting quite a crowd! However, bear in mind, that we will maintain a safe environment with designated areas for groups of youth to hunt for eggs and with adhering to the rule of wearing masks. We truly appreciate several of our parents and other congregants who have graciously stepped up to help with spring cleaning the windows, doors and church grounds; putting together Easter eggs; and maintaining crowd control. We want to extend special thanks to *Kathleen Malick* for beautifying the outside front planters and creating adorable Easter decor, to *Terry Wohl* who will uplift us with invigorating songs, and to a special surprise guest that will be visiting us during the Hunt! Way to go everyone! This event will occur on **Saturday, April 3, at 2 pm**, and we know it will be the best ever!

Our Easter fun will continue the following morning, **Easter Sunday**, for this special day will also have a fun, new twist to it as well for the youth will be presenting the **10 am Service** on Zoom! We encourage and appreciate all of you to join in for this will truly be a heartwarming and memorable Service that we guarantee will uplift your hearts and souls!

With many thanks and blessings,

Ms. Mary, LUT, CSE

marynowroozi@comcast.net



Online Taize Service

Taize Service

Good Friday, April 2nd, 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.

Dear Unity of Fox valley Family & Friends,

Below is your Zoom invitation for our Good Friday Taizé service. This service has become a Unity of Fox valley tradition. It consists of an inspiring musical program interspersed with moments of reflection. All are welcome to be a part of this powerful experience. Please join us and invite a friend.

Peace,
Rev. Mike

We are asking you to use your 1st & last names for your Zoom account.
Click [here](#) for instructions.

If you want to invite a friend/guest, please let Rev. Mike know ASAP so he knows to admit them into the Zoom meeting: revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Topic: UFV Taize Service
Time: Apr 2, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88112973679?
pwd=RHBhVksDelduaU1Kc3hwcUFpUVNpUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88112973679?pwd=RHBhVksDelduaU1Kc3hwcUFpUVNpUT09)

Meeting ID: 881 1297 3679

Passcode: 689470

One tap mobile:

+13126266799,,88112973679#,,,*689470# US (Chicago)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abzur7VLXO>

If you have trouble accessing the meeting, please contact
Zoom: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

Easter Egg Hunt



Easter Egg Hunt

Unity of Fox Valley  Parking Lot
230 Webster Street, Batavia, IL

Saturday, April 3, 2pm

For inclement weather; and/or if it is not feasible due to the Covid situation, we will have a Drive-Thru to pick up the eggs (plastic eggs with wrapped chocolates, no peanut products).

All items will be handled properly and safely.

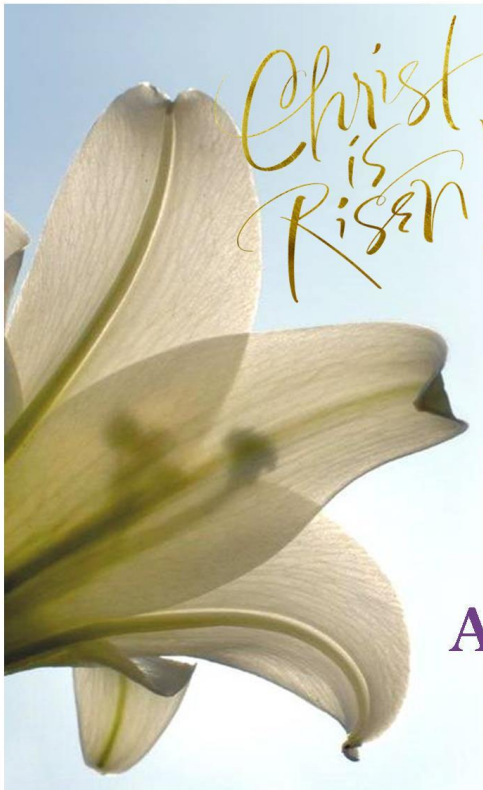
**Come join in on
the fun for our
Easter Egg Hunt!**



REGISTRATION IS CURRENTLY CLOSED.

Please contact Mary at marynowroozi@comcast.net for more info.

Online Easter Sunday Service



Celebrate Easter

with

**Unity of Fox Valley
Youth Ed**

**April 4th,
10:00am**

Alleluia

An email with the login information will be sent Thursday, 4/1 and Saturday, 4/3 morning prior to the Service.

Please contact Mary Nowroozi with any questions & to request the login information: marynowroozi@comcast.net

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Easter Season website.

Easter Bonnets

Ladies,

Sunday, April 4th

Unity of Fox Valley encourages you to wear your
Best Easter Bonnet this Easter!

You don't have an Easter Bonnet? Please feel free to make something fun to wear!

Participation is not required!



Gentlemen! Join in on the fun too and wear you best hat to service!

Online Men's Group



Tuesdays, April 6th & 20th, 7:00 pm, Online

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

Newcomers are ALWAYS welcome!

Please contact Rev. Mike with any questions & to request the login information: revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Men's Group website.

Online Raffle



A new raffle starts every Wednesday!

We invite you to participate in our Unity of Fox Valley FUNdraiser. You can do so simply by going to our [website](#) and clicking on the DONATION BUTTON at the bottom of the website. What makes it FUN is that an easy donation of \$5 automatically enters you into our weekly raffle. Each multiple of \$5 that you donate multiplies the number of times your name is entered. For example, a \$25 donation enters your name five times. Also, each week UFV will share your contribution with a selected charity.

Please contact Dawn Staszak for more information or if you have questions regarding this event: dawn_311@yahoo.com

Please click [here](#) to take you to the FUNdrasing website.

Online Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



Every Thursday, 10:00 am, Online

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.

Please contact Rev. Mike with any questions & to request the login information: revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me website.

Online A Course In Miracles



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

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

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

Just look for the weekly email with the login information sent out every Tuesday evening.

Please contact Warren Wakerlin with any questions & to request the login information: wwakerlin@aol.com

Please click [here](#) to take you to the ACIM website.

Online Sunday Services



Every Sunday, 10:00 am, Online

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

An email with the login information will be sent Thursday and Saturday morning prior to the Service.

Please contact Rev. Mike with any questions & to request the login information: revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Sunday Service website.

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 contact Mary Nowroozi with any questions & to request the login information: marynowroozi@comcast.net

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Youth Ministry website.

Online Bhagavad Gita Class



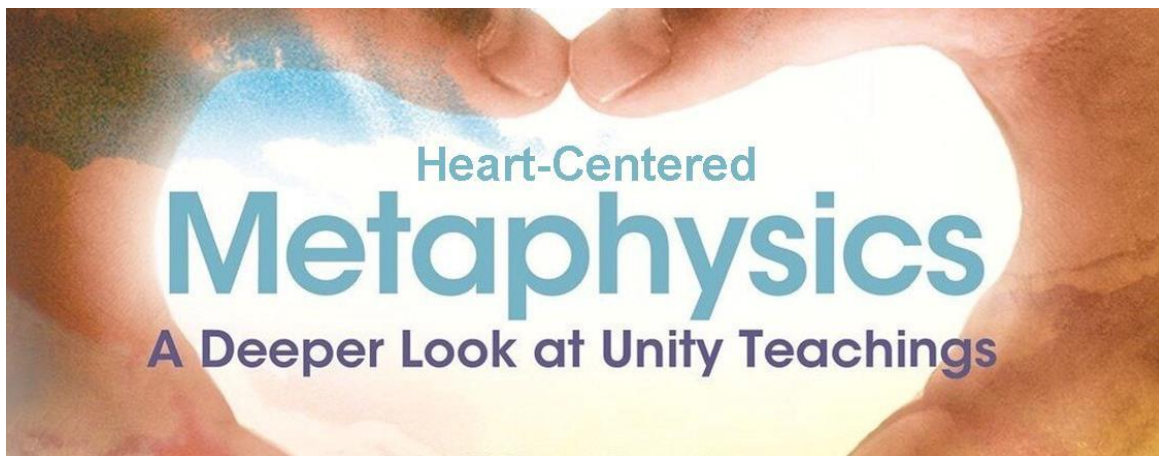
April 11th, 1:00 pm, Online

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 with any questions & to request the login information: colonelklay@yahoo.com

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Bhagavad Gita Class website.

Heart Centered Metaphysics 2



Wednesdays, April 21st – May 26th, 6:30-8:30 PM

This online, 6 week course explores some of the more complex metaphysical concepts such as Oneness and creation, as well as offers a Unity perspective on terminology that is commonly used by much of mainstream Christianity. In the process, aspects of students' embedded theology is exposed and Unity Teachings are clarified. Practical application is the primary goal.

Facilitated by Maria Cosentino, LUT | Love Offering appreciated

Available for S.E.E. credit HTS-110 Metaphysics 2

Required Text/Readings:

Available on Amazon.com

- [Heart-Centered Metaphysics](#): Hasselbeck, Paul. 2010
- [Applying Heart-Centered Metaphysics: Workbook](#): Hasselbeck, Paul & Holton, Cher. 2012

Recommended Text/Readings:

- [The Revealing Word: A Dictionary of Metaphysical Terms](#): Fillmore, Charles. 2014

We would so appreciate if you please use AmazonSmile link if you can. AmazonSmile will donate at no cost to you a percentage of the book purchase to Unity of Fox Valley. Thank you! <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2889899>

Please contact Maria to register and receive the Zoom link: mlcosentino@gmail.com

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Heart Centered Metaphysics 2 website.

Book & a Small Plant Sale



Friday, April 30th & Saturday, May 1st

We have made the decision to resume the Book Sale this year and add on a small Plant Sale! This event will coincide with Batavia's City Wide Garage sale. Due to the rollout of vaccines and wide spread safety protocols in place we feel that we can safely hold this event while still protecting the health of our community. Hosts and shoppers should wear face masks, use hand sanitizer, and socially distance themselves from others while visiting sales. This event will be held in our parking lot unless there is inclement weather. It will be then held in the Lower Level of our church.

BOOK SALE:

- **All book/CD/DVD donations must be received by Thursday, April 22nd.**
- If it is damp outside or raining, please be sure to wrap your donations in plastic/place in plastic bags to protect them from the rain. Damp books will have to be thrown out.
- Our Business Manager, Kathleen is in on Mondays & Tuesdays and can always let you in during her office hours, just contact her:
- Please contact Kathleen Malick or Bobbi Severson with any questions regarding the Book Sale.

PLANT SALE:

- Our Business Manager, Kathleen will be hosting the small Plant Sale.
- **All plant donations must be received by Tuesday, April 20th.**
- If you are interested in donating your plants, please be sure they are in GOOD health and pest free.
- Please label your plants.
- DO NOT leave your plant donations at the back door! Please drop them off on Monday or Tuesday during her office hours or contact her to make arrangements
- Please contact Kathleen with any questions or more info regarding the Plant Sale.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

- We need people to set up, stay during the event both days and break down. Times are currently to be determined.
- Shoppers will be instructed to place their love offerings in the donation box.
- Please contact Bobbi Severson to volunteer

CONTACTS:

- Kathleen Malick: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org
- Bobbi Severson: bsever4785@gmail.com

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Book & a Small Plant Sale website.

Prayer Chaplain Ministry

Happy Easter! A joyous feast day at a joyous time of year! Resurrection is all around us - trees are beginning to bud, early spring flowers are blooming, the temperatures are getting milder and we're getting closer to the time when we will be able to worship, celebrate and just be together! Although many among us are dealing with all that this past year has brought, this is a time of hope for the unlimited possibilities and blessings that lie ahead.



Love is our Power this month. As we bask in the “newness” of spring and begin our re-entry into a “new normal,” I invite you to embody the power of love and live its meaning as defined in Charles Fillmore’s *The Revealing Word*,

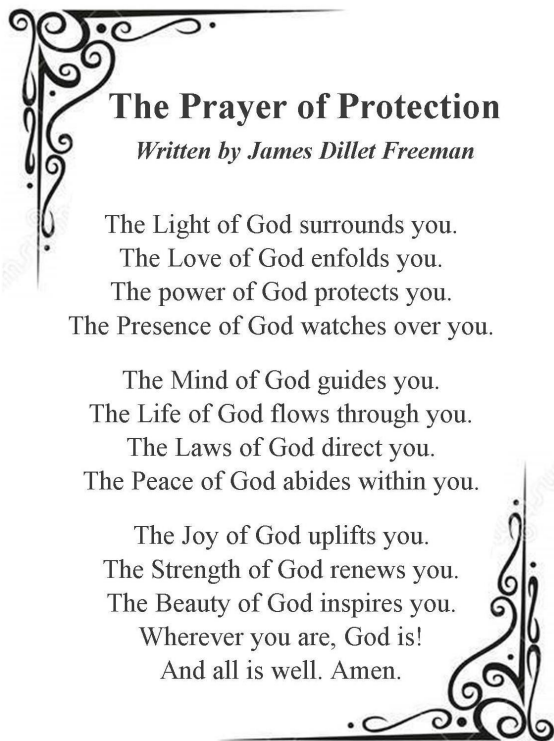
“Divine love is impersonal; it loves for the sake of loving . . . Love is an inner quality that sees good everywhere and in everybody. . . . Love is the great harmonizer and healer.”

We are happy to welcome Denise Hage as a new member of our Prayer Chaplain Ministry! Denise and the rest of our team, Eliza Sutherland, Wanda Faye Holmes, 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 or churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org and a Prayer Chaplain will be in touch.

As we continue on in 2021 “seeing good (God/Love) everywhere and in everybody,” we encourage you to keep on taking 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. We also want to remind you Prayer Chaplains are available for private prayer on Zoom after Service each Sunday...

Blessings and hugs,
Bobbi and Marie



Charles Fillmore's Invocation

I AM now in the presence
of pure Being,
and immersed in the Holy Spirit
of life, love, and wisdom.
I acknowledge Thy presence
and Thy power, O blessed Spirit;
in Thy divine wisdom now erase my
mortal limitations
and from Thy pure substance of
love bring into manifestation
my world, according to
Thy perfect law.

Volunteer Ministry



HERE COMES THE EASTER BUNNY!!! Thank you to Ms. Mary and all of our volunteers who will be assisting the Easter Bunny on **Saturday, April 3rd**, for our **YOUTH EGG HUNT!!**

My bunny scouts tell me that we will have lots of kiddos and lots of Easter Eggs filled with goodies and a secret surprise!!! We truly are blessed by everyone that has stepped forward to make this time so special for our kids!!!

THE BOOK & A SMALL PLANT SALE is going to happen **April 30th & May 1st!!!**

Sometimes a tried and true tradition needs a face lift!! Thanks to our ever creative Office Manager, Kathleen, we are hosting this event to coincide with the Batavia City Wide Garage sale weekend!! Aren't we just the smartest!!! **SO VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!!!**

Please consider volunteering for this fun event!! We need people to help sort prior to the event, people to set up the tables (we are hoping for a nice weekend so that we can be outside). We will need worker bees on Friday and Saturday and always the fun job of cleanup!! Please contact Bobbi at bsever4785@gmail.com or the church office at churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org, if you would like to be a part of our team!! And if you can't volunteer, then feel free to join us either one of those days and browse for BOOKS and PLANTS!!!! Oh and by the way, **we are accepting book donations until April 22nd & plants till April 20th**. Check the [website](#) for drop off details!!!!

A SPECIAL THANKS TO Eric Hage and Bob Anthony from the [Landscape Committee](#) who had a work day on one of our rare warm spring days to spruce up the flower beds to make us look pretty and to get ready for the Easter Bunny!! This committee needs volunteers to help this year so if you like working outside in the fresh air and getting your exercise at the same time please contact Larry Schaefer at nshmn2@gmail.com or Bobbi Severson at bsever4785@gmail.com to get on our email list for work days and any special talents you have!!!!

It has been a long Winter, but I feel we are on the upswing of getting back to normal or perhaps a different kind of normal!! Maybe we truly do not want to pick up where we left off but instead reevaluate our priorities and what is truly important in our lives. Just food for thought!!!

Blessings everyone and Hoppy Spring!!!!

Bobbi Severson

bsever4785@gmail.com

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

Please click [here](#) 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



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 Kathleen in the Church Office by the 10th of each month!

For more info. or any questions, please contact Kathleen:

churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

AmazonSmile



**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!

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

Donate items from our Charity List
Shop Now

charity lists
amazon smile

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

Just click [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:

<https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=44UC5B8W64KBQ>

- **Please DO NOT use this link to purchase Raffle Entries!** Click [here](#) for the raffle.
- 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.***

Online Healing and Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

Friday, May 7th, 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.

Just look for the email with the login information that will be sent out the Wednesday prior.

**Please contact Rev. Mike to request the login
information: revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org**

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

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Healing & Wholeness website.

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.*



I'm excited to add a [Small Plant](#) sale to our [Book Sale](#)! I have always had plants but I really starting to grow my collection about 10 years ago. I'm happy to offer some small and big offerings! I cut my my Monstera Deliciosa to a nub for this sale so come get one! Although I am not offering any of my rare plants, I hope you can come by pick up lots of books and maybe take home a new, live friend with you.

I hope you come to the [Easter Egg Hunt](#) and see the GIANT 5 foot tall Easter Egg I made in person! I just hope it doesn't roll over a kid! LOL!

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, 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!***



[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.
- [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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