



September 2021

Ministerial Musings

A dark blue rectangular banner with a background of shattered glass fragments. The words "BROKEN GLASS" are written in large, white, uppercase serif letters across the center.

BROKEN GLASS

It was about 2:20 in the morning. Susan and I were sound asleep. Suddenly there was a loud crashing sound. I am a very sound sleeper since I do not have a guilty conscience, so the sound did not fully awaken me. It just stirred me. However, I next heard Susan in a soft and somewhat muffled voice say, "What was that?"

I lie there for a while in a bitter struggle. Should I just roll over and go back to sleep, or go check if perhaps a dangerous intruder may have invaded our home? After about five minutes, which was certainly long enough for an invader to do his or her nasty work, I decided to check things out.

I got as far as the bathroom when suddenly there was a crunching sound of broken glass beneath my foot. I searched for the light switch, found it and turned it on. The floor of the bathroom was cluttered with fragments of glass. Fortunately, the piece I had stepped did not cut my foot. I stared in disbelief at what I was seeing, because what I was seeing just was not possible. The glass panel that had shattered was from a light fixture on the wall above the medicine cabinet. It was not a case of a screw coming loose, or the structure

that was holding the glass somehow failing. This piece of glass that had remained in place for many months apparently seemed just to have spontaneously shattered.

I began to clean up the glass. Even my dog, Rocky, was not too pleased with the vacuum going at that time of the morning. All the while my brain was trying to wrap around how something that never could have happened did in fact happen. Not understanding it was worse than the event itself.

We spend a lot of time trying to understand the broken glass in our lives. That is why science is so important. The more we figure out the whys, the less we fret over the inexplicable and the less we need to develop myths.

In the meantime, there is an alternative. We can de-energize those crazy events, and not allow them to paralyze or torment us. As I was cleaning up the broken glass, there was a real sense in which the why did not matter. The glass still had to be cleaned up regardless. Sometimes you just have to do what you have to do. If we get bogged down by feelings of self-pity or frustration, the broken glass remains, and it will cut our feet as we walk our paths.

Peace,

Rev. Mike

revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Youth Education for the Younger Crowd



We are so excited to be back in our lovely “brick-and-mortar” church since last Sunday, August 29! To top it all off, our spiffy brand, new church parking lot was beautifully ready to greet us on that very first day! Despite our excitement to return, I still so greatly appreciate the Zoom technology we had for over the past 1 ½ years. This platform is something we would have never imagined just a few short years ago! It wonderfully, practically magically, kept us abreast with our Sunday School classes, offering fun, interactive, spiritual experiences for everyone. How appreciative

and blessed we were that our youth were able to enthusiastically lead and participate in the following online church services: Intergenerational 12 Powers, Christmas Pageant, Easter Morning, and Y.O.U. Graduation/"God in Me" Recognition Ceremony, all of which deeply touched our hearts, minds and souls. It truly demonstrated to us that no matter the physical distance between us, there is nothing that can separate us from our Oneness in Spirit!

Now that we have returned, we will continue to follow Illinois guidelines/mandates at the present time, yet we will take extra steps in being diligent for the safety of our youth and teachers. Our teachers will ensure that the youth ages 3 and up wear their masks and appropriately wash their hands. To further ensure safety while exploring spiritual lessons, each youth has been provided with their own bin of supplies – crayons, markers, scissors, glue, etc.

In our lessons, our youth have always been loving lead to explore and express their unique, loving Christ spirit and will continue to do so this new school year by their respective "Angel" teachers/aides: Missy McDonald, Susan Korpan, Sami Fletcher, Children's Church; Jen King, Juniors; and Dawn Staszak, Uniteens. I will continue to direct and provide lessons for the entire Youth Program as well as lead the Y.O.U. (high school teens). Our youth and I are so immensely thankful to all our teachers and aides who have graciously stepped forward in offering their loving commitment to our youths' spiritual endeavors! We are so blessed! Amen!

Blessings to all,

Ms. Mary, LUT, CSE

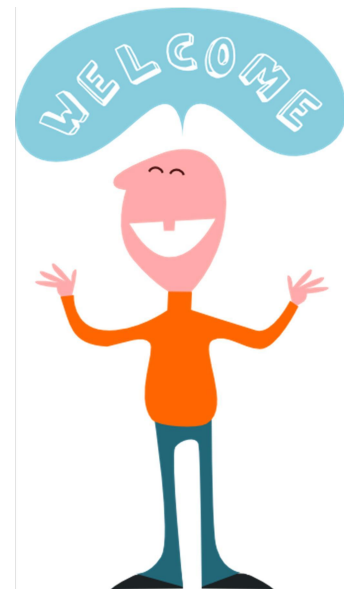
marynowroozi@comcast.net

Usher/Greeter Ministry

IMPORTANT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!!!

**WE ARE REBUILDING THIS VOLUNTEER MINISTRY AND
NEED YOUR HELP!!**

Who is usually the first person you see when entering the church service? It is one of our Greeters! Why? Why are they there? What function do they serve? Ask yourself what is the feeling that you have upon being warmly welcomed by one of our Greeters. If you are a newcomer walking in for the first time, that first impression of warmth and welcoming sets the tone for your experience. Now ask yourself what it would feel like if that person wasn't there each Sunday to greet you?



We need volunteers to join this ministry team (and it truly is a ministering position) who will commit to one or two Sundays a month. It is probably one of the easiest and most rewarding teams to be a part of. **If this speaks to your heart, please contact Joey Nelson, tyloredurden@aol.com or Bobbi Severson, bsever4785@gmail.com.** You would be blessing your church community with your time and talents but in return you would be receiving so much more!!

Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



Every Thursday, 10:30 am, on the Church Lawn
There will be NO Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me on September 9th
Please join us at the [World Day of Prayer](#)

Please come and join us! Bring with you a lawn chair, 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.

If we get rained out, we will just bring it inside so don't let the rain stop you!

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Mike: 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.

Healing & Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

IN PERSON, Friday, September 3rd, 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

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

Online Sunday Services

SUNDAY SERVICES

Every Sunday, 10:00 am, In Person & Online

Dear UFV Family & Friends,

Come and join us as we explore wherever God and Spirit may lead us. Our coming together is an affirmation to answer that call collectively.

Part of our responsibility in answering that call is a mindfulness of the world around us, and doing what we can to insure the safety and well-being of all who join in our Sunday worship.

Accordingly, as we welcome one another, we also remind everyone to adhere to the [Covid Protocols](#) that have been set in place. These include that it is mandatory for everyone in attendance to wear a mask, and to refrain from contact while in the church building. Your understanding and cooperation will contribute to being able to continue to meet in person. If you cannot attend the service in person, you still can be a part of it by tuning in to our YouTube channel. All you have to do is click [here](#).

Whether you opt to join us in person or online, we look forward to having you with us.

Peace,

Rev. Mike

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

Online Sunday School



Every Sunday, 11:30 am, In Person

We are welcoming youth of all age groups to join us for an hour of uplifting spiritual connection through prayer, story, meditation, songs, game, and craft:

Nursery (3 months to age 2)

Children's Church (ages 3 to 6 – preschool to 1st grade)

Juniors (ages 7 to 10 – 2nd to 5th grade)

Uniteens (ages 11 to 13 – 6th to 8th grade)

Y.O.U. (ages 14 to 18 – 9th to 12th grade)

Parents are welcome to join in on the fun, too!

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

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

Online Bhagavad Gita Class

Bhagavad Gita Class



1st & 3rd Sundays, 1:30 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.

Office Closed



Monday, September 6th

The Church Office will be closed. Enjoy the day off!

Men's Group



1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Online

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

Newcomers are ALWAYS welcome!

Zoom login information will be forthcoming or you may contact the church office for more information: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

If you have trouble accessing the meeting, please contact

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

We are asking you to use your 1st & last names for your Zoom account.

Please click [here](#) for instructions.

Online Raffle

FUN  **unity** of Fox Valley
draising

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.

World Day of Prayer



Unity celebrates the 28th Annual World Day of Prayer

Wednesday, September
8th, [online](#)
Thursday, September 9th,
at our church

As we unite hearts and minds
with people from around the globe,
this year we are affirming together:

***No matter the circumstances,
all is well with my soul.***

Prayer Requests:

There are three ways to turn in your Prayer Requests.

- Submit your Prayer Request straight to Unity Worldwide Ministries. Just click [here](#)!
- Write your Prayer Request on the orange paper by the Prayer Box & place it in the Prayer Box. The church office will send it on September 2nd to the Village.
- Email your Prayer Request to the Church Office **by September 2nd, 11am** & we will get it to the Village: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

Please click [here](#) to take you to the World Day of Prayer website.

Church Office

September 13th - 16th



Our Business Manager, Kathleen will be out on vacation the entire week of September 13th. The office will be open in an abbreviated capacity (volunteers will cover the office). If you need her for anything, please contact her ASAP or please wait till her return the week after. The office will be manned during office hours so please CALL if you should need anything. 630-879-1115. All emails will be answered when she returns on Monday, September 20th.

New Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 am to 4 pm



Prayer Chaplain Ministry

As you read this month's newsletter, if everything took place as hoped and planned, we will have had the first [Sunday service](#) in our church home in almost a year and a half and begun live-streaming to be available for our long distance congregants. Considering our personal experiences and all that is happening in our world - physically, socially, politically



- I wonder how many of us are ready to declare all that has happened since the early months of 2020 as being in *Divine Order*...

As you may have already guessed, our **Power this month is Order!** For many of us in Unity, the belief in Divine Order can be difficult to apply in all areas of our experiences. Finding a parking place right in front of your destination, well, of course that's *divine order*! But what about that dent in your bumper from the driver who hit you trying to maneuver into the space behind you? Was that *divine order*?

The world, and our lives, is full of contradictions. To quote Rev. Paul John Roach in the Unity Booklet, *How to Stay Centered, No Matter What*, "The universe, and humankind's understanding of it, is constantly unfolding... Particle or wave, Spirit or matter, order or chaos? In our new understanding, we do not have to choose one or the other. Both nest together like the Taoist symbol of yin-yang - undifferentiated potential and manifested energy.

How can we deepen our understanding of divine order?

Prayer and Meditation!

***Understanding divine order,
I can embrace paradox and navigate chaos
while keeping my balance***

Your Prayer Chaplains, Eliza Sutherland, Wanda Faye Holmes, Carl Klemaier, Maria Cosentino, Mary Nowroozi, Denise Hage, 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 using our creative powers to shape our life, we encourage you to keep on taking good care of yourselves 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 after Service each Sunday.

Blessings and hugs,
Bobbi and Marie

A Prayer of Order

There is an established order in the universe.

It is because of order, not chance, that the earth orbits the sun in a precise rhythm and why there is a pattern in nature. Even my physical development from fetus to adulthood unfolded sequentially according to the divine pattern.

I am not here by chance. There can be no random events in my life. I claim divine order in the midst of circumstances that appear chaotic.

Aligned with the divine pattern of perfection at the center of my being, divine adjustment occurs in a harmonious way at the circumference of my life.

— Rev. Claudia Fletcher of Kingston, Jamaica
(in the Booklet, *How to Stay Centered, No Matter What*)

Volunteer Ministry

GRATITUDE FILLS MY HEART!! We are so fortunate to have the Spiritual Home and Family that we have. We had a wonderful [Annual Picnic](#) that could not have happened without our [Music Team](#), [Sound Team](#), [Men's Group](#), and many volunteers that made this fun event happen. It was our first time getting together in person in what seems forever!! Even though it was a little different bringing our own sack lunch, we had fun sharing treats and lunches!! I heard much



laughter and many long overdue conversations!! Thank you again to all of you that came and all of you that brought it all together!!

As I write this article, plans have been in progress for the opening of the church on August 29th. I know it will be WONDERFUL, REFRESHING, AND NEW!!! We have volunteers that will make this a memorable service as always!! I am sorry that I will be missing it, but I will be on my annual vacation to Washington State to spend time with my Son and his family. You all will be in my heart and in my prayers and I will be with you in Spirit and maybe via live stream!! Many hours and dedication went into making that happen too!! We are so grateful for all the volunteers that are making that possible.

Don't forget the [World Day of Prayer](#) on September 8th and the [Healing Service](#) on September 3rd. Both are spiritual opportunities to send healing energy to our World, while holding peace and love in our hearts for every living thing from People to Planet Earth.

**"I MAKE THE FAITH-FILLED CHOICE TO BELIEVE IN THE GOODNESS OF GOD
REFLECTED IN THE HEART OF HUMANITY, EXPRESSING AS HEALING, HARMONY,
ABUNDANT LIFE, AND PERFECT GUIDANCE" DW 7/12/21**

I hope you will hold that prayer in your heart and have a wonderful September!!

In gratitude and love!!!

Bobbi Severson

bsever4785@gmail.com

Green Team



Every day should be Earth Day, not just April 22 each year, if we are serious about improving a livable Earth. There are many paths to improvements. Here are a few suggestions:

- Recycle
- Reuse bags
- Take notes electronically

- Walk more, or use bikes more
- Do not buy bottled water
- Decrease meat consumption
- Think Green
- Be creative and add your own themes

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

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

Just Ask Ministry



***Ask and you shall receive.
People Prospering People!***

Do you need something? Do you have
something to offer? Let us know!

churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

CURRENT OFFERINGS:

-

CURRENT REQUESTS:

-

***Please click [here](#) to follow up with any
of the above or for more info.***

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



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/lr/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.**

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.

This past August, my family & I dressed up and went to the [Bristol Renaissance Faire](#). Last year it was shut down & understandably so! My husband Galen, my daughter, Ava &

her friend also dressed up. If you would like to see better pictures of my outfit and theirs, you can click on my photo or my name below and it will take you to my Instagram page. (FYI - This is my personal IG account. Although it is quite tame, please know that I do not censor it for anyone.)



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

[Forward This Email](#)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

A Note about Unsubscribing: If you unsubscribe to any email you receive from UFV, you will no longer receive any email notifications from us - including Sunday Service links.

