



December 2021

Ministerial Musings

I saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus

I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus is a Christmas classic. Originally it was recorded way back in 1952 by the artist, Jimmy Boyd. Since then it has been rerecorded by many artists, and it has stuck as a Christmas staple that has been sung and enjoyed by people of all ages. My personal favorite was the rock version by John Mellencamp.

As we move further into the Christmas season, the song offers a lesson to ponder. That is, what is it that we see as the decorations and celebrations flourish as Christmas draws nearer. I do not recall if the youngster who witnessed mommy's "transgression" was a boy or a girl. For this article, I arbitrarily will go with a girl. She came to her conclusion because her own frame of reference was first that Santa was real, and second that daddy was not Santa.

The mistake is not as farfetched as it seems at first glance. A few years ago, I crashed a small party that Susan was hosting for a group of lady friends. I came dressed as Santa and was accompanied by one my elves played by my granddaughter, and I brought a small sack that contained gifts for everybody. When I presented Susan with her gift, she sat on my lap and gave me a big kiss. One of her friends asked another friend, "Why is Susan kissing that guy like that?" So, there you go.

One of the things that make the song so fun are the hints it contains: "He walks like daddy, talks like daddy and has the same brown eyes. And underneath his suit he wore one of daddy's ties. He was smoking just like daddy, spilling ashes over mommy's floor." But the little girl who snuck down to have a peek, couldn't get by the Santa outfit.

It makes us smile, but how often do our own perspectives cloud things and prevent us from seeing what is real? Our first inclination is to focus on what is immediately in front of

us and bypass the real deal. It is so easy to get mesmerized by the red suit, the bright lights, the presents under the tree and whatever, that we overlook that, “It walks like Spirit, talks like Spirit, and has the same Spirit’s eyes” part. (We’re doing metaphors here. Give me some latitude.)

This does not mean that Santa does not have a proper place in the Christmas mystery. It doesn’t mean that we should not “Ooo and Ahh” over the bright lights or decorations. On the contrary, we need the tangibles. It just means we should be mindful that they serve as reminders of the significance of the miracle of our humanity converging with the divine. It is what is under the red suit that defines us.



Peace,

Rev. Mike

revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

To begin the holidays for this month, the youth will be celebrating the **Power of Life** by exploring the birth of Jesus as depicted in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Through these stories as well as through prayers, meditations and crafts, the youth will reflect on how these narratives of Jesus’ birth are metaphysically the unfolding story of our own inner spiritual growth and understanding.

The youth will empower that metaphysical understanding of the Christ Light born in each one of us through their presentation of their renowned, annual Christmas Pageant, and this year, back in person! Yeah! The title is [A Christmas to Remember](#) with respect to Unity’s Advent Theme for this year and will be held on **Sunday, December 12, during the 10 am service.**

Throughout the presentation, we will continue to maintain proper safety protocols by wearing masks and safe social-distancing; however, in order for the congregation to fully listen and enjoy the performance, the youth will be wearing *clear* masks (the same ones

the Music Team wears). Hooray! Thank you, Kitty Karn, our Music Director, for that helpful suggestion!

We encourage the youth of all ages to participate by completing a participation form that is available downstairs in the Youth Ed area. Forms have already been emailed to all parents as well. Our first *rehearsal* is scheduled for *Sunday, December 5*, during the 10 am class time; and, *dress rehearsal* will be on *Saturday, December 11, at 9 am*. Any questions/concerns, please contact me at marynowroozi@comcast.net.

The youth, teachers and I would be so delighted and appreciative to see you all there for we know that the Pageant will not only uplift your heart and soul but may likely bring tears of joy in your eyes. Have a box of tissues handy!

Blessings,
Mary Nowroozi, LUT, CSE
marynowroozi@comcast.net



Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



WE ARE DONE FOR THE SEASON!
Please look for the announcement of when we will reconvene.

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

**The Friday, December 3rd Healing & Wholeness Service is
cancelled.**

Please join us on Friday, January 7th.

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

This Service will not be [Live Streamed](#).

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

Christmas Decorating



Service of Remembrance



Sunday School



Every Sunday, 10:00 am

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.

Secret Santa



If you are late with delivering your gift in time, please contact Wanda Faye Holmes: geminiangoddess2000@yahoo.com

Please click [here](#) for the Secret Santa Instructions

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.

Online 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.

Christmas Pageant



Unity of Fox Valley

Christmas Pageant

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 12th | 10AM SERVICE

Unity of Fox Valley's Christmas Pageant will soon be here! This year's title is **A Christmas to Remember**. The Pageant will be very spiritual, memorable and heartwarming as it will reflect on Unity's metaphysical teachings of the Nativity story.

We encourage the youth of all ages to partake in this delightful, meaningful play by completing a participation form that is available downstairs in the Youth Ed area. Speaking and non-speaking roles of the youths' choice will be determined the week of November 28 through December 4, and rehearsals are scheduled for Sunday, December 5, during the 10 am class time and for Saturday, December 11, at 9 am.

***We appreciate the youth and their parents for their support,
envisioning this Pageant amazing as always!***



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

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.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



This Service will not be [Live Streamed](#).

Holy Night Meditation: A Walk in the Silence



Holy Night Meditation: A Walk in The Silence

**Friday, December 24th, 8pm to
Saturday, December 25, 10am**

Christmas is upon us. Given the ever quickening pace of life and in the midst of so much confusion, conflict and uncertainty in the world, Christmas invites us to take a breath and focus on the wonder of Emmanuel - God with us. This year Unity of Fox Valley invites you to share in the miracle of the birthing of the Christ in a very meaningful way.

On Christmas Eve we will have our traditional Candlelight Service. Following the service we will be doing an overnight Holy Night Meditation. We invite you to sign up for a time slot in which you will sit in the silence and hold sacred space mindful of the Christmas miracle in which we are immersed. If you do not wish to sign up for a specific time, you are most welcome to come and sit at any time for as long as you wish.

On this special Holy Night, you also are welcome through the night to do a prayerful Walk in the Silence. We will have a labyrinth set up on the lower level of the church. This is a different mindful experience of prayer, and will be available following our Candlelight Service and continue through the night until Christmas morning.

We hope you can join us at least in part if not for all of these opportunities to celebrate Christmas in a prayerful and meaningful way.

For more information, please contact John DuRocher: jbdurocher@sbcglobal.net

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

World Healing Meditation



On December 31, 1986, noon Greenwich time, people around the world gathered to participate in the most comprehensive prayer activity – a planetary affirmation of peace and love, forgiveness and understanding in a simultaneous global prayer link to achieve a critical mass of spiritual consciousness.

Thus was the birth of World Healing Day or World Peace Day. Whatever the term or label, it was a new beginning in restoring this world. It is a moment of oneness to dissolve the sense of separation and return humankind to Godkind.

Today this positive consciousness is practice and celebrated throughout December with the cumulation of positive energy waving over the planet and all its inhabitants on World Healing Day when millions of people gather together as one to usher in a new era of peace and love on earth.

Please contact Marge Orchard with any questions or for more info:

margeorchard@gmail.com

This Service will not be [Live Streamed](#).

Prayer Chaplain Ministry

December is here! Advent has just begun; Hanukkah, which started November 28th, ends on December 6th; St. Nicholas Day will be celebrated by some on December 6th; the 21st we will experience the Winter Solstice (I will celebrate the increase of light beginning on



the 22nd); the 25th, of course, is Christmas Day; Kwanzaa celebrations will be on the 26th; and New Year's Eve is the 31st. A month full of festivities!

This month we are celebrating our 12th Power, Life! With this inherent gift we can express the eternal activity of God, within and all around us!

In the Unity Booklet that I have been quoting from this past year, *How to Stay Centered, No Matter What*, Rev. Sandra Wayne Campbell illustrated the truth that “we can choose the perspective from which we view life.” She used John 10:10 to highlight Jesus’ explanation of these different perspectives. “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

In Rev. Campbell's metaphysical translation she says, “I believe the thief represents our negative, limited thoughts and beliefs that steal our joy, kill our faith, and destroy our zest for life...The second part of the scripture reminds us that life is good and we can stay centered on our abundance of good no matter what.”

There's another anniversary we are celebrating this month at Unity of Fox Valley, the 20th anniversary of our Prayer Chaplain Ministry! The first training class “graduated” 12 Chaplains in December of 2001. Throughout these 20 years approximately 50 UFV members have lovingly served our spiritual community as Prayer Chaplains. We are grateful! We are blessed!

Your Prayer Chaplains - Eliza Sutherland, Wanda Faye Holmes, Maria Cosentino, Mary Nowroozi, Denise Hage, Bobbi Severson and Marie Manella - are committed to making periodic Wellness/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.

On behalf of all your Chaplains, we pray that this Season of Light be a time of celebration and merriment as well as a time of reflection as you use all of your creative powers to shape your your life! And we invite you to keep on taking good care of yourselves. And if, during this season of excitement, joy, hustle and bustle, you experience conflicting feelings because of “no matter what's” happening in your life, we are here to pray with you

as you navigate the holiday season. Remember, Prayer Chaplains are available after the service each Sunday, too!

Blessings and hugs,
Bobbi and Marie

The Prayer of Protection

I have a choice every single day!

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.

I choose to feel blessed!

I choose to feel grateful!

I choose to feel joy!

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.

I choose to be excited!

I choose to be thankful!

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.

I choose to be happy!

~Amber Housley

(Adapted from the Booklet, *How to Stay Centered, No Matter What*)

~ James Dillet Freeman

Volunteer Ministry

Taking Megan's advice, I decided to see what GOOGLE had to say about volunteering and here is what I found. ***"Volunteering is important because it enables individuals to help others in a selfless way"*** and ***"volunteering helps counteract the effects of stress, anger, and anxiety"***. This must be

why we have so many happy, stress free congregants here at UFV.

You have blessed us this past year in being so generous with your time, talents, and energy!!



DECEMBER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- **DECEMBER 4TH, 10am Christmas Decorating**: we will be decorating our Spiritual Home for Christmas and invite you to join us as we dust off the decorations and beautify our "House". Our favorite saying, "many hands make for light work".
- **DECEMBER 5TH Secret Santa**: all CASA gifts are to be delivered to the church. Thank you to everyone that took tags to brighten a child's Christmas this year. You may also donate gift cards if you were not able to secure a tag. Just drop them in the box next to the CASA tree at the back of the church.
- **DECEMBER 12TH, 10am YOUTH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**: Thank you to Mary, all the Youth and Parents for gifting us with this beautiful Sunday Service!!
- **DECEMBER 19TH, 10am PRAYER CHAPLAIN DEDICATION**: We are so blessed with our Prayer Chaplain Ministry now in our 20th year!!
- **DECEMBER 24TH, 7pm CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**
- **DECEMBER 24th 8pm to December 25th, 10am HOLY NIGHT MEDITATION - A WALK IN THE SILENCE**: Thank you to John DuRocher for organizing this event and giving us the gift of silent time, reflection and renewal.
- **DECEMBER 31ST, 6am WORLD HEALING MEDITATION**: Contact Marge Orchard at margeorchard@gmail.com if you would like to be a participant at this beautiful, contemplative service.
- **JANUARY 4TH, 11am CHRISTMAS UNDECORATING** after the service. What goes up, must come down! Please stay and help with this project!!

ONGOING VOLUNTEER NEEDS:

- **Audio Visual and Sound Support**: Does being behind the scenes intrigue you? Learn how to do the [YouTube](#) live streaming for the Sunday service. You will be trained by the best, Warren and Rick!!!
- **Platform Decorator**: We are in need of someone who likes to be creative and make all things beautiful to change out the platform decorations for each season. We have people willing to help, but we need a "take charge person" to coordinate this team. Please feel free to contact Bobbi to answer any of your questions.
- **Greeting Team**: Greet our congregants and guests each Sunday with a warm welcome and make them feel at home!

*Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
May your year be abundantly blessed, safe, and joy-filled!!*

Bobbi Severson

bsever4785@gmail.com

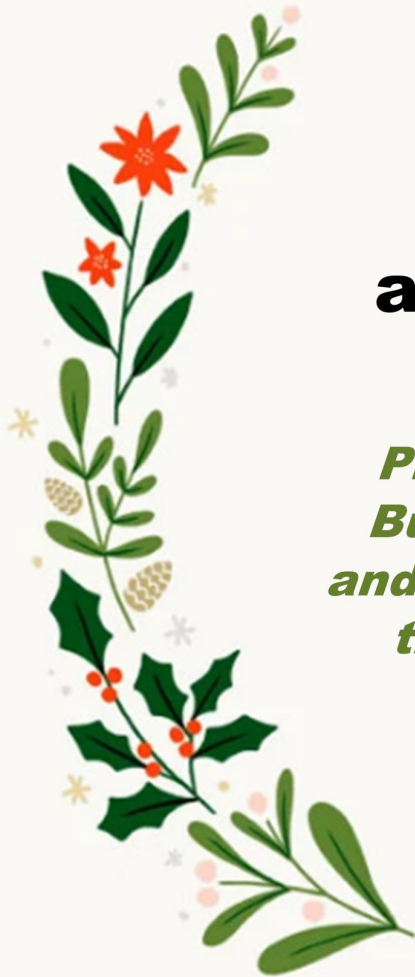
Christmas Un-Decorating

Christmas UN-Decorating

**Sunday,
January 2nd,
after the Service**

***Please stay after the
Burning Bowl Service
and help us UN-Decorate
the church from it's
Christmas Decor!***

**More hands make
quick work!**



Just Ask Ministry

CURRENT OFFERINGS:

- 24" x 39" Wall Calendar. Click [here](#) for a photo. There are 3 Wall Calendars available. Take one or all. Located in the Church Office Mailbox.

churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org 10/27/21



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

Do you need something? Do you have something to offer? Let us know!
churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

Please reach out to the contact person directly. The church will not be managing any transactions.

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

CURRENT REQUESTS:

- I need cotton t-shirts (as underwear, logo shirts, etc.); any size, any condition (tears, stains, etc.), If you don't have any now, please save for future pickup. Many thanks. Sharon

Mays: sharon_mays@comcast.net 630.479.2982 11/15/21

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



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](https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=44UC5B8W64KBQ) 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

A section in the Newsletter to fill you in on some of the fun doings of our Business Manager, Kathleen Malick.



We have been in a whirl of applying for colleges. The institutions she has been applying to... well let's just say that the tuition is eye-opening! And this kid of mine is WORTH EVERY PENNY! Stay tuned for her final decision!

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. As I write this, I am chin deep in work. It's the busy season for the church and it doesn't relent till Easter. Lots and lots of details that no one sees and that is good! That means things are running smoothly!

If you click on my photo or my name below and it will take you to my Instagram page for more photos of my life. (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

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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.

