



January 2022

Ministerial Musings

All Aboard!

The past couple of years will be regarded in U.S. and global history as truly remarkable. Before 2020 the world never would have believed that we were as susceptible to a pandemic the likes of which we have experienced. One would have thought that the events in U.S. politics the last couple of years were possible only from the imaginings of a Hollywood script. Across the globe countries that thought they were immune to violence and terrorism are now forced to deal with these realities. And then there is global warming, unless of course you think that this is a hoax of some kind.

Closer to home, we have had to deal with shortages and delays of delivery more than any generation since WWII. There are not just debates about wearing masks and vaccinations, but open confrontations over them. In many cases relationships between close friends and family members have suffered and terminated.

We long for stability. It is almost as if there is a sense of gratitude in the resumption of the cold war and those breakouts of warfare here and there in various hotspots in the world. Through it all the markets have remained stable to the amazement even of financial advisers. And of course, there always is television – thank God!

However, if we can just manage to peek a bit over the blankets under which we have been hiding, we may be able to see at least a bit of opportunity in all of the chaos. Through it all Spirit never abandons its creation. Even if global warming eventually is manifested at its worst, Spirit is patiently relentless and will continue to move over the earth. As bad as things may be or seem, common sense tells us that practically the whole world is in much better shape than when we lived in caves thousands of years ago.

On our part we just have to decide to get on board with that Spiritual train that never gets derailed and always keeps moving forward. If we pay closer attention to all creation and all life, we will grow in our awareness that we are here for a reason. That is, we are to bloom and blossom as prescribed by both our physical and especially our Spiritual DNA. The problems facing our nation and the world are enormous. Eventually, they will be resolved one way or another. What things will look like will be a reflection of if and how each of us decides to get on board or not.

I for one am wildly enthusiastic about 2022. If even one more person in the world chooses love over fear, it will be a great year with our humanity aligning a bit more closely with our divinity. Sounds simple? Being who and what you truly are is only as complicated as we make it.



Peace,

Rev. Mike

revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

Another fabulous year has ended, and we were so blessed to have been back physically in our church with our Unity Family for the last few months of 2021. Being back had provided a wonderful opportunity for the youth, along with the loving participation of several parents, to present their annual, renowned, Christmas Pageant! They all were undeniably fabulous! I applaud in deep appreciation each and every one of them, as well as the Music Team, and our Minister, Business Manager, Tech/Sound Crew and several other congregants that shared their time and talent to make the metaphysical telling of the Nativity Story outstanding and memorable. We all are so truly blessed and grateful!

Now, as we continue to be physically in our church and the New Year has rolled in, we will start it on *Sunday, January 2*, with the youth of all age groups as well as their

teachers/parents participating in our traditional [Burning Bowl/White Stone Ceremony](#).

We will begin this morning with a time of meditation, reflecting on intangible and tangible things, such as fears and staying up too late, respectively, that we sense are no longer needed in our lives. After that time, we will write down on flash paper those things we wish to release and then lovingly toss them into a trash can (obviously no fire necessary for downstairs). *The White Stone Ceremony* will then begin with another meditation, concluding with everyone writing down on individual, small, white stones one or two new, positive words or concepts that we envision to manifest in the coming year. What a wonderful way to begin the New Year!

To further begin 2021 on a *powerful* note, the youth will be exploring the **Power of Faith**. The color for this Power is **Dark Blue** and the **Disciple is Peter**. This power is the absolutely perfect one to kick-off not only the New Year, but to further enhance the other eleven Powers for the rest of the year! To broaden our understanding of the Power of Faith and its relationship to our spiritual beliefs, we will be exploring several Miracles of Jesus, such as his turning water into wine and his healing of the paralyzed man. What an opportune time to think about in gratitude for the miracles in our lives as well!

In closing, I express my sincere gratitude to all of you for your loving support and encouragement for the youth in our program.



Blessings,

Mary Nowroozi, LUT, CSE

marynowroozi@comcast.net

Burning Bowl & White Stone Ceremony



Sunday, January 2nd, 10am

The Burning Bowl and White Stone Service has been a tradition for our congregation seeking spiritual direction as a way of letting go that which is no longer needed so that we are open and receptive to experience new, enriching spiritual opportunities for the New Year!

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

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.

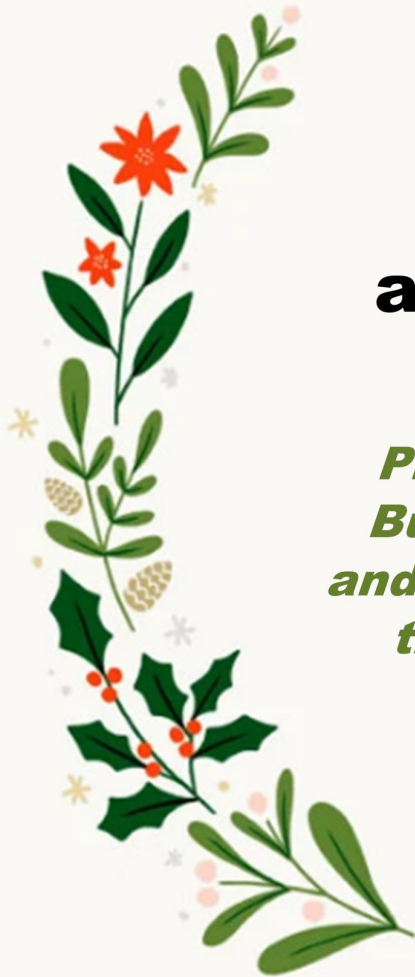
Christmas Un-Decorating

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!**



Dear Congregants,

It's not too early to look forward to the sanctuary Christmas decorations for 2022. Some of our decorations have served us well but now look tired. We're thinking of a few changes to the look and atmosphere for next season. To accomplish it without additional expense and minimizing waste, if you have Christmas decorations that you will not be using again, please consider donating to our Unity.

1. Items appropriate for use/display in our church.
2. Items like new or gently used.
3. Due to storage constraints at the church, an announcement will be made next November with details.
4. Unused items will not be returned to the donor but rather passed on to charities in need.

Thank you for holding on to items one more year.

Undecorating Volunteers,

Undecorating will be done on Jan. 2nd after the Service. Please gather in front rows of the sanctuary for team organizational meeting.

Blessings,

Unity Decorating Team

Online 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.

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

Friday, January 7th, 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

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

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

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.

Subscribe to our
You Tube Channel

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.

UNITY OF FOX VALLEY

Volunteer Fair

Sundays, January 23rd & 30th
After the Service

*We will be having our
Volunteer sign up!*



*We are so blessed by our many
volunteers and want you to
know just how grateful we are
for your time and talent!*

**Please stop by and see what
interests you and sign up. Even
if you are currently on a team, we
would like you to sign up again.**

For more info., please contact Bobbi Severson: bsever4785@gmail.com

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

Prayer Chaplain Ministry

Happy New Year!



Welcome 2022! Although life returned to a semblance of normalcy during 2021, and many of us celebrated Christmas last month much the way we did before Covid, as this new year begins the world is still in the midst of a continuing pandemic. Many people, even now, face much uncertainty and ongoing controversy about the methods being used to contain it. Those of us consciously following a spiritual path are blessed with tools which we can use to help us navigate the challenges that life presents to us.

Unity's 2021 Advent booklet, *A Christmas to Remember*, reminds us that the hope that keeps us moving ahead through uncertain times inspires the "faith that life is unfolding in an orderly way; that peace, love, and joy are more enduring..." and can help "us adapt to a time we never imagined having to live through."

The author of this piece, Rev. Teresa Burton, goes on to say that "Hope was a good place to start, but it could only take us so far" and that we need to use our "faith to see ourselves and one another through." She quoted 1 Corinthians 16:13,

**Keep alert, stand firm in your faith,
Be courageous, be strong.**

As we begin the first month of this new year, our Prayer Chaplain Ministry invites you to hold a glimmer of *hope* for the desires of your heart **and** hold the *faith* that the good you seek is already yours.

Your Prayer Chaplains, Wanda Faye Holmes, 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.

Blessings and hugs,
Bobbi and Marie

The Prayer of Protection

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.

~ *James Dillet Freeman*

The Prayer of Faith

God is my help in every need;
God does my every hunger feed;
God walks beside me, guides my way
Through every moment of the day.

I now am wise, I now am true,
Patient, 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

~ **Hannah More Kohaus**

Volunteer Ministry

Finally we were able to decorate our church for our Christmas Services and we could not have done it without all of our elves!! We are so grateful to ALL that helped make us beautiful for the season!!



Thank you to Ms. Mary and all of her helpers for a beautiful song filled, inspirational pageant.

We have such remarkable kids that always brighten our Spiritual family with this special service. You bless us with your time and talents!!! Thank you Kids, YOU ROCKED IT!!

WHAT GOES UP, MUST COME DOWN!! Please join us after the Sunday Service on **January 2nd** for the [Christmas Undecorating](#). As we always say, many hands make light work!!

Let's hope this time it really happens!! We are planning our [VOLUNTEER FAIR](#) on two **Sundays in January, the 23rd and the 30th**. This will give you an opportunity to see the

Volunteer Ministries that might speak to your heart and your talents. So sign up to be on one (or more) of our teams. This helps us plan our events and who our go to people are!! Our Volunteer Ministries are a key support to this Spiritual Community and we thank each and everyone of you who have served in years past. You bless and amaze us with what we can accomplish!!!

So as we begin our year, I share this quote from Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's poem called "Commitment" It not only applies to community and church commitments, but also how we might approach our life.

."THAT the moment one definitely commits oneself then Providence moves too.

All sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred.

A whole stream of events issues from the decision raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents and meetings and material assistance which no one could have dreamed would have come their way.

Whatever you can do or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it.

Begin it now....."

Begin to think about how you want to show up for life this year. Our world as we knew it was turned upside down at the beginning of 2020. Chaos and uncertainty was revealed, but so was compassion and kindness. So, I ask myself, what can I do to make 2022 a little brighter, a little safer, a better universe for future generations. Thoughts to ponder. . .

***MAY THE NEW YEAR GRACE YOU
WITH ABUNDANT BLESSINGS!!!!***

Bobbi Severson
bsever4785@gmail.com

Just Ask Ministry

CURRENT OFFERINGS:



***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.

- 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

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.

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](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.



This is a photo of Galen and I after we changed a flat tire on the highway, 1 mile from the Illinois/Missouri border. As you can guess, I got a bonus gift of new tires for my ride this Christmas. HA HA HA!



Thank you UFV for another wonderful year! This church continues to bless my family and I and I am always grateful. Always humbled by the blessings we have received.

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](#)

If you click on my photo or my name above, 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.)

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.
- [**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.

