



February 2022

## Ministerial Musings



If you were asked for to spout off ten songs about love or songs that have “love” in the title, I am guessing you manage this in less than 30 seconds, certainly less than a minute. Go ahead give it a try. Alternatively, time yourself and see how many you can come up with in a full minute. It’s a fun exercise.

I know it sounds crazy, but love is on our minds even when we are not thinking about it. Historically, love in one form or another overwhelmingly has been the topic of the vast majority of hit records to make the top forty, and this continues on even today. There is puppy love, lost love, love at first sight, love making the world go round, can’t live without you love, you were made for me love, can’t help falling in love love, money can’t buy me love love, love hurts love and hundreds of other sub-categories.

And why not? Love is that harmonizing power that we have, the ability to not just understand but to feel the Oneness which we all share. It is no wonder then that on those occasions when we might find love hard to find, we feel disconnected and isolated. As painful as those times might be to experience, those times actually might be of some real

value. They can serve a Divine purpose. Rather than to go wrongfully to a place of, "I'm not lovable," we can go in the opposite direction. When "love hurts," we can instead affirm that it is part of our spiritual and human natures that we are both lovable and here to love.

We can point to manifestations of love as examples of love, but as is the case with God it is impossible to fully define it. But who cares? The pursuit of love, which is best achieved by being loving, is a pursuit filled with wonder and discovery and joy and peace; and yes, sometimes pain. I once asked a friend who was expressing a lot of cynicism, "Haven't you ever been in love?" He answered, "Yes, hundreds of times, but things never worked out. But, I'm sure I will fall in love again." His response made me smile. With all due respect to Simon and Garfunkle, "I am a rock," is a bad idea.

The Oneness is all encompassing. No one is separated or apart from it no matter what. This Valentine's Day is a good time to exercise the power of love by expressing it. If only I had a t-shirt with a bullseye where my heart is, and the words, "Hey Cupid, aim here!" Oh well, I guess I'll just have to be the best Valentine I can be.

Peace,

Rev. Mike

[revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org](mailto:revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org)

## Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

For the month of February, the youth and teachers will reflect on the "**Power of Love**". The color **Pink** and **the disciple John** are associated with this Power. The Juniors will create a group **Pink** Power Board filled with affirmations and Bible verses all related to the concept of love. Lessons for the entire Youth Ed will focus on how love for one another is the core of our innate spiritual powers that binds us together as One. This concept will be enhanced by exploring the Bible stories of Jesus' miracles and parables such as *Jesus Feeding the 5000* and *The Parable of the Lost Sheep*, demonstrating the power of unconditional love and faith.

Speaking of the color **Pink**, I had the honor to officiate a Christening for one our youngest youth, *Amari Fonseca*, this past January, and the theme color for her celebration was **Pink**. It was a private ceremony held on a Saturday afternoon with family and a few close friends. Not only was it Amari's Christening, but it was also her 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday! I am deeply grateful that I was asked to lead this meaningful ceremony, and I appreciate the assistance from a few of our congregants. This was a perfect time to remember the truth of who we are as wonderful spiritual beings here for a special, joyful spiritual purpose.

To elaborate on that “special, joyful spiritual purpose”, I'd like to announce that our own [King Sisters](#) ~ *Aria, Rylee and Clarice* ~ will be sharing their musical talent for a special concert to be held on **Saturday, February 12, at 4 pm**. This event will be a fundraiser with a suggested love offering of \$15; however, please know that no one will be turned away. Thank you, King Sisters! We are looking forward to a fabulous time listening to what we are sure will be an amazing performance!



With deep gratitude and many blessings,  
Mary Nowroozi, LUT, CSE  
[marynowroozi@comcast.net](mailto:marynowroozi@comcast.net)

## 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](mailto:churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org)

If you have trouble accessing the meeting, please contact

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

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

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## 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](mailto:wwakerlin@aol.com)**

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

## Healing & Wholeness Service

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## HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

**Friday, February 4th, 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](mailto: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.

## 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](mailto:marynowroozi@comcast.net)**

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

## 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](mailto:colonelklay@yahoo.com)**

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

## King Sisters in Concert



**Saturday, February 12th, 4:00 PM**

***Unity of Fox Valley is delighted to offer a special concert!***

The fundraiser event will feature the musical talents of Aria, Rylee and Clarice King. Come and join us and treat yourself to an early Valentine's Day experience. All are welcome so please do bring along a friend.

The suggested love offering for this wonderful event is \$15.00  
but nobody will be turned away.

## **Prayer Chaplain Ministry**

A new month is beginning. The sun is rising earlier and setting later each day. And, so I've heard on the news, the Omicron surge is beginning to wane! These are just a few of the things that make *me* feel alive, awake, alert, joyous and enthusiastic about life!

How do *you* greet the day? What makes *you* feel alive, awake, alert, joyous and enthusiastic about *your* life?





During our first Sunday service in a new year we traditionally experience two rituals. In the first we release the past and what no longer serves us and in the second, during a meditation, we receive a “new name” to be worked with during the year. These are the [Burning Bowl and White Stone Ceremonies](#).

At our last [Prayer Chaplain](#) meeting, Bobbi presented us chaplains with a couple of questions that a yoga meditation had inspired in her: *What do I need? What do I need to release? What do I want to embrace and draw to me?* After a short meditation we were invited to write what came to mind - the “Hot Pen Method” of writing.

The purpose of these practices was to assist us in setting our intentions for the coming year. But we don’t have to wait for January to come around again to set new intentions. We can set our intentions each morning when we first wake up. We can renew ourselves in the moment, in any moment, through denials and affirmations, through prayer and meditation, through gratitude, through being grateful for what is...

**Breathing in I calm my body  
Breathing out I smile  
Thank You**

***Thich Nhat Hanh***

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 in 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](mailto:churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org) and a Prayer Chaplain will be in touch.

Blessings and hugs,  
Bobbi and Marie

**The light of God surrounds me;  
I AM light.  
The love of God enfolds me;  
I AM love.  
The power of God protects me;**

I AM power.  
**The presence of God watches over me;**  
I AM presence.  
**Wherever I am, God is!**  
I AM Divine.

## Volunteer Ministry



Another month already? One step closer to Spring and warmer weather!! Yay!!!

December and January are always busy months with decorating and undecorating. We were blessed to open our hearts and open our church to be here

physically for all of our traditional Holiday services. So, I want to give a shout out to everyone that pitched in and helped with making us beautiful and festive.

Speaking of decorating, we are so grateful for Sharon Mays who has stepped forward, and along with her team, will be responsible for the big job of platform changeover for each season!!! There is always so much that goes on behind the scenes that just gets done by our dedicated volunteers!

Thank you to everyone that signed up on our [Volunteer Sundays](#)! Some of the needs like the [Sacred Grounds Cafe](#) we haven't started back up due to COVID restrictions and the general overall safety of our Congregation; however, as soon as we open the cafe again, the head of this team will be in touch with you as far as needs and schedules are concerned.

We appreciate EVERYONE that has committed to again serve on one of our sacred service teams. Again, without your tithing of time and talent, we would not be able to get as much accomplished within our church community. SO, THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! If for some reason, you were not able to sign up during our Volunteer Fair, please feel free to email me [bsever4785@gmail.com](mailto:bsever4785@gmail.com), with any questions or the team you would like to serve with.

Don't forget about our [HEALING AND WHOLENESS](#) Service on Friday, February 4th! Start your month out by gifting yourself this hour of song, meditation and healing energy at work.

Since February is the month of LOVE, please know how much you are loved by the many ways in which you bless us with the gift of yourselves and your willingness to serve in the many ways you are needed!!

May we spread that love out into the universe to encourage peace and hope throughout our world!!

Bobbi Severson

[bsever4785@gmail.com](mailto:bsever4785@gmail.com)



## Spring Cleaning



**ALL AREAS!!** *There are a lot of items  
that we don't know who it belongs to!*

**START TAKING YOUR ITEMS HOME NOW!**

**Deadline is March 13th.**

**ALL unclaimed items will be  
taken to Goodwill on March 14th.**

Please contact Kathleen in the Church office with any questions:  
[churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org](mailto:churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org)

**Just Ask Ministry**

**CURRENT OFFERINGS:**

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**CURRENT REQUESTS:**

•



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

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

Do you need something? Do you have something to offer? Let us know!  
[churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](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.*

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Last month we took a long weekend and drove 1000+ miles to Georgia to do a college visit. As we toured the campus and heard what everyone had to say, it was clear that Ava belonged in Savannah College of Art and Design. There was nothing to protest. I paid the enrollment & housing fee and this fall, I will be packing up my only child to pursue her dreams of a career in Visual Effects. So next time you get up to leave after the movie - Shame on you! That could be my daughter's name scrolling up through the credits!

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](mailto:churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org)

fax: 630.879.1728 [www.unityoffoxvalley.org](http://www.unityoffoxvalley.org)

prayer line: 630.879.1129

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