



**March 2022**

## **Ministerial Musings**

### **When Irish Eyes Weren't Smiling**

With March comes the long-awaited spring. March also features March Madness, a really popular college basketball tournament on which millions of dollars are wagered. There is one more very special event in March, a holiday called St. Patrick's Day.

It is very interesting how the celebration of a saint particular to a nationality has become such a phenomenon in our culture. There are others of course like Cinco De Mayo, but celebrations around Cinco De Mayo tend to be more parochial. On St. Patrick's Day people of all backgrounds are wearing green and acting, well, very Irish. The festivities around St. Patty Day seem to take precedence even over Lenten influences.

But it wasn't always this way. More than one hundred and fifty years ago the Irish were despised in America. The refugees seeking haven in America were poor and disease-ridden. They threatened to take jobs away from Americans and strain welfare budgets. They practiced an alien religion and pledged allegiance to a foreign leader. They were bringing with them crime. They were accused of being rapists. (Sound familiar?) And, worst of all, these undesirables were Irish.

It was common for businesses in America to post job openings that include the phrase: "The Irish Need Not Apply." Acts of violence against the Irish were not uncommon. In one instance a Jesuit priest was dragged out into the open and literally tarred and feathered.

Hatred of the Irish was definitely focused. In the 1850's almost the same number of Germans immigrated to the U.S., but were assimilated very easily. Of course, the Germans weren't Catholic, and didn't come tethered to the pope.

Mostly through political paths, the Irish eventually would emerge. Not only would they become assimilated, they became politically prominent. Ironically, some Irish politicians looked and found their own targets of discrimination. Sad but true!

This bit of history is fascinating on many levels. Many people today do not understand that the targets of discrimination may be different but finding people to target is nothing new. As a people we can choose what we wish to take away from history. Watching how the Irish emerged from being hated to being celebrated brings hope to me.

Of course, there still is plenty of hatred, discrimination and racism to go around. There is a lot of work to do. As we raise our glasses to toast on St. Patrick's Day, let us drink (Affirm in Prayer) to all those who remain victims of fear. The real difference will come only when we learn that our differences truly are unique manifestations of the Christ. There is a leprechaun in each of us that can work this magic.



Peace,

Rev. Mike

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

## Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

As we move into the month of March with the promise of spring ahead, we continue to offer a safe, sacred space that empowers our youth of all ages to enthusiastically learn and apply Unity principles and philosophies in their lives.

For this month, the younger youth will explore the **Power of Strength** representing the color **Light Green** - think spring - and **the Disciple James**. As the Lenten Season begins in March and moves on into April, they will delve into Jesus' miracles and parables and how those stories enhance their own inner spiritual growth and understanding. Our older youth will also explore those parables as well as other Bible stories and age-appropriate contemporary readings to encourage them to trust their own inner spiritual guidance in enhancing their relationships with their families, friends and their community.

Speaking of parables, our youth and teachers will role-play the well-known parable *The Good Samaritan* at their annual **Intergenerational Service** on **Sunday, March 20**, during the **10 am** Service. This year's theme will be the catchy, familiar phrase "*Won't You Be My Neighbor?*" This service promises to be very whimsical, informative and inspirational

as it reflects on this particular parable in a whole new light! Youth and adults will partake in this Service to make this a most memorable, heartwarming event that we promise will surely touch your soul with a positive, uplifting message.



With much gratitude and deep 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

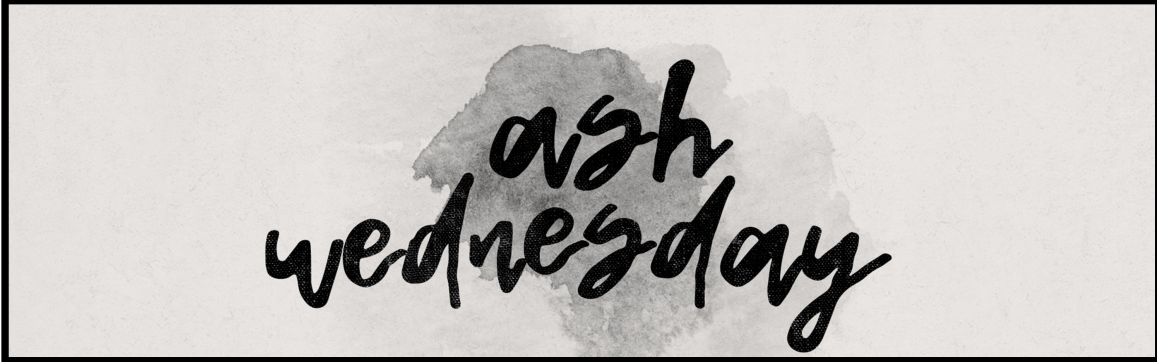
Zoom: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

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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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## Ash Wednesday



**Wednesday, March 2nd, 7:00pm**

Lent officially begins on Ash Wednesday.

Please mark your calendars.

Unity of Fox Valley will hold a special meditation service.

The Service will be officiated by Rev Mike.

This Service will not be Live Streamed.

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Easter Season 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](mailto:wwakerlin@aol.com)**

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

## Healing & Wholeness Service



## HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

**Friday, March 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.



**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.

## 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)

Healing & Wholeness Class



**Wednesdays, 6 weeks, March 16 - April 20,  
6:30-8:30 PM, ONLINE**

Unity began with a spiritual healing that was mediated through mind by application of principles. The first healing was followed by others and eventually Silent Unity and Unity Centers emerged. The healing practices and principles developed and applied by Myrtle and Charles are the basis of this course. Students will be working with the Fillmore's teachings on healing and wholeness, as well as with historical and contemporary master teachers. The principles will be presented to support students in developing a practical understanding of Unity theology as "heart-centered meta-physics."

**Facilitated by Maria Cosentino, L.U.T.      Love Offering appreciated  
All are welcome to attend!**

**Required Text/Readings:**

Texts can be purchased through [Amazon](#) or Unity Village bookstore. PDF downloads available through TruthUnity.net

- **How to Let God Help You** by Myrtle Fillmore (HGHY)  
Free download available at TruthUnity.net – Please click [here](#).
- [Healing Letters](#) by Myrtle Fillmore (HL)
- [Christian Healing](#) by Charles Fillmore (CH)

**Recommended Text/Readings:**

- [Jesus Christ Heals](#) by Charles Fillmore
- [The Quest for Wholeness](#) by Robert Brumet

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 for more info or to register: [mlcosentino@gmail.com](mailto:mlcosentino@gmail.com)

## Intergenerational Service



# Intergenerational Service

**Sunday, March 20th, 10 am**

Unity of Fox Valley Spiritual Sunday School will be presenting their annual Intergenerational Service. This service promises to be very whimsical, informative and inspirational as it reflects on the Parable of the Good Samaritan in a whole new light!

***Youth of all ages and adults as well will be involved to make this a most memorable service!***

For more info, please contact Mary Nowroozi:  
[marynowroozi@comcast.net](mailto:marynowroozi@comcast.net)

There will be NO [Sunday School](#) on March 20th.

# Prayer Chaplain Ministry



Early last month I was moved by the Daily Word entry for the 5th - Inner Peace. The affirmation on that day was, "I give thanks for the peace of God within." It was the 3rd paragraph that really resonated in my heart.

"Peace is mine to remember, to imagine, and to create. I am a child of God, inspired by the beauty of creation, calm and strong through my oneness with God. Mine is a peace I trust in, rely upon, and give thanks for. I am truly blessed."

Although, pandemic wise, things seem to be lightening up some, we continue to face confusion and disagreements about vaccinations and masking protocols. Inflationary prices for almost everything are affecting most of us. The political climate remains divisive in this country and, as I write this, a Russian invasion of Ukraine is imminent. Times that continue to call out to us to affirm our faith, renew our hope and know,

"Peace is *ours* to remember, to imagine, and to create."

Please join with our Prayer Chaplain Ministry in holding sacred space for each of us in our spiritual family and for our world. Together, let us open our minds and hearts to that one Presence and Power in the Universe, within and around *all*.

**I pray always to see others with eyes of love, hear them with the gift of understanding, and touch them with gentleness. Sweet Spirit, let there be peace on earth and let it begin with the peace and love and understanding in my heart."**

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 send an email to [churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org](mailto:churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org) and a Prayer Chaplain will be in touch.

Blessings and hugs,  
Marie and Bobbi

## Prayer of St. Francis

(Adapted by M. Manella)

Lord, I am grateful to be an instrument of Your peace  
Where there is hatred I affirm love.  
Where there is injury, pardon.  
Where there is doubt, faith.  
Where there is despair, hope.  
Where there is darkness, light.  
Where there is sadness, joy.  
O Divine Way Show-er, grant that I may  
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console  
To be understood, as to understand.  
To be loved. as to love  
For it's in giving that I receive  
It's in pardoning that I am pardoned  
And it's in surrendering that I open ...  
To eternal life.  
Amen...



## Volunteer Ministry



Do we dare hope for an early Spring? As I write this newsletter, the end of February is bringing us a glimpse of what can be and I am hopeful!! But of course, that's why they call it Spring, because it can change in a day and we can go from warm back to frigid!!

I must give a BIG SHOUT OUT to the King girls who entertained us with an amazing fundraiser [concert](#)!! Thank you to Jen & John & their Family members and extra church volunteers that were also available to lend support. The girls were amazing with their song selections, arrangements, and attention to detail, that brought us a much needed lifting of our spirits through music and love!! We are so grateful to Aria, Rylee, and Clarice (Reese) for sharing your gifts and talents!! You truly bless us!!

THANK YOU to everyone that volunteered to serve on one or more of our [Sacred Service Teams](#). Your chair person will contact you for a meeting, if necessary or an event where your time and talents will be needed. It is never too late to sign up. Following are the

areas where we could still use people, a chair, or both!! Contact Bobbi, [Bsever4785@gmail.com](mailto:Bsever4785@gmail.com), for information or to sign up!!

Click on each one for more information:

- [AUDIO VIDEO](#)
- [COMMUNITY OUTREACH](#) (NEEDS A CHAIR) AND A FEW MORE PEOPLE)
- [GREEN TEAM](#) (NEEDS A CHAIR)
- [LANDSCAPE](#) (CAN ALWAYS USE EXTRA HELP)
- [SACRED GROUNDS CAFE](#) (COME ON COFFEE MAKERS!!)
- [SPECIAL EVENTS & FEASTS](#) (NEEDS A CHAIR AND MORE PEEPS!) AND YES, ONE OF THESE DAYS WE WILL BE SOCIALIZING AGAIN!!

Something is in the works, but we need your help!! Last year's book & plant sale was such a success when we coordinated it with the [Batavia City Wide Garage Sale](#), that we are thinking of expanding and doing it again this year. We are in the planning stage, so watch for emails/announcements outlining what this would look like and the call for volunteers. It will only happen if we can get enough volunteers for all the work that goes into making something like this happen. The [UFV GARAGE SALE](#) will take place on **Friday, May 6th & Saturday, May 7th.**

It was one of our most productive fundraisers for last year and exceeded book sales in years past. So we think we may be on to something here for a great fundraising event!!

MARCH BEGINS WITH A BUSY WEEK . . . . So mark your calendars for [ASH WEDNESDAY](#), **March 2nd** and the [HEALING & WHOLENESS Service](#), **March 4th.** [THE INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE](#) on **Sunday March 20th.**

Many blessings to all of you and your volunteer efforts for the benefit of your church community!! We are grateful to each and every one of you!!

Have a great month!! Stay safe, Stay well, Be in Peace!!

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

## Garage Sale

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# UNITY OF FOX VALLEY



## **KICK THE SUMMER OFF FUNDRAISER!!! Friday, May 6th & Saturday, May 7th, 8-4pm**

**We are in the planning stages of a great fundraiser for UNITY OF FOX VALLEY, which will take some muscle and many volunteers to make this happen!!**

Last year our BOOK & PLANT SALE was a huge money maker when we coordinated it with the [BATAVIA CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE](#). This year we are thinking about expanding it to include small garage sale items, crafts, and books. Let's be creative and make this a fun fundraising event!!

### **THIS IS A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS ONLY AT THIS TIME!!**

#### **This is what we need:**

- SOMEONE WHO WILL CHAIR THIS EVENT
- As many people as possible for setup and breakdown
  - Early Friday morning for set up & evening to bring everything back inside.
  - Early Saturday morning for set up & evening to bring everything back inside (or see last bullet point)
- 2-3 people for 2 hour shifts both Friday & Saturday, 8-4pm

- Volunteers to pack up and take unsold items to Goodwill or HESED House on Saturday or Monday.

**REMEMBER!!! THE MORE VOLUNTEERS THE EASIER THE WORK!!!!**

CAN WE DO THIS??? DO YOU WANT TO DO THIS???

Contact Bobbi: [Bsever4785@gmail.com](mailto:Bsever4785@gmail.com)  
or Kathleen: [churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org](mailto:churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org) to volunteer!!

Please click [here](#) to take you to the UFV Garage Sale 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](mailto:churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org)

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

**CURRENT OFFERINGS:**

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**CURRENT REQUESTS:**

•

*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](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/ls/5I9LM5FXITZG/ref=smi\\_ext\\_lnk\\_lcl\\_cl](https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/ls/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>

- 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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Well I got a special surprise during last month's Staff Meeting. I'm not sure how I deserve this but I am IMMENSELY grateful and humbled! Thank you to everyone that made this possible!

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](#)

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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.



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