



April 2022

Ministerial Musings



This month it is difficult to write about anything other than Holy Week and Easter. And I know it will sound strange, but in thinking about different aspects of the Resurrection, I thought of the Gospel of Mark and the phrase, "Render to Caesar."

These were the words of our Way-shower in response to the Pharisees who had asked Jesus if it was fair to pay taxes. Jesus asked them to produce a coin, and then asked whose picture was on the coin. When they answered, "Caesar's," Jesus replied, "Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

The gospel story is a lesson in mindfulness and divine order. It is difficult to sort through this though. At first glance it appears as if Jesus is promoting something separate and apart from an affirmation frequently voiced in Unity, *It's All God*. On the contrary, rendering to Caesar is a call to awareness that we are immersed in God and Spirit is in everything. More than that, it speaks to the bond between our humanity and our spirituality.

As much as we might speak or think about our spirituality and our humanity as separate and apart, any separation is impossible. Most of the world right now is appalled, concerned and deeply saddened by the events of the Ukraine. If we could just render to God and not have to attend to Caesar, the Ukraine would be no big deal.

I would write more but I have to do my taxes.



revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

To begin, I like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the following who participated in making our Sunday, March 20, [Intergenerational Service](#) - *Won't You Be My Neighbor?* (*The Parable of the Good Samaritan*) - a fabulous, memorable success: *Dawn, William, and Victoria Staszak; Laura, Ethan and Annabelle Schreiner; Kelly and Lilah Wells; Melissa and Aimee McDonald; the Music Team, Kitty, Rose, Aria, Juliet, Carl and Mike; Reverend Mike; Kathleen*, our Business Manager; and *Rick and Warren*, our video and sound crew. I also greatly appreciate the loving, supportive presence all of the congregants who joined our Service that morning both in-person and on [live stream](#).

Prior to the start of our Service that morning, *Joey Nelson* kindly donated the book *Unity and World Religions* by Paul John Roach for our Youth Library. This book is an interesting and insightful read that interweaves many religions – some of which are Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism - to the Unity philosophies in demonstrating their similarities with respect to the concepts of peace, love and harmony. Thank you, Joey!

For the month of April, our youth will explore the **Power of Good Judgment/Wisdom**, representing the color bright **Yellow** and the **Disciple James**, son of Zebedee. They will be introduced to the notion of wisdom as spiritual intuition in listening to the voice of Spirit within in guiding them to make positive choices in their lives. As the Lent Season continues into mid-April, the youth will also reflect on Jesus' miracle of *Feeding the 5000*, his parable of *The Lost Sheep* and the spiritual messages of *Palm Sunday* and *Holy Week*.

On *Easter* morning, we will explore the metaphysical meanings of several Easter symbols, followed by our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** on the church grounds. For inclement weather, we will hold it indoors in the Youth Ed area. We are looking forward to seeing several of our youth and their families as well as families from the community at our Easter Egg Hunt gathering! **We request that all youth be registered by Sunday, April 10**, to ensure that there are plenty of eggs for everyone to enjoy! Please contact me at marynowroozi@comcast.net to register and/or if you'd like to donate any items for the Hunt.

**Thank you everyone for your
loving support!**

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



Healing & Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

Friday, April 1st, 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.

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.

Save the Children



Join Unity of Fox Valley in raising funds for the children in Afghanistan and Ukraine

[“Save the Children](#) is gravely concerned for all the children of the world, from Ukraine to Afghanistan to the United States, who might be forced to flee their homes, exposed to injury or hunger. Save the Children is on the ground in 120 countries, working to reach every last child through international programs that focus on health, education, protection and disaster relief.

[Save the Children](#) has a proven track record of using donations efficiently and effectively. You can be assured that Save the Children uses the valuable resources donors have provided in the most cost-effective ways possible.

Their independently audited financial statements consistently show that out of every dollar spent, 85 cents go directly toward helping children. They keep administrative costs low so that more funding goes to children's programs.”

Your donations are greatly appreciated and will be divided equally for the children of Afghanistan and Ukraine.

HOW TO DONATE:

- Please make your check out to 'Unity of Fox Valley'. Write 'Save the Children' in the memo section.
- Drop your donation (check or cash) in the specially marked box during Sunday Service or anytime
- Mail your donation to Unity of Fox Valley, 230 Webster Street, Batavia, IL 60510
- Donate through PayPal. To donate via Paypal, please click [here](#). (PayPal does take a fee. Please consider check or cash instead).
- **All donations must be received by THIS Sunday, April 3rd**

Please contact Kathleen Malick: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org
or Mary Nowroozi: marynowroozi@comcast.net with any questions

For more information, please click [here](#).

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.

Palm Sunday



Easter Egg Hunt Registration Due April 10th!

Please contact Mary Nowroozi: marynowroozi@comcast.net

Taize Service

Taize Service

Good Friday,
April 15th, 7pm

The Taize Service engages all of the senses through music, prayer, chants, scripture readings, and periods of silent contemplation to attain a state of deep contemplative awareness.

All are invited to this beautiful, soulful, candlelight ceremony celebrating the light that is not overcome by darkness.

This service is a beautiful way to commemorate Good Friday.

This Service will not
be Live Streamed

Easter Service

The background of the poster is a vibrant, abstract composition of colorful paint splashes and swirls in shades of green, blue, yellow, orange, red, and purple. In the center, there is a white circular area containing the text for the Easter service.

Celebrate
EASTER
with **Unity of
Fox Valley**

Sunday, April 17th, 10am

Sunday, April 17th

LADIES,

Unity of Fox Valley encourages
you to wear your

BEST EASTER
BONNET



*You don't have an Easter Bonnet?
Please feel free to make something fun to wear!*

Participation is not required but encouraged!

Any questions? Please contact Kathleen:
churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

Easter Egg Hunt



Easter Egg Hunt

Unity of Fox Valley  Parking Lot
230 Webster Street, Batavia, IL

Sunday, April 17, 11:15am

(After 10 am Sunday Service and Sunday School)

Plastic eggs with wrapped chocolates, no peanut products,
will be offered on the outside lawn, weather permitting.
For inclement weather, the Egg Hunt will be offered indoors
in the Youth Ed Area.

**Bring your
favorite Easter
Basket!**



We appreciate your participation for this fun family event!

REGISTRATION IS A MUST!

Please contact Mary at marynowroozi@comcast.net by April 10th!

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.

We also remind everyone to adhere to the [Covid Protocols](#) that have been set in place. 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

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

Prayer Chaplain Ministry

Speaking for myself, peace - in Ukraine, in our beloved USA, and in all our earth - continues to be forefront on my mind and in my heart. And, I imagine, peace is on your heart and mind also. So I thought I would share with you several items that have had a significant impact for me recently.

At the Intergenerational Service held last month on the 20th, Mary Nowroozi shared some excerpts from a *Statement for*



Peace she found in a Unity Lesson for Kids, written about twenty years ago:

“Unity stands for peace in the presence of conflict; for love in the presence of hatred; for forgiveness in the presence of injury. Unity honors the many names for God, the many paths to God, the many ways to worship God; for there is only one power and presence of God, and that God loves us equally.

It is therefore the position of Unity to urge all nations, their leaders and their people to turn to God by whatever the name for guidance during challenging times and to pursue peace for this is what honors the God of all our faith traditions. Unity stands for peace.”

At our most recent Prayer Chaplain meeting Bobbi shared a prayer from Spiritual Passages, a website (spiritualpassages.org) that offers a Daily Reflection, similar to Unity's Daily Word.

Infinite Presence I pray for my human/soul companions, whatever their citizenship. I affirm that I am one with the people of Ukraine, Russia, and all nations. I am one with those with whom I disagree. No matter their ideology, political party, religion, race, or lifestyle, we are connected in Spirit, and I pray for their well-being. Thank you, God, forever. Amen.

Our beloved Peace Song, which we sing each Sunday at the end of our service, has become more pertinent during these times. This song was written in 1955 by Jill Jackson-Miller and Sy Miller. Per Wikipedia, “It typically concludes Unity Church services each week.” And on TruthUnity.net (a wonderful resource for classic and current articles written by Unity and New Thought authors and teachers), Mark Hicks states that “Many or most Metaphysical Christian churches conclude their service by singing ‘Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.’”

Together, as we set our intentions on peace, pray and sing for peace, let's remember the second part of the first line in the Peace Song, “let it begin with me!”

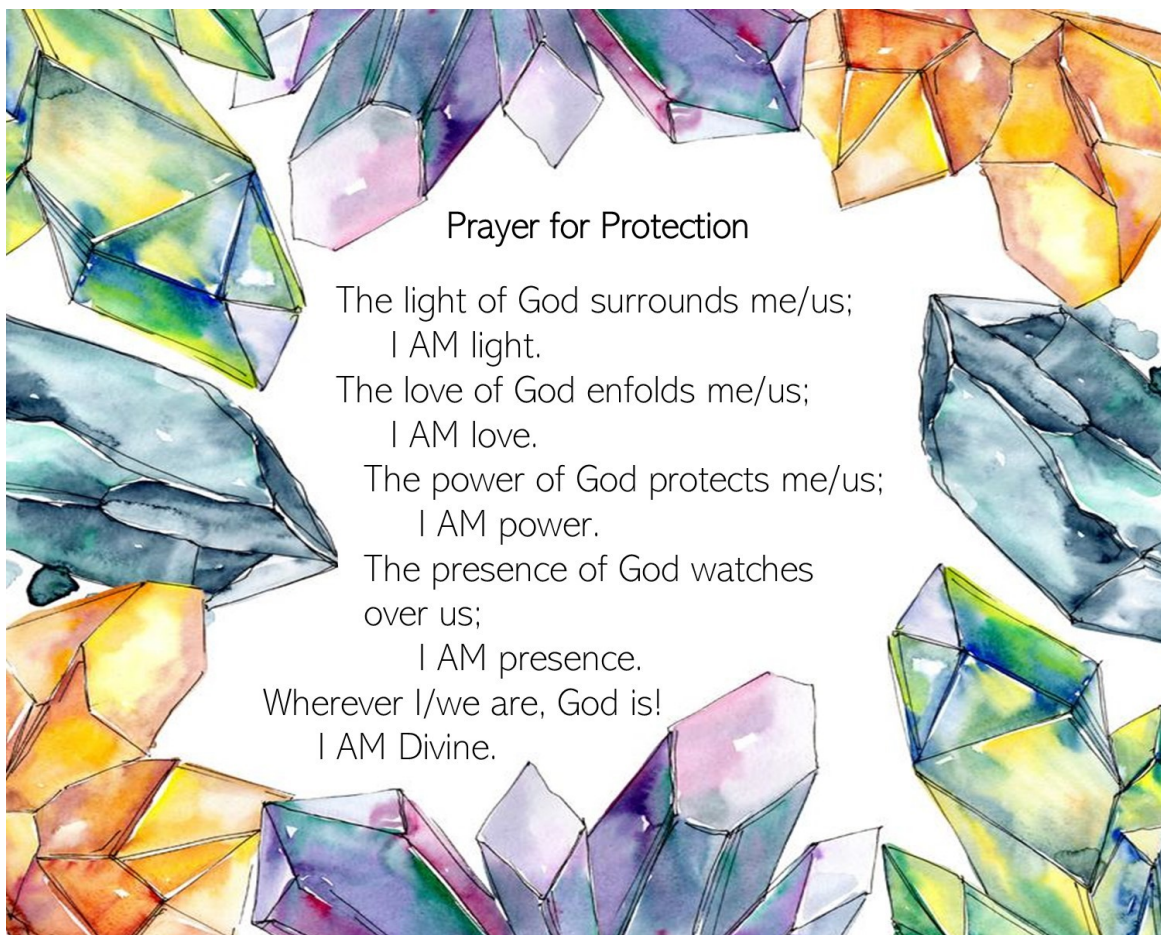
“Peace is ours to remember, to imagine, and to create.”

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*.

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 and a Prayer Chaplain will be in touch.

Blessings and hugs,
Marie and Bobbi

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."



Volunteer Ministry

IT'S A GO FOR MAY 6TH & 7TH

**AND
HERE IS OUR GARAGE SALE WISH LIST:**

- STUFF (You have the list, start purging!!!)
- VOLUNTEERS
- ORGANIZERS



Besides STUFF, we really need more VOLUNTEERS to make this fundraiser successful without wearing anyone out!! PLEASE consider giving a couple hours of your time FRIDAY OR SATURDAY (or both if possible) or helping price and organize. So that we run smoothly, we really need to have a schedule of our worker bees in advance! Some of you have already contacted us and for that we are truly grateful!!

TO VOLUNTEER: CONTACT SHARON MAYS, sharon_mays@comcast.net or BOBBI SEVERSON, bsever4785@gmail.com.

I am reminded that whenever we have our Town Hall or Annual meetings, the suggestion always comes up for Fundraising events! So here it is, the perfect event and the perfect opportunity to put UFV on the map. . . . the Batavia City Wide Garage sale map that is!!! Great advertising with minimum cost!! HELP US BE SUCCESSFUL!!!!

THAT'S OUR PLEA AND WE ARE STICKING TO IT!!!!

Bobbi Severson
bsever4785@gmail.com

Garage Sale

UNITY OF FOX VALLEY



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

Donations will be accepted after church on
Sundays ONLY 11:15am – 11:45am.

April 3rd, April 10th, April 17th, April 24th, and last day May 1st.

Weekday drop off will be by appointment only. Text or call Sharon Mays, 630.479.2982 or Bobbi Severson, 630.632.2368 for an appointment and/or additional information. We ask your cooperation in NOT dropping off sale items during church office hours or leave donations anywhere on church property.

- Please do not put prices on the donated items.
 - Items will be priced by the Garage Sale Team.
- Donations must be new, like new, or gently used condition.
- Items must be clean, no stains, not broken or cracked, no repairs needed, no rust, ready to use condition.
- Unsold donations cannot be returned to the original owner.
 - They will be given to Goodwill or Hesed House.

Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to participate.

Volunteers needed:

- As many people as possible for setup and breakdown
 - Early Friday morning for set up & evening to take everything back inside.
 - Early Saturday morning for set up. Evening to bring everything back inside and box/bag to give away.
- 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.

Accepted Donations:

- Books, CDs, DVDs, records
- Jewelry
- Plants, Indoor & Outdoor Flower Pots
- Garden tools, hand tools
- Flower vases, Artificial flowers, door wreaths
- Crafts, craft supplies, art, art supplies, fabrics
- Games, puzzles, small toys (with all parts)
- Small appliances such as hand mixers, coffee and espresso makers, blenders,
- Cookware, utensils, Bakeware, utensils,
- Drawer organizers, Baskets Spice jars, cannisters
- Dinnerware: silverware, dishes, bowls, cups, mugs, glasses
- Table linens: tablecloths, napkins/rings, runners,
- Lamps: with or without shades
- Knick knacks
- Baby clothes (under one year), receiving blankets, crib sheets
- Shoes, boots: new or like new
- Throw pillow covers (no pillows)
- Pet leashes, collars, harnesses, food bowls, small toys
- Sports equipment for example: Tennis rackets, racket ball items, dumbbells, kettle balls, foam rollers, golf equipment

Unable to Accept:

- Pillows of any kind
- Rugs of any size
- No furniture: sofas, chairs, bookcases, storage cabinets,
- Clothing except listed above
- Paint, chemicals, cleaning solutions, soil,
- TVs, electronics, printers, computers, extension cords.
- Food of any kind, i.e. cans, staples, fresh

- Health and beauty items
- No batteries of any kind
- No replacement parts of any kind
- No other pet supplies except as listed Acceptable. No pet beds, litter boxes, cat trees, large toys, etc.

Contact Bobbi: Bsever4785@gmail.com
 or Sharon: sharon_mays@comcast.net with any questions

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

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

CURRENT OFFERINGS:

•

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

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
amazonsmile

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

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.

My daffodils in my home containers are in FULL BLOOM! That mean's the Spring Show has begun! If you look at my main Cut Flower Garden and my auxiliary garden (between the Butterfly Garden beds), you will see hyacinths, daffodils and LOTS of tulips making their way up! Are you ready so see some color? I know I AM!

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.

