



May 2022

Ministerial Musings

Cinco de Mayo: A Hidden Message?

A holiday that seems to be growing in popularity is [Cinco de Mayo](#). It never was much of a celebrated holiday, at least not in the U.S., until the 1980's when liquor companies decided it was a good focal point to sell alcoholic beverages. Never underestimate capitalism and the power of advertising. Cinco de Mayo triggers more sales of beer in some years than the Superbowl or St. Patrick's Day.

Many people mistakenly think that Cinco de Mayo is a celebration of Mexico's independence. It is not. It simply is the celebration of a Mexican military victory over France in the city of Puebla on May 5, 1862. It was a significant event for a couple of reasons, and looking back it may have had some intangible bearing on history for the U.S.

Up until that battle, the French had not suffered a military defeat for nearly fifty years. Adding to the intrigue the French military that day consisted of over 8,000 well-equipped soldiers fighting against about 4,000 not so well-equipped Mexican forces. Despite the odds, the Mexican soldiers won the battle. The Mexican victory united the Mexican people and dramatically lifted the spirits and the morale of the Mexican people. Historian [Justo Sierra](#) has suggested in his *Political Evolution of the Mexican People* that, had Mexico not defeated the French in Puebla on May 5, 1862, France would have gone to the aid of the [Confederate States of America](#) in the [American Civil War](#) and the United States' destiny could have been different. Maybe, maybe not.

Mexico's victory over the French was short lived. The French army returned a year later with 30,000 troops. They defeated the Mexican army and captured Mexico City. They installed Emperor Maximilian as the ruler of Mexico. This too ended up being short-lived as after the civil war with aid from the U.S., the French were defeated and driven out.

There is a practical and spiritual point to all of this. It is so easy for us to be caught up in the whirlwind of all of our problems. The truth is that we can only fight the battle or the demon that is immediately before us on any given day at any given moment. The big picture can be so overwhelming particularly when it includes those painful experiences and guilt from days long past. But on any given day despite the odds, we can stand firm in the face of any given matter or person by affirming who we are and doing the loving thing in that moment. Regardless of the immediate or long-term consequences, this will spell victory.

Well, what about the fact that a year later the French defeated Mexico? Or, what about the fact that a year later, I may have lost a loved one or given in to an addiction or lost my job? It doesn't matter! Every day you still can choose to do battle, again by trying to do the loving thing. And those earlier victories will persist in your heart and in your being because they mirror who you are.

We should celebrate Cinco de Mayo. If we have a beer or a taco, let's not do so because it has become the thing to do. Let's do so in prayerful celebration of what happened in Puebla, Mexico in 1862 and the eventual freedom that resulted. You never know. That Spirit may carry all the way to Ukraine or even make a practical difference in our own lives.

Rev Mike

revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org



Youth Education for the Younger Crowd

To begin this month on Sunday, May 1, the youth will joyfully celebrate the springtime tradition of **May Day** by singing a special song to the congregation followed by a demonstration of their Twelve Powers May Pole. This pole consists of twelve elaborate ribbons, each one symbolizing one of the 12 Powers. The youth will explain the details of each ribbon prior to dancing around the pole! What a wonderful way to start off the lovely spring month of May!

We will then jump right into exploring the **Power of Power**, the color is pretty **Purple** and the **Disciple is Phillip**. Through uplifting songs, prayers, stories and crafts, the youth will explore how their infinite, all-powerful Spirit flows through their minds, bodies, and souls empowering them with creative ideas in expressing their Christ potential.

To enhance those God-given abilities, we will provide the youth with opportunities to participate in exciting outdoor activities such as walks, relay races, and parachute games.

Some of the walks will be meditative as a quiet time to be open in seeing, hearing, touching and smelling the beauty of God's creation in spring!

To celebrate *Mother's Day*, the youth and the teachers will lovingly honor and bless the beauty of all *mothers* in their lives – moms, grandmas, aunts, caregivers, teachers, doctors, nurses, etc. – all those amazing women who touch our lives with their thoughtfulness and kindness. To enhance this lesson, we will read about the lives of a few astounding women in the Bible, some of which are Sarah, the wife of Abraham; Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist; and Mary, the mother of Jesus. Charles Fillmore's Revealing word defines *motherhood, divine* – "The brooding, nourishing element of Divine Mind, or God, in which spiritual ideals are brought to fruition." Thank you to all the mothers in our lives for "nourishing" us with your love and compassion.



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

Sunday School

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 Services



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.

Annual Taco Bar



Sunday, May 1st, 11am

Welcome to our 4th Annual UFV Taco Bar. All are invited to join us in fellowship, food and fun. Thank you for your participation. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please contact Wanda Faye for an updated list of items needed or for more information: geminiangoddess2000@yahoo.com or 586-604-6043

Please click [here](#) to take you to the Taco Bar 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.

Garage Sale

UNITY OF FOX VALLEY



Friday, May 6th & Saturday, May 7th, 8-4pm

You can drop off your items after Sunday Service or during the weekday but 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.

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.

Healing & Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

Friday, May 13th, 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.

SECOND 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.

Twelve Powers of Man

TWELVE POWERS OF MAN



Wednesdays, 7 weeks, May 18th - June 29th

As a result of his inner exploration and experiences, as well as his metaphysical interpretation of the Bible, Charles Fillmore developed a powerful tool for spiritual development and healing commonly known as “the twelve powers.” In this advanced course, the teaching and practice of the 12 powers includes awareness of “power centers” in the body, similar to the “chakra” system in yoga.. Students will explore and experientially apply the 12-power system as a way of realizing and releasing their inner divinity.

Facilitated by Maria Cosentino, L.U.T. and Deb McQuaid, LUT candidate

Love Offering appreciated All are welcome to attend!

Please go to the website for required text. Just click [here](#).

For more info or to register, please contact Maria: mlcosentino@gmail.com or

Deb: debmcquaid@aol.com

Memorial Day

Monday, May 30th

In observance of Memorial Day, the Church Office will be closed.



Thank you so much to all the men and women who have given their lives in service of this country.

Prayer Chaplain Ministry

It's May, finally! May is my favorite month - "spring" green leaves are budding on the trees; lilacs, bluebells, lilies of the valley, iris, and peonies are just a few of my best-loved flowers that bloom in May; temperatures are moderating; soon we'll celebrate Mother's Day; and for those of you with school age children, summer vacation is just around the corner. It's a month of "rebirth, rejuvenation, renewal, resurrection and regrowth." Even in the midst of our daily challenges and the tragedies occurring all over our earthly home, Mother Nature turns our attention to all the beauty that surrounds us, and reminds us to open our heart/minds to hope, and the bounteous blessings that are always available to us!



Here at Unity of Fox Valley we offer a number of opportunities for our congregants to experience their own "rebirth, rejuvenation, renewal, resurrection and regrowth," and not just in the month of May! (Check out our Website - www.unityoffoxvalley.org !) If you are new to our New Thought community, or you are a "long term" *Unitic* who is looking for a refresher class, we encourage you to register for the *Foundations of Unity* class (dates forthcoming) to learn/re-learn "how to integrate the (Unity) foundational principles into daily life." This class, taught by Rev. Mike, is a requirement for membership at UFV. Another foundational class, beginning this month, is *The Twelve Powers of Man*, facilitated by Maria Cosentino, LUT and Deb McQuaid, LUT Candidate.

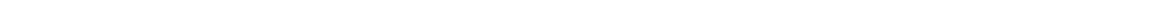
One of the greatest blessings we *always* have is **PRAYER**. Our Prayer Chaplain Ministry is in its 21st year, with almost 50 dedicated chaplains having served during that time - six

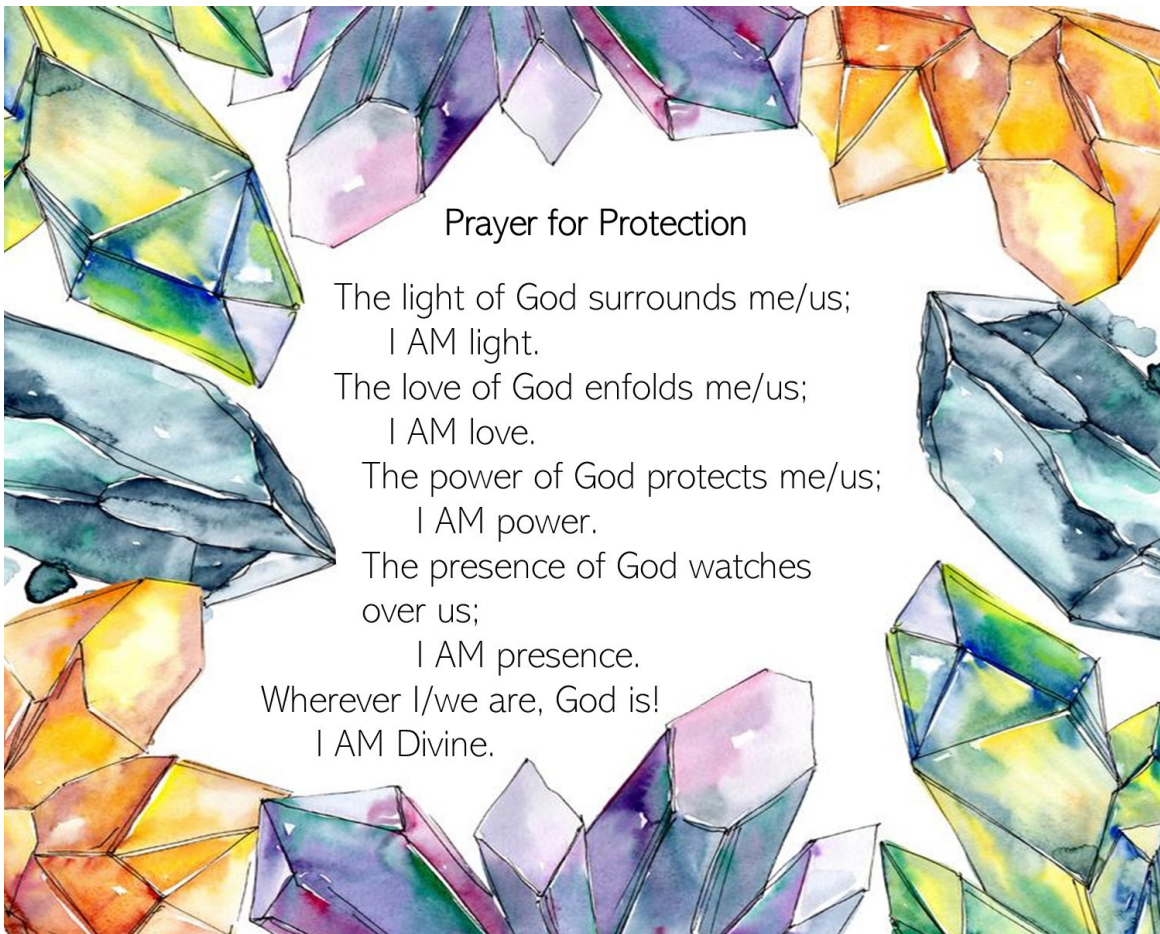
of whom are currently active. As Prayer Chaplains, we have committed to deepen our compassion, and practice unconditional love with others. Through our faith in God, our Higher Power, we hold spiritual space, listen and pray - with you!

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 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 PC 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."





Prayer for Protection

The light of God surrounds me/us;
I AM light.

The love of God enfolds me/us;
I AM love.

The power of God protects me/us;
I AM power.

The presence of God watches
over us;

I AM presence.

Wherever I/we are, God is!
I AM Divine.

Volunteer Ministry



SPECIAL GRATITUDE!!!

We are so grateful to Sharon and our [Platform team](#), Marie, Joanne Walker, and Bobbi for making our Spiritual Home so lovely for [Taize](#) and [Easter](#)!! So nice to see color and flowers adorning our sanctuary!! Great job, ladies!!!

The work for the [Garage Sale](#) is underway and by the time you read this, we will be in the final preparations!! We have had some dedicated ladies doing a lot of work on this fundraiser event!! We are grateful for their time and for everyone that has contributed your treasures!!

Thank you to Larry and the [Landscape team](#) for all the cleanup they did in April to ready us for the bursting of Spring!! This team always needs help!! Please contact Larry Sheaffer larrysheaffer@sbcglobal.net, to join this team and be notified of future work days!!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

GARAGE SALE HELP IS STILL NEEDED! The garage sale is Friday and Saturday, May 6th and 7th. We still need more people to help on those days!! Please consider an hour or two of your time to help out. Contact Sharon Mays sharon_mays@comcast.net or Bobbi at bsever4785@gmail.com

HESED HOUSE: Mondays, June 6th and 13th. We are once again able to help at Hesed House serving lunch and working in other areas that they may have a need. We have been involved with this much needed outreach volunteer opportunity for several years now. Please consider signing up and giving a few hours of your time each of those Mondays.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Sunday, June 5th. We are celebrating the kids with their Roots and Wings ceremony during church and then we would like to honor them with something special and sweet!! So we are still looking for someone to chair this event. It will be a simple affair after the service!! Please contact Bobbi at bsever4785@gmail.com for more information and if you can help us out!!!

OTHER NOTED EVENTS:

The **HEALING AND WHOLENESS Service** will now be held on the SECOND Friday of each month. Please mark your calendar and give yourself this quiet time for renewal and reflection.

The **Sacred Grounds Cafe** is once again open!!! We are so grateful to this team that makes this social time so special for our Spiritual Family!! I know we have been missing that time for catching up with old friends and making new ones!!!

Enjoy the beautiful days of Spring budding forth!!!

Bobbi Severson

bsever4785@gmail.com

Just Ask Ministry



CURRENT OFFERINGS:

-

CURRENT REQUESTS:

- Pressure CANNER:
churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org 3/30/22

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

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

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



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/l/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.



I AM blessed (but I do think part of it is positive thinking AND working for things I want to achieve)! I have big news next month so stay tuned.

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

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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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