

June 2023

Ministerial Musings

I Dream of Genie

So many jokes begin with someone coming across a lamp, rubbing it and liberating a genie. In exchange the genie typically grants three wishes. I believe this format is popular for a couple of reasons. First, it is an easy template; all the joke writer has to do is fill in the content with some sort of twist. Secondly, it is truly a fun fantasy. Imagine three golden opportunities to fulfill your fondest desires. Anything goes from untold wealth, power and health. Of course, you may go more modest if you please. Just recently I shared with Susan that all I want or need is a Personal Assistant.



But the whole genie thing may go well beyond even these fascinations. The whole myth of a magic lamp and a gracious genie seems to be rooted in humankind and be cross-cultural. The genie is just one more of the thousands of gods we have come up with to explain why we experience what we do, (especially the bad stuff); and trying to find a “go to” god to make it better. Rubbing the magic lamp is not much different than slaughtering a lamb, offering a burnt sacrifice or sacrificing a virgin. All are done with the hope of bending the will of the Almighty to match ours.

There is an aspect to it that is positive. That is, it reflects an acknowledgement on our part that there is some divine “Something” that has the power and know how that we desperately seek. In this there is an element both of vulnerability and humility. Perhaps it shifts the notion of, “Not my will but your will,” from just being words to at least some level of sincerity.

There is an ancient Hindu myth that tells that once all human beings were gods but abused that reality. This prompted Brahma to remove the divinity from everybody, but now the question was, “Where can it be hidden so that human beings will not find it?” The options included burying it deep within the earth, the

deepest part of the oceans and atop the highest mountains. All of these were dismissed because Brahma knew that eventually humankind would find it. Instead, Brahma decided to hide it deep within everybody because it is the one place they would never look.

Oops! I guess I just disclosed this incredible secret. Oh well. If you are looking for that Genie that will make sense of everything for you, you will have to look at where the Genie patiently awaits an opportunity to be sprung. You are the magic lamp. Deep within you are wishes to be fulfilled, and there are no limits. Is this Christ within stuff just words, or might there be something there that human beings have been searching for forever?

June brings with it the longest day of the year with the summer solstice. It could be a very healthy prayer practice to do a 21-day reflection beginning June 1st. Perhaps each day we can set aside a time to grow our awareness and think of something about ourselves that truly is wondrous and wonderful. Personally, I will begin each day with the mantra, "I dream of Genie," In this, may we discover a bit more what "Thy will be done" is all about.

Rev Mike

revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Youth Education for a Younger Crowd

We will begin this month of June by celebrating our ***Roots and Wings Ceremony*** on **Sunday, June 4**, during the **10 am Service**. This Ceremony has always been a memorable tradition in our church for the past several years. It is a sacred time when we gratefully honor all the youth and their teachers for their spiritual endeavors over the past year. Everyone will walk the "Twelve Powers Path" and will receive a beautiful flower. Those who have "winged-up" to the next age group (for example, from Juniors to Uniteens) will receive a special certificate acknowledging their spiritual growth as they continue ahead on their spiritual path.

After the ceremony, we will celebrate with a yummy ***Ice Cream Social*** and an opportunity for the youth to enjoy a fun outdoor activity ***"Skate in the Lot"***! We are approved per our church's insurance company to offer a safe area on the parking lot for our youth to skate around (roller blades or skates, Heelys, scooters or skateboards). This activity is possible with the provision that parents/guardians sign a waiver and be present while their youth are skating. To ensure everyone's safety, helmets are a must for all those participating! We affirm that this event will be an exciting one for all!

Our power for this month of June is the **Power of Imagination!** The **Disciple for this month is Bartholomew**, and the color is **Light Blue**. Our youth will be exploring their inner, creative, imaginative powers through crafts,

stories, songs, and outside activities; and, most notably, through creating their awesome Power Board!

*On everyone's behalf, I'd like to close
with prayer in honor of Father's Day.*



Dear Divine Spirit,

We uplift all the father-figures in our lives, grateful to each and every one of them for their guidance, wisdom, patience, compassion, strength, and love. We are thankful for those who have made a positive impact on our lives, leading by example their true, loving Christ Spirit.

We hold in prayer those who's fathers have made their transitions, knowing they find comfort and peace in the fond memories they had shared.

We graciously bless all of our father-figures, and may they truly know how much they are loved and appreciated every day of the year.

Thank you, Sweet Spirit.
Amen and amen.

In gratitude and with blessings,
Ms. Mary, L.U.T, C.S.E.
marynowroozi@comcast.net

Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



**Every Thursday,
10:30 am, on the
Church Lawn.**

Dear UFV Family & Friends,

Please come and join us! Bring with you a lawn chair, your drink of choice, a

sweet treat perhaps, questions, ideas, curiosity, imagination and a friend or, you may just come to hang out for a bit. We hope to see you! All are welcome

***If it rains or is too cold/hot, don't let that stop you.
We will hold this event inside.***

Peace,
Mike

Please click [here](#) to for the Coffee & Tea w/Myrtle & Me 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. The Course invites us to retrain our minds so that we can experience more peace in this world.

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.

Name Tag Sunday

NAME TAG SUNDAY!



1st Sunday of the Month

Before the Service, please stop
& write up your name tag!

Roots & Wings



“Celebrate Good Times”

Sunday, June 4th, 10am

This is a very sacred time when we honor all the youth and teachers for their spiritual endeavors. Everyone will walk the "Twelve Powers Path" and will receive a flower. Those who have "winged-up" to the next age group will receive a special certificate in recognition of their continual spiritual journey.

After the ceremony, we will celebrate with a yummy ***Ice Cream Social*** that will include dairy and non-dairy treats!

Also, the youth will have an exciting opportunity to participate in ***“Skate in the Lot”***. A safe area will be designated in the parking lot. Parents will need to sign a waiver and be present while their youth(s) are skating (roller blades, roller skates, Heelys, scooters, skateboards). Safety is our major concern, so the youths must wear a helmet!



We are looking forward to this memorable fun event!

For more info, please contact Mary Nowroozi: marynowroozi@comcast.net

Please click [here](#) to go to the Roots & Wings website

Soup Sunday



June 4th, after the Service

Contact Bob Anthony with any questions: banthony103@comcast.net

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

Flowers for Sunday Service

The Decorating Committee invites you, our congregants, to help decorate the platform by donating flowers for Sunday Service.

The flower arrangement may be fresh or artificial in an appropriate vase, ready to place in front of the podium, and removed at the end of service. The donator will be responsible for both placing and removing the arrangement.



*To schedule your participation,
please register at the Welcome Desk!*

Please refer your questions to Sharon Mays: sharon_mays@comcast.net

Healing & Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

Friday, June 9th, 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.

Sunday Service



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 ensure 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.



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

Summertime, and the livin' is easy...

*One of these mornings
You're gonna rise up singing
Yes, you'll spread your wings
And you'll take to the sky
But 'til that mornin'
There's nothin' can harm you
*Yes, because you know
Spirit is within and
Always* standing by*



*My words, adapting the verse from Gershwin's Lullaby
written for the opera, Porgy & Bess.

It's June and our 'traditional' *Summertime* has begun. Graduations, weddings, concerts, festivals, baseball games, water park outings, gardening, gatherings with family and friends - just a few of the ways we try to make the most of this time of year! Doesn't sound like *easy livin'* in our *summertime*, but it's what many of us do to *spread our wings* and make the most of these few months when schools are out, vacations are planned and the weather invites us to spend more time outside!

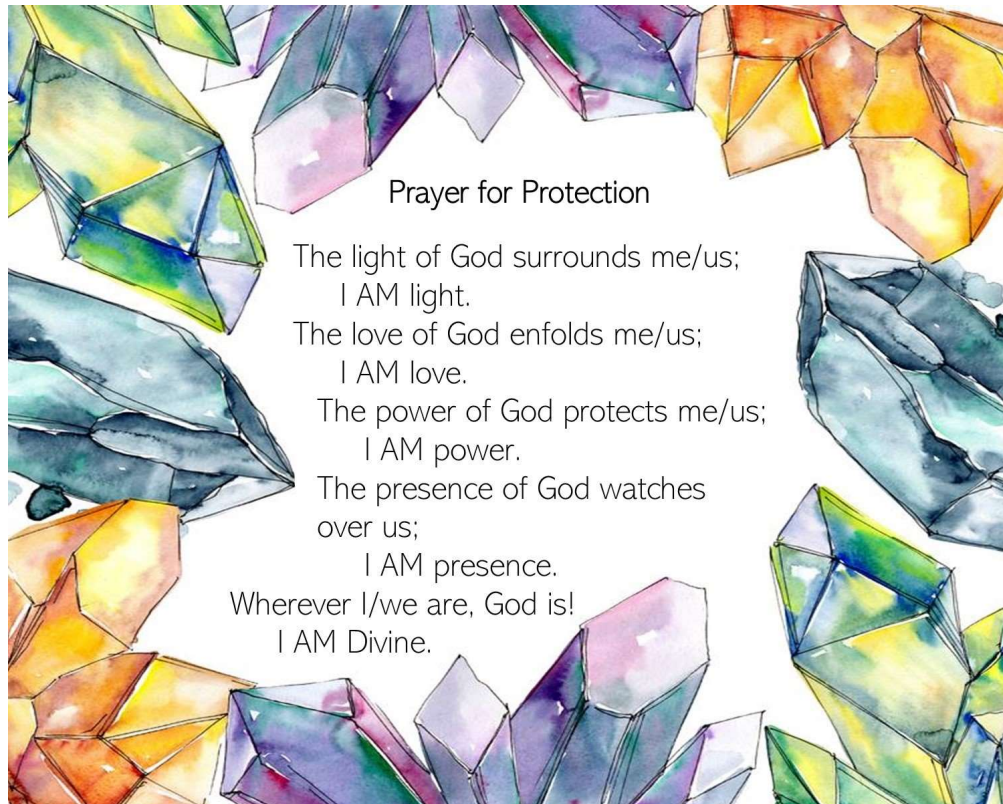
If there are times during the hustle and bustle of having *summertime* fun you feel overwhelmed, remember that you can step back, take a breath and go within to the place where ***Spirit*** is always *standing by*. In this place you can experience *summertime* all year, all life long - through the spiritual practice of prayer and meditation!

Your Prayer Chaplains, Wanda Faye Holmes, Pamela O'Brien, Bobbi Severson and Marie Manella, are available to pray on Sundays after service and are committed to making periodic Caring Calls - to support you, our spiritual family, with your prayer needs. Wherever and whenever we pray with you, we hold everything shared 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 and a Prayer Chaplain will be in touch.

Blessings and hugs,

An affirmation from Charles Fillmore...

I am now in the presence of pure Being, and immersed in the Holy Spirit of life, love, and wisdom. I acknowledge Thy presence and Thy power, O blessed Spirit; in Thy divine wisdom now erase my mortal limitations and from Thy pure substance of love bring into manifestation my world, according to Thy perfect law.



Volunteer Ministry



SHOUT OUT TIME

TACO SUNDAY BAR was a huge success, and we were well fed and entertained (by our very own Mariachi Band, Terry Wohl and Mike Nowroozi!) Such fun and we are grateful to everyone that participated by bringing food, setting up, and cleanup!!

DO WE LOOK BEAUTIFIED?? Thank you to Kathleen for taking on the undaunting task of Landscape Chair. Kathleen, along with her helpers, Joey, Mike and Sharon Mays, Mickey, Jim (new face at UFV and he blessed us with his labor of love), and Warren! Much was accomplished despite the early morning raindrops!! Still more to do so stay tuned for future work dates.

AWESOME MUSIC SUNDAY LOVINGLY DIRECTED BY KITTY KARN ALONG WITH HER MUSIC TEAM AND KIDS!!

What an inspiring Sunday Service filled with song, poetry and inspiration! We are so truly blessed by the musical talent that we have in our church community!! THANK YOU AND THANK YOU AGAIN!!!

BATAVIA FOOD PANTRY DRIVE brought in many donations that were dropped off the last week of May! Thank you to everyone that brought in much needed supplies for our community food pantry!! They are most appreciative and grateful.

COMING EVENTS

The children's **Roots & Wings Ceremony** will be Sunday June 4th with some fun time and celebration after service!! HINT: Bring your skates, skateboards, and other 2 or 4 wheel means of mobility and have fun!!

Healing and Wholeness Service is the 2nd Friday, June 9th. Join Rose, her music angels, and the Prayer Chaplains for this hour of renewal, reflection, and

meditation. We are blessed to have this opportunity each month to enhance our connection and spiritual journey by sharing our healing energy with each other. I highly recommend it if you haven't tried it yet.

INSPIRING THOUGHTS

"I HAVE FOUND THAT AMONG ITS OTHER BENEFITS, GIVING LIBERATES THE SOUL OF THE GIVER" MAYA ANGELOU.

So, my thought is that we have a lot of "liberated souls" here at our small but mighty church community. We are blessed by all of you every day in every way!! THANK YOU!!!

Blessings!!!

Bobbi

bsever4785@gmail.com

Watering the Property this Summer



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO WATER THE PROPERTY THIS SUMMER

We need volunteers to water several spots on the property! We have a newly planted tree, new flowers in our planters, the Cut Flower Garden is about to begin and new this year -- A Pumpkin Patch!

Please go to the [website](#) for all the details!

Are you ready to help out? Please contact Kathleen in the Church Office to volunteer! churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

Please click [here](#) for the website.

Kitchen Deep Cleaning

Date & Time TBD

We are looking for 5-6 people to help do a deep cleaning of the kitchen. This would entail emptying and wiping down all cabinets and refrigerators and a floor scrub.

**Please contact Wanda Faye Holmes, gemiiniangoddess2000@yahoo.com
or Bobbi Severson, bsever4785@gmail.com
if you would like to lend us a hand.**

Please click [here](#) for the website.

Larry Sheaffer's Celebration of Life Tree

Larry Sheaffer's Celebration of Life Tree

For many years Larry has gifted us in so many ways. Perhaps most of us enjoyed Larry's work as part of our Landscaping Team. Without ever seeking recognition he has beautified our church both in our outdoor surroundings and with beautiful flower arrangements that added to our church experiences.



The Men's Group would like to honor him by planting a **Chinquapin Oak** to celebrate his life! It will be planted on the church grounds for all to enjoy.

There are several ways you can make a donation towards the purchase of this tree:

- **CASH:** Please place your donation in the specially marked envelopes on the Welcome Desk.
- **CHECK:** Please write Larry Sheaffer Tree in the Memo section of your check. You may drop it off at the church or mail it to 'Unity of Fox Valley, 230 Webster Street, Batavia, IL 60510

If you have any questions, please contact Rick McKay:
rmckay1950@gmail.com or Carl Strang: **wildlifer@aol.com**

Just Ask Ministry



Ask & you shall receive!

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:

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CURRENT REQUESTS:

- Clay flowerpots 4" – 6"
 opening sharon_mays@comcast.net 5/1/23

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**

Upcoming Events



- Soup Sunday 7/2
- No Healing & Wholeness Service in July

Amazon Lists

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://a.co/6W4z8xs>

Tithes & Offerings



Nothing is possible without your commitment and generous financial support. Thank you so very much!

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 hope everyone had a great Mother's Day last month and enjoyed the origami tulips. I'm also hoping everyone found the sweet treat inside each one!

I actually incorporated two different tulips designs together. Each one was hand folded by me and done on my own time. Well worth it if you enjoyed the gift.

I'm planning the Father's Day gifts as well and hopefully they will be equally enjoyed.



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>

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.

