

May 2024

Ministerial Musings

There is a plethora of topics to write about in May. There is Cinco de Mayo which does not translate out to five kinds of mayonnaise. There is Mother's Day, always a proper focus. There is the very appropriate Memorial Day, which we will focus on the last Sunday of the month. We also have May Day, which is kind of like Labor Day Lite. Finally, there is a myriad of zany holidays celebrated throughout the month.



After much thought I decided to go with the Kentucky Derby which edged out all other considerations in a photo image in my mind. Horse racing is known as the Sport of Kings, and traditionally it has a true royal aura about it. It has a long and honored history; this year will be the 148th year of the Derby. It is the longest continually held sporting event in America, and one of the most prestigious horse races in the world. One of the event's nicknames is, "The Greatest Two Minutes in Sports."

There are other interesting factoids that have become party of the Kentucky Derby tradition. It has its own cocktail, the mint julep. Spectators at the event dress up in ostentatious hats that make Easter bonnets pale in comparison. Traditional foods served at Churchill Downs include Chocolate Pecan Pie. But truly the ROSE is the quintessential part of the Kentucky Derby.

The true nickname for the Kentucky Derby is, "The Run for the Roses." The phrase now is borrowed by many hard-fought competitions or demanding challenges of any kind, but truly it belongs to the Derby. Going all the way back to 1883, a lush blanket of 554 red roses is awarded to the Kentucky Derby winner each year. The garland of roses weighs approximately 40 pounds; it almost seems like the poor horse who already is exhausted is being punished for winning.

The rose always has been a sign of royalty, and traditionally a symbol of love and romance. Roses also are a metaphor for beauty, sensuality, secrecy, and mysticism. (Rose also sings and plays a mean guitar, but I digress.)

Until I researched for this article, I never knew about the connection between the rose and mysticism, yet it really makes a lot of sense. Everything else associated with the rose has a divine aspect to it. As we reach out in order to bring out that which is within us, we strive for a higher greater dimension of truth, beauty, love. We strive to achieve a sensuality to our Christ essence. Or, in other words, we make a “Run” at making the Spirit that dwells within us visible in every way.

As long as we refrain from making our lives a spectator sport, odds are that we will be favored. Time to wake up and smell the roses!

Peace,
Rev. Mike
revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Youth Education for a Younger Crowd

At this time every year, the youth observe May Day on the first Sunday by celebrating with a lively song and dance around our Twelve Powers May Pole. This pole, adorned with twelve vibrant ribbons, each representing one of the 12 Powers, holds significant symbolism with respect to the 12 Disciples and the 12 months of the year. Weather permitting, we intend to uphold this age-old tradition outdoors, on our church lawn, honoring the delightful arrival of the spring month of May in a truly joyful way!

The Power for this month is **POWER!** It is symbolized by the color **Purple** and represented by the disciple *Phillip*. The youth will learn that Phillip was among the first to join the followers of Jesus and he urged Bartholomew to join them too. After Pentecost, Phillip and Bartholomew traveled together, using their spiritual power, healing the sick and spreading the spiritual message of love. The nature symbol for POWER is Air/Wind and the location in the body is the Throat/Root of the Tongue.

In honor of Mother’s Day, we will encourage the youth to recognize the significance of showing appreciation to the remarkable mothers in their lives through prayer, Bible stories about mothers, and through creating Mother’s Day Cards each personalized with their own creative touch. Each card would surely bring a smile to any mother’s face!

In closing, I’d like to share from Proverbs 31:28-29, “Her children rise up and called her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her. ‘Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.’”



With gratitude,
Ms. Mary, LUT, CSE
marynowroozi@comcast.net

Daniel Nahmod Workshop

Being Real

A Spring Workshop for
taking a breath, taking
stock, and looking ahead

**Sunday, May 19th,
12:30 pm**

***Spiritual Workshop
by Daniel Nahmod***

The kind of 2 hours that are hard to come
by in most peoples' daily lives — where
we can actually consider how we're doing
and feeling, really? What's the state
of our relationships, work, home,
mood? What's going well, and where
might we make some changes?

Structured, as all my workshops are,
as a combination of songs, stories,
questions, conversation and quiet time
for writing and contemplation.

Love Offering Basis

www.unityoffoxvalley.org
churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org
630 879 1115

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

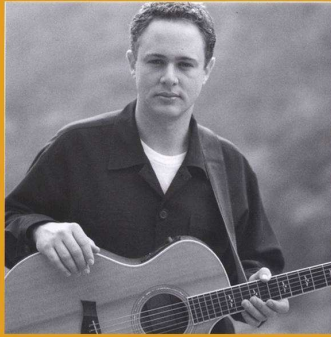


Click [here](#) to take you to the Daniel Nahmod Workshop website.

Daniel Nahmod Concert

unity presents Award-winning singer/
of Fox Valley songwriter and producer

DANIEL NAHMOD



Sunday, May 19th
6:00 pm

Daniel Nahmod writes
songs that stir your soul
and warm you heart.



Unity of Fox Valley
230 Webster Street
Batavia, IL

\$25/adult
12 & under Free w/adult

One of the most influential and beloved independent artists and producers in the music business today, Daniel Nahmod has sold over 100,000 CDs and 10,000 songbooks on his own Humanity Music label, & has performed for over one million people in 45 states and Canada. His songs are also sung by a diverse array of artists around the world.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear one of the Unity world's most in-demand performer live and in person!!

www.unityoffoxvalley.org
churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org
630 879 1115

Don't wait! Purchase your tickets now!

In person, online or at the door!

Click [here](#) to take you to the Daniel Nahmod Concert website.

Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



**Every Thursday, 10:30 am,
in the Dining Room**

Dear UFV Family & Friends,

Please come and join us! Bring 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!

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.

Garage Sale

Unity of Fox Valley Citywide Garage Sale

Friday, May 3rd & Saturday, May 4th, 8:30-4pm

Come find some hidden treasures during the Batavia Citywide Garage Sale!

If you have any questions, please contact Marcie Lucas: 630-696-6034

Please click [here](#) to take you to our Garage Sale website.

Name Tag Sunday

1st Sunday of the Month

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

**NAME TAG
SUNDAY!**



Sunday Service

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.

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.

Online Sunday Bulletin

Our Sunday Bulletins are available online!

Just click on the link [here](#) and scroll down to the Online Bulletin section.

The bulletin will be updated on Thursdays,
& all content is subject to change without notice.



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, Youth Director:
marynowroozi@comcast.net or Dawn Staszak, Teen Youth Director:
dawn_311@yahoo.com

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

Annual Taco Bar

6TH ANNUAL TACO BAR



**SUNDAY MAY 5TH,
AFTER THE SERVICE**

WELCOME TO OUR ANNUAL UFV TACO BAR!



ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN
FELLOWSHIP, FOOD AND FUN.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE

PLEASE CONTACT WANDA FAYE TO VOLUNTEER TO BRING AN ITEM
OR WITH ANY QUESTIONS: geminian80DDess2000@yahoo.com OR 586-604-6043.

Please contact Wanda Faye for an updated list of items needed or for more
information: geminian80DDess2000@yahoo.com or 586-604-6043

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

ONLINE Men's Group



1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7pm, ONLINE

This group explores spirituality and religion in diverse and exciting ways.
Newcomers are ALWAYS welcome!

Please contact the Church Office with any questions & to request the login 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.

If you want to invite a friend/guest, please let the Church Office know ASAP so they know to admit them into the Zoom meeting.

Please click [here](#) for the Men's Group website.

Healing & Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

Friday, May 10th, 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.

Game Night



3rd Saturday of the month, 7pm, Dining Room

Let's have some fun together!

We have Rummikub, Quirkle, Oh Hell, Scrabble, &, of course, Dominos. We also encourage you to bring your own favorite games and share them with us.

Children are welcome with a responsible Adult.

Light refreshments will be provided, but we won't mind if you bring a snack to share!

For more information, please contact Joey Nelson: tyloredurden@aol.com

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

Soup Sunday



There will be no Soup Sunday this month due to the Annual Taco Bar.

Please sign up for Sunday, June 2nd, after the Service

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

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

Prayer Chaplain Ministry

As I'm writing this missive tonight the temperature outside is still 70 degrees - it reached the lower 80's today. And it's only mid-April. The highs forecasted for the end of the week are in the lower 50's. Spring in the Midwest... The temperatures all throughout this past winter and early spring just seemed to go up and down, up and down, reminding me of the 'seesaw' I used to play on when I was small. By the time this newsletter comes out May will have arrived and who knows what the temps will be.



Today (3 1/2 weeks ago if you are reading this on May 1) we had our traditional Prayer Chaplain Dedication. We welcomed a new chaplain, Pam Verner Skaar; welcomed Denise Hage back as an active chaplain; and we three 'veterans' - Wanda Faye Holmes, Bobbi Severson and Marie Manella - committed to continue serving in the 23rd year of this sacred ministry here at Unity of Fox Valley.

Unity was founded on prayer and practices what we call affirmative prayer, which is completely different from the prayers many of us learned when we were young. "The teaching of oneness-meaning there is only one divine power and therefore God and humanity are one in absolute Truth-changes prayer. Rather than presuming the power we seek is outside and separate from us, affirmative prayer empowers us to respond to life's circumstances by drawing upon the Truth of oneness. We can recognize, claim, and embody the fullness of our divinity in the midst of our human experience." This is from Chapter One in the book, *Discover Your Divinity* by Linda Martella-Whitsett and Deeann Weir Morency - which was used in the prayer class taught in March and April.

If you sometimes feel like the 'seesaw' weather we've been experiencing lately, I invite you to plant the seeds of Truth in your consciousness. Since May feels like a 'beginning season' to me I thought I'd share a poem written by Frank B. Whitney, who founded *Daily Word* in 1924 and served as its first editor for 14 years.

Beginning Again

It matters not what may befall,
Beyond all else I hear the call
"You can begin again."
My courage rises when I hear
God's voice allay the thought of fear
And when [God] whispers gently, near,
"You can begin again."

When once quite all the world seemed wrong,
Throughout its din I heard [God's] song.
"You can begin again."
And inner joy within me stirred,
I treasured each assuring word,
My heart was lifted when I heard,
"You can begin again."

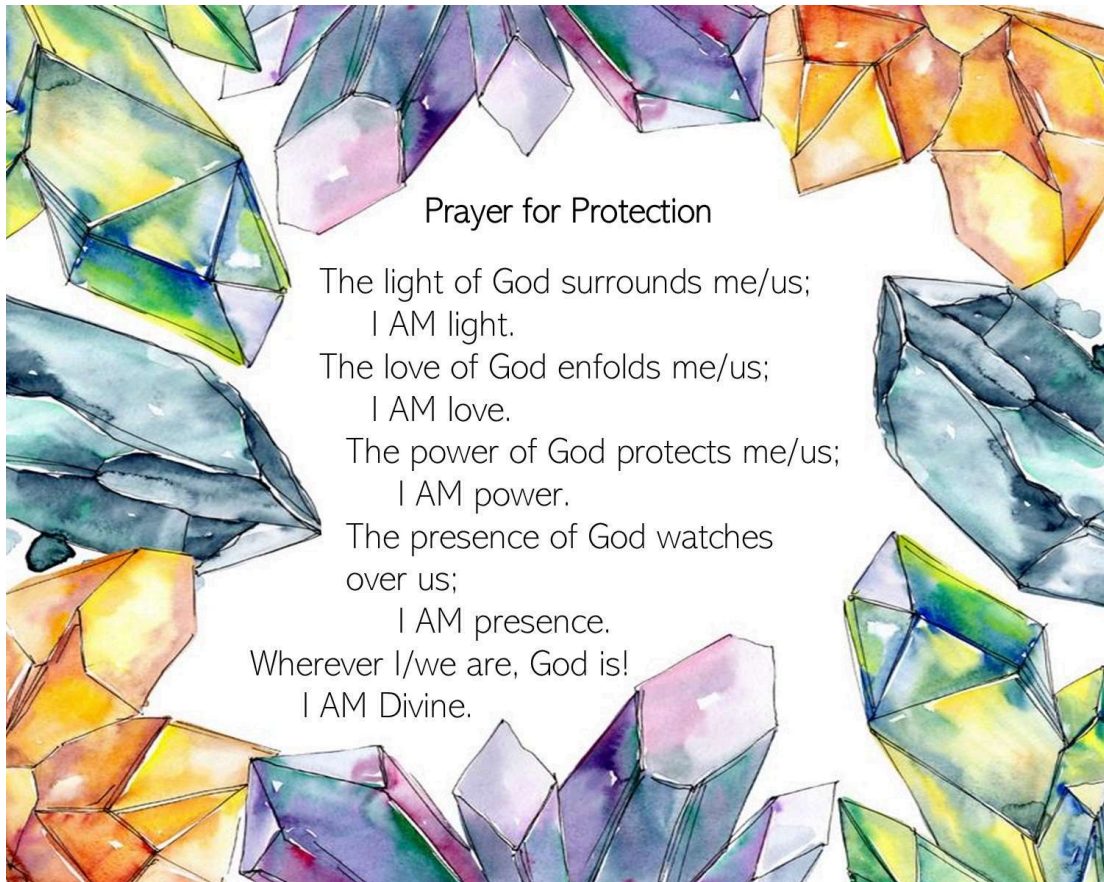
Begin again? Another chance!
Can even I make an advance?
"You can begin again."
Begin at once by taking heart
And knowing God - of you [God's] part!
New life to you [God] will impart.
"You can begin again."

Our Prayer Chaplains, as noted above, are here to support you, a treasured member of 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.

A Prayer Chaplain is available to pray with you after the service each Sunday. We also make periodic Wellness/Caring Calls. 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.

Happy May!!!

Blessings,
Marie and Bobbi



Affirmation for May

One with God, I am one with all creation. I am an important part of the complete whole that is God. In sacred prayer, I quiet my own thoughts and listen to God.

Volunteer Ministry



GARAGE SALE, MAY 3 AND 4TH!!

HELP, HELP, HELP, AND MORE HELP!!

The Garage sale is just days away!! If by chance you didn't sign up and find yourself with a little free time this coming weekend, please contact me bsever4785@gmail.com. I know we can put you to work either Friday or Saturday. We will also need people to clean up after we are finished on Saturday, May 4th. So if you can spare an hour, maybe two, **please, please** consider stopping by and lending your muscles!! **4:00 PM will be our cutoff time!!**

We so appreciate everyone that has helped price and get things organized leading up to this event. This is a much-needed Fund Raiser to make up the deficit we are experiencing each month!! Every dollar and your effort keep UFV thriving!!

SHOWERING YOU WITH APPRECIATION!!

Thank you for joining us at our Appreciation Dinner so that the Staff could honor you and show you just how much we appreciate all that you do for our Church community!! You bless us in ways that you may not even be aware of!! So much is accomplished by our volunteer teams and individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes. A church doesn't function well without your dedication, support, and love!! You Bless us beyond words!!!

BEAUTIFUL PRAYER CHAPLAIN DEDICATION!!

We are so blessed by our Prayer Chaplains, Kitty and the Music Team, for the lovely dedication service that we experienced on April 14th. We are especially blessed by our returning Chaplain, Denise Hage, and our newest member, Pam Verner-Skaar for this

soul dedication of yourself!! And we acknowledge and appreciate the many years of on-going service by Marie Manella, Wanda Faye Holmes, and Bobbi Severson!! **SIDE NOTE**, be sure to read the Prayer Chaplain article that Marie writes every month (and graciously adds my name), it is always heartfelt with many wise words of wisdom for us to think about!! Just another gracious example of "volunteering" time and talent!!

ON GOING EVENT!!

HEALING SERVICE, MAY 17th (NOW THE 2ND FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH)

If you have yet to join us for a Friday night Healing Service, consider giving your mind and body a break, come and absorb the music, mediation, and healing energy. We are so blessed by our Prayer Chaplains, Rose and her music angels, who give of their time and talent to feed our Souls every month!! It truly is a time to REFRESH, RENEW, RELAX, AND RECHARGE!!

BIG EVENTS!!

GAME NIGHT!! May 18th!!

Come join us for games, food, and fun!! Thank you, Joey, for organizing and bringing us all together!!

DANIEL NAHMOD is coming to Unity!! May 19th!!

Concert and Workshop!

Spread the word, invite your friends and join us for joyful music and fun!! Thank you for our volunteers that have been pre-selling tickets starting in April!!

AND ENDING WITH SOME SNOOPY WISDOM!!

ESPECIALLY THE THANK YOU PART!!!

MAY you have a fantastic month of MAY
and know how much you are appreciated!!

Blessings!!

Bobbi

bsever4785@gmail.com



Just Ask Ministry



Ask and 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.
(unless the item is offered by the church)

CURRENT OFFERINGS:

- ***Just Ask is currently not accepting offerings of items till after the Garage Sale.***

CURRENT REQUESTS:

- 5 gallon bucket (Click [here](#) for an example. Color & logos are not an issue:
churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org
3/20/24
- Spare tablet or laptop: Dawn Staszak
dawn_311@yahoo.com 4/29/24

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

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 12th of each month!

For more info. or any questions, please contact
Kathleen: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

Upcoming Events

UPCOMING Events!

- **Roots & Wings:** 6/2
- **Soup Sunday:** 6/2
- **Men's Group:** 6/4 & 18
- **Healing Service:** 6/14
- **Game Night:** 6/15
- **Summer Solstice:** 6/21

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.

Did you all see the Eclipse last month? Back in 2017, I was lucky enough to see travel to see the Total Eclipse. It was quite the experience! AMAZING! Well, I kept the glasses from that trip. Between then and now, as you know, I have moved but I kept the glasses that my husband told me to throw away. Well... guess who was using the glasses when the eclipse happened again? GALEN! HA HA HA!



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.

