



August 2024

Ministerial Musings



I write this newsletter at a time when the political winds are howling. The former president of our country has been targeted in an assassination attempt. The Republican Party last week held its convention and nominated candidates for president and vice president. A few days ago President Joe Biden yielded to pressure from his own party and withdrew his candidacy for our highest office. He likely will be replaced on the ticket by Vice president Kamala Harris, and she apparently will be formally nominated at the Democratic convention later this month.

These events represent the highlights. While they manifest outcomes, they are secondary to the underlying chaos which sired them. It always has been held as a good idea not to talk politics in public as people tend to get emotional when it comes to promoting their candidates and attacking the opposition. However, never before have I seen the environment as volatile as it has been since Donald Trump was elected in 2016 and growing even more so up to the present day. Families have become split, and lifelong friends have gone separate ways.

I think there is a common thread that runs through it all – FEAR! I believe we are in a significant era politically as a nation. I call it Scaredy-cat politics. In debates and arguments all over the country issues are mentioned and referenced, but the underlying

theme seems to be fear. In ads, public speeches, email solicitations, and even text messages; there is virtually no talk about positions or issues except to instill fear if the other guy gets in. All of this contributes to an atmosphere of uncertainty, the perfect breeding place for fear.

The problem with fear is that it brings paralysis. In fear we disappear. The chaos has been so overwhelming politically that many are driven to withdrawing from it, or at least trying to escape from it. When we do this, the fear does not go away. It lingers. More than that, it fosters a feeling of helplessness. Why bother? Why vote? What I do won't matter anyway.

It really does matter though. Winston Churchill gave the famous quote: "We have nothing to fear but fear itself." He was not aware of it, but this was a very "Unity" thing to say. Regardless of how high the level of the chaos may get; it only becomes a real threat if we respond with complacency or withdrawal. If we feel that democracy in America has become or is becoming tarnished, we should not be afraid to polish it and restore it. We cannot do this while refraining because of fear, and nobody has the power that each of us holds.

Collectively, being involved really makes a difference. A bucket of water contains hundreds of thousands of drops, but each drop adds to the water level. Every drop of consciousness adds to the collective level of awareness. Our level of democracy is directly proportionate to that level. What we think and the actions we take actually matter and make a difference. If you feel like a "drop in the bucket," celebrate it. Do not be discouraged.

My daughter has two cats. Whenever I visit one of them hides; the other one meows. I don't speak feline, but my sense is that the one that meows is saying, "I'm here, lets engage." There may be a language barrier, but we seem to communicate and get it done. Scaredy-cats miss out.

It is a chaotic election year for sure. Insults, name calling, and even threats abound. Are you willing to step up and "Meow!", or does the cat have your tongue?

Peace,
Rev. Mike
revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Youth Education for a Younger Crowd

For the month of August, our Juniors will delve into the **Power of Will**. This month's **disciple is Matthew**, and our color is **shimmering silver**. To deepen our understanding of this Power, we will read the Bible story of *Jonah and the Big Fish*. This story encourages our youth to be open and receptive to Spirit's guidance, urging them to do what is right. It also demonstrates the importance of being forgiving of our shortcomings

and mistakes. Through Jonah's journey, we will learn the value of aligning our will with God's will and the grace that comes with second chances.

We are looking forward to an exciting evening at the **Kane County Cougar's Game** in Geneva on Friday, August 2nd. The youth will have the opportunity to "run the bases" and everyone will enjoy a fireworks show. The theme for that night is *All Faiths and Harry Potter Night!* The Harry Potter stories are perfect since they are rich with metaphysical messages that align with our Unity philosophy. We are looking forward to everyone wearing their Unity T-shirts and any Harry Potter gear they wish. We affirm that it will be a delightful night for everyone!

In closing, I'd want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your continual love and support for our Youth Ed program. Your dedication allows our classes and special events to inspire our youth on their spiritual journey and ensures they truly have fun!

Blessings

Mary, LUT, CSE

marynowroozi@comcast.net

Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



Every Thursday, 10:30 am

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

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.

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

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.

Kane County Cougars Game



The flyer features a central white shield-shaped area with a brown border. At the top of the shield is the Kane County Cougars logo, which includes a cougar head, a baseball bat with the year '1888', and the word 'Cougars' in a stylized font. Below the logo, the text 'Kane County Cougars Game' is written in a large, red, outlined font. Underneath that, 'All Faiths and Harry Potter Night' is written in a black, gothic-style font. The date and time 'Friday, August 2, 2024, 6:30pm' are in a bold, black font. The main body of text describes the event as a fun evening with fireworks and provides ticket information: '\$9 each' and a reservation deadline of 'Sunday, July 14'. It also mentions a sign-up table and payment options. A closing invitation asks attendees to wear Unity of Fox Valley T-shirts and Harry Potter paraphernalia. In the bottom right corner of the shield, there is a cartoon illustration of Harry Potter flying on a broom. A QR code is located in the top right corner of the flyer, outside the shield.

Kane County Cougars

Kane County Cougars Game

All Faiths and Harry Potter Night

Friday, August 2, 2024, 6:30pm

Join us for a fun evening at the Kane County Cougars' All Faiths and Harry Potter Night. The game includes run the bases and post-game fireworks. Tickets are reserved seats at \$9 each. ***To get this fabulous deal, we need to reserve a minimum of 20 seats by Sunday, July 14.***

Please sign-up at the table in the fellowship area and pay by cash or check made out to "Unity of Fox Valley."

We invite you to wear your Unity of Fox Valley T-shirt and any Harry Potter paraphernalia! We're looking forward to a fun night with all of you!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mary: marynowroozi@comcast.net



Please contact Mary Nowroozi with any questions or concerns: marynowroozi@comcast.net

Please click [here](#) for the UFV Kane County Cougars Game website.

Name Tag Sunday

**NAME TAG
SUNDAY!**



1st Sunday of the Month

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

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.

Soup Sunday



**THE FIRST SUNDAY
OF EVERY MONTH**

**SIGN UP TO BRING
YOUR YUMMY SOUP
TO SHARE!**

**IT'S GONNA BE
DELICIOUS!!**

**CONTACT BOB ANTHONY
WITH ANY QUESTIONS:
BANTHONY103@COMCAST.NET**



Please sign up for Sunday, August 4th,
after the Service

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

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

Pathways to Prosperity



Pathways to PROSPERITY

Sundays, July 28th & August 4th, Noon

Paul will continue on with his workshop outlining steps and procedures to become more prosperous and experience a more fulfilled life.

Prosperity is a state of mind. It is the realization of the abundance that is available to all of us. In this sense it shares a strong kinship with happiness and love. While the primary direction of the workshop will be on prosperity, it should be beneficial in other areas as well regardless of one's current financial status.

Please register for the workshop. Materials will be distributed to those in attendance, and it will be helpful to know approximately how many packets needs to be printed.

Workshop suggested Love Offering: \$10.00

Primarily to cover the cost of materials.



For more info., Rev. Mike: revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Please contact Rev, Mike with any questions or for more
information: revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

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

Pet Supply Drive



Pet Supply Drive

***Let's make a difference in the lives
of local animals in need!***

***We are teamed up with Kane County Animal Control and all our
furry friends would love if you can help with their Wish List.***

ALL DONATIONS DUE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th

- Paper Towels/Kleenex
- Dawn Dish Soap
- Non-clumping/Scent Free Cat Litter
- Bleach
- Sharpie Black Markers
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Cat Carriers (used/old is fine)
- Nitrile Exam Gloves (all sizes)
- Canned Pumpkin
- Low Sodium Chicken Broth
- BULLYMAKE Nylon Chew Toys
- Stretch & Scratch Cat Scratching Posts
- Cat Nip
- Pill Pockets
- Blankets/Towels (used/old is fine)
- Wafer Plain Ice Cream Cones
- Wet Dog/Cat Food
- Disposable Silverware
- Dog/Cat Toys
- Pupperoni/Other Soft Dog Treats
- Peanut Butter
- Purina Brand Dog/Cat Food
- Lavender Glade Wall Plugin Refills
- Kuranda Bed
- Water Pails (2qt Indipets Stainless Steel Heavy Duty Flat-Sided Pail available at Petco)
- **Checks made out to:
Kane County Animal Control**

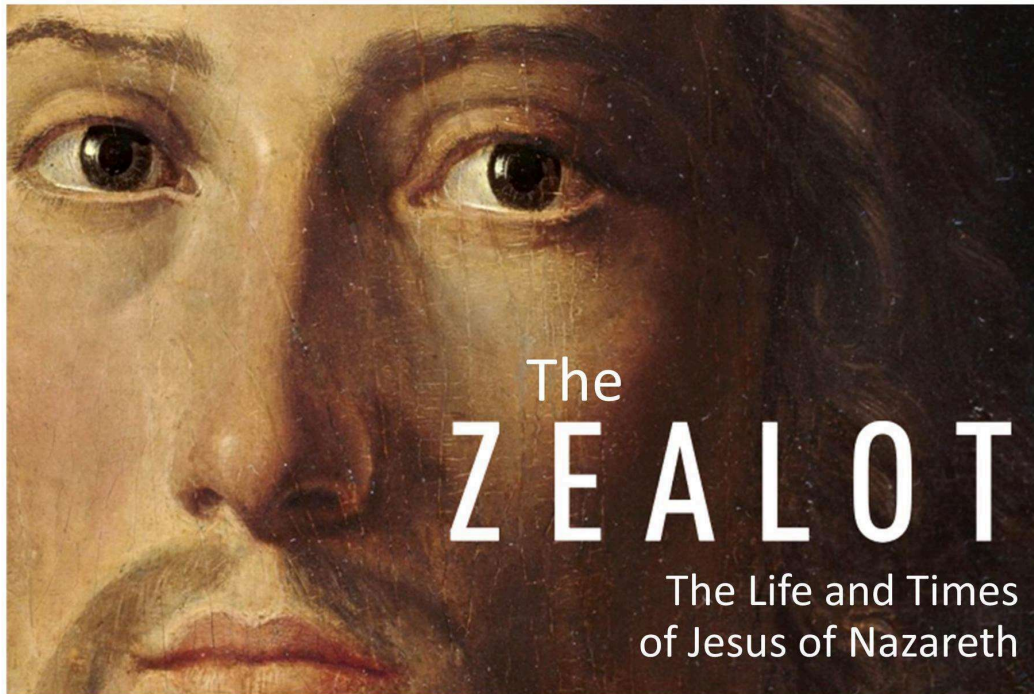
**If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen:
churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org**



**Please contact Kathleen in the Church Office for more
info: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org**

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

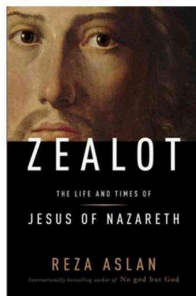
The Zealot



**Tuesdays, July 23rd, 30th, & August 6th,
6:30pm, Adult Ed Room**

Presentation by Rick McKay

Most people only know about Jesus of Nazareth through the New Testament of the Bible, written by those who believed he was the Messiah, sent by God to establish His kingdom on earth. In this program we will explore Jesus in an historical context. We will look at the socio-political and religious drama that was playing itself out during the time he emerged onto the stage, and the impact he had on historical events occurring during the 1st century A.D. and after his untimely death.



by Reza Aslan

***Please come join us in this lively 3-part
multi-media series!***

It is NOT necessary to read the book in order
to partake in the presentation.



For more info., Rick McKay: rmckay1950@gmail.com

Book:

The book is not a requirement of the class, but if you would like to have it, you can click [here](#) to purchase it.

- **Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth** by Reza Aslan

All are welcome to attend! Love Offering appreciated.

For more info or to register, please contact Rick
McKay: rmckay1950@gmail.com

Please click [here](#) for the UFV The Zealot 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, August 9th, 7pm

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

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

This Service will not be [Live Streamed](#).

Women's Group



Sunday, August 11th, noon

"We are a heart-based circle of women committed to empower, explore, and expand our spirituality both socially and in service to others. We do so in consciousness, while affirming Divine Presence inherent within ourselves."

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact: Bobbi Severson: bsever4785@gmail.com

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

Early Bird Bingo



B *Early Bird*
BINGO

I **3rd Saturday
of the month. 6pm
Now thru summer!**

N **Right before**
G **GAME NIGHT!**

O Come early for your chance to yell 'BINGO!' and pick a prize from the Winner's Table. Warm up with Bingo then stay for Board Games with friends!

Another activity of your interest brought to you by your Board.

Please contact Mickey Koziol with any questions:
mickey1catahoula2@hotmail.com

**3rd Saturday of the month,
6pm, Dining Room**

Please contact Mickey Koziol with any questions: mickey1catahoula2@hotmail.com

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

Prayer Chaplain Ministry

What August Did

A short poem for ~kids~ by Lenore Hetrick

August looked across the land,
"I must be careful," she said.
"I must touch the leaves a little bit -
But I must not turn them red."

She went to the flowers in the summer garden,
"Time for you to sleep!
Go to the land of summer dreams,
And there sleep, long and deep."

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.



Last of all she went to the orchard,
She touched the fruit that was near,
It blushed and reddened and August cried,
“I announce that harvest is here!”

“My greatest task is done,” said August.
“The harvest has begun,
And now I shall go to my winter rest
Beyond the setting sun.”

As I've probably mentioned in a bygone newsletter, August can be a bittersweet month for me! I'm happy to celebrate my birthday (along with several other Leo chaplains), but the latter part of the month brings about a touch of SAD (seasonal affective disorder) as the light changes and the days get noticeably shorter. August is a month that heralds changes fast approaching; changes that are familiar and anticipated, as well as changes, particularly this year, that we hope will happen, rather than those we don't want to imagine...

During this august month of August I invite you to contemplate one of your divine powers, your innate gift of FAITH...

Eric Butterworth, an esteemed Unity minister, spoke resoundingly of faith. He is described on TruthUnity.net “as among the leading spokespersons in modern times on practical mysticism.” Truth Unity presents many resources from this Teacher, one of which is a course in Practical Metaphysics, recorded in a live setting. The following quotes are from that course, from the Summaries of Lecture 5 - Faith. {To hear the full audio or read the transcript on Truth Unity, search *Eric Butterworth/Resources from this Teacher/Practical Metaphysics (Audio and Transcript).*}

“Realize that God is centered in you”

“The dynamic key is not faith *in* God, but rather faith *from* God. God is the foundation of being.

Faith is as natural as breathing to every person. Everyone has faith but few use faith well.

God is centered in you. Faith is centering yourself in God.

The power of God is always present in you. There is never an absence because God is presence.

Faith is not a miracle catalyst but a Principle. God is totally present in you. Your work is to be present in God.

Faith is not relativity but Truth. The need is to center one's faith in Truth. We need to own our own consciousness.

There is a tremendous resource of wisdom and presence right where you are. Act from that belief and things will become easy [sic].

You can only be you. You can't do anything that is not part of your innate potentiality. You can only do that which is the fulfilling potential of your life.”

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1 (NRSV)

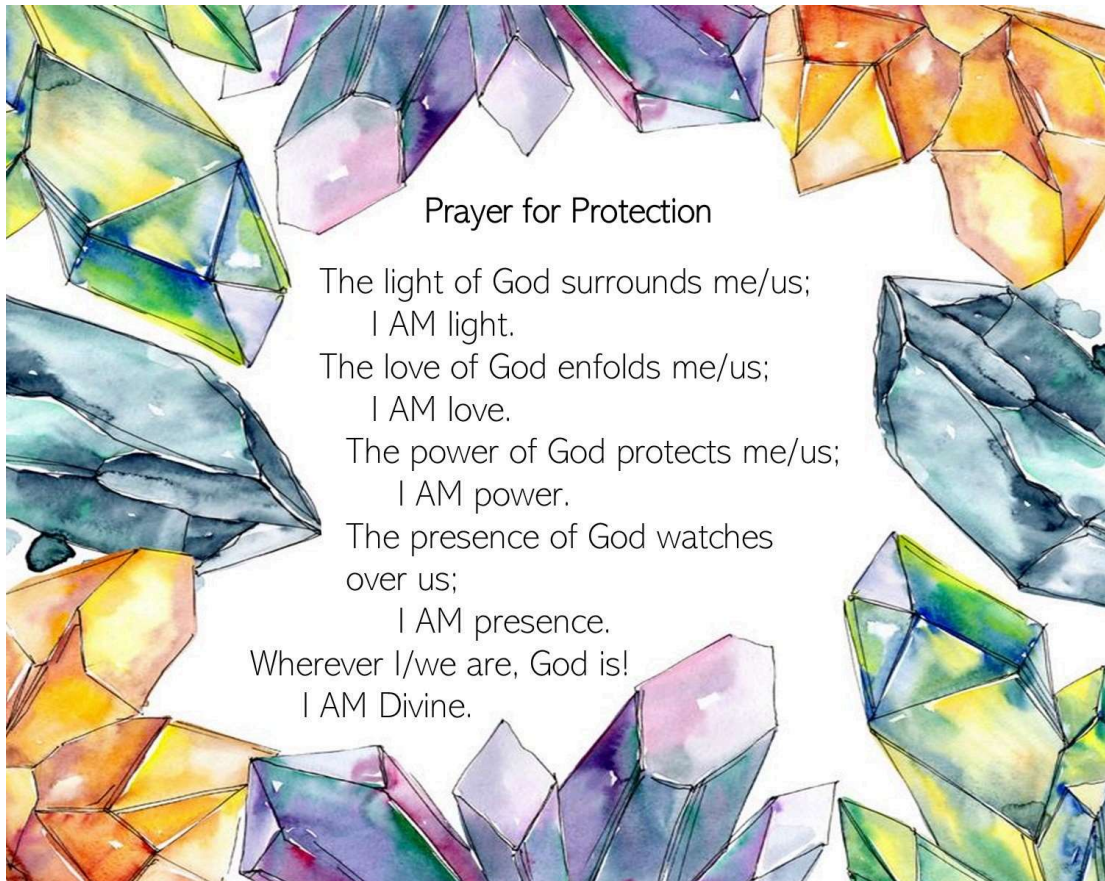
How can *you* embody this Truth of Faith? How can you be more you? If you have taken any of our Unity classes in the last years you probably know the answer to those questions - through *Prayer and Meditation!!!*

Our Prayer Chaplains - Pam Verner Skaar, Denise Hage, Wanda Faye Holmes, Bobbi Severson, and Marie Manella - 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.

May you have a *you-inspired*, awe-inspiring August!!!

Blessings,
Marie and Bobbi



The sacred prayers used by the Unity Prayer Ministry this August...

Inner Peace - With each beat of my heart, I relax into peace.

Guidance - I am divinely guided step by step to a new and fulfilling life.

Healing - The healing power of divine life within strengthens and revitalizes me.

Prosperity - I am connected to infinite, abundant spiritual supply.

World Peace - I express divine love and affirm peace and harmony for all.

Volunteer Ministry



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

I know this is the August Newsletter, but we need to do some planning, Our **Annual Picnic** is **coming up Sept 8th**. We will need volunteers to help set up, clean up, a game host and a bingo caller (Yep, adding some fun games to the picnic). Please sign up for one of these slots or let me know (bsever4785@gmail.com) what you would like to help with!! This is always a fun time, but also many hands are needed to make it happen!!

Thanks again to the Men's Group who will do the grilling!!

GRATEFUL:

Thank you, Mickey and the Board, for arranging the Paddle Boat excursion again, Terry, our own resident DJ, led us in song and merriment!! Thanks to everyone that brought yummy snacks!

Thanks to everyone that brought Back Packs for our July Outreach. I know the Batavia School District is very grateful!! It may seem like a small thing, but it supports in a big way!

Thanks, Kathleen for organizing and dropping off!!

MUSINGS:

Did you know that another way that you volunteer is by supporting our events just by showing up or contributing a much-needed item? We are always looking for ways to engage and welcome our church family by hosting special events and we commend you for engaging in these events. So, my point is, volunteering is not always "helping" but also "showing up" to have some fun with your fellow friends and congregants.

"Acknowledging the good that you already have in your life is the foundation for all abundance" Eckhart Tolle

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:

•

CURRENT REQUESTS:

•

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

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](https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=44UC5B8W64KBQ) 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.



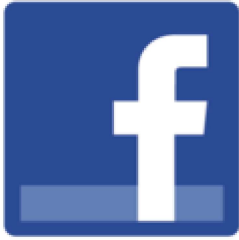
I turned 53 this past July 🎂 and my husband, Galen, gifted me this Rising Sun Redbud (it will hopefully look like the photo on the right one day). I have wanted this tree since moving into the new property & I am so thankful for his gift! 🌳 Galen is currently working on his next play. If you want to drive out to DeKalb to enjoy the comedy, [The Foreigner](#), we would love to see you!

**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

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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.

