

March 2025

Ministerial Musings

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Many years ago I was watching an episode of the then popular TV show, *The Dating Game*. A young woman was questioning three eligible bachelors who were not visible to her. At one point she inquired, “Bachelor #3, what does the ‘W O’ in ‘WOMAN’ stand for?” Without batting an eye, he responded, “I think it is short for WOW!”

I thought his answer was not just witty; it was brilliant in many ways. For starters, I did some work on the etymology of the word, “woman.” There were some differing opinions, but most language experts seem to think the “W O” in woman is the result of a long evolutionary journey beginning with the prefix meaning “wife.” In other words, the genesis of the word, “woman,” indicates from very early days an attitude that women’s significance is dependent upon the masculine gender.

One could go on and on about the inherent strengths of womanhood. While they certainly abide also in the masculine gender, there seem to be areas in which men can learn. I thought of listing them, but I refrain from doing so partly because I believe they are obvious, and itemizing traits could lead to fruitless arguments and debates. Suffice it to say, I have witnessed childbirth first-hand, and I am good at recognizing expertise when I see it.

Any debate as to which gender is superior or better would be nonsensical and counterproductive. It would be even worse to argue that one was weaker than the other because this would be diminishing to all. Our focus should be directed to equality with each gender celebrated and with a recognition that Oneness and Wholeness depend

upon genders complementing each other not only in external relationships but also within each and every one of us. The Divine Feminine and the Sacred Masculine are shared dimensions in Spirit and the Kingdom of God.

So, if it is all about equality, why celebrate Women's History Month especially in the absence of celebrating a Men's History Month? The answer is simple really. It is precisely because it is all about equality that it is important to have a Women's History Month. Pretty much throughout the world men continue to dominate and dictate. The scales have been weighted in favor of the masculine gender for millennia, and in many instances in horribly cruel ways. And in case anybody has failed to notice, even now in 2025 many political leaders in our own country have been moving toward subjugating women and promoting male dominance. Recognizing the historic contributions of women across all dimensions of human existence is long overdue.

Equality for some is privilege and not equality. Equality for some is inequality for all regardless of whether the arena is gender, race, creed, age or any other borderlines. It is important to all of humanity to grow its awareness through Women's History Month just as was the case for Black History Month. Women do not belong on pedestals as pedestals can be as confining as walls. The men of the world do not need a dedicated month; we are in need of rescue. Women's History Month is a move in the right direction for all.

Rev Mike

revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Notes from the Board

At our February Board meeting we reviewed the list of 2025 Activities to be displayed for two Sundays before the next Board meeting to find what activities show the most interest. We have added a few new choices and are leaving room for additional ideas to be explored next year. Chairs or co-chairs are needed for events to go forward. As we are already faced with expenses over income a drive thru BBQ fundraiser before Memorial day will need ten or more volunteers for one time four hour time frame to help...they do the cooking!

We discussed the need for a sign to list our current events for the neighborhood and nearby residents...somehow on Wilson would be desired, as we are not visible to most traffic.

A committee will be formed to brainstorm, then have a plan to attract new visitors from the large developments bringing new households to Batavia over the next two years. Board Members have agreed to help with collection on the Sunday they count each month.

An inspection resulted in the need for replacement sprinklers which were painted over. As a safety issue this expense will need to be given a priority.

We encourage prayers given the current climate of our Country's business changes. How and what we should/will do will be an ongoing challenge maintained as an action item.

The Board continues activity to further strengthen us as individuals and team players started at our January retreat.

Youth Education for a Younger Crowd

As spring approaches, our younger youth will explore the **Power of Strength**, represented by the vibrant color of **Spring Green** and the wisdom of the **Disciple James**. Throughout the Lenten season, they will deepen their spiritual growth by engaging in the stories of Jesus' parables and miracles in new creative and meaningful ways, including games, crafts, and songs.

Our teens are deeply grateful for the incredible parents and teachers who supported them with love and enthusiasm at last month's Lock-In! They all slept well and enjoyed a scrumptious breakfast the following morning at a local family restaurant. They also greatly appreciate the generous love offerings that made their Bake Sale a *sweet success*, both in treats and in purpose. These contributions will help cover part of the registration fees for their upcoming Teen Spring Retreat, making this meaningful experience possible. Thank you all for your kindness and support.

We would greatly appreciate a donation of a Blu-ray player with HDMI and AV cables for use in the adult education room. We'd love to offer movies for the kids to watch, but we recently discovered that only Blu-ray disks are available for purchase. This came to light when Joey, a dedicated congregant and Board member, generously donated the movie *Wicked*, and we realized our current DVD player is not compatible. We are truly grateful to Joey for the gift, and we trust that a Blu-ray player will find its way to us so the kids can enjoy this movie and many other wonderful films.

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

Prayer Chaplain Ministry

Not sure how you feel at the start of this new month, the beginning of meteorological spring, but I am certainly happy to leave the past months behind! The beginning of March brings with it promises of more pleasing weather ahead...



Lent begins a little later this year. This year's Lenten booklet from Unity, *In the Garden*, is available to us at church or (for those who are out of our area) can be requested from Unity.org. In the booklet's opening essay Rev. Doug Duerr describes the season of Lent as "a sacred time to let go of what no longer serves us...It is a period of reflection and release." In the next paragraph, comparing the letting go process to caring for a garden, Rev. Duerr invites us to "bless and acknowledge...our gardening plan" and "see that every plant, every flower, and even the spaces between them holds a purpose." In the light of the landscape our own gardens are growing in today it may be a challenge to hold that vision. So, let's join together in these coming days, however long it takes, to "Trust in the stillness, sing in the garden, and pray in gratitude affirming that good is unfolding each day."

Unity's 'dogma' has been condensed over the years to these *Five Unity Principles*, (Youth Ed version):

God is good and everywhere present; - **God is** -
We are good because the Christ Light is within you and me; - **I am** -
We create our lives by what we choose to think and believe; - **I can** -
We connect with God through positive prayer and meditation; - **I pray** -
We do our best by living the Truth. - **I live it** -

Using these *Truths* as our fertilizer, watering our plants daily with *prayer and meditation*, *denying* that whatever weeds spring up have any power to destroy our roots, *affirming* our 'plant beds' as bounteously abundant, and sprinkling *gratitude* generously over all we can look forward to a *faith-filled, grace-filled, love-filled* cornucopia of *life*.

**Trust in the Lord (within and all around all), and do good;
so you will live in the land and enjoy security.
Take delight in the Lord,
and the Lord will give you the desires of your heart.
Psalm 37:3-4**

Your Prayer Chaplains - Wanda Faye Holmes, Denise Hage, Pam Skaar, Mary Nowroozi, Bobbi Severson and Marie Manella - are committed to making periodic Caring Calls to support you, our spiritual family, with your prayer needs. There is at least one prayer chaplain available after service each Sunday, too. 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



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.

I AM Divine!

From Julian of Norwich

All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well...
For there is a force of love moving through the Universe that holds us fast and will never
let us go.

The sacred prayers used by the Unity Prayer Ministry this March

Inner Peace - I claim divine peace in this now moment.

Wisdom - I claim divine wisdom to know the way forward.

Health - I claim divine strength, health, and vitality in every moment.

Strength - I claim the courage of divine strength.

World Harmony - I claim divine love to spread harmony throughout the world.

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.

Name Tag Sunday

**NAME TAG
SUNDAY!**



1st Sunday of the Month

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

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



Please sign up for Sunday, March 2nd

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

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

Ash Wednesday

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, March 5th, 7:00pm

Lent officially begins on Ash Wednesday.

Please mark your calendars.
Unity of Fox Valley will hold a special meditation service.



The service will be officiated by Rev Mike.

Please click [here](#) for our Easter Season website.

Coffee & Tea with Myrtle & Me



Every Thursday, 10:30 am

Dear UFV Family & Friends,

Please come and join us! Bring your drink

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!

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

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.

Women's Group Meeting

2nd Sunday of the month, Noon

*Traveling presentation
by Susan Wohl.*

“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.”

Any questions? Please contact Bobbi Severson, bsever4785@gmail.com

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



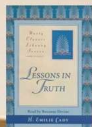
Foundations in Unity

Foundations in Unity

Wednesdays, March 12th - April 23rd, 7 weeks, 6:30-8:30pm
Adult Ed Room & Online SEE Class

**We are restarting Unity's Spiritual Education
& Enrichment program known as SEE.**

We start with the class *Foundations In Unity*, which besides the bible uses 2 of the main Unity texts, *Lessons in Truth* and *Discover the Power*. This class is designed to increase your personal empowerment and enhance your spiritual growth by learning and applying Unity's foundational principles.



Required Texts: Available on Amazon.com

- **Lessons in Truth:** Cady, Emilie. Unity Village: Unity, 2005. 194 pg.
- Kindle ed 178 pg. \$2.99
- **Discover the Power Within You:** Butterworth, Eric. Harper One, 2008

Required Website Readings:

- Session 1: Bio on H. Emilie Cady: <http://www.hemiliecady.wwwhubs.com/>
- Session 1: Bio on Eric Butterworth: http://ericbutterworth.org/html/eric_bio.html

Recommended Books:

- **The Revealing Word:** Fillmore, Charles. Unity Village: Unity, 2005

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



Please click on the link below for more information on the required text.

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

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

Healing & Wholeness Service



HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE

Friday, March 14th, 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](#).

Game Night



***3rd Saturday of the month,
7:00pm, 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 info., please contact Joey Nelson:
tyloredurden@aol.com**

Saturday, March 15th, 7pm

Joey Nelson tyloredurden@aol.com

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

Welcome to Unity class

Welcome to unity

Sundays, March 16th & 23rd, after the Service

This class will be taught by Rev. Mike and is a great way to learn about Unity teachings, Unity of Fox Valley, to ask questions, and to get to know other members of our spiritual family.

If you would like to become a member of Unity of Fox Valley, you need to take this class, but anyone may attend.

Required books: Both are available on Amazon.com

- "Alternatives" by William Fischer
- "Unity: A Quest for Truth" by Eric Butterworth

To sign up, stop at the Registration Table or contact
Kathleen: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

For more information, please contact Rev. Mike: revmike@unityoffoxvalley.org

Please click [here](#) for the Welcome to Unity webpage.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



PLEASE JOIN US
SO WE CAN SAY
THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOU DO!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

Friday, March 28th, 6-9pm



We absolutely could not exist and do the things we do without our wonderful volunteers. Knowing that and acknowledging that we want to celebrate you.

If you have volunteered this past year, in any way, please sign up and let us know you will be there.

There'll be food, fun, camaraderie and yummy desserts. Be there so Unity of Fox Valley can say thank you!

Bobbi Severson: bsever4785@gmail.com



Please RSVP by Sunday, March 23rd by signing up at the registration desk or contact Bobbi Severson: bsever4785@gmail.com

Volunteer Ministry

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!!



"Be a part of the Whole and share your talents"

Last week didn't feel like we were on our way to Spring and warmer weather, but this week we have hope!! I have already heard the birds in song welcoming the coming warmer days.

And with that . . . comes Spring cleaning!! Thank you so much for our **Landscaping Team** for the work that we know is ahead of us. Be sure to contact Sharon Mays for direction and encouragement if you are not sure how to start!! If you haven't signed up for this team, it is never, never too late!! Contact Sharon sharon_mays@comcast.net. She will welcome you with open arms and steer you in the right direction!!

Thank you for the **YOUTH** and parents for the yummy baked goods in February!!

Game Night has started again!! Thank you, Joey, for the goodies you always provide along with fun, games and great conversation!! The kids had their sleep over and joined us! As kids always do, they livened the party!! We have some regulars now, so come and join in on the fun!! The next get together will be March 15th at 7:00pm.

Want to deepen your Spirituality? We are so blessed to be able to provide classes that help us do just that!! See the sign up table for **Foundations in Unity** and **Welcome to Unity** Class. And while we are on that subject, we are so blessed to have our **Prayer Chaplain** program here at Unity of Fox Valley. This is also a very important Volunteer Ministry where our chaplains devote hours to training, making calls, and supporting you in affirmative prayer and love. We are so grateful for them and their dedication.

DON'T FORGET OUR **VOLUNTEER DINNER**, on March 28th. This is our way of appreciating all that you do. Rev Mike and the Staff will be your wait staff, so you just sit back and enjoy!! Sign up so we know how many will be attending!!

APRIL HAPPENING:

EASTER WILL BE HERE before we know it. You know what that means!! The **Easter Feast** will be **Palm Sunday**, April 13th. We will need someone to chair this event!!

Please contact me, Bobbi: bsever4785@gmail.com if one or more of you would take on this annual event!!!

OUR QUOTE FOR THIS MONTH, "WHAT VOLUNTEERING MEANS TO ME"

"Volunteering at Unity of Fox Valley provides a tangible way to express my Christ Light. It fills me with joy and provides opportunities for growth & development." Susan Korpan

So turn on your Christ Light and glow and grow!!!

Namaste' and 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:

- A five horsepower 22-in Murray snowblower with electric start. It has five speeds forward and to reverse. It runs well. Please click [here](#) for a photo.: Terry Wohl
630-988-2439 2/24/25
- Random quilt squares. Please click [here](#) for a photo.: Kathleen Malick churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org
[ey.org](#), 2/24/25

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: churchoffice@unityoffoxvalley.org

For more info or questions on the products, please contact Sue Rolison: sue.rolison@comcast.net

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.

HEY! My daughter Ava turned 21 this past February!! I loved listening to her as she complained that her Mid-Terms were happening the same time as her birthday - HA HA HA!

I know she wouldn't appreciate me posting a photo of her so instead, here's a photo of my cat Reese keeping me company as I slept ❤️



**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.

