



NUUSLETTER

The Newsletter of Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church
always available online at www.hvuuc.org

The mission of Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church is to promote spiritual growth, religious freedom, and ethical action.

August 2021

PO Box 8383 Johnson City, Tennessee 37615 (423) 477-7661

Headlines

- Gathering Guidelines have been updated—see page 4 for details
- Kitchen of Hope August 2
- Church Picnic August 7
- Online Game Group 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 7PM

Up to date church info is always available at www.hvuuc.org

Temporary Office Admin Position

The HVUUC Board of Directors is looking for a church member to temporarily fill the position of Office Administrator starting the second week of August until the position is filled permanently. (approximately 1-2 months)

This is a paid temporary position and will be under the supervision of the Minister. The office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9AM to 2:30PM with a 30-minute lunch break. Hours may be flexible based on the needs of the church and minister.

Skills needed include proficiency in the MS Office Suite and willingness to help suggest improvements with current processes. Other software packages will be used such as Squarespace, Mailchimp and Google workspace, but we will train as needed.

We are looking for a church member with strong customer service skills and willingness to help the permanent office administrator selectee in the final position placement. The church member filling this position will not be eligible for the permanent position since we will be selecting the final candidate from outside the church per UUA recommendation.

For more information or if you are interested please contact Dana York at pastpresident@hvuuc.org by August 4, 2021.

Upcoming Virtual Church Services

11:00AM Sundays at [HVUUC YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvUUC)

August 1 *St. Vincent de Paul Society*, Jos deWit
Jos de Wit, a chemist at Eastman Chemical Company and a cradle Roman Catholic, will tell us about the St. Vincent de Paul Society. This charity, which is almost 200 years old, consists of lay Catholics who help those in need, about 90% of whom are not Catholic themselves. Jos tells you how the groups work in general, and relates some specific ways they have been able to support families and individuals in our community this past year.

August 8 *Waiting for the Mud to Settle*, Rev. Tiffany Sapp
Do we have the patience to wait, and let things settle? Can we move slowly, patiently and carefully rather than reactively? Rev. Tiffany Sapp explores how practices connected to Stillness, and the Wisdom of the Tao Te Ching, can support us during challenging times.

August 15 *Listening With Our Hearts*, Rev. Tiffany Sapp
Building community begins and ends with listening. And in our current environment, we are becoming aware of marginalized voices who are not being heard. How can we listen better? And whose voices can we lift up?

August 22 *Covenant*, Rev. Tiffany Sapp
Our church is not creedal, we are covenantal. How do we build relationships in the church?

August 29 *Small Groups, Big Connections*, Rev. Sapp
We humans are made for community, something we feel more now than ever. How do we get to know someone beyond a superficial level? The practice of small group sharing has been deepening the lives of HVUUC members for years. This Sunday we hear from three small group participants about how their lives have been enriched by this practice.

Church Picnic

Please join us Saturday, August 7 from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. for our annual church picnic at the Eastman shelters #28 and #30. Featured are fellowship (woohoo!!!) and our new minister, Rev. Tiffany Sapp!



We are so excited to see you! The Reopening Task Force proposed and the Board approved the responsible guidelines below. They are based on advice and data from the CDC, the WHO, and local health departments as well as UU Principles and values. The UUA encourages us to be compassionate and plan in such a way as to include the most people safely, and that is what we are seeking to do.

These guidelines are a little different than the guidelines for church because the Eastman Recreation Area is very different from the church campus. Gathering guidelines for the church remain the same.

Picnic Guidelines

- Please stay home if anyone in your household is ill.
- Each family/pod should bring their own food, drinks, plates, utensils, cups, masks, and lawn chairs. We understand that it is hard to contemplate a church picnic that is not a potluck, but we can focus instead on the joy of fellowship and enjoying the opportunity to have fun together in a way that hasn't been possible for over a year.
- Please sit and eat in pods—6 feet away from other pods. Feel free to unmask in pods.
- Please wear masks while socializing up close.
- There will be both vaccinated and unvaccinated people (including children) present.
- Some people are still vulnerable even with the vaccine.
- The new Delta variant is highly contagious, even among vaccinated people.
- Feel free to unmask during activities IF everyone participating in the activity (or their responsible adult) is comfortable with it. Please do not pressure. This is a great time to model compassion and consent culture.
- Color-coded indicators will be supplied that communicate each person's comfort level regarding space and physical touch.

Hand sanitizer and a few disposable masks will be available. If you are interested in leading an activity (crafts, games, storytelling, music jam, social justice brainstorming, balloon animals, hike, etc.), please contact membership@HVUUC.org.

If you have any questions or safety concerns, please contact reopeningtaskforce@HVUUC.org.

Kitchen of Hope Monday, August 1

No volunteers are needed for Kitchen of Hope this month, but we are still serving meals.

The Kitchen of Hope is still serving meals to folks in need. In fact, the numbers have risen to 200+ a day. In an effort to keep volunteers and guests as safe as possible, the logistics have changed. Instead of a sit-down community meal, we now must serve to-go meals only, at the door, one at a time. We have adapted to this situation. And we, too, want to limit potential exposure for you.

Until things get back to normal, if you would like to help, please consider donating either money or food items that can go in a lunch bag. We serve once a month, but the Kitchen of Hope serves 6 nights a week.

Thanks for all you do! Our community is infinitely better for your caring and commitment!

To donate money:

Mail a check to - HVUUC PO Box 8383, Gray, TN 37615 memo: Kitchen of Hope

Via Paypal - <https://hvuuc.org/donate>
please indicate it is for Kitchen of Hope

To donate food: Contact Kim at KOH@hvuuc.org



Please Remember Your Pledge

Please continue your support of the church by completing your intended pledge for this fiscal year. We still have the mortgage, electric, internet/phone bills to pay. To honor our commitments all paid staff will continue to be paid during this time.

The best way to donate at this time is by check. Electronic donations are also possible, but they take a small percentage of each transaction, so the church will not receive your entire donation.

Mail to: **HVUUC PO Box 8383 Gray, TN 37615**
Write "pledge" in the memo line. Thank you!

Black SONday

August 8 is the Second Annual Black SONday..this year being held as BOTH a hybrid physical local event AND a global virtual event.

This is the eve of the 7th anniversary of the murder of Michael Brown of Ferguson, Missouri. Seven years have passed; more lives have been taken as senseless gun violence continues to plague the United States and the world.

Black SONday offers several ways YOU can be involved:

1. Walk 4 Love! ~ 8am to Noon ~ this walk can be personal OR as a group. Full event information at Facebook: "2nd Annual Black SONday Global Event" (<https://fb.me/e/JF7F1mU5>)
2. Family Roundtable Talk ~ 12 Noon to 2pm ~ hear Michael Brown's father and others share stories of those committed to change.

If anyone is interested in organizing a group walk that morning, please contact Bob Warner at bob@lightpartners.org or 920-418-4862.

Grocery Cards Still Available for Purchase

Food City and Ingles grocery cards are available and can be mailed or delivered to you!

The cards we currently have in our possession were purchased well over 8 weeks ago. They are kept in ziplock bags and are not exposed to anything.

Cards can be delivered to mailboxes in the Johnson City or Kingsport area, and possibly to others areas. Of course, the cards could also be mailed.

We will happily accommodate your needs so that we can continue to generate a wee bit of income for the church.

If you are interested, please contact Dottie and Richard at grocerycards@hvuuc.org.

Thank you for continuing to participate!

Gathering Guidelines

The Board of Trustees (BoT) voted at the May 19, 2021 meeting to **make changes to the facilities usage guidelines** and to **continue to hold virtual services**. These new guidelines will be through August 31, 2021 **Or** when the new Reopening Task Force has provided recommendations to the BoT.

A Reopening Task Force has been formed to research and provide recommendations to the BoT. There will be more communication about this task force's charge, membership, and progress in the coming weeks and months.

The following **NEW Gathering Guidelines** for small groups at our facilities (inside and outside of buildings) are now in place.

We strongly recommend continuing to use online forums for small group/committee/team meetings. However, the HVUUC Board has voted to allow people on site for activities as needed.

- Only **1 group** may meet at a time **inside the church building or on the deck**. To **schedule a room or the deck** for your meeting or workgroup and to make sure other groups are not already scheduled, please contact Karyn at office@hvuuc.org to reserve your group on the church calendar. You can check the calendar to make sure there are no conflicts at: <https://localendar.com/public/hvuuchurch>

To locate the church calendar from the church website (hvuuc.org), go to the "News & Events" menu and select the 3rd item, "Church Calendar" from the drop-down menu.

Gathering Guidelines for **Inside** Church Facilities:

- **No children's activities** allowed at this time.
- Groups of **10 people and less**
- **Social Distancing of 6 feet** should still be maintained between people of different households/pods.
- Guidance on **face masks in small groups** (please bring your own):
 - ⇒ If the group is a **mix of unvaccinated and vaccinated** people **OR** if **vaccination status** of all attendees is **unknown: All attendees should wear a mask.**
 - ⇒ If it is known that **all attendees** are **fully vaccinated AND all agree: Attendees can choose to not wear a mask.**
 - ⇒ The Fred Ball room (fellowship hall), sanctuary, and deck are the best meeting areas. The REZ is available if all of the above guidelines can be followed.

Must **wash hands** with soap and water for 20 seconds upon entering buildings, or use hand sanitizer and let air dry. Hand sanitizer is in several locations (foyer, kitchen, REZ), to be used as needed.

Gathering Guidelines for **Outside** Church Facilities:

- **No children's activities** allowed at this time.
- Guidance on **social distancing of 6 feet between people of different households/pods.**
 - ⇒ If the group is a **mix of unvaccinated and vaccinated** people **OR** if **vaccination status** of all attendees is **unknown: All attendees should social distance.**
 - ⇒ If it is known that **all attendees** are **fully vaccinated AND all agree: Attendees can choose to not social distance.**
- Groups of **20 people and less** are allowed if social distancing can be maintained in the location.
- Masks are not required for groups meeting outside.

Online Sunday services (on YouTube) will continue during this time. Virtual Religious Education (RE) activities for preschool through 12th grade will continue. Please register your children at [RE Reg form](#)

To schedule a Zoom Meeting

If your small group/committee/team would like to use Zoom, fill out the form here and on the website under the New & Events tab. <https://hvuuc.org/schedule-a-zoom-meeting>

Gathering Guidelines for **Outside** Church Facilities:

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 - ⇒ If it is known that **all attendees** are **fully vaccinated AND all agree: Attendees can choose to not social distance.**
 - ⇒ Groups of **20 people and less** are allowed if social distancing can be maintained in the location.
 - ⇒ Masks are not required for groups meeting outside.

Guidelines common for **Inside and Outside**:

- **Meals** should be **sack or box lunches**, no family style meals, ie pizza. No water coolers or other communal drinking, ie punch. Maintain 6 feet of distance during meals.
- **If you are ill**, have a fever/cough, are someone who is at increased risk, or traveled to endemic areas infected with COVID-19, **please stay home** and enjoy online content and fellowship.
- **Must clean** commonly touched hard surfaces like door handles, light switches, tables, counter tops, metal surfaces (chair backs), etc., **when finished.**
- Please use the cleaning wipes and/or bleach solution and paper towels in the foyer, kitchen, and REZ for cleaning/disinfecting after each visit.

Whenever possible **do not share work tools**. If sharing occurs, wipe down handles with disinfecting wipes before returning the tool.

	Max. Number of people	Social Distancing	Children	Masks
Inside Gathering	10	Yes	No	Yes: if group is mix of vaccinated/unvaccinated OR status unknown No: if all are fully vaccinated AND agree
Outside Gathering	20	Yes: if group is mix of vaccinated/unvaccinated OR status unknown No: if all fully vaccinated AND agree	No	Not required

Membership

Caring Team

The Caring Team coordinator for August is Joy Boyd. Contact Joy at caring@hvuuc.org or 423-477-7661 Press 1.

Thank You to our July coordinator Joseph Viola!

Website Member Log In

There is information on the website that you need to log in to see. Scroll to bottom of the home page and click on "Members Area". If you need the password, email office@hvuuc.org.

Once you log in, you can get a recent member directory, read the board policies and procedures and board meeting minutes, and get a reimbursement form or our tax exempt certificate.

2021-2022 Board of Trustees

President: Ann Livengood president@hvuuc.org

Vice President: Ann Johnson vp@hvuuc.org

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Membership Trustee: Michele Markstrom-Frisch membership@hvuuc.org

Minister

Rev. Tiffany Sapp: 477-7661 (office) minister@hvuuc.org

Director of Religious Education

Sarah White DRE@hvuuc.org

Music Director

Charis Carter musicdirector@hvuuc.org

Church Secretary

Karyn Cross office@hvuuc.org

Submissions for each month's newsletter are due by the last day of month to newsletter@hvuuc.org.
Up to date information can always be found at www.hvuuc.org