



# NUUSLETTER

The Newsletter of Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church  
always available online at [www.hvuuc.org](http://www.hvuuc.org)

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

February 2022

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

## Headlines ....

- [Listening Circles](#)
- [Church Work Day](#)
- [Religious Education](#)
- [Covid numbers](#)
- [Social Justice](#)

Up to date church info is always available at [www.hvuuc.org](http://www.hvuuc.org)

## Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee needs volunteers to help plan and execute the Stewardship Campaign for the spring.

This is an opportunity to facilitate a critical process for the church. The tasks primarily involve communications to promote congregant involvement, such as distributing pledge cards, follow up by phone/email, and contributing to announcement design.

The peak activity is January through March, with most time spent in preparation and follow up.

For more information and to volunteer, please contact Charlie at [stewardship@hvuuc.org](mailto:stewardship@hvuuc.org)

## Upcoming Virtual Church Services

11:00AM Sundays at [HVVUC YouTube](#)

**February 6**—*Stardust Contemplating Itself*, Rev. Sapp Science inspires awe in so many of us. From the microscopic workings of atoms and cells, to the truly enormous expanses of space, there is so much beauty out there, and so much to understand. We are truly, stardust contemplating itself.

**February 13**—*Seven Words for Love*

On the day before Valentine's Day, we explore the different ways that we can love. There is not one way to love, in fact there are probably as many different ways of loving as there are people on the planet.

**February 20**—*Roots and Wings Theology*, Rev. Tiffany Sapp

When fear activates our flight or fight responses, finding a sense of groundedness and connection can help us overcome our instincts to react. This program will center on trying a variety of practices that brings us both groundedness (roots) and a sense of freedom (wings)

**February 27**—*We Are: Promises Kept And Broken*, Roddy Biggs

The call: Join us as we ask ourselves what promises we keep and break as we strive to live our best lives grounded in and by our living faith tradition of Unitarian Universalism. We Are many things; Connected, Stronger Together, Loves Hands In The World, creating justice, Caring For One Another, and The Earth! These are the Promises we make, the promises we strive to keep, and the promises we are known to break. In this service, we together explore Who We Are as Unitarian Universalists in the 21st century.

## JAMA Volunteers Needed

Jonesborough Area Ministerial Association (JAMA) is looking for one volunteer to give out food on the second Thursday of each month.

HVVUC already has 2 volunteers that Thursday and is looking for one more. Hours are all or part of 8:30-12:00.

Please contact Mary Williamson.



Dear HVUUC Family and Friends,

In minister's circles, we talk a lot about "shared ministry." What this term means, is that ministry isn't something that just the minister and staff do alone. Ministry is something that we all do together. And the best way that we do ministry together is from having conversations about who we are, and developing a shared vision for who we want to be as a religious community.

To that end, I'd like to invite each of you to join in the conversation about what our Vision is, and what our values suggest we do with our resources of time, treasure, and talent.

We have Listening Circles set up for the months of February and March to engage in this conversation. With some Zoom and some In-Person options, this is a non-judgmental space for you to express how you see our church living out that Vision in the future. The method will involve each person getting to say what they want to in response to the reflective questions presented, and each person always has the option to pass in responding to a question. I will be at each one, ready to really hear you. And a member of our church leadership, either a Board member or a representative of our Reopening Team, will be at each Listening Circle as well.

Signing up for your Listening Circle is simple. Click on this link to go directly to the reservation system that we've set up: <https://hvuuc.betterworld.org/events/listening-circles>

You'll see the times, dates, and locations listed on the ticket option on the right side of the screen. In-Person options are listed first, so if you want a Zoom option just keep on scrolling down! And if you're confused, or don't see a date and time that work for you, please email us or call us and we will help you register. (Email Jessica at [office@hvuuc.org](mailto:office@hvuuc.org) or call 423-477-7661 on Tuesday or Thursday from 9:00am until 2:30pm)

I hope you can invest the time to participate in one of these conversations so that we can keep growing, and deepening, as a religious community.

Rev. Tiffany,  
[minister@hvuuc.org](mailto:minister@hvuuc.org)

## Church Work Day

Mar 5



MORE DETAILS UNDER "EVENTS" AT HVUUC.ORG

Workday, inside and out. Spring is about to happen, so let's start to prepare for being outdoors at the church. We'll also clear the lower parking lot for a planned service on the 20th.

Contact Greg at [facilities@hvuuc.org](mailto:facilities@hvuuc.org) with any questions.

## Religious Education

Religious Education is looking for hosts for our RE Pop Ups! Are you passionate about a topic and want to share it with a small group? Is there something you have been wanting to try? Have you been getting the urge to play?

Contact Religious Education at [DRE@HVUUC.ORG](mailto:DRE@HVUUC.ORG) and we will help you get your Pop Up planned and scheduled! It can happen on line or at the church!

Our upcoming Pop Ups are:

[All Ages Game Day on February 19th from 1:00-3:00](#)

Community Mural on March 12th from 12-2 and 2:30-4:30

Please go to our website to register and secure your spot!

## Indigenous Dialogue

After Rev. Grubbs' service on "Discovering America Again" we thought our HVUUC family might be interested in following up on this topic with this month's Black/White dialogue exploration of the experience of local indigenous people. The information is below, I hope you'll be able to join me! - Rev. Tiffany

The Black/White Dialogue meeting will occur on **Zoom on February 14, beginning at 6:00pm.**

The black experience in this nation is strongly intertwined with the indigenous people, both with a positive and negative result. Accordingly, our facilitators/presenters for this month's meeting are, Deborah (Debi) Thibeault, DSW, LCSW, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work at East Tennessee State University (ETSU), Terry Shinn is a keeper and teller of Indigenous stories, and Chasity Drew is the Associate Director of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) at East Tennessee State University (ETSU).

Besides bringing stories of and discussing the experiences of indigenous people, we hope to learn of the indigenous people who have been part of this region.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84366154446?pwd=RG94RnRMYjVhYzN3ZTlZOGFEamlwdz09>

Meeting ID: 843 6615 4446

Passcode: 647427

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,84366154446#,,,,\*647427# US (Washington DC)

## Path to Membership

There will be a Zoom Path to Membership class on **Sun. March 6, 2:00-3:30PM**

This is a class that helps prospective members learn more about our church and the opportunities for involvement. The class does not commit you to membership, but is a necessary precursor for joining our church. The class also lets you get to know a small group of people on a more personal level.

If interested please contact [membership@hvuuc.org](mailto:membership@hvuuc.org)

# Social Justice Committee

## Book Recommendations

### **When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir**

by Patrisse Khan-Cullers and Asha Bandele.

Khan-Cullers' early life of poverty and police brutality and the treatment of her mentally ill brother in prison was especially heart breaking. Events of her own life and injustice in the country led her to forming Black Lives Matter along with Alisa Garza and Opal Tometi. It is enlightening and inspiring to understand how BLM started and it is a call to action.

### **The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story**

Orchestrated by The New York Times Magazine led by MacArthur and Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones covers the lives of Blacks in America from 1619 to 2020.

The consequences of slavery and contributions of Black Americans are the center of this story. The history covered here is often little known but very significant. Our government has taken two steps forward for Blacks and one step backward, so progress is slow and uncertain. The book contains essays, photos and poetry, something for every reader. How did we get to this place in America where poverty and injustice are still the lot of Blacks who have contributed to this country through their free labor, their music, storytelling, art and their worship. The book is a call to action for voting rights, housing, healthcare, education and job opportunities

## Homelessness

According to a survey by Charles Schwab 59 percent of Americans are a paycheck away from homelessness.

The number of homeless in North East Tennessee are on the rise and 15.9 percent of all Northeastern Tennesseans are considered food insecure.

<https://feedkingsport.org/> has a list of resources for anyone that is experiencing hunger.

<https://www.appalachianhomeless.org/> looks to solve housing issues in our area and currently needs volunteers to do data collection and wellness checks.

### What can you do?

- Donate Socks, socks are the number one requested item.
- Make Scarves, if you are crafty make more than a scarf.
- Donate toys, clothes, and food to shelters
- Donate your time
- Be kind, homelessness happens for a multitude of reasons and kindness is free.

And for a good read check out Evicted by Matthew Desmond, it outlines the struggles that lead people to homelessness with very relatable scenarios

## Spring Tree Sale

The Social Justice Committee is encouraging your support of the Tennessee Environmental Council in its annual tree sale.

Again this year, TEC will be offering trees for purchase all across Tennessee. Planting trees is an effective way to improve the health of the environment and to add beauty and so much more to outdoor spaces.

Trees may be ordered online and will be available for pickup on March 18 and March 19 at a number of sites in our area.

### **Your order must be placed by February 13.**

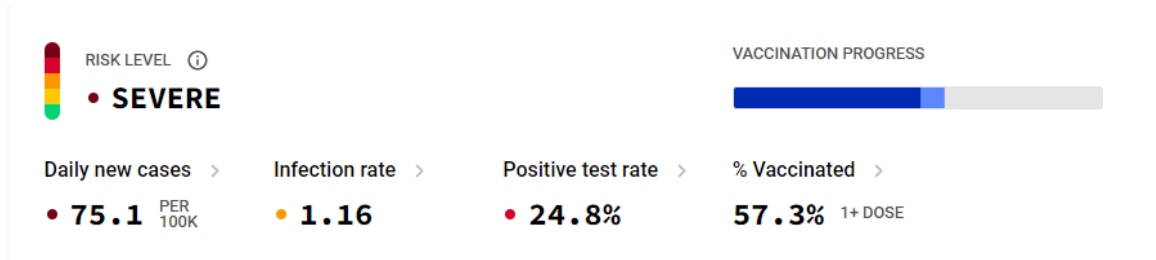
Trees available this year for only \$1.99 each are bald cypress, eastern redbud, gray dogwood, northern red oak, nuttall oak, pawpaw, pecan, red mulberry, shagbark hickory, Virginia pine and wild plum.

Complete information about the Council, ordering trees and the care and planting of these trees can be found at <https://www.tectn.org/tennesseetreeday.html>.

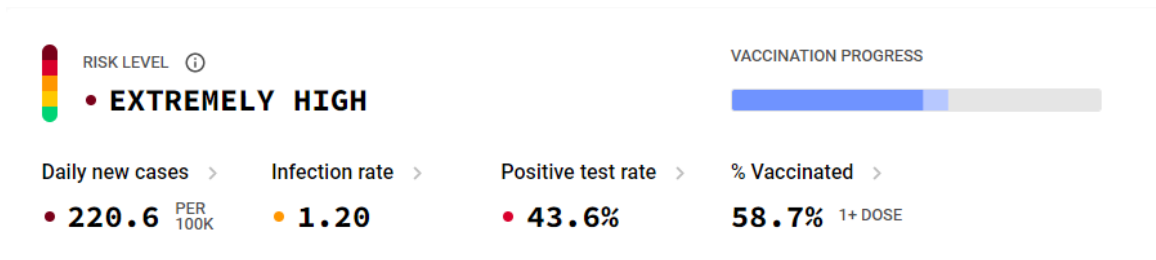
# REOPENING UPDATE

Our congregation's Sunday Services are currently 100% online because our region is still in the Severe Risk (Red) category.

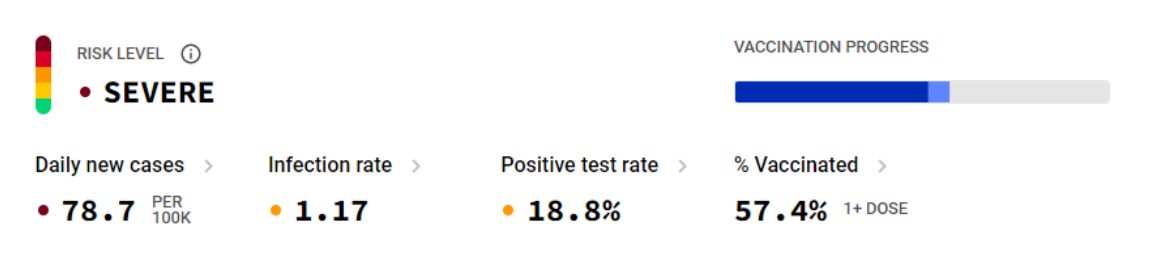
## Kingsport Metro Area - December 2021



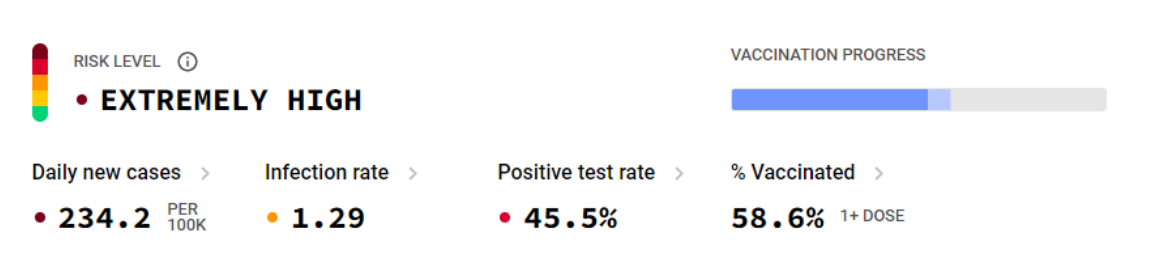
## January 2022



## Johnson City Metro Area - December 2021



## January 2022



For full details about our Congregation's Reopening Plan please visit: <https://hvuuc.org/reopening-plan> and click on the link to the Reopening Plan.

## Membership

### Caring Team

February 2022 coordinator is Lynn S.

Thank you to our January CT coverage by our newest member Joshua B.

Welcome aboard & great job !

### Kitchen of Hope

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.

#### 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](mailto:KOH@hvuuc.org)

### 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](mailto: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.

### Grocery Cards Available for Purchase

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

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](mailto:grocerycards@hvuuc.org).

Thank you for continuing to participate!

## 2021-2022 Board of Trustees

**President:** Ann Livengood [president@hvuuc.org](mailto:president@hvuuc.org)

**Vice President:** Ann Johnson [vp@hvuuc.org](mailto:vp@hvuuc.org)

**Past President:** Dana York [pastpresident@hvuuc.org](mailto:pastpresident@hvuuc.org)

**Treasurer:** Deb Helmer [treasurer@hvuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@hvuuc.org)

**Stewardship Trustee:** Charlie Miller [stewardshiptrustee@hvuuc.org](mailto:stewardshiptrustee@hvuuc.org)

**Programs Trustee:** Bryan Kleske [programs@hvuuc.org](mailto:programs@hvuuc.org)

**Facilities Trustee:** Greg Kramer [facilities@hvuuc.org](mailto:facilities@hvuuc.org)

**Secretary/Historian:** Dottie Blades [boardsecretary@hvuuc.org](mailto:boardsecretary@hvuuc.org)

**Membership Trustee:** Michele Markstrom-Frisch [membership@hvuuc.org](mailto:membership@hvuuc.org)

#### Minister

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

#### Director of Religious Education

Sarah White [DRE@hvuuc.org](mailto:DRE@hvuuc.org)

#### Music Director

Charis Carter [musicdirector@hvuuc.org](mailto:musicdirector@hvuuc.org)

#### Office Administrator

Jessica Bowman [office@hvuuc.org](mailto:office@hvuuc.org)

Submissions for each month's newsletter are due by the last day of month to [newsletter@hvuuc.org](mailto:newsletter@hvuuc.org).

Up to date information can always be found at [www.hvuuc.org](http://www.hvuuc.org)