



# 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.*

September 2021

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

## Headlines ....

- Online Service Auction November 11th –13th
- Kitchen of Hope October 4th
- Walking with the Minister October 16th
- Fireside Fall Fun October 23rd
- Black/White dialog October 11th

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

## Zoom Services

We are so excited to announce that in October we are moving forward with interactive live services via Zoom instead of the pre-recorded format that has served us previously during the pandemic.

For up-to-date information and relevant zoom links please visit:  
<https://hvuuc.org/worship-services>

Recordings of the zoom services will also be available afterwards on our YouTube channel at [HVVUUC YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/hvuuc)

## Upcoming Virtual Church Services

11:00AM Sundays at [HVVUUC YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/hvuuc)

**October 3rd**—*Honorable Harvest: An Anishinaabe Perspective on Justice*, Rev. Sapp

In "Braiding Sweetgrass," botanist and Potawatomi Nation citizen Robin Wall Kimmerer explores the reciprocal nature of the world and our place in it. How can her work inform our work toward a more just world?

**October 10th**—*Staying Queer*, Rev Lisa Bovee-Kemper

Human beings tend to categorize and describe ourselves and each other using broad categories and traits, some of which feel good and right. Others feel imposed on us, or somehow more challenging. How does your identity remain static, and how does it shift and change? \*Lisa will provide Reading and Benediction

**October 17th**—*Forbidden Fruit: How Buying a tomato can send you to hell*, Rev. Tiffany Sapp

Life is complicated. Sometimes we think we're doing a good thing, but unintended consequences mean that we do harm anyway. Popular television show *The Good Place* took this concept to an extreme, and it has a lot to teach us. The Water Communion is a Unitarian Universalist ritual that celebrates the coming together of community. This year we may have to be a little creative in how we connect, but we will connect nonetheless!

**October 24th**—*Grief and Gratitude*, Rev. Tiffany Sapp

Our religious community can become a container for all of those feelings that threaten to overwhelm. Join us for a practice of recognizing our grief and celebrating our gratitude, together.





## Picking Wildflowers

The air is crisp, my favorite sweatshirt has made its way out of the closet, and everywhere I look I see wildflowers blooming on the side of the road. For me, wildflowers are a reminder that we don't have to work super hard for every good thing in our lives. Sometimes life gives us a gift.

But sometimes, like with wildflowers, we have to pay attention to our surroundings in order to notice the gift and appreciate it. The simple gifts can be missed if we only set our sights on the grandiose.

And so today, I see so much that I'm grateful for.

I'm grateful for the chance to gather around the fire with you all at the Grand Oak Farm.

I'm grateful for the fall weather that invites me to come sit on your front porches, and to go on hikes with my community.

I'm grateful for the many ways that we are connecting with each other, online and offline.

And really, that's just the tip of the iceberg. Everywhere I look, there is something, or someone, to be grateful for.

What are you grateful for today?

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



## Walking with the Minister

Join Rev. Tiffany for a hike to the Flint Creek Battle Site at Rocky Fork State Park. On **Saturday October 16th** at 10am we will meet at the Lamar Alexander Rocky Fork State Park parking lot. It is approximately a 2 mile (round trip) moderate hike over a path that is level and paved with gravel. Several bridges will be crossed. Bring water and snacks and expect to stop a few times. Kids are welcome as long as they're willing to walk. **Email [minister@hvuuc.org](mailto:minister@hvuuc.org)** so that we know you're coming, or for more information.



## Fall Service Auction November 11 - 13

It's time to start thinking about what you'll donate to our service auction this year!

The auction will again be all online and will begin on Thursday, November 11 and end on Saturday, November 13.

All donations and bidding will be done using the Auctria website. You can go there to donate items now and bid on items when bidding begins. You will also be able to bid using the Auctria mobile app on your phone.

### Auction Items Needed Now!

You are encouraged to donate items that can be redeemed during the next year, assuming the same social distancing safety guidelines are in place next year that we are following this fall.

Last year popular items were homemade meal/food deliveries, outdoor dinners, hikes and other outdoor activities, and physical items.

You can go to:  
[www.auctria.com/auction/2021HVUUCauction](http://www.auctria.com/auction/2021HVUUCauction)  
now and start entering those donations!

Email [auction@hvuuc.org](mailto:auction@hvuuc.org) with any questions.

## Kitchen of Hope, Monday, October 4th

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)

## Dream Covenant Group

*"Sharing dreams and searching cooperatively for their meanings regularly creates deeper intimacy and understanding between and among people participating in the process"* Jeremy Taylor, UU minister and dream worker.

In this group we will be sharing and exploring the rich layers of our dreams using Taylor's Dream-work Toolkit and his assertion that "all dreams come in the service of health and wholeness."

Facilitators: Wendy Hearl and Brandie Worley

Meeting place and time: Beginning Monday, September 11. We will meet via Zoom from 7-9pm on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from September-May

To sign up contact: [dreamcg@hvuuc.org](mailto:dreamcg@hvuuc.org)

**Social Justice**

HOLSTON VALLEY UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALISTS (HVUUC)

LOOKING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE  
VOLUNTEERS

**HELP WANTED**

**Social Justice is a cornerstone of Unitarian Universalism. We invite ALL members & friends to join our Social Justice Committee**

- Feeding the Poor and Hungry
- Supporting LGBTQIA+ Initiatives
- Participating in the Black Lives Matter Movement
- Ending White Supremacy

**CONTACT: [socialjustice@hvuuc.org](mailto:socialjustice@hvuuc.org) or Bob Warner @ 920.418.4862**

## Rev. Tiffany with Black/White Dialogue

The October 11 Zoom meeting, beginning at 6:00pm, will provide audio comments by Dr. Christena Cleveland, PhD, on the subject, "A Spiritual Pathway to Freedom and Mutuality for a Nation divided separating Race, Minorities, and the Disadvantaged from the majority." While Dr. Cleveland speaks from a Christian viewpoint and her viewpoint focuses toward the Black/White divide, her wisdom and insight is beneficial to all who listen.

Rev. Tiffany Sapp, Pastor of Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church and Rev. Ed Wolff, ret., host of Black/White Dialogue, will facilitate the discussion.

Time: Oct 11, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86047778497?pwd=NnRyR3lIWUJmSmV0SjFERDFJNnh5dz09>

Meeting ID: 860 4777 8497

Passcode: 869464



## Rev. Tiffany Out of the Office

Rev. Tiffany's approach to her vacation time and professional development will be a little different than ministers that we've had in the past: she will be taking it in bits and pieces throughout the year instead of one big chunk during the summer.

And that first vacation week is almost here! Rev. Tiffany will be unavailable from Monday, October 4th until Sunday, October 10th.

For regular needs reach out to the Caring Team at [caring@hvuuc.org](mailto:caring@hvuuc.org) For pastoral emergencies please contact our President Ann Livengood at [president@hvuuc.org](mailto:president@hvuuc.org).



## Fireside Fall Fun

### Families, save the date!

**Saturday, October 23, 2021**

**5:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Grand Oak Farm 2579 Hwy 81 N**

**Jonesborough, TN, 37659**

Come to Grand Oak Farm, October 23, at 5PM for some Fireside Fall Fun for a Halloween gathering to honor Karyn Cross for her service to our church as Office Administrator.

Bring your own dinner picnic to serve everyone in your Pod which will be socially distanced. Adults and kids are invited to wear costumes!

Activities for the evening will be: two Bonfires (one for S'mores which be provided); A pumpkin patch where each pod will pick their pumpkin to decorate (bring all your decorations); A photo booth provided by the RE Youth and Trick or Treat for the kids to go to each Pod and receive some prepackaged goodies provided by you (only if you want to participate) and maybe a Halloween Movie on the Barn.

The COVID color coded ribbons will be used, but there should be plenty of room for us to spread out. The planning team is looking at other fun things to do so stay tuned. To register go to:

<https://forms.gle/6M7jDK2YQfr3VHTR8>

by October 20, 2021

**To donate toward a gift for Karyn Cross send money care of Reverend Tiffany Sapp at HVUUC, PO Box 8383, Gray, TN 36715.**

# Caring Team Orientation Meeting



Open Meet and Greet!

F1 & F2 Fellowship Hall  
Sunday October 10

1pm Lunch -bring your own-  
Water provided

1:30-2:30 Policy & Procedure Review  
Open discussion to follow

HVUUC health and safety guidelines will be as usual with mask wearing recommended.

Those interested in future membership or just curious are invited. PLEASE RSVP.

Sign up at [caringteam@hvuuc.org](mailto:caringteam@hvuuc.org)

## Music Matters

Dearest Congregants and Clergy,

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for your patience and participation in the last year. Never in my wildest dreams, could I have imagined what I have experienced serving this church as the music director. Upon accepting the position, I agreed to facilitate music making for our Sunday Services. What was a dream job, quickly turned into a nightmare as I navigated the digital world with the other clergy who banded together to create virtual services to be aired each Sunday. These services took weeks and, at times, months to create. Tensions grew as the creative teams worked to a frazzle. I have seen a person's true colors may shine

through during stressful times. I saw a rainbow in this congregation, like the bright sun burning through a crystal; watching each color come together and contribute to the beautiful bounty that is our church.

You all continue to teach me so much about myself. Thank you for allowing me to serve you and grow as a person and as one of your Staff. I have gained skills that have enriched my life and I have made friends that I intend on knowing for the rest of my life. I hope to have the opportunity to do the good work with Holston Valley UU Church for as long as the universe allows. We have so much talent and love in our church. Thank you to each person that participated in our musical offerings this last year. I encourage everyone to participate as we move forward into the new platform of virtual services on Zoom. I hope that you find the musical segments of our services as a place to explore, share, learn, grow, and gift your talents with us. It doesn't matter if you are a soloist, a master, or beginner. Please let us share in the delight of your growth as a musician!

Thank you for your time and attention,

Charis Carter  
Music Director  
HVUUC

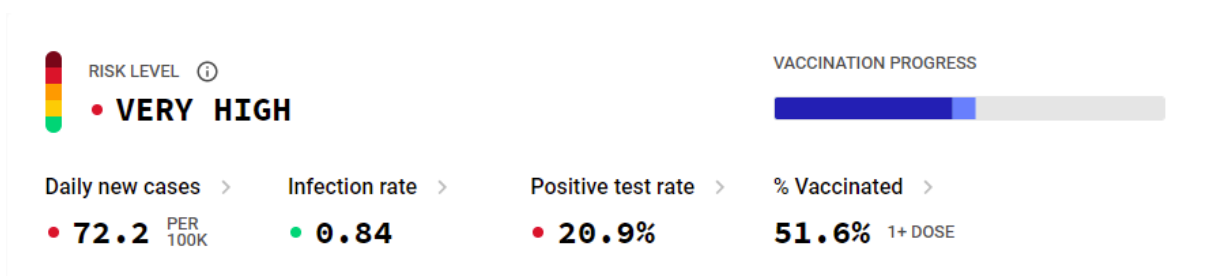


| Treasurer Summary Report – First Quarter 2021 - 2022 |                              |  |  |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|
|  | Totals through First Quarter | Budgeted amounts through First Quarter | Totals through First Quarter Actual minus Budgeted |
| Income   | 40504                        | 41265                                  | -761   |
| Expenses   | 30807                        | 41265                                  | -10458   |
| Income minus Expenses                                | 9697                         |  | 9697   |

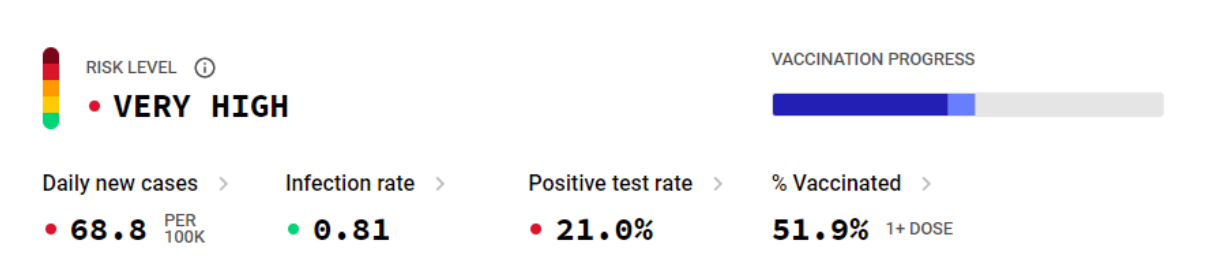
## REOPENING UPDATE

Our congregation's Sunday Services are currently 100% online because our region is still in the Severe Risk (Red) category. A partial reopen that contains both an in-person and a zoom option for Sunday services will be an option only after our region has been in the Medium Risk (Yellow) category on covidactnow.org for thirty days.

### Kingsport Metro Area



### Johnson City Metro Area



As of September 30th the Kingsport and Johnson City metro area are both at very high risk.

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

The Caring Team coordinator for October is Joy B. Contact Linda at [caring@hvuuc.org](mailto:caring@hvuuc.org) or 423-477-7661 Press 1.

**Thank You** to our September coordinator Brandi H!

### 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 via Paypal at <https://hvuuc.org/donate> 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!

### 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)