



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.

June 2020

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

Headlines

- All in person Worship Services, Religious Education classes have been suspended through July 31. See page 3 for guidelines for other gatherings.
- Online Game Group 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 7PM

Up to date church info is always available at www.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!

Tax Statement

If you need a tax statement for your donation to the church, contact Ramesh at pledge@hvuuc.org.



Upcoming Virtual Church Services

June 7—*We Learn More from our Sorrows than our Joys*, Charlie Mattioli

The crises and sorrows of this pandemic should encourage us personally and collectively to look more deeply into who we are and how we want to live. It is an opportunity for redemption if we want more thoughtful, rich lives and more equitable, cooperative and compassionate communities to live in.

June 14—*Circle Of Healing: A CUUPS Service*
Join the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagan (CUUPS) group for a virtual circle of healing. As we adapt to the changes brought by Covid-19, we take a moment for self and community care.

June 21—*Gratitude: A Practice for All Times*, Marina Munjal

Marina is a dear friend of our church and founding member of the Appalachian Dharma Center in Johnson City. She has been a practicing Buddhist and teacher for almost 20 years. She will share some simple Buddhist wisdom and a guided meditation.

June 28—*Loving One Another*, Dave Kashdan
When I heard that I would be a grandfather for the first time, I started thinking about what I wished for my granddaughter-to-be. After I started enumerating those wishes, I realized that's what we should all wish for one another. I think it is called, "loving your neighbor."

Virtual Church on YouTube

All of our services are available on our YouTube channel. The church services are available each Sunday at 11:00AM, but you can watch them anytime after that. You can also subscribe to our channel. Follow this link: [HVUUC YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/HVUUC)

Virtual Coffee Hour

Many Sundays we are offering Virtual Coffee Hour after the service. We are using Zoom and preregistration is required. The weeks we are offering this, an email will go out a couple of days before with all the information on how to attend. There will also be a post at www.hvuuc.org.

It's Not All Bad News

by the Rev. Jeff Briere

A couple of church members wrote me the other day asking if the church maintained a Minister's Discretionary Fund which could be used to help people in need. "Yes, we do," I wrote back. They offered to make a donation to the fund and here is what they wrote:

"When we heard about the stimulus program due to Covid 19, we thought that we didn't need that. We had worked many years earning good salaries and had both put money aside almost from the beginning. We lived a fairly simple, frugal life. Money should go to those in need—those who lost their jobs, those who are hurting from business closures, or dealing with illness.

"Nothing arrived. We forgot about the stimulus program. Close to the end of May we got a check. Now what? We are fine. After very little discussion we decided that half the check would go to the Minister's Discretionary Fund at the church to be used for those less fortunate. The other half will go to aid small businesses in our county.

"We hope that this situation will bring about changes in our collective thinking and that more people will save for future unknown events, that we as a country will give thought to our level of preparedness, deal with the inequalities in this country, and recognize the need for strong, thoughtful leadership."

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!



Kitchen of Hope Monday, June 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.squarespace.com/donate> also please indicate it is for Kitchen of Hope

To donate food items:

Contact Kim at KOH@hvuuc.org

Game Night: Online

The church Game Group has gone online! We are using Zoom and a website called Board Game Arena (BGA) to play board games and chat on the second and fourth Saturday evenings at 7pm. In our first get-together we even reconnected with a few church friends who had moved out of our area. Newcomers are very welcome to join! You'll just need to create a free account at BGA and have an internet- and webcam-enabled computer or laptop.

If you are new to this online version, please contact Kirk in advance at gamegroup@hvuuc.org with interest and/or questions.

Gathering Guidelines May 30 through July 31, 2020

We strongly recommend continuing to use online forums for small group/committee/team meetings. However, starting May 30 through July 31, 2020, the HVUUC Board has voted to start allowing people on site for activities that must be held in person, e.g. work groups.

The following guidelines apply:

- Groups of 10 people and less
- The Fred Ball room (fellowship hall), sanctuary, and deck are the only meeting areas that are allowed. The REZ is still off limits.
- Must wear a face mask (please bring your own).
- Must wash hands with soap and water upon entering for 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer and let air dry.
- Continue keeping a distance of 6 feet between people of different households.
- 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 only.
- Must clean commonly touched hard surfaces like door handles, light switches, counter tops, metal surfaces (chair backs), etc., when finished.
- Use the church calendar to coordinate groups. Contact Karyn at office@hvuuc.org
- No children's activities allowed at this time.

Online services (on YouTube) will continue during this time. Look for more information regarding home RE kits for kids in the coming days.

Please use the cleaning wipes and/or bleach solution and paper towels set in the foyer for cleaning/disinfecting after each visit. If you have disinfecting wipes/hand sanitizer that can be donated, please contact facilities@hvuuc.org.

Please contact Karyn using office@hvuuc.org to reserve your group on the church calendar. If your small group/committee/team would like to use Zoom, more information about that will be coming soon.

Looking forward to meeting the needs of our community in new ways in the months to come!

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". The password is the same one that you used on the old website. If you need the password, email office@hvuuc.org.

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

Caring Team

The Caring Team coordinators for June are Alicia Culbertson and Brandi Hayes. Contact them at caring@hvuuc.org or 423-477-7661 Press 1.

Thank You to our May coordinator Joy Boyd!

In Our Community

World Unity Week

June 20-28

Called by this Extraordinary Moment - join in a Global Online Event



World UNITY Week (<http://www.worldunityweek.org>) is an 8-day online gathering celebrating our global unity, beginning on Solstice, June 20th, and concluding with a celebration of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations.

Key events include opening by Indigenous Elders, UN International Day of Yoga, World Water Day, World-wide Peace Pole activation and 5 days of “open space” offerings. There will be MULTIPLE “stages” and ZOOM Rooms for indigenous ceremony, music, presentations, lectures, healing sessions, classes and Open Space for collaborative conversation and sacred action.

World Unity Week is an inter-generational, cross-cultural, inter-faith international movement of movements forming quickly to honor, celebrate, engage and commemorate the world’s unity as we embrace our diversity. Your participation as an attendee, presenter or more is WELCOMED! What do you and/or your community want to share on the global stage?

REGISTER NOW for updates: <http://www.worldunityweek.org> - and join our growing FaceBook page at <https://www.facebook.com/worldunityweek/>. Thank you for joining this global call for World Unity. Please invite others to engage in this world-changing event.

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“Partners with Light to Serve Our One Sacred Life”
Noel and Bob

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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