



TRI-CITIES U.U. REVIEW

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.

September 6, 2009

136 Bob Jobe Road Gray, Tennessee 37615 (423) 477-7661

Headlines

- R. E. needs one more teacher for the Junior Youth class. Please see our DRE Denee Mattioli if you would like to volunteer.
- Leadership Training September 9th or 20th
- Apple Daze September 12th
- Path to Membership Class October 11th
- Sign up for Circle Suppers on October 16 & 17
- Coffeehouse with Deidre McCalla Saturday, October 17
- Make plans to attend our annual Service Auction October 24

Religious Education Classes Begin

After a great summer, all R.E. classes, including Adult R.E., will begin on Sunday, September 13. The Adult R.E. class will meet in the REZ at 9:00 AM and will be facilitated by Charlie Mattioli.

Thank You IHN Volunteers!

Please take time to thank the following people that helped out at IHN in JC this week by cooking for, and staying overnight with, the homeless families that are part of that program. Their support is priceless.

John Franjione, Naomi Neis, Tim and Julie Cox, Tamara Richardson and family, Mark Ray and Jill Fee

Upcoming Sunday Worship Services

September 13th—"Reclaiming Jezebel", Gracia Walker
Myths and stories influence us in deep and powerful ways. I will speak on how can we take a negative image and turn it into a positive, life affirming celebration.

September 20th—"You and Small Group Ministries".
This sermon is a group effort by Reverend Luck and the Facilitators of the Covenant Groups, with personal reflections on the value of small group ministries.

September 27—"Forgive Me", Reverend Luck
For our Jewish friends the holiest of all days, *Yom Kippur*, begins at sunset this Sunday. Our service will be a consideration of acknowledging our misdeeds and our ability to forgive – most important abilities for spiritual maturity and for our own happiness.

4th Annual Apple Daze

Saturday, September 12 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Everyone is welcome to join in the fun and games. Activities are planned from 3:00 to 6:00 and a potluck dinner will be served at 6:00. There's something for everyone and every age. Here's what's happening:

- Registration for R.E. Classes
- Apple Cider Pressing (3:00 to 4:00)
- Bobbing for Apples (3:30 to 4:00)
- Bocce Ball (3:00 to 6:00)
- Tye-Dying T-shirts (3:00 to 6:00)
- Face Painting (3:00 to 6:00)
- Corn Toss Game (3:00 to 6:00)
- Inflatable Jumping Castle 3:00 to 6:00 with scheduled times for different ages, including adults!
- Caramel and Candy Apples
- Potluck dinner (hotdogs, hamburgers and drinks provided by MACHO men, set up provided by the Dream Covenant Group and clean-up provided by the Star Trek Covenant Group)

HVUUC Calendar

Tuesday September 8

5:15pm Yoga
6:30pm HVUUC Sangha

Wednesday September 9

6pm Young Adult Group
6:30pm Leadership Training
6:30pm Religious Services
7pm Wednesday Music Covenant

Thursday September 10

5:30-6:30pm Pilates
7pm Metaphysical Group

Saturday September 12

10am Sangha Meditation
3pm Apple Daze

Sunday September 13

9:00pm Adult R.E.
10:30am Worship Service
12pm Potluck Lunch
12:20pm Girl Scout meeting

Tuesday September 15

10am Buuk Club
5:15-6:15pm Yoga
6:30pm HVUUC Sangha
7pm Poetry Covenant Group
7pm Dream Covenant Group

Wednesday September 16

6pm Japanese class
7pm Board of Trustees meeting

Thursday September 17

5:30-6:30pm Pilates
6:30pm Membership Development
7pm Spirituality Covenant Group
7pm Metaphysical Group

Saturday September 19

7pm Coffee House

Sunday September 20

9am Adult RE
9:30pm Social Justice committee
10:30am Worship Service
12pm CUUPS
12pm NVC
12:15pm Leadership Training
12:30pm O.W.L.

7pm Music Covenant group

Tuesday September 22

5:15-6:15pm Yoga
6:30pm HVUUC Sangha
7pm Covenant Group Facilitators
Wednesday September 23
6pm Japanese class
6:30pm Wednesday Night Supper
7pm Wednesday Music Covenant
7pm Simplicity Group

From the Minister's Daybook

I picked up a book this morning –another by Forrest Church—written in 2000 in which he speaks of Lifecraft—finding meaning in our lives. I often tell you that the meaning we assign to the events of our life shapes the life we have. Church takes this idea even further-I hope you enjoy.



Over the course of our lifetimes, we paint, weave, cast and draw, design and build our lives in ways that can, not always but often, lead us to find meaning within them. But lifecraft has a broader dimension as well. In our darkest moments, often in our finest, we can launch our little boat into the heavenly waters in search for God.

When someone tells me that she doesn't believe in God, I ask her a little about the God she doesn't believe in, because I probably don't believe in him either.By my definition God is not God's name. God is our name for that which is greater than all and yet present in each—the life force, ground of our being, being itself.

In our encounters with others, but also with nature and art, we experience moments of peace and wholeness that reflect more eloquently than any theology the underlying basis of our relationship with the ground of our being. Since God is beyond knowing or naming—in our accustomed ways of seeing, both too close and too far away for us to see—we are most likely to discover God when our minds follow our hearts. If God is love—as good a metaphor as any—how we love is a better measure for God than anything we think or believe. This doesn't mean God is actually love, only that love is divine.

When I think about God, I am testing my ability to hope, love, and find meaning. I shall fail in my search for God, but all of us fail. The key is to fail gracefully in a quest that truly matters, and in such a way that others feel better about their own failures. The secret is to return from this quest blessed with new eyes to glimpse the divine amid the ordinary and new ears to hear the still, small voice. Then sight becomes miracle and hearing too.

No further proof is necessary. (Lifecraft by Forrest Church, pg.12.) JL



HVUUC Covenant Groups Sign-Up

If you are interested in joining any of the following groups you may sign up in the Fellowship Hall at church or contact the facilitator of the group.

New Groups

Are you our UU?

A 6 session group aimed toward new members or those considering membership, exploring our own relational strengths and weaknesses as they relate to the church's covenant for building community.

Facilitators: Martha Rubenstein and Wanda Earp

Group starts Sunday October 18th, 12 - 2PM

Meets in the REZ, Jr Youth room

Contact: martharubenstein@yahoo.com, wandaearp@chartertn.net

Life Stories

This group will share stories of meaningful moments or events from our lives. Topics may include birth, death, friends, career, religion, education, and many others. We will emphasize the telling of personal stories and feelings over intellectual discussion.

Facilitators: Brad Helmer and Tom Burns
Group meets 2nd & 4th Mondays 7- 9PM

Location to be announced

Contact: burnsvoices@yahoo.com, helmerdb@chartertn.net

Poetry Covenant Group

Share poetry on a variety of large spiritual/philosophical topics for reflection and discussion

Facilitator: Charlie Mattioli

Group meets Tuesdays, Sept 15, 29; Oct 6, 20; Nov 3, 17; Dec 8, 15 7 - 9PM

Meets in the REZ 4th -5th grade room

Contact: dcmattioli@chartertn.net

Existing Groups

Dream Covenant Group

Share a dream and get to know ourselves and each other on a deeper, more meaningful level

Facilitators: Sandy Davis and Rosemary Kleske

Group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 7-9PM

Meets in the REZ Jr. Youth room

Contact: sandyd55@gmail.com, rkleske@gmail.com

Star Trek Covenant Group

Watch an episode of Star Trek and discuss how it relates to our beliefs and daily lives. Facilitator: Dave Baldwin

Group meets the 1st & 5th Tuesdays 7 - 9 p.m.

Meets in the REZ Sr. Youth room

Contact: davebald1@charter.net

Wednesday Music Covenant Group

Deepen fellowship through sharing music and service

Facilitators: Alice McCaffrey and Inge Swenson

Group meets the 2nd & 4th Wed. 7 - 9PM

Meets in the REZ Junior Youth room

Contact: amccaffrey@charter.net, aiswenson@earthlink.net

Sunday Music Covenant Group

Deepen fellowship through sharing music and service

Facilitators: Brian Hearl and Dave Calvert

Group meets every other Sunday 7-9PM in the REZ.

Contact: bhearl@chartertn.net, dcalvert@embarqmail.com

Spirituality Covenant Group

This group uses books or CD's on spirituality as a basis for our sharing.

Facilitator: Linda Jewell

Group meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in the REZ .

Contact: lindajewell@btes.tv

We ask that committed partners not sign up for the same covenant group. Any hardship case that is to be an exception may be brought to the facilitator.

Save the Date—October 11th Path to Membership class

If you have been interested in becoming a member of HVUUC, here is your opportunity to take the Path to Membership class. This class is offered at least twice a year and is a prerequisite to signing the membership book and becoming a formal member of our community. The class will begin immediately following potluck and last about two hours. Childcare will be provided and we need you to register so we have the necessary materials and know what childcare will be needed.

Taking the class does not obligate you to becoming a member. Some people sign the book that day and some take time to decide. There is no pressure, however, we do want you to know the responsibilities and opportunities of membership. We will have an Ingathering during a service where you will be welcomed into our community after you sign the membership book.

To register for the Path to Membership class, you may sign up at the visitor table, call the church office or e-mail me at annoverton@charter.net.

Social Justice

Fundraiser for IHN

It is time again for Interfaith Hospitality Network's annual Entertainment Book fundraiser. The Kingsport IHN needs this fundraising money for the van that transports the families and for their minimally paid staff. The books sell for \$20 and have coupons for various businesses in the Tri Cities area. You can also order books for other cities. There is a sample Entertainment Book in the back of the Fellowship Hall along with a sign up sheet. Please sign up for how many books you would like and for which city. Payment will be collected when they are delivered.

Attention All Blood Donors

HVUUC will sponsor a blood drive after church on October 25th. Save your veins for this Halloween event!

October Coffee House and Circle Supper

Deidre McCalla, an incredibly talented singer songwriter from Atlanta, will perform at HVUUC on Saturday October 17 at 7 PM. Her words will speak to your heart and her music will feed your soul... and make you tap your feet. Suggested donation: Adults \$10-\$20, Youth 5-12 years \$5. You don't want to miss this!

Bonus opportunity: I will host a circle supper in the Fred Ball Room at 5 PM. For a single trip to church, you get DINNER AND A SHOW. Woo hoo!!! Be sure to sign up for the supper on the counter at church. Questions about the concert, see Kim Ray or email her at aardvark-art@embarqmail.com.

Annual Service Auction Saturday October 24th at 6PM

Fellowship, Food, Fun and Funding of our HVUUC programs as we *DARE TO DREAM*.

Last year's services donated included exotic dinners, pet sitting, photograph digitalization, timeshare condos, garden labor, tutoring, taxi services, many kinds of home baked goodies and lots, lots more. Time to start planning your donation or event!

Donation forms will be available in the back of the Church next Sunday the 13th or you can e-mail your donation to Teri Sandoval at tfsandoval@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting donations is Friday, October 16th. For those of you who are planning dinners: we are requesting that you choose an actual date for your dinner at the time you fill out the donation form.

New Recycling and Composting Program

The Social Justice Committee is excited to be implementing a new recycling and composting effort at HVUUC, as part of our long term effort to become a Green Sanctuary. Beginning next Sunday, September 13th, you'll notice new recycling bins and various committee members and RE kids standing by to help you learn where to put what after potlucks and coffee hours. There will be fliers and posters posted in prominent places as well to help guide you. Please do your part to help our church become greener by using the appropriate bins as well as by taking home any container that you bring food in, whether it be as small as a piece of foil or a plastic bag, our goal is ZERO WASTE.

Sam Jones and Betty Kramer, co-chairs of Social Justice Committee

Social Events

An Invitation to Spend an Evening with Friends

All HVUUC members and friends are cordially invited to sign up to attend a Circle Supper on either the evening of **Friday, October 16 or Saturday, October 17**.

Circle Suppers are simply potlucks held at the home of a host. Usually, 6 to 10 people will gather and, along with the main dish provided by the host, share edible contributions and a few hours of purely social interaction. Circle Suppers are a UU tradition that has fostered many friendships over the years. Sign-up sheets are available at the church. If you prefer to register for Circle Supper by phone, please call **Sue Shuler (239-3821)** or **Sharmi Mehta (288-5815)**. You can also register for Circle Supper by replying to the invitation you received via separate e-mail.

National Equality March in Washington , DC



Join us on a trip to Washington , DC , on October 10th and 11th as we join thousands from all over the United States to march and rally in support of full legal equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. The October 11th march will kick off a national grassroots campaign called Equality Across America. Unitarian Universalists are enthusiastically supporting this campaign and taking the opportunity to stand on the side of love with other LGBT supporters across the country.

Annette Marquis, TJ District Executive, has challenged each congregation in the Thomas Jefferson District to send 10% of its membership. HVUUC is making plans to send folks by carpool and by bus (along with other area UU churches), to meet that challenge. We have 12 folks already committing to the trip.

More details will follow in other communication. But, general plans include traveling on Saturday (time to be determined), attending a Sunday morning service at Washington, DC's, All Souls Church, joining the noon march and 2:00 p.m. rally on the National Mall, and traveling back home that evening. Please let us know if you would like to spend the night in a hotel on Saturday or travel through the night to save costs. Approximate cost for the bus trip itself is \$60.

Let's stand strong in supporting equal rights for all, including same-sex marriage equality, non-discrimination in the workplace, and hate crimes legislation. Please contact Kim Ray at aardvark-art@embargmail.com or 423-967-0196 if you would like to join us or would like more information about the trip.

Buuk Group

The Buuk Group will start its first full year of monthly book discussions beginning on Tuesday, September 15, from 10:00AM to noon in the REZ. We are almost at full capacity, but have room for a couple more people if you'd like to join. This month's book is *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou. Our facilitator is Andrea Sawyer. October's selection is *The World Without End* by Ken Follett. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month September to May. If you would like to join or receive more information, please contact Patty Jo Nachman at PattyJo@alberts-inc.com or call 423-239-9595.

Voluntary Simplicity Class

A five session discussion course, called "Voluntary Simplicity" will be offered again this fall. If this is something that you'd like to participate in, it is SUGGESTED that you purchase a discussion guide/workbook for \$22. See Sam Jones for details. Order deadline is Aug. 31st with the first session to be held WED Sept. 23rd. After that first session we will be meeting on the first and third WED of each month 7-8:30 pm, in the REZ.

Mr. Duane Elgin wrote a book in the 80's called "Voluntary Simplicity", for those of you that are interested in further reading. He describes it as "a way of life that is outwardly simple yet inwardly rich" and it's available at the library.

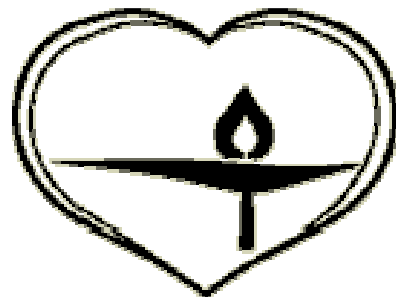
Leadership Training September 9th & 20th

To all persons who now have leadership positions in the church **or** are interested in doing so in the future you are invited to attend **one** of two leadership training sessions offered in September here at HVUUC. Whether you are an old member or new member or friend of the church, this training will help you grow in confidence and skills so you can be a more effective participant in our church. Committee chairs and Board members will be given a binder with important info to aid in organization.

When: Wednesday, September 9, at 6:30-8:30 PM OR Sunday, September 20, at 12:15-2:15 PM

Where: 4-5th grade room in REZ

Sign-up sheets are on the counter in Sanctuary. See Charlie Mattioli for more information 543-1962 or vp@hvuuc.org



Membership Corner

Long-time HVUUC Member Catherine Dick Passes Away

Catherine Dick, 89, a member of HVUUC since 1965, died on August 16, 2009 in Kingsport . A Celebration of Life service was held on August 20, with The Rev. Jacqueline Luck officiating. She was preceded in death by her husband, William J. Dick, also a HVUUC member since 1965. Survivors include her two sons, Stephen William Dick, Athens , TN , Joseph Clark Dick, of the home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee; 127 Dillon Ct. Gray, TN, 37615 .

Beyond providing her financial support to the Church, Catherine was active in our congregation in many ways – in fellowship activities, as a greeter, providing support when HVUUC hosted Tennessee Conference of UUs, helping ministers find home hospitality, and helping her husband Jack run the Tennessee conference.

Caring Team

Caring Team coordinators for September are Wanda Earp and Kae Robbins. Congregants can reach them by sending an e-mail to caring@hvuuc.org or by calling 423-477-7661 (Press 3). Thank you to our August coordinators Sandra Gray and Deb Helmer.

2009-2010 Board of Trustees

President: Michael Jones, 349-6119 president@hvuuc.org

Vice President: Charlie Mattioli, 543-1962 vp@hvuuc.org

Past President: Ramesh Munjal, 239-4561 pastpresident@hvuuc.org

Treasurer: Frank Shuler, 239-3821 treasurer@hvuuc.org

Stewardship Trustee: Richard Boyd, 477-0177 stewardship@hvuuc.org

Programs Trustee: Scott LaVoie, 753-6422 programs@hvuuc.org

Facilities Trustee: Bryan Kleske, 913-2928 facilities@hvuuc.org

Secretary/Historian: Louise Mayo, 282-9290 boardsecretary@hvuuc.org

Membership Trustee: Gracia Walker, 232-1998 membership@hvuuc.org

Minister

Rev. Jacqueline Luck: 477-7661 (office), revluck@hvuuc.org

Church Secretary's Office Hours

9:00am-3:00pm, Tuesday & Thursday - office@hvuuc.org

Upcoming Newsletter Deadlines: September 20, October 4, October 18, November 1, November 15

Please send any items for the newsletter to the church office at: office@hvuuc.org

The HVUUC web site can be found at: www.hvuuc.org

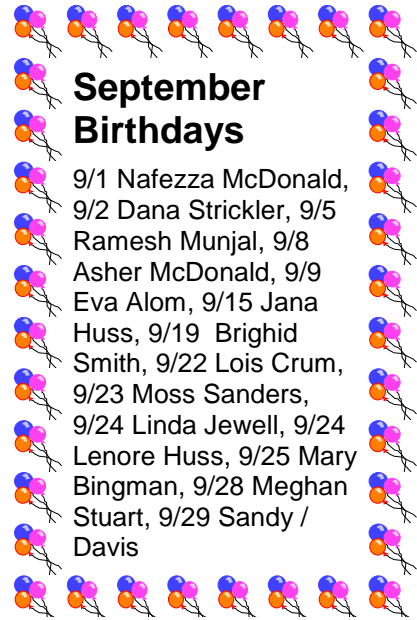
HVUUC On-Line News Group: Our yahoo news group is an online service that provides our congregation the quickest method of communicating news, announcements, and schedule changes. To join, or update to a new e-mail address, send an e-mail to hvuuc-news-subscribe@yahoogroups.com indicating your full name, address and phone number where you can be reached. Someone from HVUUC may contact you before your subscription becomes active. If you don't have e-mail, please call the church at 423-477-7661 to receive the newsletter by US mail. Announcements and changes between newsletters are not mailed to recipients of hard copy of the newsletter.

To post a church related message send an e-mail to: hvuuc-news@yahoogroups.com

(a moderator will reviews it to ensure that the content meets our guidelines)

To unsubscribe: send an e-mail message to hvuuc-newssubscribe@yahoogroups.com

Look for other UUA news and other UU Church newsletters at the UUA Website: www.uua.org



September Birthdays

9/1 Nafezza McDonald,

9/2 Dana Strickler, 9/5

Ramesh Munjal, 9/8

Asher McDonald, 9/9

Eva Alom, 9/15 Jana

Huss, 9/19 Brigid

Smith, 9/22 Lois Crum,

9/23 Moss Sanders,

9/24 Linda Jewell, 9/24

Lenore Huss, 9/25 Mary

Bingman, 9/28 Meghan

Stuart, 9/29 Sandy /

Davis