



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.

December 13, 2009

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

Headlines

- Welcoming Congregation Film after the service Sunday, December 20th
- Please plan to attend the December 20th Carol and Candlelight service at 7:00pm
- The church office will be closed the weeks of Christmas and New Years (December 21-January 1)
- Sign up for Circle Suppers on Friday, January 22nd and Saturday 23rd
- Gracia and Rob Basham invite everyone to their rescheduled wedding reception on January 29

Upcoming Sunday Worship Services

December 20 - *"In the Winter of Our Spiritual Lives"*, Reverend Luck

This morning's sermon and the evening Yule Carol and Candle Light Service go hand in hand. The winter holidays more than any other are often difficult for those who are lonely, or stressed about family relations, money issues, illness or death of a loved one either presently or in the past and the holidays serve as an unhappy anniversary. We will acknowledge this shadow side of the holidays in our journey toward a new birth of the spirit.

December 20 at 7:00PM— Yule Carol and Candle Light Service, Reverend Luck

Bring the family and guests to this lovely evening service. We'll have special music and a readers theater.

December 27—*"The Irresistible Quest and Light for the Homeward Journey Along God's Road"*, Gary Daught
Gary Daught is the director of the library at Milligan College and a former Mennonite pastor. He will speak from the biblical story of The Magi, a narrative associated with the birth of Jesus.

January 3—*"What's In a Name?"*, Joe Adams

UU Day Camp

The Religious Education Committee is planning a U.U. Day Camp for children who have finished kindergarten through fifth grade during the second week in June (June 7-11). We are in the process of developing the daily schedule and need input from parents. We need to hear from all parents who are interested in having their children attend to establish the desire for the program as well as create a "best fit" time schedule for our families. Please contact our DRE, Denee Mattioli at DRE@HVUUC.org or call 543-1962 or 341-9254 before January 5.

Yule Carol and Candle Light Service December 20th at 7:00PM

Bring the family and guests to this lovely evening service. There will be special music and a reader's theater. Afterwards we will have a fellowship hour with punch and Christmas cookies. You are invited to bring a plate of cookies to share if you'd like, and if it's a particularly favorite recipe of your family's, bring a few copies of the recipe to set out with your cookies.

HVUUC Calendar

Monday December 14

7pm Life Stories Covenant Group

Tuesday December 15

10am Buuk Club

5:30pm Yoga

6:30pm HVUUC Sangha

7pm Poetry Covenant Group

7pm Dream Covenant Group

Wednesday December 16

7pm Board of Trustees meeting

Thursday December 17

7pm Metaphysical Group

7pm Spirituality Group

Saturday December 19

7pm CUUPS Yule Ritual

Sunday December 20

9am Adult RE

10:30am Worship Service

12pm CUUPS meeting

12pm Welcoming Congregation Film

7pm Yule Carol and Candlelight service

Tuesday December 22

5:30pm Yoga

6:30pm HVUUC Sangha

7pm Covenant Group Facilitators

Wednesday December 23

7pm Wednesday Music Covenant

Sunday December 27

9:00am Adult R.E.

9:30am Social Justice Committee

10:30am Worship Service

12:30pm Girl Scout meeting

7pm Music Covenant Group

Tuesday December 29

5:30pm Yoga

6:30pm HVUUC Sangha

Thursday December 31

8:00pm New Year's Eve Youth Lock-In

Sunday January 3

9am Adult RE

9:30am Caring Team meeting

10:30am Worship Service

12:15pm Music Committee

12pm Welcoming Congregation Workshop

Tuesday January 5

5:30pm Yoga

6:30pm HVUUC Sangha

7pm Dream Covenant Group

7pm Star Trek Covenant Group

7pm Finance Committee meeting

Capital Campaign To End In February, 2010

HVUUC has experienced an aggressive building program that greatly increased our building facilities in the past five years. The sanctuary and fellowship space was more than doubled and an unfinished lower level was added at a cost of \$350,000 in 2005. After the completion of the expanded sanctuary, the mobile double wide building that was installed for additional RE and meeting space in 2001 was totally destroyed in a fire in early 2007. The Church quickly responded to this loss by finishing the lower level of the church at a cost of \$25,000 and building the Religious Education building at a cost of \$250,000.

HVUUC spent a total of \$625,000 on these expansions in the past five years and has provided excellent facilities for accommodating growth in our membership. Two three-year capital campaigns were held to pay for a portion of these building costs. The first campaign for the church expansion was essentially completed prior to start of construction. The capital campaign for the Religious Education building included calendar years 2007, 2008, and 2009 and will close in February, 2010.

Through the generous capital campaign contributions from our members, along with Chalice Lighter grants and insurance proceeds from the fire, we have a remaining mortgage of \$225,000. A TRULY REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT: a total capital expenditure of \$625,000 and \$400,000 of these expenditures have been paid by a congregation of our size. Yet today, it is difficult for the church to make the payments of the remaining mortgage out of operating funds.

Our mortgage lender has given us the unusual opportunity to pay off a portion of our principal and reduce our monthly mortgage payment as opposed to reducing the length of our loan. To those of you who have so generously supported our capital campaigns and to all others, any contributions to the capital campaign prior to its closing will help reduce our mortgage payments and thereby its impact on the operating budget for the next fourteen years.

Please consider a one-time contribution to this capital campaign prior to the campaign ending in February, 2010. If you wish to make such a contribution, please note that the contribution is for the capital campaign. Also, please be aware the pledge drive for the 2010 – 2011 fiscal year will begin in February, 2010 and contributions to the capital campaign should not diminish your important contribution to the operating budget.
Frank Shuler, Treasurer

Welcoming Congregation Film December 20th at 12:00pm

Join us in the Jr. Youth room in the REZ after the service for a showing of *Before Stonewall*. New York City's Stonewall Inn is regarded by many as the site of gay and lesbian liberation since it was at this bar that drag queens fought back against police June 27-28, 1969. This documentary uses extensive archival film, movie clips and personal recollections to construct an audiovisual history of the gay community before the Stonewall riots.



HVUUC Events

Adult RE

Join us for Adult R.E. from 9AM to 10:15AM Sunday mornings. The class meets in the Junior Youth room in the REZ and is facilitated by Charlie Mattioli.

Basham Wedding Reception Rescheduled to January 29

Come celebrate the Newlyweds! Rob and Gracia Basham invite you to party at HVUUC on January 29, 2010. There will be wine, finger foods, desserts and dancing. Put on your party clothes (or favorite clothes) and wear your dancing shoes! Please bring your favorite CD and we will 'spin it'.

Rob and Gracia have chosen in lieu of wedding gifts to accept donations to HVUUC's Music Program to help keep our Services full of beautiful music. If you wish to donate, it will be gladly received. Bring a plate of goodies if you wish. Festivities begin at 6:30 and end when we are too tired to dance! Hope to see you then!

UU History and Theology Class

Sunday, January 10, 2010, Reverend Luck will teach a class on Unitarian Universalist History and Theology after the potluck. Please email the office or call to say you will be attending and if you need child care. You are invited to attend if you are a new member, considering membership, or one of Holston Valley's long time members.

TJ District Conference Volunteers Needed

The Committee in charge of our Governance Ministry Conference to be held on February 26-27 is looking for volunteers to help us host about 30-40 fellow UU's. We need people to help with food, hospitality, lodging, registration, etc. This is a sort term commitment. E-mail Charlie Mattioli at dcmattioli@chartertn.net if you'd like to help.

Upcoming Welcoming Congregation Events



December 20, 12:00PM—Film "Before Stonewall"

January 3, 12:00PM—Bisexuality and Biphobia

January 24, 12:00PM—Film "Gendernation"

January 27, 7:00PM—Film "Gendernation"

February 13, 5:00PM—Transgener Identity: What it Means

February 21, 12:00PM—Film "Southern Comfort"

February 24, 7:00PM—Film "Southern Comfort"

March 7, 12PM—How Homophobia Hurts Us All

March 21, 12:00PM—Film "Making Grace"

March 24, 7:00PM—Film "Making Grace"

April 4, 12:00PM—What Now??

Women's Retreat 2010

The women's retreat is scheduled for the weekend of April 10th at Sugar Hollow Retreat Center. Reservations won't be taken until closer to that time, but if you're interested, save the date on your calendar. Questions, contact rkleske@gmail.com.

<http://sugarhollowretreat.com/no-contracts-women-find-relaxing-weekend-shr>

Check out their website and read the blog about our last Women's retreat there!

Stewardship

HVUUC Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund Committee wants to keep you informed of ways you can help the fund grow. There are a number of ways you can help:

- Gifts "in honor of" an individual who is still living
- Gifts "in memory of" a person who has passed away
- Outright donations to the Fund
- Bequests
- Designating the Endowment Fund as the recipient of gifts to be made in remembrance of you

If you would like further information, please don't hesitate to contact any member of the committee. Virgil Stephens (chairman), Frank Shuler, Gerald Keep, Richard Boyd, and Jo Anne Medlin .

Community Information

Dinner with Keith Kron

Saturday, January 9, 2010 6:30 p.m.
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.
West Side Unitarian Universalist Church Sanctuary
616 Fretz Rd. Knoxville, TN 37934

Our guest of honor will be Rev. Keith Kron, Director, Office of BGLT Concerns, UUA

Entertainment by Clara Landau, Lady Wolf

Childcare will be provided.
\$12.00 per person
RSVP by January 3, 2010
865-777-9882
emg01@comcast.net

Home hospitality is available for out-of-town guests upon request.

2010 TJD Anti-racism Conference: Building the World We Want: Race, Place & Community

- ◆ *On Sunday morning, do you see the multicultural congregation you've imagined?*
- ◆ *Do you wonder why we don't attract a more diverse membership?*
- ◆ *Does your congregation feel out of sync with its community?*

Attend this conference to acquire practical ways to answer these questions with actions...

Keynote Address: Professor John A. Powell, J.D., Executive Director of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity and Williams Chair in Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Moritz College of Law, will present a provocative keynote address on the impact of race on where we live, work, and worship.

Dates: February 5-7, 2010

Where: The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond, 1000 Blanton Ave., Richmond, VA.
For more information: <http://www.tjdistrict.org/newsevents/antiracismconference.html>

Looking to buy an affordable home? Check out Eastern Eight Community Development Corporation, a community-based housing and community development agency whose mission is to fulfill housing needs for low-to-moderate income families at www.e8cdc.org.

11th Anniversary of the Assault on Chimneytop Mountain

Start your 2010 off right - come join The Climb. We do Chimneytop Mountain in Fall Branch every New Year's day. You best believe it is a strenuous hike, climbing 1400ft in 1.5 miles - takes about an hour and half and there you are at 3100ft (CT is the highest spot in area by far - 500ft above Bays Mountain) with views in all directions. There's a cup of hot tea for you on top. Dogs are welcome.

We'll meet at the Meadowview Conference Center (just off 181 in Kingsport) parking lot at 11am. We are off the mountain by 4:30. Questions? contact Dave Calvert - 423-863-3907

Mindful Ecotherapy Weekend Retreat at The Mountain

April 3-4, 2010

Cost: \$250 per person

Join Charlton Hall, MMFT, LMFT-I, Executive Director of the Mindful Ecotherapy Organization (www.mindfulecotherapy.org) for a weekend of reconnecting with nature, and with yourself. Mindful Ecotherapy combines Mindfulness and Ecotherapy in a program to help students and practitioners achieve a less stressful and happier lifestyle. This weekend retreat will help you to learn how to reap the healing benefits of nature, and how to live Mindfully in your True Self. You may register for this event online and see a schedule of events at: <http://www.mindfulecotherapy.org/Workshops/The%20Mountain/Mountain%20April%202010.htm>. Registration is open until January 31, 2010. For more information, please contact Charlton Hall at: chuck@mindfulecotherapy.org.

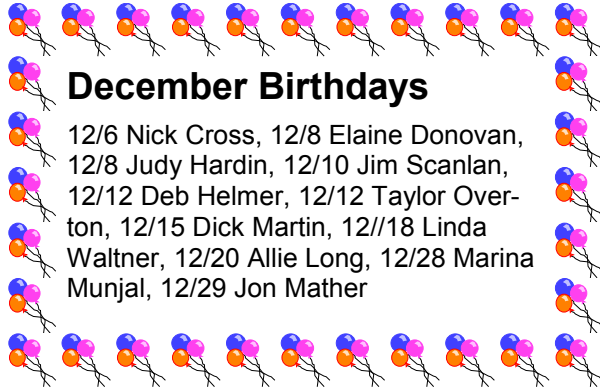
UU Bed and Breakfast Directory

Do you dream of inexpensive vacation travel to interesting destinations where you can stay in the homes of friendly people who share your ideals and are happy to provide directions and advice for their area?

The UU bed and breakfast directory UU're Home (formerly Homecomings) can fulfill your dream. For 31 years, we've provided a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and who are happy to open their home to like-minded people.

You can also become a host and be listed in the directory: see www.UUreHome.com for an application. If you have questions, contact us at info@uurehome.com or call 828-281-3253.

Membership Corner



December Birthdays

12/6 Nick Cross, 12/8 Elaine Donovan,
12/8 Judy Hardin, 12/10 Jim Scanlan,
12/12 Deb Helmer, 12/12 Taylor Over-
ton, 12/15 Dick Martin, 12//18 Linda
Waltner, 12/20 Allie Long, 12/28 Marina
Munjaj, 12/29 Jon Mather

Caring Team

Caring Team coordinators for December are Gabrielle Zeiger and Betty Kramer . Congregants can reach them by e-mail caring@hvuuc.org or by calling 423-477-7661 (Press 3). Thank you to our November coordinators Lynn Scarborough and Gabrielle Zeiger.

Wanted: Bridge Players



Looking for Bridge players to substitute in a church couples bridge club. We are very friendly and don't fuss if you make a mistake. Contact Sue Shuler, Ann Overton or Jo Anne Medlin.

The Board Would Like to Hear From You

The HVUUC Board of Trustees welcomes your suggestions, opinions and comments to serve you better. Please drop your card in the suggestion box located on the back table of the sanctuary. We will check them periodically and pass them onto the appropriate committees or person for follow-up. Please write your name, contact information and comments on the cards available near the suggestion box. Please remember your name and contact information are important so we can get back to you.

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: January 3, January 17, January 31, February 14
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)

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