

River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

PO Box 452485, Sunrise, Florida 33345

WELCOME TO OUR RIVER OF GRASS FAMILY. WELCOME TO OUR WARMTH. WELCOME HOME!

River of Grass Weekly Update – June 29, 2023

This summer we are excited to be offering a way for our members and friends to explore the variety of experiences that our UU faith has to offer and to meet other amazing congregations and ministers that Rev. Amy admires and wants us to get to know. Thanks to technology, we can visit congregations all across the country from our couch! This will also give our own volunteers a much needed break. We have put together a list of congregations that we can join each Sunday that is posted with the links on our website. Find it at <https://riverofgrassuu.org/index.html>. This will run from July 2nd to August 27th. This Sunday July 2nd, we will journey is to All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C. at 10:30 am

Rev. Bill Sinkford:

Patriotism

July 2, 2023 | 10:30 am | Hybrid

The Fourth of July is not just another long weekend and picnic opportunity. Our faith long prided itself on the involvement of Unitarian ancestors in the creation of this republic. But our Universalist sentiments point us beyond any borders to a world community. How do we understand our protests? Is being the loyal opposition the closest we come to patriotism?

Join us as we join with All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C. for this ASL interpreted worship service online! [Zoom Link - All Souls](#)

GIVING

Even as we focus our attention away from our own congregation, on travel and visiting other UU congregations, and just taking a rest, we still need your contributions to sustain and strengthen this beloved community and its mission in our world. Each Sunday half of our undesignated offerings go to LifeNet4Families, which provides hot meals 365 days a year as well as clothing and support here in Broward county. The other half supports the mission and ministry at River of Grass.

To give, please go to: [Our Donation Page](#)

or Text to Donate at 844-948-1153

Simply text an amount (no dollar sign needed) on your smartphone, and the key word "plate" to the number above, example: 10.00 plate. Please give generously and joyfully so that we may feed and fortify this congregation and its good work in the world that needs it, now more than ever.

Upcoming In-Person or Virtual Events - This Sunday:

Sunday, July 2, 2023 - 10:30 AM

All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C. at 10:30 am – <https://all-souls.org/>

Rev. Amy Summer Vacation & Study Leave

My Beloveds, as of June 16, I have headed out for Summer Adventures 2023, as well as my work in service to the greater Unitarian Universalist community; with conferences with the UU Ministers Association, General Assembly, and SUUSI (Southeast UU Summer Institute) as the 2023 Director. In between, I'll have some vacation and study time to rest, renew, and prepare for the coming congregational year as we make new maps for the way ahead. I will also be on hand for our New Home and New Rental Teams as we find our next threshold there as well. Meanwhile, know that I'll see you back in the office in mid-August, and back in the pulpit to launch our 12th year together on the first Sunday in September for Labor Day! If you have a pastoral care emergency that may require professional ministry, please contact the President of the Board, Kathy Jens-Rochow president@riverofgrassuu.org, or our Pastoral Care Team PastoralCare@riverofgrassuu.org.

2023 Summer Sundays:

This summer we are excited to be offering a way for our members and friends to explore the variety of experiences that our UU faith has to offer and to meet other amazing congregations and ministers that Rev. Amy admires and wants us to get to know. Thanks to technology, we can visit congregations all across the country from our couch! This also will give our own volunteers a much needed break. We have put together a list of congregations that we can join each Sunday that is posted with the links on our website. Find it at <https://riverofgrassuu.org/index.html>. This will run from July 2nd to August 27th.

Any Sunday		Church of the Larger Fellowship Zoom Link
7/2/23	10:30 am	All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C. Zoom Link
7/9/23	10:30 am	River of Grass Virtual Services Disability Theology - presented by Tanya Gustafson Zoom Link
7/16/23	10:30 am	First UU, Ann Arbor, MI Zoom Link
7/23/23	10:30 am	River of Grass Virtual Services Faithfully Becoming - GA 2023 presented by Kathy Jens-Rochow Zoom Link
7/30/23	10:30 am	UU Congregation of Somerset Hills, NY https://uucsh.org/worship/services/ Zoom Link Passcode: WELCOME
8/6/23	10:30 am	All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C. Zoom Link
8/13/23	10:30 am	UU Church of Fort Lauderdale https://www.uucfl.org Zoom Link
8/20/23	10:00 am	Northwest UU Congregation, Atlanta, GA Zoom Link
8/27/23	8:00 pm	Church of the Larger Fellowship

		Zoom Link
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Join us at The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center, a Magical UU Place and Experience near Highlands, NC:

- **Come work for The Mountain!** Hiring summer camp staff, development associate, kitchen staff, and farm staff. <https://www.themountainrlc.org/jobs>
- Tasty and educational farm events all year: <https://www.themountainrlc.org/farm-events>
- **Summer Camp options for kids and for adults!** Youth and Adult Farm camps and Intergenerational camps still have openings.
- **Personal Retreat -- for individuals or groups**

We look forward to hosting you at The Mountain soon! For information about more programs at The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center: themountainrlc.org or 828.526.5838

Other Events:

Free “Mindfulness for Today’s World” weekly online sessions:

Thursdays 6:00 - 7:00 pm for adults, [zoom link for Thursday night at 6 pm](#)

For more information or to register contact Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com or Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com, or visit <http://www.insightinstitutellc.com/>

RoG Men’s Group – For this month only – we are meeting on the 3rd and 5th Thursday of the month – We are a lay-led group that looks to our members for discussion topics. All who identify male are invited to join us! Our next meeting is tonight, **Thursday June 29th, 7:00 to 8:30 PM**, in person or via [Zoom Meeting](#). Our meeting location is at The Transformation Project: 4431 SW 64th Ave Ste 109, Davie, FL 33314. Our optional pre meeting dinner is different this week. We will be having a pizza dinner at the home of Rob Gibling-Davis to bid farewell before their move to Connecticut. Please RSVP to Ken if you plan on coming for pizza and to get the address. The Zoom Meeting Room will open at 7:00 pm. Questions: contact Ken; mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org.

Join the We The People March on July 2nd



Join 2200+ people registered and 61+ partner organizations and join the We The People March. 9:00 am [speakers start at 10:00 am] on Sunday, July 2, in **Esplanade Park, 500 SW 2 st in downtown Ft. Lauderdale 33301**. In front of the Discovery [science] Museum, next to the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

"Our most precious freedoms are under attack." This country has never seen such blatant attacks on immigrants, blacks, people of color, LGBTQ and Trans people, immigrants and jewish people." Go to wtpmarch.org to register. Lots of us from River of Grass will be there. We will assemble in the center of the circle in front of the pavilion at **Esplanade Park in Ft. Lauderdale**. For more information contact Steve Jens-Rochow SSJGT@riverofgrassuu.ORG.

Women’s Group – The Women’s Group will be meeting this **Sunday, Jul 2nd, at 7:00 PM**. We will be multi-platform, meeting both in person at the church office (4431 SW 64th Ave Ste 109, Davie, FL 33314) and virtually. Our definition of “women” is expansive and includes anyone who feels that they belong in this space, including those who identify as nonbinary. The purpose of this group is to deepen our personal connections through shared

discussions. Listening to each person's experience. Susan Juncosa will be leading the discussion, "**The Paradox of Tolerance.**" The paradox of tolerance states that if a society is tolerant without limit, its ability to be tolerant is eventually seized or destroyed by the intolerant. Karl Popper described it as the seemingly self-contradictory idea that in order to maintain a tolerant society, the society must retain the right to be intolerant of intolerance. Where do you draw the line? For more information or to obtain the Zoom link, please contact Kathy Jens-Rochow at womensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org.

ROG FALL FUNDRAISER: The 2 of Us presents Bossa-Novas, Boleros & Ballads "second edition".

Following the well received concert of 2022, the duo "The 2 of Us" visits, through song and storytelling, some of the most beloved American Jazz Ballads, Brazilian Bossa Novas, Boleros, and Tangoes.

Check out the Youtube channel: <https://youtube.com/@the2ofusmusic>

When: Saturday, **September 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm**

Where: Weston Community Center - 20200 Saddle Club Rd (free parking).

Cost: There will be drinks and snacks. Seating is limited to the first 40 who sign up at \$30 per seat.

Buy your tickets at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z5VP/campaign/C-10TY2>

Please write THE 2 OF US on the "Note (optional)" field.



SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: *AVOID BEEF! Avoiding beef is most likely the #1 thing each of us can do to help the environment. Compared to other meats, beef generates 5 times the greenhouse gasses, uses 11 times the water, and 28 times the land, according to the National Academy of Sciences. Skip the beef, save the planet.*

COVID-19: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency at the end of the day on May 11, 2023. River of Grass UU has over 3 years experience during the COVID pandemic keeping our members safe and will always look to do so as we make the transition to congregational life free from guidelines. The members of our COVID Team have the thanks of the entire congregation for all their good work taking care of us all. We honor and respect anyone's choice to wear a mask and ask all attending our Worship Services and events to consider their own health when choosing whether or not to mask. If you have any questions please reach out to our team at COVIDteam@riverofgrassuu.org.

To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website at riverofgrassuu.org/calendar.html. **River of Grass UU Congregation** is on [Facebook](#) (LIKE us) and [Twitter](#) (FOLLOW Us). For more information, please contact communityawareness@riverofgrassuu.org.

Unsubscribe - If you do not wish to receive this weekly email, please send an email and we will remove you from the mailing list, office@riverofgrassuu.org.

Announcements to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org by 12 pm Wednesday. All announcements will pertain to congregational life and affiliated groups and will be for activities or events occurring within two weeks of the e-mail. Outside groups and individuals, wishing to use this vehicle of congregation-wide communication, must have the approval of the Board of Trustees.

River of Grass UU Congregation

6650 Griffin Rd, Davie, FL 33314 (Sunday Morning Service Location)

4431 SW 64th Avenue, Suite 108, Davie, FL 33314 (Office Location)

PO Box 452485, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33345 (Mailing Address Only)

954.723.7877 - office@riverofgrassuu.org