

# River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

PO Box 452485, Sunrise, Florida 33345

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

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River of Grass Weekly Update – July 6, 2023

## Disability Theology for This Moment

"Like racism, sexism, or homophobia,  
ableism is directed at individuals and built into social structures;  
it is lived out purposefully, accidentally, and unknowingly."  
from A Disability History of the United States by Kim E. Nielsen, p. xvi.

Sunday's worship service focuses on confronting ableism in our society. What is ableism? Ableism can be defined as a form of discrimination which is based on the false idea that disabled people are by default, inferior. When in truth disability is just another way for a mind and/or body to be. Our 8<sup>th</sup> principle calls to action to dismantle racism and other forms of oppression including ableism. Let us gather to begin dismantling ableism in ourselves and in our world this Sunday!

Come as you are – virtually on Zoom. We welcome you on Sunday morning at 10:30. Come a bit before and we can Chat prior to the service... We'll be watching for you!

Use the Zoom link below to gather with us virtually in Zoom. Catch us on Facebook live on our [facebook page](#).

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ab3E9Jrtb9>

### **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 Virtual Events - This Sunday:*

**Sunday, July 9, 2023 - 10:30 AM**

**River of Grass UU Congregation** – Disability Theology for This Moment – Tanya Gustafson

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

### *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 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:president@riverofgrassuu.org), or our Pastoral Care Team [PastoralCare@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 27<sup>th</sup>.

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

8/27/23	8:00 pm	Church of the Larger Fellowship <a href="#">Zoom Link</a>
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***A Note from the Caring Committee -***

Bill Perez passed away on July 30 from heart disease. Bill and his wife Andy were members of ROG over a decade ago and some of you may remember them.

Andy sent these words...

"I am holding an open house to celebrate Bill's life Monday July 10 through Wednesday July 12 from 10:00-4:00 each day at our home. We are not having any kind of service because he didn't want one, but I'm sure he would like to have one last party in his honor. He sure loved to entertain! Take care and I hope you can stop by."

Please let Andy know you are coming by calling, texting or email. Cards may be sent to Andy at this address...

10856 NW 12th Drive, Plantation, FL 33322

Phone: 954-873-4614

Email: [w.perez@comcast.net](mailto:w.perez@comcast.net)

If you have any questions, please contact the Caring Committee - Rita Cherubini - [caring@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:caring@riverofgrassuu.org)

***We The People March - Sunday July 2, 2023***

A huge thank you to all the River people who participated in the We the People March this past Sunday. Despite the heat and then the ensuing downpour, some 20 of our people were there to protest the increasing policies limiting people's rights, and increasing oppressions, such as trans, gay, women, black and so many others. Check out our website for pics. [Riverofgrassuu.org](http://Riverofgrassuu.org)



***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](mailto:Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com) or [Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com](mailto:Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com), or visit <http://www.insightinstitutellc.com/>

## MUUVies for Change July viewing is "Women Talking"

Written and directed by Sarah Polley. Available on [Amazon](#).

The film follows a group of American Mennonite women who discuss their future, following their discovery of the men's history of raping the colony's women. The rapes occurred at a remote and isolated Mennonite community in Bolivia. In 2010, the women and girls of the colony discover that the men have been using livestock tranquilizer to subdue and rape them.



Karen Gonzalez will lead the discussion and supply questions and perhaps background material.

MUUVies for Change will discuss "Women Talking" on **Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**. Please reply to Steve Jens-Rochow [muuvies@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:muuvies@riverofgrassuu.org) if you will attend the Discussion. Join our Zoom Meeting at 7:00 PM: [Zoom Link](#). Meeting ID: 844 1859 3114; Passcode: 537288; One tap mobile: +16465588656,,84418593114# US (New York); Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84418593114>.

**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:** Cut down on "one-use" plastic like cellophane wrap, and instead use reusable containers to store leftovers. Also, buy food in larger containers instead of multiple smaller containers, like yogurt and cheese. Even some small changes can reduce plastic waste and help our 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:office@riverofgrassuu.org).

*Announcements to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to [WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto: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.*

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