

# River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

11850 W St Rd 84, Ste A9, Davie, FL 33325

---

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

---

River of Grass Weekly Update – September 14, 2023

## Making Maps & Setting Our Sails: Water Ingathering 2023

Water is life's matter and matrix, mother and medium.

There is no life without water.

– Albert Szent-Gyorgyi

As we continue in our exploration of Renewal through September, this Sunday we celebrate our annual Water Ingathering to bless our new congregational year with the mingling of the waters of our lives -- especially meaningful in this time of emergence into a new chapter for River of Grass and, for world we navigate in these tumultuous times.

Remember to bring water to our in-person gathering -- which can be from your literal travels, or symbolic of your spiritual journeys -- as we renew our commitments to one another, to this Beloved Community at River of Grass, to our Unitarian Universalist faith, and to the good work at hand for us in the coming year. Folks who are Love-streaming with us on zoom or Facebook live, also remember to bring water to your screen!

Come as you are – either in-person at the Old Davie Schoolhouse Auditorium or 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!

In person at:

- Our Sunday morning rental space is located at the Old Davie Schoolhouse
- 6650 Griffin Road, Davie, FL 33314 ([Click for Directions](#))
- Service will begin at **10:30 AM**
- Childcare will be provided.

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/j/ab3E9JRtb9>

***Upcoming In-Person or Virtual Events - This Sunday:***

**Sunday, September 17, 2023 - 10:30 AM**

**River of Grass UU Congregation** – Making Maps & Setting Our Sails: Water Ingathering – Rev. Amy Carol Webb  
<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

***Faith Development for Kids and Youth***

This Sunday, our families will worship together for our Water Communion Ingathering. Worshiping together is another wonderful way to grow our Unitarian Universalist faith. It is our tradition at River of Grass to include everyone in our Third Sunday interactive service. Our Small Group for Children and Youth will resume next Sunday. Everyone is encouraged to bring a small vial of water to share in the ceremony, including our youngest ones. What role did water play in your life this summer? What does your water signify? For more information about Faith Development at River of Grass, contact our Director, Karen Gonzalez at [ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org). Please remind your child to wear their nametags on Sunday - a first step in being welcoming to all!



A new school year of  
Faith Development  
for our children and  
youth has begun!

***The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center:***

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

- **Register today for Youth CONferences!** Gather with youth from around the southeast.  
<https://www.themountainrlc.org/cons>  
Peer Advocate Leaders (PAL) training October 20-22, Age 16+ [apply today!](#)  
Elementary CON – November 3-5  
Intermediate CON – Nov 17-19  
High School CON – Dec 1-3
- Tasty and educational Forest to Table Dinner, including tour of Many Hands Peace Farm - Sunday, 9/24/23 or 10/8/23 <https://www.themountainrlc.org/farm-events>
- **Personal Retreats** -- Join us in the cool mountain air, combine a personal retreat with a farm or other event and local explorations.
- Save the Date for **Grateful Gathering - Thanksgiving weekend, Wednesday, November 22 - Sunday, November 26.** Gather with friends and family for community, learning, and explorations.
- **Join a passionate Mountain team** and be part of making a difference for individuals and our wider world! Available positions and application <https://www.themountainrlc.org/jobs> - competitive compensation, including medical insurance and retirement.

***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/>

**Flowing River Sangha - The Flowing River Sangha is back!** We'll meet **Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM** under the Old Davie Schoolhouse pavilion while our new space is being renovated, **beginning this Sunday morning, Sep 17<sup>th</sup>**. Come learn and practice the cultivation of present-moment awareness with an experienced meditator and group facilitator, Gary Gonzalez, who has been leading mindfulness meditation groups since 2014. There will be cool air provided by a portable misting fan. It's a BYOC event (bring your own cushion or chair) every Sunday morning at 8:30. You are also welcome to join via Zoom at the following link: [Flowing River Sangha Zoom Link](#).

### Climate Crisis March Sunday, Sep 17th at 4:00 pm

Let's march the River Way. Join the Climate Crisis March this Sunday, Sep 17<sup>th</sup>. We will assemble at the Federal Courthouse at 300 East Broward Blvd. at 4:00 pm and march around downtown Ft. Lauderdale. This March to End Fossil Fuels is organized by Fridays4Future across the US and around the world. [www.fridaysforfuture.org](http://www.fridaysforfuture.org) is the student-led climate activist group started by Greta Thunberg. Steve Jens-Rochow will bring signs. Any questions please email [ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org).

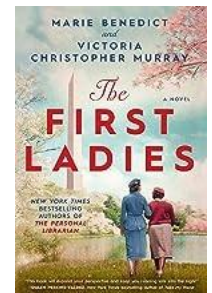


**BUUKies September Read - "The First Ladies"** by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. **We will meet on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to discuss this bUUK.** [River BUUKies Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 926 5701 7488; Passcode: 746613

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,92657017488#,,,,\*746613# US (Washington DC)

The authors have a knack for introducing readers to undersung ambitious women in history. They shine a light on the extraordinary friendship between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, white, privileged, and a Democrat, and Mary McLeod Bethune, a Black Republican woman who was born of formerly enslaved parents. Over the years, Eleanor and Mary forge an unshakeable bond, supporting each other through personal struggles with marital infidelity, illness, loss, and love. This novel is a brilliant illustration of the strength of two trailblazing women who cross race and class and hold hands through tragedy and triumph.



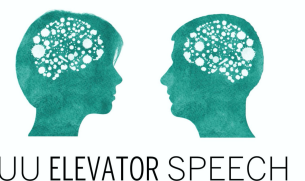
Steve Jens-Rochow [BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org).

**RoG Men's Group** - 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 **Thursday Sep 21<sup>st</sup>, 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 at 5:15 PM **at the Quarterdeck, 3155 S. University Dr, Davie, FL, 33328**. (If you're joining for dinner, please email Ken Bresnahan, group facilitator, so he can coordinate space.) The Zoom Meeting Room will open at 7pm. Questions: contact Ken; [mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org).

### ONLINE UU ELEVATOR SPEECH SERIES - OPEN TO ALL!

**When:** Wednesdays, Sept 27 - Oct 11; 8:00 - 9:00 ET on Zoom

The Faith Forward program out of the First Unitarian Church of Dallas is excited to offer an online session of our UU Elevator Speech series for all congregations. This three-week series guides participants through developing an "elevator speech" about their Unitarian Universalist faith. The next time someone asks you "what is Unitarian Universalism?" you'll be ready with a brief and meaningful statement. **Free for River of Grass members** as we are



subscribers of the Faith Forward program. For more information or to register, email Faith Forward Coordinator Rev. Lora Brandis at [lbrandis@dallasuu.org](mailto:lbrandis@dallasuu.org). Deadline to register is Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Full Moon Daughters Brand New Year Brunch** – If you love nature, being outdoors and the good company of other women and girls who feel the same, come join the **Full Moon Daughters at their Brand New Year Brunch at 10 am, Saturday, Sep 30<sup>th</sup>**. We will meet new friends and reconnect with old ones, and make plans for our new congregational year. All women, girls and those who identify as female are invited. To sign up and/or to receive more details, please email: [fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org).

**NAMI Walk** – River of Grass will be joining a team led by Allen and Gayle Giese: TsuNAMI! NAMI is the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. We walk on **Saturday, Oct 7th from 8am - 12pm at Nova Southeastern**. Please consider walking and joining [Team TsuNAMI!](#) If you want to help out the team with a donation one of our members, Linda Lathroum, has requested that others can donate to her page and has offered to help out if anyone needs assistance or has any questions. "THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of all of us who benefit from mental health support and life changing programs like those provided by NAMI Broward." Please sign up!!! <https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=59136>

*SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Avoid buying stuff. Try a birthday or holiday where no gifts are bought. Simply re-gift unused things found around the house. Or give a gift that is handmade from the heart, like a poem or painting. Or give the gift of your time, like a stroll with your loved one, or a kayak excursion. Or donate to a charity in honor of them. There are many ways to give, without buying more stuff!*

**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.*

### **River of Grass UU Congregation**

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

**11850 W St Rd 84, Ste A9, Davie, FL 33325 (Office & Mailing Location)**

**954.723.7877 - [office@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:office@riverofgrassuu.org)**