

Reflections

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE RIVER OF GRASS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

DAVIE, FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 2013

MINISTER'S CORNER

THE NUMBER OF OUR DAYS

by the Reverend Amy Carol Webb, Minister



For the shortest month on our calendar, February has an awful lot going on. Opening with entertaining observances, Bubble Gum Day (February 1) and the Super Bowl (February 3), and closing with the more whimsical National Tooth Fairy Day (February 28) and Inconvenience Yourself Day (February 27), there is something for just about anyone between. Southerners frolic their way through Mardi Gras on the 12th while Northerners await the Winter forecast from Punxsutawney Phil on Groundhog Day, February 2nd. (Here, at River of Grass, we enjoy the Annual Auction on February 2nd.)

Many Christians observe Lent, a 40-day period of prayer, penance and sacrifice beginning February 3rd this year, and Jews celebrate Purim, which marks Mordecai leading the victory over Israel's enemies as told in the book of Esther, this year on February 24th.

By the way, Mardi Gras is always the day before Ash Wednesday, providing those who may have over-celebrated much opportunity to repent – and recover.

We know that Presidents Day honors our 1st and 16th presidents, Washington and Lincoln with a Federal holiday – the president that helped to birth our country, and the one who helped rebirth it following the bitter Civil War. But who knew about International Sword Swallowers Day on the 23rd. If you survive that, you can go to the Daytona 500 on the 24th.

The Chinese New Year begins on February 10th. You can Take Your Child to the Library Day on the 2nd to learn more about it.

For all of February's vastly varying opportunities for remembering and reveling, we are, of course, most familiar with the observance of the feast of Saint Valentine who was imprisoned for, among other offenses, performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry. Legend has it that before he was executed he healed the daughter of his jailer Asterius by sending her a farewell note signed "from your Valentine."

The Valentine's Day we inherit this February 14th long ago forgot its heritage, lost in curly-cued stationery and heart-shaped confectionery. Like a lot of other kids, I remember too clearly those grade school afternoons eagerly sifting through my oh-so-carefully decorated repurposed tissue box, only to finish wounded for whose cards I did not find.

For many, Valentine's Day is still a source of such wounding, for a variety of reasons – from those who were coupled and now are not, or never have been, or want to be but, like those soldiers in Valentine's time, are legally forbidden.

(Continued on page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE



<i>Services</i>	2
<i>From the President</i>	3
<i>Board Matters</i>	4
<i>Rev. Amy Carol Webb</i>	4
<i>Weekend in February</i>	
<i>River of Grass Café</i>	5
<i>Faith Development</i>	6
<i>Full Moon Daughters</i>	7
<i>Service & Social Justice</i>	7
<i>Membership</i>	8
<i>Stewardship</i>	8
<i>Climate Action</i>	9
<i>bUUKies</i>	9
<i>Black History Month</i>	10
<i>Writers' Group</i>	10
<i>Calendar</i>	11

MINISTER'S CORNER

(Continued from page 1)

But still, we tend to believe in the healing power of love. The love we may find with another person, with family blood or chosen, with faithful friends – with Beloved Community. Beloved Community we share at River of Grass. Beloved Community I write in capitals because I believe the community we make our of Unitarian Universalist faith is sacred. It is holy because it helps to make us whole. It is proof of love's power to heal.



Whatever you celebrate this most abbreviated month of the year, from the silly to the sanctified, let love be at the center of all we do. The number of our days is too short to live any other way.

FEBRUARY SERVICES

- Feb. 3 *Rev. Dr. Tom Chulak, UUA
St. Lawrence District Executive*
- Feb. 10 *Marjorie Loring*
- Feb. 17 *Rev. Amy Carol Webb*
- Feb. 24 *Leana Bresnahan*

River of Grass

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

Phone 954-723-7877
www.riverofgrassuu.org
office@riverofgrassuu.org

Newsletter

Editor Esther Sampol
 Design & Production Brit Lundell
 Copy Editors Diane Diaz &
 Zena Tucker

Congregational Administrator

Sophia Brown

Board of Trustees

President Marjorie Loring
 Vice President Ken Bresnahan
 Secretary Zena Tucker
 Treasurer Maddi Gutfriend
 Trustee Tom Robinson
 Trustee Diane Diaz
 Trustee Grant Basham
 Trustee Deb Giblin-Davis
 Youth Representative Jenna Berleue

Committee Chairs

Auction Esther Sampol
 Caring Ingrid Furlong &
 Maureen Lundell
 Community Awareness Esther Sampol
 Concert Aaron Stang
 Consulting Minister's Diane Diaz &
 Committee on Ministry Esther Sampol
 Facilities Susan Juncosa
 Faith Development Karen Gonzalez &
 Diane Lade
 Finance Janet Schwartz
 Membership Leana Bresnahan
 Nominating TBA
 Pastoral Care Riley Cothran, Pat Katz &
 Marjorie Loring
 Personnel Diane Diaz, Esther Sampol, &
 Janet Schwartz
 Service & Social Justice ... Steve Jens-Rochow &
 Judi Oltmans
 Shared Ministry Diane Lade &
 Janet Schwartz
 Stewardship Troy Gies &
 Pam Schrimsher
 Worship Kathy Jens-Rochow

OUR PRINCIPLES

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;

The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

OUR SUNDAY LOCATION

11850 W. State Road 84, Suite 1, Davie, FL 33325

EVERY SUNDAY

Worship Service: 10:30 to 11:30am. **Hospitality Hour:** 11:30am to 12:30pm.

Faith Development Classes: 10:45 to 11:45am

FRIENDLY REMINDERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

There is plenty of parking outside the sanctuary, but please leave the closer parking spaces for our guests and physically challenged worshippers.

All meetings are held at 11850 W State Road 84, Suite 1 in Davie unless otherwise noted.

WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART?

Marjorie Loring, Board President



Making the Rounds

Every year, when February arrives, for some of us, our attention turns to Valentine's Day.

Complete with its heart shaped boxes of chocolates filling the store shelves (fair trade, of course) and the boxes of candy hearts that send messages like "Be Mine" and "Sweet Love", and, even, "Text Me" and "Tweet Me", this holiday is all about love and connection.



February is also Black History Month. As Unitarian Universalists, we take pride in standing on the side of love and justice. It defines who we are, and what we aspire to become. Like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we too, have a dream.

At River of Grass, February is the mid-point of our congregational year. It is a time when the Board calls us all to come together for the mid-year congregational update.

This month our congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 24th after service and hospitality time. It is the day, also, that we will celebrate Charter Sunday, our 14th birthday. How amazing is that? During the meeting, our standing committees will recap their accomplishments and share their plans for the remainder of the year. Our Finance Committee will give us an update on our financial health and Rev. Amy will report on her activities and provide us with feedback that will keep us on track toward growing our programs, our outreach, and our membership.

February is our time to pause – to look how far we have come and affirm the love that got us here.

So, what might the messages be in a bag of River of Grass UU candy hearts?

Here are some of mine – including Rev. Amy's now famous closing words – "Good Church!"



BOARD MATTERS

Zena Tucker, Board Secretary



Where does one begin the task of sharing the activities of River of Grass over the last month? My answer for this month: Gratitude.

Thanks to the auction committee, especially Esther Sampol who, as I write this, is putting together a spectacular evening. A high five, also, to the River of Grass Café committee members who are bringing beautiful music to our halls! A special shout out to Kathy Jens-Rochow, Janet Schwartz, Elyse Brunt, Monica Dyer and Vickie Koutoulas for the Member Photo Directory. Then there's the Service and Social Justice committee who facilitated the annual Guest at Your Table campaign and the Child-Net Holiday Angel Tree. Many thanks go to Carolyn Sant Angelo, Gayle Giese and

Rosi Alberti-Gimeno for their hard work on the tree. Last, but not least, the Board is very grateful to Steve Jens-Rochow, Riley Cothran, Rick Tucker, Daniel Lorman, Diane Diaz and Susan Juncosa for the recent work on the sound panels and multi-purpose room painting.

The River of Grass Board of Trustees focused largely on two important topics at our last meeting: Stewardship and Facilities. First, Stewardship since it is now time to begin our annual budget drive. But wait, what is stewardship? See the article in this newsletter that answers that very question. Suffice it to say, stewardship is an integral part of the River of Grass vision of who we want to be. Considering stewardship and the President's Day holiday, I dug up this great quote from Abraham Lincoln: "Whatever you are, be a good one." Simple, but true. Let's be ready to listen as River of Grass begins afresh with a new stewardship program very soon.

The next topic was our Facilities. The Facilities Task Force consisting of Susan Juncosa, John Perez, Carolyn Sant Angelo and Steve Tepper have delivered an outstanding document called the *River of Grass UU Congregation Facility Rental and Usage, Resources and Forms*. The board was very pleased with the content, layout and the photography. We are currently reviewing the document and hope to unveil it to the congregation by our mid-year meeting. We think you'll agree that it is professionally done and a gold-standard reference for all things facilities!

Finally, we discussed our upcoming mid-year Congregational Meeting scheduled for Sunday, February 24th, after service and hospitality. Expect lots of great fellowship, congregational information, and don't forget, lunch and celebration (it's our birthday)! See you at the coffee urn!



REV. AMY CAROL WEBB WEEKEND IN FEBRUARY



Covenant of Right Relations Workshop

Facilitated by Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Date: Saturday, February 16, 10:00am-1:00pm

All are invited to hear more about how we can be together as a community – and live in right relations with each other. Right Relations is about being together despite our differences for a common purpose. It is about how we can call each other back into covenant when our interactions get complex and misunderstandings happen. Right Relations work strengthens our community and our faith and nurtures a common spirit.

(It is not necessary to have attended the first workshop offered on this topic to attend this one.)

Pastoral Time with Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Date: Sunday, February 17, 12:30pm-3:00pm

RIVER OF GRASS CAFÉ AND COFFEEHOUSE - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH - 8:00 PM

Gayle Giese, Concert Team

“**W**hen Bob Sima opens his mouth to sing, what comes out is far beyond the human sounds of a warm and soulful voice. Beyond the songs, beyond the voice, beyond the stories, there’s a reminder of the simple splendor of this place and these experiences we all share. Each song is sincere and worth repeating. Bob truly moves his audiences-- physically, emotionally, and spiritually. He is more influenced by the likes of Rumi and Gandhi than he is by Dylan and Springsteen.”

Bob’s music has been featured in two of our Sunday Services. And many of you were lucky enough to hear him this past summer at SUUSI, the Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute. If you missed SUUSI, this is your chance to see and hear this amazing singer/songwriter in person! His music will change your life!

A nationally-touring singer-songwriter based in Annapolis, Maryland, he has won the hearts of many judges, and captured a first-prize honor at Wildflower Music Festival from over 500 entries. First opening for such acts as Ellis Paul, David Wilcox, Vance Gilbert, and Jesse Harris, Bob then focused his energy on sharing music at spiritual centers and other events that promote personal growth and transformation. This led him to perform his song “Be the Change” at the *Be The Change National Conference* in November 2012 with NY Times best-selling author and peace activist Marianne Williamson.











































His albums *Pour It On*, *Periphery*, and *Thin Little Veil* exemplify his tagline “Songs from the Bright Side.” His music is sure to make you glow! These records are full of percussive acoustic guitar, piano, organ, dobro, and impressive backing vocals. The records cover the gamut from soulful-folk, gospel, alternative-country, and blues. Listen to his music at: [Bob Sima](#).

Mark your calendar! **Friday, February 15th**. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door.

To purchase tickets, please go to www.riverofgrassuu.org and click on the “Calendar and Events” tab in the upper right corner. Select “Coffeehouse Concerts.” Purchased tickets will be held for you at the front door on the night of the performance.

Doors open at 7:30pm. Music starts at 8:00pm. Drinks and delicious food from our River of Grass chefs are for sale! Come hungry and bring your friends!



																
	UPCOMING CONCERTS:															
	Karen Mal (with Special Guest Laurie McClain) – March 15 th – singer-songwriter/instrumentalist with a beautiful voice and a Celtic touch.															
	Amy Carol Webb – April 12 th – singer-songwriter who touches our hearts with each special song.															
	Janis Ian – May 3 rd and 4 th – amazing renowned entertainer, best known for her Grammy hit songs “At Seventeen” and “Society’s Child.” Get your Janis Ian tickets now for Friday, 5/3 or Saturday, 5/4. Get ready to rock the River of Grass house! Click here for tickets.															
																

STAND ON THE SIDE OF LOVE

Christy Schultz, Faith Development Coordinator

In December we celebrated the return of the light, in January we rang in the New Year, and now, here in February we talk about LOVE.

Since ancient times, people in France and England have believed that February 14th is the day that birds choose a mate, allowing love to “fly”. In ancient Rome, February 14th was a day of celebration; it was the start of the “fertility festival”, in which the gods Lupercus and Faunas were celebrated. Men chose a woman’s name from a jar and that woman became his “love”. Eventually the Pope came around and decided that he didn’t approve and renamed the day “Valentines Day” in honor of a martyred saint that had died in the name of love and kindness.



Now we express our love and celebrate in a variety of ways: we give flowers, cards, kisses, and share company with those we love. How can you express your love to your family, to your friends, and to your community?

“Harness Love’s Power to Stop Oppression” and Stand on the Side of Love.

Join the Thirty Days of Love – a spiritual journey for social justice at www.standingonthesideoflove.org – or the Stand on the Side of Love Facebook page. Click [here](#).

Support all people and their right to love as much as possible, no matter who it is. Love your family, support them, teach them to love fairly, honestly, and with respect. Maybe we should change the traditions a bit and instead of sending boxes of candy or stuffed animals that are sold at gas stations around town, maybe we should give more hugs DAILY all year long, or maybe we should pick flowers from our garden, or plant a flower in someone’s honor. Maybe we should volunteer to help those in need and give love to the homeless person on the corner. No matter what it is, shoot your love arrows into the hearts of those around you by BEING the love!

There is so much love going on in our Faith Development Children and Youth Programs!!

After the holidays and the New Year’s celebrations, our children and youth returned to their Sunday programs. The youth participated in service with Reverend Amy and all attended classes. Lots of love was spread around between children, teachers, and the congregation.

We also spread love around the community: the youth visited ARC Broward on Monday, January 21st (MLK’s birthday); this is the organization that will be receiving our once-a-month, 4th Sunday offering collection. We began, also, our collection of used printer cartridges for ARC Broward. We will continue collecting, so please bring in your used cartridges. See me ([Christy Schultz](#)) or [Carolyn Sant Angelo](#) for details.

The Youth Group continued meeting on Sundays at 12pm but is looking at the possibility of a new meeting time starting in February. The youth group also began plans for the first-ever River of Grass Beacon Youth CON that will take place March 1-3. CON’s are weekend long events for youth, Beacon is the Florida District of UU Youth Groups. Our youth are empowered to lead this amazing weekend that focuses on Social Action. Youth from all over the state will be invited here to River of Grass. The title of the CON is “Felines and CONines” (Get it...cats and dogs) and will focus on Animal Rights and Care for the companions with which we share the Earth. Please email fdcoordinator@riverofgrassuu.org for more information.

February will be the start of our Rites of Passage Programs for the children and youth...**Principle Pals for Early Elementary**, **Kindlers of the Flame for Late Elementary**, and **Affirmation for the senior youth**. These special programs happen every other year. Rites of passage are programs of choice. It is up to the child and his/her parent to determine if they want to participate. The programs will include some projects to be done at home as well as time during Sunday School. Your Faith Development team and teachers are available if you have any questions about the programs.



Be the LOVE!

FULL MOON DAUGHTERS

Diane Lade, Coordinator



The Full Moon Daughters, the River of Grass outdoor spirituality group for women and girls, are getting ready to hit the road this month for their second camping trip of the congregational year. We will be going to lovely Fort De Soto, a large county park at the mouth of Tampa Bay, with a barrier dune beach and waterways where manatees and dolphins play. You'll be able to practically paddle right up to your campsite.

The gals-only trip (sorry, guys) will be over President's Day weekend: Saturday, Feb. 16 through Monday, Feb. 18. You are welcome to come for one or two nights, although camping fees are the same for both and will be determined by the number of people attending. There also are hotels nearby for those who want to join us for our activities but NOT sleep on the hard ground.

There is much to do at Fort De Soto for country and city girls: kayaking, bicycling, fishing, trips to the Dali Museum, shopping at Gulfport, lounging at the beach. Plus as usual, we will share delicious communal meals and spend the evening together around the campfire.

You must sign up for this trip if you want to participate, particularly if you plan to camp, as there are limited campsites. The deadline is Feb. 6. There is a \$10 fee for canceling after Feb. 11.

To register, email: fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org. Indicate if you plan on camping or staying in a hotel.

Our group holds fun outdoor events, ranging from out-of-town camping trips to local garden walks, every month from September through June. We are open to River of Grass women and girls, their friends and family members. If you want to be on our emailing list and keep up with where we are going next, just shoot us a note at the Full Moon email above.

See you on the water, along the trail and under the stars.

SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Judi Oltmans and Steve Jens-Rochow, Co-Chairs

And Service Is Its Law...



LifeNet4Families
Cooperative Feeding Program

Now that we'll be volunteering at LifeNet4Families one Saturday a month, we're going to need more volunteers than ever! At River of Grass service is an important part of being a member. If every member could volunteer one Saturday this year at LifeNet, we'd have the whole year covered!

So pick a Saturday and get together with your favorite River of Grass friends, or bring someone new, and spend the day helping the needy in our community. It's a great feeling to see that one person *can* make a difference. Remember, if you have a teen in high school they will earn service hours for volunteering.

Our next LifeNet4Families Volunteer day is Saturday, February 9th from 9:00am to 11:00am and you can sign up at the SSJC corner in the back of the sanctuary or email us at ssjc@riverofgrassuu.org. Can't make it in February? Check out these upcoming LifeNet4Families dates: Mar 9, Apr 13, May 11, Jun 8, Jul 13 Aug 10, Sep 14, Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14. Hope to see you there!

Our next Service and Social Justice meeting will be held on Monday, February 4th at 7:00pm at River of Grass. We'll be discussing Reproductive Justice, the Unitarian Universalist's Study Action Issue for 2012-2016, along with upcoming service projects. Bring your ideas to share and your passion to make the world a better place!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Leana Bresnahan, Chair



Fourteen years ago this month, on February 21, 1999, a brand new Unitarian Universalist congregation named River of Grass was born. On that day, known as Charter Sunday, 70 adults signed the membership book for the first time.

Since that day, the new congregation grew and developed, faced its share of challenges and difficulties, met those challenges and grew ever stronger, and has been the source of inspiration, growth, comfort, acceptance and love for literally hundreds of people. Our membership in terms of numbers has grown to 118, but the number of lives River of Grass has touched along the way is far greater.

This year we will celebrate Charter Sunday on February 24th, the same Sunday as our Mid-Year Congregational Meeting, with a special worship service that will feature special presentations and music and birthday cake. We will also have a New Member Sunday ceremony, expanding our beloved community one more time. We hope that as many members and friends as possible will be there that day!

If you are considering becoming a member of River of Grass, please contact Membership Chair, Leana Bresnahan, as soon as possible, at membership@riverofgrassuu.org, so that all the necessary arrangements can be made.

On February 23rd, we will also host a Circle Supper and hope that the seats around the table will be full. Circle Suppers are a fun way to have some great food and get to know some of your fellow congregants better. Please look for the sign-up sheet during hospitality hour after service.

STEWARDSHIP

Pam Schrimsher

In the next few months and years, you will be hearing and reading about stewardship here at River of Grass, and you may wonder what that means.



Stewardship “is the spirit that influences the things that people do for their faith community” (from the UUA’s guide to stewardship). With stewardship, we become more aware of the time, talents and treasure that we share with one another here at River of Grass, and how this sharing focuses the energy within our community. The good works that all of our committees and small groups contribute are essential elements of stewardship. If you would like to learn more about stewardship, please contact [Ken Bresnahan](#), [Pam Schrimsher](#) or [Troy Gies](#).

SOUTH FLORIDA

CLIMATE ACTION CONFERENCE Steve Jens-Rochow, President, SE Cluster



Climate change is the most important issue facing us today, and the SE Cluster is partnering to present the South Florida Climate Action Conference. We are joining members of the scientific-technical, faith-based, government, and activist communities in Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach counties to exchange information and work together to implement the SE Florida Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP). Probably because of sea level rise, regional leaders have gotten together and written our regional climate action plan. We are fortunate to have this plan, for most areas of the country have not done planning like this.

The SE Florida regional climate change compact addresses how we can mitigate the causes of climate change and adapt to its consequences. The conference will stimulate dialogue and encourage us to engage in direct action to support the regional climate action plan. The RCAP is our region’s response to climate change and sea level rise; by advocating and implementing this plan we will move our region toward climate resilience and sustainability.

The climate action conference will be on Saturday, March 2, from 9am to 5pm at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton, 2601 St. Andrews Blvd, Boca Raton, FL 33434, www.uufbr.org. The fee is \$20 per person/ \$10 per student. Lunch and continental breakfast included. To see the schedule and view the speakers, and to register go to <http://sflclimateactionpartners.org/>

This partnering workshop is sponsored by the UU Fellowship of Boca Raton Endowment Fund. There are 2 exciting dedicated youth programs. Click [here](#) to view them.

“Our faith calls us to heal injustice and to create a sustainable earth; and with that service grow spiritually and congregationally.”

BUUKIES BOOK GROUP

Diane Diaz, Coordinator

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by civil rights attorney, Michelle Alexander, has been selected as the 2012-13 Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Common Read.



Come join the bUUKies for a discussion tentatively set for mid-March. More details to follow.



Global Climate Change: Created from short reflections about Al Gore’s Inconvenient Truth — The section on Oceans — Hidden Valley Middle School Grade 8

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Did you know Black History Month got its start in 1926 as a week set aside to honor African-American contributions to American history? Every U.S. president since 1976 has officially designated February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, have followed the United States' lead and devoted a month to celebrating black history.

Black history, like all history, isn't just about dates and facts; it's about people making a difference in each others' lives.

Take the story of John Price. Price ran away from a slaveholder in Kentucky when he was sixteen and found his way to Oberlin, Ohio, where he settled among the welcoming townspeople. Oberlin was a stop on the Underground Railroad, a vast network of people from the South to Canada, who opened their homes and risked their lives to help slaves escape to freedom. After the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850, bounty-hunters often roamed the streets of towns like Oberlin, looking for runaway slaves.



AN ANTHOLOGY OF CARING EXPERIENCES

Ingrid Furlong, Writers' Group

The Writers' Group has embarked on a *Caring Anthology* project. We are assembling an anthology of caring experiences "of, by, and for the people" of our congregation. This book will be used to inspire, comfort, and support those engaged in caring for someone in need and those who wish to explore their own capacity for caring and compassion. We hope to make this easy for all who wish to participate. If you are a natural writer, you can write up your experience in a page or two (we're not looking for novellas).



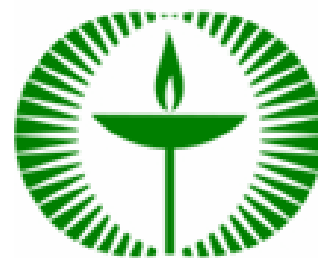
A member of the writing group will provide editing and proofreading. If you would like to simply talk about your experience and have a member of the writing group write it up, we can arrange this very easily. We are hoping to compile a broad range of experiences and encourage everyone to participate. If you have an experience that you would like to share, please contact Ingrid Furlong at writers@riverofgrassuu.org or look for the Caring Anthology Sign-up Sheet after service on Sunday. We are excited about this project and hope that everyone will help make this a great success.

One September morning in 1858, when Price was eighteen, he was captured by bounty hunters and held in a hotel in the nearby town of Wellington to wait for a southbound train. When the people of Oberlin heard of Price's capture, they rushed to Wellington, stormed the hotel, and freed the young man. Price was hidden at the home of an Oberlin College professor until his safe passage to Canada could be assured.

History doesn't remember the names of all the people who freed John Price. All we know is that some were farmers and some were businessmen, some were slaves and some were free, and some were black and some were white. But they were all Americans, ordinary people who cared enough to help.

This Black History Month, as we take the time to honor the contributions of African-Americans, let's remember the spirit of residents of Oberlin, people who looked past color and class distinctions and came together, with kindness and caring, to make the world a better place.

(Reprinted from Blue Mountain Blog.)





Fri	1st	12:00-9:00pm	Auction Setup
Sat	2nd	6:30-10:30pm	River of Grass Annual Auction
Sun	3rd	10:30-11:30am 10:45-11:45 am 6:00-10:00pm	Sunday Service Sunday Classes Auction Event: Super Bowl Party (Member's Home)
Mon	4th	7:00-9:00pm	Service and Social Justice Committee
Thu	7th	7:00-9:00 pm	Writer's Group
Sat	9th	9:00 -12 noon	LifeNet4Families Volunteer Day
Sun	10th	10:30-11:30am 10:45-11:45 am 12:30-3:30pm	Sunday Service Sunday Classes Auction Event: Ceramic Workshop
Mon	11th	7:15-9:00 pm	Finance Committee
Tue	12th	4:00-7:00pm	River of Greens
Wed	13h	7:00-10:00 pm	Board Meeting
Thu	14th	7:00-9:00pm	Men's Group
Fri	15th	8:00-11:00pm	River of Grass Café Concert: Bob Sima
Sat	16th-	All Day Event	Full Moon Daughter
Mon	18th		Camping Trip at Fort De Soto
Sun	17th	10:30-11:30am 10:45-11:45am	Rev. Amy Carol Webb Sunday Sunday Service Sunday Classes
Wed	20th	7:00-9:00 pm	bUUKies Book Group
Thu	21st	7:00-9:00 pm	Writer's Group

Fri	22nd	6:30-8:30pm	Spiritual Arts Group
Sat	23rd	6:30pm-8:30pm	Circle Supper
Sun	24th	10:30-11:30am 10:45-11:45am 11:30-12:30pm 12:30-3:30pm	Congregational Mid-Year Meeting & Charter Sunday Celebration Sunday Service Sunday Classes Celebration Congregational Meeting
Mon	25th	7:00-9:00pm	Women's Group
Tue	26th	4:00-7:00pm	River of GREENS
Thu	28th	7:00-9:00pm	Men's Group

COMING UP IN MARCH!

- Mar. 1-3: *Youth Con*
- Mar. 9: *LifeNet4Families Volunteer Day Super Bowl Party – Auction Event*
- Mar. 9: *LifeNet4Families Volunteer Morning Full Moon Daughters Trip to Clyde Butcher Studio*
- Mar. 13: *Board Meeting*
- Mar. 15: *River of Grass Café Concert: Karen Mal & Laurie McClain*
- Mar. 16-17: *Rev. Amy Carol Webb Weekend*
- Mar. 23: *Broadway Karaoke Board Party – Auction Event*

