

Announcements

Faith Development: Family Vespers 5:00pm [Zoom link here](#)

Our Unitarian Universalist faith asks us to consider what it means to build the beloved community that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke of. That is why our 2nd Principle reads that we covenant to affirm and promote justice, equity and compassion. Working for fairness and offering compassion to everyone, within our congregation and in society at large, helps everyone in our community to feel seen and loved. That's why our theme this month is Building the Beloved Community. Join us for story, song and spirit as we celebrate our ability to share the love and build a beautiful world. For more information about our Faith Development Program contact Karen Gonzalez at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org.

New Member Sunday - February 14th: River of Grass will have another **New Member Sunday on Feb 14th** - Are you interested in becoming a member of River of Grass? For more info or to RSVP for this celebration of membership contact Diane Diaz or Zena Tucker, membership@riverofgrassuu.org.

How well do you know your UUs:

Olympia Brown (January 5, 1835 – October 23, 1926) was the first woman to be ordained as clergy with the consent of her denomination. Brown was also an articulate advocate for women's rights and one of the few first generation suffragists who were able to vote with the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment.



Brown decided to attend Mount Holyoke Female Seminary. Mount Holyoke and a college education were what Brown had hoped for. Her excitement was tempered by the restrictions placed on women at Mount Holyoke. Perhaps the best example of the school's thinking was the words of a Chemistry professor, "You are not expected to remember all of this, but only enough to make you intelligent in conversation." Brown, who already knew she could meet the challenges of a higher education, looked elsewhere

Putting aside her experiences at Mount Holyoke, Brown enrolled at Antioch College. Brown learned that despite the progressive nature at Antioch, there were still forms of discrimination. For example, in Brown's English class, women were not required to have speeches memorized. In a defiant act, Brown delivered her speeches from memory, just as the men had.

Once Brown finished her schooling at Antioch, she decided her calling was to be a minister. After countless rejections, she was accepted to the Theological School of St. Lawrence University, although the school's president, Ebenezer Fisher, made it clear he did not believe women should be ministers. She became the first woman to graduate from an established theological school.

Despite finishing her schooling and preaching experience, Brown still met opposition to her ordination. Brown's appeal was a simple plea for equality. But on June 25, 1863, the Northern Universalist Association ordained Olympia Brown. She was the first woman to be ordained with official approval from a national denomination.

In all her ministerial settings, she was well respected as a preacher. She was described by a reporter for the Superior Daily Leader as "the female Beecher of the rostrum." This was intended as a high compliment, as Henry Ward Beecher was widely considered to be the best preacher in the United States at the time.

Brown had always been aware of the quest for equal rights. Due to Brown's strong speaking skills and beliefs, Susan B. Anthony continually sought the involvement of Brown. With the encouragement of Lucy Stone and her husband, Henry Blackwell, Brown traveled to Kansas in order to speak on women's rights. Over the course of the summer, Brown delivered more than 300 speeches despite facing many hardships.

"The grandest thing has been the lifting up of the gates and the opening of the doors to the women of America, giving liberty to twenty-seven million women, thus opening to them a new and larger life and a higher ideal."

UUA's New Day Rising Conference: Service and Social Justice Greet Team (SSJGT) is excited to announce the UUA's New Day Rising Conference on Feb 27th. With workshops, discussion, and worship caucusing. We will identify our next faithful steps in changing White Supremacy culture as we create our Beloved UU Community.

It's the **New Day Rising Conference, Feb 27th from 12:00 noon to 9:00 pm eastern**, with lots of breaks. You can find more info at <https://www.uua.org/leadership/events/new-day-rising-2021>.

Steve and Kathy Jens-Rochow, as well as three others from River of Grass, have registered for this Conference. The UUA says that with 3 or more we can take the \$20 rate in the sliding scale. And SSJGT will pay for up to 4-\$20 registrations. Just message Steve Jens-Rochow at SSJGT@RiverofGrassUU.org to let him know that you have registered and he will have a check sent to you.

Rising Day builds on our White Fragility course of last year. And it will be a good introduction to the Building the World We Dream About seminar that the River will be offering starting in March.

Flowing River Sangha - We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, Feb 9th via zoom. <https://zoom.us/j/201911385>. We will meet from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. This is an open-ended, drop-in group for all levels of meditation experience. Gary Gonzalez meditation@riverofgrassuu.org.

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/>

Young Adults are now meeting on the 2nd Sundays, at 7:30 pm virtually on Zoom – Millennials, Gen Xers, and Gen Zs, are welcome to tune in to the YUng Adult Virtual Coffee Hour on **Sunday, Feb 14th ♥ at 7:30 pm**. Our group's purpose is to foster an inclusive, diverse and intentional community that inspires spiritual growth and connection. Please email youngadults@riverofgrassuu.org if you have any questions and to obtain the zoom details.

River of Grass New Mailing Address - We have our post office box and are forwarding all of our mail there now. Our new mailing address is listed on our website as a footer on each page and in the [contact us page](#) if you need to look it up.

River of Grass UU Congregation, 3225 N Hiatus Rd, Unit 452485, Sunrise, Florida 33345

SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Take an "electronics day off". Turn off the TV, stay off Facebook, no internet. Just grab a book, take a walk, or speak with loved ones. It's healthy and its green!

Have you heard about our Faith Forward Inquirers Series? We meet on Wednesdays from 7:30 – 8:30 pm on Zoom, see the schedule below! Faith Forward Inquirers Series is a rotation of seven conversations about our congregation and Unitarian Universalism. The series is designed for visitors and newcomers who are looking for a general introduction, and yet the sessions are appealing to veteran members who want more information about our beloved community. New members and inquirers are encouraged to attend. Classes are not mandatory for membership but are highly recommended! Our next class is scheduled for **Feb 10th and is FF Inquirers #2: Unitarian Universalist History, Principles and Sources**. For more information, email Zena Tucker, membership@riverofgrassuu.org. Zoom link for our session is: [ZOOM Link for RoG Inquirers](#).

Date	Time	Event
2/10/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#2: Unitarian Universalist History, Principles and Sources
2/24/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#4: Faith Development for Children and Adults
3/3/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#5: Worship & Liturgical Year
3/24/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
3/31/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
4/7/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life
4/28/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#4: Faith Development for Children and Adults
5/5/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#5: Worship & Liturgical Year
5/12/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#1: Q&A with Minister
5/26/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
6/2/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
6/9/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life

Capital Campaign Contributions

We have set up several methods for you to make your pledges/contributions to the Capital Campaign. The table below details the various methods, including charges that the River accrues when this payment method is used. We are here to help with any questions you may have. Feel free to contact our office administrator, Sandy Blair Chibnick, via email at office@riverofgrassuu.org.

Monetary Donations		
Method	How	Processing fees paid by River of Grass
Check	Write CC on memo line Mail to River of Grass: 3225 N Hiatus Rd, Unit 452485 Sunrise, FL 33345	\$0
Checking account via Vanco	Set up payment on our Donations page . Designate on the Capital Campaign line	\$0.45 per transaction plus processing fee 1%
Credit Card via Vanco	Set up payment on our Donations page . Designate amount on the Capital Campaign line.	\$0.45 per transaction plus credit card processing fee: American Express: 3.5% Visa/MasterCard: 2.75%
PayPal	https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/my/profile In the notes write "Capital Campaign"	Varies based on method of payment
Zelle	Use your bank to set up \$ transfer. Send Zelle payment to CapitalCampaign@riverofgrassuu.org .	\$0
Securities	<p>Any questions contact Northstar Financial Planners: <i>Allen Giese, Steve Tepper, or Stacy Saavedra at (954) 693-0030</i></p> <p>Securities should be transferred per instructions from the donor's brokerage or advisor using the following DTC and A/C numbers as the destination</p> <p>#0188 - TD Ameritrade Institutional A/C #944110334</p> <p>RIVER OF GRASS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION, INC.</p> <p>The donor should notify the CC Team and the Office Administrator of the details of the donation by emailing CapitalCapaign@riverofgrassuu.org.</p>	