

Announcements

Faith Development: 12:30: Pre-K - 1st graders; **1:30 pm:** 2nd - 6th graders; **3:00 pm:** teens
Our Second Principle asks us to practice compassion. During this month of Deep Listening, we'll begin finding compassion by Listening with our Hearts. This will be the focus for all of our class sessions on Sunday. We'll share that compassion with children from around the world as we also begin our UNICEF campaign. For more information, contact Karen Gonzalez at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org.

Faith Development - Trick or Treating for UNICEF This month our children will be raising money to help needy children around the world through an online UNICEF campaign. It's easy to contribute! [Connect through this link](#) or use the QR code. A pandemic only increases their need. Please give if you are able.

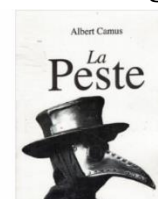
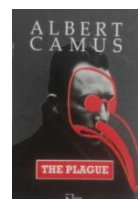


Young Adults are now meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, at 7:30 pm virtually on Zoom – Millennials, Gen Xers, and Gen Zs, are welcome to tune in to the YUng Adult Virtual Coffee Hour today, **Sunday, Oct 11th at 7:30 pm**. Our purpose is to foster an inclusive, diverse and intentional community that inspires spiritual growth and connection. Please email youngadults@riverofgrassuu.org if you have any questions and to obtain the zoom details.

Free “Mindfulness for Today’s World” weekly online sessions - Thursdays 6:00 - 7:00 pm for adults; [Zoom link for 6pm](#) For more info contact Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com or Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com, or visit <https://www.insightinstitutellc.com>.

Flowing River Sangha – We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, Oct 13th 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.

bUUKies Go Olde Skool with Camus - Oct 14th What could possibly make life more interesting as we remain COVID-quarantined? Why, reading about a fictional plague and contemplating the parallels. So that’s what the bUUKies are doing for the October read – the 1947 classic “The Plague” by Albert Camus. This book shot back onto the bestseller lists earlier this year, but it’s not necessarily about an illness. Reviewer Liesl Schillinger notes that “the bacillus under the author’s lens is not so much physiological as sociological, and philosophical...he addresses any contagion that might overtake any society; from a disease...to a corrosive ideology”. This is deep stuff, folks. But don’t worry – we’re reading it in English, not the original French!



Our remaining selections for the fall are:

November - “Rodham” by Curtis Sittenfeld – what if Hillary had not married Bill?

December - “American Spy” by Lauren Wilkinson – a black woman CIA agent and American adventurism in the 1980s? Oh, yes.

Buukies meet by Zoom on the second Wednesday of each month, so the next meeting is Oct

14th. A link will be sent to the regular bUUKies. If not on our list, e-mail bUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org and a link will be sent!

UU Womenspirit Virtual Event Fall 2020 - Unitarian Universalist Womenspirit is hosting it's first virtual weekend gathering Oct 16th-18th. Registration for Everyday Sacred is now open! To view details of our virtual weekend gathering, check out our [brochure](#), or visit the UUWomenspirit [website](#). When you are ready to register for the event, here is the link for [Campwise](#). Contact our event registrar at uuwomenspirit@gmail.com for assistance with registration. Blessed be! Melissa Christopher, Scribe, Unitarian Universalist Womenspirit

New Member Ceremony, Sunday, Oct 18th, during service. At our New Member Ceremony, we celebrate those who have found a new home in this Beloved Community. If you are interested in becoming a member at this ceremony, please *RSVP by Oct 12th via email* membership@riverofgrassuu.org. For more information see our website: [Becoming a Member](#).

Proposed Change in Policies and Procedures - The Board reviewed and approved a proposed change in our Policies & Procedures, adding the following paragraph. In accordance with our Policy on Policies, we need to have a congregational review before making the change.

Proposed Change in red and articles following this change will be renumbered.

9. Membership

- A. The Minister is the only person authorized to sign up new members in the membership book except for person(s) specifically authorized by the Minister, or in the absence of the Minister, the Board President.
- B. In the absence of the Minister for a prolonged period, the President or Vice-president will have the responsibility of signing up new members.
- C. **A signed new member document, approved by the Minister, is a suitable substitute for signing the membership book. Name(s) and date of membership will be annotated in the membership book as the date the form was received by the Office Administrator.**

Please review and send any recommendations for change to Board@riverofgrassuu.org by Oct 17th.

FUTURE HOME CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2020-2023! Sep 27th - Nov 1st 2020 Capital Campaign Pledge Drive - The Capital Campaign to fund our Future Home has three weeks left!! \$505,340 Currently Pledged toward our **Capital Campaign Goal of \$750,000**

The Capital Campaign has had a great start! By now you should have heard from your Steward who will discuss with you your plans for Future Home giving. Please welcome the information they have to share with you and ask lots of questions!

Members of the ROG community have been commenting on why they are giving to the Campaign. You've heard from Marjie and Esther, long time members of the congregation; Deb & Melissa Buehler-Ely and their children Emme and Everett on what this congregation means to them and their children; and this Sunday, Barbara Ratchford, will share her journey from

her prior congregation to River of Grass. All of them speak with love and connection. We hope you, too, can state your own testimonial and how The River speaks to you and how you visualize our Future Home... the Sanctuary, the classrooms, the kitchen and play space for our kids! It's an exciting time and please know your participation is needed to make this dream our reality.

During these uncertain days, you may feel unable to make a generous gift to this Campaign; but, you can be part of it in any way that is financially comfortable. Remember, this is a three year financial plan in addition to your Annual Pledge. Your gift will be accepted in any amount that feels right. Even if you cannot start payments to the Campaign this year, next year might be your best time to start! [Filling out your pledge card online](#) will make it easy.

Go to our website riverofgrassuu.org under the tab "[Future Home](#)" for lots of information. You can set up recurring payments online or even Text-to-Give by texting a dollar amount followed by the code "CC" (without the quotation marks), example 150.00 CC, to our texting number, (844) 948-1153! Kathy Jens-Rochow is available to answer your questions, at CapitalCampaign@riverofgrassuu.org. Be well, be safe, and see you on Sunday!

Next Steps in Your Voting Plan: The Answers You Need

You made your voting plan and you chose your preferred voting method, but you may still have questions about how to put it into action. Now is the time to make sure you know exactly what you need to do.

Using a Vote-by-Mail Ballot?

- **I haven't received my VBM ballot yet. What should I do?** Contact the Broward County Supervisor of Elections office at 954-357-7050, to ask if you were sent a VBM ballot and when. (VBM ballots were mailed out starting September 24.) Have a backup plan: If you still haven't received your ballot by the time Early Voting starts in your county (see dates below), there is still the option to vote in person if that is possible for you.
- **I received it, but I've got plenty of time to return it, right?** Not so much! With the much larger than usual number of VBM Ballots used this year, it's super important to return your VBM ballot as early as possible. Fill it out and put it in the mail right away or, even better, avoid possible postal delays by putting it directly in a secure dropbox instead. Check the Broward County website to find out if there's a dropbox location near you: <https://www.browardsoe.org>
- **I've already mailed in my VBM ballot or dropped it in a dropbox. I'm done, right?** Almost—you just need to take one more step! Keep tabs on your ballot to make sure it was received and accepted. You can check online here: <https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus>



Planning on Voting during Early Voting Days?

- When and where can I vote early? Early Voting for Broward County is Monday, Oct 19th - Sunday, Nov 1st (7 am-7 pm). You can check your Early Voting location options here: <https://www.browardsoe.org>.

Don't live in Broward County? Check your county's Supervisor of Elections website: <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors>

Your vote is your voice – use your voice in 2020! (Note: Early voting dates, times, and locations subject to change; check back at the Broward County Supervisor of Elections website to confirm the latest information.) To be involved in promoting safe and fair elections in 2020, contact the Elders Stand for Fair Elections Florida team at FairElections-FL@eldersaction.org.

From our Welcoming Congregation Team October 10th is National Coming Out Day! This day celebrates lesbian, gay, transgender, queer, non-binary people's coming out journey and experiences. First celebrated in the United States in 1988, the initial idea was grounded in the feminist and gay liberation spirit of the personal being political, and the emphasis on the most basic form of activism being coming out to family, friends and colleagues, and living life as an openly lesbian or gay person. The first decades of observances were marked by private and public people coming out, often in the media, to raise awareness and let the mainstream know that everyone knows at least one person who is lesbian or gay. Participants often wear pride symbols such as pink triangles and rainbow flags.



Smile.Amazon.com Did you know that **River of Grass has received \$1,187.18 in donations from AmazonSmile** as of August 2020? You can make a difference while you shop Amazon Prime Day deals on Oct 13th & 14th. Simply shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0791653 or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon



Shopping app and AmazonSmile donates to River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation Inc. **Did you know you can now use AmazonSmile in the Amazon mobile app?** Here is how to turn on AmazonSmile in the mobile app. 1. Join AmazonSmile. If you are not already an AmazonSmile member, [sign up](#) on your web browser. Simply select your favorite charity (River of Grass 65-0791653) to start generating donations, at no cost to you. 2. Get the app. Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. You can find it in the [App Store](#) for iOS or [Google Play](#) for Android. 3. Turn on AmazonSmile. Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (☰). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

Microsoft Rewards - Donate to River of Grass Do you use Bing for your internet browser? If so, you can designate a non-Profit to receive rewards points for your searches. To be able to make your browser [“Give with Bing”](#), [click on this link](#), sign into your Microsoft account and change your Nonprofit to “River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation Inc.” Donations will be distributed to non-profits roughly six weeks after the month end of when the points were donated. Microsoft Rewards will send you an email detailing your monthly impact even though the actual donation may lag. For example, members will receive an April monthly activity statement in early May and the donation will be paid to the designated non-profit in mid-June. Your Give Mode balance will reset to zero when the donation is made and you can start earning points again at the start of the new month. You can also visit give.bing.com to see your total contributions.



Light the way for others by facilitating our Inquirers Series! Make new friends, share your story and enthusiasm for our beloved community. We need UU to shine a light, make a way and support those who want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and River of Grass. The series is on Wednesday evenings. Training is available. See Zena Tucker or email membership@riverofgrassuu.org to sign up.

Faith Forward Inquirers Series is back! The Faith Forward Inquirers Series meets on Wednesdays 7:30 – 8:30 pm on Zoom, see the updated 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 **Oct 7th and is FF Inquirers #7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups**. For more information, email Zena Tucker, membership@riverofgrassuu.org. Zoom link for our session is: [ZOOM Link for RoG Inquirers](#).

Date	Time	Event
10/7/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
10/14/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life
10/28/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#1: Q&A with Minister
11/4/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#2: Unitarian Universalist History, Principles and Sources
11/11/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#4: Faith Development for Children and Adults
12/2/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#5: Worship & Liturgical Year
12/9/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
1/6/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
1/13/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life

SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Check the air pressure in your car tires -- it just takes a minute! Properly inflated tires will improve fuel economy, using less gas and reducing air pollution. Plus, it will extend tire life, saving you \$\$\$!

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