

River of Grass UU Congregation

August 7, 2022 – 10:30 am

New Beginnings

“Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore.”

- From “the Wizard of Oz,” by L. Frank Baum

Sunday’s worship service focuses on exploring and celebrating New Beginnings. Are all beginnings, by their very nature, new? Is a beginning simply an ending, which then wipes the slate clean and we can write a new story in that space? Or is a new beginning what rises from a shared experience, crisis, or the desire to embrace change? As we return from our summer adventures and time off, we will look this Sunday, August 7, 2022 at what New Beginnings mean to ourselves and to our congregation as we continue to write the story of us.

This worship service will be presented by the Wildpines Covenant Group. It’s one of several groups at River of Grass where people gather once monthly or more to engage in reflective discussions and personal exploration, with hopes of fostering deeper connections. For more information, or to join a covenant group, please email: covenantgroups@riverofgrassuu.org.

Come as you are – either in-person at University of Florida IFAS Satellite Building 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... See you then!

University of Florida - IFAS (Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center)

3205 College Avenue, Davie, FL 33314;

Directions: <https://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu/map-and-directions/>

If you are arriving via University Drive:

- Turn east at Nova Drive (SW 24th Street), which would be a right turn if driving from the south and a left turn if driving from the north.
- Drive east on Nova Drive to the first stoplight, which is College Avenue.
- Turn right onto College Avenue and drive south ¼ mile to the first entrance on the right side of the street. Look for a large blue monument sign with University of Florida on it. The entrance is 600 feet past this monument sign.

Use the [Zoom link](#) below to gather with us virtually in Zoom. Or catch us on Facebook live on our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/riverofgrassuu>.

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>

Diane Lade

New Beginnings

River of Grass – August 7, 2022 – Order of Service

Oh, Let Us Gather

Welcome

Call to Worship

Theme Hymn – “Morning Has Broken” Words: Eleanor Farjeon; Music: Gaelic melody; Performed by: Gary Gonzalez

Chalice Lighting – “The End is the Beginning” by: Katie Gelfand

We call forth the life of our faith by igniting our chalice.

*This spark of new beginnings invites us into a sacred space
to reflect where we have been and where we are going.*

*Even knowing that this particular flame will intentionally end
with our ritual extinguishing, we fear not its end...*

*For we know, with brave hearts,
that from every ending of our lives,*

We are sent forth to make a new beginning.

Covenant

Love is the spirit of this congregation and service is its law.

This is our great covenant:

to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

El Amor es el espíritu de esta congregación, y el servicio su ley principal.

Esta es nuestra gran promesa:

vivir juntos en paz, buscar la verdad a través del amor, y ayudarnos mutuamente.

Music – “Return Again” Words & Music: Shlomo Carlebach; Performed by: Gary Gonzalez

Candles of Community

Response

Wisdom Story – “Starting Over” by Judith C. Campbell; Read by: Diane Diaz

Singing to the Youth – “We Love You & Bless You” Words & Music: Amy Carol Webb; Led by: Gary Gonzalez

Message - Part 1 – “Chapter One” by: Diane Lade

Birthday Video

Music – “Holy Now” Words & Music: Peter Mayer; Performed by: Gary Gonzalez

Message - Part 2 – “Life in the Slow Lane” by: Bev Kaufman

Offering Hymn – “On the Road to Find Out” Words & Music: Cat Stevens; Performed by: Gary Gonzalez

Offering – <http://riverofgrassuu.org/donations.html>

Announcements

Closing Words

Extinguish Chalice

Carrying the Flame

Hospitality Connection