

River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

PO Box 452485, Sunrise, Florida 33345

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

River of Grass Weekly Update – June 8, 2023

How We Live Our Principles – It can be Hard

*Stress has deformed and compressed our planet's glorious body
But what if size and shape can be recovered, nourished into a new flourishing.
- Leah Ongiri, from "A Blessing for Resilience"*

What if we decided to Side with Love for the sake of Earth herself, to fight for Climate Justice? What if we knew this, too, is part of our call to bend the arc of the universe toward justice in our time? What if we understood that working to heal our planet was at the intersection of healing people, and dismantling systems of oppression and harm to ourselves and all living things? What if we believed that even the smallest changes we might make in our daily lives could make big changes in our world?

Join us this Sunday to think about it, talk about it, and make a plan to better care for our Blue Boat Home – and all who make their homes here!

Come as you are – either in-person at the Old Davie Schoolhouse Heritage Hall 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/u/ab3E9JRtb9>

Upcoming In-Person or Virtual Events - This Sunday:

Sunday, June 11, 2023 - 10:30 AM

River of Grass UU Congregation – HHow We Live Our Principles – It can be Hard– Kath Jens-Rochow

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Rev. Amy Summer Vacation & Study Leave

My Beloveds, as of June 16, I'll be heading out for Summer Adventures 2023, as well as my work in service to the greater Unitarian Universalist community with conferences with the UU Ministers Association, General Assembly, and SUUSI (Southeast UU Summer Institute) as the 2023 Director. The business meetings of the UUMA (Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association) and UUA GA (Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly) are already underway this week. In between I'll have some vacation and study time to rest, renew, and prepare for the coming congregational year as we make new maps for the way ahead. I will also be on hand for our New Home and New Rental Teams as we find our next threshold there as well. Meanwhile, know that I'll see you back in the office in mid-August, and back in the pulpit to launch our 12th year together on the first Sunday in September for Labor Day! If you have a pastoral care emergency that may require professional ministry, please contact the President of the Board, Kathy Jens-Rochow president@riverofgrassuu.org, or our Pastoral Care Team PastoralCare@riverofgrassuu.org.

FL Constitutional Amendment for Abortion

Are you alarmed about the ban on abortion after 6 weeks passed by the recent Florida Legislative session and signed by Gov. Ron Desantis? Then let's put the right to have an abortion into the Florida Constitution. If we get enough signatures this Constitutional Amendment will be on the ballot in 2024. Please go to: [Floridians Protecting Freedom Petition](#) and print the petition, fill it out, sign it, and either mail it to the address on the petition or bring it to Sunday Service and give it to either Steve Jens-Rochow or Bev Kaufman. For more information email SSJGT@riverofgrassuu.org.

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

- **Come work for The Mountain!** Hiring summer camp staff, development associate, kitchen staff, and farm staff. <https://www.themountainrlc.org/jobs>
- Tasty and educational farm events all year: <https://www.themountainrlc.org/farm-events>
- **Summer Camp options for kids and for adults!** Youth and Adult Farm camps and Intergenerational camps still have openings.
- **Personal Retreat -- for individuals or groups**

We look forward to hosting you at The Mountain soon! For information about more programs at The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center: [themountainrlc.org](http://www.themountainrlc.org) or 828.526.5838

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 or Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com, or visit <http://www.insightinstitutellc.com/>

The Service, Social justice and Green Team of the River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation and Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty www.fadp.org/ will have a vigil protesting the execution of Duane Owen at **5:00 pm. on Thursday, June 15, 2023.** Special Guest: SueZann Bosler. Governor Ron Desantis has signed his death warrant. The vigil location will be at the Federal Courthouse at the Northwest corner of NE 3rd Avenue and East Broward Boulevard in downtown Ft. Lauderdale. 33301. Signs will be provided. If you have any questions please contact Steve Jens-Rochow SSJGT@riverofgrassuu.org.

RoG Men's Group - For this month only - we are meeting on the 3rd and 5th Thursday of the month - 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 tonight, **Thursday June 15th, 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 **5:30 PM at Quarterdeck on University (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 7:00 pm. Questions: contact Ken; mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org.

Juneteenth Potluck Celebration! Please join us on **Saturday, June 17th at Bergeron Park (1900 S Nob Hill Rd, Davie, FL 33328) from 9:00 am to about 12:00 pm to celebrate Juneteenth with a congregation-wide potluck!** We'll have drinks, games and a competition for those who want to test their knowledge about this important holiday celebrating the end of slavery in this nation. Please bring a brunch item to share for the potluck. When you RSVP please let us know what food you are bringing. Carpooling is recommended as parking is limited. Please RSVP to Karen Gonzalez at religioeducator@riverofgrassuu.org and Leana Bresnahan at membership@riverofgrassuu.org or you can contact them for more information.



BUUKies June Read - "Horse" by Geraldine Brooks. We will meet on Wednesday, June 21st at 7pm.

[River BUUKies Zoom Link](#) Meeting ID: 926 5701 7488; Passcode: 746613

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

BUUKies June read is from a Pulitzer Prize-winning author, "Horse" is a sweeping story of spirit, obsession and injustice across American history.

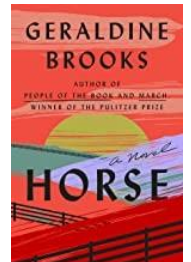
A discarded painting in a junk pile, a skeleton in an attic, and the greatest racehorse in American history: Brooks braids a sweeping story of spirit, obsession, and injustice across 3 eras of American history:

Kentucky, 1850: An enslaved groom named Jarret and a bay foal forge a bond of understanding that will carry the horse to record-setting victories across the South.

New York City, 1954: Martha Jackson, a gallery owner celebrated for taking risks on edgy contemporary painters, becomes obsessed with a nineteenth-century equestrian oil painting of mysterious provenance.

Washington, DC, 2019: Jess, a Smithsonian scientist from Australia, and Theo, a Nigerian-American art historian, find themselves unexpectedly connected through their shared interest in the horse—one studying the stallion's bones for clues to his power and endurance, the other uncovering the lost history of the unsung Black horsemen who were critical to his racing success.

Steve Jens-Rochow BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org.



Join the We The People March on July 2nd



Hi LGBTQTrans and other Activists, We The People, a coalition of LGBTQ and other groups, will hold a rally and march in Ft. Lauderdale on **Sunday morning, July 2**. They say, "our most precious freedoms are under attack. This country has never seen such blatant attacks on immigrants, blacks, people of color, LGBTQ and Trans people, immigrants and jewish people." On July 2 join the coalition in the We The People March at **Esplanade Park in Ft. Lauderdale**. Go to wtpmarch.org to register. I will be there. For more information contact Steve Jens-Rochow SSJGT@riverofgrassuu.ORG.

ROG FALL FUNDRAISER: The 2 of Us presents Bossa-Novas, Boleros & Ballads “second edition”. Following the well received concert of 2022, the duo “The 2 of Us” visits, through song and storytelling, some of the most beloved American Jazz Ballads, Brazilian Bossa Novas, Boleros, and Tangoes.

Check out the Youtube channel: <https://youtube.com/@the2ofusmusic>

When: Saturday, **September 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm**

Where: Weston Community Center - 20200 Saddle Club Rd (free parking).

Cost: There will be drinks and snacks. Seating is limited to the first 40 who sign up at \$30 per seat.

Buy your tickets at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z5VP/campaign/C-10TY2>

Please write THE 2 OF US on the “Note (optional)” field.



***SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week:** Light your way to green. Replace 3 frequently used bulbs with LEDs. Much less heat, much less electricity. Through their life this could save 1,660 pounds of CO2. It's that simple. Do it today.*

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.

To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website at 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.

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.

Announcements to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to 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)
4431 SW 64th Avenue, Suite 108, Davie, FL 33314 (Office Location)
PO Box 452485, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33345 (Mailing Address Only)
954.723.7877 - office@riverofgrassuu.org