

Reflections

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE RIVER OF GRASS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

DAVIE, FLORIDA

NOVEMBER 2019

THE AWESOME POWER OF ENOUGH

Rev. Amy Carol Webb



Enough is abundance to the wise.

– Euripides

In this season prone to prompt our craving for “more, More, MORE” let us consider a tender story told by author Bob Perks, first in the book *Chicken Soup for the Grieving Soul* in 2003, then in his own 2009 book, *I Wish You Enough* – adapted here for our edification.

At an airport a father and daughter were overheard in their last moments together. The daughter’s plane’s departure had been announced and as they stood near the jetway, the father said to his daughter, “I love you, I wish you enough.”

To which the daughter said, “Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Daddy.” They kissed good-bye and she left.

The father walked over toward the window, and said to a stranger also watching the plane readying for pushback, “Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?”

“Yes,” said the stranger, “I have.” And after a moment, he continued, “Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever good-bye?”

“Well,” the father began, “I am old and she lives much too far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is, her next trip back will be for my funeral,” he said.

“I’m sorry,” said the stranger. And after another moment, continued, “I couldn’t help overhearing -- when you were saying good-bye I heard you say, ‘I wish you enough.’ May I ask what that means?”

The father smiled. “That’s a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone.” He paused for a moment and then looked up, smiling even more.

“When we say ‘I wish you enough,’ we’re wanting the other person to have a life filled with enough good things to sustain them,” and then he smiled again, took a breath, then turned from the window to face the kind stranger and began from memory:



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OUR SUNDAY LOCATION

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

EVERY SUNDAY

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

Faith Development Classes (7th - 12th grades): 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Faith Development Classes (K - 6th grades): 11:00 am to 12:00 noon

FRIENDLY REMINDERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

There is plenty of parking outside the sanctuary, but please leave 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.

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.

STAY CONNECTED!

Between issues of *Reflections* you can stay connected to the River of Grass Congregation the following ways:

- ♦ **Sign up for our weekly email** with events and news: send an email to office@riverofgrassuu.org
- ♦ **Visit our Facebook page:** www.facebook.com/riverofgrassuu
- ♦ **Follow us on Twitter:** @RiverOfGrassUU or www.twitter.com/riverofgrassuu
- ♦ **Visit our calendar:** www.riverofgrassuu.org/calendar.html (or browse to: www.riverofgrassuu.org – click on Calendar/Events)



Murray Foubister [CC BY-SA 2.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>)]

River of Grass

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

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Dir. of Faith Development Karen Gonzalez

Office Administrator Sandy Blair Chibnick

Teams and Small Groups

contact info at www.riverofgrassuu.org

Adult Faith Development Open

Annual Giving Rita Cherubini & Kathy Jens-Rochow

bUUKies Susan Juncosa

Café Robby Greenberg

Caring Deb Giblin-Davis & Georgette Lewis

Communication Zena Tucker

Congregational Leadership Open

Facilities Riley Cothran

Facilities Rental Ken Bresnahan

Full Moon Daughters Diane Lade

Future Home Scott May

fUUndraising Open

Hospitality Kathy Jens-Rochow

Interfaith Outreach Linda Crain

Music Gayle Giese, Linda Lathroum, Brenda Parker, Anne Smith, & Aaron Stang

Pastoral Care Riley Cothran & Pat Katz

Personnel Rev. Amy Carol Webb & Janet Schwartz

Planned Giving Kip Barkley

Security Rick Tucker

Service, Social Justice & Green

Team (SSJGT) Steve Jens-Rochow

Shared Ministry Diane Lade & Janet Schwartz

Web Design Esther Sampol

Welcoming Congregation ... Kathy Jens-Rochow

YUUnG Adult Group Linda Lathroum



FROM THE PRESIDENT

'TIS THE SEASON ... OF GIVING ...

Scott May

Can you believe it's December already? Wow! Another year passes by. Actually, another decade passes by. 2020 is upon us!

December brings various holidays across numerous faith traditions, and "giving" is a common theme. I hear the phrase "'tis the season of giving". What does "giving" truly mean in this context? If I watch TV, the ads clearly seek to entice me to buy their products. They want me to believe that "giving" means "buying and giving their stuff". And that "giving their stuff" is what will make others happy.

Hmmm. Is that what "giving" means? Does "giving" mean "giving stuff"? Is "stuff" what makes us happy? Do we each need more stuff? I'm not convinced. So I did an internet search to find the definition of "giving", and here is what I found:

Giving means "Providing love or other emotional support; caring."

Could this be right? Could "giving" mean to provide love, support and caring, rather than "giving stuff"? Yes, I think this captures it. For most situations, I think giving means to give part of yourself, rather than to give stuff. Things like giving my time and attention, listening so others feel heard, offering help with a task or project, mailing a card or letter, inviting someone over for lunch or for a walk in the park, giving a hug.

As the years pass by, I remember warm interactions with people more than the stuff they gave. I do remember the stuff, yet it's the human connection and love shared that touches me the most. So during this holiday season, I'll be giving love, support and caring... while minimizing the stuff.

Happy holidays to all!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Karen Gonzalez

Thank you to everyone who participated in our UNICEF campaign – either as a collector or donator or both. We made a little over \$100 this year, which will go a long way in helping UNICEF deliver tetanus vaccines to women in Yemen who live in impoverished conditions and are at great risk of miscarriage due to this preventable disease. The World Health Organization estimates that nearly 31,000 newborns died from neonatal tetanus worldwide in 2017. We make a difference with our little orange boxes!



WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY AT 10:30 AM

AWE

- December 15 *Christmas Pageant*, Rev. Amy, Service Host: Melissa Buehler
- December 22 *To Be Announced*, Rev. Amy, Service Host: Diane Diaz
- December 24 *Christmas Eve Heaven and Nature Sing*, Rev. Amy
- December 29 *To Be Announced*, Ed Lewis, Service Host: Georgette Lewis

INTEGRITY

- January 5 *Fire Communion*, Rev. Amy, Service Host: Mike Miller
- January 12 *Born Free*, Anne Smith, Service Host: Susan Juncosa
- January 19 *Bending the Arc*, Rev. Amy, Service Host: London Lott
- January 26 *Bending the Arc*, Rev. Amy, Service Host: Linda Lathroum

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Karen Gonzalez



“SEEK THE TRUTH IN LOVE, AND HELP ONE ANOTHER.”

Remember that little green meanie with a heart “two sizes too small”? How he took all of those Christmas trees, bangles, boxes and roast beefs in an effort to stop the Whos from celebrating the joys of Christmas?! But, alas, his heart grew 10 sizes when he realized that the love of the community couldn’t be stopped! We needed that bad guy to help us to learn the message of love at the end of this holiday classic. Of course, the original holiday bad guy was Mr. Scrooge – another bah humbug character who shows no kindness to the downtrodden in his community, but who evolves into a generous soul by the end of the tale. What good is a happy ending if it doesn’t include some transformation of the human spirit?

Drama can serve to guide us to understandings of how to be in the world – or how not to be. But, try to convince some young UUs to “act unkind” for the sake of the story and you might be fighting a losing battle! During our first pageant rehearsal this year, our Everett just couldn’t bring himself to bully Rudolph, even if I promised him that his character would be kind in the end! He needed to Side with Love from the very start, so a little adaptation to the script was in order!

You know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen, Comet and Cupid and Donner and Blitzen...and Rudolph! This year, we’ll meet Sandy, the UU Reindeer and their little brother, Olive, who are raised to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of all people...and reindeer. Our little actors will bring this story to life for our annual holiday pageant on December 15th. Be prepared to “shout out with glee”!



STANDING ON THE SIDE OF
LOVE

THE AWESOME POWER OF ENOUGH

(Continued from page 1)



“I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more. I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive. I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger. I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting. I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess. I wish you enough “Hellos” to get you through the “Good-byes.”

As we consider the theme of “Awe” this month of December, let us remember the awesome power of realizing that what we have, and who we are, is already enough.

Also, in December, our children will experience community art while learning about a group called Activate Labs, through our Unitarian Universalist Service Committee’s Guest at Your Table program. Activate Labs is a women’s cooperative providing support to refugees through explorations of art and music. Lifting spirits and allowing people the opportunity to express themselves can make the continued journey a manageable endeavor. We are asked to keep a donation box on our dining tables and remember to include these guests at every meal (by adding the cost of the meal for your guest, into the box). Your small donations will add up to help our UUSC continue partnering with organizations that work to protect human rights around the world.





CHOIR CORNER

THE MUSIC AND THE MAGIC

Gayle Giese

When I was about nine, my family joined an Episcopal church and I sang in the junior choir. We had a choir loft (where we got away with ignoring the sermon and playing tic-tac-toe) and robes and a pipe organ. Just that much made it wonderful, but on Christmas Eve, it was magical. I was sure that the angels were really there heralding Jesus' birth and that a super bright star in the sky marked the stable. Our church offered a midnight service with lots of excellent music that began at 10:30pm and ended with congregants singing "Silent Night" with candles at midnight. There was palpable excitement in the air that helped my friends and me stay awake.

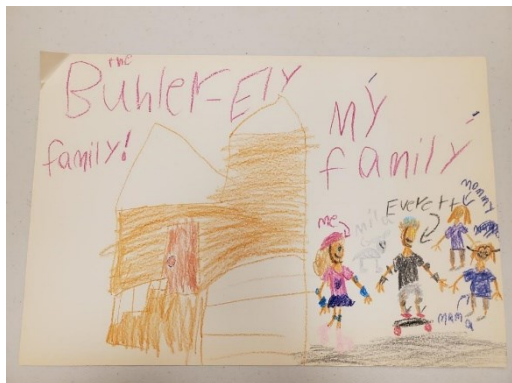
The Christmas Eve service is still filled with magic for me. It is a joy to imagine the musical possibilities in a congregation with so much to offer! Now that we are four weeks out, most of the music has been chosen and choral practice recordings have been sent; I'll leave it to Rev. Amy to tell you about the joyful theme this year. Now we begin to learn the notes and rhythms as we all practice our parts. How blessed we are to make such magic!



Contact choir@riverofgrassuu.org if you'd like to join Christmas Eve Choir! All are welcome!

FAITH DEVELOPMENT IN ACTION

In November, our Dragonfly class learned that love surrounds them in their families. Families also volunteered at Lifenet4Families.



FUTURE HOME

Scott May

Did you know that our current home is our 6th home? That's right. River of Grass has moved several times over the years, yet we continue to thrive in beloved community – regardless of our address. When our lease expires in 2 years, it's likely that we will move again. Our current home has served us well, with warmth, a spiritual feel, and great memories, but it's time to move on.

- ◆ Escalating rent - up 36%
- ◆ Operating reserves depleting
- ◆ Outgrowing our space...
 - Sunday services feel full
 - Not enough classrooms for faith development
 - Meeting rooms full many evenings & Saturdays

During Future Home presentations in April, September and November, members aligned *that our current path is not sustainable*. So your Future Home Team has been busy researching and sharing information – presenting after service and posting on the website.

Vision – Here is a Future Home visual, identifying key needs in any Future Home.



Viable Future Home Options – The Future Home Team has identified viable options where we could own our own home! With larger space and no deficit! This home would be purchased using our Capital Fund, and new funds raised in a possible Capital Campaign.

What's Next

1. Continue moving forward slowly and methodically, learning as we go, taking one step at a time.
2. Continue communication, conversations, sharing, and listening.
3. Complete a "Feasibility Study", where Barry Finkelstein, UUA Stewardship Consultant, returns to River of Grass in January to meet with a cross-section of members and assess member interest and readiness for a possible Capital Campaign.
4. Mid-Year Meeting February 2nd to discuss Barry's findings, evaluate our options, and decide our future path forward.

This is important. This impacts our vision. This decides our future. Stay connected, be open minded, and join the conversation.

VOLUNTEERING AT LIFE**NET**4**FAMILIES**: GRATEFUL FOR RIVER OF GRASS GROUPS

Judi Oltmans

Thank you so much to the groups that have signed up to volunteer at LifeNet4Families this year. Our thanks to Faith Development volunteers: Amy, Grace and Xander, Tanya and Alex, and Hansy, Michael and Evan for their help at LifeNet on November 9th! They worked very hard assembling Thanksgiving boxes for distribution to needy families. There were enough boxes assembled to fill 3 pallets! Thank you all for making a difference for the families that count on LifeNet for support.

Volunteering as a group is a great way to serve the community while enjoying a fun morning together. Upcoming groups are the 4 C's Covenant group volunteering on December 14th, Herons of the Hammock Covenant group, the River of Grass Board, River of Grass Choir and Full Moon Daughters! If your River of Grass group is interested in volunteering at LifeNet4Families we have May, June and July available. We volunteer at Lifenet on the 2nd Saturday of every month from 9:00 to 11:00 in the morning. There's something for everyone to do! Sign up at the Service and Social Justice spot at the back of the River of Grass sanctuary or email us at ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org. Save the Date: our upcoming Saturday volunteer days are January 11th and February 8th.

SSJGT needs a volunteer to take the canned and dry food donations in our basket at River of Grass to LifeNet4Families at W. Broward Blvd. and NW 33 Terr. It doesn't have to be done every Sunday but maybe twice a month. Please let us know if you can help by emailing ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org.



All photos were taken by Amy Horton-Tavera

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Steve Jens-Rochow



Guest at Your Table [GAYT] is the annual fundraising and education program that supports the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's [UUSC] human rights work. For over 45 years, Guest at Your Table has raised millions of dollars for projects that have made a real difference in people's lives around the

world. This year GAYT focuses on Women Leaders and Strong Communities. As you gather together during the holidays with your family and friends, we ask you to invite these leaders into your family by sharing their stories and welcoming them as Guests at Your Table.

The GAYT program starts Sunday, December 8. Please pick up your box or envelope, fill out your information, make out your check to UUSC, and turn it in to Steve Jens-Rochow or Sandy in our office. Our office will tabulate our contributions, and at the end of the drive send in our contributions to the UUSC. This way we can track your GAYT gift. If 25% of our members give, we will win the UUSC's Creating Justice Award.

RIVER OF GRASS COMPOSTER

Judi Oltmans

Instead of heading for the landfill, our River of Grass compost takes on new life in the compost piles of our members' homes. Coffee grounds can be beneficial in your garden! Thank you to all our composters: Steve, Scott, Deb, Karen, Judi, Geri and Rev. Amy. If you are interested in taking home our River of Grass compost one Sunday please contact the Service and Social Justice Green Team at ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org. Composters can sign up for one Sunday a month or as often as they like.

Thank you also to the Hospitality volunteers! Every Sunday morning they put the coffee grounds and fruit and vegetable scraps into our shiny River of Grass compost container.

Go **green!**



THE STORY OF OUR CAPITAL FUND

Kip Barkley

Way back in 2011, a group of concerned members established our Capital Fund corporation following the sale of our property in Southwest Ranches. At the time, it was obvious that it was too much of a stretch to build at that time so \$500,000 was used to establish the Capital Fund corporation. We were also concerned that our funds would be dribbled away in future annual operations. The corporation worked. We still have that money and it has grown to \$770,000+.

Over the last two years, we voted to change the corporation name to Capital Foundation. We still have the Capital Fund and have now added a Legacy Fund to encourage bequests and the writing of Wills. In the Members Section of our website, you can find Charter, Bylaws, and Policies for our Foundation. Come January, we will make application to the IRS for tax-exempt status. We have gone through quite a flurry of paperwork to move words around and to add what the IRS requires. We are nearly done. The money is still there, and the Foundation works the same way as it did with its previous name.

If you would like to learn more, please see the following links. It's all happening on the web.

- ◆ www.RiverOfGrassUU.org/donations.html
- ◆ www.RiverOfGrassUU.org/foundation.html
- ◆ www.RiverOfGrassUU.org/planned-giving.html



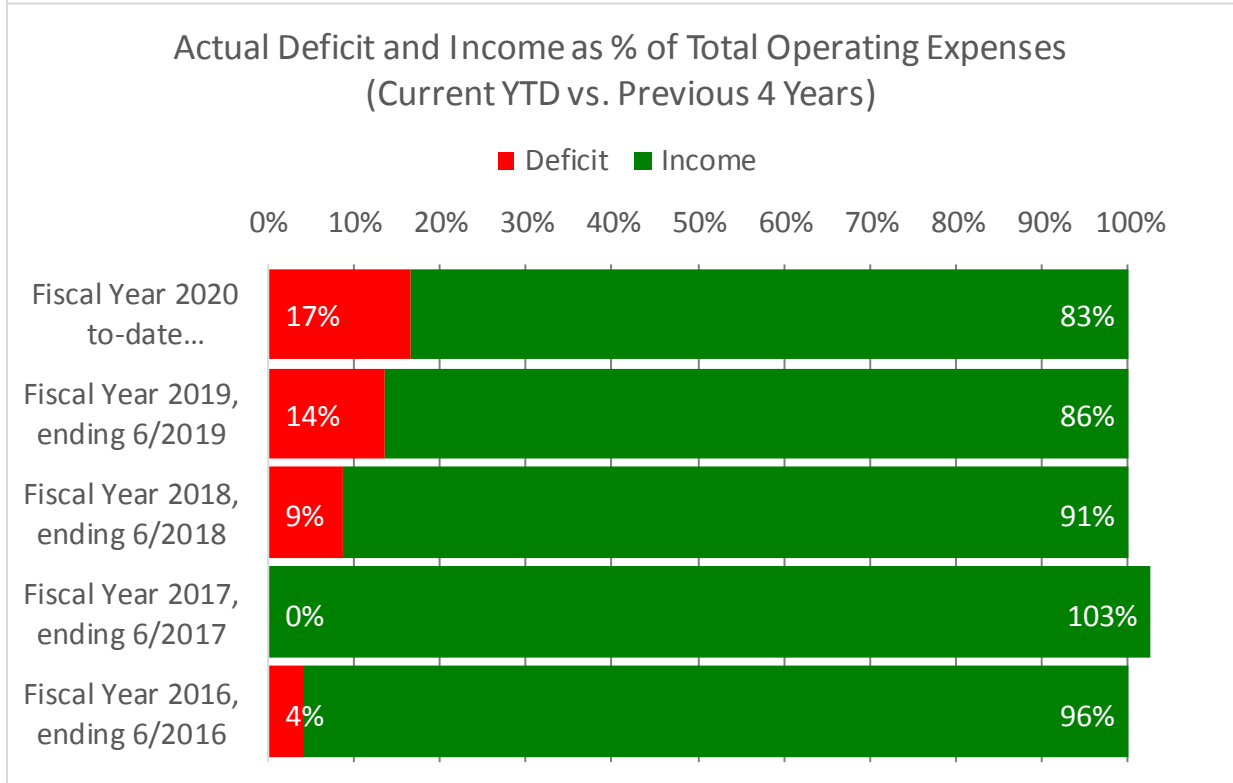
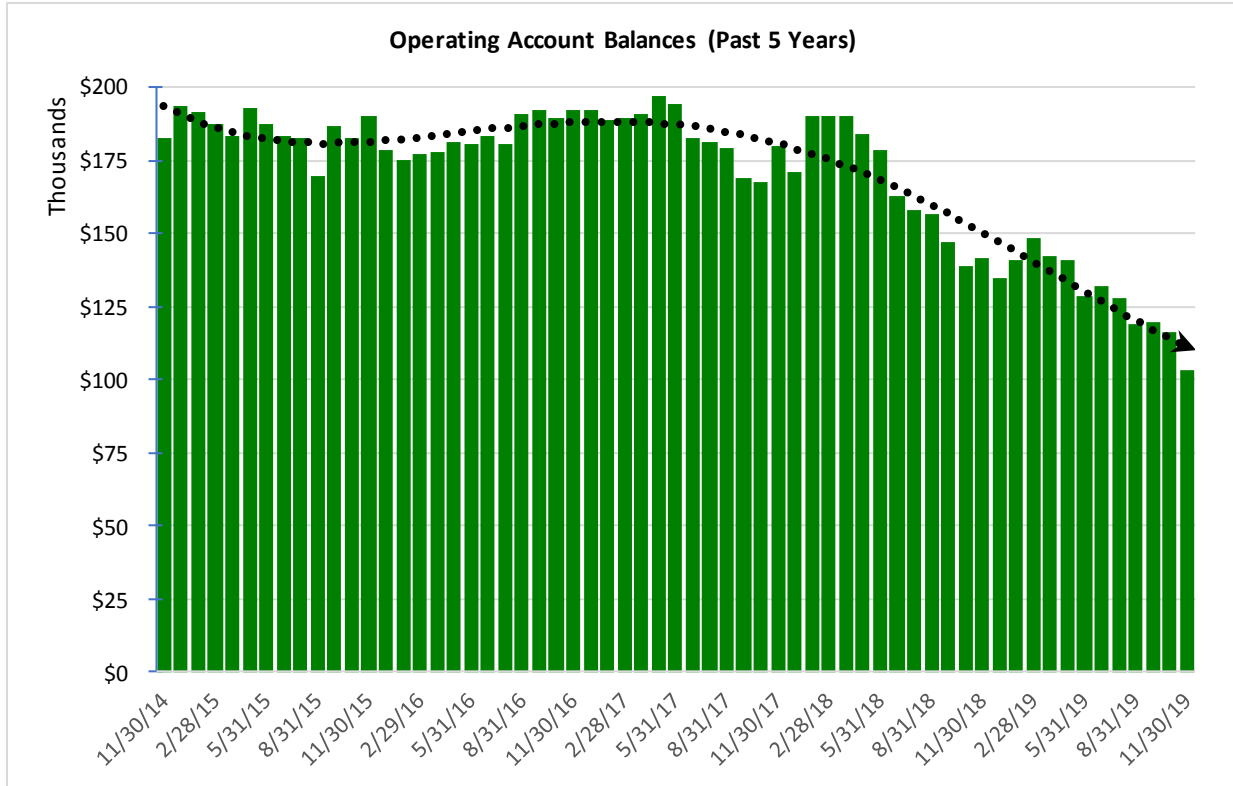
UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Dec 14	7:00p doors open 8:00p concert	River of Grass Café presents Amy Carol Webb	River of Grass
Sunday, Dec 15	10:30a	Christmas pageant	River of Grass
Sunday, Dec 15	12:00-1:30p	Faith Forward Inquirers Series #8	River of Grass
Sunday, Dec 15	12:20-2:20p	Leadership Roundtable meeting	River of Grass
Tuesday, Dec 17	7:30-8:30p	Flowing River Sangha	River of Grass
Thursday, Dec 19	6:30-8:45p	River of Grass Board meeting	River of Grass
Thursday, Dec 19	7:00-9:00p	Men's Group	River of Grass
Saturday, Dec 21	6:00-9:00p	Holiday Party	River of Grass
Sunday, Dec 22	12:00-12:30p	SSJGT Climate demonstration	River of Grass
Sunday, Dec 22	6:00-9:00p	Full Moon Daughters Solstice party	Member home
Monday, Dec 23	6:00-9:00p	SSJGT JAM meeting/potluck	River of Grass
Tuesday, Dec 24	5:00-10:00p	River of Grass Christmas Eve service and cookie swap	River of Grass
Thursday, Dec 26	7:00-7:45p	Welcome Table Communion Circle w/ Rev Amy	River of Grass
Thursday, Jan 2	7:00-9:00p	Men's Group	River of Grass
Saturday, Jan 4	9:00a-12:00p	Congregational work day	River of Grass
Saturday, Jan 4	1:30-3:30p	SSJGT presents Broward Climate Alliance	River of Grass
Sunday, Jan 5	12:00-1:30p	Faith Forward Inquirers Series #1	River of Grass
Monday, Jan 6	7:00-9:00p	SSJGT meeting	River of Grass
Tuesday, Jan 7	7:30-8:30p	Flowing River Sangha	River of Grass
Wednesday, Jan 8	7:15-9:15p	bUUKies book group	River of Grass
Friday, Jan 10	7:00-9:00p	Drum circle w/ Rev Amy	River of Grass
Saturday, Jan 11	9:00-11:00a	Lifenet4Families volunteer day	1 NW 33 rd Terr, Ft Lauderdale
Saturday, Jan 11	11:30a-1:30p	SSJGT presents Citizens Climate Lobby	River of Grass
Saturday, Jan 11		Full Moon Daughters kayak tour Wilton Manors	See Susan Juncosa for details
Sunday, Jan 12	12:00-1:30p	Faith Forward Inquirers Series #2	River of Grass
Monday, Jan 13	7:00-9:00p	Finance meeting	River of Grass
Tuesday, Jan 14	7:30-8:30p	Flowing River Sangha	River of Grass
Wednesday, Jan 15	6:30-8:45p	River of Grass Board meeting	River of Grass
Thursday, Jan 16	7:00-9:00p	Men's Group	River of Grass
Saturday, Jan 18	7:00p doors open 8:00p concert	River of Grass Café presents Grant Peoples	River of Grass
Sunday, Jan 19	10:30a	New Member Sunday	River of Grass
Tuesday, Jan 21	7:30-8:30p	Flowing River Sangha	River of Grass
Thursday, Jan 23	7:00-7:45p	Welcome Table Communion Circle w/ Rev Amy	River of Grass
Friday, Jan 24	6:00-9:00p	River mixer	River of Grass
Sunday, Jan 26	12:30-1:30p	UU Common Read discussion	River of Grass
Monday, Jan 27	6:00-9:00p	SSJGT JAM meeting/potluck	River of Grass
Tuesday, Jan 28	7:30-8:30p	Flowing River Sangha	River of Grass
Saturday, Feb 1	9:00a-12:00p	Congregational work day	River of Grass
Saturday, Feb 1	1:30-3:30p	SSJGT presents Broward Climate Alliance	River of Grass
Sunday, Feb 2	12:15-2:00p	Mid-Year Congregational meeting	River of Grass
Sunday, Feb 2	12:00-1:30p	Faith Forward Inquirers Series #3	River of Grass
Monday, Feb 3	7:00-9:00p	SSJGT meeting	River of Grass
Tuesday, Feb 4	7:30-8:30p	Flowing River Sangha	River of Grass
Wednesday, Feb 5	4:00-5:30p	Membership team meeting	River of Grass
Thursday, Feb 6	7:00-9:00p	Men's Group	River of Grass
Saturday, Feb 8	9:00-11:00a	Lifenet4Families volunteer day	1 NW 33 rd Terr, Ft Lauderdale
Saturday, Feb 8	11:30a-1:30p	SSJGT presents Citizens Climate Lobby	River of Grass
Monday, Feb 10	7:00-9:00p	Finance meeting	River of Grass
Tuesday, Feb 11	7:30-8:30p	Flowing River Sangha	River of Grass
Wednesday, Feb 12	7:15-9:15p	bUUKies book group	River of Grass
Friday, Feb 14	7:00-9:00p	Drum circle w/ Rev Amy	River of Grass
Saturday, Feb 15	7:00p doors open 8:00p concert	River of Grass Café presents Don White	River of Grass

MONTHLY MONEY SHOT

Brit Lundell, Treasurer

Two graphs depicting the Congregation’s monthly financial state. The first shows our monthly operating account balances over the past 5 years. The second shows our actual deficit and income as a percentage of our total operating expenses for the current fiscal year to-date (i.e., since July 1, 2019) and compares that to the figures for the previous 4 years. Additional details are provided in the monthly financial reports and the Treasurer’s report to the board, which are posted on the wall directly facing the business office each month. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with the Treasurer or with members of the Finance Committee.



Getting to Know UU's

FAMOUS UNITARIAN

Kathy Jens-Rochow



JAMES LORD PIERPONT (APRIL 25, 1822 – AUGUST 5, 1893)

UNITARIAN COMPOSER, SONGWRITER, ARRANGER, ORGANIST

"Dashing thru the snow, On a one-horse open sleigh"

James Lord Pierpont was born on April 25, 1822 in Boston, Massachusetts. Pierpont had a fascinating life as he lived aboard a whaling ship called "The Shark" and later he joined the US Navy. In 1849, Pierpont left his wife and children with his father in Massachusetts to open a business in San Francisco during the California Gold Rush.

In 1856, Pierpont forged a new path after his wife, Millicent, died, and his brother, the Rev. John Pierpont, Jr. (1819–1879), accepted a post with the Savannah, Georgia, Unitarian congregation. Pierpont soon followed as he accepted the post as the organist and music director of the church.

Often thought of as a traditional Christmas song, the words and music to the famous Christmas carol "Jingle Bells" were written in 1857 for a Thanksgiving children's church service. It was so well received that the children were asked to repeat the performance at the Christmas service, and it has remained a Christmas standard ever since. In the period of 1890 through 1954, "Jingle Bells" was in the top 25 most recorded songs in history. Later arrangements of the song made minor alterations to the lyrics and introduced a new, simpler melody for the chorus. In this modified form, "Jingle Bells" became one of the most popular and most recognizable songs ever written.

JOLLY AND HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO ALL!

So much gratitude to all of the River of Grass members and friends whose combined efforts supported the Holly Jolly Auction! This successful fundraising event could not have been possible without the help from:

- ◆ The fabulous foodies and their delicious contributions
- ◆ The delightful decorators who coordinated moving bins and transforming our space
- ◆ The fantastic floral team and their bouquet of gifts and ideas
- ◆ The beautiful behind-the-scenes crews and under-the-lights leaders taking care of the logistics
- ◆ The extraordinary entertainers brave enough to do karaoke and join in the playful contests
- ◆ The dedicated donators who provided the parties, baskets, services, gift cards, certificates, bottles, lottery tickets and more!
- ◆ The terrific ticket buyers, raffle riskers, bidders and attendees
- ◆ The talented teens offering cheerful help
- ◆ The countless others who offered up their time, energy and love to create a worthwhile and fun event

It is amazing how this River flows so well together. With the generosity of this community, the good work of this beloved congregation can continue to flow onward.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation,
The Auction Co-Chairs- Ahysa, Carolyn and Scott





RIVER OF GRASS CAFÉ PRESENTS
AMY CAROL WEBB
Saturday December 14
Doors open at 7 * Concert at 8
11850 W SR 84 Davie FL
Suggested donation \$19 in advance by Dec 12, \$25 at door
Advance tickets www.riverofgrassuu.org/events
Info: Robby (954) 240-6313

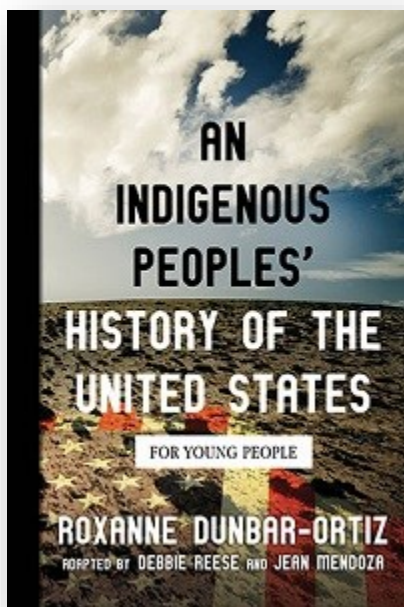


Named one of South Florida's "Ten Best Folk Singers of All Time" in 2013, an "Act to Watch" by Billboard magazine and "One to watch in the next millennium" by the Miami Herald - the sole songwriter among noted philanthropists, activists, and cultural visionaries - Amy Carol Webb is passionate and poignant, the girl next door and no ordinary woman. Born into an eclectic musical family in Oklahoma, Amy made her way down the winding highways of the traveling troubadour through 48 states, Canada, Mexico and Japan, took time out to birth two sons, then returned to performing full-force in 1995.

Serving as our minister, Amy has not lost her edge in songwriting. Attending an Amy Carol Webb concert is like a gift to yourself! Bringing friends to her concert is one of best gifts you can give!

UUA COMMON READ

Susan Juncosa



Every year, the bUUKies sponsor a congregational event: the UUA Common Read. A Common Read invites participants in all UU congregations to read and discuss the same book in a given period of time. A Common Read can build community in our congregations and our movement by giving diverse people a shared experience, shared language, and a basis for deep, meaningful conversations. Each year, the Unitarian Universalist Common Read is chosen by a committee including both headquarters and field staff of the UUA. Anyone may nominate a book.

This year's selected book is *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. "In 2015, Beacon Press published an extraordinary book by Indigenous scholar and activist Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz that challenged readers to learn US history through a narrative that centers the story, the experiences, and the perspectives of Indigenous peoples. In 2019, Beacon Press published an adaptation for young people by Jean Mendoza and Debbie Reese. Upending myths and misinformation that have been promulgated by leaders and media, it asks readers to reconsider the origin story of the United States taught to every US school child."

The book is large and comprehensive, and perhaps better suited to a long term study. For this reason, our congregation is going to read the adapted version, *An Indigenous People's History of the United States for Young People*. It is available through the UUA web site as well as Amazon. We will have a discussion of the book following the service on January 26, led by Rev. Amy. More information and the book will be available as we get closer to the date. Contact bUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org.

GENDER-SPECIFIC & GENDER-NEUTRAL PRONOUNS

GENDER-SPECIFIC PRONOUNS

are the ways we refer to each other in the third person. People who are transitioning in some way **might choose to change their pronouns.**



GENDER-NEUTRAL PRONOUNS



I saw Lauren come to work today and **they** seemed really happy. I wonder if it has anything to do with **their** weekend. I hope I see **them** soon to hear all about it!



I saw Lauren come to work today and **ze** seemed really happy. I wonder if it has anything to do with **hir** weekend. I hope I see **hir** soon to hear all about it!

ASK



You cannot tell someone's name or pronoun just by looking at them.

RESPECT



If someone takes the time to let you know their name and pronoun, use and respect it. It's not up to you to decide someone else's identity.

PRACTICE



If you have difficulty using someone's pronoun and name, practice. Ask co-workers, peers, and friends to point out when you've made a mistake.

Hi everyone, my name is Lauren. My pronouns are she and her.



Start meetings with everyone introducing themselves and stating their pronoun.

ASK! If you find yourself unsure of someone's pronoun, be attentive to how others refer to this person. If you are still unclear or concerned that people might be using the incorrect pronoun, politely and **privately ask that person what pronoun they use.**

All name tags and name plates can also have a spot to show someone's pronouns.

HELLO
my name is

LAUREN

PRONOUNS: She & Her

#TRANSINCLUSION

INFOGRAPHIC DESIGN BY:
LIGHTUPTHESKY.CA

HEAR STOP
IT! IT!
#NOBYSTANDERS
inspired by @rainbowm

THE 519
SPACE FOR CHANGE

New Member Celebration



Sunday, January 19
During Service



RIVER OF GRASS
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION
membership@riverofgrassuu.org

Congregation Work Day



1st Saturdays
9am-12noon



RIVER OF GRASS
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION



LEADERSHIP ROUNDTABLE

Sunday,
Dec 15th at 12:15 pm
after the service



Why do I wish people "Happy Holidays"?
Because from 1 November to 15 January there are approximately 29 holidays observed by 7 of the world's major religions.

And I don't think mine are the only ones that count.

