

Announcements

Faith Development: 12:30: Pre-K - 1st graders; **1:30 pm:** 2nd - 6th graders; **3:00 pm:** teens
This coming Sunday, in our Faith Development classes, we'll be considering our ancestors and the wisdom they've had to share with us. Our faith reminds us that deep listening to people is important, so much so that we've put it in the second of our UU sources: "Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion and the transforming power of love." But it's not just prophetic people, it's also wise people. It can take years to develop such wisdom! Listening to the journeys of older beloveds helps us navigate our own. We'll share photos of our favorite elders, both living and passed and nourish each other in their wisdom! For More information, please contact Karen Gonzalez at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org.

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 YUUnG Adult Virtual Coffee Hour on **Sunday, Oct 25th 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.

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.



Faith Development - Virtual Halloween Parade! Come be a part of our spooky fun! Like everything else, this year our Halloween Parade will be virtual. If you'd like to show off your spookiest, silliest self, please send a photo to Aaron Stang at AStang22@aol.com by today, Oct 25th.

Faith Development - Zoom Halloween Party - Families, This Halloween will be like no other! Typically, this time of year, kiddos are brimming with excitement about their costume choices and the chance to wander door to door, in the dark, collecting treats. I imagine most of you won't be doing that this year. Luckily, Bruce and Tanya Gustafson-Ngo are inviting your kids to a fun Zoom Halloween party, complete with costumes and treats! You will need to pre-register for this event, so that they know just who to deliver treats to. Look for an email from Karen or reach out to her at religiuseducator@riverofgrassuu.org.

Flowing River Sangha – We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, Oct 27th 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 6pm](#) For more info contact Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com or

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

The River of Grass Men's Group is open to all men. The Men's Group Men's Group meets via Zoom every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. **Thursday, Nov 5th at 7:00 pm we will meet on Zoom** and discuss our topic: "The Road Not Taken." Do you ever think about this? <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/670022402> The Meeting Room opens up at 6:30 pm before the Host arrives. For more info, please contact Kip Barkley mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org.

FUTURE HOME CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2020-2023! Sep 27th - Nov 1st 2020 Capital Campaign Pledge Drive - The Capital Campaign to fund our Future Home has one week left!!

*****51 Pledges and \$549,191 Toward the \$750,000 goal*****

If you haven't made your pledge to the Future Home Capital Campaign, you can still join with any amount that fits your budget. Building a home comes in many forms as we all have experienced. It takes planning and saving and finding just the right space that will nourish and sustain us as we move through our search in West Broward County. Your gifts will make it happen!

You will hear on Sunday the journey of Kathy Jens-Rochow, our current President of the Board and Team Lead for the Capital Campaign. Her UU homes have been many, but now she has settled on the one that means the most...

If you need further information, everything you need to know is on our website. Our [Capital Campaign 2020-2023 page](#) is where you will find the Capital Campaign brochure and the online pledge card. Our [Future Home page](#) has all of our Future home documents from our feasibility study and planning documents. On our [online payment portal page](#) you can set up recurring payments for your Capital Campaign pledge payments. Please note, you can also Text To Give 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, CapitalCampaign@riverofgrassuu.org**. Be well, be safe and we will see you on Sunday!

Opportunities at the River:

Reopening Task Force

Plan? Who needs a plan? Uh. . . we do

Even though we are facing uncertainty for the future, I think we all agree this separation will end and we need to make plans for the transition. Preparedness will make our life much easier.

There are actually two possibilities of where we will go once we have agreed to return to meeting face to face. One, of course, and probably the one we would most like to happen, is that we have found our permanent home and can move our stuff there and begin our new future there. The other is that we will not have found our permanent home and will need to find a



temporary location using our experience from our “church in a box.”

So at this point, can you guess what we need? A Task Force, of course.

This Task Force will be charged with

1. Making recommendations as to when this congregation can resume face to face services and meetings. We have a diverse demographic of members, ranging from the very young to our most senior members. Following the UUA and CDC guidelines and to best serve our whole community. We do have some planning tools so you won't be totally reinventing the wheel.
2. Planning the move into our new home.
3. Finding a temporary facility (school, party room, park, etc.) to hold our services, if necessary.

So, we need a few good people with facilities experience, logistical planning or who just want to be a part of this exciting phase in our continuing saga.

If you are interested, please contact Kathy Jens-Rochow at president@riverofgrassuu.org to discuss.

Team on Ministry

A committee or team on ministry is an important part of the health of any congregation. To this objective, the Board has determined to establish a Team on Ministry. The Team will serve to provide support to our minister and to periodically check on how the congregation is functioning. In other words, the ministry is not just the minister but the ministry of our beloved community.

The Team on Ministry shall consist of 3-4 people. At least one member from the Board. The team's responsibilities consist of, but not limited to:

1. providing feedback to the minister regarding difficult situations between the minister and our member(s).
2. Liaising between Minister and members for conflict resolution.
3. Providing ministerial support
4. Completing an annual ministerial evaluation.
5. Upon request from the Board, conducting an evaluation of the congregation's ministries for the Board review

The Board and the Minister will collaborate to reach a consensus about team members each year.

If you are interested in serving on this critical team at the heart of the River, please contact Kathy Jens-Rochow at president@riverofgrassuu.org.

EARLY VOTING IS NOW! Early Voting **polling stations** for Broward County are open: Monday, Oct 19th - Sunday, Nov 1st (7 am–7 pm).

You can find Early Voting locations for Broward County here:

<https://www.browardsoe.org/Voting-Methods/Early-Voting-Dates-Hours-and-Sites>

If Early Voting is part of your voting plan and you haven't voted yet -- don't delay!

Note: During the past week, there were issues related to the secure drop boxes for Vote-by-Mail ballots under legal discussion between the Florida Department of State and Florida Supervisors of Elections, creating lack of clarity. Given this situation, the Statewide Communications Manager for the League of Women Voters of Florida, Blake Summerlin, has provided the recommendation that voters use dropboxes within the same hours as Early Voting.

If you have a Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot that you haven't sent in yet, and would like to vote in person instead, you can still do so. Bring your VBM ballot (blank or filled out) with you to your polling place, where poll workers will cancel it so that you can vote by regular ballot.

- Don't live in Broward County? Check your county's Supervisor of Elections website for information on Early Voting in your county:
<https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors>
- Not sure of your county? Check what county your city or town is in here:
<https://dos.myflorida.com/library-archives/research/florida-information/government/local-resources/citycounty-list/>

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.

SE Cluster Virtual Annual Meeting on Nov 14 - Starting at the conclusion of the exciting and informative Southern Region "Turn, Turn, Turn" Assembly, the SE FL Cluster will have its Virtual Annual Meeting on Saturday, Nov 14th at about 3 pm.

SE Florida Cluster presents its virtual Annual Meeting

Time: Nov 14, 2020 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 825 8027 8403 Passcode: 780761

One tap mobile: +16465588656,,82580278403# US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82580278403>

Incentive to Register for "Turn, Turn, Turn" on Saturday, Nov 14th. Your SE Florida Cluster is offering an incentive for you to attend the ***Turn, Turn, Turn—A Day of Companionship, Collaboration, and Learning***, a virtual webinar, hosted by the Southern Region Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) on Saturday, Nov. 14th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern time.

In lieu of holding our customary Annual Fall Program, the SE Florida Cluster ***will cover the cost for forty (40) individuals*** (\$20@each) to attend this online regional assembly. So register today!

This pay option is open to all, **and** we encourage those who are most able and willing to pay their own way to do so—the conference will certainly be worth it.

Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, UUA president, will offer the keynote address and workshops offered by Southern Region staff include:

- “Where Do We Go From Here?”: Rev. Nato Hollister and Kathy McGowan
- “To Every Season”: Co-Leads Connie Goodbread and Natalie Briscoe
- “A Time To Build Up”: Cameron Young and Lillian Drab-Braddick

[Click here to register for Turn Turn Turn: A Virtual Regional Assembly of the Southern Region UUA.](#)

1. To access the SE Cluster option: register and click out when the system takes you to PayPal.
2. To pay your own way, register and proceed to PayPal.

Please email Kathy Charles kcharles@uua.org or Jessica Curran sr@uua.org for any questions about the Southern Region Assembly.

From our Welcoming Congregation Team October 26th is Intersex Awareness Day to commemorate the first intersex protest which took place in Boston. And what is intersex, you may ask? Intersex is a general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't fit the typical definitions of female or male. Intersex babies are always assigned a legal sex, but sometimes when they grow up, their gender doesn't match the sex selected for them. Being intersex is a naturally occurring variation in humans, and isn't a medical problem. It's more common than most people realize. Estimates suggest that about 1 in 100 people born in the U.S. is intersex.



River of Grass - Fundraising Mask - Would you like a River of Grass Side with Love Mask?

[Click here to purchase](#) your River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation Fundraising Mask! Orders will be shipped right to your door without any additional shipping charges! This face mask is machine washable, double ply, and made up of 60% Polyester, 40% Cotton. They cost \$15 each with 3 different sizes available: Adult, Youth 9-15, and Child 3-8.



(<https://www.fundraisingmasks.org/product-page/river-of-grass-fundraiser>)

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 28th and is FF Inquirers #1: Q&A with Minister**. For more information, email Zena Tucker, membership@riverofgrassuu.org. Zoom link for our session is: [ZOOM Link for RoG Inquirers](#).

Date	Time	Event
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
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
1/27/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
2/3/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#1: Q&A with Minister
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

SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Insulate your water heater. Wrap the tank with an exterior insulation kit and insulate exposed pipes. It will reduce electricity costs and save money. Also, consider installing a solar water heater. This alone may cut your electric bill by a third or more - saving electricity and saving you money!

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