



**Celebrating  
25 Years**

# River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

11850 W State Rd 84, Ste 9, Davie, FL 33325

Riverofgrassuu.org 954-723-7877

Office@riverofgrassuu.org

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**Welcome** to our River of Grass Family

**Welcome** to our Love; **Welcome Home**

**Thursday, December 12, 2024**

Sunday Service December 15, 2024

### **Of UUs, Grinches, and Holiday Gatherings!**

*This is our holiday.*

*From the Christmas tree, to the jingling bells,  
to the Scrooge story, to the message of peace on earth,  
Unitarians and Universalists made Christmas what it is today.*

*- Rev. Meredith Garmon*

Did you even know that the Christmas holiday celebration as we know it  
is a Unitarian Universalist thing, for real?

That the first Christmas tree on the American Continent was put up by a  
Unitarian minister?

And that SO many of the songs and carols folks sing this time of year  
were written by Unitarians and Universalists?

Come find out all about it this Sunday – and come prepared to sing  
along with our kids and our very own Grinch (shhhhh, don't tell!)

Come as you are at 10:30 this Sunday morning – either in-person at our new location in Davie (info below) or virtually on Zoom and Facebook Live. Come a bit before and we can chat prior to the service. We'll be watching for you!

**Come worship with us in person at:**

- 11850 W State Road 84, Suite A9, Davie, FL 33325
- Service will begin at 10:30 AM
- Children's and youth's Faith Development begins at 10:30pm
- Childcare will be provided.

**Virtually:**

**Go to Zoom link below.**

Or catch us live on Facebook on the Facebook page below.

**The Order of Service is at the end of this newsletter**

**Faith Development for Kids and Youth:**

Our children and youth will grow their faith in worship with the congregation this Sunday. There will be quiet holiday crafts at the playground table and lots of opportunity to contribute to the experience!

For questions about our Faith Development program contact Karen Gonzalez, our Director of Faith Development. Her email is below

**Multi-platform Mindfulness Meditation on Sunday Mornings**

Good news! We have returned to in-person meditation with Gary Gonzalez every Sunday morning at River of Grass at A-9. We will gather at **8:30 am and begin meditating at 8:45**. The meditation sessions are available via Zoom as well. Link below.

"I look forward to sitting with you again, be it in person or remotely."



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

Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ab3E9JRtb9>

<https://www.facebook.com/riverofgrassuu>

[ReligiousEducator@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:ReligiousEducator@riverofgrassuu.org)

**Meditation:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/646777873?pwd=WHZaNjJQNWF5T0t6UW1kRlFLTVcyZz09#success>



# HOLIDAY GATHERING

December 15th  
12:00 - 2:00pm

• cookies, caroling, •  
crafting, and  
decking of the halls!

**The River of Grass Choir** gathers at 9:30 every Sunday morning for warm-ups. We are working on "Draw the Circle Wide". Please see Theo before or after service.



Choir practices are usually at 7pm on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 7pm. Please see Theo for location.

If anyone would like to know what musical pieces we are working on, please see Theo.

The Choir welcomes anyone who would like to join the Choir. Please see Theo.



## River of Grass Connection Circles are Back!

For information about Rev. Amy's Connection Circles contact her at [minister@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:minister@riverofgrassuu.org) Or speak with her after Service.

### **Dec 17, Tuesday – 7p: Good Grief Bereavement Group**

The holiday season can be a time of sadness or profoundly mixed feelings for many. Gather with this circle of sojourners of all kinds as we navigate life after loss, using Francis Weller's "The Wild Edge of Sorrow" as our guide.

### **Dec 19, Thursday – 7p: Welcome Table Communion Circle**

Amidst this Season of Light, join us for a Unitarian Universalist communion ritual remembering the life of Jesus of Nazareth and its teachings for our own lives in the 21st century.



### **Dec 21, Saturday -- 7p: Solstice Sacred Circle Service**

Join us in Sacred Circle on Saturday evening, December 21, at 7p in our River of Grass Sanctuary to celebrate both the birthing comforts of darkness and the rebirth of the Light in our hearts and lives. Come light a candle as we blend our voices in "blessed be" to welcome the Sun ... and ourselves ... home again.



FULL MOON DAUGHTERS

*Winter  
Solstice Party*



**Potluck  
Dinner**

**December  
22nd**

**Starting at  
5 pm**

**RSVP to**

**[fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org)**

**To Receive Location and Map  
White Elephant Gift Exchange  
Blessings**



## **Christmas Eve Service**

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024**

**5:30pm Cookies**

**6pm Worship**

**Old Davie School**

**6650 Griffin Road, Davie, FL 33314**

**[Where we met for Sunday Worship a year ago]**





Marilisa Lawless says  
**"Another successful year with ChildNet.  
Yay River of Grass!"**





## LifeNet4Families

is in dire need of donations:

- non-perishable food
- cans
- protein [tuna, chili, peanut butter, baked beans]
- men's clothing
- toiletries
- Christmas toys
- laundry detergent

Every week please bring your donations to church and put them in the large basket in the hall.

Remember "Service is our law"

Rachel Malca, [LifeNet@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:LifeNet@riverofgrassuu.org), is looking for volunteers for our monthly volunteer service. Chat with her during Coffee Hour



### **Our "name tag board" has finally returned.**

If you're now in the habit of taking your name tag home, or leaving it in your car - & occasionally forgetting it there - HARK: you can now leave them on the board by the front door & never misplace them again!"





**Order of Service for Sunday, December 15, 2024  
Of UUs, Grinches, and Holiday Gatherings!**

**GATHERING**

**Morning Sing**

**Ringling of the Chimes**

**Prelude "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship "This Ghostly Little Tale" by Charles Dickens**

**Theme Hymn "Draw the Circle Wide"**

**Chalice Lighting**

*We light this flame this day  
Prayerful that the gifts we bring  
to this one moment of all time  
may be instruments of healing  
for ourselves, for one another  
and for our world. (Webb)*

**CONNECTING**

**Covenant**

**DEEPENING**

**Deepening Music – "Do You Hear What I Hear" by Noel Regney**

**Candles of Community**

**Stones of Reflection**

**Pastoral Response**

**Sung Response (Music #371, text #381)**

**Wisdom Story "The Christmas Tree Story"**

**Youth Sings! "Jingle Bells" by James Pierpont**

**Heritage and Hope (Rev. Edmund Hamilton Sears, Greta Gerwig)**

**Offering / Offeratory #402, From You I Receive**

**Message – "How the Grinch Stole the Holiday Gathering!"**

**SENDING**

**Closing Music – "Welcome Christmas" by Dr. Seuss**

**Closing Words**

**Extinguishing Chalice**

**Announcements for the Life of the Community**

**Invite to Zoom and Live Hospitality**

**Sending/Shine on**

**Music Reprise**





# UPCOMING EVENTS

*All email addresses or links are below*

Thursday, December 12, 6pm Zoom

**Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, December 12, 7pm Zoom

**mUUVies The Beautiful Game** - Kathy and Steve Jens-Rochow

Sunday, December 15, 8:30am A-9 + Zoom

**Flowing River Sangha** at A-9 Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, December 15, 10:30am **Worship Service** Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Sunday, December 15, 10:30am A-9 + Zoom

**Children and Youth Faith Development** Karen Gonzalez

Tuesday, December 17, 7pm. **Good Grief Group** Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Wednesday, December 18, 7pm Zoom

**bUUKies All Seated on the Ground** Kathy and Steve Jens-Rochow

Thursday, December 19, 6pm Zoom

**Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, December 19, 7pm A-9 + Zoom

**Welcome Table Communion Circle** Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Saturday, December 21, 2-4pm **Spiritual Art Open Studio** A-9

Saturday, December 21, 7pm A-9 + Zoom

**Sacred Circle Solstice Service** Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Sunday, December 22, 8:30am

**Flowing River Sangha** at A-9 + Zoom Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, December 22, 10:30am A-9 **Worship Service** Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Sunday, December 22, 10:30am A-9 + Zoom

**Children and Youth Faith Development** Karen Gonzalez



Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

[Scott@insightinstitutellc.com](mailto:Scott@insightinstitutellc.com) [Carolyn@insightinstitutellc.com](mailto:Carolyn@insightinstitutellc.com)

Gary Gonzalez <https://riverofgrassuu.org/sunday-meditation.html>

Worship Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ab3E9JRtb9>

Rev. Amy Carol Webb [minister@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:minister@riverofgrassuu.org)

Karen Gonzalez [faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org)

Steve Jens-Rochow [bUUkies@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:bUUkies@riverofgrassuu.org)

[spiritualart@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:spiritualart@riverofgrassuu.org)



## Green Tip of the Week

If you have kids let them use the big cardboard boxes that you receive during the holidays instead of putting them out in the trash. To build castles.



To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website posted on the page below River of Grass UU Congregation is on **FaceBook**. For more information, please contact us at the community awareness email below

*Unsubscribe* - If you do not wish to receive this weekly email, please send an email to our office [email below] and we will remove you from the mailing list.

*Announcements wishing to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to the email below by noon 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.*



[communityawareness@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:communityawareness@riverofgrassuu.org)

[office@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:office@riverofgrassuu.org)

[WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org)