

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

Celebrating
25 Years

Thursday, December 19, 2024

Sunday Service December 22, 2024



The Soul of a Menorah: It's Hanukkah!

As we hurtle through days filled with noise and confusion, it's easy to lose track of our souls ... to remember that deep down our inner essence wants to do more than run errands. That we yearn to touch the infinite, luminous, divine, transcendent dimension...

- Rabbi Shimon Apisdorf

In this season we celebrate the returning light of our earth, how do we see and know and share the light within each of us, and all of us – indeed that luminous, divine, transcendent dimension of everyone and everything in this interconnected and interdependent life we share? Gather with us this Sunday to celebrate Hanukkah and explore!

Our Mission

Nurture our spirits; love intentionally; create a just & sustainable world.

Come as you are at 10:30 this Sunday morning – either in-person 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, Children's and youth's Faith Development begins at 10:30
- 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:

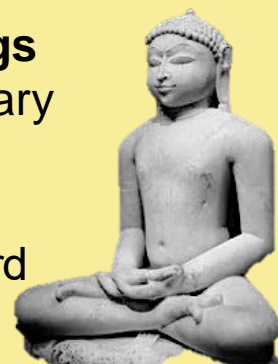
This coming Sunday, in the younger class, we'll be hearing the story of Hanukkah & discussing the idea of religious freedom, as we wonder why so many UUs celebrate the holiday.

The older class will learn how Judaism was the first of the Abrahamic religious line that birthed both Christianity and Islam. We'll hear the story of Abraham's covenant with God and talk about Jewish holidays.

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 is also available via Zoom link below. "I look forward to sitting with you again, be it in person or remotely."



Our 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.

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

Meditation:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/646777873?pwd=WHZaNjJQNWF5T0t6UW1kRiFLTVcyZz09#success>

River of Grass Connection Circles are Back!

For information about Rev. Amy's Connection Circles contact her at minister@riverofgrassuu.org Or speak with her after Service.

Dec 19, Thur. 7p: VIRTUAL 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. Zoom link below.



Dec 21, Saturday, 7pm: Solstice Sacred Circle Service A9 + zoom

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.

Dec. 22, Sunday, A-9 12:15pm Baby, Bathwater and the Bible: or, How to Take the Bible Seriously but Not Literally A9 + zoom

Join us to explore the differences between big-T Truth and little-t truth, the uses of metaphor and meaning, and how the historic weaponization of the Bible has built barriers between us and its wisdom – and between us and our neighbors.

Jan 21, 7pm, What Dreams May Come: Dream Reflection Group

A9 + zoom

Guided by Jungian theory, we'll explore our dreams as gateways to meaning for our lives!

Dec. 19 7pm Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82816837657?pwd=t8scw4ml9h34cv8CU0JWFI3IMQI8F9.1>

Meeting ID: 828 1683 7657

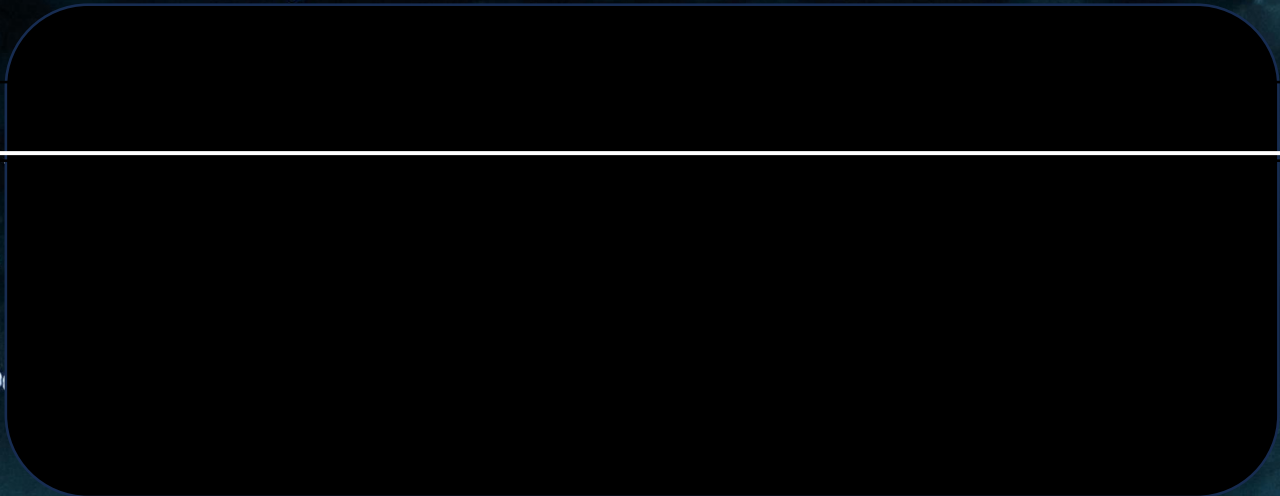
Passcode: 565945

FULL MOON DAUGHTERS

*Winter
Solstice Party*



| **22nd** |





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.]



**Christmas Eve Cookie Hospitality
Tuesday, December 24 at 5:30-6:00**

**Old Davie School House & Museum
2nd Floor
6650 Griffin Rd.
Davie, FL**

- Enjoy some holiday cheer with us.
- Join us Christmas Eve at 5:30 before service
- Bring a dozen of your favorite Christmas treats
(finger food only)
- For more info
Contact Kathy at worship@riverofgrassuu.org



UUSC

Guest at Your Table

Is our Unitarian Universalist
Service Committee's
Annual Holiday Fundraising Drive.

*Advancing Human Rights
Around the World*

To give go to uuscs.org
Or pick up a donation envelope
in A-9's hallway to hospitality.





Men's Group

The Men's Group meets today, Thursday 5 Dec from 7-8:30pm @ A9. We will discuss "The Path of Resistance." We also get together at 5:30 for an optional dinner at Lester's Diner at 1393 NW 136 Ave, Sunrise. Those not attending in person can still join in via zoom. See below. Ken Bresnahan mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org
RSVPs are appreciated

River of Grass Spiritual Artists' Open Studio at A-9, Sat., Dec. 21, 2pm

We will continue creating our Christmas Eve banners to make Old Davie School our own for the evening.
Spiritualart@riverofgrassuu.org. All are welcome.



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!"



SWIM

Southeast Winter Institute in Mid-Florida
(a local, more intimate version of SUUSI)

Winter UU Retreat in Tampa
January 28 - February 3, 2025

“Finding Happiness in the Hammock of the Wisdom Tree”

Fun and Fellowship at the Franciscan Center,
Workshops, great food, outdoors, trips. And relaxing.
On an 8-acre urban oasis on the Hillsborough River.



<https://www.swimuu.org/home/>

7 days \$919 [double occupancy]
includes room, board, programming

**Order of Service for Sunday, December 22, 2024
The Soul of a Menorah: It's Hanukkah!**

GATHERING

Morning Sing

Ringling of the Chimes

Prelude

Welcome "Your Inner Flame" by Rabbi Shimon Apisdorf

Theme Hymn "Draw the Circle Wide"

Chalice Lighting We gather in this season

to find warmth from each other,
to nourish hope where reason fails.
Grateful for small miracles, we rejoice
in the wonder of light and darkness
and the daring of hope. (Webb)

CONNECTING

Covenant

DEEPENING

Deepening Music Solo "Maoz T'sur"

Deepening Music #223 Rock of Ages, Let Our Song; Words: Leonard Stein;
Music: M Jastrow

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection (instrumental interlude)

Pastoral Response

Sung Response (Music #371, text #381)

Wisdom Story "Herschel & the Hanukkah Goblins" by Eric A.Kimmel

Singing Youth to Class

Heritage and Hope

Offering / Offertory #402, From You I Receive; Words & Music: Joseph &
Nathan Segal

Message The Soul of a Menorah: It's Hanukkah!

SENDING

Closing Music #221, Light One Candi; Words & Music: Peter Yarrow

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 19, 6pm Zoom

Mindfulness for Today's World Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, December 19, 7pm A-9 + Zoom **Men's Group** - Ken Bresnahan
Topic: Path of Resistance

Thursday, Dec 19, 7pm A-9+Zoom **Welcome Table Communion** RevAmy

Sat, Dec 21, 2-4 pm A-9 **Spiritual Art** Banner Painting Steve Jens-Rochow

Saturday, Dec 21 6pm - **Solstice Service** RevAmy A-9 + Zoom

Sunday, December 22, 8:30am A-9 + Zoom

Flowing River Sangha at A-9 Gary Gonzalez

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

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

Children and Youth Faith Development Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, December 22, 12:15am A-9 + Zoom RevAmy

Baby, Bathwater, Bible: Scripture Study

Sunday, December 22, 5pm Full Moon Daughters Winter Solstice Party
Member's home Fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org

Tuesday, December 24, 5:30pm. Cookies, 6pm Worship **Christmas Eve Service**
Old Davie School Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Thursday, December 19, 6pm Zoom

Mindfulness for Today's World Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Sunday, December 29, 8:30am

Flowing River Sangha at A-9 + Zoom Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, December 29 10:30am A-9 **Worship Service**

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

Children and Youth Faith Development Karen Gonzalez

Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Scott@insightinstitutellc.com 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

Karen Gonzalez faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org

Steve Jens-Rochow bUUkies@riverofgrassuu.org
spiritualart@riverofgrassuu.org

Ken Bresnahan mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org



Green Tip of the Week

Butterflies are becoming scarce, especially Monarch butterflies. What you can do is plant butterfly friendly plants: Lantana, Penta, Buddleia, Firebush, Salvia, Dill, Porterweed, Milkweed, Parsley.



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 newsletter 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.



Riverofgrassuu.org

communityawareness@riverofgrassuu.org

office@riverofgrassuu.org

WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org