

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, January 2, 2025

Sunday Worship January 5, 2025

Of Phoenixes, Phantoms, and Phutures: A Fire Communion



The sun finally appeared in the east. Nothing extraordinary,
but the moment offered a blessing on the new day.

Such blessings have been given daily
for more millions of years than we can ever imagine.

I am reminded that what will get us through times of rapid change,
hard times, times of uncertainty, dangerous times
will be our ability to be blessed and fed by abiding things.

- Rev. Ann Tyndall

Our Mission

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

On this first Sunday of 2025 gather with us for our annual Fire Communion -- to consider those things we wish to release into the old year behind us and reclaim for the new one before us – to let go of what holds us back and reach for what calls us into this day, and all the tomorrows to come.

Come as you are at 10:30 this Sunday morning – either **in-person in Davie** (info below) or **virtually on Zoom or Facebook** (links below).

Come a bit before and we can chat prior to the service.

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.

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

Faith Development for Kids and Youth:

On Sunday, our children and youth will return to their regular class schedule.

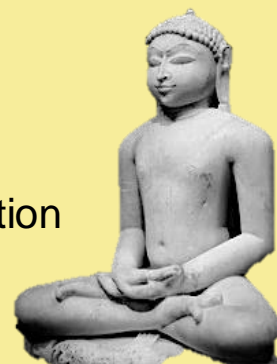
The younger group will be hearing the story of Abraham and learn his connection to three major religions, while exploring the concept of Faith.

The older class will hear more details about Abraham's covenant with God and learn how Judaism was the first of the Abrahamic religious line that birthed both Christianity and Islam.

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>



Men's Group

The Men's Group meets today, Thur., 2 Jan. from 7-8:30pm @ A9 + Zoom.

We will have a group discussion topic. 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 RSVP please



Sunday, January 5, 2pm 7pm **Women's Group** A-9 + Zoom;
Kathy Jens-Rochow womensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org

Our topic will be "Change".

Our definition of "women" is expansive and includes anyone who feels that they belong in this space, including those who identify as nonbinary. The purpose of this group is to deepen our personal connections through shared discussions; listening to each person's experience.

River of Grass Spiritual Artists' Open Studio at A-9, Sat., Jan. 4, 2pm

Come and bring your own creative materials.
And create with other spiritual creatives.
Or paint some rocks.

Spiritualart@riverofgrassuu.org.

All are welcome.



Men's Group

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81490716445?pwd=NHV2akh4OURkQ2YvcTdGdmw5VjY3dz09>



mUUVies for Change

Discussion of
“Emilia Pérez”

on Thursday, January 9, 7pm

Zoom is below, or contact

mUUVies@riverofgrassuu.org

Emilia Pérez

A genre-bending comedy, a musical and a crime drama, stunning, spectacular visuals, incredible choreography, great music and dancing. **Emilia Pérez** is the story of a feared, ugly, Mexican cartel kingpin who enlists a lawyer to achieve their transformation to a beautiful woman by helping to fake their death so that they can finally live authentically as their true self. Available on Netflix.

2024 Cannes Jury and Best Actress Prizes

Trans actress Karla Sofia Gascon was the first Trans woman to be nominated at Cannes in the Best Actress category.

Director: Jacques Audiard

mUUvies Zoom Meeting:

[https://zoom.us/j/95865321771?pwd=B0ZyygWc5bxHJQY8j4ESalZF
Cbtu8M.1](https://zoom.us/j/95865321771?pwd=B0ZyygWc5bxHJQY8j4ESalZF
Cbtu8M.1)



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.

Jan 21, Tuesday, 7pm, **What Dreams May Come: Dream Reflection Group** A9 and zoom (3rd Tuesdays, 7pm; ongoing, see RoG calendar)
Guided by Jungian theory, we'll explore our dreams as gateways to meaning for our lives!



Jan 31, Friday, 7pm, The Beat Goes On Drum Circle A9 only (drumming just doesn't do well on zoom) (Monthly, last Friday, 7pm; ongoing, see RoG Calendar) Bring your drum or enjoy one of ours the last Friday of each month to drum out the stresses of the days behind and find new rhythms for ones to come. No drum, no problem - we have plenty. No experience, also no problem - your inner drummer awaits!

Faith Like a River

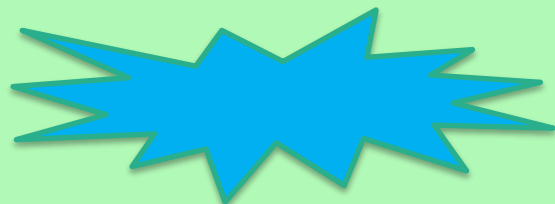
Exploring the dynamic course of Unitarian Universalist History

Series 1 - Freedom of Belief

- 1/16 Against the Flow — Orthodoxy and Heresy
- 1/23 The Verdant Springs — Reform(ation)
- 1/29 God's Gonna Trouble the Waters — Martyrs
and Sacrifice

Register by email to
ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org

All sessions start at 7pm.



River of Grass will not be marching in the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther
King Day Parade Jan. 20.

If you are interested in participating next year please reply to
ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org

Order of Service for Sunday, January 5, 2025

GATHERING

Morning Sing

#153, "Oh, I Woke Up this Morning" Words and Music African American Spiritual

"Loosen Loosen" by Aly Hlpert

"Oh, Let Us Gather" by RevAmy Carol Webb

Ringing of the Chimes

Prelude "Take Me Down" by The Pretty Reckless RevAmy Carol Webb

Welcome "The Heart of Our Faith" - Rev. Monica Jacobson-Tennessen

Theme Hymn "Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round" African American Spiritual.

Chalice Lighting

CONNECTING

Covenant

English: 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.

Spanish: El Amor es el espíritu de esta congregación

y el servicio su ley principal.

Esta es nuestra gran promesa:

vivir juntos en paz, buscar la verdad a través del amor,

y ayudarnos mutuamente.

DEEPENING

Deepening Music #123, "Spirit of Life"

Words and Music by Carolyn McDade

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection (instrumental interlude)

Pastoral Response

Sung Response (Music #371, text #381)

Wisdom Story "What If Nobody Forgave? The Story of Grudgeville" by Barbara Marshman

Singing Youth to Class #153, "Oh I Woke Up this Morning" African American Spiritual

Heritage and Hope

Offering Offertory #402 "From You I Receive" Words & Music by Andrew & Nathan Segel

Message "Of Phoenixes, Phantoms, and Phutures: A Fire Communion"

SENDING

Closing Music "I Shall Be Released" by Bob Dylan

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, January 2, 6pm Zoom

Mindfulness for Today's World Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, January 2, 7pm A-9 + Zoom **Men's Group** Ken Bresnahan

Saturday, January 4, 2-4pm A-9 **Spiritual Art Open Studio** Steve Jens-Rochow

Sunday, January 5, 8:30am A-9 + Zoom

Flowing River Sangha at A-9 Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, January 5, 10:30am **Sunday Worship Service** Rev. Amy Carol Webb

"Of Phoenixes, Phantoms, and Phutures: A Fire Communion"

Sunday, January 5, 10:30am A-9 + Zoom

Children and Youth Faith Development Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, January 5, 2pm 7pm **Women's Group** A-9 + Zoom Kathy Jens-Rochow

Tuesday, Jan 7, 7pm **Good Grief Bereavement Group** A-9 + Zoom

Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Thursday, January 9, 6pm Zoom

Mindfulness for Today's World Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, January 9, 7pm **mUUvies for Change** Zoom

Kathy and Steve Jens-Rochow

Sunday, January 12, 8:30am

Flowing River Sangha at A-9 + Zoom Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, January 12, 10:30am A-9 **Worship Service** Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Sunday, January 12, 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

Leana Bresnahan president@riverofgrassuu.org

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

Ken Bresnahan mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org

Kathy Jens-Rochow. womensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org

Ken Bresnahan mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org

