
River of Grass Weekly Newsletter May 01, 2025

1 message

River of Grass UU <riverofgrassuu@gmail.com>
To: Susan Juncosa <susan@juncosa.us>

Thu, May 1, 2025 at 3:57 PM

From the Editor: In honor of Wendell Abern, I have launched a new humor column, *From the Church Bulletin*. These **messages** are actual humorous snippets, typos, or announcements that **inadvertently** poke fun at church life. **The column** is on the last page under the Green Tip.



River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

11850 W State Rd 84, A-9, Davie, FL 33325

Riverofgrassuu.org 954-723-7877

Office@riverofgrassuu.org

**Celebrating
26 Years**

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our River of Grass Family

Welcome to our Love; **Welcome** Home

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Sunday Service May 4, 2025

May the 4th(and the 3rd, the Major 5th, & the Minor 7th) Be With You



"Music is forever; music should grow and mature with you, following you right on up until you die." – Paul Simon

There are few things in life that have the power to move us the way music can. Our annual music service this Sunday will provide us an opportunity to experience the moods, passions, and deep emotions music can evoke, as we immerse ourselves in the shared sounds and words that connect us to one another through time, space, and generations.

Gather with us to explore the creative use of just 12 notes to produce a seemingly endless variety of music from simple lullabies to the elaborate Symphonies as we begin May's theme of "Imagination" this Sunday.

Our Mission

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

Come as you are Sunday morning at 10:30 – 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 to:

- 11850 W State Road 84, Suite A-9, Davie, FL 33325
- Children's & youth's Faith Development at 10:30. Childcare provided.

Faith Development for Kids & Youth:

This week in our Faith Development class for our younger kiddos, we'll explore the stories of miracles attributed to the prophet, Jesus. We'll talk about different ways to consider these miracle stories and the approach most Unitarian Universalists take.

Our older group will review the human needs that religions may address and recall what they've learned about the varied histories, beliefs, and practices of many faiths, including our own.



For more information about our FD program, contact our Director, Karen Gonzalez at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org.

Multi-platform Mindfulness Meditation Sundays A-9+Zoom
With Gary Gonzalez. We will gather at 8:30 am and begin meditating at 8:45. Link is below.



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.

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.

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>

Director of Faith Development

ReligiousEducator@riverofgrassuu.org

Meditation

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/646777873?pwd=WHZaNjJQNWF5T0t6UW1kRIFLTVcyZz09#success>



As we prepare for the future, we are ALL needed to ensure we continue to go and grow and flow the River Way.

Right now, we most urgently need to begin training:

1. Worship Team Co-Chairs and Members
2. Video Technical Coordinator(s)
3. Zoom Host(s)
4. Website Coordinator(s)

Please contact me at president@riverofgrassuu.org to let me know how you can serve.

The secret from my perspective?
The joy of serving this Beloved Community FAR exceeds the effort expended.

With great love and gratitude, Leana



River of Grass

small groups
grow spiritually.

SMALL GROUPS GROW CONNECTIONS:

Want to connect more deeply with your
spiritual self?

Connect with others at the River?
Connect with your place in the world?

Our River of Grass Small Groups can help.
Stop by our Small Group Gathering after service in
the River of Grass sanctuary on
Sunday, May 4, to learn more.

No sign ups required. Come when you can.

Small groups include things like covenant groups,
and affinity groups, such as the Men's Group,
Women's Group, bUUkies, mUUvies and Spiritual Art.

For more information:

Diane Lade at sharedministry@riverofgrassuu.org.



Elly invites you to join this year's Auction Committee.

Believe it or not it is already time to think and plan this year's auction in the fall.

Elly has offered to head up the Auction again this year. BUT she cannot do it alone. She needs a co-chair.

She needs people to start working on getting donations from the many local museums, attractions and hotels that are in the area. Even up to the Orlando area.

This involves contacting these organizations now to get donations.

Are YOU willing to contact a few and follow up?

Many hands helping means less work for everyone.

Contact Elly at Auction@riverofgrassuu.org



Two of Us Concert

Some of the most beloved Jazz Ballads,
Bossa Novas, Boleros, Tangos, and Choros.

Following up the well received concerts of 2022 & 2023, the husband & wife duo "The 2 of Us" visits, through song and storytelling, some of the most beloved American Jazz Ballads, Brazilian Bossa Novas and Boleros in English, Portuguese and Spanish, now with new repertoire.

Featuring:

Marpessa De Moraes - Vocals, classical guitar (Craviola)
and percussion.

Renato De Moraes - Flute and woodwind instruments.

Saturday, May 17, 7pm at the River \$30

There will be drinks and snacks.

To purchase your tickets go to ROG web page to purchase your tickets. In the notes area say it is for the 2 of Us concert. Or bring cash to the concert. Some spaces left.

Or contact the Auction committee to get your tickets:

auction@riverofgrassuu.org



River of Grass Connection Circles

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

Tuesday, May 6, 7pm, A-9 + Zoom **Good Grief Bereavement Group**
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.

Sunday, May 11, 12:15pm Zoom + A-9 **Second Helping Sunday**

Thursday, May 15, 7pm A-9 + Zoom **Welcome Table Communion**
Join us for a Unitarian Universalist communion ritual remembering the life of Jesus of Nazareth and his teachings for our own lives in the 21st century.

Tuesday, May 20, 7pm A-9 + Zoom **What Dreams May Come: Dream Reflection Group** Guided by Jungian theory, we'll explore our dreams as gateways to meaning for our lives!

Sunday, May 25, 12:15pm, A-9 + Zoom **Second Helping Sunday. Baby, Bathwater and the Bible** 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.

Welcome Circle Zoom Meetings

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

Meeting ID: 828 1683 7657

Passcode: 565945

FAITH LIKE A RIVER



EXPLORING THE DYNAMIC COURSE OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST HISTORY

A conjoined Zoom
gathering with members
of the First Unitarian
Church of Orlando,
hosted by our Religious
Educators, beginning in

*What lessons do the
stories of our history
teach that can help us
live more faithfully in
the present?*

*What lessons do they
offer to be lived into the
future?*

May 14, 7pm

Karen's Epic Transylvanian Adventure

Register by email to religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org

Sunshine Cluster's Climate Justice Revival

Reimagine Together From An Extractive Age To A New Era

In the midst of overlapping climate crises & mounting social injustice, we are in a time of great change and profound anxiety.

The UUA Climate Justice Revival is a time to come together and commit to a vision for a flourishing future for Planet Earth, with actions we can take to make that vision a reality!

The UUA Climate Justice Revival will equip you to enter into a new era of climate justice, faithfully dismantling silos and transforming our congregations at the intersection of climate and justice.

Together, we can move past systems and cultures of extraction to usher in a new era with love and justice at the center.

We will be celebrating all of creation and recommitting our care and protection to nurture Mother Earth.

Saturday, May 31, 2025, 1pm, Free, Zoom

To register and for information email your name and congregation to sunshinecluster2023@gmail.com



Facilitated by
RevAmy Carol Webb
M.Div., BCC/APC (*she/they*)

Minister
River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation



2025 is the 200th anniversary of the founding of the American Unitarian Association (AUA)

On May 26, 1825, the American Unitarian Association was formed at the Berry Street Conference in Boston with the approval of bylaws.

Prior to that, in 1819, William Ellory Channing, in his pivotal Baltimore Sermon, preached about a benevolent, loving God who had endowed humanity with innate goodness, rationality, and the wisdom to discern between good and evil.

Channing decided to snatch the label of Unitarian from those who degraded it and to claim it proudly as his own.

Prior to this our Unitarian ancestors called themselves liberal Christians.

By 1825, however, many Unitarians had grown comfortable with the term, so it was prophetic and bold to formally claim the name “Unitarian” for the institution of the AUA.

It’s important to note that the AUA was an organization for individual ministers, not congregations. Since congregations couldn’t join the AUA until much later, in 1884, it took Unitarian churches a while to figure out how to relate to the AUA.

Unitarians thought of themselves as a tract society, or a pamphlet society: they exchanged ideas this way, and promoted Unitarian beliefs this way. Universalists, on the other hand, put a great deal of energy into evangelizing by horseback and itinerant preachers.

SUUSI 2025

THE SOUTHEAST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SUMMER INSTITUTE

 **JOIN US THIS
SUMMER!**

**FOR A JOY-FILLED
WEEK**

AT A SUMMER CAMP FOR ALL AGES

**RADFORD
UNIVERSITY
JULY 20
-26**



**SIGN UP FOR UPDATES:
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/MF4KEC96](https://tinyurl.com/MF4KEC96)**

**VISIT SUUSI.ORG FOR MORE
INFORMATION**





3872 Dillard Road, Highlands, NC
themountainrlc.org

A retreat, camp, and learning center that celebrates Unitarian Universalist principles, inspires people of all ages, transforms lives, builds community & a more compassionate world.

May 9-11 Gay Spirit Visions

May 14-18 Spring UUWomenspirit Gathering and Institute

June 5-8 Improvisational Theatre

June 8-20 MountainCamp – Senior High

June 19-22 “I Shine” Inner Fire Retreat

June 22-27 MountainCamp - Beginner 6-8 year old

June 22-July 4 Outdoor Skills & Adventure

June 22-July 4 MountainCamp – Elementary [9-11]

July 6-19 MountainCamp – Intermediate [12-14]

July 20 - 25 Intergenerational Camp

<https://www.themountainrlc.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

All email addresses or links are below

Thursday, May 1, 6pm Zoom

Mindfulness for Today's World Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Sunday, May 4, 8:30am A-9 + Zoom **Flowing River Sangha** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, May 4, 10:30am A-9+Zoom **Worship Service** RevAmy Carol Webb

Sunday, May 4, 10:30am A-9 + Zoom

Children and Youth Faith Development Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, May 4, 12 A-9 + Zoom **Small Groups Grow Connections** Diane Lade

Sunday, May 4, 7pm, Zoom **Woman's Group** Kathy Jens-Rochow

Tuesday, May 6, 7pm, Zoom + A-9 **Good Grief Bereavement Group**

RevAmy Carol Webb

Wednesday, May 7, 6pm, Zoom **Faith Like a River** Karen Gonzalez

Thursday, May 8, 6pm Zoom

Mindfulness for Today's World Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, May 8, 7pm, Zoom **mUUVies** American Symphony Kathy and Steve Jens-Rochow

Sunday, May 11, 8:30am A-9 + Zoom **Flowing River Sangha** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, May 11, 10:30am A-9+Zoom **Worship Service** RevAmy Carol Webb

Sunday, May 11, 10:30am A-9 + Zoom

Children and Youth Faith Development Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, May 11, 12:15am A-9 + Zoom **Second Helping Sunday** RevAmy Carol Webb

Wednesday, May 14, **Faith Like a River; Karen's Epic Transylvanian Adventure** Karen Gonzalez

Thursday, May 15, 6pm Zoom

Mindfulness for Today's World Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, May 15, 7pm Zoom + A-9 **Men's Group** Ken Bresnahan

Thursday, May 15, 7pm Zoom + A-9 **Welcome Table Communion** RevAmy Carol Webb

Carolyn Santangelo & Scott May

Mindfulness for Today's World

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/551319571?pwd=TDdRdmhML3FoVVEvbnRXRC9qRIJPQT09>

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/j/81490716445?pwd=](https://zoom.us/j/81490716445?pwd=NHV2akh4OURkQ2YvcTdGdmw5VjY3dz09)

Rev. Amy Carol Webb minister@riverofgrassuu.org

Karen Gonzalez faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org

Leana Bresnahan president@riverofgrassuu.org

Ken Bresnahan mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org

Men's Group

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81490716445?pwd=](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81490716445?pwd=NHV2akh4OURkQ2YvcTdGdmw5VjY3dz09)

NHV2akh4OURkQ2YvcTdGdmw5VjY3dz09

Kathy Jens-Rochow. womensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org

Diane Lade fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org

Elly Keane auction@riverofgrassuu.org

Order of Service for Sunday, May 4, 2025

Morning Sing "Oh, Let Us Gather" Words and Music by RevAmy Carol Webb

Pre-prelude "Star Wars Theme Song" by John Williams

Prelude "Pure Imagination" Words by Leslie Bricusse; Music by Anthony Newley

Welcome

Call to Worship "We Are the Music" by Ruchotski

Theme Hymn "Keep on Moving Forward" by Emma's Revolution

Chalice Lighting

We gather this morning as one community, honoring our common connection and our uniqueness.

We light this chalice to celebrate the transformative power of truth and the growth it brings, fostering a space where imagination and creativity flourish. by Li Kynvi

Covenant

Deepening Music "Namaste"

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection; Stones Music "Time After Time" by Cyndi Lauper

Pastoral Response

Sung Response Music #370 from a Genevan Psalter, Words #381 by Isaac Watts

Heritage and Hope

Offering; Offertory "Afro Cuban Lullaby"

Wisdom Story "All God's Critters" Story by Bill Staines, Pictures by Kadir Nelson

Singing Youth to Class

Message May the 4th (and the 3rd, the major 5th, and the minor 7th) Be with You

Closing Music #1064, "Blue Boat Home" Words by Peter Meyer, Music by Roland Hugh Pritchard

Announcements for the Life of the Community

Closing Words

Extinguishing Chalice

Sending/Shine on

Invite to Zoom and Live Hospitality

Music Reprise

Green Tip of the Week

Instead of using a plastic cutting board, which can cause the growth of anti-biotic strains of bacteria, use a wooden cutting board. Wood has natural bactericidal properties, is sustainable and is green.



From the Church Bulletin

These messages actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services. To be read with suitable reverence:

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website posted 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 the Weekly Email address below, and you will be removed.

Announcements wishing to be sent out in this weekly congregation-wide newsletter should be e-mailed to the Weekly Email address 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 this e-mail. Outside groups and individuals, wishing to use this vehicle of congregation-wide communication, must have the approval of the President.

president@riverofgrassuu.org

Steve Jens-Rochow, Editor newsletter@riverofgrassuu.org



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