



# River of Grass

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

**Welcome** to our River of Grass Family

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

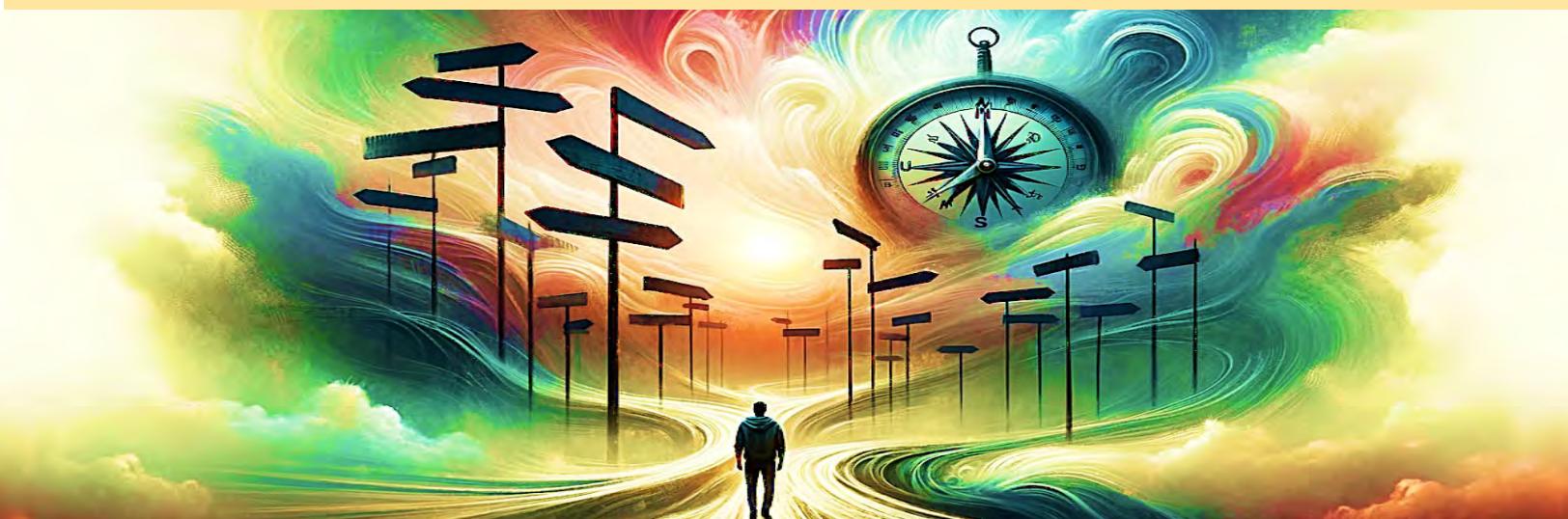
## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Sunday Service February 8, 2026 Linda Lathroum

Monthly Worship Theme: Embodying Resilience

### **Navigating the Highs and Lows**



AI generated: Leading With Courage: Navigating Highs & Lows

“When you feel the tides rising right beside you  
When you’re tossed in torrents of time and change  
Life’s only filling the well inside you  
For we are made of rain”

*From the song “We Are Made of Rain” Amy Carol Webb, c. 2008*

In this Sunday’s service, we explore what it means to  
embody resilience as we navigate the  
highs and lows of being human.

Our speaker will share part of her personal journey  
living with bipolar disorder and reflect on the  
power of honesty, compassion, and community  
in supporting mental wellness.

Together, we will consider how resilience is built- not  
through perfection, but through connection and care.

## ***Our Mission***

*We nurture our spirits, love intentionally,  
and work to create a just and healthy planet.*

Come as you are Sunday morning at 10:30 – either  
**in-person in Davie:** 11850 W SR 84, A-9, Davie, FL 33325  
or **virtually on YouTube LiveStream** (link below).

Childcare provided

**Flowing River Sangha with Gary Gonzalez**  
Sunday in A-9; Zoom below. Gather 8:15, start 8:30

We come together to lament with, celebrate with,  
& care for one another in our community & our world.



## **Children's & Youth's Faith Development 10:30am**



In our Faith Development program for Kids this Sunday, we'll continue with our Anti-racism lessons. Our Littles will be exploring how our individualities make us unique and beautiful, while our Middlers will be focusing on how to react when biases and stereotypes show up in people we love.



Our adult session at noon will cover the topic of the importance of racial identity spaces within Unitarian Universalism.

*For more information about our FD program for kids,  
contact our Director, Karen Gonzalez at  
[religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org).*

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChJNmoySFzsKskHmsjkZe2g>

[temp.riverofgrassuu.org](http://temp.riverofgrassuu.org)

Flowing River Sangha:

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



## Happy 27th Birthday Celebration!

for River of Grass -- potluck dinner; birthday cake; fun activities for the kids; live music; walk down memory lane; a group photo; dreaming together about the future.

All members and friends and children are invited. RSVPs are strongly encouraged.

Sign-up on Sunday, February 8th.

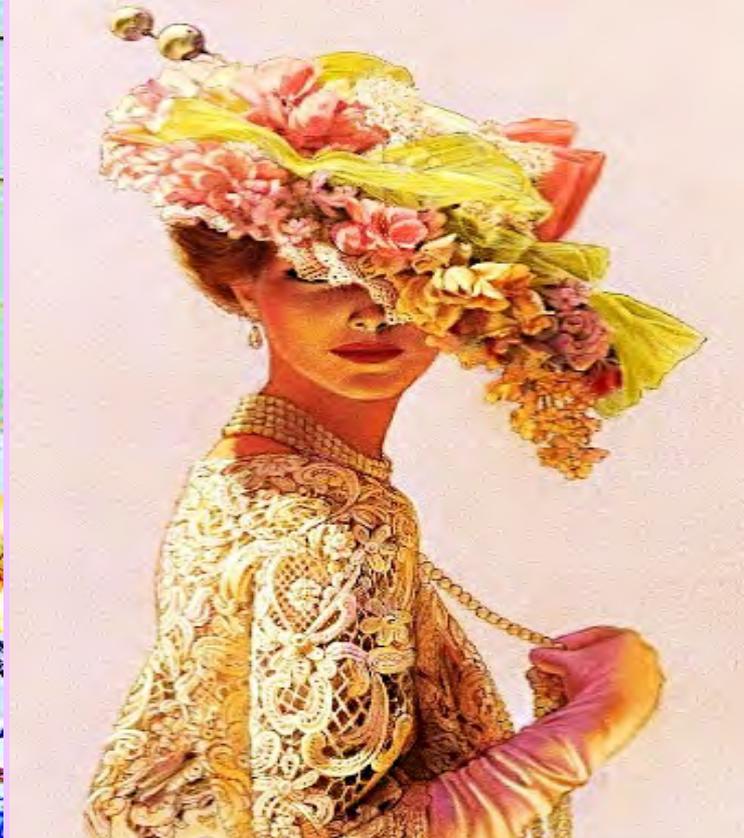
Or you can

email [membership@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:membership@riverofgrassuu.org)

to RSVP and/or to offer to help.

Saturday, Feb. 21, 5:00. River of Grass, A9

To celebrate the course of The River so far, and dream our future course together.



# *Victorian Afternoon Tea Party*

Auction Event at A-9

Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026, 3:30 - 5:00

Only \$30 for an afternoon of  
fun & elegance.

Do you know why they serve small sandwiches and sweets at tea parties? Join new members Trish, Jane, Barbara, and Elly and find out.

Enjoy a cup of tea served in China cups, some trivia questions with prizes, lively conversation, and a Hat contest!

*Yes, we will be wearing our finest hats!*

Contact Elly at  
[auction@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:auction@riverofgrassuu.org) for tickets



Update your anti-racist identity with this new UUA workshop fostering belonging and liberation in UU Congregations and Communities.

Our adult session will begin in the sanctuary at 12:15 and cover the topic of the importance of racial identity spaces (caucusing) within Unitarian Universalism.

Karen Gonzalez, Director of Faith Development  
[Faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:Faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org)



## **Beating Hearts Drum Circle**

Friday, February 20, 7pm, A-9

Drum out the stresses of the days behind and find new rhythms for upcoming days.

Tap into the rhythms that are the heartbeat of life.

Bring your own drum or we have extras.

Contact Andy Bunce or Linda Lathroum  
[andrewbunce@att.net](mailto:andrewbunce@att.net)



Thank you to everyone who came and helped at the South Florida Folk Festival last weekend. We braved the cold and talked to many people over the 3 days.

Lots of interest in social justice and our upcoming concerts. Elly



# *Eat, Play, Love*



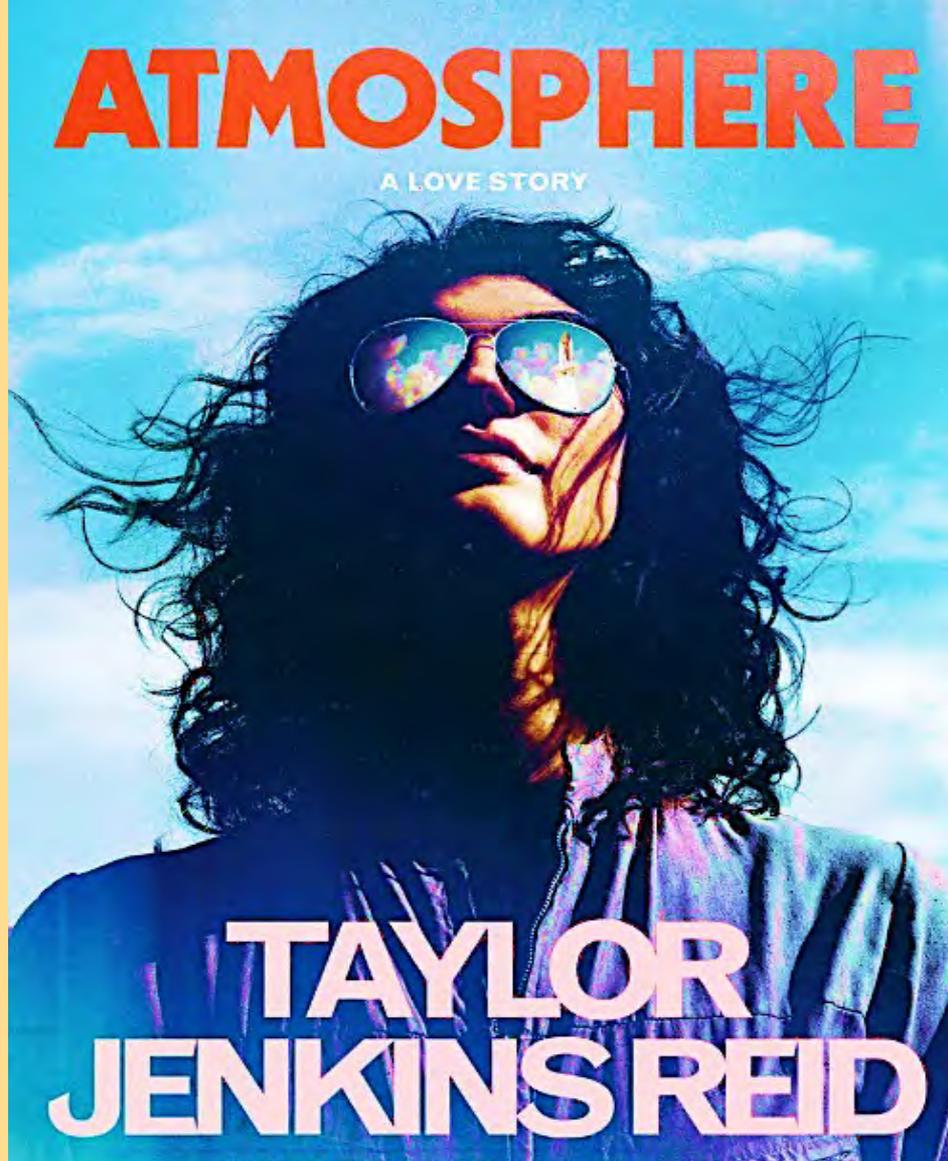
**Potluck & Games for all ages!**  
**February 13<sup>th</sup> - Games of Chance**  
**11850 State Road 84 suite A9**  
**6:00pm-9:00pm**

This month's theme at our monthly potluck/game night known as Eat, Play, Love, is

## *Games of Chance*

Think; Yatzee, Bingo, Poker, Craps – bring what you've got and test your luck on this Friday the 13th!





## **bUUKies Will Discuss Atmosphere**

by Taylor Jenkins Reid

on Wednesday, February, 25, 7pm on Zoom

Fast-paced, thrilling, and emotional *Atmosphere* is Taylor Jenkins Reid at her best: transporting readers to iconic times and places, creating complex protagonists (astronauts & NASA) and telling a passionate and soaring story about the transformative power of love—this time among the stars.

Kathy absolutely loved this book.  
It is very moving.

Zoom: [kjensrochow@gmail.com](mailto:kjensrochow@gmail.com)



**mUUvies Will Discuss**

**Kartini, Princess of Java**

on Thursday. February 12, 7pm on Zoom.

A woman of nobility battles patriarchal norms in order to improve educational access for women in early 1900 Indonesia.

It is really about how “royal” women were treated.

Beautiful cinematography.

On Netflix

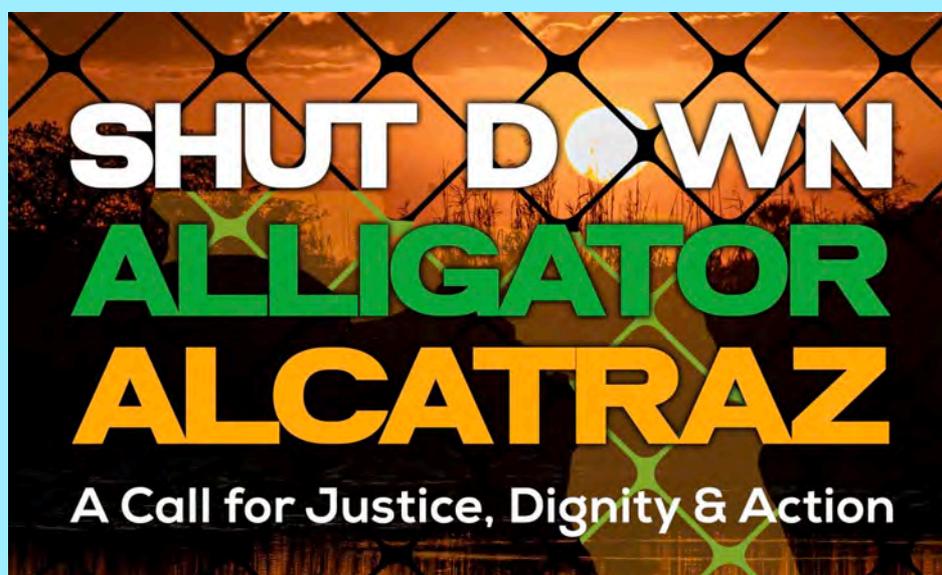
Zoom: [kjensrochow@gmail.com](mailto:kjensrochow@gmail.com)



The **River of Grass' Men's Group** will meet this Thursday 5 Feb at 7pm in person at A-9 or via zoom. Our optional dinner at 5:30 is at CJ Black's 11300 W. SR 84, Davie (Outside; it's quieter; Just east of ROG).

Topic: Giving or Needing Generosity

Contact Ken Bresnahan if you are coming or for the Zoom link: [muarefl@gmail.com](mailto:muarefl@gmail.com)



**Big Cypress National Preserve  
Interfaith Prayer Vigil  
To Shut Down Alligator Alcatraz**

Every Sunday 4-5pm

When we have a group to carpool, we meet at the River at 2:15 and depart by 2:30.

Please contact Andy Bunce or Susan Skach-Bejarano for carpool details: [andrewbunce@att.net](mailto:andrewbunce@att.net)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, February 5, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, February 5, 7pm Zoom+A-9 **Men's Group Topic: Giving or Needing Generosity** Ken Bresnahan

Sunday, February 8, 8:15am A-9 + Zoom **Flowing River Sangha** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, February 8, 10:30am A-9 **Children's Faith Development:** Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, February 8 10:30am A-9 + YouTube Livestream **Worship Service: Navigating the Highs and Lows;** Linda Lathroum and Gayle Giese

Sunday, February 8, A-9 12:15pm **Mosaic Conversation on Racial Identity** Karen Gonzalez

Thursday, February 12, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, February 12, 7pm Zoom mUUvies **Kartini, Princess of Java** Kathy and Steve Jens-Rochow

Friday, Feb 13, 6-8pm A-9 **Eat, Play Love Games of Chance** Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, February 15, 8:15am A-9 + Zoom **Flowing River Sangha** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, February 15 10:30am A-9 + YouTube Livestream **Worship Service The Power of Love** All Generations Service Karen Gonzalez

Thursday, February 19, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, February 19, 7pm Zoom+A-9 **Men's Group** Ken Bresnahan

Saturday, Feb. 21, 5pm A-9 **River of Grass 27th Birthday Party** Leana Bresnahan

Carolyn Santangelo & Scott May  
Mindfulness for Today's World

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/551319571?pwd=TDdRdmhML3FoVVEvbNkRRC9qRIJPQT09>

Worship Service:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChJNmoySFzsKskHmsjkZe2g>

Gary Gonzalez Sangha

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/46777873?pwd=WHZaNjJQNWF5T0t6UW1kRIFLTVcyZz09>

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

Steve Jens-Rochow. [stevejensrochow@gmail.com](mailto:stevejensrochow@gmail.com)

Ken Bresnahan [mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org)

Men's Group

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

Kathy Jens-Rochow. [kjensrochow@gmail.com](mailto:kjensrochow@gmail.com)

Diane Lade [dlade@bellsouth.net](mailto:dlade@bellsouth.net)

Peter Meerwarth [musicdirector@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:musicdirector@riverofgrassuu.org)

Elly Keane [ellykeane19@gmail.com](mailto:ellykeane19@gmail.com)

# Order of Service for February 8, 2026

**Morning Sing #346** Come, Sing a Song with Me; Words and Music:  
Carolyn McDade

Oh, Let Us Gather; Words and Music by RevAmy Carol Webb

**Ringing of the Chimes** Chalice Lighter: Xander Horton Tavera

**Prelude** Spirit of Life; Words and Music by Carolyn McDade

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

**Opening Words**

**Opening Music** Here Comes the Sun by the Beatles

**Chalice Lighting** Rev. Vanessa Rush

**Covenant**

*English: Love is the spirit of this congregation and service is its law.*

*This is our great covenant: 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.*

**Offering/Offertory**

**Deepening Music #1002** Comfort Me; Words, Music: Mimi Bornstein-Dob

**Candles of Community**

**Stones of Reflection**

**Pastoral Response** Shine and Shadow, Adapted by Rev. Kathleen  
McTigue

**Wisdom Story** 3 Souls Forever Changed by Alessandra Diaz

**Heritage** Dorothea Dix

**Hope** UU Mental Health Network and Barbara Meyers

**Reading** "'Hope" is the Thing with Feathers' Emily Dickinson

**Further Deepening Music** We Are Made of Rain; Music and Words by  
RevAmy Carol Webb, presented by Gary Gonzalez

**Message** Embodying Resilience: Navigating the Highs and Lows;  
Linda Lathroum, Ph.D., MT-BC

**Closing Music #1021** Lean on Me; Words and Music: Bill Withers

**Closing Words**

**Extinguishing the Chalice**

**Announcements**

**Invite to Hospitality**

**Shine On /Music Reprise**



# River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation

[temp.riverofgrassuu.org](http://temp.riverofgrassuu.org)

River of Grass UU Congregation is on FaceBook.

*Unsubscribe* - If you do not wish to receive this weekly email,  
please contact the office and  
you will be removed.

*Announcements wishing to be sent out in this weekly  
congregation-wide newsletter should be received  
by noon Wednesday.*

*All announcements will pertain to congregational life  
and affiliated groups and and will be for activities or  
events occurring within two weeks.*

*Outside groups and individuals, wishing to use this  
vehicle of congregation-wide communication, must  
have the approval of the President.*

Steve Jens-Rochow, Editor  
[stevejensrochow@gmail.com](mailto:stevejensrochow@gmail.com)

