

Celebrating 27 Years

Jon Kitner/SJ-R

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 19, 2026

Sunday Service February 22, 2026

Monthly Worship Theme: Embodying Resilience

The Dao of Rocky Balboa

Rev. Dr. Arthur Jones

UU Congregation of Ft. Myers

In my not-so-humble opinion, virtually anything and everything can potentially serve as an inspiration for a sermon. Such inspiration can come from a poem, a short story, a Bible verse, an episode of a TV show, a movie, a set of song lyrics, a statement from a thought leader, or even a wise piece of advice from a family member or a trusted friend. Rev Arthur Jones

Dr Jones draws upon personal experience and popular culture to discuss the concepts of resilience, reconciliation and resurrection and illustrates it with reflections on the character of Rocky Balboa, one of our cultures most popular icons.



JV Art

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



Powerful anti racist mural by UK artist Nathan Murdoch

This Sunday in our Faith Development program for
kids, we'll be continuing our anti-racism training.

Middlers will revisit ways
to combat bias and stereotyping.

Our Littles will take a look at how
some cultures honor their heritage by wearing
traditional clothing and how we can avoid
misappropriation of those cultures.

*For more information about our FD program for kids,
contact our Director, Karen Gonzalez at
religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org.*

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

riverofgrassuu.org

Flowing River Sangha:

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



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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.

email membership@riverofgrassuu.org
to RSVP and/or to offer to help.

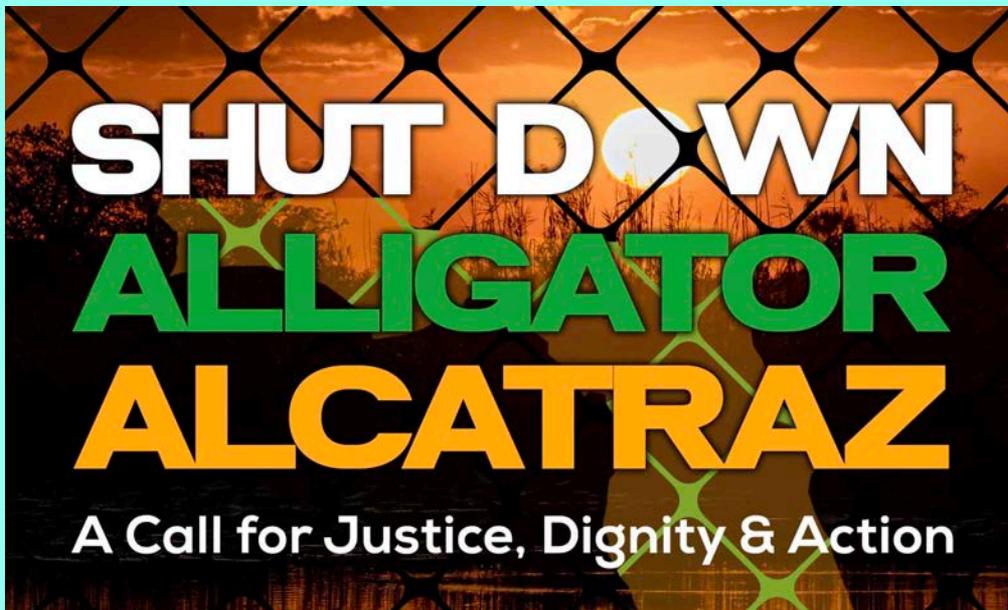
Saturday, Feb. 21, 5:00, River of Grass, A9

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

FEBRUARY IS



Please Touch Museum



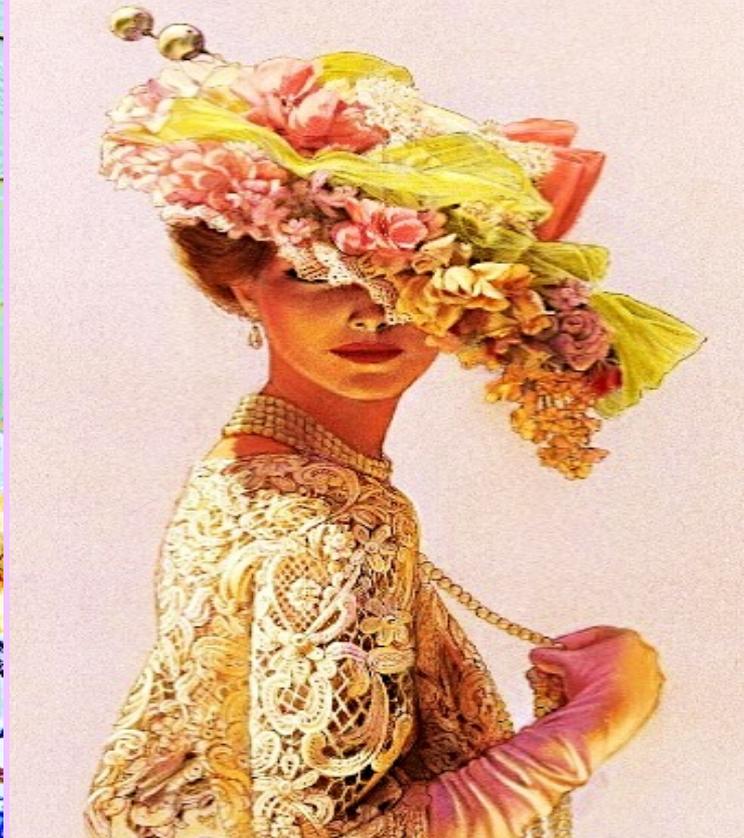
UU Miami

**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



Victorian Afternoon Tea Party

Auction Event at A-9
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 for tickets

Postponed until May 9



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



MUSIC
at The Mountain
April 12 - 17, 2026

- * Discover the magic of music with national touring songwriters
- * Improve your playing, singing, & writing
- * Community singing
- * Drumming
- * Concerts
- * Jam circles
- * Supportive environment

Featuring:

- Friction Farm
- Kila Heartwood
- Matt Watroba

Zenergy; Opening to Life Women's Retreat

April 9-12



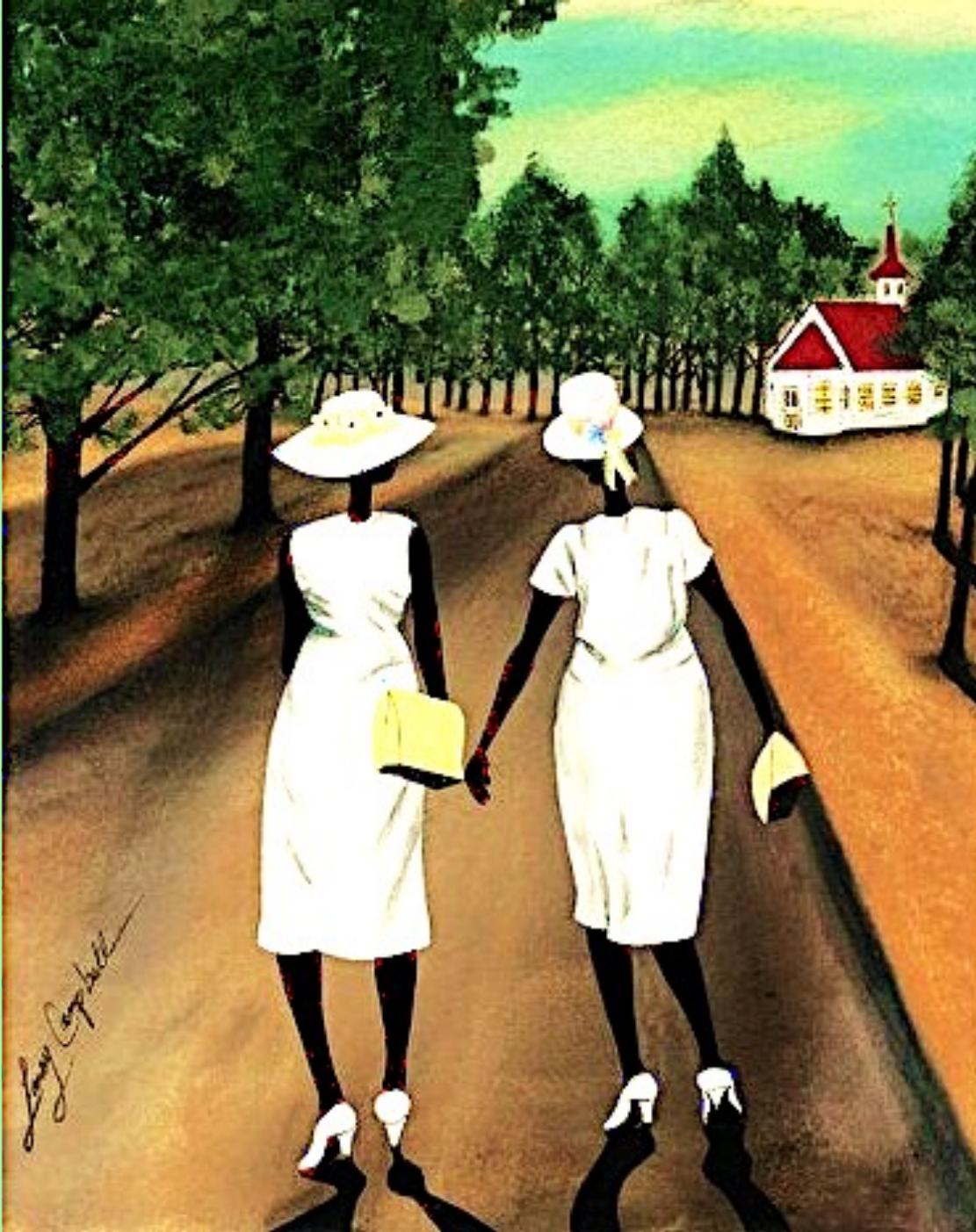
Zenergy: A Women's Retreat Opening to Life is a four-day mountain retreat for women ready to slow down, reconnect, and return to themselves. Led by Jenni Morris, this immersive experience blends gentle yoga, guided breathwork, nature walks, women's circles, and deeply restorative evening practices.

Set among sweeping mountain views and fresh air.

The Mountain

Retreat and Learning Center Highlands, NC

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



Ushers of the Church by Leroy Campbell

WE NEED SUNDAY MORNING USHERS!

Join the rotation and take a Sunday to help meet visitors, collect the offering, and count collected funds at the end of the service.

Just once every four weeks or so will help!

See Rita Cherubini or write to caring@riverofgrassuu.org



APRIL 18, 5-9

Long Key Nature Center

3501 SW 130th Ave, Davie

River of Grass

In Person Silent Auction

Our River:

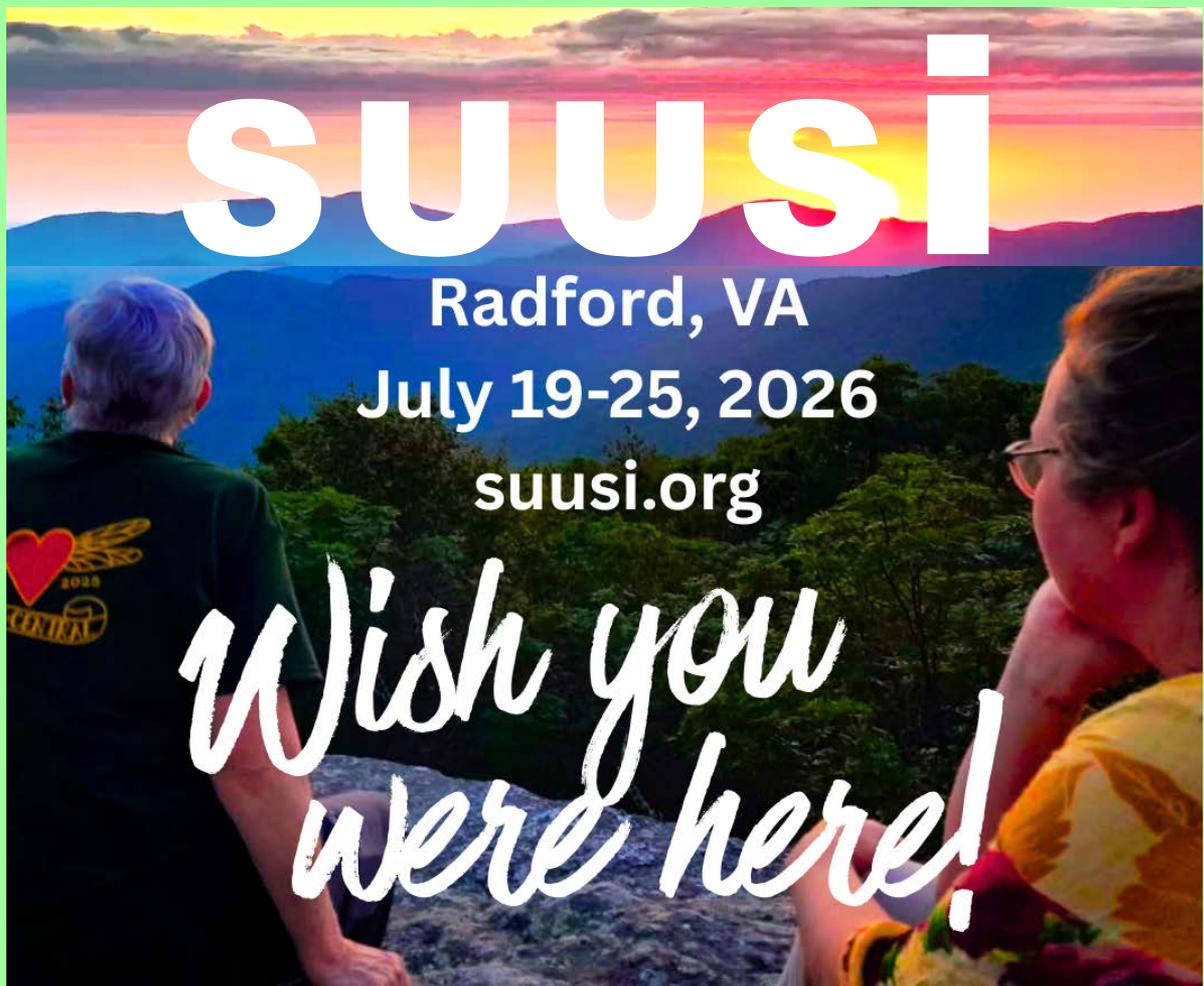
Flowing, Growing, our Inspiration

Committee forming: Help is needed:

- Getting Donations
- Catalogue
- Decoration, Baskets
- Food; Setup and Cleanup
- Music

See Elly or auction@riverofgrassuu.org





Looking for UU community fun this summer?

SUUSI

the Southeast UU Summer Institute;
a weeklong adventure with an intentional
community of UUs and kindred spirits,
is a good place to start!

This queer friendly and loving summer camp
welcomes all ages, races, singles, family groups,
and spiritual paths to meet other like-minded folks,
and build a week that lets you find joy through a
variety of activities; from hiking to board games
to nightlife to art to worship.

\$50 discounts:

- If you haven't been to SUUSI.
- If you haven't come back since the pandemic.
- If you are a regular and you bring someone new.

Reach out to Karen or Gary Gonzalez for a SUUSI
hug and lots of good intel –
they've been attending for over 30 years!



UPCOMING EVENTS

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 Topic: Community** Ken Bresnahan

Friday, February 20, 7pm A-9 **Drum Circle** Linda Lathroum, Andy Bunce

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

Sunday, February 22, 8:15am A-9 + Zoom **Flowing River Sangha** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, February 22, 10:30am A-9 + YouTube Livestream **Worship Service; Embodying Resilience: the Dao of Rocky Balboa** Rev Arthur Jones UU Congregation Ft. Myers

Sunday, February 22, 10:30am A-9 **Children's Faith Development** Karen Gonzalez

Wednesday, February 25, 7pm, Zoom only **bUUKies – Atmosphere** Kathy and Steve Jens-Rochow

Thursday, February 26, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Saturday, February 28, 11am A-9 + Zoom **Monthly Board Meeting** Leana Bresnahan

Saturday, February 28, 3 pm A-9 **Auction Victorian Afternoon Tea Party** Elly Keane

Sunday, March 1, 8:15am A-9 + Zoom **Flowing River Sangha** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, March 1, 10:30am A-9 + YouTube Livestream **Worship Service; Love is the Water that wears down the rock... APD Kickoff** Ken Bresnahan and Rita Cherubini

Sunday, March 1, 10:30am A-9 **Children's Faith Development** Karen Gonzalez



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>

Karen Gonzalez religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org

Andy Bunce andrewbunce@att.net

Leana Bresnahan president@riverofgrassuu.org
membership@riverofgrassuu.org

Steve Jens-Rochow. stevejensrochow@gmail.com

Ken Bresnahan mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org

Men's Group

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

Kathy Jens-Rochow. kjensrochow@gmail.com

Diane Lade dlade@bellsouth.net

Peter Meerwarth musicdirector@riverofgrassuu.org

Elly Keane ellykeane19@gmail.com

Order of Service for February 22, 2026

Morning Sing

#1002 Comfort Me; Words and Music: Mimi Bornstein-Doble

#1020 Woyaya; Words and Music: Loughy Amoa, et. al.

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

Welcome

Prelude At Last, by Alexiss Ffrench Played by Peter Meerwartth

Welcome Cont.

Call to Worship Greetings from Rev Dr Arthur Jones III

Opening Music #211 We Are Climbing Jacobs Ladder; Words and Music: African American Spiritual

Chalice Lighting Come to this Time of Worship by Rev Michelle Collins

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.

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.

Birthday Video

Wisdom Story The Motor City Reverend; Rev Dr Arthur Jones III

Special Event Saying Farewell to Marimar Leana

Singing the Children to Classes

Offering/Offertory

Deepening Music #86 Blessed Spirit of My Life; Words & Music:
Shelly Jackson Denham 1950-2014

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection / Pastoral Response

Musical Response #371, #381; Music: Genevan Psalter 1551,
Words: Isaac Watts 1674-1748

Testimonial APD Kickoff. Kati LeTourneau

Message Embodying Resilience: the Tao of Rocky Balboa; Rev Dr
Arthur Jones III

Closing Music #121 We'll Build a Land; Words: Barbara Zanotti,
Music: Carolyn McDade

Closing Words

Extinguishing the Chalice

Announcements / Invite to Hospitality

Shine On / Music Reprise



River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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



