



Jon Kitner/Spiritual Art

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, July 30, 2026

Sunday Service August 2, 2026

Monthly Worship Theme: Meet the Moment

How You Can Defend Our Rights and Liberties

Josh Kaufman, ACLU



From our wisdom story

“You Can Change the World” by Bernette G Ford:

“When we raise our voices whenever we see something that needs to be changed in the world, when we raise them against injustice, it inspires other people to do the same thing.”

Our guest speaker, Josh Kaufman, representing the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), will discuss ways we can work together to protect the rights and liberties we hold dear.

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.



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

On Zoom; link below;
Gather 8:15, start 8:30

In person meditation at River of Grass will
resume on August 30th.

Zoom meditation on Sunday mornings will continue
uninterrupted at the link provided. Mark Kmetzko will be
your Zoom guide for the next 5 weeks.

UU Kids will have fun all summer long!
While our regular Sunday Faith Development
program is on recess until September,
we will have crafts and activities
available for children and youth every Sunday.



For more information about our religious education
programs: faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org.

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

riverofgrassuu.org

Flowing River Sangha:

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



Rev Nick Sanchez

It is with great joy that the Board of Trustees announces that Rev Nick and his family have arrived in South Florida and are settling into their new home.

During the month of August, Rev Nick will be meeting with River of Grass congregants and leaders to get to know his new community and together make plans for the congregational year.

Currently, we expect Rev Nick to lead his first worship service at River of Grass on September 6th, but stay tuned to this newsletter for announcements.... his first worship service could come sooner than that!

With love and JOY! Leana



MEET THE MOMENT

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

MEET THE MOMENT

is a movement-wide framework helping
Unitarian Universalists analyze, discern,
strategize, reflect,
and take values-based action
in response to today's religious, cultural,
generational, and political realities.

Our Unitarian Universalist values have always pushed
our people to show up, to risk, to struggle for justice,
liberation, and radically inclusive communities
centered in Love.

The heart of our faith transcends cultural shifts and
political trends.

. At our best, Unitarian Universalists are both deeply
grounded in our core values and shared commitments
and nimble enough to respond to the
challenges and opportunities that
emerge in rapidly changing times.

www.uua.org/congregations/meet-the-moment



ACLU

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

DEFENDS THE RIGHTS OF ALL PEOPLE NATIONWIDE

With immigrant rights, trans justice, reproductive freedom, and more at risk, we're in courts and communities across the country to protect everyone's rights — and we need you with us.

- With 500 staff attorneys, the ACLU of today continues to fight government abuse & to vigorously defend individual freedoms in in the Bill of Rights.
- When biology teacher John T. Scopes was charged with violating a Tennessee ban on the teaching of evolution, the ACLU was there and secured celebrated attorney Clarence Darrow for his defense.
- In 1954, the ACLU joined forces with the NAACP to challenge racial segregation in public schools. The resulting Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* ended the era of “separate but equal”.
- The ACLU challenged an Arkansas statute requiring that the biblical story of creation be taught as a “scientific alternative” to the theory of evolution. A federal court found the statue unconstitutional.

ACLU.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, July 30, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World**
Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Sunday, August 2, 8:15am, Zoom Only **Flowing River Sangha**

Sunday, August 2, 10:30am A-9 + YouTube Livestream **Worship Service; How You Can Defend Our Rights and Liberties**; Josh Kaufman, ACLU

Sunday, August 2, 10:30am A-9 **Children's Faith Development**

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

Sunday, August 2, 8:15am Zoom Only **Flowing River Sangha**

Sunday, August 2, 10:30am A-9 + YouTube Livestream **Worship – ACLU Service**; Robert Smith

Sunday, August 2, 10:30am A-9 **Children's Faith Development**

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

Worship Toddler Care at A-1, 2019



Carolyn Santangelo & Scott May

Mindfulness for Today's World

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82686665851?pwd=kF4kTZS0dA7mK3HM2FXXalsxV1bJX0.1>

Worship Service:

Gary Gonzalez Sangha

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

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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 elly.keane19@gmail.com

Order of Service for August 2, 2026

Morning Sing #361 Enter Rejoice and Come In; Words and Music:
Louise Ruspini

#1017 We Are Building a New Way; Words & Music: Martha Sendefer
Oh, Let Us Gather; Words and Music: RevAmy Carol Webb

Welcome

Prelude People Have the Power Words & Music by Patti Smith and
Fred Smith Performed by Cecilia Roy

Welcome Cont.

Call to Worship Promise that We Make by Rev. Gretchen Haley

Opening Music #318 We Would Be One; Words: Samuel Anthony
Wright Music: Jean Sibelius

Chalice Lighting Into the Circle by Rev. Dr. David Breeden

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.

Wisdom Story “You Can Change the Word” by Bernette G. Ford, art by
George Ford, read by Leana Bresnahan

Singing the Children to Classes

Offering/Offertory

Deepening Music There is More Love Somewhere: Words and Music:
African American Hymn

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection

Pastoral Response

Musical Response Voice Still & Small #391; Words & Music: John Corrado

Heritage and Hope

Message “How You Can Defend Our Rights and Liberties”
Josh Kaufman

Closing Music #1028 Fire of Commitment; Words by Mary Katherine
Morn and Jason Shelton, Music by Jason Shelton

Closing Words Affirmation of Hope by Loretta Williams

Extinguishing the Chalice “May We Go Forth” by Rev Tess Baumberger

Announcements / Invite to Hospitality

Shine On

Music Reprise “People Have the Power” by Patti Smith



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 and Art Director
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Sunny Vale Public Library

Board Meeting Highlights

From their June 27 Meeting: