

River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation
11850 W State Rd 84, Ste A9, Davie, FL 33325

WELCOME TO OUR RIVER OF GRASS FAMILY. WELCOME TO OUR WARMTH. WELCOME HOME!

River of Grass Weekly Update – May 2, 2024

The Ripple Effect: Living in Possibility!

*Each moment of wakefulness has so many gifts that offer energy and delight...
Even in moments of great danger, the direction of attention is a choice...
Great possibilities await us even if all we can see is the cliff before us...
Holding reality and possibility together is the holy, hope-filled work of humanity
If...we choose it, again and again, in love.*

- Samuel A Trumbore

May is our month of Possibility at River of Grass! This Sunday we'll explore what it means to live in possibility, to understand the power of doing small things here and now, and our faith's call to transform the world one ripple at a time. And all this including the music of Fleetwood Mac and the Grateful Dead!

Come as you are at 10:30 this Sunday morning – either in person at our new location in Davie (info below) or virtually on Zoom and Facebook Live. Come a bit before and we can chat prior to the service. We'll be watching for you!

In person at:

- **11850 W State Road 84, Suite A9, Davie, FL 33325** ([Click for Directions](#))
- Service will begin at **10:30 AM**
- Childcare will be provided.

Use the Zoom link below to gather with us virtually in Zoom. Catch us on Facebook live on our [Facebook page](#).

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Upcoming In-Person or Virtual Events - This Sunday:

Sunday, May 5, 2024 - 10:30 AM

River of Grass UU Congregation – “The Ripple Effect: Living in Possibility!” - Rev. Amy Carol Webb

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Faith Development for Kids and Youth:

This Sunday, in our Faith Development Program for Kids and Youth, we'll wrap up the 4th-6th grade OWL (Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education) program with lessons on Consent and Peer Pressure and Healthy Relationships. All other kiddos will enjoy a clip from the movie, "Field of Dreams" and dive into a discussion about dreams and heaven - Is heaven a place where dreams come true? What does it mean to "follow your dreams"? How does our UU faith help us think about these topics? For more information about our FD program, reach out to our director, Karen Gonzalez at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org.

Flowing River Sangha meditation on Sunday Mornings

The Flowing River Sangha meets on Sunday mornings at **8:30 AM via Zoom**. Come learn and practice the cultivation of present-moment awareness with an experienced meditator and group facilitator. Gary Gonzalez has been leading mindfulness meditation groups since 2014. Join us via Zoom at the following link: [Flowing River Sangha Zoom Link](#). We look forward to seeing you there. Peace.

**THE UU FELLOWSHIP OF BOCA
IS LOOKING FOR COUPLES TO
CELEBRATE THEIR LOVE IN A
COMMUNITY VOW RENEWAL**

**INTERESTED?
CONTACT
ADMIN@UUFBR.ORG**

*Sunday June 2 at
11:30 am*



**UU FELLOWSHIP OF BOCA
2601 ST ANDREWS BLVD.,
BOCA RATON**

Recognize Pride Month and Renew Your Wedding Vows at UUFBR 🏳️‍🌈💕💕💕

Every year, the month of June is recognized as Pride Month to honor the contributions to society made by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and other people of diverse sexualities and genders (LGBTQ+). **On Sunday, June 2, 2024, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton (UUFBR)** offers a unique and heartfelt experience for same-sex couples and their opposite-sex allies. UUFBR invites LGBTQ+ couples to celebrate their love by participating in a non-denominational mass wedding vow renewal ceremony.

The vow renewal ceremony provides a moment of romance and recommitment as UUFBR recognizes Pride Month. As we celebrate our LGBTQ+ community, we reaffirm the rights of every person to live free from discrimination and persecution based on who they are or who they love. This open and inclusive event encourages all couples, regardless of their background, to join in the celebration of love and unity before the beloved community.

The Reverend Kathy Tew Rickey, interim minister for UUFBR, expresses her enthusiasm, "I will always hold dear the memory of standing outside the Pittsford, New York Town Hall in the Summer of 2011. I was holding dozens of red roses and my calling cards. The roses I offered to same-sex couples in celebration as they emerged, beaming with marriage licenses in hand. With my calling card, I offered to officiate their wedding ceremony pro bono. I performed five same-sex weddings that summer, all joyous occasions."

The struggle for LGBTQ+ civil rights started with the Stonewall Riots in 1969. Same-sex marriage has been an important milestone because a legal marriage provides over 1,000 rights, protections, and benefits to spouses. Thus, Unitarian Universalists have understood that marriage equality is the inherent right of every person."

Today, our Unitarian Universalist principles call us to seek justice, equity, and compassion in human relations. Further, we are called to resist political barriers to marriage equality and LGBTQ+ rights in states like Florida. Our Fellowship in Boca Raton is welcoming to the LGBTQ+ community. Please join us in celebrating PRIDE and marriage equality with our "We Still Do" renewal of vows event. RSVP now to Rev. Kathy at ADMIN@UUFBR.ORG. **Schedule: 10:30 AM Sunday Service, 11:30 AM Wedding Vow Renewals, 12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM Coffee Service.**

Other Events:

Free "Mindfulness for Today's World" weekly online sessions:

Thursdays 6:00 - 7:00 pm for adults, [zoom link for Thursday at 6 pm](#)

For more information or to register contact Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com or Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com, or visit <http://www.insightinstitutellc.com/>

RoG Men's Group - We will meet tonight, Thursday, May 2nd. We will continue to meet **in person at 7:00 pm in Suite A9, 595 Park of Commerce:** The official address is 11850 SR 84, Suite A9, Davie, FL 33325 (GPS will get you to the 4-building complex. We're in the 1st Building, middle suite.) Our optional pre-meeting dinner will be at **Lester's Diner: 1393 NW 136th Ave, Sunrise, FL 33323.** We'll meet there at 5:30 pm. We are a lay-led group that looks to our members for discussion topics. All who identify as male are invited to join us! **Our next meeting is on May 2nd, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM,** in person or via [Zoom Meeting](#). **Our topic tonight: Humor.** If you're joining us for dinner, please email Ken Bresnahan, group facilitator so that he can coordinate space.) For questions: contact Ken; at mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org.

Full Moon Daughters - Greet the new day with the Full Moon Daughters this **Saturday morning, May 4,** at the end of Commercial Boulevard in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea. We will have a Sunrise Salutation celebration, watching the sun rise with song and chanting. Optional breakfast afterward. Plan to arrive about **6:15 - 6:30 am.** All women, girls, and those who are non-binary or identify as female are welcome. To sign up email: fullmoondaughters@riverofgrass.org.

Women's Group meets this **Sunday, May 5th at 7:00 pm**, both in person at the River and virtually.

The topic for this month's Women's Group is birth order. Can you guess a person's birth order by their behavior? Alfred Adler's birth order theory suggests that your personality is affected by the order in which you were born in your family. We've all heard the clichés. You might tell someone who's attention-seeking that they have "middle child syndrome." You might guess that someone is the oldest child because they boss everyone around. And then there is the only child.



Contact Kathy at womensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org for more info and the link.

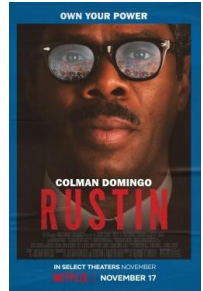
MUUies May title is "Rustin". It was directed by George C. Wolfe and starring Coleman Domingo. **We will meet on Wednesday, May 8th at 7:00 pm to discuss this mUUVie.** [River MUUVies Zoom Link](#)

"Rustin" is about Bayard Rustin, an advisor to Martin Luther King Jr., who dedicated his life to the quest for racial equality, human rights, and worldwide democracy. However, as an openly gay Black man, he is all but erased from the civil rights movement he helped build. Rustin organized the 1963 March on Washington where the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his famous speech "I Have a Dream."

Meeting ID: 844 1859 3114; Passcode: 537288;

One tap mobile: +16465588656,,84418593114# US (New York)

Please reply to Steve Jens-Rochow at mUUVies@riverofgrassuu.org if you will attend the Discussion.



LifeNet4Families - Last Chance to Volunteer at LifeNet this spring! The Postal Food Drive to benefit LifeNet4families will be on **Saturday, May 11th**. The times and locations are soon to be announced. Please contact Linda Morgan Crain at SSIGT@RiverofGrassUU.org to sign up and be informed. We will collect and sort all the food items brought in by the postal workers. Times are usually between 4:00 - 8:00 pm. In the past, we have been assigned the Plantation Post Office. Don't miss out!

Insight Institute is offering a free virtual "Self-Compassion and Self-Care Mindfulness Retreat Day" to be held on **May 11, 2024 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm** (lunch will be off Zoom for mindful eating and rest). Taught by certified mindfulness facilitators, this secular research-based program provides a chance to go deeper, grow, and cultivate kind awareness. [Get more information and register here.](#)

Self-Compassion and Self-Care Mindfulness Retreat Day

Saturday May 11, 2024 9 AM-3 PM (EDT) On-Line

A free Day of Mindfulness to nurture and strengthen your inner resources

- Self-Compassion Inspiration & Activities
- Gentle Movement and Yoga
- Breath Meditations & Body Scan Practice
- Practice Mindful Eating
- Compassion and Metta Meditations
- Creative Expression Practices
- Self-Care Ideas and Discussions

Insight Institute is hosting a free mindfulness retreat day via ZOOM. Register using the QR code to the right or email carolyn@insightinstituteilc.com Find out more at www.insightinstituteilc.com

BUUKies May Read – "Stay Cool; Why dark comedy matters in the fight against Climate Change" by Aaron Sachs. We will meet on Wednesday, May 15th at 7:00 pm to discuss this bUUK. [River BUUKies Zoom Link](#)

This short book shows how gallows humor can bolster us to confront global warming. We've all seen the headlines: oceans rising, historic heat waves, mass extinctions, climate refugees. It feels overwhelming. Stay Cool tells us to laugh our way forward. Human beings have used comedy to cope with difficult realities since the beginning of recorded time—the more dismal the news, the darker the humor. Using this rich tradition of dark comedy to investigate climate change, Aaron Sachs makes the case that gallows humor can cultivate endurance, persistence, and solidarity in the face of calamity.



Meeting ID: 926 5701 7488; Passcode: 746613

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,92657017488#,,,,*746613# US (Washington DC)

BUUKies will discuss "Stay Cool" on Wednesday, May 15th at 7:00 pm.

Please reply to Steve Jens-Rochow BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org if you will attend the Discussion.

Auction Event – An Enchanted Afternoon with Cecilia Roy!! Behold! Another opportunity to hear our delightful Cecilia Roy at an afternoon soiree of lovely music, food, and friends. Enjoy refreshments cheffed by our wonderful cooks and bakers including a beer and wine bar. This an Auction fundraiser, so come and enjoy the afternoon!

DATE: May 26, 2024

TIME: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

PLACE: River of Grass UU Congregation, 11850 W State Rd 84 Ste A9, Davie, FL 33325

COST: \$20/ticket

Please let Kristine Barkley know you are coming at krs.barkley@gmail.com. Bring a check or cash the day of the event or go to our [website payment portal for Auction Payments](#). Please indicate it is for Cecelia's concert.



***SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week:** Quick tips at the gas pump: Avoid spills by not topping off your gas tank. And tap the gas hose nozzle a few times and point the nozzle up before removing it from your tank to eliminate drips. Stopping even a few drips helps to protect our environment!*

To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website at riverofgrassuu.org/calendar.html. **River of Grass UU Congregation** is on [Facebook](#) (LIKE us) and [Twitter](#) (FOLLOW Us). For more information, please contact communityawareness@riverofgrassuu.org.

Unsubscribe - If you do not wish to receive this weekly email, please send an email and we will remove you from the mailing list, office@riverofgrassuu.org.

Announcements wishing to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org 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 the e-mail. Outside groups and individuals, wishing to use this vehicle of congregation-wide communication, must have the approval of the Board of Trustees.

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954.723.7877 - office@riverofgrassuu.org