

# River of Grass

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

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

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## River of Grass Weekly Update – May 9, 2024

### Getting Back to the Garden: Mother's Day Reconsidered

*Hey, Eve, go tell Adam, we got build a new garden  
We got to get workin' on the building  
Of a decent home for all God's children.  
Shalom, Pacem in Terris, Mir, Shanti, Salaam, Hey Wa.*

- Pete Seeger

In this month of Possibility at River of Grass, we reconsider Mother's Day – the real one, rather than the hearts-and-flower one we're more familiar with, and what our responsibility is to take its teachings to build the world a new way. Join us in reflection and revolution, including a musical classic from Unitarian Pete Seeger!

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/u/ab3E9Jrtb9>

#### *Upcoming In-Person or Virtual Events - This Sunday:*

**Sunday, May 12, 2024 - 10:30 AM**

**River of Grass UU Congregation** – “Getting Back to the Garden: Mother's Day Reconsidered” - Rev. Amy Carol

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

***Faith Development for Kids and Youth:***

This Sunday in our Children's Faith Development program, our kiddos will participate in a lesson about our UU Value of Pluralism with a special nod to Mother's Day and the idea that we are all "mothered" and nurtured by many things, people, and experiences. They'll answer the question of what it means to be a pluralistic faith by exploring how our UU faith, like us, is fed by many roots, some sacred, some secular, and some scientific. For more information about our FD program, contact our Director of Faith Development at [ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org).

### *Article II Sessions - Amplifying the Charge*

In preparation for the next stage of the UUA bylaws adoption process, and with a desire to extend opportunities for adult faith formation, and to support congregations to deepen their personal, communal, and denominational grounding, we are offering a 2-session discussion series: **AMPLIFYING THE CHARGE**.

The first session is this **Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> after the service**, and the second one is on **Jun 2<sup>nd</sup> after service**. If you can't make it in person, we'll also be on Zoom. Just click the Zoom link or call the number below to join the meeting. We hope to see you there! Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91267195729>. Meeting ID: 912 6719 5729; One tap mobile: +13052241968,,91267195729# US.

### *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](mailto: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.

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](mailto:ADMIN@UUFBR.ORG).

**Schedule: 10:30 AM Sunday Service, 11:30 AM Wedding Vow Renewals, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM Coffee Service.**

*Postal Drive for LifeNet4Families – This Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>*

River of Grass is participating in two shifts on **Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>; 4:00 - 6:00 pm and 6:00 - 8:00 pm. The Postal Food Drive will be at the Plantation Post Office, 7850 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Plantation.** Volunteers will unpack the donated food brought in by postal carriers and pack it up for distribution to LifeNet4Families. Please reply to Linda at [SSJGT@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:SSJGT@RiverofGrassUU.org) with your shift, your name, your contact information, and your T-shirt size. "Love is the spirit of this Congregation, and Service is its law..."



**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](mailto:Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com) or [Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com](mailto:Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com), or visit <http://www.insightinstitutellc.com/>

**River of Grass Spiritual Artists Open Studio** - The River's Spiritual Artists Group will meet at **2:00 pm this Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**, at River of Grass (11850 W State Road 84 Ste A9, Davie, FL). Bring your art or craft supplies and we will create together. If your process is messy, bring a drop cloth. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Jens-Rochow at [SpirtualArt@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:SpirtualArt@riverofgrassuu.org).



**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.](#)

A poster for the "Self-Compassion and Self-Care Mindfulness Retreat Day". The background is a serene landscape with mountains and a blue sky. The text is in a mix of blue and white fonts. It includes the title, date, time, and a list of activities. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner.

**Self-Compassion and Self-Care Mindfulness Retreat Day**

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

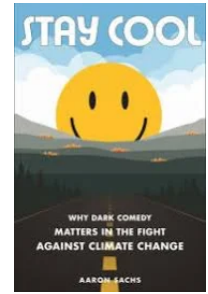
A free Day of Mindfulness to nurture and strengthen your inner resources

- 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@insightinstitutellc.com](mailto:carolyn@insightinstitutellc.com) Find out more at [www.insightinstitutellc.com](http://www.insightinstitutellc.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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.**

Please reply to Steve Jens-Rochow [BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org) if you will attend the Discussion.

**RoG Men's Group – We will meet next Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.** We are meeting **in person or Zoom at 7:00 pm in Suite A9, 595 Park of Commerce:** The official address is 11850 SR 84, Suite A9, Davie, Fl 33325. 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 16<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:30 PM,** in person or via [Zoom Meeting](#). 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](mailto:mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org).

### **Sunshine Cluster Presents: Worried about threats to democracy?**

Are you concerned about our imperiled Democracy? Worried about dramatically increasing threats to our Democracy? Then come to the Sunshine Cluster's Justice **Saturday on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.** Dr. Dale Anderson will present "Your Personal Plan to Help Save Our Democracy." His interest in "fascism" and authoritarianism began in 2016 following the presidential election. He has presented nationally and locally on a variety of subjects including "How Fascism Works", "HR-1: The For-The-People Act", and "The Global Rise of Authoritarianism."

Dr. Anderson sits on the national UU Social Justice Board (our UU justice voice in Washington, DC) and on its democracy action team. He will talk about forming local "democracy action teams" and what each of us can do to prevent the loss of our essential freedoms.

**To register for Justice Saturday email your name and congregation or organization to [sunshinecluster2023@gmail.com](mailto:sunshinecluster2023@gmail.com) for a Zoom link.**

Also, Representative Anna V. Eskamani will speak. She is the daughter of working class Iranian immigrants; she is the first Iranian-American to be elected and reelected with large majorities to the Florida Legislature. She will discuss updates from the just concluded legislative session and she will speak about the next steps and action items for folks to do after this presentation and for the upcoming election.

Rep. Anna Eskamani was recently inducted into Miami's CLEO Institute's Leadership Circle as a Climate Hero, honored for tackling the climate crisis.

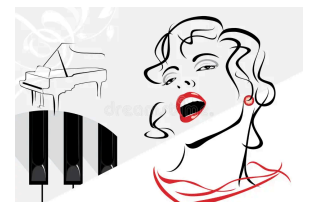
**Auction Event – An Enchanted Afternoon with Cecilia Roy!!** Behold! Another opportunity to hear our delightful Cecilia Roy at an afternoon soiree of lovely music, food and friends. Enjoy refreshments cheffed by our wonderful cooks and bakers including a beer and wine bar. This an Auction fundraiser,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

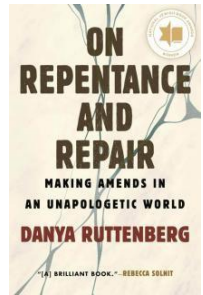


Please let Kristine Barkley know you are coming at [krsbrakley@gmail.com](mailto:krsbrakley@gmail.com). Bring a check or cash the day of the event or go to our [website payment portal for Auction Payments](#). Please indicate it is for Cecelia's concert.

## **Unitarian Universalist Association Common Read 2023-24: *On Repentance and Repair* by Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg**

When we do a UU Common Read together, we share in reflection, learning, and action. A UU Common Read can take us on a powerful journey into what it means to be human and accountable in a world filled with both pain and joy. Karen and Gary Gonzalez will lead us through a **3-session discussion on May 29<sup>th</sup>, Jun 5<sup>th</sup>, and Jun 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 9:00 pm** at River of Grass ([11850 W State Road 84 Ste A9, Davie, FL](#)). RSVP to [ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org).

You can purchase [On Repentance and Repair](#) by Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg from [InSpirit, the UUA Book and Gift Shop](#). An audiobook, narrated by Shelly Sheckell, is available from [Libro.FM](#) and other sources.



This Common Read offers a glimpse into one of our faith's foundational sources, Judaism. Readers explore the call to accountability in our personal and public lives as we follow Rabbi Ruttenberg into a framework for making amends offered by the 12<sup>th</sup>-century Jewish physician and scholar, Maimonides.

*On Repentance and Repair* invites readers of any faith to explore practices for accountability that can bring us into wholeness and make a difference in our personal, our community, and our national relationships.

***SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Reduce your AC bill by closing blinds and curtains when you are leaving your home in the morning, especially any facing east or west. This will block some of the sun's heat that enters your home, reducing the energy needed to cool your home.***

To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website at [riverofgrassuu.org/calendar.html](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:office@riverofgrassuu.org).

*Announcements wishing to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to [WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto: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.*

**River of Grass UU Congregation**  
**11850 W State Rd 84, Ste A9, Davie, FL 33325**  
**954.723.7877 - [office@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:office@riverofgrassuu.org)**

## The Sunshine Cluster Presents

Formerly the Southeast Florida Unitarian Universalist Cluster



# Threats to our Democracy and to our Civil Liberties in Florida

Justice Saturday, May 18, 2024  
2pm on Zoom; Free



Dale Anderson, MD, MBA, will present "Your Personal Plan to Help Save Our Democracy." His interest in "fascism" and authoritarianism began in 2016 following the presidential election. He has presented nationally and locally on a variety of subjects including "How Fascism Works", "HR-1: The For-The-People Act", and "The Global Rise of Authoritarianism."

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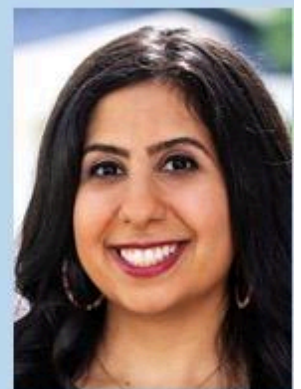
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Rep. Anna Eskamani was recently inducted into Miami's CLEO Institute's Leadership Circle as a Climate Hero, honored for tackling the climate crisis.

A progressive Democrat, Anna is known across the state as a leader who is un beholden, unbossed, and committed to the people of Florida.

**Rep. Anna Eskamani**



To register for Justice Saturday email your name and congregation or organization to [sunshinecluster2023@gmail.com](mailto:sunshinecluster2023@gmail.com) for a Zoom link.