

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 30, 2024



Sunday, June 2nd

Flower Communion

Remember to bring a
flower to share!

Loosen, Baby: Flowers for Ferdinand ... and You Annual Flower Ceremony

*All the other little bulls would run and jump
and butt their heads together, but not Ferdinand.
He like to sit just quietly and smell the flowers.*

- Munro Leaf

One hundred and one years ago in June 1923, amidst a world of despair and destruction, the Rev Norbert Čapek held the first Flower Ceremony with his congregation in Prague, Czechoslovakia to celebrate beauty and joy in the power of loving community.

Over eighty years ago, with World War 2 brewing, the author Munro Leaf gave us the story of Ferdinand, a peace-loving little bull who didn't want to fight, but smell the flowers.

How might these two threads be woven together in our own time?

This Sunday we, too, gather in beauty, love, and delight with our own annual Flower Ceremony — while we welcome new members and carry on our traditions of hope and resilience in our own troubled world.

Folks joining us on zoom or facebook, be sure to bring a flower into your screen for the celebration!

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, June 2, 2024 - 10:30 AM

River of Grass UU Congregation – “Loosen, Baby: Flowers for Ferdinand ... and You. Annual Flower Ceremony” -

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

Faith Development for Kids and Youth:

This Sunday, our children and youth will participate in our Annual Flower Communion worship. There will be no formal classes for kids during worship.

Do you have a special talent, skill or game that you'd like to share with our kiddos this summer? Sign up to lead a lesson on your Sunday of choice. See Diane Lade (FD Chair) or contact 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.

Article II Sessions – Amplifying the Charge



This Sunday, after service, we will present a second session about the proposed Article II Amendment of the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations) bylaws. This week we will learn about Unitarian Universalist Association governance as outlined in Article II of our bylaws and about the proposed changes. We will also watch a short section of the video in the session. We invite you to watch the full video in advance if that will be helpful in your process. www.youtube.com/watch?v=LREw7JpoRSI Please join us to learn more about what's happening in your UUA. Questions? Contact Kathy Jens-Rochow at president@riverofgrassuu.org. 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.

Upcoming Organizational Changes

Our Office Administrator, Sandy, will relocate with her family to Central Florida. To ensure a smooth transition and continuity of operations, the leadership team has met with Sandy and developed a remote office hybrid plan. Beginning July 1, Sandy will work in the office on alternating weeks, specifically Tuesdays through Thursdays, and will work remotely from home during the remaining time. We will make arrangements to address any on-site needs for Sandy's remote weeks and assess the efficacy of this plan at intervals beginning August 1, to make any necessary adjustments for the well-being of all.

For any inquiries or matters requiring her attention, please email Sandy at office@riverofgrassuu.org. Should you need an in-person meeting, kindly schedule an appointment by emailing Sandy at the same address.

We are grateful for the collaboration and resilience of all as River of Grass continues to evolve in a changed and changing world with ingenuity and integrity.

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/>

Women's Group – The Women's Group meeting scheduled for this Sunday, June 2nd, **has been canceled** due to the ongoing health issues many of us are facing. We will see you next month, on Sunday, July 7th. Our definition of "women" is expansive and includes anyone who feels they belong in this space, including those who identify as nonbinary. The purpose of this group is to deepen our personal connections through shared discussions. Listening to each person's experience. For more information or the link, contact Kathy Jens-Rochow at womensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org.

RoG Men's Group – We will meet next Thursday, Jun 6th. We are meeting **in person or via 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 Jun 6th 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.

MUUies – Junel title is "Killer of the Flower Moon". Co-written, produced, and directed by Martin Scorsese. **We will meet on Wednesday, Jun 12th at 7:00 pm to discuss this mUUvie.** [River MUUVies Zoom Link](#)

The Film is a 2023 American epic Western crime drama film starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert DeNiro, and Lily Gladstone, it is set in 1920s Oklahoma. It focuses on a series of murders of Osage members and relations in the Osage Nation after oil was discovered on tribal land. The tribal members had retained mineral rights on their reservation, but a corrupt local political boss sought to steal the wealth.



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.

BUUKies June Read - "Yellowface" by R. F. Kuang. We will meet on Wednesday, Jun 19th at 7:00 pm to discuss this bUUK. [River BUUKies Zoom Link](#)

The BUUK is a satire of racial diversity in the publishing industry as well as a metafiction about social media, particularly Twitter. June Hayward, an unsuccessful young author, finds herself the only witness to the death of her former classmate and friend, Athena Liu, a Chinese-American author who is an industry darling. She decides to position herself as the best friend of the author and begins to edit and re-write Athena's manuscript. As she changes more and more of the draft, June begins to feel ownership over the novel and decides to publish it as her original work.



Meeting ID: 926 5701 7488; Passcode: 746613

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

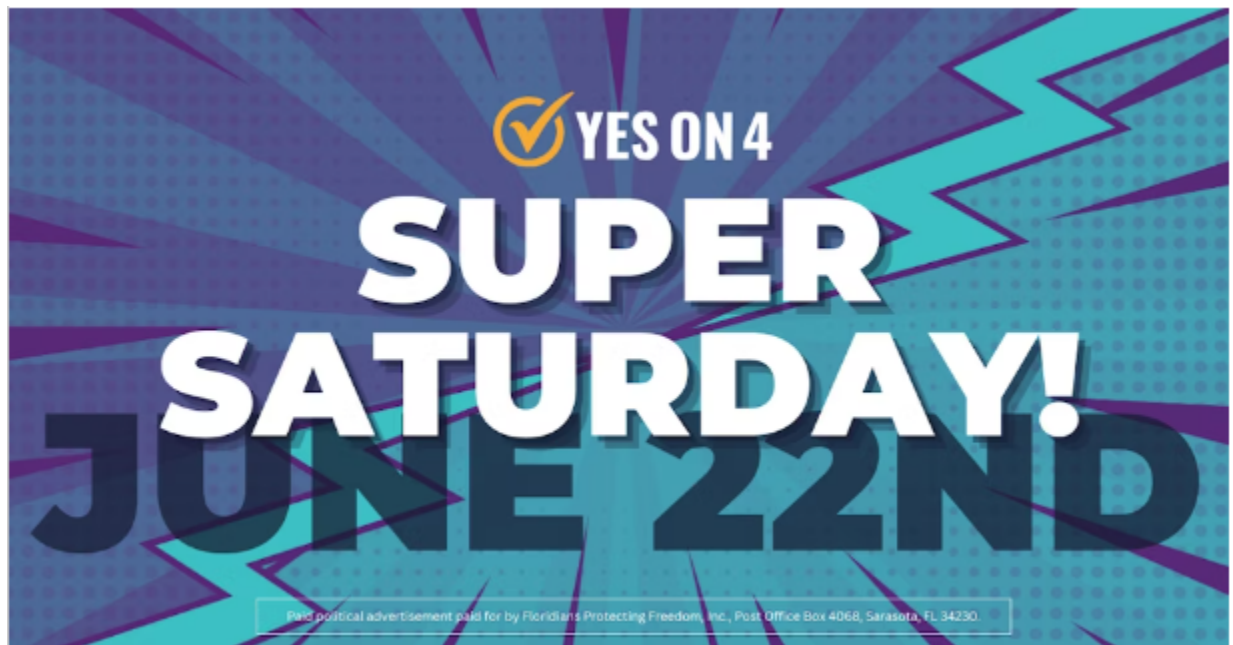
BUUKies will discuss "Home Front" on Wednesday, Jun 19th at 7:00 pm.

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

Yes on 4! Social Justice Action – River of Grass has signed up to be a host site for monthly trainings and gatherings in support of restoring the rights of pregnant people in Florida by passing Amendment 4*.

On June 22nd, we will need hospitality and childcare volunteers as well as people participating in the outreach training, which runs from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Sign up by contacting Karen Gonzalez at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org or on the clipboard during hospitality time on Sunday.

*The following language would be added to the state constitution: "Except as provided in Article X, Section 22, no law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider:"[1]



SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Install a 'smart' thermostat, then set the temperature by time of day and day of the week. There is no need to keep your house chilled when you are at work or other recurring events. Adjusting it by 3-5 degrees can make a big difference in your utility bill.

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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