



Celebrating
26 Years

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, October 16, 2025



Avigail Sapir Compassion;
Hug Your Inner Child

Sunday Service October 19, 2025

Cultivating Compassion: **Meeting the Moment with** **Compassion**

“Pray with your feet.”

~Frederick Douglas

There is a hierarchy of responses when we encounter suffering:

Pity says,

“I see your pain.”

Sympathy says,

“I understand your pain.”

Empathy says,

“I feel your pain.”

Compassion says,

“I am with you in your pain **and I will help.**”

In this moment when we are feeling downtrodden by the constant barrage of tragedy and trauma and struggle, our only way through is with Compassion.

Let us come together to be uplifted by a faith that calls us to be agents of love, answering the call of justice, and building a new way...

in whatever capacity we can muster.

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** (address below) or **virtually on Facebook live stream** (link below).

- 11850 W State Road 84, Suite A-9, Davie, FL 33325
 - Children's & youth's Faith Development at 10:30.
- Childcare provided.

This Sunday our children and young adults are participating
in our All-Generations Worship Service.

For more information about our programs for
children and adults, contact our Director,

Karen Gonzalez at religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org.



Flowing River Sangha with Gary Gonzalez
every Sunday morning in A-9 + Zoom link
below. Gather 8:30, start 8:45.



We come together to lament with, celebrate with,
and care for one another in our community and our world.
Love is not only at the center but also the opening that
invites us to lament, celebrate, and care.

Our 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.
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.

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



Spiritual Art

Will continue, perhaps finish,
painting our unfinished
Love Is At The Center Banners

Saturday, October 18, at 2:00 to 4:00 pm
A-9

All are welcome

Contact Steve Jens-Rochow
spiritualart@riverofgrassuu.org



Caring Committee Well Wishers Connection Team

Would you like to be a River of Grass
Well-Wisher volunteer?

We'll be sending cards to our beloved Members
and Friends for Birthdays, Cheer,
Condolences and Hope.

As we begin this ROG year, the Caring Team is
eager to better keep in touch with our Members
and Friends at The River!

Not everyone is at the worship service to see the
birthday video honoring their special day.

Please see Rita Cherubini or
Kristine Barkley or write
to caring@riverofgrassuu.org for lots of ideas
we'd like to share with you.

SAVE THE DATE!



HALLOWEEN
SPOOKTACULAR!
TO BENEFIT



OCTOBER 25TH

6-9PM

OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC

Hunger is Scary!

Wear your spookiest outfit & join us for a special Halloween fundraiser for LifeNet 4 Families on October 25th, 6-9pm in A-9.

Bring canned goods to enter & cash for raffle tickets.

We have many fun items, including a "scary-amount-of-lottery tickets"!

Bring a spooky dish or beverage to share and be prepared for some spooky silliness!

Reach out to Karen Gonzalez at religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org to help bring something or do something. Many goblins make light work!



No Thrones

No Crowns

No Kings

No Authoritarianism

No Autocrat

No Disregarding the
Constitution

No Anti-Immigrant

Join River of Grass' Justice Seekers at

NO KINGS II

Saturday, October 18; 10 am – 12 noon

Hollywood Young Circle

1 N Young Circle, Hollywood 33022

Meet-up for Carpooling 9 am at A-9

Contact Karen Gonzalez if you plan to attend

uugonzo1@gmail.com

About 25 River Justice Seekers were at
No Kings last Spring.

Peaceful • United • Visible

Unitarian Universalists say,

No Kings for us!

Not on our land.

Not in our White House.

No dictators, NEVER in our country!



**SHUT DOWN
ALLIGATOR
ALCATRAZ**

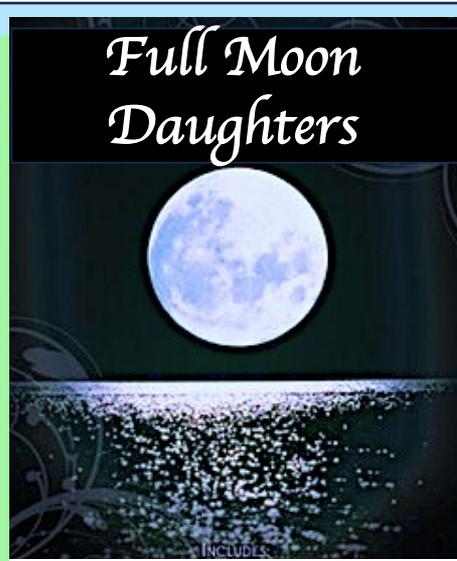
A Call for Justice, Dignity & Action

**Big Cypress National Preserve
Interfaith Prayer Vigil
To Shut Down Alligator Alcatraz
Every Sunday 5pm**

Meet at A-9 on Sunday at 3:15pm to carpool.

With a moving prayer, Betty Osceola of the Miccosukee Indian Tribe of FL will call for us to come together in unity to care for the earth and all her creatures.

justiceseekers@riverofgrassuu.org



Join the Full Moon Daughters on a trip to the

REDLAND
INTERNATIONAL
ORCHID
FESTIVAL®



after worship service this Sunday, Oct. 19.

For nearly thirty years, the Redland International Orchid Festival® has given attendees the opportunity to enjoy orchids in a relaxing open-air environment.

It's rare to avoid taking one or two home!

Some of us then will head over to Alligator Alcatraz immigrant detention center for the weekly prayer vigil.

This is a co-ed event; ALL are welcome.

Carpooling may be available.

Travel time is estimated at 60 to 90 minutes each way.

Contact Karen Gonzalez if you would like to attend:

uugonzo1@gmail.com

Fruit And Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave, Redland, FL 33031

<https://redlandorchidfestival.com/>



Beating Hearts Drum Circle

Friday, October 24, 7pm in A-9

Bring your drum or enjoy one of ours

Let's drum out the stresses of the days behind
and find new rhythms for days to come

Andy Bunce secretary@riverofgrassuu.org





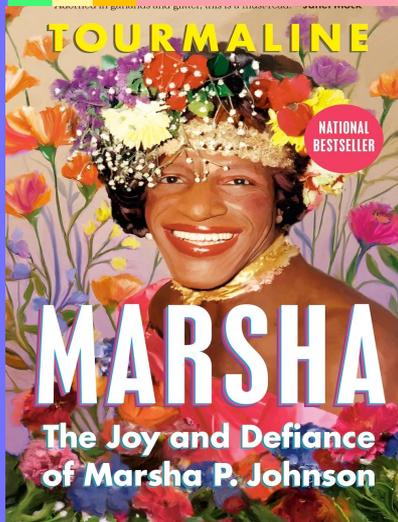
OCTOBER is LGBTQ+ History Month

The LGBTQ+ community is the only community worldwide that is not taught its history.

“LGBTQ+ History Month sends an important message to our nation’s teachers, schools, and youth about the vital importance of recognizing and exploring the role of LGBTQ+ people in US history.” *George Chauncey*



uua.org/inspirit

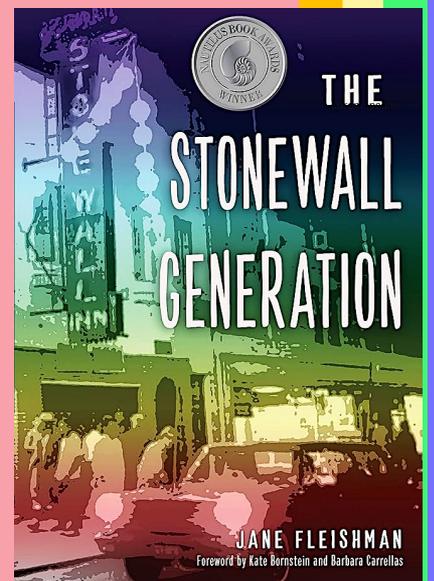


MARSHA by Tour Maline

The Joy and Defiance of Marsha Johnson
Marsha P Johnson was the leader of the Stonewall Riots.

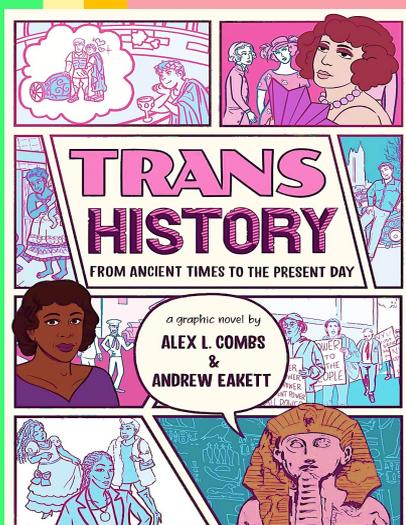
THE STONEWALL GENERATION

By Jane Fleishman
LGBTQ Elders on Sex, Activism & Aging



TRANS HISTORY

From Ancient Times to the Present Day
A graphic novel by Aalex L Combs and Andrew W Eakett



SUNSHINE CLUSTER

And the



Southern Region

Present



Leadership that Meets the Moment

Feeling the weight of these times?

Or maybe you're just wondering how to stay positive?

Our program is designed to help you:

Recharge with integrity and courage

Gain tools for today's congregational challenges

Build relationships in Florida

Reconnect with the heart of why we lead

*Whether you're on the board, greet at the door,
run the tech,*

*or show up faithfully behind the scenes—
this space is for you.*

Facilitated by Natalie Briscoe, Lead, Southern Region, UUA

Sat., Nov. 8, 2025 1-4 pm Zoom; Free

To register & receive the link send your name & congregation to sunshinecluster2023@gmail.com



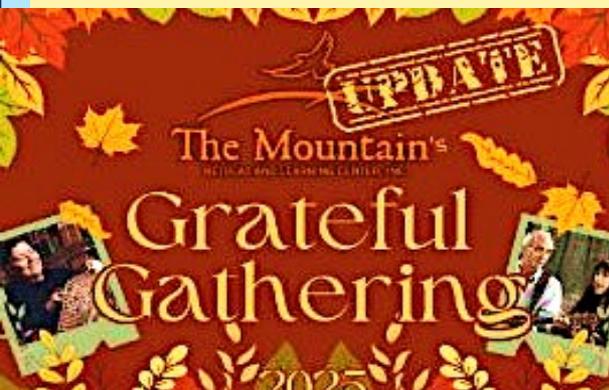
3872 Dillard Road, Highlands, NC

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

A retreat, camp, and learning center that celebrates Unitarian Universalist principles, inspires people of all ages, transforms lives, builds community and creates a more compassionate and sustainable world.

OurSong is dedicated to performing high quality music while celebrating our unique gay and lesbian experience & our evolving place in the world.

November 7-9, 2025

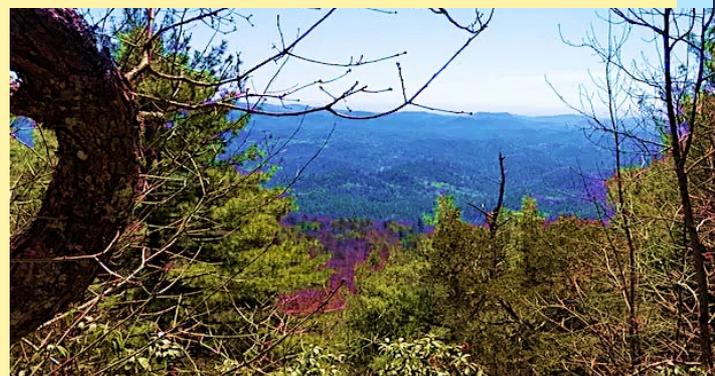


Grateful Gathering

Join to acknowledge and celebrate the gratitude in our lives. Even through challenging times, there is much to be grateful for. **November 26-30, 2025**

The Path Within Retreat

A Sacred Weekend of Realignment, Stillness, and Inner Remembering
When life gets loud, the soul whispers
November 14-16, 2025



The Calm Within: A Clarity of Mind Mahamudra Meditation Retreat

These sublime meditations are effective methods for improving concentration and counteracting negative mental habits that result in stress, anxiety and fear.

December 5-7, 2025



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, October 16, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Saturday, October 18, 10am-12noon **No Kings Protest** Young Circle, Hollywood; Justice Seekers; Karen Gonzalez

Saturday, October 18, 2pm A-9 **Spiritual Art Banner Paining** Steve Jens-Rochow

Sunday, October 19, 8:30am A-9 + Zoom **Flowing River Sangha** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, October 19, 10:30am A-9+YouTube Livestream **Worship Service; Multigenerational Service Cultivating Compassion** Karen Gonzalez

Sunday October 19, 12-4pm **Full Moon Daughters Redlands International Orchid Festival** Karen Gonzalez

Thursday, October 23, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, October 23, 7pm ,A-9 + Zoom **Men's Group** Ken Bresnahan

Saturday, October 25, 6-9pm A-9 **Halloween Spooktacular** Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, October 26, 8:30am A-9 + Zoom **Flowing River Sangha** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, October 26, 10:30am A-9 **Children's Faith Development** Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, October 26, 10:30am A-9+ YouTube Livestream **Worship Service; Work is Love Made Visible** Steve Jens-Rochow

Wednesday, October 29, 7pm Zoom **bUUKies** Rental House by Weike Wang Steve and Kathy Jens-Rochow

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

Carolyn Santangelo & Scott May

Mindfulness for Today's World

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/551319571?pwd=TDdRdmhML3FoVVEvbNkRXRC9qRIJPQT09>

Flowing River Sangha We come together to lament with, celebrate with, and care for one another in our community and our world. Because we want to be here with one another, Love is not only at the center but also the opening that invites us to lament, celebrate, and care.

Worship Service:

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

Karen Gonzalez religiouseducatort@riverofgrassuu.org

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

Steve Jens-Rochow. spiritualart@riverofgrassuu.org
mUUvies@riverofgrassuu.org
bUUkies@riverofgrassuu.org

Ken Bresnahan mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org

Men's Group

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

Kathy Jens-Rochow. womensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org
worship@riverofgrassuu.org

Diane Lade fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org

Peter Meerwarth musicdirector@riverofgrassuu.org

Elly Keane auction@riverofgrassuu.org

Order of Service October 18, 2025

Morning Sing #361 Enter, Rejoice and Come In; Words & Music by Louise Respini

“Singing for Our Lives” by Holly Near

“ Oh, Let Us Gather” Words and Music. By RevAmy Carol Webb

Ringing of the Chimes

Prelude “The Power of Kindness” by MaMuse

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Words

Opening Hymn #348 “Guide My Feet” Words: Traditional; Music: Willis Lawrence James

Chalice Lighting

We light this chalice as we learn to hold both tenderness and strength.

May this flame illuminate the wisdom to

know when compassion calls us to offer comfort and

when it demands courageous action. Rev. Michelle Collins

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.

Offering/Offertory #1013 “Open My Heart” Words & Music by Henry S Flury

Wisdom Story “We Are the Builders!” by Deepa Iyer

Deepening Hymn #121 “We’ll Build a Land” Words: Barbara Zanotti; Music: Carolyn McDade

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection

Pastoral Response

Heritage and Hope

Message

Closing Music #1028 “The Fire of Commitment” Words: Mary Katherine Morn; Music: Jason Shelton

Closing Words

Extinguishing the Chalice

Announcements

Shine On

Invite to Hospitality

Music Reprise



To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website riverofgrassuu.org
River of Grass UU Congregation is on FaceBook.

For more information, please contact us at communityawareness@riverofgrassuu.org.

Unsubscribe - If you do not wish to receive this weekly email, please send an email to office@riverofgrassuu.org and you will be removed.

Announcements wishing to be sent out in this weekly congregation-wide newsletter should be e-mailed to WeeklyEmail@riverofgrassuu.org, 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.

president@riverofgrassuu.org

Steve Jens-Rochow, Editor
newsletter@riverofgrassuu.org

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Green Tip of the Week