



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, September 25, 2025

Sunday Service September 28, 2025



Belonging and Becoming: Widening Our Circle of Community

*“Belonging is not something given -
it is something we build, with open hands & open hearts.*

*Here, we practice a radical hospitality -
not of perfection, but of presence...where love is not
merely spoken but lived.”* Rev. Dr. David Breeden

This Sunday we celebrate the gift of belonging –
the joy of finding a spiritual home where each person is
valued and every voice matters.

Together, we honor our new members, whose presence
strengthens our shared journey, and we recommit
to building our congregation as a place of
love, justice, and hope.

Becoming a member means more than joining -
it means helping shape a vibrant, caring community
where all can thrive and where tomorrow’s seekers will
find a welcome waiting.

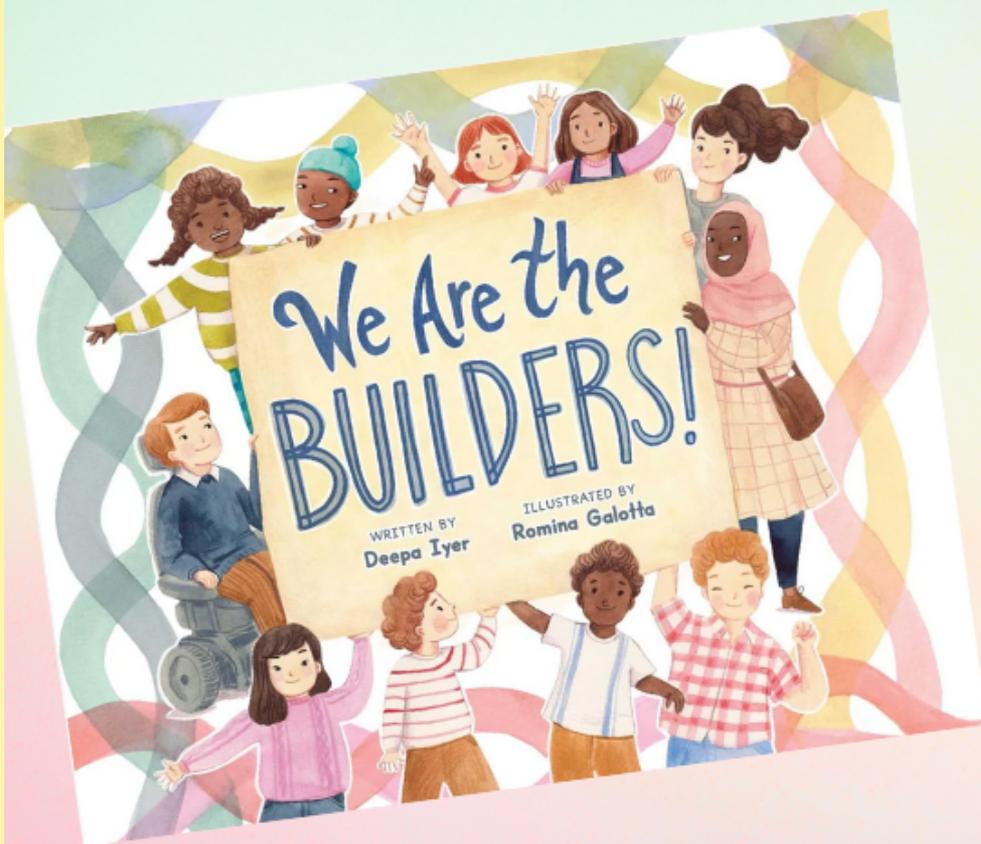
Our Mission

Nurture our spirits; love intentionally; create a just & sustainable world. 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.

Session 2 Sunday, September 28, 2025

*Introducing this year's UUA Common Read
for children and youth:*



*Join us this Sunday
as we explore the
ways that we can
work together to
make real change
in our communities.*

For more information about our FD program, contact Karen Gonzalez at faithdevelopment@RiverofGrassUU.org.

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.



STOP!

Don't go to Zoom on Sunday Morning
River of Grass will be Livestreaming
Sunday Worship
on



Link is below

Or go to Worship Live on our home page at
Riverofgrassuu.org

No more Zoom glitches
Much better sound quality
3 cameras

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChJNmoySFzsKskHmsjkZe2>



Let's support mental health together by walking together:

Join Linda Lathroum and
TEAM TsuNAMI.

**Saturday, October 4,
8am Check In
and Mental Health Fair
9:15am Walk Starts**

Nova Southeastern University
Alan Sherman Library
3100 Ray Ferrero Jr. Blvd.,
Davie, FL 33314

Meet at Allen Giese's NorthStar
Financial Planners tent.

It's more than a walk.

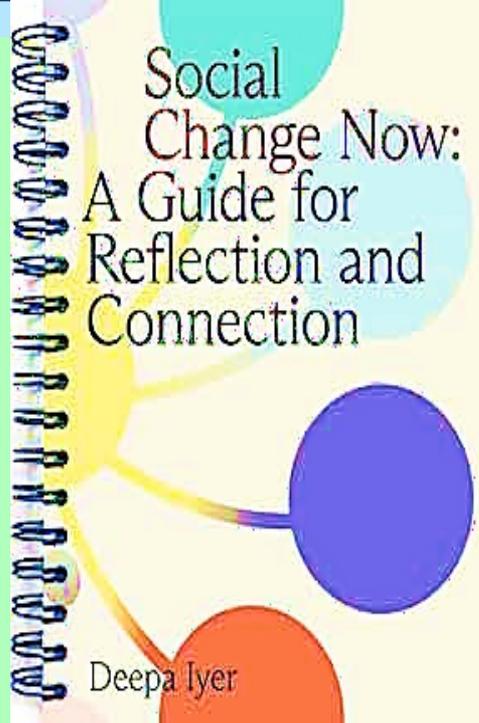
*It's a lifetime's journey – one that will leave a
lasting impact on the mental health of
our community.*

Together, we'll walk this path, hand in hand!

NAMIWalks Broward County
justiceseekers@riverofgrassuu.org

**Go to the link below to join their walk
or donate. That will support free life-saving
mental health services for peers and families.**

<https://www.namiwalks.org/teams/76954/donate>



2025-26 Common Read Social Change Now: A Guide for Reflection and Change

Session 2

Sunday 12 noon

This year's Common Read will ground us in our faith as we grapple with this moment.

Sunday we will examine the many Social Change Roles needed to create Social Change.

Which one is you?

How do they weave together?

How do we achieve Social Change through connections?

How do we replenish ourselves when we are overwhelmed?

How do we support each other and maintain a healthy ecosystem?

We intuitively know that something better is blooming, growing, emerging – and we want to be part of that!

Karen Gonzalez faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org



The Future Home Search Team
will meet on Saturday, September 27
12:00 noon
at the River,
to discuss how we can improve our
search efforts.

For more information,
contact Ken Bresnahan or Kathy Jens-Rochow
futurehome@riverofgrassuu.org.





Scary season is right around the corner and we are planning for a big community event. If you'd like to help by bringing something or doing something, click on the link below to let us know. All of us need all of us to make it happen!



Aaron Stang is making us a spooktacular video to be shown during our Halloween event.

If you would like to be included in the video and have a photo of yourself in your best Halloween garb, please send it to him at:

faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org

POTLUCK

Friday, October 12 6pm A-9



Join us to Eat, Play, Love!

Every second Friday of the month we'll come together for a community potluck and games.

On Friday, October 10th, we'll play card games after our shared meal, beginning at 6:00pm.

Bring your friends of all ages!

Karen Gonzalez
faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org



Jean Michel Basquiat
"Black Skull/Crown" 1982

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

About 25 Rver 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



**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

<https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/840921/>



In empathy and deep acknowledgement we celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month, taking this time to honor the vibrant contributions and rich legacy that our beautiful fellow humans of Hispanic descent have bestowed upon us, both in the past and in the present.

Their stories, filled with resilience and creativity, have woven a beautiful tapestry that enriches our community and society as a whole.

Join us in embracing this opportunity to engage with one another, participate in meaningful events, and uplift the values of inclusivity and social justice that lie at the heart of the River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

Together, we can continue to build a future that celebrates diversity and fosters compassion for all!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, September 25, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Saturday, September 27, 12 noon, A-9 **Future Home Search Team** Ken Bresnahan, Kathy Jens-Rochow

Saturday, September 27, 2pm A-9 **Leadership Round Table** Kathy Jens-Rochow

Sunday, September 28, 10:30am A-9 **We Are the Builders** Kid's Comon Read; Children's Faith Development Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, September 28 10:30am A-9+Zoom YouTube Livestream **Sunday Worship Our Circle of Community** Membership Committee + Leana Bresnahan

Thursday, October 2, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Thursday, October 2, 7pm A -9 + YouTube Livestream **Men's Group** Ken Bresnahan

Saturday, October 4, 2pm A-9 **Spiritual Art** Steve Jens-Rochow

Sunday, October 5, 10:30am A-9 **We Are the Builders** Kid's Comon Read; Children's Faith Development Karen Gonzalez

Sunday, October 5, 10:30am A-9+ YouTube Livestream **Worship Service Compassion for Dummies** Amy Horton-Tavera

Sunday, October 5, 12 noon A-9 **UUA's Common Read Social Change Now** Session 3 Karen Gonzalez

Thursday, October 9, 6pm Zoom **Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Sunday, October 12, 10:30am A-9+ YouTube Livestream **Worship Service Indegenous People's Day** Betty Osceola of the Miccosukee Indian Tribe of FL



Carolyn Santangelo & Scott May

Mindfulness for Today's World

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/551319571?pwd=TDdRdmhML3FoVVEvbNkRRC9qRIJPQT09>

Gary Gonzalez <https://riverofgrassuu.org/sunday-meditation.html>

Worship Service:

<https://zoom.us/s/91663081076#success>

Meeting ID: 916 6308 1076.

<https://www.facebook.com/riverofgrassuu>

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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 September 25, 2025

Morning Sing #1059 Let your Life Be as a Song; Words: Jim Scott. Music: Yuri Zaritsky

#1023 Building Bridges Words: Women of the Greenham Common Peace Occupation in England 1983; Music: Contemporary English Quaker Round

Oh, Let Us Gather; Words & Music by RevAmy Carol Webb

Ringling of the Chimes

Prelude #1021 Draw the Circle Wide; Words & Music by Mark A. Miller

Welcome

Call to Worship "Building Belonging" Rev. Dr. David Breeden

Opening Music #1021 Draw the Circle Wide; Words & Music by Mark A. Miller

Chalice Lighting

Covenant

Wisdom Tale "I Am We" Written by Susan Verde, Art by Peter H. Reynolds

Sing Children to Classrooms "We Love you and Bless You; Word, Music by Amy Carol Webb

Offering/Offertory #1054 Let This Be a House of Peace; Words and Music by Jim Scott

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

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection

Pastoral Response

Reflection by Pam Kelner The Meaning of Membership

New Member Celebration: "How Could Anyone Ever Tell You, You Were Anything Less Than Beautiful" #1053 Words & Music by Libby Roderick

Reflection by Leana Bresnahan "Deepening our Connections"

Reflection by Edye Groseclose "Finding My Home"

Our Challenge by Elly Keane "Widen the Circle"

Closing Music #1021 Lean on Me; Words and Music by Billy Withers

Closing Words "Having Received Sanctuary"

Extinguishing the Chalice

Announcements

Shine On

Invite to Hospitality, Music Reprise



September 30, 1770, John Murry preaches first Universalist sermon in US.

John Murray, a passionate Calvinist preacher in Ireland, had slowly changed his belief to Universalism.

Universalism was the belief that a loving God would not sentence anyone to eternity in hell.

Being disillusioned with Calvinism, he set sail for the colonies.

Bound for New York, his ship ran aground off the New Jersey coast. Murray had taken only his Bible and his purse with him.

He went ashore to find food and was directed to the home of Thomas Potter.

Potter had built a meetinghouse for Universalist discussion groups in the woods ten years earlier and had been looking for a minister ever since.

“I have been expecting you a long time!” Potter greeted Murray.

Murray was dumbstruck and initially refused Potter’s invitation to preach,

But, on September 30, 1770, near what is now the Murray Grove Universalist Retreat Center in Lanoka Harbor, John Murray did preach.



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
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