



Celebrating
26 Years

River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation
11850 W State Rd 84, A-9, Davie, FL 33325

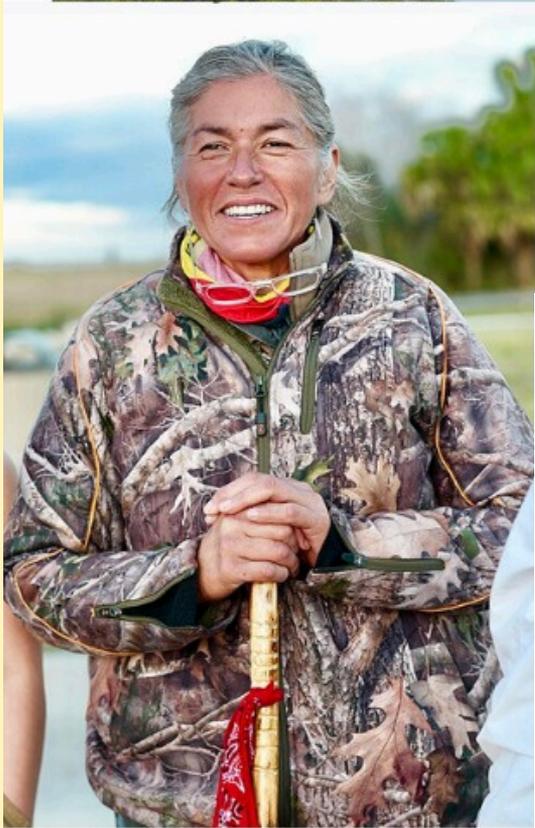
Welcome to our River of Grass Family
Welcome to our Love; **Welcome Home**

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Thursday, October 9, 2025

Sunday Service October 12, 2025

Indigenous People's Day



Sunday, October 12

Special Guest, Betty Osceola

Member of the Miccosukee Tribe of
Indians of Florida, educator,
environmental activist and defender of
her ancestral homeland, The
Everglades.

Betty is currently leading weekly
prayer vigils outside of the immigration
detention facility known as Alligator
Alcatraz.

River of Grass Members and Friends:

Please share this Special Guest's extraordinary

Sunday Service on October 12 on the River's Facebook
page, and on your Facebook and Instagram pages.

Thank you for helping to promote her Service about
Indigenous People's Day and preserving the Everglades.

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.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

OCT 13



In our kids' Faith Development space this Sunday, we'll take on the challenge of navigating from our heart center as we learn about Indigenous People's Day and our Seminole and Miccosukee neighbors.

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

Karen Gonzalez at religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.com.

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>

Full Moon Daughters



Full Moon Daughters Brand New Year Brunch

Saturday, October 11, 10am, A-9

Do you love nature, being outdoors and the good company of other women and girls who feel the same?

Come join the Full Moon Daughters at their Brand New Year Brunch on Saturday, Oct. 11.

We will gather at 10 am at our River home, meet new friends and reconnect with old ones, and plan our outings for the upcoming year.

All women, girls and those who identify as female are invited.

To sign up and/or to receive more details, please email: fullmoondaughters@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.



Scary season is right around the corner and we are planning for a big community event on Saturday, October 25.

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:
aaronstang22@gmail.com

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/12rGP_TBmQOKdhVuhnbp45EhkWJwIU-P95MEBBDuS5e8/viewform?edit_requested=true

[Halloween Party Volunteer Goblins](#)



Eat, Play, Love



Potluck Game Night - every 2nd Friday of the month
Open to the community and all ages - bring a friend!
Share a dish, play a game, and soak in the love!

October 10th card games 6:00pm-9:00pm

In our River of Grass Home:
11850 WStateRoad84,SuiteA-9,Davie,FL 33325

Information: Karen Gonzalez
religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org



HELP WANTED

New IT Team!

It's a complicated world out there, and the security of information and effective info management systems are more complex and important than ever.

River of Grass is looking for members to be part of a vitally important brand-new Information Technology (IT) Team! The team will provide support to River of Grass on software, systems and equipment that involve the use, communication, storage, retention and disposal of information.

Initially, we have identified four areas of focus for the team's work: software/tools; IT management; information access; and security of communications.

If you are interested in leading or supporting this vital work – or just want more information – please contact Brit at IT@riverofgrassuu.org

Revived Community Awareness Team!

A new member recently said that they were so glad to have found River of Grass, but they wished they had known about us ten years ago! We have work to do to get word out much more effectively about the love and acceptance all can experience at RoG.

The Community Awareness Team is re-constituting now! We anticipate the work of this team will focus on our digital and social media presence as well as increasing the presence of River of Grass representatives in the local community.

Our first project will be the overhaul of our website, riverofgrassuu.org. If you are interested in leading or supporting this vital work – or just want more information – please contact Leana at membership@riverofgrassuu.org

Team Tsunami Saturday, Oct 11





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 YoungCircle
1NYoungCircle, Hollywood33022

Meet-up for Carpooling 9 am at A-9
Please register in the link below.

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!*

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



**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

Alligator Alcatraz Vigil Sunday, October 5, 2025

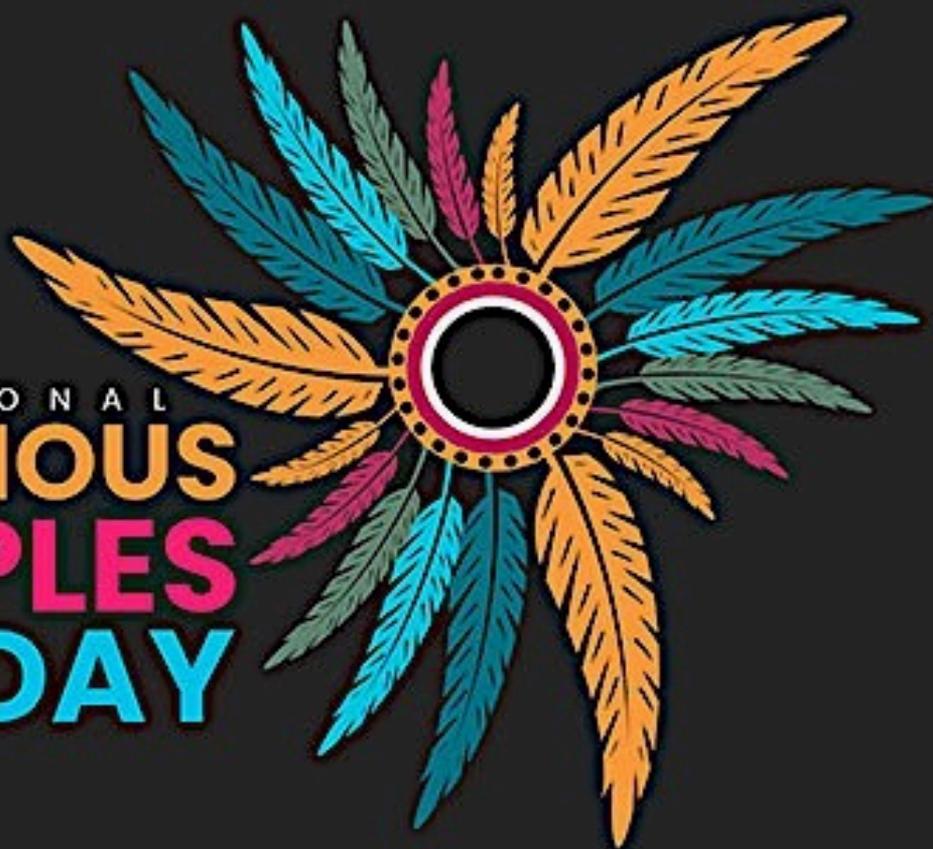


Betty Osceola



Leana Bresnahan; Rev. Tony Fisher, UU Congregation of Naples

INTERNATIONAL
**INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES
DAY**



Monday, October 13, 2025

The Gathering

by Side with Love

Join **Side With Love's** monthly event to strengthen your spirit, make sense of the threats to democracy, and take meaningful action alongside others!

At our October 13th Gathering on Indigenous Peoples' Day, we will get grounded with story by Katie Resendiz, who most recently served as Director of Children's Ministry at the UU Congregation of Phoenix.

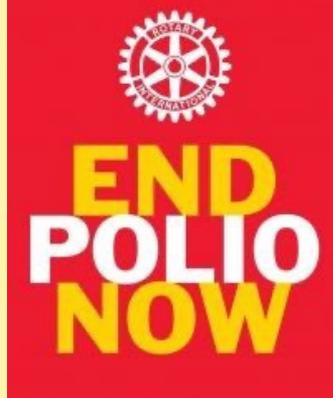
UU minister Rev. Clyde Grubbs (Texas Cherokee) will invite us to an examination of Colonialism violently imposed on the land and people in contrast to the indigenous understanding of all our relations.

Join us live on the link below.

On "Columbus Day" it is good to remember and recommit to our collective liberation, and to honor our indigenous people, who were here a long time before Columbus.

uusj.salsalabs.org /refugee-goal_pd-2026_sept-2025/index.html?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=7acaf28a-791a-4858-96bf-a23a96af7dca

[Register now for October 13th, 8 ET / 5 PT \(Now What for leaders: Oct 15th\)](#)



October is Polio Awareness Month

Let's work on conquering the battle for eradication.

The World Health Organization says that Africa has been certified free of the wild poliovirus. However, there were 37 cases in 2020 caused by the wild poliovirus in Afghanistan and another 65 cases in Pakistan for a total of 102 cases worldwide this year. When compared with the 350,000 global cases in 1988, the progress has been huge.



Oct 11 is national coming out day

It celebrates lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and queer people's coming out journeys.

National Coming Out Day honors the courage of LGBTQ+ individuals who choose to embrace their identity and live openly.

It is an annual LGBTQ awareness day to support anyone "coming out of the closet".

It is the anniversary of the 1988 March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights, a significant event in the LGBTQ+ rights movement.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Thursday, October 9, 7pm Zoom **mUUVies Close to You Discussion** Steve and Kathy Jens-Rochow

Friday, October 10, 6pm, **Eat, Play, Love**, A-9 Karen Gonzalez

Saturday, October 11, 10am, A-9, **Full Moon Daughters Brand New Year Brunch** Diane Lade

Sunday, October 12, 8:30am A-9 **Flowing River Sangha** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, October 12, 10:30am A-9 **Children's Faith Development** Karen Gonzalez

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

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

Thursday, October 16, 7pm A-9 + Zoom **Men's Group** Ken Bresnahan

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

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

Sunday, October 19, 10:30am A-9 **Children's Faith Development** Karen Gonzalez

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

Thursday, October 23, 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=TDdRdmhML3FoVVEvbNkxRC9qRIJPQT09>

Worship Service:

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

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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 12, 2025

Morning Sing

Enter Rejoice and Come In #361 Words and Music: Louise Ruspini

Building a New Way #1017 Building a New Way, Words & Music: Martha Sandefer

Oh, Let Us Gather Words and Music by Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Ring of the Chimes

Prelude Try a Little Kindness by Glen Campbell

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Words To Care Without Drowning, Rev. Michelle Collins

Opening Music Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire #34 Words: Hal Hopson, Music: Trad. English Melody

Chalice Lighting Light the Sacred Fire Ojibwe (adapted)

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 Amore se le espíritu de esta congregación

y el serviciosuley principal.

Esta es nuestra gran promesa:

vivir juntos en paz, buscar la verdad a través del amor,

y ayudarnos mutuamente.

Wisdom Story Betty Osceola speak to children

Sing Children to Classrooms

Offering/Offertory

Deepening Music The Earth is Our Mother #1073, Words and Music Trad. American Indian

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection

Pastoral Response Prayer for Cultivating Compassion for the World, Rev. Michelle Collins

Sung Response Music #371 from a Genevan Psalter, Words #381 by Isaac Watts

Heritage Thomas Starr King

Hope Unitarian Universalist for Social Justice (UUSJ)

Message Listening to Our Indigenous Neighbors Betty Osceola

Closing Music Blue Boat Home #1064, Words: Peter Meyer; Music: Roland Pritchard

Closing Words Heart of Flesh, Rev. Cameron Trimble

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 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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3872 Dillard Road, Highlands, NC
themountainric.org

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.