

River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation
3225 N Hiatus Rd, Unit 452485, Sunrise, Florida 33345

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

River of Grass Weekly Update – January 28, 2021



Photo Credit: Cheryl Piekielek (used with permission)

Affirmative Visualization: Leveraging the Power of Your Imagination - Bending the Arc 3

On the last Sunday of January, we finish our month exploring what it means for us to be a People of Imagination. Following the UU third principle: Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations Sheryl Cattell will share the steps of affirmative visualization as practiced by Religious Science followers. She will share the steps and methodology that requires imagination and belief to manifest the desired outcome. At the end of this week's service, you may also have a different understanding of something we say each week at River of Grass, And so it is!

Come as you are to gather with us for this Sunday's love-streamed service, remembering only the medium is virtual; the connections, the love, the spirit are real. Following the service, we will share virtual Hospitality time with a live chat and small groups where we can relish each other's beautiful faces and voices together once again.

Follow the link below to join us in Zoom – or if you'd like, we'll be simulcasting on our [Facebook page](#). Tune in there for the service, then log onto our Zoom link for hospitality time afterward. And now that we have a larger Zoom space ready to welcome all who will join us from over this world – who will we meet this week?

Sunday morning, gather with us at the River – on your computer, your tablet, your phone (with video or only audio if you like, we'll miss your face!) -- just click or dial into our River of Grass Meeting Room at the link or numbers below. We'll be watching for you!

We'll be watching for you!

Topic: Worship January 31, 2021

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 Virtual Events - This Sunday:

Sunday, January 31, 2021

Virtual Sunday Service at 10:30 am – Affirmative Visualization: Leveraging the Power of Your Imagination - Bending the Arc 3 - Sheryl Cattell <https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Faith Development for kids and teens: 12:30: Pre-K - 1st graders; **1:30 pm:** 2nd - 6th graders; **3:00pm:** Teens. On Sunday, we'll continue using our imaginations to think up magical worlds. Our 5th UU Source counsels us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, but only through our imaginations can we use science and reason to solve problems and dream up new ideas. Please have your children bring their own imaginations and the little troll dolls found in their Family Faith-at-home kits. Our Teens will be considering how our living faith needs imagination and open minds in order to continue growing and serving us in an ever-changing world. Contact Karen Gonzalez at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org for links to join a class, or for more information about our Faith Development program.

Celebration of Life - Daniel H. French:

The Celebration of Life Service for former member, Daniel H. French will be on Saturday, January 30, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom. I will post the Zoom link on the River of Grass Facebook page as we get closer to the date and time of the Service. - Karen Dickson (Dan's wife)

Welcome Table Communion - We will meet tonight at 7:00 pm

Rev. Amy Carol Webb is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: RoG - Welcome Table

Time: **Jan 28, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time** (US and Canada)

[Join Zoom Meeting - Click Here](#)

Meeting ID: 898 0441 5028

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89804415028>

Auction 2020-2021: Pick 'N Click River Givers Virtual Auction:



The 2021 "Pick N Click" River Givers Virtual Auction

Time is almost up! Bidding closes on Sunday, Jan. 31 at 7:00 PM ET

Many of our silent auction items are still open and we have added several new items since the kickoff last week. Jewelry, household items, even a bicycle! And some of our fixed price parties and workshops still have openings. When the bidding is closed, winners will be notified of their good luck.

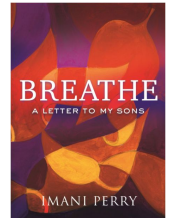
If you are a winner (aren't we all?), please sign in to Silent Auction Pro at silentauctionpro.com, sign in to your account and click on the "Checkout" button. We are available to help. Contact us at auction@riverofgrassuu.org. Thank you for your support. [River of Grass Auction Catalog](#)

bUUKies Announce UUA Common Read Discussion

Every year the UUA selects a book to be shared by all UU congregations. A "Common Read" invites participants to read and discuss the same book in a given period of time. A Common Read can build community in our

congregations and our movement by giving diverse people a shared experience, shared language, and a basis for deep, meaningful conversations. The River of Grass conversation will be on a date to be announced later.

This year's Common Read is *Breathe: A Letter to My Sons* by Imani Perry. The UUA says:



“Emotionally raw and deeply reflective, Imani Perry issues a challenge to society to see Black children as deserving of humanity. She admits fear and frustration for her African American sons in a society that is increasingly racist and at times seems irredeemable. However, as a mother, feminist, writer, and intellectual, Perry offers an unfettered expression of love—finding beauty and possibility in life—and she exhorts her children and their peers to find the courage to chart their own paths and find steady footing and inspiration in Black tradition. The New York Times calls *Breathe* “an elixir of history, ancestry and compassion, which, together, become instruction...a parent’s unflinching demand, born of inherited trauma and love, for her children’s right simply to be possible.”

This book may be purchased in hardcover from [inSpirit: The UU Book and Gift Shop](https://www.inspirit.org/). The e-book and audio book (CD or MP3) are available from [Bookshop.org](https://www.bookshop.org/). Hardback, audio and e-books are also available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/).

WhaleCoast Alaska 2021

Have you ever wanted to visit Alaska? If so, WhaleCoast Alaska 2021 is for you! 4 Alaska UU congregations invite you to experience our unique environmental and spiritual tour program this summer, when it will be safe to travel again. See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs, with friendly homestays and awe-inspiring tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, sea lions, etc. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. WhaleCoast Alaska is an inspirational way to visit our beautiful state. Complete info at: www.WhaleCoastAK.org. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience you won't want to miss!



Additional contact information:

David Frey, WhaleCoast Alaska Tour Director, (907) 322-4966, dfrey@whalecoastak.org
www.WhaleCoastAK.org

Other Events:

Free “Mindfulness for Today’s World” weekly online sessions:

Thursdays 6:00 - 7:00 pm for adults, [zoom link for Thursday night at 6 pm](https://www.insightinstitute.com/zoom-link-for-thursday-night-at-6-pm)

For more information or to register contact Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com or Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com, or visit <http://www.insightinstitutellc.com/>

Flowing River Sangha – We will meet online on **Tuesday, Feb 2nd at 7:00 pm**. Every Tuesday night we will meet via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/201911385>. We will meet from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. This is an open-ended, drop-in group for all levels of meditation experience. For more information, please email Gary Gonzalez at meditation@riverofgrassuu.org.

The Faith Forward Inquirers Series meets on Wednesdays 7:30 – 8:30 pm on Zoom, see the schedule below!

Faith Forward Inquirers Series is a rotation of seven conversations about our congregation and Unitarian Universalism. The series is designed for visitors and newcomers who are looking for a general introduction, and yet the sessions are appealing to veteran members who want more information about our beloved community. New members and inquirers are encouraged to attend. Classes are not mandatory for membership but are highly recommended! Our next class is scheduled for **Feb 3rd and is FF Inquirers #1: Q&A with Minister**. For more info, email Zena Tucker, membership@riverofgrassuu.org. Zoom link for our session is: [ZOOM Link for RoG Inquirers](https://zoom.us/j/912345678).

Date	Time	Event
2/3/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#1: Q&A with Minister

2/10/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#2: Unitarian Universalist History, Principles and Sources
2/24/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#4: Faith Development for Children and Adults
3/3/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#5: Worship & Liturgical Year
3/24/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
3/31/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
4/7/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life
4/28/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#4: Faith Development for Children and Adults
5/5/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#5: Worship & Liturgical Year
5/12/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#1: Q&A with Minister
5/26/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
6/2/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
6/9/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life

Young Adults are now meeting on the 2nd Sundays, at 7:30 pm virtually on Zoom – Millennials, Gen Xers, and Gen Zs, are welcome to tune in to the YUUnG Adult Virtual Coffee Hour on **Sunday, Feb 14th ❤️ at 7:30 pm**. Our group’s purpose is to foster an inclusive, diverse and intentional community that inspires spiritual growth and connection. Please email youngadults@riverofgrassuu.org if you have any questions and to obtain the zoom details.

Full Moon Daughters are heading back to the great outdoors. All women and girls are invited to join our group for a camping weekend at **Collier-Seminole State Park, near Naples, on the weekend of Feb 19th through Feb 21st**. We will kayak, take nature hikes and explore the beautiful ecosystem of the western Everglades. Full Moon Daughters is an outdoors spirituality group dedicated to honoring our 7th UU Principle, respecting the interdependent web of life. If you are interested in the Collier-Seminole trip, please email Diane Lade and Deb Giblin-Davis at fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org. Space is limited and all attendees must follow our COVID protocols.

Capital Campaign Contributions

We have set up several methods for you to make your pledges/contributions to the Capital Campaign. The table below details the various methods, including charges that the River accrues when this payment method is used. We are here to help with any questions you may have. Feel free to contact our office administrator, Sandy Blair Chibnick, via email at office@riverofgrassuu.org.

Monetary Donations		
Method	How	Processing fees paid by River of Grass
Check	Write CC on memo line Mail to River of Grass: 3225 N Hiatus Rd, Unit 452485 Sunrise, FL 33345	\$0
Checking account via Vanco	Set up payment on our Donations page . Designate on the Capital Campaign line	\$0.45 per transaction plus processing fee 1%
Credit Card via Vanco	Set up payment on our Donations page . Designate amount on the Capital Campaign line.	\$0.45 per transaction plus credit card processing fee: American Express: 3.5% Visa/MasterCard: 2.75%
PayPal	https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/my/profile In the notes write “Capital Campaign”	Varies based on method of payment
Zelle	Use your bank to set up \$ transfer. Send Zelle payment to CapitalCampaign@riverofgrassuu.org .	\$0

Securities	<p>Any questions contact Northstar Financial Planners: <i>Allen Giese, Steve Tepper, or Stacy Saavedra at (954) 693-0030</i></p> <p>Securities should be transferred per instructions from the donor's brokerage or advisor using the following DTC and A/C numbers as the destination #0188 - TD Ameritrade Institutional A/C #944110334</p> <p>RIVER OF GRASS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION, INC.</p> <p>The donor should notify the CC Team and the Office Administrator of the details of the donation by emailing CapitalCapaign@riverofgrassuu.org.</p>
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SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Plant native drought resistant plants and trees. Conserve water and protect the environment with native Xeriscape landscaping. Trees absorb carbon dioxide for energy, and produce oxygen for us to breathe. Ensuring only native plants preserves our local ecosystem.

COVID-19 Response Update

Our River of Grass faithful is actively responding to COVID-19. All face-to-face gatherings of any kind are suspended or moved on-line, and we have left our building. Numerous meetings and gatherings have transitioned online via Zoom. Welcome to our new norm!

We are grateful that many many members and friends are in self-quarantine, doing their part to protect themselves as well as reduce the spread of the virus, and only venturing outside when absolutely necessary.

Our extended Caring Team has coordinated a 'network of contacting' to help ensure our community has communication and is cared for.... and our Covenant Groups are a large part of this.

There is deep gratitude for the way our community cares for each other, remains flexible, and is diligent in responding to this unprecedented situation!

Take a deep breath. Allow any feelings and thoughts to be as they are. Know you are supported. Stay safe!

Basic Protective Measures Against Coronavirus

Your leadership at River of Grass are taking every precaution against coronavirus here at River of Grass and in the wider community we share. River of Grass is adhering to the following recommendations from the World Health Organizations.

Stay aware of the latest information on the COVID-19 outbreak. Most people who become infected experience mild illness and recover, but it can be more severe for others. Be aware of those in our midst with compromised immune systems.

Take care of your health and protect others by doing the following:

1. Regularly and thoroughly CLEAN YOUR HANDS with an alcohol-based hand-rub or washing with soap and water, especially – after coughing/sneezing; when caring for the sick; before, during, and after you prepare food; before eating; after toilet use; when hands are visibly dirty – and when they are not; after handling animals or animal waste.
2. Maintain social distancing – 6 feet between yourself and anyone.
3. Even if well, try to maintain a distance of 6 feet from others and when greeting, instead of elbow and fist bumps (no handshakes or hugs), consider placing your hand over your heart as a gesture of welcome and hello.
4. Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth to avoid transfer of viruses from contaminated surfaces.
5. Practice respiratory hygiene: 1) Cough/sneeze into your elbow, 2) If you use tissues, dispose of them immediately, then clean your hands.
6. If you have fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, seek medical care promptly.
7. If you feel unwell, stay home, even with mild symptoms like headache and runny nose.
8. Stay informed, and follow any guidelines from your healthcare advisor.

How to cope with stress during this coronavirus outbreak:

1. It is normal to feel sad, stressed, confused, scared, or angry during any crisis.
2. Talk to people you trust, and contact your friends and family.
3. If you must stay home, maintain a healthy lifestyle with proper diet, sleep, exercise, and social contact with loved ones via email, phone, etc.
4. Avoid smoking or using alcohol and other drugs to deal with your emotions.
5. Get the facts from credible sources such as the Center for Disease Control, World Health Organization, or local/state health agencies.
6. Limit worry and agitation through lessening time you spend watching media and the internet.
7. Draw on coping skills that have helped you in the past.
8. If you feel overwhelmed, talk to a health worker or counsellor, and have a plan to seek help for physical and mental health needs if required.

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 to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed or called into the congregation's office by 12 pm 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.