

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 – June 30, 2022

This summer we are excited to be offering a way for our members and friends to explore the variety of experiences that our UU faith has to offer and to meet other amazing congregations and ministers that Rev. Amy admires and wants us to get to know. Thanks to technology, we can visit congregations all across the country from our couch! This will also give our own volunteers a much needed break. We have put together a list of congregations that we can join each Sunday that is posted with the links on our website. Find it at <https://riverofgrassuu.org/index.html>. This will run from July 3rd to August 28th. This Sunday July 3rd, we will journey is to All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C. at 10:30 am

“The Speed of Justice”

by Rev. Rob Keithan

There’s so much suffering and injustice in our world that urgent action is desperately necessary. At the same time, moving too fast makes it more likely that we’re unconsciously replicating some of the oppressive patterns we’re trying to stop. How can we ensure that our work isn’t just transactional, but truly transformational? Join Zoom via the All Souls homepage: <https://all-souls.org/>.

After service Kathy Jens-Rochow will host a "**Sunday Noon Zoom Get-together**" from 12:00 to 1:30 so we all can meet, greet and feel connected! Grab your favorite beverage and join us! Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/96108106093>; Meeting ID: 961 0810 6093.

GIVING

Even as we focus our attention away from our own congregation, on travel and visiting other UU congregations, and just taking a rest, we still need your contributions to sustain and strengthen this beloved community and its mission in our world. Each Sunday half of our undesignated offerings go to LifeNet4Families, which provides hot meals 365 days a year as well as clothing and support here in Broward county. The other half supports the mission and ministry at River of Grass.

To give, please go to: [Our Donation Page](#)

or Text to Donate at 844-948-1153

Simply text an amount (no dollar sign needed) on your smartphone, and the key word "plate" to the number above, example: 10.00 plate. Please give generously and joyfully so that we may feed and fortify this congregation and its good work in the world that needs it, now more than ever.

Upcoming Virtual Events - This Sunday:

Sunday, July 3, 2022

All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C. at 10:30 am – <https://all-souls.org/>

Rev. Amy Summer Vacation & Study Leave

My Beloveds, I have headed out for both my Summer Adventures 2022, as well as my work in service to the greater Unitarian Universalist community with conferences with the UU Ministers Association, General Assembly, SUUSI (Southeast UU Summer Institute), and as the UU minister in residence for week seven at the historic Chautauqua Institute. The business meetings of the UUMA (Unitarian Universalist Ministers' Association) and UUA GA (Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly) are already underway. In between I'll have some vacation time and study time to rest, renew, and prepare for this most crucial coming congregational year as we build a new way. I'll see you back in the office in mid-August, and back in the pulpit to launch our 11th year together on the first Sunday in September for Labor Day! If you have a pastoral care emergency that may require professional ministry, please contact the President of the Board, Kathy Jens-Rochow president@riverofgrassuu.org, or our Pastoral Care Team PastoralCare@riverofgrassuu.org.

UUA General Assembly Sunday Morning Worship

Join us for the largest annual gathering of UUs joining in worship. This powerful, communal worship experience will stream on Sunday, June 26, 2022 at 12:30 Eastern. Members of the public are welcome to view the service. The Office of the UUA President, the Rev. Susan Frederick Gray, is pleased to announce that the Rev. Gretchen Haley, Senior Minister of the Foothills Unitarian Universalist Church in Fort Collins, CO will lead the 2022 Sunday Service at GA. Additional worship team members include Rev. Sean Neil-Barron and Shari Halliday-Quan.

<https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2022/sunday-worship>

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](#)

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

RoG Men's Group: We meet the first and third Thursday each month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. We will meet on [Zoom at Meeting ID 670 022 402](#) for the foreseeable future. We gather and do check-in where we share our day. Then a discussion topic is presented. We read aloud the premise and questions and then discuss it all until 8:30 pm. The goal is that the sharing moves from head to heart. **The Jul 7th topic is: "TBD."** The Topic Description is online at KipBarkley.com/topic/. There we post past topics and links to the UU Small Group Ministry Network. We are a lay-led group and look to our members for future topics and the direction we take. Do come out and join us. The Meeting Room opens up at 6:30 pm before the Host arrives. If you have any questions please contact; mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org; RoG Men's Group Facilitator.

Good Grief Group – Summer!

Marilisa Lawless – an LMFT, with certificates in Grief, Addiction, and Trauma Therapy (LMFT, MCAP, LCH), member of the River of Grass Pastoral Care team, and queen of our current office space -- has offered to gather the group monthly in June and July before RevAmy returns in mid-August. The date is on the 4th Tuesday each month: **July 26**. Email pastoralcare@riverofgrassuu.org for details, and we'll be watching for you!

SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Recycle! Recycle! Broward County's weekly curbside recycle takes Paper (newspapers, junkmail, magazines, etc.), Plastic (bottles, jugs, etc.), Glass, Metal (aluminum, steel, tin food cans), and Cardboard. Most of the items thrown out can be recycled. Be Green! Recycle!

Interim Recommendations from the RoG COVID-19 Re-Emergence Team

Team: Deb Buehler Ely, Karen Gonzalez, Susan Juncosa, Jeanne Masten (COVIDTeam@RiverofGrassUU.org)

Purpose of Team: To review guidelines for congregational and smaller group gatherings in order to provide recommendations to the Board to be used for official River of Grass meetings and events.

These recommendations are:

For: only for official, River of Grass - sponsored outdoor and indoor small group gatherings.

Fluid: new information comes out all the time and the recommendations could change.

Inclusive: all attendees should be able to attend physically or virtually.

Protective: consider first those who are most at risk.

Science-based: follow the directives according to the experts.

Sources:

UUA: <https://www.uua.org/safe/pandemics/covid-19>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/index.html>

Johns Hopkins: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/us-map>

UU Reston Covid-19 Guidelines: <https://www.uureston.org/covid>

MEETINGS IN THE TIME OF COVID

RIVER OF GRASS COVID-19 TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD: Updated May 24, 2022

This is a living document that will be regularly reviewed and updated.

Based upon the updated CDC guidelines and the Broward County risk levels, the following measures are recommended to the Board.

Community Level High: Follow our previous guidelines, listed below.

In person Worship services - inside

- Masks required for all, with possible exception of speakers (see below). Masks should be KN-95 if possible.
- If the Minister and/or other speakers wish to be unmasked, they must take a rapid test the night before the service. They must maintain social distancing at all times while unmasked.
- Singing transmits more aerosols than speaking. At this time, no singing except the Minister. Humming OK!
- Maintain social distancing between household groups while indoors.
- No food or drinks inside.
- All attendees should sign in with current contact information in the event that contact tracing is required.

After service - outside

- Maintain social distancing.

Meetings and Small Groups - inside and outside.

- Group/meeting leader should determine if all attendees are vaccinated and comfortable with disclosing status. This may require some quick private conversations prior to the meeting! If everyone is not comfortable, masking and social distancing should be maintained.
- Food and drinks: up to the group. Be mindful of crowding.
- All attendees should sign in with current contact information in the event that contact tracing is required.

Community Level Medium: Individuals should follow CDC Guidelines for Medium

Community Level Low: Individuals should follow CDC Guidelines for Low

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 to WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org 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.