

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 – September 22, 2022

Days of Awe:

Belonging Through Reflection, Repentance, Reconciliation

Rosh Hashanah is about relationships.
Whether between individuals and the God in whom they believe,
communities and the traditions which define them,
or simply between individuals,
whether any God or tradition is part of their lives.
It's all about sustaining relationships
which sustain us and help us do the same for others.
~ Rabbi Brad Hirschfield

As Judaism's "Days of Awe" begin with the Rosh Hashanah new year celebration this Sunday evening, we'll consider the pathway to belonging through reflection, repentance, and reconciliation. We'll explore what it means – and does not mean – to forgive and be forgiven, and why it's so crucial that we understand its purposes in our lives and communities and the world at large – that the earth and her people might be made new in these holy days.

Come as you are – we'll be watching for you! We welcome you on Sunday morning at 10:30. Come a bit before and we can Chat prior to the service... See you then!

Use the Zoom link below to gather with us virtually in Zoom. Catch us on Facebook live on our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/riverofgrassuu>.

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 In-Person or Virtual Events - This Sunday:

Sunday, September 25, 2022

River of Grass UU Congregation – Days of Awe: Belonging Through Reflection, Repentance, Reconciliation

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Auction Kick-Off Watch your email. You could win a prize!

Let's begin our Work of Heart 2022 Auction with some fun - a weekly River of Grass UU Trivia Contest. New trivia questions will reach your email inbox every Tuesday - remember to check your Spam and Promotions. The

wonderful Broward restaurant, [Lucille's American Cafe](#) has donated Gift Certificates for \$20 off a purchase of \$30 or more as prizes. New Trivia questions each week until **the Auction begins on October 22nd!**

Our River of Grass Auction lets us all win by supporting our beloved congregation, but will you win by answering our trivia questions correctly?

Our online Auction is hosted by SilentAuctionPro

Questions? auction@riverofgrassuu.org

Click here for donation guidelines [Work of Heart Auction](#)

Faith Development - This Sunday, we'll continue with the theme of "belonging" with a lesson where we explore the path of honoring our unique selves. As UU's we celebrate each of us as a unique and special person. By belonging to our special selves, we encourage and allow others to belong to their truest selves, too. Join our K - 6th graders online at noon. Contact our Director of Faith Development, Ms. Karen for the Zoom link at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org.

Faith Development Registration – Registration for the new school year of Children's Faith Development is now open for both online and in-person classes. Please refer to [this link](#) to complete your family's registration. In-person classes meet at 10:30 on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. (OWL meets from 10-12.) On-line classes for K-6th graders meet at noon on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays. These programs are supported by members' pledges. Are your pledges up to date? Contact our Office Administrator, Sandy at office@riverofgrassuu.org, or see [this link to make or add to your pledge](#).

Faith Development Volunteers – Our children's Faith Development program is looking for people who would like to assist with activities, games and crafts to support the elementary group lessons. We will need two assistants each time we meet in person and we hope to have enough helpers that you will only be needed once or twice a month. Do you think this is a way that you'd like to serve our River of Grass community? We promise, you'll learn something! Contact our FD Director, Karen Gonzalez at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org to volunteer or ask questions.

Wisdom Tale Help – Help us to bring a wisdom tale to life! Send a photo of you wearing your favorite pink shirt to kjensrochow@gmail.com before Sep 28th.

Celebrate Bisexuality Day September 23

It is a part of the Bisexual Awareness Week celebrations held in September. The day is celebrated to remind people of the history and struggles faced by the bisexual community. A bisexual person is someone who is not exclusively attracted to people of one particular gender. Celebrate Bisexuality Day teaches us that every person is deserving of love and respect, no matter how different they might seem from us. It's a day that teaches us acceptance.



The founders were especially worried about the various experiences of marginalization and discrimination that bisexuals face from both the straight and LGBTQ communities. The bisexual identity is often brushed aside by some members of the straight community as "being confused" or simply "closeted gay." While on the other hand, the LGBT community sometimes categorizes bisexuals as "undecided" or even as traitors to the LGBT community. This makes it particularly difficult for bisexual people to openly embrace their identity, and discourages those in the closet from coming out.

Source: Nationaltoday.com

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/>

Welcome Table Communion Circle – Here's the link for this evening's Welcome Table Communion service this evening. Looking forward to being with you.

Topic: Rev. Amy Carol Webb (she/they) - Welcome Table

Time: Sep 22, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86011954166?pwd=NnNGUjhtTTFsVd2blZleGhCSVZxZz09>

Meeting ID: 860 1195 4166; Passcode: 659592

One tap mobile: +16469313860,,86011954166# US

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kLRTmvIhc>

SE UU Cluster's Annual Meeting on Oct 15th featuring speaker David Korten!

"We humans face a defining choice: transition to a civilization dedicated to care for one another and the living Earth or bear the consequences. What might that future look like? How might we get there? And what might be the role of religion?" David Korten

David Korten, author of "The Great Turning" will speak by video at the SE UU Cluster's Annual Meeting on Saturday, Oct 15th at 1:30 pm – Ecological Civilization: Earth, Religion and the Human Future.

David envisions "an Ecological Civilization where human potential is maximized. And domination is minimized." To register for this free event please reply to seuucluster@gmail.com with your name, congregation or organization and email address. (Please see the last page of this email for a flyer containing more information)

What is your vision of a better world, an Ecological Civilization where we address the climate crisis, social injustice and economic inequality?

BUUKies September Read – "The Book Women of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson. We will meet on Wednesday, Oct 18th at 7pm.

[River BUUKies Zoom Link](#) Meeting ID: 926 5701 7488; Passcode: 746613

One tap mobile +13017158592,,92657017488#,,,,*746613# US (Washington DC)

The hardscrabble folks of Troublesome Creek have to scarp for everything—everything except books, that is. Thanks to Roosevelt's Kentucky Pack Horse Library Project, Troublesome's got its very own traveling librarian, Cussy Mary Carter. Cussy's not only a book woman, however, she's also the last of her kind, her skin a shade of blue unlike most anyone else. Not everyone is keen on Cussy's family or the Library Project, and a Blue is often blamed for any whiff of trouble.



Steve Jens-Rochow BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org.

Full Moon Daughters - The Full Moon Daughters, the outdoors group for women and girls, are having their annual **Brand New Year Brunch from 10 am-noon, Saturday, Sept. 24, at a member's home.** This will be an in-person gathering and outdoors. Please bring a mask in the event anyone is not comfortable or unable to be around others unmasked. And we ask you to stay home (and get better!) if you have COVID symptoms or have tested positive for COVID within the past week. Come learn about the camping trips planned for November and March -- and bring your ideas for great outings for the rest of the year. This will be a potluck. Please email fullmoondaughtres@riverofgrassuu.org by Sep 22 if you have any questions or to sign up. Those who RSVP will receive more details, including an address for the brunch and potluck information.

RoG Men's Group: We begin meeting again the first and third Thursdays each month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. We will meet via this [Zoom Meeting](#) for the foreseeable future. All who identify male (to any degree) are invited to join in the fun. **The Oct 6th topic is: "TBD."** 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 7:00 pm and we will begin at 7:15

pm. If you have any questions please contact Ken Bresnahan; mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org; RoG Men's Group Facilitator.

MUUVies for Change October viewing is "Pray Away" - A 2021 American documentary film produced and directed by Kristine Stolakis that follows survivors of conversion therapy and former leaders. We will discuss this film on **Wednesday, Oct 12th at 7pm**. The movie is available on Netflix. Please reply to Steve Jens-Rochow muuvies@riverofgrassuu.org if you are coming for the Discussion. Join our Zoom Meeting at 7pm: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84418593114>. Meeting ID: 844 1859 3114; One tap mobile: +16465588656,,84418593114# US (New York); Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kvL0D4l8Y>.



SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Join your fellow UUs who avoid buying items that use styrofoam. Styrofoam is not biodegradable, so it stays in the landfill undissolved for generations! Luckily most major fast food chains stopped using styrofoam years ago. Join the no-styrofoam movement and know you are making a difference.

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

Team: 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.

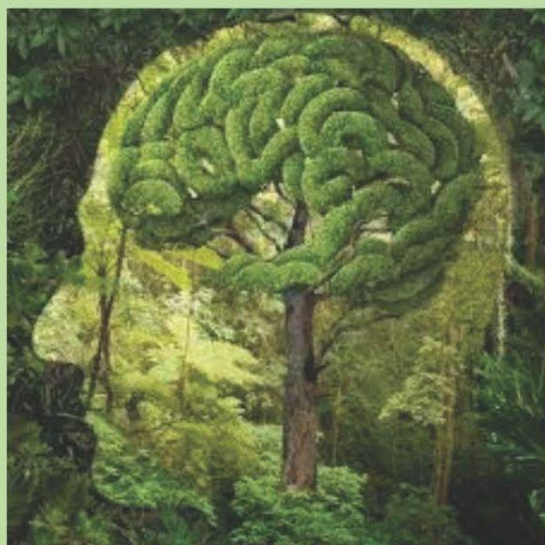
Announcements to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org by 12 pm Wednesday. All announcements will pertain to congregational life and affiliated groups and will be for activities or events occurring within two weeks of the e-mail. Outside groups and individuals, wishing to use this vehicle of congregation-wide communication, must have the approval of the Board of Trustees.

The UU Florida SE Cluster Annual Meeting 2022

Ecological Civilization: Earth, Religion and the Human Future

Saturday, October 15, 2022, 1:30pm

FREE



"We humans face a defining choice: transition to a civilization dedicated to care for one another and the living Earth or bear the consequences. What might that future look like? How might we get there? And what might be the role of religion?"

David Korten, author of "The Great Turning" will speak by video.

He envisions "an Ecological Civilization where human potential is maximized.
And domination is minimized."

Also speaking are:

- Terry Lowman [Co-chair UUs for a Just Economic Community UUJEC]
Introduction of the program; what is coming.
- Lucy Hitchcock [Chair of UUJEC's Green New Deal task force]
Localization to implement systemic change toward Ecological Civilization.
 - Aly Tharp [Senior Organizer, GreenFaith]
GreenFaith actions/ways for congregations to be involved.
- Michael Cox [Cedars UU Church Green Sanctuary, Bainbridge, WA]
Congregational and Interfaith examples of action.

And two sets of breakout small groups

What is your vision of a better world, an Ecological Civilization where we address the climate crisis, social injustice and economic inequality?

To Register reply to seuucluster@gmail.com for Zoom link