

# River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
11850 W State Rd 84, Ste A9, Davie, FL 33325

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

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## River of Grass Weekly Update – October 19, 2023

### **Love Won't Back Down: POWER SUNDAY!**

*Scholars might tell us that American democracy is deconsolidating, but it is far from collapse. Even through significant challenges, the system is holding. With the kick-off of Power Sunday, UU congregations can step into our moral authority in partnership with each other and other liberal religious members of civil society to hold strong against the tide of authoritarianism.*

– Rev. Peggy Clarke

Join us this Sunday as we join our voices with Unitarian Universalist congregations around the country to raise our shared consciousness, uphold our crucial place in the democratic fabric of our nation, and lift our collective voice to remind ourselves we are not alone in this fragile moment of history, but indeed more powerful than we know!

Come as you are – either in-person at the Old Davie Schoolhouse Auditorium or virtually on Zoom. We welcome you on Sunday morning at 10:30. Come a bit before and we can Chat prior to the service... We'll be watching for you!

In person at:

- Our Sunday morning rental space is located at the Old Davie Schoolhouse
- 6650 Griffin Road, Davie, FL 33314 ([Click for Directions](#))
- Service will begin at **10:30 AM**
- Childcare will be provided.

Use the Zoom link below to gather with us virtually in Zoom. Catch us on Facebook live on our [facebook page](#).

#### **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, October 22, 2023 - 10:30 AM**

**River of Grass UU Congregation – Love Won't Back Down: POWER Sunday! – Rev. Amy Carol Webb**

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

### *Faith Development for Kids and Youth*

Our small group for kids, this Sunday, will be exploring the roots of our faith that are guided by reason and science. We'll learn about the first Unitarian minister in America who was also a scientist who discovered carbon dioxide gas - Joseph Priestley. Of course, this means we'll be doing some experimenting, and it could get messy!

Science and reason lead us to – and give us the gifts of – wonder, gratitude and curiosity. At our General Assembly in June, we amended the inspirations section of the UUA bylaws to include science as a source of inspiration. The first draft only listed sacred and secular sources of inspiration, but the amended proposal now reads, “We draw upon, and are inspired by, sacred, secular, and scientific understandings that help us make meaning and live into our values.”

For more information about our Faith Development programming, contact our Director, Karen Gonzalez at [ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org).

### *Membership Team News:*

1. We celebrated the first New Member Ceremony of this congregational year during worship service this past Sunday and joyfully welcomed nine adults and one youth into membership: Jane and Bill Garside-Foy; Andrea "Drea" and Stan Kelley, along with their son; Cassidy Kelley; Jan Kelly; Harry Lorman; Andrea "Andy" Perez; and Susan Skach-Bejarano. We will send a directory addendum with their contact information to all Members and Friends of the Congregation in the coming days. Please reach out to welcome them all to this Beloved Community!

2. Our Fall Potluck Picnic will take place on **Sunday, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Members John and Liz Perez have again generously offered to open their home in Plantation to all of us—River of Grass Members, Family Members, Friends, and Visitors. This is always such a fun event! There is a pool for kids, small and large, to cool off in, and a yard to play. There will be plenty of good food to share and great conversation!

Please let us know if you can bring food to share, and what it will be! Sign-ups are on-going in person or via Zoom Chat at worship services; an email invite will be sent to you all in the coming days; and you may contact [membership@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:membership@riverofgrassuu.org) for more information.

John and Liz would like all to know that their dog Buddy will again be part of the party. Buddy is super friendly to humans, but please respect his domain and do not bring other pets.

### *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](mailto:Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com) or [Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com](mailto:Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com), or visit <http://www.insightinstitutellc.com/>

**RoG Men’s Group** – We will continue to meet **in person at 7:00 pm in Suite A9, 595 Park of Commerce:** official address is 11850 SR 84, Suite A9, Davie, FL 33325 (GPS will get you to the 4-building complex. We're in the 1st Building, middle suite.) Our optional pre-meeting dinner will be at our own **Lester's Diner: 1393 NW 136th Ave, Sunrise, FL 33323.** We'll meet there at 5:15pm. We are a lay-led group that looks to our members for discussion topics. **Tonight’s topic: Silence.** All who identify male are invited to join us! Our next meeting is **tonight, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 to 8:30 PM,** in person or via [Zoom Meeting](#). If you're joining for dinner, please email Ken Bresnahan, group facilitator, so he can coordinate space.) The Zoom Meeting Room will open at 7:00 pm. Questions: contact Ken; [mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org).

**Full Moon Daughters Outing on Saturday Oct 21st: BUTTERFLY FLY-IN.** Last call to sign up! Explore Butterfly World in Tradewinds Park. You can stroll through indoor and outdoor aviaries surrounded by stunning butterflies. There even is an indoor rainforest. The group will meet at 9:30 am in the main parking lot. The address is: 3600 W. Sample Road, Coconut Creek. To sign up, contact: [fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org).

**Growing Congregations in the Digital World; Nov 4.** The Sunshine Cluster's Annual Meeting, keynote, and workshop with Peter Bowden will feature simple strategies for growing congregations in a complex digital world.

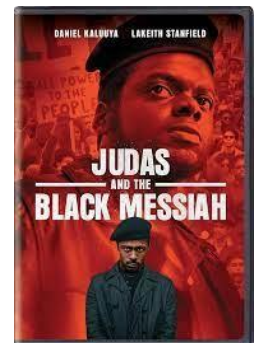
The internet has transformed how people research, explore, and make decisions. This includes how people connect with congregations. Peter's keynote will share how the internet has changed human behavior and why this calls on us to change how we approach outreach, hospitality, and membership development. After our Annual Meeting Peter will lead a one-hour program sharing specific strategies for supporting newcomers and growing our congregations today.



The **Sunshine Cluster's Annual Meeting and Program will be on Saturday, November 4, at 1pm via Zoom.** Free. [Click here to Register](#). From simple communication and website changes to harnessing the power of online video, this program is for people of all abilities. If you have any questions please contact Steve Jens-Rochow at [SEUUcluster@gmail.com](mailto:SEUUcluster@gmail.com).

**MUUVies for Change November viewing is "Judas and the Black Messiah"** Directed by Shaka King

The fantastic Daniel Kaluuya portrays the young revolutionary Fred Hampton in an Oscar winning role. The biographical drama centers on Hampton (Kaluuya), as he becomes chairman of the Chicago Black Panther party, but is eventually betrayed by William O'Neal (Lakeith Stanfield), an FBI informant. All too often Hollywood tends to soften portrayals of radical political figures, but thankfully this is not the case with Judas and the Black Messiah. Not only is the depiction of the Black Panther party pretty accurate (especially for a major Hollywood film), but it also has a remarkably accurate representation of Communism as a whole, and how the tenets of the ideology inform the political aims of the party.

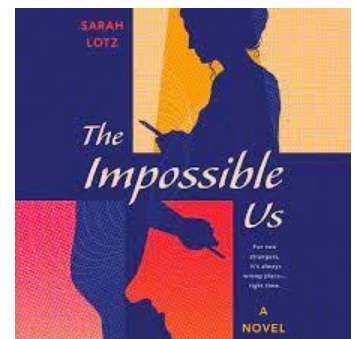


MUUVies for Change will discuss "Judas and the Black Messiah" on **Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.** Please reply to Steve Jens-Rochow [mUUVies@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:mUUVies@riverofgrassuu.org) if you will attend the Discussion. Join our Zoom Meeting at 7:00 PM: [Zoom Link](#). Meeting ID: 844 1859 3114; Passcode: 537288; One tap mobile: +16465588656,,84418593114# US (New York); Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84418593114>.

**BUUKies November Read - "The Impossible Us" by Sarah Lotz. We will meet on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to discuss this bUUK.** [River BUUKies Zoom Link](#) Meeting ID: 926 5701 7488; Passcode: 746613

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

When they decide to meet in person, it becomes clear that theirs is no simple love affair. Even while standing at the same train station, they can't see each other. They soon find out the reason: they're living in different universes. In Bee's world, Brexit happened, Donald Trump was president, and climate change is a massive threat. In Nick's world, Al Gore was president for two terms, the terrorist attacks of 9/11 never occurred, and the government has enforced widespread environmental rules that curbed climate change to a manageable level.



Steve Jens-Rochow [BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org).

**SWIM, the Southeast UU Winter institute. Will meet in Tampa from Dec 27, 2023 to Jan 2., 2024**



**SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week:** *Save electricity by shutting off lights when not in the room. And decide if all lights can be turned off during the night. This uses less power, lowers your electric bill, and helps the environment!*

**COVID-19:** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency at the end of the day on May 11, 2023. River of Grass UU has over 3 years experience during the COVID pandemic keeping our members safe and will always look to do so as we make the transition to congregational life free from guidelines. The members of our COVID Team have the thanks of the entire congregation for all their good work taking care of us all. We honor and respect anyone's choice to wear a mask and ask all attending our Worship Services and events to consider their own health when choosing whether or not to mask. If you have any questions please reach out to our team at [COVIDteam@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:COVIDteam@riverofgrassuu.org).

To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website at [riverofgrassuu.org/calendar.html](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:office@riverofgrassuu.org).

*Announcements to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to [WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto: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.*

**River of Grass UU Congregation**  
**6650 Griffin Rd, Davie, FL 33314 (Sunday Morning Service Location)**  
**11850 W St Rd 84, Ste A9, Davie, FL 33325 (Office & Mailing Location)**  
**954.723.7877 - [office@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:office@riverofgrassuu.org)**