

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 – October 27, 2022

Lifting the Veil: Courage to Face the Day

“All will be well, and all will be well, and all manner of things will we be well.”

- Julian of Norwich, 15th century mystic amidst the plague

In this season of Samhain (SAH-win) when the ancient ones tell us the veil between worlds is thin, how shall we move aside the veils between ourselves, one another, and the truths awaiting us in this precarious world and summon the courage to face the day – our day – and set our hearts and hands anew to the good work before us?

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](#).

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>

Rev. Amy's sabbatical:

Rev. Amy's sabbatical will end this Tuesday, Nov 1st. She will be back in the pulpit next Sunday, Nov 6th. For more information about her sabbatical, please read the information that Rev. Amy prepared. It is listed on our website: [Rev. Amy's Sabbatical Page](#).

Upcoming In-Person or Virtual Events - This Sunday:

Sunday, October 30, 2022

River of Grass UU Congregation – Lifting the Veil: Courage to Face the Day – Rev. Amy Carol Webb

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

Faith Development - There will not be an online Faith Development class for kids this Sunday. Instead, we will be showing up in our silliest, spookiest and most surprising costumes for tricks, treats and games at our Halloween party for families that afternoon. For more information, contact FaithDevelopment@RiverofGrassUU.org.

A Work of Heart Auction has started...

Holiday gift shopping? Looking for something for your home? Want to go to a party for a good cause? Our Auction is happening right now!

Click here to view our Catalog <https://www.silentauctionpro.com/bidonlinegrid.php?groupId=1763>

New items have been added since Auction opened!

To register to place a bid, click here

<https://www.silentauctionpro.com/signinregisterolb.php?groupId=1763&olbreturn=/memberhome.php?groupId=1763&ks=1>

Questions? auction@riverofgrassuu.org.

Congratulations to our final Auction Trivia Contest winners: Mallory McLaren and Peter Fox.

Volunteer Opportunities

90 minutes every 4-5 weeks: The Worship Team needs **three new Zoom Hosts** to rotate with two other volunteers running our Worship Service through Zoom on Sunday mornings. It also includes a FB promo at 5:00 pm when Rev. Amy and Faith Development tell our FB friends about the upcoming service! Training is provided. Once every four or five weeks is the commitment for 1-1/2 hours.



If you want to jump into volunteering, here is an opportunity! Please contact Rita Cherubini at worship@riverofgrassuu.org for more information.

Membership Matters! For more information on any event AND TO SIGN UP/VOLUNTEER, contact Leana Bresnahan at membership@riverofgrassuu.org.

- After a hiatus of two years, we will have our annual fall picnic **for the entire congregation** on Sunday, November 13, 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. Members Liz and John Perez have once again generously opened their home. They have a yard for the kids to run and play, and a pool for them to swim! This picnic is for everyone, ALL AGES...for members, friends, AND especially for those new to River of Grass. Rev. Amy will be there, just back from her sabbatical! **The picnic is a "bring your own everything..."** including (to be green) your own plates, cups, and cutlery. No sign-up required! But we do need some help for set-up and clean-up, so please volunteer. Directions to location will be forthcoming.
- Come be part of the exciting Faith Forward Inquirers' Sessions. The next session is **SUNDAY AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE** will focus on Faith Development for Children and Adults, led by our Faith Development Director, Karen Gonzalez. Parents, this will be a great opportunity to find out more about the values we teach our young ones! It will be a Zoom only event. **The Zoom link for the Inquirers' Session is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85480603146?pwd=NlRlRzJlMG9lVk1lMHA5djIwZlZhc0ZzO9>.**

Hurricane Relief Collection

\$375.00 has been sent to UUA Disaster Relief Fund for Hurricane Ian relief. Thank you all who contributed.



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 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 Nov 2nd topic will be announced closer to the meeting date.** 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.

Full Moon Daughters FALL CAMPING TRIP! NOV. 4-NOV. 6, 2022, Friday-Sunday:

We are going back to a favorite park – Jonathan Dickinson State Park – just north of Jupiter, home to the Loxahatchee River, and great birding. You can come for one night or two. There are hotels nearby for hotel campers who will join us during the day. Email fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org ASAP if you are interested or have any questions. Here is a link to park info: <https://www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/jonathan-dickinson-state-park>. See you on the water, along the trail, and under the stars! Your coordinators, Diane Lade and Deb Giblin-Davis

MUUVies for Change November viewing is "The Color Purple"

An epic tale spanning forty years in the life of Celie (Whoopi Goldberg), an African-American woman living in the South who survives incredible abuse and bigotry. After Celie's abusive father marries her off to the equally debasing "Mister" Albert Johnson (Danny Glover), things go from bad to worse, leaving Celie to find companionship anywhere she can. She perseveres, holding on to her dream of one day being reunited with her sister in Africa.



"The Color Purple" Whoopi Goldberg, Oprah Winfrey, Danny Glover; Directed by Steven Spielberg; streaming on [HBO Max](#) and [Amazon Prime](#). We will discuss this film on **Wednesday, Nov 9th at 7pm**. 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>.

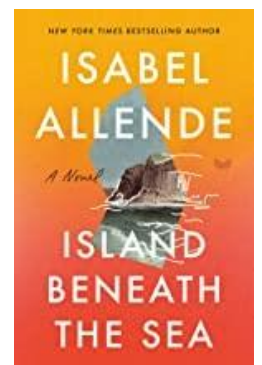
BUUKies November Read – "Island Beneath the Sea" by Isabel Allende. We will meet on Wednesday, Nov 16th at 7pm.

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

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

From the sugar plantations of Saint-Domingue to the lavish parlors of New Orleans at the turn of the 19th century, the latest novel from New York Times bestselling author Isabel Allende (Inés of My Soul, The House of the Spirits, Portrait in Sepia) tells the story of a mulatta woman, a slave and concubine, determined to take control of her own destiny.

Steve Jens-Rochow BUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org.



SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Cut down on "one-use" plastic like cellophane wrap, and instead use reusable containers to store leftovers. Also, buy food in larger containers instead of multiple smaller containers, like yogurt and cheese. Even some small changes can reduce plastic waste and help our planet.

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 October 16, 2022

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

COVID-19 is moving from pandemic to endemic status – it is always circulating in the community but the number of infected people varies from community to community. Individuals should take appropriate precautions based on their personal risk. River of Grass will follow the following measures for community gatherings based on CDC Guidelines and the Broward County risk levels.

Remember, you may choose to wear a mask and maintain social distancing at any time. If you have symptoms, a positive test or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should wear a mask.

Our COVID Team is monitoring the Broward County status weekly and will promptly advise if the status changes.

Community Level LOW: Current Broward County Status

- Individuals may elect to wear masks and socially distance at all times.

Community Level MEDIUM:

- Wear face masks for indoor gatherings.
- Choir wear singing masks.
- Unmasked speakers and Minister must test negative with a rapid test the previous evening.

Community Level HIGH:

In person Worship Services – Inside

- Masks required for all, special requirements for speakers
- Masks should be KN-95
- Unmasked speakers and Minister must test negative with a rapid test the previous evening
- No singing except the Minister (humming OK!)
- Social distancing between family groups
- No food or drinks
- All attendees sign in

After service Hospitality – Outside

- Maintain social distancing

Meetings – inside and outside

- Group leader inquire if anyone in the group wants the meeting to be masked. If everyone is not comfortable, masking and social distancing should be maintained.

- Food and drinks – determined by the group.
- All attendees sign in.

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.



**11th Annual
Florida Unitarian Universalist
Women's Retreat
March 31- April 2, 2023**

**A Weekend Gathering of UU Women
Featuring Shelley Graff facilitating
Singing in Sacred Circle**

- Friday evening we will get to know one another and create community
- Saturday one-hour workshops offer choices
Singing in Sacred Circle with Shelley Graff
Free time in the afternoon for personal exploration
- Sunday we share a UU Service bringing it all together

DaySpring Conference Center is conveniently located off I-75 just north of Sarasota on Florida's West Coast. The beautiful campus nestled under ancient oaks and located on a cove of the Manatee River offers a serene setting for our annual retreat. Take a look.

<http://Dayspring.dioswfl.org>.

\$232 per person covers expenses for a semi-private room plus meals for the weekend.

A limited number of single rooms are available at \$304 each.

8 women share a cozy cottage with 4 bedrooms and 4 baths, a screened porch and common area.

Come join us for an enriching and memorable weekend.

To register or for more information contact Helen Leddy

helen.leddy@gmail.com