

Reflections

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE RIVER OF GRASS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION
DAVIE, FLORIDA NOVEMBER 2012

MINISTER'S CORNER

IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS

The Reverend Amy Carol Webb, Consulting Minister



This reflection is written somewhere over the Atlantic, suspended between Europe and the United States, watching the sunset glowing golden at the edge of cumulous clouds. Suspended between time zones. Between centuries. Between then and now. Between our history and our hope as Unitarian Universalists. Brooke and I spent the last ten days in and around Basel, Switzerland, with our son Alex, his wife, Anna-Lena, and many members of our new family and friends - and the grandbaby on the way. We visited with the leadership of the Unitarian Universalists of Basel and capped our trip with my preaching and giving a hymn-singing workshop with them on Sunday, October 14th.

The air in Basel is thick with history – the world's and ours. In the 16th century in the midst of the Protestant Reformation, Basel was one of the few places in Europe, even the world, that harbored religious heretics and advocated for religious toleration. Our forefathers Michael Servetus and Martin Cellarius preached there before they ultimately gave their lives for their faith. Our faith. Four hundred years later, the Unitarian Universalists of Basel planted a new congregation two years ago. Walking up the narrow-streeted hill to UU Basel's meeting place, our footsteps echoing along centuries-old cobble stones, I could almost hear their ancient voices demanding the freedom to believe as they chose and follow truth of their own finding.

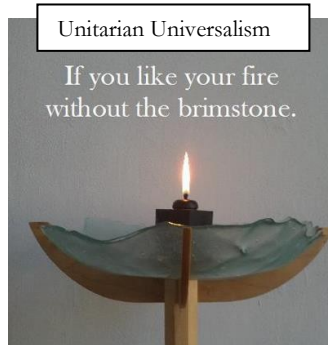
Their passion paved the way for that group of us gathered to celebrate our faith without fear of censure or reprisal, in a room of the Musik Museum in the historic Lorhof building from the year 1404. But even as I imagined the women and men who came before us walking these very streets, I also listened for Unitarian Universalists gathered the world over on a Sunday morning in the 21st century. I could almost make out the hymns and readings and greetings of joy and comfort sent up by my co-religionists, rising into the sky we share, ringing round the interdependent web of our very being. "Here we have gathered," we sang at UU Basel, "gathered side by side; circle of kinship, come and step inside!" The dedicated and passionate congregants of UU Basel encouraged one another, some having ridden the train over an hour for the comfort of this fellowship.

And take comfort we did. While challenging one another not to get too comfortable,

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MINISTER'S CORNER

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lest we be so relieved to have found this faith that we behave as if finding it is enough. So many of us rejoiced to find this faith - whether it be Basel, Switzerland or Davie, Florida. I surely did. But finding Unitarian Universalism for ourselves cannot, is not and must never be enough. No, for the sake of the truth and liberty and justice and peace and love and the search for truth we covenant to cherish above all else, for the sake of the history we honor and the hope we proclaim to the world wounded and waiting for the free faith we celebrate, let us live out loud the faith we inherit from those in whose footsteps I followed in ancient Basel this week. Answering the call I hear as I fly into the glowing horizon. Pursuing the promise of a new era of Unitarian Universalism the world over. The promise we begin here at the River of Grass. May this be our thankful expression in this season of gratitude.

NOVEMBER SERVICES

- Nov. 4 *One Wild and Precious Life Service*, Intergenerational Service
- Nov. 11 *Guest at Your Table*, Service and Social Justice
- Nov. 18 Rev. Amy Carol Webb
- Nov. 25 Rev. Meg Barnhouse



WRITER'S CIRCLE

Ingrid Furlong

Do you have a writing project, a short story, a memoir, or poetry? River of Grass is launching a writing group. We plan to meet every two weeks, probably on a Thursday evening and provide one another with comments on each other's work. Contact writers@riverofgrass.org if you are interested in joining the circle.

OUR PRINCIPLES

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;

The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

OUR SUNDAY LOCATION

11850 W. State Road 84, Suite 1, Davie, FL 33325

EVERY SUNDAY

Worship Service: 10:30 to 11:30am. **Hospitality Hour:** 11:30am to 12:30pm.

Faith Development Classes: 10:45 to 11:45am

FRIENDLY REMINDERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

There is plenty of parking outside the sanctuary, but please leave the closer parking spaces for our guests and physically challenged worshippers.

All meetings are held at 11850 W State Road 84, Suite 1 in Davie unless otherwise noted.

River of Grass

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

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 Service & Social Justice ... Steve Jens-Rochow & Judi Oltmans
 Shared Ministry Diane Lade & Janet Schwartz
 Stewardship Troy Gies & Pam Schrimsher
 Worship Kathy Jens-Rochow

THE REVEREND AMY CAROL WEBB WEEKEND: NOVEMBER 17 AND 18, 2012



Saturday, November 17th

Workshop: What it means to live our Covenant of Right Relations (These sessions are independent of one another; you need not have attended the first one to attend this one.) Childcare will be available.



Family Movie Time (12 noon): *Ice Age: Continental Drift* – Appropriate for ALL Ages

Sunday, November 18th

Sunday Service: Rev. Amy Carol Webb in the Pulpit

Feeding the Hungry: After our service, we will put together bags of food for LifeNet4Families. Please bring canned goods to fill the empty bags that will be provided. During this season of giving thanks, let us put together some special meals for the less fortunate in our community.



Making a Collage Video: What one word or phrase comes to mind when you think of River of Grass? Think about it and come ready to say it on camera! Be a part of this exciting project!

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND, 2013

AUCTION COMMITTEE

Esther Sampol, Chair

Our Annual Auction: It's just around the corner!

Well, it *WILL* be right after the holiday season. Lucky for us, the holiday season can bring many re-gifting opportunities: gifts that are either not our style or taste, gifts that are too similar to keep both, or gifts that we just do not like. Think of how much more successful our biggest fundraiser of the year will be once you donate all those wonderful items to our auction. Think of how you'll be doing your part to save the planet by recycling these items. Think about it. Now you won't have to stress about disappointing poor Aunt



Tessie because you will never use her gift. I can guarantee you that someone else will absolutely love it and will find the perfect place for it in their home.

So, get ready to have one less thing to worry about this holiday season. In fact, if everyone reading this makes a plan to donate just one item that they received during the holidays to the auction – WOW! Plus, think of all the fun we will have shopping for bargains right here at River of Grass in February (just in time for Valentine's Day).

Remember to save the date for a fun evening, but, also, remember to save all those wonderful gifts that you receive that just aren't your thing. We'll find a good home for them – and generate some income while we are at it. Let's have a REUSE-RECYCLE-REGIFT attitude this holiday season – and do it for our beloved community!



FROM THE PRESIDENT

SPIRITUAL CALISTHENICS

Marjorie Loring, Board President



According to an online dictionary, calisthenics are considered a “form of physical exercise consisting of a variety of simple, rhythmical movements, generally without using equipment or apparatus. They are intended to increase body strength and flexibility with movements such as bending, jumping, swinging, or twisting.”

Following that model, I believe that Spiritual Calisthenics is a form of spiritual exercise consisting of a variety of simple, often rhythmical sensitivity practices, generally without the use of historical guidelines or personal preferences. They are intended to increase mental flexibility and spiritual grounding using concepts such as openness, inclusiveness, and adaptation, and can improve our ability to bend and stretch, using only our own biases and habits for resistance.

Spiritual calisthenics are not always easy, but when performed vigorously, and with variety, can benefit both mental and spiritual fitness, in addition to building a well-balanced, active, engaged, and adaptable community.

As we move into a time of growth and change, we need to remember to practice our Spiritual Calisthenics whenever we feel our own resistance to something that is being said differently, done differently, or when we decide to try something new. Our vision for River of Grass is about our future - a future that we will be leaving in the hands of the next generation - young adults, youth, and children who will be the future leaders and decision makers in our denomination. It is our responsibility to support that transition by beginning to use the tools, concepts, and language that resonate with them: that connect with how they think, how they see the world, and how they communicate. We need to address, today, the needs of our next generation of Unitarian Universalists.

This means, building bridges: bridges that connect the way we have always done it to the way they would like to try it, bridges that connect our language to theirs, bridges that connect what River of Grass and Unitarian Universalism is now to what it can, and will, become for them. Built not to pass on to them a tradition that we have carved in stone, but one we that we have molded with firm but flexible clay – adaptable as time unfolds and trusted in their hands. How do we do this?

Let’s start with the use of the word “church.” The founding members of River of Grass were very intentional in calling us a congregation. We all know that we are the River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation. But a congregation is what we are, not necessarily where we go on Sunday mornings. I’ve had conversations with many of our members. There are those of you who say, without hesitation, that you go to church at River of Grass; others say that they go to service at River of Grass, and some simply go to River of Grass. I don’t think I have ever heard anyone say they are going to the congregation on Sunday. People go to synagogues, temples, mosques, and churches. As UUs, we accept and affirm diversity in so many ways – it’s time for us to stretch a little in this direction, too. Every third Sunday of the month, Rev. Amy ends her service by prompting us to say in unison “Good Church!” This is a perfect opportunity for us to practice our spiritual calisthenics – to bend and stretch.



Then there is the River of Grass acronym, ROG. Yes, we want people to know who we are by name - our full name. And, yes, it’s a long one! One that we should use in most of our publications since good journalism avoids most acronyms. However, we are also a congregation that spans four generations, and wants to build up our membership with those younger generations – the ones who are our future, the ones known for taking shortcuts in language. With texting quickly becoming the preferred method of communication, nobody is going to spell out River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation. It’s 45 characters long! Instead, they are going to text ROG. And chances are that if they text ROG, they are going to say ROG when they talk to one another. This is their world, too. What was once the Kentucky Fried Chicken of the older generations is now the KFC of today’s youth, a company who embraced the acronym and built a new and successful advertising campaign around it. Our kids go off to college at FAU, FIU, UCF, UM, UCLA – colleges that have embraced their acronyms with catchy logos and branding. And we can do that, too. We

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BOARD MATTERS

Zena Tucker, Board Secretary

What goes on at Board meetings? Well, a good portion of our last board meeting was spent discussing all the wonderful work being done by the River of Grass committees! We had to paddle double time for our Board's blue boat to keep abreast of so many activities. Trusting committee chairs have reported their news to you in other parts of this newsletter; I will pass along only the "wave top" view from our mast.



First, our treasurer's report continues to reveal a healthy financial picture, even with the difficulties (rain leaks) experienced with Tropical Storm Isaac. This healthy picture is due to our generous congregation and, also, from receipts from River of Grass Cafe' ticket sales.

Our Facilities Committee, chaired by Susan Juncosa, was again particularly challenged by water again this month. On Tuesday, September 25, leaky pipes created what is now called "The Flood" with water nearly everywhere. Special thanks to Janet Schwartz and Sophia Brown for their quick action. For a time the facility looked like a scene from a Terri Gilliam (Monty Python) movie with tubes, dehumidifiers, and fans everywhere. Nevertheless, the Doug MacLeod concert that same Friday never missed a beat.

At the Board's request, a new task force was formed to draft policies and procedures for renting and use of our facility. While rental dollars are helpful to our bottom-line, some of the questions the group will be discussing include: should recurring rental activities take precedence over our own? Over the coming weeks, Team Lead Carolyn SantAngelo along with Susan Juncosa, Steve Tepper, and John Perez will develop and submit for approval the Facility Rental Policies regarding rental rates and use of our home.

Regarding policy changes, the Board accepted and approved the policy change to implement annual background checks for all working with our youth in order to remain consistent with Florida State Law. While our policy group continues to work on other issues such as pay for employees during forced closures of the facility, no other policy changes were ready for implementation this month.

Our Service and Social Justice Committee (SSJC) suggested the Board consider choosing a different charity for the plate collection for one week a month. Currently, one-half of our undesignated offering collected at our Sunday Services goes to LifeNet4Families, who helps the less fortunate in our local community with food, clothing and more. While this worthy organization will continue to be our primary charity in the coming year, the Board agreed with SSJC that by donating to another cause as well, it is possible to spark more interest in philanthropy and make River of Grass more widely known in the community. But how does one pick a charity? The Board chose to put the question to our youth. Working with our Faith Development leaders, our youth are tasked to come up with one appropriate charity that will be the recipient for one Sunday per month (the fourth Sunday) donation for this congregational year.



A new River of Grass logo was designed by our board president, Marjie Loring, and presented to the board for approval. Additionally, it was given to our youth for their unique perspective and input. The design was given two thumbs up by the youth and the Board approved the logo. (A draft copy appears in the President's column in this newsletter.)

Our Covenant of Right Relations was a topic of discussion at our last board meeting. In the midst of this political season, how does this covenant call on us to act? Well, Rev. Amy will provide a very timely workshop on living our Covenant of Right Relations during the last weekend in October. Going forward, the Board will be working with Rev. Amy to arrange future monthly workshops for the congregation.

This concludes another Board Matters report. Now it's time for some more gentle paddling on the river!

SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Steve Jens-Rochow and Judi Oltmans, Committee Co-Chairs

Every Sunday we say “. . . and Service is its law.” Our Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) puts service into action. For years we have supported the UUSC through the Guest at Your Table program. This is an important, nearly 40-year UU tradition. By celebrating Guest at Your Table in our congregation, we are helping to nurture gratitude and service to others through “justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.” The program brings understanding and awareness of UUSC’s human-rights work into our homes during the holiday season.

Guest at Your Table is an annual tradition in which congregation members learn about people the UUSC is working with and in whose lives they are making a difference. The Guests feature some of UUSC’s particularly innovative partnerships. Chavannes Jean-Baptiste is one that is close to us.



Outside of Port-au-Prince, Chavannes Jean-Baptiste has been creating a new vision of life for Haitians. And he is not doing it alone — he’s got more than 60,000 people across Haiti joining him as members of the Papaye Peasant Movement (MPP), a UUSC partner organization. Chavannes Jean-Baptiste is helping people work together to build strong rural communities and live in ways that are good for themselves and for the planet. The Papaye Peasant Movement helps people, especially farmers, learn about their rights, grow healthy food, and help each other. Chavannes Jean-Baptiste is a good example of the empowering way a relatively modest amount of money and expertise from the UUSC multiplies and grows to help many people.

The kickoff for Guest at Your Table is Sunday, November 11th.

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

“Advancing human rights is the work of many joining hands”



LifeNet4Families
Cooperative Feeding Program

Our next Volunteer Day at LifeNet4Families is on **Saturday, November 10th from 8:45-11:00am**. Come join us in lending a hand at the LifeNet4Families pantry. We’ll be stocking the shelves, filling boxes with food for needy families and taping up boxes. It’s a great experience helping out at LifeNet and giving back to the community. Our teens can also earn service hours towards their high school graduation requirements.

If you would like to volunteer for this event there is a sign up at the back of the sanctuary at the Service and Social Justice corner or you can contact us at

ssjc@riverofgrass.org. We continue to have a basket at the SSJC corner for canned food donations for LifeNet4Families. They are in need of canned meats and fish as well as canned fruit.

LifeNet4Families can also use clothing donations. Here is a list of the items they need for men and women: jeans, shorts, t-shirts, polo shirts, tank tops, socks, underwear, baseball caps and visors, sneakers and work boots. Items can be placed in the basket at the SSJC corner.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

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can embrace ROG not as a replacement for our name, but as a branding that bridges the generations. ROG is not going away. It’s going to pop up here and there, mixed in with the whole shebang of our 45 character name, and that’s ok. This is another opportunity for us to practice our spiritual calisthenics – to bend and stretch. And to help one another as we cross those bridges together. The draft logo you see here emerged from the Board retreat and was enthusiastically embraced by our youth. Its design shows a connection between the young and the old, the past and the future. It represents who we are – all of us – the sum of our parts.

Many paths, one covenant – that’s the beauty of the River... our River. Let’s celebrate all that it means together – the long AND the short of it!

GIVING THANKS!

Christy Schultz, Faith Development Coordinator

“It’s not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.” ~ Mother Teresa

I would like to begin by giving “thanks” to all of you – my new community! And - what a community it is: people dedicated to each other and to living lives that are just, respectful, and giving. There is such a sense of altruism at River of Grass, almost every week there is a group getting together to plan the next social action project or to help a fellow member. I have to tell you that it is very refreshing!!



How can we create that sense of giving with our children and in our families and in our community? The Social Action Project that the Children and Youth have chosen this year is to help our fellow creatures. We have been collecting blankets, sheets, and towels to donate to the animal shelter and some of us will be visiting and volunteering at a local shelter sometime in the new year.

We also collected for UNICEF at Halloween and our donations will give those in need the food and care to make their lives better. Thank you.

What are some other ways we can spread the love? How about something special for Thanksgiving? What can we do for each other - in our homes, in our congregation, and outside in our community? You might want to volunteer at the Life Net for Families, packing boxes of food. Or you may want to bring your leftovers to someone in need, or make an entire meal for someone in need.

Another simple thing you can do is show simple gratitude to everyone in your life. Kids tell your parents and families how much you love them and appreciate them, and adults you can do the same for the children and youth in your lives. You may also want to offer help: do the dishes unexpectedly, make breakfast in bed for your parent(s) or other adult in your life, or maybe you can say “hello” to the shy child you see by themselves at school or in our congregation. “Practice Random Acts of Kindness”!

I am thankful for all the children and youth, the parents, the teachers, and the Faith Development Team - our community is vibrant and embracing, a blessing for our congregation! I am also thankful to those that stepped up to run the Children and Youth Sunday programs on Veteran’s Day Weekend so the Full Moon Daughters could howl at the moon while camping in the keys!! (I am also thankful for the moon!)

“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” ~Mark Twain



As a group, the Children and Youth will be creating a Tree of Thanks this month. We will decorate our tree with messages to ourselves, each other, and the wide world around us, sending love and gratitude out in all directions. Happy Month of Thanksgiving everyone! See you and your kids on Sundays for our wonderful Children and Youth Programs!

“If the only prayer you said was ‘thank you’, that would be enough.” ~ Meister Eckhart



RIVER OF GRASS CAFÉ

By Gayle Giese

November 30, 2012 - 8:00 pm

Emma's Revolution

"Boasting gorgeous close harmonies and unsinkable tunefulness, Emma's Revolution (the Emma is Goldman) is a classic, globetrotting folk duo comprised of activist singer/songwriters Sandy O. and Pat Humphries. Their music is progressive, socially-conscious, confrontational and shot-through with intelligence and cutting humor; their songs have been sung for the Dalai Lama, covered by Holly Near and they count the great Pete Seeger among their admirers. Newest disc 'Revolutions per Minute' is a front-to-back gem."

~Iowa City Press-Citizen



Grand prize-winners in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest, the duo's songs create new standards in the art of social justice. Their songs "Peace, Salaam, Shalom" and "Keep on Moving Forward" are sung around the world, and their music has been featured on NPR's "All Things Considered" and Pacifica's "Democracy Now!" Pat and Sandy are partners in life, love and justice. In the spirit of Emma Goldman's famous attribution, "If I can't dance, I don't want to be part of your revolution," Emma's Revolution brings their uprising of truth, hope and a dash of healthy irreverence to concerts and peace & justice, environmental, LGBT and women's rights, immigration and human rights, and labor events around the world. Based in the Washington DC area, Emma's Revolution has performed at more than a thousand events throughout the US and abroad. Come to the River of Grass Café and join the revolution!

Mark your calendar! **Friday, November 30.** Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door.

To purchase tickets for Emma's Revolution, please go to www.riverofgrass.org and click on the "Calendar and Events" tab in the upper right corner. Select "Coffeehouse Concerts." Purchased tickets will be held for you at the front desk on the night of the performance.

Doors open at 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8:00 pm.

Drinks and delicious food from our River of Grass chefs are available for purchase!

Come hungry and bring your friends!

The Café takes a break for the December holidays

Join us ***Friday, January 25th*** to hear the genius of
Richard (guitar) and Julie Smith (cello)

Janis Ian tickets for Friday, May 3rd and Saturday, May 4th are going fast.

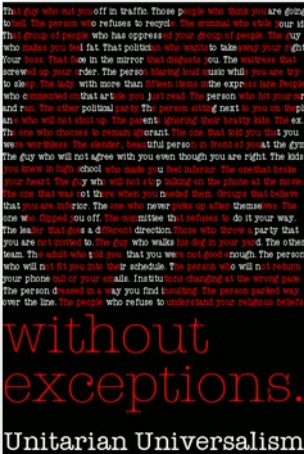
Get yours now!



Check out our River
of Grass Café
[Facebook](#) fan page
for all the latest news!

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Leana Bresnahan, Chair



We had seven participants in our Pathway to Membership class, held on October 14th, after worship service. All participated in a heartfelt discussion of their spiritual paths and what has now brought them to explore River of Grass as their potential spiritual home. They also had the opportunity to become familiar with the many activities and groups at River of Grass, and to learn about the history of the congregation and of Unitarian Universalism as a faith. We talked about the structure of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and we watched a video featuring “UUs” from across the country speaking of the many positive things that their Unitarian Universalist faith brings to their lives. The delicious pizza we shared (thank you to Cristin and John for organizing that!), the yummy desserts we devoured (thank you to Elly for leaving your post-surgery recovery bed to provide them!) and the perspectives and views we exchanged made the time fly by. Thank you to all who participated; thank you to all who presented and provided! We ARE the beloved community!

We are looking for a date in November to hold another class, so that more people will be able to participate in the next New Member Sunday, scheduled to take place on December 2nd, if they so choose. There are no good Sunday afternoon options available in November, so we will be contacting our potential participants about attending a class on a weeknight in November. Please get in touch with me at membership@riverofgrass.org if you are interested in attending a class in November.

The new schedule for Circle Suppers for this congregational year is November 17th, February 23rd, and May 4th! Circle suppers are potluck dinners for groups of 8-10 people who meet at a host’s home. The host will coordinate with those who have signed up to attend to determine what each person will bring in order to create a fabulous meal! Circle Suppers are a fun, relaxed way to get to know River of Grass members and friends in a low-key environment and on a more personal level. Please look for the sign-up sheet for the November Circle Supper in the hospitality area. We hope you’ll join us for some good food and great company! You don’t need to be a River of Grass member to attend.



I would like to wish two of our beloved committee members a very speedy recovery. Bridget and Elly, may you both be back to full health very soon. We love you! Many blessings to all!

RIVER OF GRASS WELCOME BACK



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4th, 2012

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

(Location: A Member’s Home)

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For more information or directions, please contact Leana Bresnahan at membership@riverofgrass.org

FACILITIES UPDATE

Susan Juncosa, Team Lead

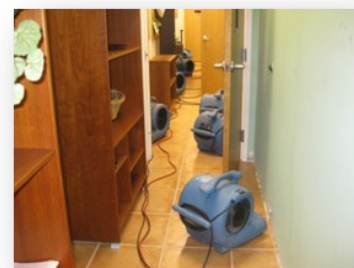
“Great floods have flown from simple sources.” ~ William Shakespeare

As always, Shakespeare said it best. On Tuesday morning, September 25, our congregational administrator, **Sophia Brown**, arrived at work to find the central core of the facility toe-deep in water. The water supply line to one of the fixtures in the men’s bathroom had sprung a leak overnight! The bathroom, hallway, office, supply closet, and even parts of the multipurpose room and sanctuary shared a large puddle of water which spread out under the walls. The dry wall was wet, in places as high as several feet.



The insurance company recommended that we bring in a water restoration company. A local company was able to come immediately. After first removing the standing water, they removed the vinyl baseboard along the walls and brought in fans and dehumidifiers. This was to enable the air to reach between the walls and dry out the interior, preventing mold growth. Lots and lots of fans with lots and lots of hoses were brought in (see the pictures)! Meanwhile, **Janet Schwartz**, **Christy Schultz**, and **Sophia** moved materials off of the shelves and into the teen room to allow furniture to be moved.

Of great concern was the upcoming café concert – the first of the season. The company initially thought that sufficient water would be removed by Friday afternoon, but that was not the case. So all the fans, hoses and other equipment were removed and temporarily put in the multipurpose room and the show went on! After the show, the crew came in and set it all up again until its final removal on Sunday morning, just before service.



By the time you read this article, it is hoped that some outstanding issues will have been resolved, such as when the multipurpose room is going to be repainted, when the cove molding will be installed and by whom, and so on. Thankfully, our insurance covers the water damages.

Special thanks go to Janet and Sophia who took the lead in the coordination efforts with the insurance company and insurance adjuster as well as the restoration company. The Great Flood – another memorable moment in our River of Grass history!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Kathy Jens-Rochow, Chair



We are delighted to have the Rev. Meg Barnhouse as our guest minister on November 25th.

Ordained in 1981, Rev. Barnhouse is currently the senior minister of the First UU Church of Austin (Texas). She came into parish ministry from ministry as a college chaplain and a pastoral counselor. After graduating with a degree in Political Science and Psychology from Duke University, she trained at Princeton Theological Seminary, where she won the Grier-Davies Preaching Prize and the Bible Knowledge Contest. She is also a humorist, singer-songwriter, commentator for “Radio Free Bubba” on North Carolina Public Radio and author of several books, including *Did I Say That Out Loud?*

She has two sons, Sam and Ned Durrett. Sam is in medical school, is married to Emily, who teaches high school biology, and he raises bees. Some of us know her other son, Ned, as Emily Gonzalez’ fiancée. Ned’s band “Ned Durrett and the Kindly Gents” is popular in the southeast. Meg’s life partner, Kiya Heartwood, is an award-winning singer-songwriter and composer.

Watch your weekly emails for more information regarding her sermon topic.



River of Grass Spooktacular Event
Sunday, October 28, 2012



2012

Sat.	3rd	9:00am-noon 12:30-5:30pm	River of Grass Facility Work Day Full Moon Daughters Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Trip
Sun.	4th	10:30-11:30am 10:45-11:45am 1:00-5:00pm	Sunday Service Sunday Classes <i>Welcome Back Picnic</i>
Mon.	5th	7:00-8:30pm	Service and Social Justice Committee
Tue.	6th	4:00-7:00pm 6:00-8:00pm	River of GREENS Adult Faith Development Workshop – Being a UU Parent
Sat.	10th	8:45-11:30am	LifeNet4Families Volunteer Day
Sat.	10th	All Day	<i>Full Moon Daughter Bahia Honda Camping Trip</i>
Sun.	11th	All Day	<i>Full Moon Daughter Bahia Honda Camping Trip</i>
Mon.	12th	All Day	<i>Full Moon Daughter Bahia Honda Camping Trip</i>
Sun.	11th	10:30-11:30am 10:45-11:45am	Sunday Service Sunday Classes
Mon.	12th	7:15-9:00pm	Finance Committee
Tue.	13th	7:00-8:30pm	Healthy Inspirations – Adult Faith Development Workshop
Wed.	14th	7:00-10:00pm	Board Meeting
Rev. Amy Carol Webb Weekend			
Sat.	17th	9:00-11:30am 12:00-2:00pm	Workshop: Covenant of Right Relations Family Friendly Movie: Ice Age 4 – Continental Drift
Sun.	18th	10:30-11:30am 10:45-11:45am 12:00-2:30pm 12:30-2:00pm	Sunday Service Sunday Classes Feeding the Hungry Activity & SAY IT on Camera! Swamp Rose Covenant Group

Tue.	20th	4:00-7:00pm	River of GREENS
Thu.	22nd	All Day	Happy Thanksgiving!
Sun.	25th	10:30-11:30am 10:45-11:45am	Sunday Service Sunday Classes
Mon.	26th	7:00-9:00pm	Women's Group
Wed.	28th	7:15-9:00pm	bUUKies Book Group
Fri.	30th	8:00-10:00pm	Café Concert: Emma's Revolution
Tue.	2nd	7:00-8:30pm	Healthy Inspirations – Adult Faith Development Workshop

COMING UP IN DECEMBER!



Dec. 1:	<i>River of Grass Facility Work Day</i>
Dec. 2:	<i>New Member Sunday</i>
Dec. 4:	<i>Healthy Inspirations Workshop – Adult Faith Development</i>
Dec. 7:	<i>Holiday Gathering at River of Grass</i>
Dec. 9:	<i>Chanukah Starts!</i>
Dec. 15/16:	<i>Rev. Amy Weekend</i>
Dec. 19:	<i>bUUKies Book Group Holiday Gathering</i>
Dec. 24:	<i>Christmas Eve Service at River of Grass</i>
Dec. 25:	<i>Christmas Holiday!</i>