

Reflections

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE RIVER OF GRASS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

DAVIE, FLORIDA

OCTOBER 2016

KNOCK KNOCK

Rev. Amy Carol Webb



In all manner of systems that contemplate the vagaries of human nature – theology, philosophy, sociology, psychology, ethics, education, game theory, politics, history, arts, science, linguistics, mathematics, family systems, you name it – there is a theory about how we learn that proposes that whatever lesson we need, circumstances will repeatedly arise to offer opportunity to learn it.

Some assign this function to a deity by one name or another. Some assign it to mathematical probability. Some take it so far as quantum theory. Some will call it “fate.” Some, an organic algorithm, the computations of which only seem infinite to our finite minds. The only sure thing is that this need to understand our lives and ourselves gives rise to these systems in every era and each generation. This need that drives us to plant and invent and create and build – and re-build. This need to analyze, rationalize, hypothesize. This

need some of us are keenly aware of, and some of us are oblivious to. But make no mistake, aware or not, each of us is driven by the same yearnings, and learnings.

Let us remember this in this peculiar stew of a political season. Nothing happening these days is new. The same troubles, the same prejudices, the same angers, the same fears, the same tendencies to demonize the “other” – whether that “other” is an immigrant, a person with different color skin, or religion, or language, or culture, or political affiliation other than yours (and while Progressives sometimes like to point at the other side of the aisle for “othering,” Progressives can be guilty of “othering” the others they accuse of “othering.”) – none of this is new.

But if none of this is new, what is it?
Opportunity.

It is the nature of the Universe to be generous with us. To offer us opportunity after opportunity after opportunity to finally “get it right.” No matter how dismally we may have failed in the past. And this is where I think we are right now: being offered another chance to do better than we did before.

We’ve seen this ugliness so many times. Some may be tempted to participate in it again. We’ve faced this shadow side of humanity over and over and over in the course of human evolution. Sometimes we have done better. Sometimes we have utterly failed. Always, we are challenged once more to learn lessons we missed last time around.

There’s a reason the early 20th-century Spanish poet George Santayana’s proverb persists: “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” And a

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OUR SUNDAY LOCATION

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

EVERY SUNDAY

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

Faith Development Classes: 11:00 am to 12:00 noon

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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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.

STAY CONNECTED!

In between issues of *Reflections* you can stay connected to the River of Grass Congregation the following ways:

- ◆ Sign up for our **weekly email** with events and news that changes each week: send an email to office@riverofgrassuu.org
- ◆ Visit our **Facebook page**: www.facebook.com/riverofgrassuu
- ◆ Follow us on **Twitter**: [@RiverOfGrassUU](https://twitter.com/RiverOfGrassUU) or www.twitter.com/riverofgrassuu
- ◆ Visit our **calendar**: www.riverofgrassuu.org/calendar.html (or go to: www.riverofgrassuu.org – click on Events – Calendar.)
- ◆ Join our new MeetUp group: www.meetup.com/riverofgrassuu (see article on Page 8 for more details)

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Zena Tucker



Welcome!

River of Grass is committed to healing injustice and creating a sustainable earth while honoring each individual's search for truth, meaning, and faith.

I offer our mission statement for your review. It sets a high bar for us, doesn't it? As your board president, I strive to honor this mission in our work. Can you think of examples of our actions toward this mission?

Now for some offerings of gratitude! **Drea Kelly** has stepped down as Hospitality Team Chairperson, though she and **Stan** will still be covering her regular Sunday in the kitchen. By the way, were you there when she baked during a Sunday Service? Attendees were treated to aromatic warm banana bread fresh from the oven. What a special treat that highlights Drea's love for the River. A wholehearted thanks Drea for building a great continuity file for our next team leader. (Interested anyone?) And sincere gratitude for the gifts she shares.

A hearty thanks to **Kristine and Kip Barkley** who have graciously agreed to lead our Stewardship team again this year. Kip has lots of energy and ideas about how our mission can be enhanced with improving our personal financial knowledge and acumen. He has proposed and the board has approved a new group called the "Planned Giving" team. Look for his helpful and informative missives on in our newsletters and Second Helping Sundays very soon!

I now bring your attention to two other members who stepped up in a big way this year: **Jon Kitner** and **GL Franklin**. They are our new chairpersons of the Facilities Committee. Have you noticed the new paint already? Jon and GL will be working towards a movable partition for the Multi-purpose Room, so pardon the dust! This partition will enable another classroom for our growing Faith Development program, but will also fold aside so the larger space can be retained for bigger groups like Choir. My deepest gratitude for this leadership team!

A big shout out to **Susan Juncosa** for stepping into leadership of our big fall fundraiser – the Halloween Party and auction. Susan and her team are planning a super fun event for the whole family and will raise money towards our mission and ministry too. Thank you Susan!

Hand claps for **Pam Schrimsher** who has agreed to be our Finance Chairperson this year. Pam has a wealth of experience while serving on the committee and has already put forth excellent suggestions for improvements. I look forward to great ideas and bold steps forward towards our mission from Pam.



Last but not least, a big thank you to **Linda Lathroum** who is now working with **Ingrid Furlong** on Game Night. Thanks to Linda and her team, Game night includes dinner making the River a destination for a family friendly Friday night.

There are so many people who make our River strong, vital and vibrant. I can't possibly thank everyone in one monthly article. Know that I am deeply grateful to you all! We each have our part in this sacred mission we honor.

In community, Zena



FAITH DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Deborah Ely, Faith Development Coordinator

Happy Fall from Faith Development! We are excited for the month of October! This busy month includes the Blessing of the Animals Ceremony on October 16 and Spooktakular on October 30! We also have three Faith Development days with the Chalice Children and Social Justice curricula we have selected for the students. Our Faith Development Committee meeting is Sunday, October 23, after the service. Childcare will be provided. Please join us to learn more about our activities, volunteer for upcoming events, and give your input.



KNOCK KNOCK

(Continued from page 1)

reason the mid-century Unitarian author Kurt Vonnegut responded, “We’re doomed to repeat the past no matter what. That’s what it is to be alive.”

Well then, by Mr. Vonnegut’s measure we must be more alive than ever right now! And once again standing at the threshold of opportunity to live into a more just, more loving, more peaceful chapter in human history. Hold fast, my family of faith! Hold fast!

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY AT 10:30 AM

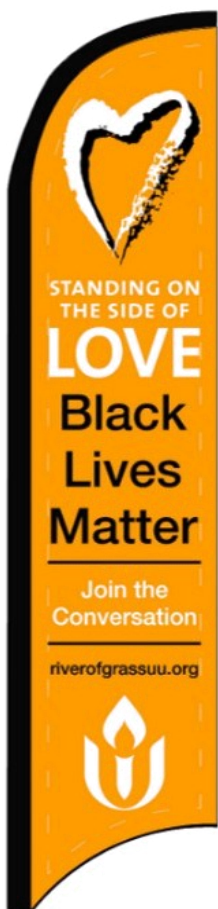
- October 2: ***We Are Better Together***
Scott May, Toni Cattel, Carolyn Sant Angelo, and Sheryl Cattell
- October 9: ***First Nations Day/Rosh Hashanah***
Rev. Amy Carol Webb
- October 16: ***Blessing of the Animals***
Rev. Amy Carol Webb
6pm *Neshamah* Evening Meditative Service
- October 23: ***Music!***
Rev. Amy Carol Webb
- October 30: ***Dia de los Muertos/Samhain***
Rev. Amy Carol Webb

THE RIVER SHINES A LIGHT ON INJUSTICE WITH NEW BLM FLAG

Your Board, as a matter of policy, affirms that the *Black Lives Matter* movement is in harmony with our Unitarian Universalist principles and that those principles call on the Congregation to provide the movement our full and public support. Following the Congregational survey last January, in which approximately 80% of those responding expressed their desire to obtain Congregational *Black Lives Matter* banners, we moved forward by authorizing the design and purchase of two banners. Those banners have been used in marches and other community events, and one is displayed right now in our sanctuary.

Now we are further blessed that, for their annual service project, the Monday Evening Covenant Group plans to give the Congregation a 12 foot *Black Lives Matter* feather flag, to be displayed outside each Sunday. Members of the Covenant Group will rotate responsibility for placing the flag near the entrance of our complex each Sunday, and for removing it later in the day.

Your Board has voted to accept the Monday Evening Covenant Group’s gifts of this flag and of their service each Sunday. This aligns with the Congregational survey in which over 80% of respondents support hanging a *Black Lives Matter* banner outside our facility. We are mindful, of course, that this decision is part of a continuing dialogue, both within this Congregation and in our society as a whole. And we invite members of this Congregation to “join the conversation” – as the flag invites members of the larger community to do the same. We will listen to and hear your words and thoughts with compassion and love.



COVENANT GROUPS AT RIVER OF GRASS

By Janet Schwartz

Recall a time when you were filled with joy. Where were you? At home? At a concert? A party? Maybe you were in a religious service or on vacation. Perhaps you were on a hike or seated on the sand at a beach, watching the tide roll in. Were you alone or was someone with you? Maybe you were making love, gardening, telling a joke, or jogging.

Now pay attention to how you recalled this time. You found things: memories, sensations, experiences. You gathered them together and by so doing, filled a moment of time. You packed it full of thoughts and feelings, places and things, and bound them together as yours.

This recollecting and binding process is a spiritual act. It is opening up time and giving it the texture, content, feelings, and ideas actually present in your experience. This way of packing time with detail and dimension, slowing it down by filling it up with the full presence of life, is the essence of every spiritual practice.

Covenant Groups are about this spiritual practice. They aim to make moments matter again. In these gatherings of six to ten persons, meeting monthly to build spiritual lives, each member holds on to the same moment through personal sharing and by asking for or by listening to the details, texture, content, feelings, and ideas packed into someone's experiences. As people pay active attention to the details of each other's lives, this gathered community can extend a moment of time until it is filled with the thoughts and feelings that turn time into an experience that is not fleeting, but abiding, because we are now fully present. Sacred time begins here.

– Thandeka

If you would like to partake in the spiritual practice of Covenant Group participation, there are a number of options available. Currently there are openings in the group meeting on the fourth Saturday morning of each month. The women's group meeting monthly on the fourth Thursday evening is now open for new members, and soon the group meeting monthly at River of Grass after Sunday services will be resuming their meetings with opening for new members. For information on joining a group, please contact Covenant Group Coordinator, Janet Schwartz, at CovenantGroups@riverofgrassuu.org. You do not have to be a member of River of Grass to participate in a covenant group.



MONEY MATTERS

By Kip Barkley

Do you know where all your financial stuff is? Do you have a forgotten IRA from a previous employer? Is there a financial account where you named a former spouse as beneficiary, for whom you no longer feel affection?

Is there anyone else who should know where all your stuff is? Do you keep a list of your passwords? About 60% of Americans do not have a Last Will and Testament.

Kip Barkley is heading up the new Planned Giving Group for the River of Grass. Rick Tucker is also a part of the group. Who else wants in? We have a webpage at www.RiverOfGrassUU.org/planned-giving.html. Check it out, and thank Esther.

So here, planned giving starts out as a ministry. First and foremost, it is about keeping your affairs in order.



WELCOME TABLE COMMUNION CIRCLE RESUMES FOR 2016

The gospel of Jesus of Nazareth is one of radical love, inclusion and transformation. In that spirit, we will gather monthly in remembrance and renewal for the Lord's Supper of the Christian tradition, beginning Thursday, October 20th. Join us for fellowship in body and spirit, with singing, prayer, and communion service. All are welcome at this table.

BEAT THE STRESS: DRUM CIRCLE RESUMES FOR 2016

Want to beat the stress?! Our RoG drumming circle will meet monthly, beginning October 7! Join us for an hour of happy noise! No experience with drums? No problem! No drum? No worries, bring your own or explore Rev. Amy's considerable collection of drums, rattles, shakers, noise-makers, rain-sticks, and more!



NEW MEMBER PATHWAYS CLASS!

For those who are new to River of Grass, and feel that here you have found your spiritual home, we are overjoyed to welcome you! If you would like to explore becoming a member of the congregation, we invite you to join us for a Pathway to Membership on Sunday, October 9, from 12:15 - 3:15 p.m. Rev. Amy will lead a dynamic class, during which you will learn about the congregation and ways you can become more involved, about Unitarian Universalism as a faith, and will have the chance to meet congregational leaders and others exploring membership. We invite you to sign up by e-mailing membership@riverofgrassuu.org or on the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary. We will provide beverages and snacks. Please bring your own lunch. Childcare will be provided, if you let us know at least a week ahead of time. We hope you will be there!

FACILITIES MATTERS

Jon Kitner, Facilities Co-Chair

River of Grass now has two new co-chairs for the Facilities Committee: Jon Kitner and G.L. Franklin. Both Jon and G.L. thank Susan Juncosa for her years of service in the role of chairperson. She leaves us with a well cared for facility.

Jon and G.L. are now sharing the duties. G.L. is in charge of the mechanical and physical plant issues and Jon is serving as the organizer and communicator for projects and activities. The committee also has a Hurricane Shutter Team of Alan Giese, Gary Gonzalez, Ed Lewis, Bennett Lorman, Steve Tepper, Bruce Ngo and Rick Tucker. It is led by Riley Cothran. Riley and the co-chairs have worked hard to keep us ready for hurricanes. Finally, we are grateful for the service of Ingrid Furlong who continues as the rental facilitator for the committee.

Members of our committee traditionally have helped on the first Saturday morning of each month when we have our Congregational Workdays. On our last workday this September, Zena and Rick Tucker came to help clean and organize, Steve Jens Rochow and Susan Juncosa painted the ladies' restroom, Deb Giblin-Davis cleared out the storage room, Deb Kitner worked on the kitchen, and Jon and G.L. helped where needed. This is a time of light work and good fellowship. We meet at 9 and are done by noon. Please come in on a first Saturday of the month and help us keep our facility organized and clean.

Just as we have a Hurricane Team, we would like to form additional, smaller teams to help as needed with cleanups, fix-ups and other tasks. This isn't a regular duty, but only an occasional one. We also are planning to put up a bulletin board that would post various small jobs on slips of paper. A member would complete a selected task and then write their name on the slip. Those people voluntarily taking on these tasks would be recognized at the following Sunday Service. Look for the board soon...

Everyone is asked to contribute to keeping our home attractive and clean. If you see something that needs attention, let Jon Kitner or G.L. Franklin know. As Rev. Amy likes to say, "Shine on!" We think that could apply to our floors and facilities as well!



GHOULS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN

By Susan Juncosa, Auction Co-Chair



The monster event – the River of Grass Auction - returns to the fall this year in disguise – as a **Halloween Party!** We're presenting a fun-for-the-whole-family event with a fajita bar, a DJ and dancing! Costumes are not required but are strongly encouraged, so start brainstorming now. Of course, what is Halloween without the young'uns? There will be childcare so the entire family can come. Invite all of your friends and neighbors to join you for this safe and fun get together.

Meanwhile, we will also offer items for Auction – great parties to fill your social calendar, gift certificates and member services. You may be surprised at what will be offered!

Here are the vital statistics:

- ◆ Date: **Saturday, October 29th**
- ◆ Time: **6:30 to 10:30 pm**
- ◆ Place: River of Grass UU Congregation
- ◆ Cost: Only \$25 per person or \$50 for families (2 adults and kids under 18)
- ◆ Contact: fUUndraising@riverofgrassuu.org
- ◆ Website: <http://www.riverofgrassuu.org/halloween-auction-party.html>

LET'S MEETUP!

Sheryl Cattell, Community Awareness Chair



Community Awareness is testing [Meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com/RiverofGrassUU) as a way to get the word out to the community about the happenings at River of Grass. All ROG members should have received an invitation to join the Meetup group as a way to receive reminders about upcoming events as they are happening. In addition, like-minded members of the community can also follow our events and join us if they are interested. The goal of the group is to help keep River of Grass members informed and to reach out to those in our community to get involved. Please join the group at <https://www.meetup.com/RiverofGrassUU>.

SE FLORIDA CLUSTER ANNUAL MEETING: REVITALIZE YOUR FAITH

Submitted by Steve Jens-Rochow



The Rev. Dr. Fredric Muir, editor of Turning Point: Essays on a new Unitarian Universalism, will be the keynote speaker at the SE Florida Cluster Annual Meeting. The Rev. Dr. Muir will offer a prophetic critique of the ideologies and practices from the past that cripple our faith and then offer an inspiring vision for our future—a future that is being born right now! “As the world and our nation engage in unparalleled religious diversity I seek ways for our way of religion to partner in building the Beloved Community. I believe that this will require Unitarian Universalists to reach into our liberal religious heritage for those values that can shape a promising future. Now is our turning point.”

This exciting meeting will be on Saturday, October 29 from 9:45 to 4:45pm at the UU Congregation of Miami, 7701 SW 76 Ave., Miami, FL 33143. \$15 per person advance, \$20 at the door. Registration includes Lunch and Continental Breakfast. The afternoon will be devoted to Best Practices workshops. Childcare through 12 years old available for \$20 each child, register on line, deadline Oct 24. Please mail check, payable to UU SE Cluster, to Kathy Jens-Rochow, 1420 SW 13 St. Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312 by postmark Monday, Oct 24, 2016. Please put email address and dietary preference on note line. For Payment by PayPal: <http://uufloida.org/annual16>. For more information, contact Steve Jens-Rochow at seucluster@gmail.com.

SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: PRESENTATION ON BALLOT AMENDMENTS

Rick Tucker, SSJC Chair

On October 9th at 12 noon, the League of Women Voters of Broward County will have a guest speaker in the ROG Sanctuary. Margery Marcus will introduce and discuss four ballot amendments that the League is supporting for the general election on Nov. 8.

The presentation and a Q&A session will last for roughly 45 minutes. Attendance is open and free. We encourage everyone to stay after hospitality and invite guests to get this crucial information out to voters for the upcoming election.

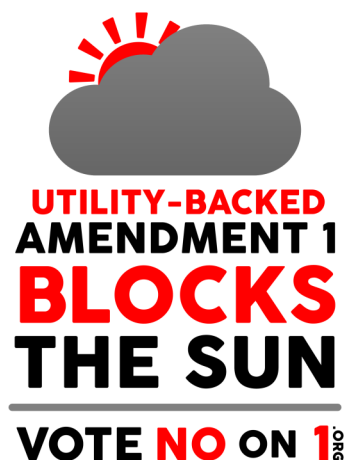


GREEN SANCTUARY: VOTE NO IN NOVEMBER ON AMENDMENT 1

By Steve Jens-Rochow

It is a “wolf in sheep’s clothing.” Backed by Florida’s monopoly electric utilities, Amendment 1 is an effort to choke-off rooftop solar and keep a stranglehold on customers by preventing them from generating their own power. Big power companies do not want to lose their exclusive hold on Florida’s electric customers so they launched a competing ballot campaign to Floridians for Solar Choice in the hopes of confusing voters. Amendment One is the result of the monopoly utilities’ successful campaign to manipulate and mislead Floridians about solar.

Steve Jens-Rochow greensanctuary@riverofgrassuu.org





SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: BROWARD MOVE TO AMEND FUNDRAISER

By Steve Jens-Rochow

It's a fundraising extravaganza!

Come to a chef-prepared Mediterranean dinner with fine wine included and a special, professional dance performance by *Phaedora Jones and her Magic Lamp Dancers*. The menu will feature keftedakia, succulent lamb skewers with Mediterranean spices, accompanied by a Greek yogurt tzatziki sauce, penne primavera, Greek salad and Italian-style cheesecake with fresh strawberries. Presented by River of Grass and Broward Move to Amend to benefit Broward Move to Amend, the local affiliate of Move to Amend.



Move to Amend is a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to social and economic justice, ending corporate rule, and building a vibrant democracy that is genuinely accountable to the people, not corporate interests.

The dinner will be held at River of Grass on November 5th at 7 pm. Tickets are \$40. in advance or \$50. at the door. For tickets, contact Steve Jens-Rochow at SSJC@Riverofgrassuu.org.

TEN REASONS TO JOIN THE CHOIR

Gayle Giese, Choir Director

1. Make and keep friends. Music breaks down barriers.
2. Making music is hard work, but also great fun!
3. It's a team sport. Making music *together* is precious.
4. It's a great sense of achievement.
5. It's good for your health, including your brain. Memorize! Count! Focus!
6. Your friends, family, and congregation **LOVE** to see and hear you sing!
7. You connect deeply with other singers and listeners, touching emotions in a way words alone cannot.
8. The music has a message. You have to deliver it!
9. Making music is a privilege. Not everyone can do it. The music deserves your best.
10. Your music may make someone's day! Share your gift!



Join the Choir...
**You'll Be Glad
You Did!**

Join us! The River of Grass Choir meets Sundays 9-10am in the multi-purpose room. For more information, contact Gayle Giese at choirdirector@riverofgrassuu.org

SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: LIFENET4FAMILIES SEPTEMBER 10TH VOLUNTEER DAY

Judi Oltmans, SSJC Co-Chair



What an amazing day! Thank you to all the River of Grass volunteers (15 of them!) that came to LifeNet4Families on Saturday, September 10th to help out in the pantry and kitchen. LifeNet helps so many people and it's great to spend a day helping LifeNet! Rita said "It was spectacular! We filled boxes for three pallets!" Everyone worked together and got a lot accomplished in just two hours. "We got a lot done quickly stocking and making boxes. We formed an assembly line of sorts, everyone was responsible for that one item as the boxes moved toward them." added Susan. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication! Making a difference and healing injustice in our community is part of our River of Grass Mission, and volunteering at LifeNet4Families is one way to put that mission in action. When asked how she and her family liked volunteering at LifeNet Mayra said "It was a great experience! We would like to do it once a month if we can!"

Join us at our next LifeNet4Families Saturday Volunteer day on October 8th. We volunteer there once a month from 9:00-11:00am. What a great way to spend a Saturday morning! Upcoming dates are October 8th, November 12th, and December 10th. You can sign up at the Service and Social Justice corner at the back of the River of Grass sanctuary or email us at ssjc@riverofgrassuu.org.

Can't make it to LifeNet? Every Sunday you can bring canned foods for LifeNet4Families to River of Grass and place them in the basket at the SSJC corner. They are always in need of peanut butter and canned meats such as tuna, chicken or beef.





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: BRENDA VISVANATHAN

Submitted by Gayle Giese

Brenda has been playing the piano for River of Grass since 2008. Joyfully, she and her mother Rani joined the congregation as members in 2014.

Originally from Malaysia, where the music education is very British, Brenda did exams through Britain's Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) for Grades 1-8 for Piano and Violin and then the Associate Teacher's (ATCL) for Piano and Licentiate Performer's Diploma (LTCL) for Piano and Violin of the Trinity College of Music, London, as an external student.

"Sivabruntha" is Brenda's given name. Her Chinese piano teacher named her "Brenda" when she was six years old when she had her first lesson. Young Brenda liked playing the piano, but did not like the strict, formal lessons, based solely on classical music and only started enjoying lessons after 5 years when she became one of her teacher's best pupils. At home, her father played LPs all the time, and she heard all styles of music, from classical, pop orchestra to movie music to Latin which inspired her to learn and respect music of all styles.

When Brenda was 21 years old, her violin teacher heard about a job vacancy for a hotel lobby pianist and recommended her to play to make some money to pay for her music fees that were escalating as she was studying her Diploma level courses. She played one song, "Misty," for her audition and was immediately hired. Customers wanted to hear mostly pop songs, and she practiced five hours a day to learn them quickly and get over her stage fright! Always studious, talented, and responsible, she soon began playing six nights a week, and then was given a contract by Hilton to play at their hotel lobby, a good gig which included free food and a good monthly salary. She performed at night and studied for her diplomas in the day, paying her way for college. To please the customers, Brenda worked hard to learn songs they requested. She says that the Malaysian youth loved "Hotel California," and the drunk people always asked for "My Way"! To this day, Brenda still associates the songs with the person who first requested them.

Brenda settled in the USA eighteen years ago at the age of 28 when she was married to an American musician. Since nobody knew her then, her first few jobs were as a maid, gardener, seating hostess, hanging up clothes in a department store in the daytime, and a restaurant pianist at nighttime.

Brenda has been a US citizen since 2007. Her current boyfriend of ten years, also a musician, helped her study for the exams. Today, Brenda teaches about fifteen lucky students each week, in addition to playing random gigs in restaurants and other special functions, and at River of Grass UU Congregation. Brenda says she loves playing at the River, which has inspired her to learn Beatles tunes and African-American spirituals. How lucky we are to have Brenda playing all kinds of music that enhance our worship services!



OH, THE PLACES WE WILL GO!

Diane Lade, Full Moon Daughters Coordinator

Full Moon Daughters, the River of Grass outdoor spirituality group for women and girls, has set their monthly outing schedule for 2016-17. We put together the list during our annual Brand New Year potluck brunch on Saturday, Sept. 24. Many long-time members were there, along with new faces. The food, as always, was fabulous, the energy high. Full Moon Daughters are the best! Thanks to all who attended and made it possible. We are a shared leadership group, so members volunteer to coordinate and “sponsor” our events.

Look for notices about our upcoming events throughout the year in our congregation’s weekly emails and monthly newsletters. Females of all ages at River of Grass are welcome, as well as friends, family and anyone else who likes hanging out with a great group of gals. You do not need to be a member, or have a daughter, to join us. Attendance is not taken; come as often as you can or like.

The best way to keep up with us? Put your name on our Full Moon Daughters email list. Just drop us a line at: fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org. If you thought you were on the list but have not received an email from us within the past week, please let us know at the address above and we will get you back in the loop.

See you on the water, along the trail and under the stars,
Diane

- ◆ **Oct. 9, 2016 (Sunday):** Morikami Japanese Gardens lunch and walk, Delray Beach. Sponsor: Monica Dyer
 - ◆ **Nov. 11-13, 2016 (Friday-Sunday):** Bahia Honda camping trip, Florida Keys. Sponsor: Diane Lade and tent site sponsors
 - ◆ **Dec. 17 or Dec. 18, 2016 (Saturday or Sunday):** Solstice party, location to be announced. Sponsors: Deb Giblin-Davis and Linda Meerow
 - ◆ **Jan. 28, 2017 (Saturday):** Key Biscayne bike ride and tour. Sponsors: Laura Secord and Linda Meerow
 - ◆ **Feb. 11, 2017 (weekend days to be determined):** Airstream Adventure, Redlands. Sponsor: Karen Gonzalez
 - ◆ **March 24-26, 2017 (Friday through Sunday):** Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Jupiter. Sponsor: Diane Lade and tent site/cabin sponsors
 - ◆ **April 22, 2017 (Saturday):** Green Cay Nature Center and Wakodahatchee bird walk. Sponsors: Kris Stewart and Kristine Barkley
 - ◆ **May 6, 2017 (Saturday):** Fairchild Tropical Gardens walk, Coral Gables. Sponsors: Kristine Barkley and Pat Pecho
 - ◆ **June 17, 2017 (Saturday):** Sunrise on the beach. Sponsor: Marilisa Lawless.
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