

# Announcements

**Faith Development: 12:30:** Pre-K - 1st graders; **1:30 pm:** 2nd - 6th graders; **3:00pm:** Teens. On Sunday, we'll celebrate Valentine's Day by creating self-portraits of ourselves, wearing masks! Part of caring for the Beloved Community is wearing our masks to keep everyone safe. You'll find the paper for your drawing in the addressed envelope to Debbie Ely, inside this month's Family Faith-at-Home Kits. Debbie is a nurse and she's going to take our beautiful drawings to frontline healthcare workers to lift their spirits and thank them for also keeping our community safe. I can't wait to see your beautiful, loving faces - with and without your masks! Contact Karen Gonzalez at [ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org) for links to join a class, or for more information about our Faith Development program.

**New Member Sunday - February 14<sup>th</sup>:** River of Grass will have another **New Member Sunday on Feb 14<sup>th</sup>** - Are you interested in becoming a member of River of Grass? For more info or to RSVP for this celebration of membership contact Diane Diaz or Zena Tucker, [membership@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:membership@riverofgrassuu.org).

**Young Adults** are now meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays, at 7:30 pm virtually on Zoom – Millennials, Gen Xers, and Gen Zs, are welcome to tune in to the YUUnG Adult Virtual Coffee Hour on **Sunday, Feb 14<sup>th</sup> ♥ at 7:30 pm**. Our group's purpose is to foster an inclusive, diverse and intentional community that inspires spiritual growth and connection. Please email [youngadults@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:youngadults@riverofgrassuu.org) if you have any questions and to obtain the zoom details.

**UUA's New Day Rising Conference:** Service and Social Justice Greet Team (SSJGT) is excited to announce the UUA's New Day Rising Conference on Feb 27<sup>th</sup>. With workshops, discussion, and worship caucusing. We will identify our next faithful steps in changing White Supremacy culture as we create our Beloved UU Community.

It's the **New Day Rising Conference, Feb 27<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 noon to 9:00 pm eastern**, with lots of breaks. You can find more info at <https://www.uua.org/leadership/events/new-day-rising-2021>.

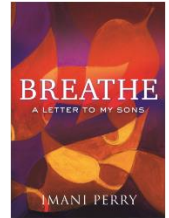
Steve and Kathy Jens-Rochow, as well as three others from River of Grass, have registered for this Conference. The UUA says that with 3 or more we can take the \$20 rate in the sliding scale. And SSJGT will pay for up to 4-\$20 registrations. Just message Steve Jens-Rochow at [SSJGT@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:SSJGT@RiverofGrassUU.org) to let him know that you have registered and he will have a check sent to you. Our River of Grass Board has also agreed to support any member or friend who wishes to attend after SSJGT has filled their reimbursed registrations. Contact Kathy Jens-Rochow at [President@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:President@RiverofGrassUU.org).

Rising Day builds on our White Fragility course of last year. And it will be a good introduction to the Building the World We Dream About seminar that the River will be offering starting in March.

***bUUKies Announce UUA Common Read Discussion - Feb 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm:***

Every year the UUA selects a book to be shared by all UU congregations. A "Common Read"

invites participants to read and discuss the same book in a given period of time. A Common Read can build community in our congregations and our movement by giving diverse people a shared experience, shared language, and a basis for deep, meaningful conversations. **The River of Grass conversation will be on Feb 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm.**

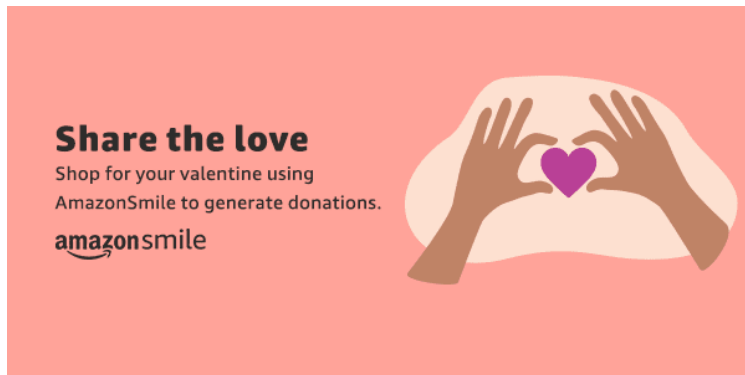


This year's Common Read is *Breathe: A Letter to My Sons* by Imani Perry. The UUA says:

“Emotionally raw and deeply reflective, Imani Perry issues a challenge to society to see Black children as deserving of humanity. She admits fear and frustration for her African American sons in a society that is increasingly racist and at times seems irredeemable. However, as a mother, feminist, writer, and intellectual, Perry offers an unfettered expression of love—finding beauty and possibility in life—and she exhorts her children and their peers to find the courage to chart their own paths and find steady footing and inspiration in Black tradition. The New York Times calls *Breathe* “an elixir of history, ancestry and compassion, which, together, become instruction...a parent’s unflinching demand, born of inherited trauma and love, for her children’s right simply to be possible.”

This book may be purchased in hardcover from [inSpirit: The UU Book and Gift Shop](#). The e-book and audio book (CD or MP3) are available from [Bookshop.org](#). Hardback, audio and e-books are also available at [Amazon.com](#).

**Amazon Smile:** Did you know that you can generate donations while shopping for your



valentine, at no extra cost?

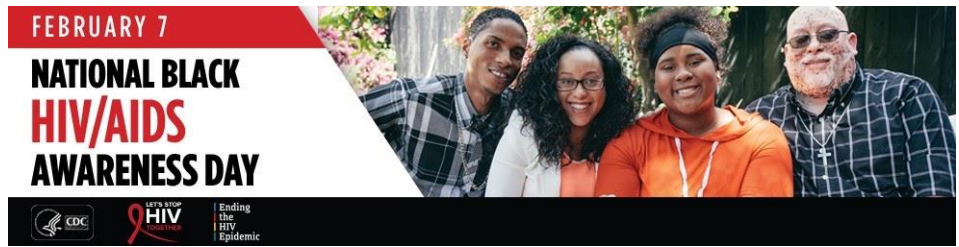
Simply start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0791653](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0791653) to confirm "River Of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation Inc" as your charity of choice, and AmazonSmile will donate a portion of your eligible purchase price to our organization.

***Building the World We Dream About*** is a Unitarian Universalist program that seeks to interrupt the workings of racism and transform how people from different racial/ethnic groups understand and relate to one another. It consists of 24 two-hour workshops, with Taking It Home activities, reflections, and readings to be done between workshops. The program creates opportunities for participants to practice dreaming our world otherwise, and then commit to new, intentional ways of being.

As Unitarian Universalists, we hope developing antiracist, anti-oppressive, and multicultural habits and skills will lead us to build the multicultural world of the beloved community we dream about. **Contact Karen Gonzalez at [ReligiousEducator@RiverOfGrassUU.org](mailto:ReligiousEducator@RiverOfGrassUU.org) for more information or to sign up for this transformational experience.**

**National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day - February 7 (A belated reminder from our Welcoming Congregation**

**Team):** National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD) is observed annually on February 7 to



increase awareness, spark conversations, and highlight the work being done to reduce HIV in Black or African American (hereafter referred to as Black) communities in the United States and show support for people with HIV in these communities.

There is a long history of public health disenfranchisement that has directly impacted Black people in America. Now it is the disparate impact of COVID-19 — the relationship between Black people and healthcare systems has been and remains tenuous.

Dr. Martin Luther King said: “Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhuman because it often results in physical death. I see no alternative to direct action and creative nonviolence to raise the conscience of the nation.”

While Dr. King has long since breathed his last breath, his words still ring true today, “of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhuman,” and the disparity could not be more apparent than in the HIV/AIDS epidemic raging in Black America.

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on February 7, to do just as King instructed 55 years ago: “raise the conscience of the nation” about the most notorious expression of medical apartheid — HIV in Black communities.

**“We’re in This, Together.”**

**Flowing River Sangha - We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup> via zoom. <https://zoom.us/j/201911385>. We will meet from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. This is an open-ended, drop-in group for all levels of meditation experience. Gary Gonzalez [meditation@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:meditation@riverofgrassuu.org).**

**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/>

**River of Grass New Mailing Address - We have our post office box and are forwarding all of our mail there now. Our new mailing address is listed on our website as a footer on each page and in the [contact us page](#) if you need to look it up.**

**River of Grass UU Congregation, 3225 N Hiatus Rd, Unit 452485, Sunrise, Florida 33345**

**SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week:** Take an "electronics day off". Turn off the TV, stay off Facebook, no internet. Just grab a book, take a walk, or speak with loved ones. It's healthy and its green!

**Have you heard about our Faith Forward Inquirers Series?** We meet on Wednesdays from 7:30 – 8:30 pm on Zoom, see the schedule below! Faith Forward Inquirers Series is a rotation of seven conversations about our congregation and Unitarian Universalism. The series is designed for visitors and newcomers who are looking for a general introduction, and yet the sessions are appealing to veteran members who want more information about our beloved community. New members and inquirers are encouraged to attend. Classes are not mandatory for membership but are highly recommended! Our next class is scheduled for **Feb 24<sup>th</sup> and is FF Inquirers #4: Faith Development for Children and Adults**. For more information, email Zena Tucker, [membership@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:membership@riverofgrassuu.org). Zoom link for our session is: [ZOOM Link for RoG Inquirers](#).

Date	Time	Event
2/24/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#4: Faith Development for Children and Adults
3/3/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#5: Worship & Liturgical Year
3/24/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
3/31/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
4/7/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life
4/28/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#4: Faith Development for Children and Adults
5/5/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#5: Worship & Liturgical Year
5/12/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#1: Q&A with Minister
5/26/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
6/2/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
6/9/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life

### ***Capital Campaign Contributions***

We have set up several methods for you to make your pledges/contributions to the Capital Campaign. The table below details the various methods, including charges that the River accrues when this payment method is used. We are here to help with any questions you may have. Feel free to contact our office administrator, Sandy Blair Chibnick, via email at [office@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:office@riverofgrassuu.org).

<b>Monetary Donations</b>		
<b>Method</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>Processing fees paid by River of Grass</b>
Check	Write CC on memo line Mail to River of Grass: 3225 N Hiatus Rd, Unit 452485 Sunrise, FL 33345	\$0
Checking account via Vanco	Set up payment on our <a href="#">Donations page</a> . Designate on the Capital Campaign line	\$0.45 per transaction plus processing fee 1%

Credit Card via Vanco	Set up payment on our <a href="#">Donations page</a> . Designate amount on the Capital Campaign line.	\$0.45 per transaction plus credit card processing fee: American Express: 3.5% Visa/MasterCard: 2.75%
PayPal	<a href="https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/my/profile">https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/my/profile</a> In the notes write "Capital Campaign"	Varies based on method of payment
Zelle	Use your bank to set up \$ transfer. Send Zelle payment to <a href="mailto:CapitalCampaign@riverofgrassuu.org">CapitalCampaign@riverofgrassuu.org</a> .	\$0
Securities	<p>Any questions contact Northstar Financial Planners: <i>Allen Giese, Steve Tepper, or Stacy Saavedra at (954) 693-0030</i></p> <p>Securities should be transferred per instructions from the donor's brokerage or advisor using the following DTC and A/C numbers as the destination</p> <p><b>#0188 - TD Ameritrade Institutional</b> <b>A/C #944110334</b></p> <p><b>RIVER OF GRASS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION, INC.</b></p> <p>The donor should notify the CC Team and the Office Administrator of the details of the donation by emailing <a href="mailto:CapitalCapaign@riverofgrassuu.org">CapitalCapaign@riverofgrassuu.org</a>.</p>	