

# Announcements

**Faith Development: 12:30:** Pre-K - 1st graders; **1:30 pm:** 2nd - 6th graders; **3:00pm:** Teens. This Sunday our children and youth will be honoring our Black UU Leaders by learning about our UU organizations that work to call out and challenge white supremacy - even in our own congregations. The work of BLUU (Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism) and DRUMM (Diverse Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries) help all of us in our work to Build the Beloved Community. 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 Members** - River of Grass has had two recent New Member Ceremonies on December 20, 2020 and February 14, 2021. Over these two ceremonies, we have welcomed in eight new members to River of Grass UU Congregation:

**David Biklen** - Lives seasonally in Davie and resides in West Hartford, Connecticut with his wife Blanche Capilos. He has been attending River of Grass UU for about 4 years and participates in the choir, the social justice team, and the men's group. He especially appreciates the choir, members and friends of RofG he has met, the church's commitment to social justice, and Sunday services led by the Rev. Amy Carol Webb. David was raised in Ft. Madison, Iowa and has lived in New York, Virginia, and Illinois. He settled in Hartford, Connecticut and has spent most of his professional life working on law reform. He retired as executive director of the CT Law Revision Commission and remains a CT commissioner to the Uniform Law Commission. He has worked on law reform topics such as adoption, real estate, mental health, drug policy, and criminal justice. Today, he encourages the CT legislature to focus on racism and economic and educational injustices . He is a long-time member of Hartford's Immanuel Congregational Church, UCC, has been its moderator for several years, and now chairs the social justice and mission committee. He is a graduate of Monmouth College (IL) and the University of Virginia Law School.



**Monique Dumaine** - Originally from the New England area, Monique has traveled up and down the East Coast before settling in South Florida. As a lover of nature, animals, and music, she finds herself the most fulfilled on a long hike. Ever since she was a young girl, she was raised with the value of giving back to her community through service and advocacy initiatives and is looking forward to continuing that mission at River of Grass. In her free time, Monique enjoys taking photos, cooking interesting meals, and hanging out in mom & pop coffee shops.



**Peter Fox** - A licensed massage therapist and Reiki Master living in Sunrise. He studied energy healing and massage with a group of alternative healers and spiritual leaders in New York's Hudson Valley. Before moving to Florida in 2001, Peter spent several decades in New York, his hometown, as a newspaper editor, a bicycle touring company owner/operator, a middle-school science teacher and a stay-at-home dad. He's currently a board member of the Broward Folk Club and the City of Sunrise Leisure Services Advisory Board. In his "spare time," Peter enjoys painting, singing, running, and spending time communing with nature.



**Pam Kelner** - Born and raised in Miami Beach (she's a 1972 alum of Beach High, where she first discovered her lifelong passion for yoga), Pam is a Residential Realtor with Coldwell Banker as well as a Certified Negotiation Specialist. Known as a dedicated community activist, Pam is a passionate advocate for Recovery Unplugged, which embraces the positive power of music to overcome the demonic powers of addiction. She's a longtime board member of the Weston Democratic Club, the Davie-Cooper City Chamber of Commerce, the Davie Diversity Interfaith group, and a founding member of WINK, Women in Networking Know.



**Jennifer Luciani** - Raised in New Jersey and later moved to Philadelphia to pursue college and her career. Jennifer has a background in management, counseling and art therapy in for-profit and nonprofit mental health settings. While in Philadelphia, she was a member of a UU Congregation. Since relocating to South Florida, Jennifer has begun a new chapter with her husband and dog. She has sought out volunteer work and supports that share her values and passions. Jennifer has also enjoyed exploring the local parks and museums, vegetarian restaurants and is in love with the sunsets and way too fascinated by the iguanas. She is excited to become a part of the River of Grass Congregation and grateful to have learned of the congregation when the services became available on social media this past year.



**Jennifer Migliori** - A life-long learner and truth seeker who started her religious journey in the Catholic church. As a teenager and young adult, she joined an evangelical church, and then a Methodist church with her partner, Scott. In 2020, moved by injustice, she sought a spiritual community that acknowledged social inequities and discovered Unitarian Universalism and River of Grass. Excited to share the congregation's bent toward social justice with her children, Jennifer frequently attends virtual services and gatherings. She relishes opportunities to discuss new lessons and concepts with her partner and their children. Jennifer is a tax and estate planning attorney and a Miami native. She moved to Broward County in 2014 with Scott, whom she met at law school, and now calls Plantation her home. Jennifer enjoys attending community events, supporting LGBTQ+ initiatives, exercising and spending time with her children. She participates in the YUUnG adult group at River of Grass.



**Scott Migliori** - Raised in Northeastern Pennsylvania and holds a B.A. in English Literature from Bryn Mawr College. He met his wife, Jennifer, in law school at the University of Virginia and followed her even further south to Miami in 2013. After agreeing to a slight compromise northward, Scott and Jenn resettled in Broward, and currently live in Plantation with their two wonderful children. Scott is an attorney and trans advocate. He was born and raised in the Methodist tradition, but began seeking a new, LGBT-inclusive spiritual home to raise his children. Scott and Jennifer found the River of Grass during the pandemic of 2020 and are looking forward to eventually meeting everyone in person.



**Myra Zaner** - Born and bred in the Flatbush neighborhood of Brooklyn, NY, Myra is something of a free-spirited hippie at heart. (She actually lived in an urban commune on Manhattan's Upper West Side for a few years in the 60s!) She went on to live in Houston, TX for 32 years before settling in the Sunshine State in 2011. As a volunteer with AllFed, Feeding South Florida, and teaching conversational English to adults from around the world, Myra dedicates her life to meeting and helping people. She loves yoga, walking in the woods, and all things spiritual.



***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.**

**Flowing River Sangha** - We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, Feb 23<sup>rd</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/>

**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.

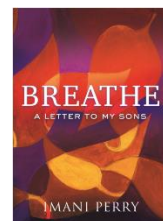
It's the **New Day Rising Conference, Feb 27<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 noon to 9:00 pm eastern**, with lots of breaks. You can find more info at <https://www.uua.org/leadership/events/new-day-rising-2021>.

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](#).

**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, Mar 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.



**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:** It takes over 50 years for leather shoes to break down in a landfill. Be sure to buy quality comfortable shoes, not just the latest fashion. And as they wear, take them to the shoe repair shop. In the long run, it will help your feet, save you money, and help the environment.

**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 style="text-align: center;">Any questions contact Northstar Financial Planners: <i>Allen Giese, Steve Tepper, or Stacy Saavedra at (954) 693-0030</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">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 style="text-align: center;"><b>#0188 - TD Ameritrade Institutional</b> <b>A/C #944110334</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>RIVER OF GRASS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION, INC.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">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>	