

# Announcements

**Summer Children's Virtual Fellowship at 12:30 pm** – Children and parents: Come join us at 12:30 pm this Sunday, Jun 7<sup>th</sup>, for our first Summer Fun at the Zoo virtual children's fellowship. We will take a peek, via a live webcam, at the naked mole-rats living in the Smithsonian's National Zoo in Washington D.C. Kids will learn about the unusual family lives of these rodents while playing mole-rat bingo. Summer Fun at the Zoo celebrates our 7<sup>th</sup> Unitarian Universalist Principle: to respect and protect all living things and our earth. Faith Development's Summer Fun at the Zoo will be every Sunday through Jul 26<sup>th</sup> via Zoom, and requires a password. Look for an email from Diane Lade, Summer Fellowship Coordinator, or reach out to her at [FaithDevelopment@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:FaithDevelopment@RiverofGrassUU.org).

**River of Grass New Member Sunday** - Our next celebration for new members will be today, Jun 7<sup>th</sup>, during service. If you are interested in becoming a member of River of Grass, please message us or email [membership@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:membership@riverofgrassuu.org)

**Young Adults are meeting every Sunday at 6:30 pm virtually on Zoom** – Millennials, Gen Xers, and Gen Zs, are welcome to tune in to the YUUnG Adult Virtual Coffee Hour on **Sunday, Jun 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**. Our 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.

**Flowing River Sangha** – We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, Jun 9<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).

**Thursday Mindfulness Drop-in 6:00 pm** – How are you doing, and are you tending to any felt anxiety or stress? Are you taking time to pause and check-in with your heart, body and mind? Consider joining tonight's community mindfulness Zoom session every Thursday at 6:00 pm. Our next gathering will be **Thursday, Jun 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm** on <https://zoom.us/j/551319571>. **Note:** This is not a class, just a time to pause and notice, and share with others. Drop in any week. Contact: [Carolyn@insightinstitutellc.com](mailto:Carolyn@insightinstitutellc.com) or [Scott@Insightinstitutellc.com](mailto:Scott@Insightinstitutellc.com).

**Faith Development – Parents Having Coffee Online** - Parents will join together to share their woes, joys and ahas in a Zoom Room on **Saturday morning, Jun 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am**. Look for an email from Karen Gonzalez [religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org).

**Faith Forward Inquirers Series is back! The Faith Forward Inquirers Series meets on Wednesdays 6:30 – 7:30 pm on Zoom.** It 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 also 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 **Jun 10<sup>th</sup> and is FF Inquirers#5: Worship &**

**Liturgical Year.** For more info, please email Zena Tucker, [membership@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:membership@riverofgrassuu.org). Zoom link for each is: [ZOOM Link for RoG Inquirers](#).

Date	Time	Event
6/10/20	6:30 - 7:30 pm	FF Inquirers#5: Worship & Liturgical Year
6/17/20	6:30 - 7:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
7/1/20	6:30 - 7:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
7/8/20	6:30 - 7:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life
7/15/20	6:30 - 7:30 pm	FF Inquirers#2: Unitarian Universalist History, Principles and Sources

**bUUKies are meeting on Wednesday, Jun 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 pm** - It's time for the bUUKies last pick before summer break. Casey McQuiston's novel is entitled "Red, White, and Royal Blue" and promises to answer the immortal question - *What happens when America's First Son falls in love with the Prince of Wales?*

"When his mother became President, Alex Claremont-Diaz was promptly cast as the American equivalent of a young royal. Handsome, charismatic, genius—his image is pure millennial-marketing gold for the White House. There's only one problem: Alex has a beef with the actual prince, Henry, across the pond. And when the tabloids get hold of a photo involving an Alex-Henry altercation, U.S./British relations take a turn for the worse. Heads of family, state, and other handlers devise a plan for damage control: staging a truce between the two rivals. What at first begins as a fake, Instagramable friendship grows deeper, and more dangerous, than either Alex or Henry could have imagined. Soon Alex finds himself hurtling into a secret romance with a surprisingly unstuffy Henry."

This male/male romance may be new for some. Can two guys fall in love and find their Happily-Ever-After? I suspect the answer is love is love is love is love. Join the discussion on **Wednesday, Jun 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:15**. It's a Zoom meeting and Susan will send a link to all on the bUUKies list. If you're not on the list, send a request to be added to [bUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:bUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org).

**River of Grass Cafe' Virtually Presents Kiya Heartwood on Saturday, Jun 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm.** Kiya Heartwood is an award-winning roots rock and folk singer-songwriter. She has just returned from touring her one woman show, Song Tales from the American Edge in Ireland and the UK. The UK's Broadway Baby describes Kiya Heartwood (Stealin Horses, Wishing Chair) as "an award-winning American singer-songwriter who writes smart, funny and poignant songs about the famous and not-so-famous legends of America. Kiya's music serves up a lively batch of original songs that follow on to two of the oldest traditions of folk music: storytelling and political broadside." Tickets are \$15 per person. ([Purchase using this link and using the BUY NOW button.](#)) Please purchase a ticket for each person attending the virtual concert. More than ever, artists are depending on us during this time of social distancing. You will receive a link to the ZOOM concert before the scheduled date/time. **(Please note: Ticket sales close at 4:00 pm on the day of the concert.)**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) ONLINE JUNE 24-28** Want to participate in GA? This is the year! Our UU faithful will hold GA online this year, so this is a great opportunity to be part of it. GA (General Assembly) is the annual meeting of our faith through the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association). Attending GA can be a very uplifting and moving experience, as it's an opportunity to witness the broad impact of our faith. There is money in our budget for several folks to register and participate in GA online. If interested, please reach out to Scott May at [president@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:president@riverofgrassuu.org).

**Welcoming Congregation Opportunity - Have you started it yet?** "Transgender Inclusion in Congregations" course, of course

River of Grass UU congregation has made a commitment to be welcoming to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We became a UUA recognized Welcoming Congregation June 4, 2002. Throughout this past congregational year, the Welcoming Congregation Renewal Team has taken intentional steps to renew our commitment to welcoming and inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

We are now offering "Transgender Inclusion in Congregations." This module is a very important one for all of us.

This course is for congregations who want to take their knowledge and skills to the next level in terms of trans identity and learn how to create congregations that are fully inclusive and affirming of the full breadth of gender diversity. Over 6 sessions you will deeply explore the intersection of trans identity, spirituality and faith community and gain the grounding, context and skills to transform yourself and our congregation.

This module can be very deeply moving, with personal reflection. Many people may need to process what they learned. We will also talk about how the River can incorporate changes to become more naturally welcoming. We will be scheduling some Zoom sessions for anyone who wishes to participate.

Yes, we are already pretty welcoming, but awareness of the multi-layers of identity can make critical subtle changes to improve our welcome to all.

Please take advantage of this "stay at home" time to take this course. You can view the sessions at your own pace. For more information and the link to connect to the sessions, contact Kathy at [Welcoming@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:Welcoming@riverofgrassuu.org).

**SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week:** Use efficient LED light bulbs. Resist temptation to buy "old fashion" light bulbs, and instead replace bulbs with LED. They barely cost more, and they use 1/7 the electricity, produce less heat, reduce your electric bill, and last for 20 years.