

# Announcements

**Faith Development:** A new month is upon us and with it a new theme of "listening". This will be our focus for our Family Vespers service on Sunday evening at 5:00 pm. Specifically, we'll be contemplating listening to our ancestors and to the natural world. In honor of Indigenous People's Day on Oct 12<sup>th</sup>, we'll hear a lovely legend about a young girl, "She Who Loves Her People" and Rev. Amy will remind us of lessons we can learn from our Unitarian ancestor, Henry David Thoreau. We'll also sing, celebrate milestones and find joy in being together!

There are no afternoon classes. Contact Karen at [ReligiousEducator@RiverOfGrassUU.org](mailto:ReligiousEducator@RiverOfGrassUU.org) for a link if you'd like to join our Family Vespers service.

We have a new friend! Meet Harper, the Great Blue Heron. Harper has been missing their River of Grass home and would like to stay with some friends for a while. They'll be arriving in someone's Family Faith Kit each month and they are excited about all of the fun you can have together! Keep an eye to our Facebook page for photos of their fun adventures.



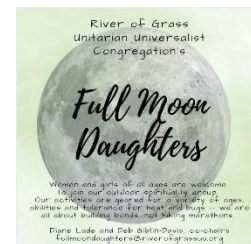
**Young Adults are now meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, at 7:30 pm virtually on Zoom** – Millennials, Gen Xers, and Gen Zs, are welcome to tune in to the YUUnG Adult Virtual Coffee Hour on **Sunday, Oct 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**. Our purpose is to foster an inclusive, diverse 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.

**Free “Mindfulness for Today’s World” weekly online sessions** - Thursdays 6:00 - 7:00 pm for adults; [Zoom link for 6pm](#) For more info contact [Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com](mailto:Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com) or [Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com](mailto:Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com), or visit <https://www.insightinstitutellc.com>.

**Flowing River Sangha** – We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, Oct 6<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).

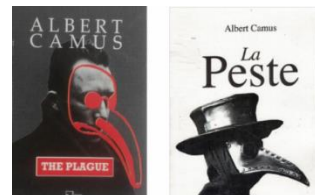
**River of Grass UU Congregation Service, Social Justice and Green Team (SSJGT) presents Decision 2020 Friday, Oct 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.** The League of Women Voters of Broward County will bring useful and critical information about the 2020 elections to Broward residents via live online presentation on [Zoom](#).

**Full Moon Daughters Virtual Brand New Year Brunch Oct 10<sup>th</sup>** The Full Moon Daughters, the River of Grass nature spirituality group for women and girls of all ages, will be holding its annual fall Brand New Year Brunch – virtual style! We invite you to join us from 12:00 - 2:00 pm on Saturday, Oct 10<sup>th</sup>. We will gather by Zoom, catch up with a special check-in, and plan our new CO-VID safe 2020-21 year. Bring your favorite brunch snack and beverage, and let's get creative on how we can still enjoy nature and each other's company. It's very important that we get your



feedback. YOU MUST REGISTER in order to receive the Zoom link. But it's easy: Just email [fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:fullmoondaughters@riverofgrassuu.org). Give us your name, current email and (optional) phone/text number. Blessings from your co-coordinators, Deb Giblin-Davis and Diane Lade

**bUUKies Go Olde Skool with Camus - Oct 14<sup>th</sup>** What could possibly make life more interesting as we remain COVID-quarantined? Why, reading about a fictional plague and contemplating the parallels. So that's what the bUUKies are doing for the October read – the 1947 classic “The Plague” by Albert Camus. This book shot back onto the bestseller lists earlier this year, but it's not necessarily about an illness. Reviewer Liesl Schillinger notes that “the bacillus under the author's lens is not so much physiological as sociological, and philosophical...he addresses any contagion that might overtake any society; from a disease...to a corrosive ideology”. This is deep stuff, folks. But don't worry – we're reading it in English, not the original French!



Our remaining selections for the fall are:

**November** - “Rodham” by Curtis Sittenfeld – what if Hillary had not married Bill?

**December** - “American Spy” by Lauren Wilkinson – a black woman CIA agent and American adventurism in the 1980s? Oh, yes.

Buukies meet by Zoom on the second Wednesday of each month, so the next meeting is Oct 14<sup>th</sup>. A link will be sent to the regular bUUKies. If not on our list, e-mail [bUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:bUUKies@riverofgrassuu.org) and a link will be sent!

**UU Womenspirit Virtual Event Fall 2020** - Unitarian Universalist Womenspirit is hosting it's first virtual weekend gathering Oct 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. Registration for Everyday Sacred is now open! To view details of our virtual weekend gathering, check out our [brochure](#), or visit the UUWomenspirit [website](#). When you are ready to register for the event, here is the link for [Campwise](#). Contact our event registrar at [uuwomenspirit@gmail.com](mailto:uuwomenspirit@gmail.com) for assistance with registration. Blessed be! Melissa Christopher, Scribe, Unitarian Universalist Womenspirit

**New Member Ceremony, Sunday, Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, during service.** At our New Member Ceremony, we celebrate those who have found a new home in this Beloved Community. If you are interested in becoming a member at this ceremony, please RSVP by Oct 12<sup>th</sup> via email [membership@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:membership@riverofgrassuu.org). For more information see our website: [Becoming a Member](#).

**Proposed Change in Policies and Procedures** - The Board reviewed and approved a proposed change in our Policies & Procedures, adding the following paragraph. In accordance with our Policy on Policies, we need to have a congregational review before making the change.

**Proposed Change in red and articles following this change will be renumbered.**

## 9. Membership

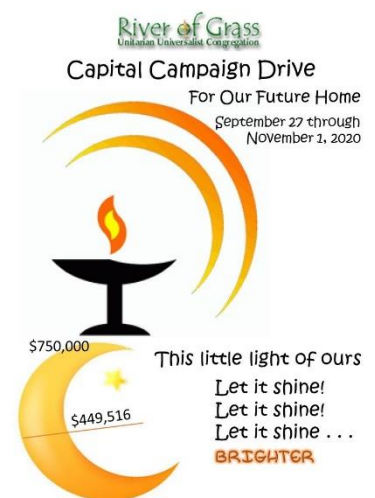
- A. The Minister is the only person authorized to sign up new members in the membership book except for person(s) specifically authorized by the Minister, or in the absence of the Minister, the Board President.

- B. In the absence of the Minister for a prolonged period, the President or Vice-president will have the responsibility of signing up new members.
- C. **A signed new member document, approved by the Minister, is a suitable substitute for signing the membership book. Name(s) and date of membership will be annotated in the membership book as the date the form was received by the Office Administrator.**

Please review and send any recommendations for change to [Board@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:Board@riverofgrassuu.org) by Oct 17<sup>th</sup>.

**FUTURE HOME CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2020-2023!** Sep 27<sup>th</sup> - Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 Capital Campaign Pledge Drive - The Capital Campaign to fund our Future Home has begun!! **Raised to date: \$449,516 with a Capital Campaign Goal: \$750,000**

You will soon be hearing from the Capital Campaign Stewards. Please thank them for their work on behalf of River of Grass. We hope you have received your packet in the mail which outlines the dreams expressed by this congregation for our Future Home. Please review it and remind yourself how it feels not to have that permanent home to meet in. Even though we chose to leave our State Road 84 Davie location due to the COVID-19 pandemic, doesn't mean we don't miss having our memories expressed in what could be available when this pandemic is behind us. Where would you like to be; how do you see our space together; can you visualize a new location with room to spare and outside space to share with our kids and families? We hope that dream is alive and well in your thoughts.



**We can ONLY make this happen with YOU!**

During these times you may feel unable to make a generous gift to this Campaign; but, you can be part of it in any way that is financially comfortable. Remember, this is a three year financial plan **in addition** to your Annual Pledge. Please fill out that [Capital Campaign pledge card online](#) and tell us what you can do within three years' time. Maybe you cannot begin this contribution till next year? That's fine; any gift you give is a gift of your love of our continued ministry to Members, Friends and the Community and most of all to you in these hectic times of uncertainty and yet hope. Your gift will shape our future dreams. Remember, River of Grass is here for every one of us.

**We thank you for your conviction and generosity to our Future Home.**

Please see our website [riverofgrassuu.org](http://riverofgrassuu.org) under the tab "[Future Home](#)" for lots of information. Kathy Jens-Rochow is available for further information and to answer questions. She can be reached at 954-531-9540 or you can email her at [CapitalCampaign@RiverofGrassUU.org](mailto:CapitalCampaign@RiverofGrassUU.org).

**Don't Let Your Vote-by-Mail Ballot Go to Waste**

If you requested a Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot, you should have just received it. Don't let your ballot go to waste!

The top reason that VBM ballots are rejected in Florida is because they arrive after 7:00 pm on Election Day. This is an even bigger concern this year because of Post Office delays.

What can you do to make sure your vote counts?

**1. Sit down and fill out your VBM ballot right now.**

**2. Make sure to follow all instructions, especially signing the envelope**

(Your ballot is invalid without signature and will be rejected)

**3. Mail your ballot today and avoid post office delays.**

(You can also drop it in a secure drop box – see drop box locations on your county's

Supervisor of Elections website: <https://www.browardsoe.org/>)

If you haven't received your VBM ballot yet, contact the Broward County Supervisor of Elections office at: 954-357-7050

**Want to vote in person?** Choose a date to vote during Early Voting. Early voting in Broward County is currently scheduled for Monday, Oct 19<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, Nov 1<sup>st</sup> (7 am–7 pm). If you haven't registered to vote in Florida yet, the deadline to register to vote in the 2020 election is Monday, Oct 5<sup>th</sup> – go to [registertovoteflorida.gov](http://registertovoteflorida.gov) to register today.

**Your vote is your voice – use your voice in 2020!** (Note: Early voting dates, times, and locations subject to change; check back at the Broward County Supervisor of Elections website to confirm the latest information.) To be involved in promoting safe and fair elections in 2020, contact the Elders Stand for Fair Elections Florida team at [FairElections-FL@eldersaction.org](mailto:FairElections-FL@eldersaction.org).

**From our Welcoming Congregation Team** October is National LGBTQ+ History month. It was declared a national history month by President Barack Obama in 2009. In 1994, Rodney Wilson, a Missouri high school teacher, believed a month should be dedicated to the celebration and teaching of gay and lesbian history, and gathered other teachers and community leaders. They selected October because public schools are in session and existing traditions, such as Coming Out Day (Oct 11<sup>th</sup>), occur that month. The LGBTQ+ community is the only community worldwide that is not taught its history at home, in public schools or in religious institutions. LGBTQ+ History Month provides role models, builds community and makes the civil rights statement about our extraordinary national and international contributions.

**Light the way for others by facilitating our Inquirers Series!** Make new friends, share your story and enthusiasm for our beloved community. We need UU to shine a light, make a way and support those who want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and River of Grass. The series is on Wednesday evenings. Training is available. See Zena Tucker or email [membership@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:membership@riverofgrassuu.org) to sign up.

**Faith Forward Inquirers Series is back!** The Faith Forward Inquirers Series meets on Wednesdays 7:30 – 8:30 pm on Zoom, see the updated 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 **Oct 7<sup>th</sup> and is FF Inquirers #7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups**. 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
10/7/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
10/14/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life
10/28/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#1: Q&A with Minister
11/4/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#2: Unitarian Universalist History, Principles and Sources
11/11/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#4: Faith Development for Children and Adults
12/2/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#5: Worship & Liturgical Year
12/9/20	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
1/6/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#7: Pastoral Care and Small Groups
1/13/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#8: Membership 101 & Congregational Life

**SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week:** Check the air pressure in your car tires -- it just takes a minute! Properly inflated tires will improve fuel economy, using less gas and reducing air pollution. Plus, it will extend tire life, saving you \$\$\$!

**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**