

# Announcements

**Faith Development:** There are no Sunday school classes on Sunday, so that our little ones can recover from Saturday night's Trunk or Treat festivities and prepare themselves for more spookiness that night! If you'd like further information about our FD program, contact Karen Gonzalez at [religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:religiouseducator@riverofgrassuu.org).

**Rev. Amy's sabbatical** - Rev. Amy's sabbatical began Monday, Sep 27<sup>th</sup>, and will end Tuesday, Nov 30<sup>th</sup>. She will be back in the pulpit on Dec 5<sup>th</sup>. For more information about her sabbatical, please read the information that Rev. Amy prepared. It is listed on our website: [Rev. Amy's Sabbatical Page](#).

## ***CLOTHING DRIVE - LifeNet4Families / River of Grass UU!***

LifeNet does an amazing job serving the underserved in our community. They feed and clothe the hungry and the homeless, as well as offer numerous other vital services (mail, showers, case management, etc.) I've been volunteering regularly and LifeNet is in need of clothing. Here are recent photos showing the scarce supply of men's clothing. A small clothing donation just arrived, which is wonderful, but all items are 3XL.

The need is real, which I see up close and personal working face-to-face with clients as they approach the clothing racks, one at a time, trying to find something that fits and meets their needs.

As autumn arrives bringing somewhat cooler weather, now is a great time to sift through closets and dressers and select a pile of clothing to share with those in need. LifeNet's clients are grateful for all clothing - not just shirts and pants, but also shoes, socks, belts, hats, and underwear. And if you're at all like me, I have a lot more clothes than I truly need.

Getting the clothes to LifeNet is easy, with 3 options:

1. Email Scott May at [ScottMayROG@gmail.com](mailto:ScottMayROG@gmail.com) and he will pick up clothing from your front porch.
2. Drop off clothing at Scott's front porch at: 1660 E Oak Knoll Cir, Davie, FL 33324.
3. Bring the clothing directly to LifeNet4 Families at: 1 NW 33rd Terrace, Lauderhill, FL.

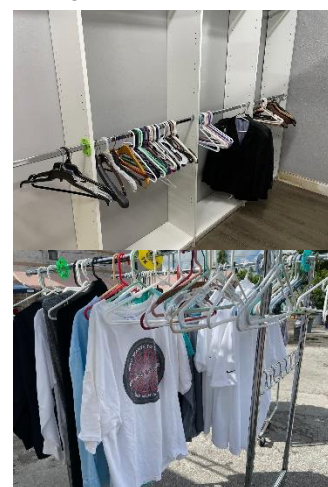
## ***Auction News!***

### ***The Non-Event Event -- 2021-2022 Online Auction -- December 5 thru December 12***

It's happening and, as always, a bit different. We are going to have only an online auction. It will be just like our online auction last year.

**Donations needed:** New or gently used items, gift baskets, gift cards, services, antiques, artwork and crafts. oh, and don't forget parties! We can meet face to face in small groups so we can have parties together again. For more information and/or donations, contact [auction@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:auction@riverofgrassuu.org).

Your Auction Team, Steve Jens-Rochow, Kallie LeFever, and Kathy Jens-Rochow



***LifeNet4Families - Provide a traditional holiday meal to food-insecure families this Thanksgiving!***

Thanksgiving is usually a time to gather and celebrate with family and friends around the dinner table. This year, more families are struggling to put enough food on the table; many of which are in need of help for the first time this holiday season. With your support, an isolated senior, an individual on their own this holiday season, or a food-insecure family will be able to access a warm traditional meal this Thanksgiving!



Here are some of the ways you can help feed one senior, one person, or one family:

- \$75 to deliver families a fully-cooked traditional Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings.
- \$50 to provide a holiday food box so food-insecure families can prepare a delicious holiday meal at home.
- \$25 to surprise an isolated senior living alone with a traditional holiday dinner delivered to their home this Thanksgiving.
- Consider a one-time gift to feed as many people as possible this Thanksgiving Day.
- Setup a recurring monthly gift to help feed families this holiday season and beyond.

Thank you for your generosity this season of giving (meals). [Click here to donate to LifeNet4Families!](#)

**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/>

**RoG Men’s Group: We meet the first and third Thursday each month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.** We will meet on [Zoom at Meeting ID 670 022 402](#) for the foreseeable future. We gather and do check-in where we share our day. Then a discussion topic is presented. We read aloud the premise and questions and then discuss it all until 8:30 pm. The goal is that the sharing moves from head to heart. **The Nov 4<sup>th</sup> topic is still being determined.** The Topic Description will be online at [KipBarkley.com/topic/](http://KipBarkley.com/topic/). There we post past topics and links to the UU Small Group Ministry Network. We are a lay-led group and look to our members for future topics and the direction we take. Do come out and join us. The Meeting Room opens up at 6:30 pm before the Host arrives. If you have any questions please contact Kip Barkley; [mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org); RoG Men’s Group Facilitator.

**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, Nov 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.

**Broward Solar Co-op is still open:** Thinking of going solar? You are in luck. The Broward Solar United Neighbors Co-op is still open, **it closes on Nov 30<sup>th</sup>**. With it you get the advantage of a fully vetted installer, a discounted group price, and their expertise. <https://coops.solarunitedneighbors.org/coops/broward-county-2021-solar-co-op/>

**You're Invited! Compass: Navigating the Paths of Liberation Together - December 11 & 12 (registration fee will be reimbursed by River of Grass)**

Dear Unitarian Universalist Leaders and Friends,

You are invited to reach into your spiritual toolkits and grab your "compass," your wayfinder, that inner voice that points you toward goodness, and join us in charting a path toward a deeper knowing of Unitarian Universalism. Please join us for ***Compass: Navigating the Paths of Liberation Together***, a virtual event-taking place on December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Our very own [Article II Commission](#) will ask for your input on our ever-evolving Purposes and Principles. This is Unitarian Universalism, our living tradition, at its theological best: striving to change and be better in a changing world, bending its arc toward a greater inclusivity and a more profound justice for all.

This event is for: ***lay leaders, religious professionals, adults, youth, members of congregations, and anyone else who is interested in diving into an exploration of interdependence in UU theology and practice.***

[Learn more about \*\*Compass\*\* and register today!](#) We hope to see you on December 11 & 12!

In faith, Natalie Briscoe, Southern Region Lead

**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:** Purchase green products, such as green cleaners, green laundry detergent, products made from recycled materials, low-energy appliances, fuel-efficient cars, and compact fluorescent or led light bulbs. Use your buying power to be green! Help the environment with your wallet!

**Drive to the Finish: Capital Campaign** - Thank you to all who gave us a new pledge and those who generously increased their pledge. Remember there is a Matching Fund Donor who will match any new or increased pledge of \$3,000 or more. With gratitude and hope, Your Capital Campaign Team. [capitalcampaign@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:capitalcampaign@riverofgrassuu.org) Go to our website, [riverofgrassuu.org](http://riverofgrassuu.org), scroll down to the Drive to the Finish information and [click on the link to make your pledge](#).

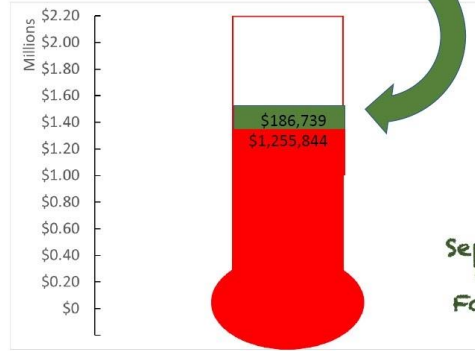
## Capital Campaign Contributions

Our Future Home Search Team is diligently looking for our new home. There are many ways we can go, either find an existing church, find a building we can use and build out to suit our needs, or even purchase property and build our church ourselves.

We need your help in order to be better prepared when the right opportunity presents itself. Those of you who made your pledge during our campaign last fall, thank you for your commitment. We have received about 65% of the total amount pledged. And a matching gift of \$25,000. In order to get a handle on our finances, we would like to know when you plan to complete your contribution.

With gratitude and hope, Your Capital Campaign Team. [capitalcampaign@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:capitalcampaign@riverofgrassuu.org)  
Go to our website, [riverofgrassuu.org](http://riverofgrassuu.org), scroll down to the Drive to the Finish information and [click on the link to make your pledge](#).

Is your Capital Campaign pledge commitment current?



|                            | 09/30/21    |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| CC - BOA Account           | \$153,260   |
| CC - TD Ameritrade         | \$202,955   |
| Foundation - TD Ameritrade | \$899,629   |
| Total Funds Available      | \$1,255,844 |
| Pledges we are promised    | \$186,739   |
| Total                      | \$1,442,583 |
| Objective                  | \$2,200,000 |

September 2021 Update  
Capital Campaign  
For our Future Home

| Monetary Donations         |  |   |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Method                     | How  | Processing fees paid by River of Grass  |
| Check                      | Write CC on memo line Mail to River of Grass:<br>3225 N Hiatus Rd, Unit 452485<br>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:<br>American Express: 3.5%<br>Visa/MasterCard: 2.75% |
| PayPal                     | <a href="https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/my/profile">https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/my/profile</a><br>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                 | Any questions contact Northstar Financial Planners:<br><i>Allen Giese, Steve Tepper, or Stacy Saavedra at (954) 693-0030</i><br>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><b>#0188 - TD Ameritrade Institutional</b><br/> <b>A/C #944110334</b><br/> <b>RIVER OF GRASS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION, INC.</b><br/> 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> |
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***Interim Recommendations from the RoG COVID-19 Re-Emergence Team***

**Team:** Deb Buehler Ely, Karen Gonzalez, Susan Juncosa, Jeanne Masten

**Purpose of Team:** To review guidelines for congregational and smaller group gatherings in order to provide recommendations to the Board to be used for official River of Grass meetings and events.

**These recommendations are:**

For: only for official, River of Grass - sponsored outdoor and indoor small group gatherings.

Fluid: new information comes out all the time and the recommendations could change.

Inclusive: all attendees should be able to attend physically or virtually.

Protective: considers first those who are most at risk.

Science-based: follow the directives according to the experts.

**Sources:**

UUA: <https://www.uua.org/safe/pandemics/covid-19>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/index.html>

Johns Hopkins: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/us-map>

UU Reston Covid-19 Guidelines: <https://www.uureston.org/covid>

**MEETINGS IN THE TIME OF COVID**

**RIVER OF GRASS COVID-19 TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD: February 2021 Meetings in the Time of the COVID**

The CDC has released guidelines which allow meetings of fully-vaccinated\*\* people. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

In accordance with these guidelines, Official River of Grass meeting protocols have been updated to reflect the differences in the make-up of meeting attendees. \*\*People are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 ≥2 weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or ≥2 weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen). This meeting protocol has been developed and can be found on our web ([RiverofGrassUU.org/teams-committees--small-groups.html](http://RiverofGrassUU.org/teams-committees--small-groups.html)). Contact Susan Juncosa at [COVIDteam@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:COVIDteam@riverofgrassuu.org) for more information.

**Frequently Asked Questions - Small Group Meetings**

**1. Can I meet with my RoG friends?**

- That is your choice at all times. These recommendations are only for official River of Grass – sponsored gatherings.

**2. What’s the first thing to consider when organizing an in-person event?**

- Is it necessary that the gathering be in person? Can the same purpose be achieved by meeting on Zoom? Is there a reason to meet other than the fact that we want to be together?

- 3. My small group has some people who are not vaccinated. Can we meet in person?**
- Small groups with unvaccinated attendees can meet outdoors. Follow the procedure for such meetings and sign the covenant.
    - + + If any members of the group do not want to attend in person, provision must be made for attendance by Zoom or other application.
- 4. My group has all been vaccinated with all shots and have waited the recommended times. Can we have an in-person meeting?**
- Yes, if you take these actions:
    - + follow the procedure for such meetings and everyone signs the covenant.
    - + If any members of the group do not want to attend in person, provision must be made for attendance by Zoom or other application.
- 5. What about an indoor meeting?**
- Yes, see question four.
- 6. Can children come to the gathering?**
- At this time, there is no vaccine approved for children. They would have to maintain social distance and masking, etc. This might be a group decision.

**Meetings with all attendees fully-vaccinated (INDOORS AND OUTDOORS)**

**Meeting Leader will do the following:**

- + send the covenant to attendees prior to the meeting;
- + determine, with group members, if proof of vaccination must be provided;
- + collect signed covenants or procure signed covenants at the start of meeting;

**Actions Prior to a Gathering**

A covenant shall be developed and sent to attendees which includes the following:

- + attendee states they have been fully vaccinated and will provide card if requested;
  - + attendee will comply with any contact tracing which may ensue; and
  - + has not tested positive for COVID-19 in the prior 10 days and is not experiencing any COVID- 19 symptoms.
- Actions During a Gathering**
- + attendees will give meeting leader the signed covenant or sign a copy at the start of meeting;
  - + Meeting attendees do not have to wear masks or social distance
  - + Meeting attendees may share food or drink.

**Fully-Vaccinated Small Group Gathering Covenant**

We; the members, friends, and visitors of the River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation acknowledge the role we play in keeping ourselves, each other and our community safe from the spread of COVID-19. With that in mind, we agree to adhere to the following protocols when gathering in small groups in or out-of-doors:

- o We have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- o We have not tested positive for COVID-19 in the prior 10 days and are not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.
- o We will comply with any contract tracing following our gathering, if needed.

## **Meeting with some attendees unvaccinated/not fully vaccinated (OUTDOORS ONLY)**

### **Meeting Leader will do the following:**

- + send the covenant to attendees prior to the meeting;
- + set up space and have sanitizer/hand washing supplies available;
- + collect signed covenants or procure signed covenants at the start of meeting;
- + locations of outdoor gathering will be chosen with the physical needs of the attendees in mind and alternative Zoom links will be offered if needed;
- + review masking and social distancing.

### **Actions Prior to a Gathering**

A covenant shall be developed and sent to attendees which includes the following:

- + agrees to follow social distancing and masking protocols; and
- + has not traveled internationally in past two weeks; and
- + attendee will comply with any contact tracing which may ensue; and
- + is not experiencing any COVID symptoms.

### **Actions During a Gathering**

- + attendees will give meeting leader the signed covenant or sign a copy at the start of meeting;
- + Meeting attendees will follow masking and social distancing guidelines;
- + Meeting attendees will not share food or drink.

### **Actions after a Gathering**

- + Meeting leader will keep the covenants collected for two weeks;
- + Attendees will inform the meeting leader if they have COVID symptoms and/or a positive Covid test within two weeks after the meeting. Meeting leader will inform all attendees.

## **Small Group Outdoor Gathering Covenant**

We; the members, friends, and visitors of the River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation acknowledge the role we play in keeping ourselves, each other and our community safe from the spread of Covid-19. With that in mind, we agree to adhere to the following protocols when gathering in small groups out-of-doors:

- o We will wear masks at all times and keep 6 feet from persons who do not reside in our households.
- o We will not partake of food or drink.
- o We are not experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms.
- o We have not traveled out of the country in the past two weeks.
- o We will comply with any contract tracing following our gathering, if needed.

### **Factors Considered in forming the Guidelines:**

All guidelines depend on both the public and the personal.

The public – the surrounding community – must meet certain standards for daily new cases, infection rate, test positivity percentage, contract tracing in place and hospital capacity.

Personal – each individual's state of health.

### **Scope of Recommendations:**

At this time, the recommendations are only for small gatherings **indoor and outdoor** spaces in which social distancing protocol can be maintained.

**Format of Recommendations:**

The team will develop a FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) document to be posted on the web site and added to the weekly e-mail, which will be updated as needed.

**Meeting Leader will do the following:**

- + send the covenant to attendees prior to the meeting;
- + set up space and have sanitizer/hand washing supplies available;
- + collect signed covenants or procure signed covenants at the start of meeting;
- + locations of outdoor gathering will be chosen with the physical needs of the attendees in mind and alternative Zoom links will be offered if needed;
- + review masking and social distancing.

**Actions Prior to a Gathering**

A covenant shall be developed and sent to attendees which includes the following:

- + agrees to follow social distancing and masking protocols; and
- + has not traveled internationally in past two weeks; and
- + attendee will comply with any contact tracing which may ensue; and
- + is not experiencing any COVID symptoms.

**Actions During a Gathering**

- + attendees will give meeting leader the signed covenant or sign a copy at the start of meeting;
- + Meeting attendees will follow masking and social distancing guidelines;
- + Meeting attendees will not share food or drink.

**Actions after a Gathering**

- + Meeting leader will keep the covenants collected for two weeks;
- + Attendees will inform the meeting leader if they have Covid symptoms and/or a positive Covid test within two weeks after the meeting. Meeting leader will inform all attendees.