

Announcements

Faith Development: 12:30: Pre-K - 1st graders; **1:30 pm:** 2nd - 6th graders; **3:00 pm:** teens
This coming Sunday, our class' focus will be on following not only the Golden Rule, but also the Platinum Rule (Treat others *as they would like* to be treated.) As we continue looking toward healing, it's helpful to know just what people feel they need to be healed. With that in mind, we'll be creating holiday cards for our Angel Tree kids, to go with the gifts they have asked for. For more information, contact Karen Gonzalez at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org.

Young Adults are now meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, at 7:30 pm virtually on Zoom – Millennials, Gen Xers, and Gen Zs, are welcome to tune in to the YUUn Adult Virtual Coffee Hour on **Sunday, Nov 8th 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 if you have any questions and to obtain the zoom details.

Project Angel Tree supporting ChildNet:

This year, River of Grass has adopted 75 foster care kids for this holiday season. We are trying to stay safe and yet still be generous and loving with our most vulnerable population.

- We are asking you to choose a child and then purchase one of the requested gift cards and an age appropriate plush toy.
- Our Faith Development children will be creating holiday postcards that we will attach to the toy.
- The gift cards and plush toys can be delivered to Marilisa Lawless's home, as she is the lead on this project.
- Please send an email to Sandy at office@riverofgrassuu.org for Marilisa's home address.
- We are asking that these are at her home by **Saturday, Dec 5th**.
- [The Google Sheet can be viewed by clicking here](#). Please add your name and contact information to the green column to the right of the child (ren) you choose.

Thank you for always stepping up for River of Grass!

To find out more about ChildNet please check out their website: <https://www.childnet.us/>

River of Grass - Fundraising Mask - Would you like a River of Grass Side with Love Mask? [Click here to purchase](#) your River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation Fundraising Mask! Orders will be shipped right to your door without any additional shipping charges! This face mask is machine washable, double ply, and made up of 60% Polyester, 40% Cotton. They cost \$15 each with 3 different sizes available: Adult, Youth 9-15, and Child 3-8. (<https://www.fundraisingmasks.org/product-page/river-of-grass-fundraiser>)



The Auction Alternative - Missing our Annual Auction? What fun we had! But... we can still do an auction. Just online. The Auction Team is working hard to find the best way to set this up but it will happen. Kickoff is scheduled for Dec 5th. We will have gift items, services, online game parties, and more. Bidding will be online and continue for a week. Please start thinking about

what you can donate. Gift cards, parties like a game night (Poker, Words with Friends, You Don't Know Jack, Monopoly), no contact services like oil changes, dinner delivered to your door, jewelry, etc. We are not accepting donations yet. But we will be shortly. Stayed tuned for more information. Contact auction@riverofgrassuu.org for more information.

How well do you know your UUs - Ysaye Maria Barnwell is an American singer and composer. Barnwell was a member of the African American a cappella ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock from 1979 to 2013. In addition to writing many of the group's songs, Barnwell has been commissioned to create music for dance, choral, film, and stage productions. She is also known for being a female bass. Barnwell conducts music workshops around the United States, United Kingdom, Canada and Australia, including a workshop she created called "Building a Vocal Community: Singing in the African American Tradition". In 1977, she founded the Jubilee Singers, a choir at All Souls Church, Unitarian in Washington, DC. Barnwell has also written a children's book with CD, *No Mirrors in My Nana's House*. A second children's book and CD set was released in March 2008: *We Are One*.



Barnwell was named after the great Belgian violinist, Eugène Ysaÿe. Dr. Barnwell appears as a vocalist and/or instrumentalist on more than thirty recordings with Sweet Honey In The Rock as well as other artists. She has, for the past thirty years, spent much of her time off stage working as a master teacher and choral clinician in African American cultural performance. Her workshop "Building a Vocal Community®: Singing in the African American Tradition" has during the past twenty-eight years, been conducted on three continents, making her work in the field a significant source of inspiration for both singers and non-singers, a model of pedagogy for educators, and cultural activists and historians.

"We are our grandmother's prayers, our grandfather's dreamings, and the breath of our ancestors. We are filled with imagination and hope, big dreams and endless possibilities. We are different, yet we are all the same. We are one."

Source: [Wikipedia](#) & ymbarnwell.com

Flowing River Sangha – We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, Nov 10th 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.

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 or Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com, or visit <https://www.insightinstitutellc.com>.

LifeNet4Families:

Throughout the pandemic, LifeNet4Families continues to serve hot meals to over 250 hungry people each day, as well as provide showers, mail services, clothing, and food box delivery. To minimize risk, the staff is providing all services. So if you miss volunteering at LifeNet, consider a donation of food items, mens clothing, or even a [monetary donation](#). Every donation helps!

Opportunities at the River:

Reopening Task Force

Plan? Who needs a plan? Uh. . . we do

Even though we are facing uncertainty for the future, I think we all agree this separation will end and we need to make plans for the transition. Preparedness will make our life much easier.

There are actually two possibilities of where we will go once we have agreed to return to meeting face to face. One, of course, and probably the one we would most like to happen, is that we have found our permanent home and can move our stuff there and begin our new future there. The other is that we will not have found our permanent home and will need to find a temporary location using our experience from our “church in a box.”

So at this point, can you guess what we need? A Task Force, of course.

This Task Force will be charged with

1. Making recommendations as to when this congregation can resume face to face services and meetings. We have a diverse demographic of members, ranging from the very young to our most senior members. Following the UUA and CDC guidelines and to best serve our whole community. We do have some planning tools so you won't be totally reinventing the wheel.
2. Planning the move into our new home.
3. Finding a temporary facility (school, party room, park, etc.) to hold our services, if necessary.

So, we need a few good people with facilities experience, logistical planning or who just want to be a part of this exciting phase in our continuing saga.

If you are interested, please contact Kathy Jens-Rochow at president@riverofgrassuu.org to discuss.

Team on Ministry

A committee or team on ministry is an important part of the health of any congregation. To this objective, the Board has determined to establish a Team on Ministry. The Team will serve to provide support to our minister and to periodically check on how the congregation is functioning. In other words, the ministry is not just the minister but the ministry of our beloved community.

The Team on Ministry shall consist of 3-4 people. At least one member from the Board. The team's responsibilities consist of, but not limited to:

1. providing feedback to the minister regarding difficult situations between the minister and our member(s).
2. Liaising between Minister and members for conflict resolution.
3. Providing ministerial support
4. Completing an annual ministerial evaluation.
5. Upon request from the Board, conducting an evaluation of the congregation's ministries for the Board review

The Board and the Minister will collaborate to reach a consensus about team members each year.

If you are interested in serving on this critical team at the heart of the River, please contact Kathy Jens-Rochow at president@riverofgrassuu.org.

Planned Giving Task Force

What with everything else going on, Kip Barkley is part of Planned Giving at the River. Just as you are calming your reaction to COVID, he asks, do you have a Will?

There is no time like the present to ask yourself: "Where is all my stuff, and who should get it if I am not around?" Your will should be written by a professional, and that is not Kip. Before you find yourself sitting in someone's office with their meter running, ask yourself, "Who gets my portrait of Elvis on Black Velvet? Is my ex still the beneficiary of my IRA? Who could live with my children?" Yes, figure out all of those "details" in advance.

You can bounce ideas off Kip, Zoom works, but Kip does not write Wills, Trusts, Deeds, and/or Legal Designations. It all starts with a conversation. If you have any questions or want to start a conversation, contact Kip, The Planned Giving Guy at PlannedGiving@RiverofGrassUU.org.

SE Cluster Virtual Annual Meeting on Nov 14 - Starting at the conclusion of the exciting and informative Southern Region "Turn, Turn, Turn" Assembly, the SE FL Cluster will have its Virtual Annual Meeting on Saturday, Nov 14th at about 3 pm.

SE Florida Cluster presents its virtual Annual Meeting

Time: Nov 14, 2020 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#): Meeting ID: 825 8027 8403 Passcode: 780761

One tap mobile: +16465588656,,82580278403# US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82580278403>

Incentive to Register for "Turn, Turn, Turn" on Saturday, Nov 14th. Your SE Florida Cluster is offering an incentive for you to attend the ***Turn, Turn, Turn—A Day of Companionship, Collaboration, and Learning***, a virtual webinar, hosted by the Southern Region Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) on Saturday, Nov. 14th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern time.

In lieu of holding our customary Annual Fall Program, the SE Florida Cluster ***will cover the cost for forty (40) individuals*** (\$20@each) to attend this online regional assembly. So register today!

This pay option is open to all, **and** we encourage those who are most able and willing to pay their own way to do so—the conference will certainly be worth it.

Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, UUA president, will offer the keynote address and workshops offered by Southern Region staff include:

- "Where Do We Go From Here?": Rev. Nato Hollister and Kathy McGowan
- "To Every Season": Co-Leads Connie Goodbread and Natalie Briscoe
- "A Time To Build Up": Cameron Young and Lillian Drab-Braddick

[Click here to register for Turn Turn Turn: A Virtual Regional Assembly of the Southern Region UUA.](#)

1. To access the SE Cluster option: register and click out when the system takes you to PayPal.

2. To pay your own way, register and proceed to PayPal.

Please email Kathy Charles kcharles@uua.org or Jessica Curran sr@uua.org for any questions about the Southern Region Assembly.

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 **Nov 11th and is FF Inquirers #4: Faith Development for Children and Adults**. For more information, email Zena Tucker, membership@riverofgrassuu.org. Zoom link for our session is: [ZOOM Link for RoG Inquirers](#).

Date	Time	Event
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
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
1/27/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#6: Social Action & Community Service
2/3/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#1: Q&A with Minister
2/10/21	7:30 - 8:30 pm	FF Inquirers#2: Unitarian Universalist History, Principles and Sources
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

SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Use recycled paper and reduce printing whenever you can. Ask yourself if you really need a hard copy. Print double-sided whenever your printer allows. The trees will thank 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