

Happy Gratitude Day 2024



Freedom From Want  
Norman Rockwell  
1943



Celebrating  
25 Years

# River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

11850 W State Rd 84, Ste 9, Davie, FL 33325

Riverofgrassuu.org 954-723-7877

Office@riverofgrassuu.org

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our River of Grass Family

Welcome to our Love; Welcome Home

Thursday, November 28, 2024

Sunday Service December 1, 2024

**UUSC 50 Years:**

**Guest at Your Table:**

**Expanding the Welcome Table**

Since it began in 1975, the Guest at Your Table program has introduced generations of Unitarian Universalists to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's grassroots partners working for justice around the world with your support. This church year, we are celebrating Guest at Your Table's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the theme "Expanding the Welcome Table."

Guest at Your Table is UUSC's annual intergenerational program to raise support for and awareness about key human rights issues. Since UUSC works with over 50 grassroots partners, there are thousands of individuals involved in the work that our members make possible. The program is an opportunity to celebrate grassroots partnership, support human rights, and learn about just four of these individuals—the "guests" in Guest at Your Table.

**Come worship with us in person at:**

- 11850 W State Road 84, Suite A9, Davie, FL 33325
- Service will begin at 10:30 AM
- Children's and youth's Faith Development begins at 10:30pm
- Childcare will be provided.

**Virtually:**

**Go to Zoom link below between pages.**

Or catch us live on Facebook on the Facebook page below.

**The Order of Service is at the end of this newsletter**

**Faith Development for Kids and Youth:**

This week in our Faith Development program for kids and teens, we'll be using skits, games and art to help us in our exploration of the Unitarian Universalist Value of pluralism, and consider the UU Service Committee's Guest at Your Table program.

Sometimes justice practice requires us to stretch our imaginations in order to stretch our ability to extend the welcome table to communities different from our own worldview.

For questions about our program contact our Director, Karen Gonzalez at the email below.



**Multi-platform Mindfulness  
Meditation on Sunday Mornings**

Good news! We have returned to in-person meditation with Gary Gonzalez every Sunday morning at River of Grass at A-9. We will gather at **8:30 am and begin meditating at 8:45**. The meditation sessions are available via Zoom as well. Link below.

"I look forward to sitting with you again, be it in person or remotely."

**Worship Service:** <https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>  
Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805  
Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ab3E9JRtb9>

<https://www.facebook.com/riverofgrassuu>.

[ReligiousEducator@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:ReligiousEducator@riverofgrassuu.org)



Meditation:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/646777873?pwd=WHZaNjJQNWF5TDt8UW1kRiFLTVcyZz09#success>



### Our ROG Café returns!

The Glen Friedman Jazz Quintet will perform their

### Cool Jazz Holiday & Seasonal Favorites

**At River of Grass [A-9] on Sunday, December 8, 6-8**

The band features Glen Friedman on trumpet & piano, our own **Aaron Stang** on guitar, Ethan Neuburg on bass, Derek Simms on trumpet & Jason Furman on drums.

Special guest Cecilia Roy will join to sing a few songs as well.

**All** proceeds benefit River of Grass; refreshments & snacks will be available. Bring family and friends to fill up the 60 seats.

*Tickets are \$25 each and are **AVAILABLE NOW***

Use the QR Code or link below to buy & reserve your seats **NOW!**

Questions, ask Ken Bresnahan at the email address below.



Tickets:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z5VP/campaign/C-157DD>

Ken Bresnahan

[mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org)



## Auction Committee Extends Epic Adventures

The deadline to purchase these trips of a lifetime has been extended to December 9 at 7pm.

*These are fixed prices with a markup so that ROG makes a profit on each adventure sold.*



• **Grand Canyon Glamping:** 3 Night stay in an Eco Luxury Sky Dome above the epic Grand Canyon for 2 people. Perhaps one of the 7 Wonders of the World. Epic stargazing through a telescope, \$2853.50



• **Ethereal Iceland:** Iceland Fire and Ice Adventure: a 5 Night stay in Reykjavik, Northern Lights, Blue Lagoon, Golden Circle and Reykjavik Grand Excursion for 2. \$4933.50



• **Under the Tuscan Sun:** a 5 Night stay in a Private Residence in Cortona, Italy for 6 people (3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms). Located in the center of Tuscany is a perfect base to explore the area. Also included is a private 4-course dinner with local wine. \$4673.50

Go to the [SilentAuctionPro](https://www.silentauctionpro.com/) link below to purchase your Adventure  
You will also find answers to your Auction questions there.

**A flier for each Adventure is attached at the bottom of this email.**

<https://www.silentauctionpro.com/>

Church id G1763. enter your bidder number



**The world can end AIDS – if everyone's rights are protected.**

With human rights at the center, with communities in the lead, the world can end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. But gaps in the realization of human rights for all are keeping the world from ending AIDS.

The path that ends AIDS is a rights path. Upholding the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights, and fostering inclusion of all communities are essential for ending AIDS.

**World Aids Day Vigil and Remembrance Walk**

Sunday, December 1, 6:30pm

Hagan Park, Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors

*United in memory, healing, and love.*





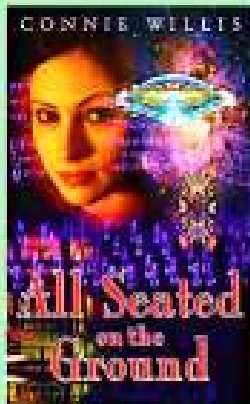
## LifeNet4Families

is in dire need of donations: non-perishable food, cans, protein [tuna, chili, peanut butter, baked beans], men's clothing, and toiletries.  
And Christmas toys.

Every week please bring your donations to church and put them in the large basket in front of the hall.  
"Service is our law"



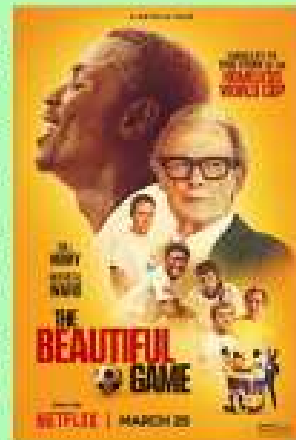
Rachel Malca [ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org) is very close to reviving our monthly service opportunity at LifeNet4Families on fourth Saturday morning.  
Yay Rachel!  
Chat with her during Coffee Hour



bUUkies December read is **All Seated on the Ground** by Connie Willis. This is set at Christmas – perfect for December. The aliens have landed! The aliens have landed! But instead of shooting death rays, taking over the planet and carrying off Earthwomen, they've just been standing there for months on end, glaring like a disapproving relative. And now it's nearly Christmas, and the commission assigned to establish communications is at their wits' end.

bUUkies will discuss "All Seated on the Ground" on Wednesday, December 18, at 7pm. Zoom is below.

mUUvies December viewing is **The Beautiful Game**. *Amusing, uplifting, it puts the emphasis on play and uplift.* The documentary celebrates the healing power of team sports for those who are pushed to society's margins by misfortune. As an English soccer squad heads to Rome for the Homeless World Cup, their talented new player must let go of his past and learn to be part of a team. A feel-good story with a happy-ending that revolves around the fortunes of a half dozen unhoused men. Directed by Thea Sharrock. On Netflix.



mUUvies for Change will discuss "The Beautiful Game" on Dec. 11 at 7pm. The Zoom is below



[bUUkies@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:bUUkies@riverofgrassuu.org)

bUUkies Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/95865321771?pwd=B0ZyYyGWc5bXhJQY8j4ESaLZFCbtu8M.1>

Meeting ID: 958 6532 1771; Passcode: 436687

One tap mobile: +13052241968, ,95865321771#,,,,\*436687# US

mUUVies@riverofgrassuu.org

mUUVies Zoom: Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84418593114?pwd=eHl0OExyVWRlTSUpdTzRqWERvRUU3Zz09>

[eHl0OExyVWRlTSUpdTzRqWERvRUU3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84418593114?pwd=eHl0OExyVWRlTSUpdTzRqWERvRUU3Zz09)

Meeting ID: 844 1859 3114; Passcode: 537288

mUUVies@riverofgrassuu.org

**River of Grass  
Spiritual Artists'  
Open Studio at A-9  
Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2pm**



Come create with other spiritual artists.

We will be painting rocks, painting with acrylics,



drawing and working with  
water soluble Aqua Crayon Sticks

and oil based Cray-Pas crayons.



Or bring your own pen and paper,  
art or craft supplies  
and let's create together.

[spiritualart@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:spiritualart@riverofgrassuu.org)



## **It's that time of year again!**

As the holiday season quickly approaches, we are collecting toys and gift cards to distribute to the fostered children and youth in Broward and Palm Beach County. Let's help the children and youth that have been neglected, abused and abandoned experience the magic of the holiday season. You generously donated gifts to 50 kids last year.

This year, ChildNet want to make sure that every child or teen receives gifts in time for the holidays. All gifts and gift cards must be new and unwrapped for boys and girls from birth to 18 years of age. Nothing can even begin to replace the joy that these special gifts bring to the children in our community during the holiday season.

The deadline is Sunday, December 8. Please deliver or mail the gifts to Marilisa Lawless' porch. Or bring them to church on Dec. 8.

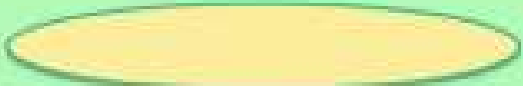
***Please choose a child from the Google Spread Sheet below:***  
Or email Marilisa Lawless at the email below.



Marilisa Lawless [ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:ssjgt@riverofgrassuu.org)



• cookies, caroling, •  
crafting, and  
decking of the halls!



**The River of Grass Choir** gathers at 10 every Sunday morning. Please see Theo before or after service.

Choir practices are at 7pm on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 7pm. Please see Theo for location.

If anyone would like to know what musical pieces we are working on, please see Theo.

The Choir welcomes anyone who would like to join the Choir. Please see Theo.

**Order of Service for Sunday, December 1, 2024**

**UUSC 50 Years: Guest at Your Table: Expanding the Welcome Table**

**GATHERING**

10:20 Morning Sing-

Morning Sing

Ringing of the Chimes-

Prelude –

Welcome –

Call to Worship – We Who Dwell on the Margins by Rev. Wendy Bartel

Theme Music – Draw the Circle Wide by Mark Miller

Chalice Lighting —

*We light our flaming chalice*

*To illuminate the world we seek.*

*In the search for truth, may we be just;*

*In the search for justice, may we be loving;*

*And, in loving, may we find peace. By Elizabeth M McMaster*

**CONNECTING**

Covenant

Deepening Music - Here We Have Gathered Hymn #360

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection -

Stones Music –

Pastoral Response -

Sung Response – Music #371 + Words #381

Wisdom Story A Light in the Darkness by Alisa Barton;

Singing Youth to Class – We Love You and Bless

Heritage & Hope - UUSC

Offering –

Offertory -

Special UUSC Offering

Special Offertory

Message- Joy, Justice and Commitment by Rev. Manish-Marzetti Video

**SENDING**

Closing Music – We're Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table #407

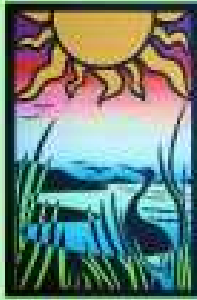
Closing Words & Extinguishing the Chalice

Announcements for the Life of the Community

Sending/Shine On

Invite to Zoom and Live Hospitality -

Reprise -



## UPCOMING EVENTS

*All email addresses or links are below*

Thursday, November 28, 6pm

**Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Sunday, December 1, 8:30am

**Flowing River Sangha at A-9** Gary Gonzalez

Sunday, December 1, 10:30am Worship Service

**UUSC 50 Years: UUSC Guest at Your Table: Expanding the Welcome Table** Steve Jens-Rochow

Sunday, December 1, 10:30am

**Children and Youth Faith Development** Karen Gonzalez

Thursday, December 5, 6pm

**Mindfulness for Today's World** Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

Saturday, December 7, 2-4pm

**Spiritual Art Open Studio** Steve Jens-Rochow

Carolyn Santangelo and Scott May

[Scott@insightinstituteilc.com](mailto:Scott@insightinstituteilc.com) [Carolyn@insightinstituteilc.com](mailto:Carolyn@insightinstituteilc.com)

Gary Gonzalez <https://riverofgrassuu.org/sunday-meditation.html>

Worship Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/ab3E9JRtb9>

Karen Gonzalez [faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:faithdevelopment@riverofgrassuu.org)

Steve Jens-Rochow [SpiritualArt@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:SpiritualArt@riverofgrassuu.org)



### Green Tip of the Week

Teach your kid to ride a bicycle.  
And ride with them. You, and  
our planet will be healthier



To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website posted on the page below  
River of Grass UU Congregation is on **FaceBook**. For more information, please contact us at the community awareness email below

*Unsubscribe* - If you do not wish to receive this weekly email, please send an email to our office [email below] and we will remove you from the mailing list.

*Announcements wishing to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to the email below by noon Wednesday.*

*All announcements will pertain to congregational life and affiliated groups and will be for activities or events occurring within two weeks of the e-mail. Outside groups and individuals, wishing to use this vehicle of congregation-wide communication, must have the approval of the Board of Trustees.*



[communityawareness@riverofgrassuu.org](mailto:communityawareness@riverofgrassuu.org)







**Worship Service:** <https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

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