

River of Grass

Unitarian Universalist Congregation
11850 W State Rd 84, Ste A9, Davie, FL 33325

WELCOME TO OUR RIVER OF GRASS FAMILY. WELCOME TO OUR WARMTH. WELCOME HOME!

River of Grass Weekly Update – May 16, 2024

What Doesn't Kill Ya: Peril Behind, Possibility Ahead

What does not destroy me, makes me stronger.
If we have our own why in life
we shall get along with almost any how.

- Friedrich Nietzsche

History is brimful with times of peril followed close on by space for new possibility – and populated with people ready to take up the charge with renewed strength, determination, and ingenuity. And this is our history now – shared with those who lived to tell of their own perilous passages, and with those to come who will look back at us from their own new thresholds of history to come.

And what makes us able to come through our own perils to arrive at new possibilities?
We hold fast to our why, however volatile and challenging the how.

Come as you are at 10:30 this Sunday morning – either in person at our new location in Davie (info below) or virtually on Zoom and Facebook Live. Come a bit before and we can chat prior to the service. We'll be watching for you!

In person at:

- **11850 W State Road 84, Suite A9, Davie, FL 33325** ([Click for Directions](#))
- Service will begin at **10:30 AM**
- Childcare will be provided.

Use the Zoom link below to gather with us virtually in Zoom. Catch us on Facebook live on our [Facebook page](#).

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805

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

Upcoming In-Person or Virtual Events - This Sunday:

Sunday, May 19, 2024 - 10:30 AM

River of Grass UU Congregation – “What Doesn't Kill Ya: Peril Behind, Possibility Ahead” - Rev. Amy Carol Webb

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

Faith Development for Kids and Youth:

This Sunday, the faith of our children and youth will be developed in our all-ages worship service as we continue to contemplate the possibilities that our faith offers to us. During the Annual Meeting, childcare will be provided. For more information about our FD program, contact our Director of Faith Development at ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org.



Annual Meeting this Sunday! Most important congregational meeting of the year.

This Sunday, May 19 after service, is our Annual Business Meeting. This is a very important meeting where we elect the next year's Board and also approve the budget, among other things. We will need to meet a quorum per our bylaws, so please plan on attending, either in person or virtually. Use the same link as the one for the Sunday service to attend virtually. Lunch and cake will be served for those in person.

Flowing River Sangha meditation on Sunday Mornings

The Flowing River Sangha meets on Sunday mornings at **8:30 AM via Zoom**. Come learn and practice the cultivation of present-moment awareness with an experienced meditator and group facilitator. Gary Gonzalez has been leading mindfulness meditation groups since 2014. Join us via Zoom at the following link: [Flowing River Sangha Zoom Link](#). We look forward to seeing you there. Peace.

May 17 is International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia

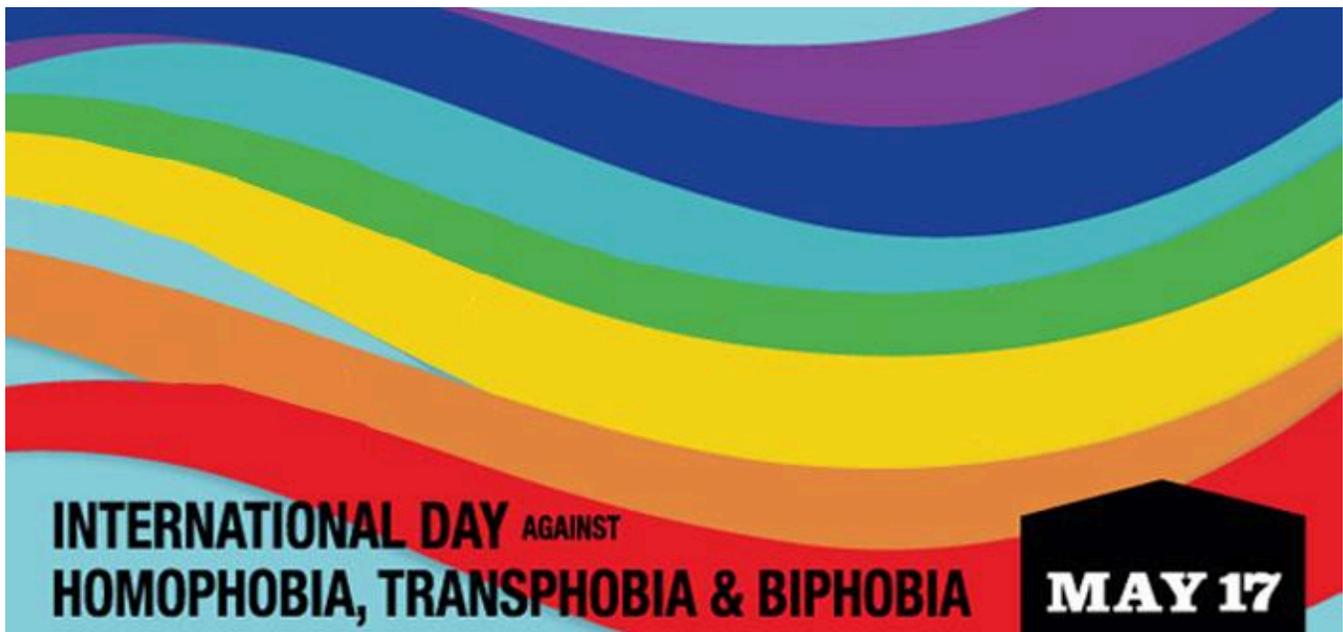
The main purpose of the May 17 mobilizations is to raise awareness of violence, discrimination, and repression of LGBT communities worldwide.

Deeply-embedded homophobic and transphobic attitudes and social norms leave many lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI+) people extremely vulnerable to discrimination. Far too often, LGBTQI+ people are singled out for hate-motivated violence, or even murdered. Many are mistreated and even disowned by their own families. This has led to LGBTQI+ people, of all ages and around the world, being among those left furthest behind as countries pursue the Global Goals.

Hard-won advances for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex communities are increasingly under threat. Discriminatory laws, norms and practices are denying LGBTQIA+ people their autonomy, their access to health care, their reproductive rights and choices.

"Around the world, 67 countries still criminalize same-sex relations, with 10 imposing the **death penalty**." UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

Sources: UNPF.org and un.org



Other Events:

Free “Mindfulness for Today’s World” weekly online sessions:

Thursdays 6:00 - 7:00 pm for adults, [zoom link for Thursday at 6 pm](#)

For more information or to register contact Carolyn@InsightInstituteLLC.com or Scott@InsightInstituteLLC.com, or visit <http://www.insightinstitutellc.com/>

RoG Men’s Group – We will meet today Thursday, May 16th. We are meeting **in person or Zoom at 7:00 pm in Suite A9, 595 Park of Commerce:** The official address is 11850 SR 84, Suite A9, Davie, FL 33325. Our optional pre-meeting dinner will be at **Lester's Diner: 1393 NW 136th Ave, Sunrise, FL 33323.** We'll meet there at 5:30 pm. We are a lay-led group that looks to our members for discussion topics. All who identify as male are invited to join us! **Our next meeting is on May 16th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM,** in person or via [Zoom Meeting](#). This weeks topic: **“This I Believe”.** If you're joining us for dinner, please email Ken Bresnahan, group facilitator, so that he can coordinate space.) For questions: contact Ken; at mensgroup@riverofgrassuu.org.

Sunshine Cluster Presents: Worried about threats to democracy?

Are you concerned about our imperiled Democracy? Worried about dramatically increasing threats to our Democracy? Then come to the Sunshine Cluster's Justice **Saturday, on May 18th at 2:00 pm.** Dr. Dale Anderson will present “Your Personal Plan to Help Save Our Democracy.” His interest in “fascism” and authoritarianism began in 2016 following the presidential election. He has presented nationally and locally on a variety of subjects including “How Fascism Works”, “HR-1: The For-The-People Act”, and “The Global Rise of Authoritarianism.”

Dr. Anderson sits on the national UU Social Justice Board (our UU justice voice in Washington, DC) and on its democracy action team. He will talk about forming local “democracy action teams” and what each of us can do to prevent the loss of our essential freedoms.

To register for Justice Saturday email your name and congregation or organization to sunshinecluster2023@gmail.com for a Zoom link.

Also, Representative Anna V. Eskamani will speak. She is the daughter of working class Iranian immigrants; she is the first Iranian-American to be elected and reelected with large majorities to the Florida Legislature. She will discuss updates from the just concluded legislative session and she will speak about the next steps and action items for folks to do after this presentation and for the upcoming election.

Rep. Anna Eskamani was recently inducted into Miami’s CLEO Institute’s Leadership Circle as a Climate Hero, honored for tackling the climate crisis.

Auction Event – An Enchanted Afternoon with Cecilia Roy!! Behold! Another opportunity to hear our delightful Cecilia Roy at an afternoon soiree of lovely music, food and friends. Enjoy refreshments cheffed by our wonderful cooks and bakers including a beer and wine bar. This an Auction fundraiser, so come and enjoy the afternoon!

DATE: May 26, 2024

TIME: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

PLACE: River of Grass UU Congregation, 11850 W State Rd 84 Ste A9, Davie, FL 33325

COST: \$20/ticket

Please let Kristine Barkley know you are coming to krsbarkley@gmail.com. Bring a check or cash the day of the event or go to our [website payment portal for Auction Payments](#).

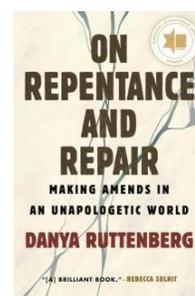
Please indicate it is for Cecelia's concert.



Unitarian Universalist Association Common Read 2023-24: *On Repentance and Repair* by Rabbi Danya Rutenberg

When we do a UU Common Read together, we share in reflection, learning, and action. A UU Common Read can take us on a powerful journey into what it means to be human and accountable in a world filled with both pain and joy. Karen and Gary Gonzalez will lead us through a **3-session discussion on May 29th, Jun 5th, and Jun 9th from 7:00 – 9:00 pm** at River of Grass ([11850 W State Road 84 Ste A9, Davie, FL](#)). RSVP to ReligiousEducator@RiverofGrassUU.org.

You can purchase *On Repentance and Repair* by Rabbi Danya Rutenberg from [InSpirit, the UUA Book and Gift Shop](#). An audiobook, narrated by Shelly Sheckell, is available from [Libro.FM](#) and other sources.



This Common Read offers a glimpse into one of our faith's foundational sources, Judaism. Readers explore the call to accountability in our personal and public lives as we follow Rabbi Rutenberg into a framework for making amends offered by the 12th-century Jewish physician and scholar, Maimonides.

On Repentance and Repair invites readers of any faith to explore practices for accountability that can bring us into wholeness and make a difference in our personal, our community, and our national relationships.

Article II Sessions – Amplifying the Charge

In preparation for the next stage of the UUA bylaws adoption process, and with a desire to extend opportunities for adult faith formation, and to support congregations to deepen their personal, communal, and denominational grounding, we are offering a 2-session discussion series: **AMPLIFYING THE CHARGE**.

The second session is on **Jun 2nd after service**. If you can't make it in person, we'll also be on Zoom. Just click the Zoom link or call the number below to join the meeting. We hope to see you there! Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91267195729>. Meeting ID: 912 6719 5729; One tap mobile: +13052241968,,91267195729# US.

SSJGT, Service and Social Justice Green Team, Green Tip of the Week: Stop paper billing statements! Simply go online and set up your bills and investments to send electronic statements, via email. It only takes a couple of minutes, and you will have less paper to deal with and will save trees!

To see all of the upcoming events at River of Grass, please visit the calendar on our website at riverofgrassuu.org/calendar.html. **River of Grass UU Congregation** is on [Facebook](#) (LIKE us) and [Twitter](#) (FOLLOW Us). For more information, please contact communityawareness@riverofgrassuu.org.

Unsubscribe - If you do not wish to receive this weekly email, please send an email and we will remove you from the mailing list, office@riverofgrassuu.org.

Announcements wishing to be sent out in the weekly congregation-wide update should be e-mailed to WeeklyEmail@RiverofGrassUU.org 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.

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954.723.7877 - office@riverofgrassuu.org

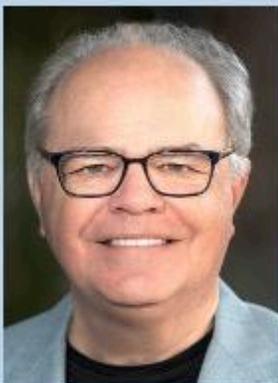
The Sunshine Cluster Presents

Formerly the Southeast Florida Unitarian Universalist Cluster



Threats to our Democracy and to our Civil Liberties in Florida

Justice Saturday, May 18, 2024
2pm on Zoom; Free



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Dr. Dale Anderson

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Rep. Anna Eskamani was recently inducted into Miami's CLEO Institute's Leadership Circle as a Climate Hero, honored for tackling the climate crisis.

A progressive Democrat, Anna is known across the state as a leader who is un beholden, unbossed, and committed to the people of Florida.

Rep. Anna Eskamani



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