

The Acorn

December 24, 2017

This Week's Meetings and Events

Miss a Sermon?

Check out past sermons by clicking on the link.

<http://liveoakgoleta.org/multimedia/>



December Live Oak Event Book!

Reserve your spots now!

<http://liveoakgoleta.org/our-community/live-oak-event-book/>



What WOULD Jesus Do? 5:00 p.m.
Rev. Tamara Casanova Suzuki

Celebrate the season with carols and candlelight. Rev. Tamara invites people of all ages who seek the true meaning of Christmas to come to our very special Christmas Eve candlelight service.

Please note that there will be no morning service on this Sunday. We will have a gathering at 10:00 a.m. and one service at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday December 24

10:00 A.M. Live Oak Gathering (S)
5:00 P.M. Worship (S)

Monday December 25

Live Oak Office Closed
No Scheduled Events

Tuesday December 26

Live Oak Office Closed
No Sangha this week

Wednesday December 27

Live Oak Office Closed
6:00 P.M. Adama Dance

Thursday December 28

7:00 P.M. Choir (S)

Friday December 29

10:30 A.M. Hookers & Needlers (C)

Saturday December 30

No Scheduled Events

Sunday December 31

Administrator on site.
5:00 P.M. Worship (S)

S=Sanctuary; FH=Fellowship Hall, C=Cottage

<http://liveoakgoleta.org/events-calendar/>

Upcoming Sermons

December 31: *Turning of the Year* Live Oak Worship Ministry

In recognition of the New Year, we seek to our lighten our load by setting aside those things we no longer need, and embracing that which we wish to treasure. Join us for a ritual of letting go.

Minister's Discretionary Fund

The Minister's Discretionary Fund at Live Oak is used by the Minister to further the mission and ministries of our congregation. This fund is used to respond confidentially to requests for assistance from Live Oak members and others in the community. At times, funds are used for purposes which contribute to the overall mission of Live Oak.

It is our practice to offer congregants the opportunity to contribute to the Minister's Discretionary Fund during our Christmas Eve offertory. We will provide this opportunity again at our December 24th service but also welcome contributions designated to this account by those unable to be with us at our Christmas Eve service.

Please note that this year part of the offering will be used to directly aid those who have suffered due to the Thomas Fire.

-Thank you for your generosity!!

Children's Religious Exploration

'Tis the Season, so they say. And what a season it's been, and for our lovely community, it's been a unique experience. I would say there are a lot of reason to look at our last few weeks and find moments of beautiful redemption, coming together to be of service, meaning in human connection.

This Sunday, we will have a gathering scheduled for 10:00 am and a service scheduled for 5:00 pm.

At the 10:00 am gathering, we will have a project for the kids and some holiday treats, so I hope I see you and your kids at our early gathering to celebrate surviving the fire and to acknowledge the return to light that the Solstice brings this time of year.

The 5:00pm service is multi-generational, we will be together as a congregation to celebrate and have fellowship.

Finally!!! We gather!! May Blessings abound!!

Social Justice News

A Holiday reminder: *Prayer for When You Get Confused About How To Be A Human* - Rev. Elizabeth Nguyen, Spiritual Sustenance Advisor to Standing on the Side of Love and UUA Ministry Associate for Youth and Young Adults of Color

This time of year I get confused sometimes. Because I know we need to celebrate and huddle with community by fireplaces and over cocktails and under stars. We need ugly sweaters and the sweets that so and so always makes and a reason to get off the internet and in front of each other's faces. And also ICE doesn't take a holiday break, the jails are full every time of year and all the reasons for celebrating have some history of greed and taking.

Help me to not be a person who regrets not visiting a grandparent or taking the time to call my sibling or writing my neighbor a card. Help me to not be a person who stops singing or gives up on art or gingerbread or latkes or candles or whose loved ones miss me more than they see me.

Let's remember to be humans. Humans with loved ones in prison, humans who need rent money and don't get to go home for the holidays. Humans who go to parties and work other people's parties and forget our phones at home on purpose and bring each other cookies and tea.

I visited someone in detention last week. On the anniversary of the night on the bridge at Standing Rock with the water cannons and the tear gas and rubber bullets. And then I went to work with apples, cranberries and pineapple for the jello salad. In each case, showing up as who I want to be required something from me.

Let's remember to be humans.

Thank you, Live Oak, for being such a generous congregation and contributing gifts to the families at CALM and holiday cards to the people who are incarcerated at this holiday season.

If you have more resources to share, an Invitation from Home For Good Santa Barbara County, a community-driven action plan with a vision of ending homelessness in Santa Barbara County. They are conducting a: [Sock and Supply Drive](#)

Community Activities

January 10, 2018: Interfaith Sanctuary Alliance

January 11: SB Progressive Alliance Meeting, Note new location: Santa Barbara Red Cross, 2707 State Street.

January 20: 2nd Women's March across the nation, watch for information about the Santa Barbara March.

**Live Oak Unitarian
Universalist
Congregation**

2018 Regional Assembly

Join Rev. Tamara at Regional Assembly in
Portland in 2018!!

**Live Oak Staff and
Office Hours**

Rev. Tamara Casanova Suzuki

revtamarasuzuki@gmail.com

805.967.7867 x 2

W 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Th 1:00-4:00 p.m.

and by appointment

**Steven Lovelace, Director of
Religious Exploration**

dresteven@liveoakgoleta.org

805.967.7867

by appointment

John Douglas, Music Director

jed805@gmail.com

805.284.2082

Clacey Kahn, Administrator

administrator@liveoakgoleta.org

805.967.7867 x 1

M-F 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Janet Mocker, Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@liveoakgoleta.org

Coordinating Team

[coordinating-
team@liveoakgoleta.org](mailto:coordinating-team@liveoakgoleta.org)

The four districts of the UUA's Pacific Western Region will gather April 27-29 in Portland, OR for the 2018 Regional Assembly. Speakers include civil rights activist, the Rev. Dr. William Barber; Washington Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, advocate for women's, immigrant, civil, and human rights; and the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, newly elected UUA president. Programming includes workshops, worship, district meetings, and an optional social justice activity.

Discount lodging is available at the Portland DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, site of the Regional Assembly. Childcare and youth programming will be available. Registration will open by January 4. Watch the PWR website (www.uua.org/pwr) for full details to be posted soon.

Help Wanted

Elderly member of our congregation seeks housemate (offering large room and private bathroom) beginning in early January.

Contact (805) 683-1775.



**Happy Birthday to the following friends and members celebrating
upcoming birthdays !**

If you have not shared your birthday month/date with us and wish to do so, please contact Liz at elazok@gmail.com

Lessie Schontzler 12/16, Paul Mocker 12/19, Aletha Solter 12/21, Rev. Bets Wienecke 12/22,
Clacey Kahn 12/23, Craig Garvin 12/31, Frank Thompson 12/31