

The Acorn

April 9, 2017

This Week's Meetings and Events

Miss a Sermon?

No problem!

Check out past sermons by clicking on the link.

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

Save the Date

Sunday, April 9
12:00 P.M.

Conversations on Race in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, April 9
What is Feminism?
This event has been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date.

Tuesday, April 11
7:00 P.M.
Immigration Discussion in the Sanctuary.

Tuesday, April 11
Sangha has been cancelled this week.



A Gilded Birdcage
Lora Barnett

What does it mean to be privileged? What about implicit bias? We hear these terms frequently these days and for many of us who have been long committed to justice work it can seem a bit disheartening to learn that despite our best efforts we are still caught up in an unfair system. This system has been referred to as a gilded birdcage. But gilded or not, a cage is still a cage. Join ministerial student intern Lora Barnett as she explores where the keys to freedom lie and how we might unlock those doors so all may be free.

Sunday April 9
10:00 A.M. Worship
11:15 A.M. Souper Sunday
12:00 P.M. Social Justice: Conversations on Race

Monday April 10
No Scheduled Events

Tuesday April 11
6:30 P.M. Worship Ministry
7:00 P.M. Immigration Discussion (FH)

Wednesday April 12
6:30 P.M. Covenant Group

Thursday April 13
7:15 P.M. Choir (S)

Friday April 14
10:30 A.M. Hookers & Needlers (C)

Saturday April 15
7:00 P.M. Honeysuckle Possums at Live Oak!

Sunday April 16
10:00 A.M. Worship

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

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

Sharing our Joys and Sorrows



As a community we share in the following Joys and Sorrows

- * Janet Mocker: Asks for a prayer for a newly wedded couple who are looking for work.
- * Susan Braden: Troubled by the push against having vaccinations. She has seen the sad results of diseases that could have been prevented. Also, she has a joy in that she will soon be leading nature walks for the next several weeks.
- * Sue Smiley: Her husband is doing well as he continues treatments.
- * Jim Pearson: Asks for our good thoughts as Jim and Jan Ross move their daughter into her new house.



Upcoming Sermons

April 16: *Earth Rise*

Rev. Tamara Casanova Suzuki and Steven Lovelace, DRE

Join us in this multigenerational celebration of our earth and of spring! Today we also will participate in our annual Flower Communion which is a cherished and unique Unitarian Universalist tradition. **Please bring a flower with you to share.**

(We ask that you bring unscented or only lightly scented flowers today. Please do not bring lilies or freesias as we have members who are highly allergic to these.)

An Easter egg hunt for the children follows the service today!

April 23: Michael Eselun

April 30: *The Cowardly Lion Speaks*

Rev. Tamara Casanova Suzuki

It is said that courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear. Today we explore the human experience of courage as we gain inspiration for the journey ahead.

Children's Exploration

Last week, we explored the idea that like us, the Earth is indeed **ALIVE!!**

We saw a fun music video with a great hip hop song written for kids about this concept. This week, we will learn the song, then we will settle into a story "written" by Mother Earth (with the help of Schim Schimmel) that speaks of the diversity and fragility of our Planet. If we have time at the end, we might dance a little and have a snack. Life is good on Mother Earth!! Let's be grateful for that!! Blessed Be!!



Live Oak's New Religious Exploration Director



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Steven Lovelace started his performing arts career in 1980 and has danced and acted professionally. He founded Santa Barbara Dance Arts in 1997 and cofounded Stage Left Productions in 2001. He has also created for and directed the Summer Solstice parade, toured Latin America and Europe with the various dance and theatre companies he has worked with over the years.

Steven has been teaching about 35 years of this career, and started his job at Peabody Charter School in 2013, where he still works in the morning. Steven cherishes his career and it has been vastly influenced by his work with children who are drawn to the creative arts. He is excited to add RE to his teaching experience, as spirituality has been a drive and sustaining force in his life for many years. He believes performing arts and RE are very compatible as they ask

each individual to look deeper into oneself, which will ultimately help our young people to make sense of the world and foster a strong sense of self and identity.

Steven has “dabbled” in Unitarian Universalism for years but became a member in 2013. Since his membership, he has been a mentor in the Coming of Age program and is a Worship Associate. In Feb 2017, he has added DRE to his incredible UU color palette and is thrilled to be at Live Oak.

Souper Sunday Continues!

Thanks to our talented Live Oak Choir for hosting Souper Sunday in March. Not only can they sing, but they can cook as well! **Our next Souper Sunday will be this Sunday, April 9**, and is being hosted by Roberta Weissglass and new Live Oak member Lisbeth Caccese along with a small team of other helpers. How wonderful it is for these two generous women to prepare our next luncheon. I'm sure that they would appreciate more offers of assistance if you are willing to pitch in. Mark your calendars for another tasty and nutritious meal that day after the service.

These luncheons continue to be a wonderful way to build community while also raising a few dollars for Live Oak. We now have groups scheduled to host in April, May, and June. If YOU would like to cook for a Souper Sunday next year, please contact Carter Morgan at 683-5303 or by email: morganfamily1@cox.net You will be provided with clear instructions to make this a simple event. Thanks for considering this request, and thanks to all of the individuals and groups that have stepped up this year!



Live Oak Break-In

On the morning of Sunday, April 2nd, Live Oak was vandalized and suffered the breakage of multiple panes of glass as well as some damage to our Administrator's office. Many thanks to those arriving early for Sunday service who jumped in and helped clean and secure the areas of damage. The man who caused the damage was apprehended by the Sheriff's department. We are working on the various aspects of insurance and repair related to the break-in.

Deep gratitude to all who helped on Sunday morning as this community proved yet again to be resilient and resourceful.

Resignation of UUA President Rev. Peter Morales

Many of you know that effective April 1, the Rev. Peter Morales resigned as President of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) of Congregations with three months left to serve in his second term.

Briefly, the precipitating factor in Rev. Morales' resignation was the hiring of a white, male minister for the position of a Regional Lead, instead of a Latina woman who is not a minister. The unsuccessful candidate shared her frustrations and in response some UU religious professionals and others called this a "systemic issue of white supremacy." Rev. Morales' response to the growing controversy was viewed by some as "defensive and dismissive" and so, bowing to growing pressure and division, Rev. Morales resigned. For more details, see the *UU World* magazine summary at www.uuworld.org.

I am proud that our Association has for many years prioritized anti-racism work although it has at times been difficult, destructive and divisive. We are moving forward and the UUA has made progress in the hiring of people of color in multiple positions. It pains me deeply that Rev. Morales, himself a person of color, felt so pressured that he was not able to serve out the last three months of his term.

As my colleague, the Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed wrote: "I worry that, given the current climate, people will set aside compassion and rush to judgment." This seems to be what happened. There were charges made, and people on social media lit up with righteous indignation, and Rev. Morales became the scapegoat of the frenzied mob. This is not the way we as Unitarian Universalists covenant to walk with one another and it is not a constructive way forward. We are a resilient faith but I am disappointed that yet again some of us have failed to live out our covenant of speaking our truth in love and respect, and instead just jumped in to join the fray.

I am proud that we here at Live Oak continue to be engaged in an ongoing series of conversations, and sermons, and programs, and film discussions, and so on for several years that call on each of us to learn and grow in our understanding of this vital topic. And we continue to do this hard work, soul work for us all. I invite each of you to join in upcoming events encouraging us to learn and grow in our understanding of the issues of identity, white privilege, racism, and multiple forms of oppression.

I am also proud that we here at Live Oak continue to be engaged in living our UU principles by persisting in the struggle in our post January 20 world.

With love and blessings as we journey forward, Rev. Tamara



April 15 at 7:00 P.M.
Honeysuckle Possums
Concert at Live Oak
 to benefit ACLU, sponsored by the Live Oak Social Justice Ministry. Come and bring your friends! It is a great cause in these troubled times and you can enjoy great music and make a difference in our world!

Social Justice News

The Social Justice Ministry (SJM) would like to invite the congregation of Live Oak to dive deeper into the topic of Sanctuary and Immigration Reform this Spring with a series of events and opportunities for discussion. Our goal is to consider and draft a resolution from the congregation that will give us the ability to respond to immigration crises locally and nationally. Here are the ways you can get involved- please join us for all or any of the events that are interesting for you!

* **Tuesday April 11th, 7-9pm Fellowship Hall**

Immigration laws, sanctuary policies and reform efforts are complex! The SJM is pleased to welcome local immigration lawyer and fellow UU, Geoff Connor Newlan and his colleagues to our congregation on Tuesday April 11th from 7-9pm to assist us in learning more about this topic. As the public discourse on immigration continues to heat up in light of ongoing executive orders that shift existing policies, it is critical as UU's that we educate ourselves about what the issues are so we can be prepared to respond with our characteristic love and justice effectively, safety and with conviction that we are truly standing on the side of love. Meet and discuss with your fellow UU's and community members the in's and outs of immigration reform and its history in this country built by immigrants.

- * **Wednesday April 19th 5:00pm.** Join the SJM at its regularly meeting to write the first draft of a congregational resolution in support of immigration and the new sanctuary movement.
- * **Sunday April 30th: Town Hall.** The SJM will present a first draft of the proposed congregational resolution on immigration. Your feedback, questions and concerns are critical to the drafting of this resolution- so please join us- we want to hear from you.
- * **Wednesday May 17th at 5 pm:** Join the SJM once again at its regularly scheduled meeting to review the draft resolution and incorporate feedback from the Town Hall. Our goal is to have a final draft for review published in the Acorn by June 1st.
- * **Sunday June 11th:** Annual meeting for our congregation! The SJM will bring the final

Social Justice News Continued

resolution for consideration and a vote. We look forward to bringing you the excellent news that we are clear and committed to a shared vision on immigration as a UU community.

Questions? Have ideas or feedback on this process or want more information? Contact Lora Barnett, ministerial student intern at lora.barnett@gmail.com.

Overcoming Oppression and Building a Justice Oriented World

The SJM is pleased to host and promote many events in our community that support justice and freedom for every body. As a community and a ministry this spring we will be taking time to explore issues of race as it relates to implicit and explicit bias. In February we had the privilege of hosting a workshop through Heart to Heart and we heard from many of you that this is exactly the type of facilitated discussion you would enjoy having on an ongoing basis. We are pleased to be able to offer you two such opportunities this spring and invite you to join us for one or both events.

- * **Wednesday May 10th:** The SJM will host a second facilitated discussion, 7-9pm in Fellowship Hall. While the format is the same, the discussion questions will be new so please join us for one or both of these discussions.

Please RSVP for these events and let us know if you will need childcare. (Childcare requests need to be received one week prior please!) Questions? Have ideas or feedback on this process or want more information? Contact Lora Barnett, ministerial student intern at lora.barnett@gmail.com.

Upcoming Social Justice Community Events

- * **April 8, 1:30-3:30 P.M. SB Progressive Coalition: RESIST Trump & PERSIST in promoting progressive policies.** Casa de la Raza, 601 E. Montecito St., Santa Barbara (enter from Montecito St. to enter the larger common room)
- * **Apr. 22, 11:00A.M.-2:00 P.M. March for Science on Earth Day.** This is a celebration of our passion for science and a call to support and safeguard the scientific community. De La Guerra Plaza: Speakers at 11am. At noon, march down State St and back up, ending at Earth Day Festival in Alameda Park. Bring signs, lab coats. (Washington DC march. Los Angeles march will be downtown.) <https://www.facebook.com/events/241005116351627/>
- * **Apr. 29, 11:00 A.M. PEOPLE'S MARCH FOR CLIMATE, JUSTICE AND JOBS:** SBCC La Playa Stadium • 100 Loma Alta Dr., Santa Barbara. On Trump's 100th day in office, environmental and climate justice organizations are calling for this march in DC, NY, and around the world. A broad coalition of local environmental groups are organizing the Santa Barbara companion march. <https://actionnetwork.org/events/peoples-climate-march-santa-barbara?>

**Live Oak Unitarian
Universalist
Congregation**



Contact Us

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Supporting Our Members

IN RECITAL: Leslie Cook and John Ballerino Perform Brahms Lieder. Saturday, April 8, 2017 3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. Faulkner Gallery of the Santa Barbara Public Library. 40 E. Anapamu, Santa Barbara.

Jeanne Northsinger would like to share the following workshops with the congregation:

**Nonviolent Communication (NVC) Conference,
Friday-Sunday, May 12-14 at the Wake Center
SBCC Center for Livelong Learning.**

Nonviolent Communication (NVC) emphasizes deep listening both to others and to ourselves. NVC provides practical tools which foster connection, authenticity, compassion and solutions that work for everyone. NVC professional trainers from all over the US will be offering workshops on topics from restorative practices to parenting. This is the only NVC conference of its kind in the world and it is right here in Santa Barbara! Tuition is \$75 for the whole weekend.

[https://sbcc.augusoft.net/index.cfm?
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od=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=20356&int
category_id=3&int_sub_category_id=194](https://sbcc.augusoft.net/index.cfm?meth-od=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=20356&int_category_id=3&int_sub_category_id=194)

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

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



Sandy Gullet 4/4, Terra Trevor 4/11, Kristine Kelly 4/13

Reverend Tamara 4/19, Wilma Seelye 4/26,

Malcolm Donnelly 4/26