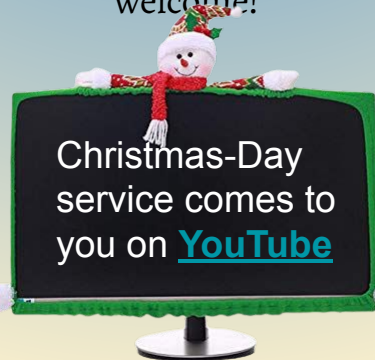


Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

The Acorn

Join Together Online Christmas Morning!

Campus will be **closed on Christmas Day**, but you can still enjoy a service **virtually**. Click [HERE](#) for the YouTube link. Please note that this is **not** a Zoom link. Same 10:00 a.m. time, but from the comfort of your own home. Join with other congregations in our coastal cluster to acknowledge the spiritual significance of this day. If you wish, have a chalice, candle, and a cup of something warm and delicious nearby. Christmas morning pajamas welcome!



December 23, 2022



Snowflakes Falling ~ Japanese Woodblock Print (1882)

A Celebration of Christmas **December 24 ~ 5:00 p.m.**

The Worship Ministry hosts this candlelight Christmas Eve program that celebrates Christmas from a UU vantage point. Enjoy music, togetherness, and messages of love, joy and peace that will bring warmth to this wintry evening.

This Week at Live Oak

Saturday December 24

3:30 PM Tech Rehearsal (H = hybrid)

3:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (FH = Fellowship Hall)

5:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (H)

Sunday December 25

10:00 AM [Worship Service](#) (YouTube link)

Monday December 26

[9:00 AM Yoga](#) (Virtual)

Tuesday December 27

[9:00 AM Yoga](#) (V)

7:00 PM Sangha (V)

Wednesday December 28

[9:00 AM Yoga](#) (V)

9:00 AM Acorn deadline!

Thursday December 29

[9:00 AM Yoga](#) (V)

Friday December 30

[9:00 AM Yoga](#) (V)

10:30 AM Hookers & Needlers (V)

Saturday December 31

10:00 AM Live Oak Choir (S)

11:00 AM Tech Rehearsal (H)

Christmas Eve Worship ~ Order of Service

Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Goleta



December 24, 2022 ~ 5:00 p.m.

A Celebration of Christmas ~ Worship Ministry



[Zoom link](#) | Meeting ID: 991 200 709

Music for Gathering ~ (*begins at 4:50 p.m.*)

John Douglas, Music Director

Prelude ~ *Christmas Time – Time for Peace*
Words & music: John Douglas

Live Oak Choir & Nanda Douglas

Welcome ~ *Kindling of our Chalice Flame*
by Lauralyn Bellamy

Gloria Liggett, Worship Associate

In the Spirit of holidays past,
let us gather to listen and learn the ancient story of this night,
that our hearts may find wisdom.

In the Spirit of holidays present,
let us gather to view and question the way things are,
that our hearts may seek justice.

In the Spirit of holidays future,
let us gather to dream and plan the way things will be,
that our hearts may be reclaimed by hope.



Call to Worship ~ *You Are the Holiday Miracle*
by Gwen Matthews

Jeanne Northsinger, Worship Associate

Congregational Singing ~ *Deck the Halls* #235
Words: Traditional Welsh; music: Old Welsh carol

Message for All Ages ~ *Gift of the Magi*

Gloria Liggett

Sharing in Stewardship ~
Minister's Discretionary Fund

Jim Wells, Worship Associate

Congregational Singing ~ *Joy to the World* #245
Words: Words: Isaac Watts; music: Methodist Collection of Tunes

Order of Service (continued) ~ Dec. 24, 2022

Meditation ~ Reading

Jeanne Northsinger

Meditation Musical Response ~ O Holy Night

Nanda Douglas

Words: Placide Cappeau (French); John S. Dwight (English);

Music: Adolphe Adam

Homily #1 ~ Reading #618 Luke 2:1-20 ~ And it came to pass

Drew Carter

Congregational Singing ~ 1st verse of #241: "In the Bleak Midwinter"

Words: Christina Georgina Rossetti & John Andrew Storey; music: Gustav Theodore Holst

Homily Reading #2 ~ A Cup of Tea

Megan Moyer

Congregational Singing ~ 2nd verse of "In the Bleak Midwinter"

Homily Reading #3 ~ Truman Capote: A Christmas Memory

Jim Wells

Congregational Singing ~ 3rd verse of "In the Bleak Midwinter"

Ritual: The Passing of the Light

Jeanne Northsinger

Reading

Lighting of the Candles

Music

John Douglas, piano

Congregational Singing ~ "Silent Night" #251

Words: Joseph Mohr; music: Franz Xaver Gruber

Benediction and Extinguishing of Our Candle

Megan Moyer

The Work of Christmas Reading #615

Postlude ~ "Amen! Go Tell It On The Mountain"

Live Oak Choir

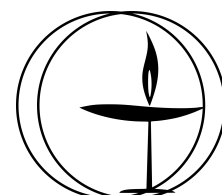
Words: African American spirituals; choir arrangement:

Mary McDonald

Thank you to tonight's greeters, Aileen Bailey & John Otchis; our A/V guru, Eric Shug; and our Zoom tech support team, Megan Moyer & Drew Carter.



Go in Peace.
Happy Holidays to all!



Upcoming Services

December 25 ~ Sunday, 10:00 AM ~ [Christmas Day Cluster Celebration](#)

Christmas morning there will not be a service at Live Oak, but we will be joining online with other congregations in our cluster for a Christmas-day service. Click on this [YouTube link](#).

January 1 ~ Sunday, 10:00 AM ~ *Turning of the Year, Stone Communion*

In recognition of the New Year, we seek to lighten our load by setting aside those things we no longer need, and embracing that which we wish to treasure. Bring a small stone to help build our altar.

- Submitted by Drew Carter



River Birth by artist, Carol Robinson

A Note from Your Board of Trustees

Mediation Update

The Board would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the congregation's patience, compassion and support as we searched for a mediator for Live Oak. We are pleased to announce that we have selected **Lizzie Rodriguez** as our mediator. Lizzie uses a **restorative practices approach** to help individuals and organizations reconcile and move forward together. She will meet with the Board before the holidays, and we will start mediation sessions with her as a congregation in January. We are still working out the details of the specific mediation and reconciliation process we will use at Live Oak, and will share as soon as we have more information. In the meantime, you may be interested in visiting Lizzie's business website, [Restorative Community Santa Barbara](#). We are grateful, hopeful, and eager to work with Lizzie to resolve our current challenges and build skills that will serve our congregation - and ourselves - well for years to come.



Board Meets Twice a Month

The Board continues to meet twice a month so that it can respond to the Congregation's needs in a timely manner. Members are welcome to attend as observers, either in-person or on Zoom. Please contact Kendra Wise if you would like the Zoom link to observe the Board meeting.



Social Action for Justice ~ Upcoming Activities

1. Jan 13-14, 2023 – [BIPOC Reading Festival](#).
2. Jan 25, 2023 – Help our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness by assisting with the **Point in Time National Count**. Lots of Volunteers are needed. Please check in for times for virtual training between Jan. 16-20, and bring a friend. Here's the [link to sign up](#).

- Submitted by Jan Ross



Christmas Eve ~ Minister's Discretionary Fund

From the **Pastoral Care Ministry**: Christmas Eve service donations go to the **Minister's Discretionary Fund**. The fund is used to help congregants, at the minister's discretion.

- Submitted by Laurette Valentine

The Membership Ministry Needs YOU!

We are in search of a few Smiling Faces to join our Team of Greeters on Sunday Morning. Here is your opportunity to Meet, Greet and Welcome old and new Members, Friends and Guests as they join us for the morning service. For more details, see **Carolyn Chaney, Gail Boehme or Pat Johnson**. To sign up, email **Barbara Kuhn** at painter72@hotmail.com for help in signing up online. Current sign ups are for January and February. **Start the New Year right!**

- Submitted by Gail Boehme

Mayo Clinic Holiday Health Message

Click [HERE](#) for another worthwhile informational podcast from Dr. Poland of the Mayo Clinic about RSV, influenza and Covid recorded Nov. 28. Wishing you **good health** this winter season.

Message from the Pastoral Care Ministry



The **Memorial Book** documents our collective memories of our friends and loved ones. It is located in the Cottage on a music stand in the left corner near front doors. We realized that there are some commemorative stones in our Memorial Garden with no corresponding tribute page in our Memorial Book. If you'd like to add a page to the book in memory of a family member or friend who participated at Live Oak, please contact **Wilma Seelye**.

- Submitted by Cecilia Ramirez

So you know...



At this time, Live Oak UU Congregation does not have a **Director of Religious Exploration**. Though we give thanks that our Steven Lovelace is very much alive and well, his time as DRE has come to an end, and his email dresteven@liveoakgoleta.org is retiring with him on Dec. 31st. He welcomes your *personal messages* at gotrixie@gmail.com. You may still reach him for LOUUC matters at administrator@liveoakgoleta.org until January 1st. Steven and I will be answering emails together in January. Melanie's teaching load reduces January 23, 2023, when she will be sending Steven into the desert sunset.

- Submitted by Melanie Jacobson

Thank you, Gloria Liggett ~ Our Heating Angel

Last week Steven wrote to you that during the week after Thanksgiving, the large space heater in the office disappeared - that he went into other spaces to look for one of our other space heaters, and discovered that there were **no** heaters on the campus. And it's cold.

The good news is that Gloria Liggett has loaned us two of her heaters to get us through winter, or until another angel purchases one for the Cottage and Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to gift something to Live Oak, please know that - **coming soon!** - we will be launching our new Live Oak **Amazon Smile Wish List**. With input from the Coordinating Team, we will make our wishes known this way, so that, if inspired, you can provide something needed for the campus. We would like to thank you properly, so let yourself be known by name and we will also provide an acknowledgement for your tax records. Truth be told, we have had many unlabeled, anonymous donations from well-wishers. But since the lockdown, our spaces - even our *locked* rooms - have become rather cluttered, confusing, and hard to clear.. Whenever you feel inclined to leave something for Live Oak that isn't on our wish list, please **first** check with us so that we can determine whether it will serve congregational needs or whether it might find a better home elsewhere.



- Submitted by Melanie Jacobson

Event Promotion Committee

One of the ways that Live Oak earns income is by **renting out space** on our campus to organizations and individuals for a variety of activities - music lessons, concerts, dance groups, yoga, weddings, and organization meetings. This is a great way to share our beautiful campus with our community while financially supporting Live Oak. **Kendra Wise** is organizing a team that will **promote Live Oak** as a place for events. Do you have ideas about how we can get the word out to the community about Live Oak? Take part in this exciting, fun, challenging opportunity to jump-start a critical aspect of Live Oak's business operations. If you are interested (or even just curious), contact me: kendrawise@gmail.com 805.448.4321 (call or text).



Your Coordinating Team

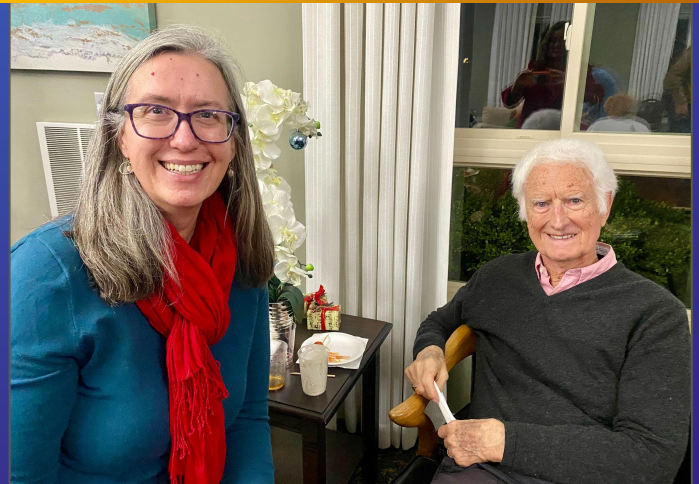
We are the **C-Team**: Kristen Otte, Jeanne Northsinger, Melanie Jacobson, Mary Johnson, Steven Lovelace, and Paul Bagalio. We monitor and support Live Oak ministries and teams. We work with staff and volunteers to manage campus facilities and rentals. Our mission is to facilitate timely, constructive communication between congregational groups so that Live Oak can thrive through times of transition and meet its practical, day-to-day operational obligations.



Eggnog Extravaganza for *DEER* Friends!
Thank you, Carolyn & Curt, for including LOUUC!



To see more smiling Live Oakers, [click HERE!](#) Then click on the button, "Slideshow," at the top right corner.



Our December Birthdays



Jeri Moulder ~ 12/5

Gail Hubbel ~ 12/9

Paul Mocker ~ 12/19

Aletha Solter ~ 12/21

Clacey Kahn ~ 12/23

Craig Garvin ~ 12/31

Frank Thompson ~ 12/31

Staff, Office Hours, & Contact Information

Live Oak Unitarian-Universalist Congregation

820 N. Fairview Ave. Goleta CA 93117

www.liveoakgoleta.org

805.967.7867

Co-Ministers:

Rev. Carolyn Price ~ revclouuc@gmail.com

Rev. Anne Hines ~ irrevanne@gmail.com *Corrected email!*

Administrative Coordinators:

Steven Lovelace (through December 2022)

Melanie Jacobson (starting January 2023)

administrator@liveoakgoleta.org

Office Hours: M/Tu/Th 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Fri by appt. ~ most Sundays 9:00-11:30 AM

Music Director:

John Douglas ~ jed805@gmail.com ~ 805.284.2082

Bookkeeper:

Janet Mocker ~ bookkeeper@liveoakgoleta.org

