

The Acorn

September 3, 2021

This Week's Events and Meetings

Like many of you, we had hoped that the situation regarding our eventual in-person re-gathering for Live Oak Sunday services and meetings would be different at this point.

However, due to the increase in COVID-19 cases in Santa Barbara County, all in-person gatherings sanctioned by Live Oak, both indoors and outdoors, are suspended until further notice. Thank you for your ongoing understanding as we seek to keep our congregation as safe as possible.

In service,

*Megan Moyer
(President), Clacey
Kahn (VP), Larry
Bishop, Rev. Tamara
Casanova Suzuki,
Holly Drayton, Mary
Johnson, Wendy
Morgan, Teka
Penteriche*



"Finding Live Oak"

*Gail Boehme, Priscilla Marchus, and
Janet Mocker*

Join us this morning as we celebrate our beloved community of Live Oak through the stories of three members. Each speaker joined Live Oak at different points in our history and will share what brought them here, what brings them to life as a member and what keeps us all together. .

Sunday Sept 5

9:00 AM Religious Exploration
10:00AM Worship Service V

Monday Sept 6

9:00 AM Yoga V

Tuesday Sept 7

9:00 AM Yoga V

6:00 PM Pastoral Care V

Wednesday Sept 8

9:00 AM Yoga V

9:00 AM Acorn deadline

9:00 AM Coordinating Team
2:30 PM Social Justice V
5:00 PM Committee on Ministry V

Thursday Sept 9

9:00 AM Yoga V

5:00 PM Good Relations Ministry V

Friday Sept 10

9:00 AM Yoga

10:30 AM Hookers & Needlers

Saturday Sept 11

11:00 AM Tech Rehearsal V

Sunday Sept 12

9:00 AM Religious Exploration
10:00 A.M. Worship Service V

(ALL MEETINGS ARE VIRTUAL
RIGHT NOW)

V=Virtual
LO=@Live Oak
O=Off site

[Google Calendar - Aug 2021](#)

Worship Service 09.05.21

Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Goleta

Order of Service

September 5, 2021

“Finding Live Oak”

Sharing by Live Oak Members Gail Boehme, Priscilla Marchus
and Janet Mocker

A/V support: Eric Schug; Tech support: Drew Carter

Music for Gathering (*begins at 9:50 a.m.*)

John Douglas, Music Director

Prelude ~ *“Gonna Build a Mountain”*

John & Nansie Douglas

from Stop the World—I Want to Get Off; Words and Music by Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley

Welcome Song ~ *“Enter, Rejoice, and Come In”* #361

Welcome

Drew Carter, Worship Associate

Chalice Lighting

“May This Flame” by Bets Wienecke

May this flame,
symbol of transformation since time began,
fire our curiosity,
strengthen our wills,
and sustain our courage
as we seek what is good within and around us.

Call to Worship

Jim Wells, Worship Associate

Opening Song ~ *“Hand in Hand”*

by Melissa Monforti

Message for All Ages

Jan Ross

“All Are Welcome” by Alexandra Penfold and Suzanne Kaufman

“This Little Light of Mine”

Worship Service 09.05.21

Sharing of Joys and Sorrows

Jim Wells

Meditation

Drew Carter

Congregational Response ~ "Return Again" #1011

Homily **"Finding Live Oak"**

Gail Boehme, founding member
Priscilla Marchus, member since 1995
Janet Mocker, member since 2014

Musical Response ~ "We Shall Be Known"

Live Oak Choir & Friends

Words & Music by Karisha Longaker, arranged by John Douglas; video editing by Luana Psaros

Sharing in Stewardship

Jim Wells

Closing Song ~ "Lean on Me" #1021

Words & Music by Bill Withers

Benediction

Jim Wells

Postlude ~ "You've Got a Friend"

Words and Music by Carole King

Nansie Douglas

Five-minute break and then all are invited to re-gather for our after-service social hour.



Live Oak Sunday Worship
September 5, 2021 10:00 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/991200709>

Meeting ID: 991 200 709

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US +1 301 715 8592 US

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/a3HkXnuGD>



Upcoming Services

September 12 *Water Communion Sunday* Rev. Tamara Casanova Suzuki

You are invited to our virtual multi-generational “homecoming” water service as we reaffirm our bonds of love and community with one another and with Mother Earth. Two things please:

- 1) You are invited to **mindfully pour some water from your time this summer into a common vessel situated on the Wittman Patio at Live Oak.** You are welcome to do so at any time **from Saturday, Sept. 4 - Thursday, Sept. 9.** While you are there take a look at our freshly painted buildings and perhaps take a moment to reflect at our memorial garden. Please either wear or have a mask handy in case you run into another Live Oaker on-site.
- 2) Please **have some water and a plant near your viewing device for our virtual service on Sept. 12.**

Covenant Groups “Open Enrollment” at Live Oak!

We are bringing the covenant group experience to more people at Live Oak! We currently have four very robust and thriving groups and seek to offer the opportunity for other Live Oak members and friends to participate. Especially in this challenging time, we invite all Live Oakers to consider joining a group.

Covenant groups (also called Small Group Ministry) are groups of up to ten people who covenant, or promise, to meet once each month to explore various topics and to share in each other’s lives and spiritual journeys. The covenant group experience allows people to deepen their Sunday morning worship experience, to address and ponder questions of faith and life, to connect with a small group of Live Oak members and friends, and to express gratitude through service. If this experience of intimacy, reflection, and spiritual growth sounds like something you are looking for, now is your chance! All groups currently meet in virtual space.

For more information please contact Rev. Tamara.

To sign up, send your name, contact info, and your availability (days and times) to Rev. Tamara.

All requests should be received by **September 19th**.

Religious Exploration 09.05.21

THIS WEEK IN RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Appreciating the crew that showed up last week to discuss our principles, as the older kids head into Coming of Age (surely not a bad topic of conversation to any "UU kid").

Our second week to discuss principles and move into our six sources. How do these principles and sources help define our values and beliefs? Is it okay to NOT believe in God? And what about that possible "8th principle"?

COMING OF AGE ORIENTATION

Live Oak Eighth Graders and older are invited to participate in this year's Coming of Age program, which will explore our values and identity using the UU lens as these teens take steps toward adulthood.

Thank you to the group who had their orientation last Thursday. I will be reaching out to the families that could not make that evening. For now, the virtual informational orientations should take about an hour. Plan on one or both parents attending with the teen.

Mary Dochterman and Rachel Iler-Keniston will be co-facilitators, and the first Coming of Age class will be October 3.

RE CALENDAR FOR SEPT/OCT

Sunday Sept 5 9:00 AM Religious Exploration-virtual
 Sunday Sept 12 10:00 AM Water Communion Multi-Gen service
 Sunday Sept 19 9:00 AM New Religious Exploration Year PLEASE REGISTER
 Sunday Sept 26 10:00 AM Multi-gen service
 Sunday Oct 3 10:00 Coming of Age begins

VOLUNTEERS FOR RE and THE LINK FOR RE

It's that time of the year again: Religious Exploration begins on Sept. 19 and needs volunteers, of course. Let Steven know if you are available.

Use the link on the RIGHT for both Religious Exploration on Sunday AND any Coming of Age meetings.

Live Oak Religious Exploration

Time: September 5, 2021
9:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/9954380524?pwd=UzZORVVKbnhBamIqT2craHE0Y255UT09>

Meeting ID: 995 438 0524
Password: 007564

From Your Board of Trustees re: GATHERING

Like many of you, we had hoped that the situation regarding our eventual in-person re-gathering for Live Oak Sunday services and meetings would be different at this point.

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In service,

Megan Moyer (President), Clacey Kahn (VP), Larry Bishop, Rev. Tamara Casanova Suzuki, Holly Drayton, Mary Johnson, Wendy Morgan, Teka Penteriche

Food Collection Restarts- Painting is Completed

We want to give special appreciation to Michael Wittman, Roberta Weissglass, and the rest of the Facilities Team for their terrific work in getting Live Oak buildings painted. Our campus looks great!!

Thanks as always to those of you who continue to generously contribute food to the Santa Barbara Food Bank. Your generosity is truly heart-warming!

This terrific organization is filling an even larger-than-usual need in our community. We are glad to have Live Oak support their efforts, and workers at the Food Bank continue to express their appreciation!

Items that are particularly appreciated include: canned goods such as tuna, fruit, beans, and soups; peanut butter; pasta; rice; cereal. We gather items every Tuesday.

Now that the painting project is completed at Live Oak, you can once again donate food in one of the three regular ways on any day of the week:

- (1) You can drop off donations in boxes that we have put out at Live Oak on the patio just outside of the cottage;
- (2) You can drop off in a box we have left outside of our front door at home: 6542 Camino Caseta in Goleta; or
- (3) You can get in touch with us via email (morganfamily1@cox.net) for a pickup at your home. Just leave food donations in a bag (preferably paper) outside of your door.

Thanks for your support of families in our community!

Carter and Wendy Morgan

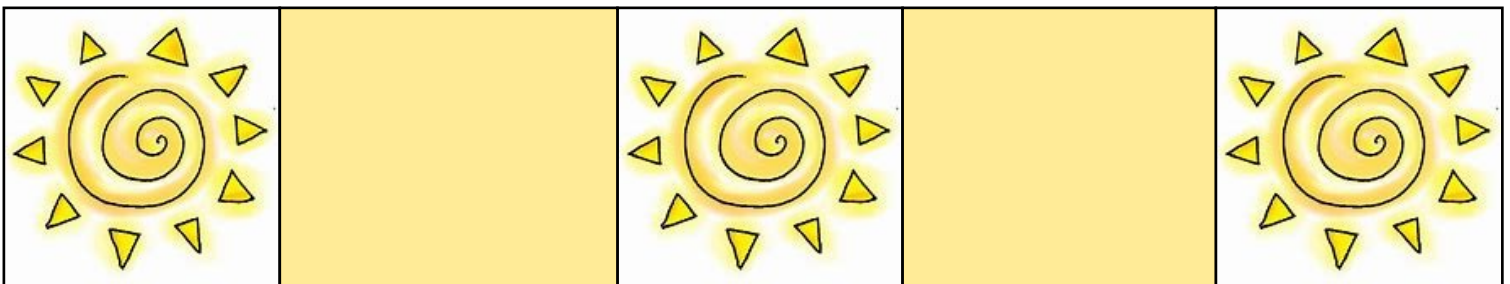
Social Justice Upcoming Activities 09.05.21

- 1) **Sunday, Sept 5 at 1 pm DSA-SB** (Democratic Socialists of America-SB) are having a Labor Day picnic at Tucker's Grove Park.
- 2) **Monday, Sept 13 PFLAG-SB virtual meeting.** They will be talking about "The pressures and questions facing LGBTQ+ people and their families." Check this website to register and obtain a link. <http://www.pflagsantabarbara.org/monthly-meetings>
- 3) **Please make sure you vote in the recall election for Governor Newsom**, either using your mail-in ballot and an election drop box or at your polling place on September 14th!
- 4) **Sept 7 at 6pm, Webinar about legislation to pass single payer healthcare** (AB 1400) in California. More info: info@medicare4all.org.
- 5) **Sept 14 Webinar about joining Central Coast Community Energy** as your energy provider, 6-7 pm. This is available in Goleta and Unincorporated SB County. More info: <https://3cenergy.org/2021-enrollment/>

ByeBye to Summer BBQ-CANCELLED (for now)

Dear Congregation,

It was so great to be together again this summer at the Friday Beach Potlucks, just wanted that energy to continue. However, the state of the pandemic has changed dramatically and quickly for recent time so Hal and Mary are postponing the "Bye Bye to Summer" Potluck because of our county's Covid number increases. As soon as SB is in a different state of this pandemic and can open up a bit, the potluck will be rescheduled. Thank you for understanding. You all stay safe out there!!



5 Ways to Take Action for Afghan Refugees

From Rev. Tamara:

There was a question on Sunday about ways to help out. I offer this as a partial answer. **5 Ways to Take Action for Afghan Refugees (from the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee)**

1. Reach out to your local refugee resettlement agency. There are a number of ways individuals and congregations can support refugee resettlement in their community. Reach out to your [local Office of Refugee Resettlement](#) to find out how you can provide support for children and families with refugee status.

2. Support organizations who have been working on the front lines of this issue for years, advocating for and providing legal services to Afghan Special Immigrant Visa applicants and refugees. Groups who have led the way on these issues include the [International Refugee Assistance Project \(IRAP\)](#) and [Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service](#). Check out their websites to learn more about how to support their work.

3. Are you an attorney and/or JD? Volunteer to help Afghan families. Ellen Smith, the Executive Director of [Keeping Our Promise](#), is seeking pro bono attorneys and JDs to support Afghan families navigating the humanitarian parole process. You can reach her at the following email address if you have legal qualifications and are able to assist: Ellen Smith: Ellen@keepingourpromise.org

4. Read and share UUSC's organizational statement on the Afghan refugee crisis. Want to know UUSC's stance on the current humanitarian crisis and how the U.S. government should respond? Check out the official [statement](#) from UUSC's President and CEO Rev. Mary Katherine Morn and share it with your networks.

5. Advocate on social media. U.S. elected leaders need to hear that we expect them to do everything in their power to evacuate Afghan refugees to safety on U.S. soil, and that we have a historic obligation as a country to welcome them to our communities. You can Tweet at the President and Secretary of State @POTUS and @SecBlinken with hashtags including #AfghanEvac #EvacuateAfghans #GetThemtoGuam #SaveOurAllies #EvacuateOurAllies and more.



**Live Oak
September
Birthdays**

Helen Gordon
9/7

Sandra Martin
9/11

JJ Kahn
9/13

Melanie
Jacobson
9/20

Ron Kronenberg
9/20

Sylvia Sullivan
9/20

Holly Drayton
9/21

Ellen Hamilton
9/21

Mary Ann
Kaestner
9/22

Jonathan Young
9/29



Live Oak Photo Gallery



Left: Mary Johnson shares bromeliad-blooms with us...how gorgeous!



Photos below: Steven photographs the drama of the desert skies on the drive home.



**Live Oak
Unitarian
Universalist
Congregation**

**Live Oak Staff and
Office Hours**

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by appointment

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