



Lots Happening! Read All About It!

Dear Lisa,

In this issue (in order):

- Invitation: APC's Education Center -- Grand Opening!
- Final Steps: Search for Monthly Worship Leader
- New Class: UU American Roots (monthly, on 2nd Sundays)
- *Finding Your Spiritual Voice*: Another Learning Opportunity
- Unsung Heroes
- Final Reminder: Congregational Meeting -- January 11
- Invitation to Share Your Musical Interest
- Caring Committee Is There for You
- Ascent of Man Gathering: Friday, January 16

Wednesday, January 14, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

APC's Brand New Education Center
2471 Orion Street, #B

- Light Refreshments
- Kid's Art Exhibit
- Dedication & Piñata starting at 5pm

Because the commitment and donations of so many of our members and friends made it possible for [Alameda Point Collaborative](#) (APC) to open their new Education Center, they sent us a special invitation to the Grand Opening Celebration of the facility. We hope that some of you will be able to attend! See the library we helped supply. Enjoy the excitement of the young people we are encouraging as they grow.

APC staff tell us: *"Moving the Education Center into a bigger space was a lot of work, but well worth it! The new space, a two bedroom apartment unit, has allowed us to create more computer workstations to support our web-based literacy program, and to have dedicated space for a library. A full kitchen will also allow our Education Center staff the opportunity to implement cooking and nutrition classes in 2015.*



"We could not have undertaken this project without the support of our generous community. From financial support to volunteer hours, you have helped to make this important resource a reality.

"We hope that you will celebrate with us!"

If you are going:

The Education Center is located in the first floor of the apartment building at Midway and Orion streets. Please look for balloons, lights and lots of kids! Ample street parking is available along Orion Street. The #31 bus stops at Midway and Orion.

Search for New Monthly Worship Leader: Getting Close

After narrowing the field, our Selection Committee (**Eric Fethe, Jay Roller, Jackie Roth, and Richard Stromer**) interviewed several candidates for the Monthly Worship Leader position. They have now chosen three finalists to preach at Live Oak UU in the coming weeks.

The committee welcomes feedback from any of us who attend one or more of the services. But do remember the congregation will not vote on this decision. The selection team will choose the candidate they think best fits our needs and will report their findings to the current members of our board. The board will have the final say. If you have questions or comments, please contact **Richard Stromer**, ([RSSStromer@gmail.com](mailto:RSStromer@gmail.com)).

Great Adult Class Starts Feb 8: UU American Roots

We are delighted to offer a terrific class for adults (and high schoolers) interested in learning more about UUism. Several of us have participated in this class before and highly recommend it.

Emily Stoper, retired Cal State-East Bay professor and long time member of First Unitarian Church of Oakland, invites us to explore the stories of Unitarianism, Universalism and Unitarian Universalism in America.



- How did Unitarianism and Universalism originate here?
- How and when was Unitarianism transformed from a Protestant denomination to the theologically eclectic faith of today?
- What special gifts do we owe to our Universalist heritage?
- What is our history as seekers of justice?
- When and how did women come into their own as clergy in our faith traditions?
- What have been the different experiences and attitudes of whites, African-Americans and Latinos among us?
- Where do the Principles and Sources come from?

You will be surprised at many of the answers.

Join others from Live Oak -- and perhaps other congregations -- in the Guild Room on 2nd Sundays beginning in February (Feb. 8, Mar. 8, Apr. 12, May 10, June 14). The class will be from 4:00-6:00 p.m., followed by half an hour for socializing and light snacks. There is no charge for this class and all are welcome.





RSVP if you're *pretty sure* you will be attending so we can arrange enough space, handouts, and refreshments. You do not have to commit to all five sessions, but you will be quite pleased if you can attend them all. RSVP to Darlene Pagano (dpagano@igc.org). Questions? Darlene will answer those, too. Note: Large-print handouts can be made available ... but with advance notice.

Exciting Learning Opportunity: *Finding Your Spiritual Voice*

The Live Oak Worship Team is delighted to announce they will be taking an 8-month course together -- and they are opening it up to anyone in the congregation who would like to participate. They're calling the course "*Finding Your Spiritual Voice*."

The course is based on a book by UU Minister Erika Hewitt, called [The Shared Pulpit](#). This book is a recipe for an amazing journey. Whether you have thought you might like to participate in leading worship, or you're simply interested in looking more deeply into your own spiritual path, this course is for you. The class will meet for 3 hours once a month for 8 months. We will probably begin in February or March. We'll figure out exact times and dates once we know who's on board, so we can try to make it work for everyone.



Erika Hewitt

If you think you might be interested -- or if you're not sure but you have some questions -- contact **Richard Stromer** or anyone else on the Worship Team (**Kate Hand, Darlene Pagano, Kris Arrington, Jay Roller, Mindy Mull, Peter Hand, Mary MacKay**) This is going to be an amazing course, and we hope you'll join us in it. Stay tuned for further developments. ~ Kate Hand

Unsung Heroes

Two of our founding members at Live Oak do so many tasks, both seen and unseen that it is hard to imagine how Live Oak would exist without them.

She is our web and communications person extraordinaire. She is a great source of information, welcomer, record keeper, networker, church directory keeper, researcher, weekly email announcement and newsletter production . . . you get the idea.

He coordinates (with help) sound on Sundays, posts Live Oak services on the web, takes the collection to the bank, produces financial statements, and tracks contributions.

They both host innumerable Live Oak meetings at their home, movie nights, Board meetings and retreats.

They wear so many hats. Now is the time to tip our hats to them: **Lisa** and **David**



Fry. Please let them know how much you appreciate them when you see them next.

With great appreciation and respect,
Jay Roller, President, Board of Trustees

Love Music? Want to Sing? Or Share Your Instrument with Us?

The Live Oak choir is always looking for singers and musicians. If you are looking for a way to get back into music, please contact our music director, Mark Daniel at evansgem@yahoo.com. You can also usually find Mark at the piano on Sunday afternoons for a personal chat.



Caring Committee: If You (or Someone You Know) Is In Need

We all go through difficult times at points in our lives. The Caring Committee at Live Oak is the place to turn when there are ways we can help: delivering a meal, a ride to a doctor's appointment, time with a good listener.

We do our best to help with the small but important tasks that can make a big difference. And we do it confidentially.

Contact one of us, if someone in our community is in need: **Jay Roller, Sally Kennedy, or Nancy Balassi.**

Adult Faith Development: Next Gathering for The Ascent of Man

Friday, January 16, you are invited to watch and discuss episode 7, titled *The Majestic Clockwork*, which explores Sir Isaac Newton and Albert Einstein's laws. Join us at the Fry's home in Oakland at 7:30 p.m. on the 19th. [Email Lisa Fry](mailto:lisa@liveoak.org) to let her know you are coming. Questions? Need the location? Email or call Lisa at 510-419-0953.

Email options: We maintain two separate email lists. One gets ONLY reminder announcements of upcoming worship services. The other gets those notices, plus information about congregational meetings, activities, religious education, newsletters, and more. You are welcome to be on either list. Please let Lisa (lisa@liveoak.org) know if you wish to be moved from one list to the other -- or if you wish to be removed from our email list altogether. Note: We also have a listserv for members & friends of Live Oak. You may join it, at any time, by sending an email to uuliveoak-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

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