



## Lots of News for Our Small Fellowship!

Dear Lisa,

In this issue (in order):

- Second Sundays: Gathering in Franklin Park
- Discussion Topic: Help Select the Date for This
- Father's Day Wishes
- Interesting Stories, Wisdom from Other Sites:
  - Is Children's Literature Too White?
  - For Pride (as we approach Pride Day)
  - Practicing Forgiveness
  - 8 Young Adult Books That Will Change the Way You Think About Mental Health
- Gratitude: Recognizing Our Own
- Ascent of Man: This Friday (May 15)
- Caring Committee

### Sundays in the Park: Picnic -- July 12 (2nd Sunday)

Live Oak will gather at lovely Franklin Park (1432 San Antonio Ave, between Paru & Morton) on Sunday, July 12.

You'll have choices: Just hang out and visit with other Live Oak'ers or join a discussion group led by **Roger Hallsten**. (See story below about possible topic.)

You may meet folks by the front doors to Christ Episcopal and walk from there (0.4 miles) or head straight to the park. There are a few benches there, but we suggest bringing a blanket and/or lawn chairs with you. We'll talk, play, get to know one another, maybe sing a little, and eat (of course!). Bring a dish to share, as usual. We'll supply plates, cups, napkins, and flatware. Also, feel free to bring frisbees, kites, balls, etc.

There are two play areas in the park (near each other) -- one fenced in, with equipment safe for toddlers, and the other with equipment for older kids. Note: there are also restrooms. We'll send a few people ahead to save a spot for us.





If you have questions, just ask! You can email [Lisa](#) for more info.

## Discussion Idea -- for July or August: Let's Talk!

**Roger Hallsten**, who will be facilitating the discussion groups in July and August, is looking for YOUR input. For one of those dates, he would like to have a "Show-and-tell" theme. He would like folks to bring an art item and tell why they are sharing it. (The item might be a picture, a song, a poem, or .... It can be something purchased, given, or self-made. Just bring something art-related that means something to you and share that with us.

If this idea appeals to you (and you will participate), he'd like you to [email him](#) to let him know which date works better for you -- the second Sunday in July (July 12) or the second Sunday in August (Aug 9).

## For All Who Are Thinking of a Father or a Father Figure



For fathers, father figures, step-fathers,  
those whose fathers are far away,  
those who have lost a loving father,  
those who are worried about their dads,  
those who enjoy a father-like  
relationship with another,  
and those whose fathers were  
a disappointment  
Our thoughts are with you all.

## Four Interesting Stories, Essays, Pieces of Wisdom

### 1. Is Children's Literature Too White? (posted by Susan Lawrence)

I was a child with curiosity about the whole world. I made my first explorations through books. Among my early discoveries were these: (1) the world is alive with different people and cultures, and (2) the world of books is created by, about, and for white people of Anglo-Saxon heritage. [Full post.](#)

### 2. For Pride (by Lois Van Leer)

They will march, walk, wheel, dance, shimmy and shake  
Block upon block of undulating color, flesh, banners, signs, clothing or lack thereof  
Hands raised, hands linked, apart, together  
Singing, shouting, chanting, silent,  
Joyous, tearful, nervous, afraid, proud, defiant, angry, happy, delirious, tentative, ecstatic, courageous, brave, free. [Full reading.](#)

### 3. Practicing Forgiveness (posted by UU minister Carl Gregg on his blog: Pluralism, Pragmatism, Progressivism, June 9)

Gregg reflects on the practice of forgiveness, in conversation with Archbishop Desmond Tutu's new book on the topic.

[Forgiveness] is a practice-in many ways similar to practicing the piano or practicing basketball: you get better the more you practice. The more times you practice a sonata or shooting free throws, the more that action becomes an ingrained habit. Similarly, the more you practice forgiving, the more forgiving becomes second nature. [Read the full post.](#)

### 4. Eight Young Adult Books That Will Change The Way You Think About Mental Health (by Ellen Braaten, Ph.D. and Hannah Braaten)

The list below represents only a small sliver of the multitude of books that might help you and your teen talk about mental health issues-from the minor (anxiety about going off to college) to the major (depression and suicide). All of these are not only great reads in and of themselves, but also offer a way of approaching some of the most difficult-to-discuss topics with your pre-teens and teens. [Full list.](#)

## Heartfelt Thanks

**Richard and Krista Arrington** have not only prepared a sumptuous meal for 35-45 Live Oak'ers each year for several years, they have also donated the food each year, an incredibly generous contribution.

We are so grateful to the Arringtons for all they contribute to Live Oak UU -- their time, their talent, and their treasure. Our small congregation is blessed to have folks

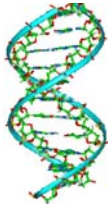


like Richard and Kris -- and many others who give all that they can to help this community thrive.



## Coming Right Up: Watch & Discuss Ascent of Man

Friday (June 19), join other Live Oak'ers to watch Episode 12 (of 13), **Generation Upon Generation**, of Jacob Bronowski's series. Bronowski travelled the world in order to trace the development of human society through its understanding of science.

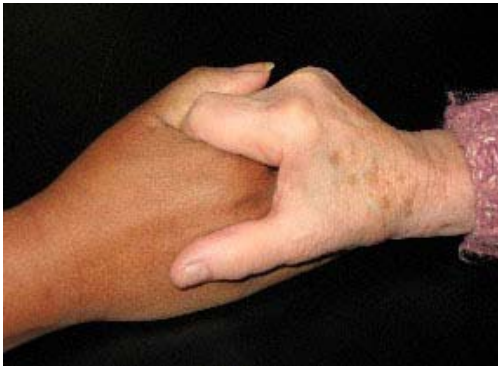


This session examines the complex code of human inheritance -- from the experiments of pioneer geneticist Gregor Mendel to the discoveries of today's sophisticated laboratories.

In addition, we will be deciding what series we'll watch next. We welcome your input. We gather at 7:30 p.m. in a home in Oakland. Email [Lisa Fry](mailto:lisafray@gmail.com) to RSVP (and for the location).

## Live Oak UU Fellowship Caring Committee

If you know of someone in our congregation who needs a visit or some other simple need such as a meal, you can contact one of the members of the Caring Committee (listed below) to see if we can be of any assistance:



**Nancy Balassi** -- [nbalassi@aol.com](mailto:nbalassi@aol.com)  
510-523-7605

**Jay Roller** -- [jaybroller2002@yahoo.com](mailto:jaybroller2002@yahoo.com)  
510-338-0690

**Sally Kennedy** -- [deskennedy@att.net](mailto:deskennedy@att.net)  
510-655-9672

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 ([lisafray@gmail.com](mailto:lisafray@gmail.com)) 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@yahogroups.com](mailto:uuliveoak-subscribe@yahogroups.com).

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