With great joy, we have added another opportunity for children, youth, and families to participate in our worship services.

On Sunday, Oct. 4, our first “Chalice Family,” Nanci Armstrong-Temple and her daughters, Talullah and Annabelle, lit the chalice to begin our worship service. Several other families have already signed up to be a Chalice Family. If you would like to participate in this part of worship, contact Kathryn Duke (kathryn.saenz.duke@gmail.com) or Laura Prickett (prickett_l@yahoo.com). We welcome you.

Also please tell Kathryn or Laura if you would like to read or tell the “story for all ages” during worship. We welcome more voices! And we also welcome suggestions of titles of stories that support our worship themes.

We are learning, growing, and building. Share your strengths and passions with us, please.

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A Special Visitor: Sunday, Oct. 18

Carol Bodeau will visit us at our next worship service, October 18.

Carol has helped several Bay Area UU congregations start their RE programs for children and youth -- and will soon be sharing her experience and insights with our own congregation.

Carol is especially looking forward to speaking directly with children and youth about their ideas and hopes for Live Oak.

In addition, Carol wants to meet and speak with Live Oak people of all ages. We hope all our children, youth, and parents will be at church on the 18th.

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RE Visioning, Planning

Do you have hopes and ideas for actively including children and youth into Live Oak worship and community activities? Join with others who dream of deepening the intergenerational dimension of Live Oak just before our next service on Oct 18.

Whether you have children at home or not, please join Carol Bodeau and Live Oak friends to talk about ideas and realistic steps toward a more intergenerational community.

We’ll gather at the Alameda home of Kathryn Duke from 2:00-3:45 pm on the 18th, then carpool or bike to the Home of Truth in time for the 4:00 pm service. Please send an email to Kathryn (kathryn.saenz.duke@gmail.com) if you’ll be coming. She’ll provide you with more information on location and the agenda.

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Take Action for Our Climate

Saturday, October 24 is International Day of Climate Action. People from the Live Oak congregation will join Tell It on the Mountain, an event in which hundreds of adults and youths create a “necklace” around Mt. Diablo. The photograph to be made of this necklace will join other photos of events happening around the world that day. There are still a few seats on the buses going up the mountain. If you want to be part of this historic event, go to www.350.org, and contact Carol Thornton (carolt@lmi.net) or Kathryn Duke (kathryn.saenz.duke@gmail.com).

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Each morning we must hold out the chalice of our being to receive, to carry, and to give back.

- Dag Hammarskjöld
Live Oak Joins Coming Out Walk

Join us for the Faith Communities Coming Out, Coming Together walk & celebration next Sunday, Oct. 11, on National Coming Out Day.

Walkers will gather at 12:15 p.m. at First Congregational Church in Alameda (1912 Central Ave.). Live Oak people will walk -- carrying our new banner -- to celebrate the presence of LGBTQ families and individuals in our communities.

The walk (2 blocks or .4 mile) ends at the steps of Kofman Auditorium where there will be a few speakers plus singing by an interfaith choir, including some of our own singers. Email Lisa Fry (lisasfry@gmail.com) for details.

Live Oak Joins Coming Out Walk

Announcements During Worship

As more programs and activities begin at Live Oak, there is an increased need to include announcements Sundays when we worship.

If you have an announcement you would like read from the pulpit, please email it to Richard Stromer (soulmentor@personalmyths.com). Richard will organize the announcements and forward them to the relevant Worship Leader.

We have established standards for all pulpit announcements:

- No more than three announcements will be read
- Priority will be given to Live Oak-related events
- Should be 50 words or fewer
- Include contact person for more info

Richard will confirm receipt of the announcement to those who send them to him and will let the sender know the odds of that announcement being read from the pulpit.

When there are more than three announcements, the others will be read during the potluck.

Deepening Our Spiritual Knowledge & Practice

As we approach the first anniversary of our congregation, it's time to take the next step and take on the responsibility for deepening our spiritual knowledge and practice.

Darlene Pagano has agreed to chair the Adult Religious Education Committee. She wants to meet with anyone who finds that Adult Religious Education is -- or could be -- a part of their personal ministry within Live Oak Fellowship.

Richard Stromer and Jody Savage have already agreed to join her for a discussion about beginning education programs.

If you have any interest in this initial discussion -- whether you think you would want to serve on the committee or not -- please contact Darlene. Together, folks will figure out a good time and place to meet for this discussion.

Darlene says, “I am getting this started because I am eager for this sort of study myself.”

Please get in touch with Darlene at dpagano@igc.org or 510-595-7726.

Worship Leaders Named

Live Oak is blessed with 5 worship leaders for the coming year: Kate Hand, Judith Heller, Kim Rankin, Jay Roller, and Richard Stromer. But we still need one more. Please consider this vital role. You would create (with others) 4 services/year and find it a truly fulfilling experience. Contact Richard (soulmentor@personalmyths.com) for details.

Feeding Our Roots

When you receive your pledge card -- at a party, in the mail, or by email -- please complete it and return it to David Fry (davidfry@gmail.com) as soon as possible. If you do not plan to make a pledge, please let us know that, too.

Many thanks to each of you for considering Live Oak and its importance to you.