

Lamorinda's Religious Services



St Stephen's Episcopal Church

66 St. Stephen's Drive, Orinda
254-3770. www.ststephensorinda.org
Sunday 8am, 10am &
5:30p.m. Casual Eucharist



Lafayette United Methodist Church

955 Moraga Rd., Lafayette,
284-4765, office@thelumc.org
Worship Sunday 10 am
Children & Teen Faith Formation Sunday 10 am
Teen Fellowship Sunday 6 pm
Study Groups, Service Opportunities Various
Free Community Luncheon 4th Sunday of Month 11:30 am



► **SUNDAY Worship**, 9:00 & 11:00 AM,
with programs for 3-mos.-12th grade.

► **SEEDLINGS Preschool**, M-F

► **LOPC: Where everyone is welcome, nobody is perfect & anything is possible with God.**

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LOPC.org

ORINDA CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

24 Orinda Way (next to the Library) - 254-4212

Sunday Service and Sunday School 10 - 11 am
Informal Wednesday Meeting 7:30 - 8:30 pm
Reading Room/Bookstore M - F 11 - 4; Sat 11 - 2

www.christianscienceorinda.org



Worship the Lord!

Sundays, 9 & 10:30am

MORAGA VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 Moraga Valley Lane, Moraga CA
www.mvpctoday.org • 925-376-4800

Willow Spring Community Church

Loving God Loving People

Come and Meet our New Pastor

Sundays: 9:15am Adult Sunday School Classes
10:15am Pre-Service Fellowship (Free Coffee & Bagels)
10:45am Contemporary Worship Service

Wednesdays: 10:00am Community Bible Study
1689 School Street, Moraga (925) 376-3550
www.willowspringchurch.net

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church

433 Moraga Way, Orinda, 254-3422
www.holy shepherd.org



8:30 a.m. Traditions Worship Service
9:50 a.m. Education for all ages
10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
Coffee Fellowship at 9:30 and 11:45 a.m.
Childcare available for ages 5 and younger

SAINT GILES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

9am Sunday School & Communion Service in the SMC Chapel
stgiles-moraga.org
(925) 376-5770
traditional liturgy • inclusive theology

The Orinda Community Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

10 Irwin Way, Orinda | 925.254.4906 | www.orindachurch.org

"No matter who you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

Join us Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church

A Loving Community

Sunday Services: 8 and 10 AM

In-church Youth Zone, 10 AM Nursery Childcare
682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, 284-7420, www.stanselms.ws

◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Join Santa and his Moraga Youth Involvement Committee helpers Thursday, Dec. 4 for cookies and hot cocoa in the Moraga Commons Park for the annual Holiday Tree Lighting! Entertainment from the Rossmoor Community Chorus begins at 6:30 p.m. with the tree lighting at 7 p.m.

A community sing of Handel's Messiah will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5 at Orinda's St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The Sing will be directed by Minister of Music Robert Train Adams, with Festival Choir, soloists and chamber orchestra. This event is free, with an offering taken for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties. Childcare is available by reservation. For more info, contact the church at office@ststephensorinda.org or (925) 254-3770, ext. 10.

It's a Wonderful Life celebration Dec. 5 in Lafayette. (See related information A12)

Winter Wonderland Dec. 6 and 13 at Orinda Theatre Square. (See related information A12)

Take a photo with Santa from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 at the Rheem Valley Shopping Center between Nation's and Tuesday Morning. Bring your own camera for the free photo session with the coupon available on rheemvalley.net/events or with a shopping receipt from the center.

See the Christmas story come to life at the 10th annual viewing of the Live Nativity at Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church (MVPC). The MVPC Courtyard will be transformed into a Bethlehem manger from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 at 10 Moraga Valley Lane. Members of the congregation take on the roles of Mary and Joseph, the three Wise Men, shepherds, Roman soldiers, and a host of heavenly angels. And the oxen, sheep, goats, and other live animals truly transform the space into a spectacle not to be missed. While the Courtyard will be a reverent scene, there will be additional activities, music and snacks in the Fellowship Hall. The Sanctuary will be open for prayer and contemplation. Free.

Hospice of the East Bay invites the public to participate in the 28th Annual Tree of Lights ceremonies that are held in Contra Costa County throughout November and December. (See related listing A12)

Christmas Party: A sing-along, activities for all ages, and easy-to-make crafts will be among the holiday festivities from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Dec. 6, at Lafayette Christian Church, 584 Glenside Dr. Singers will be accompanied by the Overdues. A cake walk and cookie decorating will also take place. Free. For more info, call (925) 283-8304.

Contra Costa Jewish Day School, Temple Isaiah, PJ Library, The Jewish Federation of the East Bay present Hanukkah fun w/Diana Shmiana and PJ Library: puppets, songs, clowning and more from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 at Contra Costa Jewish Day School, 955 Risa Road, Lafayette. Best for ages 3-7. RSVP to Michelle@jfed.org. Everyone welcome. Free. For more info see http://jfed.org or call (510) 809-4938 or email michelle@jfed.org.

North Shattuck Association presents "Snow? In Berkeley?" from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 at Gourmet Ghetto, 1451-1495 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Take a snow day in the Gourmet Ghetto! Bring boots and mittens to play in the snow. Visit the Snow Queen, ride live ponies, make holiday crafts. Free. For more info see http://www.anotherbullwinkeshow.com/holiday-berkeley/holiday-gourmet-ghetto.html or call (510) 334-6523 or email Lisa@AnotherBullwinkeshow.com.

Holiday crafts and treats. Come celebrate the holidays by making holiday-inspired crafts and gifts and eating sweet treats at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9 at the Moraga Library. Make gifts for friends or family, and something for yourself! Sample delicious holiday sweets while you create magical holiday creations. For more info, please visit cclib.org or (925) 376-6852.

Letters to Santa: Bring your little ones to 5 A Rent-A-Space between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 13 where Be the Star You Are!® volunteers will help with writing letters to Santa. Enjoy a photo with Santa, cookies, cocoa, carols, and buy Xmas cards as a donation to the charity, 455 Moraga Rd. #F, Moraga, 94556 http://www.btsya.com/events_calendar.html

Chabad Chanukah Lafayette Menorah lighting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16 at the Lafayette Whole Foods on Mt. Diablo Boulevard. (See related listing page A12)

ART

The Moraga Art Gallery's new show entitled "Waters of the Koi" highlights the bright, colorful abstract paintings of Heather Metcalf, and the exquisitely turned-wood platters, bowls and vases of Jacques Blumer. The show will run through Jan. 11, 2015. The gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more info, visit www.moragaartgallery.com or call (925) 376-5407.

The Bancroft Library Gallery presents "California: Captured on Canvas" – an exhibit of 43 remarkable paintings from the library's collection highlighting the state's history and culture that have drawn people to California from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through March 6, 2015, UC Berkeley Campus, Doe Library Annex.

Valley Art Gallery "Artful Giving" through Dec. 23 1661 Botelho Drive, Walnut Creek. Our annual collection of beautiful fine art and crafts that make unique gifts for everyone on your list. Extended Holiday hours. valleyartgallery.org

Four exhibitions at Saint Mary's College Museum of Art: "Pueblo to Pueblo: The Legacy of Southwest Indian Pottery" will feature a remarkable variety of pottery from mid-19th to the mid-20th century; "The Native American Collection of Roger Epperson;" "Grace Hudson: Painter of the Pomo People;" and "William Keith and the Native American." Museum hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission: Adults \$5; members and K-12 graders free (parking free). For info, call (925) 631-4379 or visit stmarys-ca.edu/museum.

MUSIC

The Saint Mary's College of California Chamber Singers perform one of the great works of the choral repertoire, Magnificat by J.S. Bach, accompanied by Baroque period instruments. The award-winning Glee Club rounds out the program with lighter seasonal fare, including classic holiday favorites at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 in the Saint Mary's College Chapel. Cost: \$10 general; \$8 seniors and non-SMC students; \$5 SMC students, faculty and staff. For more info, contact Julie Ford, (925) 631-8193 or email jaf17@stmarys-ca.edu.

The Cantare Chorale, Ensemble and Children's Honor Choir will be singing classic works celebrating the joys of the holiday season and traditional songs and carols by Bach, Tschernokoff, Lauridsen, Wilberg and more under the direction of David Morales. The 150 singers will be accompanied by a full orchestra. The audience will be invited to join in singing favorite carols. The concert will be performed at two different East Bay venues: 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 at First Presbyterian Church in Oakland; 7:30

p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9 at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church. Both venues are wheelchair accessible. Tickets: \$38 general; \$33 senior; \$10 student. Advance purchase of tickets is recommended at www.cantareconvivo.org or at the Cantare office, (510) 836-0789.

The Diablo Women's Chorale presents "Holiday Sweet" – a luscious confection of seasonal and vintage pop music – at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12 and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 at Mt. Diablo Universalist Unitarian Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. The holiday performance is directed by Mary Sorenson and accompanied by Stephen Evans. Advance tickets: \$10 students; \$16 general admission; \$20 premium seating at www.diablowomenschorale.org or call (800) 838-3006. Tickets at the door: \$20 general admission; \$10 students.

Opera and Ornaments - A Merola Opera Program Holiday Concert at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 at the Lafayette Library. Eugene Brancoveanu (Merola 2004), baritone, accompanied by Sun Ha Yoon (Merola 2012). Admission: \$10 per person, supporting the Lafayette Library. For tickets, call (925) 283-6513 or purchase at http://lafayettelib.givezooks.com/events/merola-opera-at-the-lllc. Advance ticket purchase strongly encouraged due to limited seating.

Solo Opera is pleased to present Engelbert Humperdinck's masterpiece, "Hansel and Gretel," the second production in its 2014 Storybook Opera series. Throughout "Hansel and Gretel," there is a running theme of hunger and poverty. In order to tie this into the needs of the community, Solo Opera is asking the audience to bring a non-perishable food item to the shows to donate to the Food Bank. The show runs at 7 p.m. Dec. 19 and at 2 p.m. Dec. 20 at Del Valle Theatre, 1963 Tice Valley Blvd, Walnut Creek. Seating is reserved; group discounts are available. Tickets: \$25, youth 17 and under; \$35 seniors; \$40 adults. For tickets call (925) 943-7469 or visit the Leshher Center box office, or online at http://www.lesherartscenter.org/hansel-and-gretel/. For more info, visit www.SoloOpera.org.

An Evening of Jazz from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17 at the Orinda Library. Welcome winter with warm Brazilian jazz along with American standards. Mary D'Orazi brings her beautiful voice, rhythmic sensibility and thoughtful phrasing to her take on jazz as well as a few holiday tunes. Tim Campbell on piano, and Greg German on drums/percussion. Free to the public, and registration is not required.

THEATER

The holiday season at Town Hall Theatre is all about family and tradition, and this season Town Hall brings the return of live radio plays with Joe Landry's adaptation of "It's a Wonderful Life." This production, directed by Diablo Actors' Ensemble's Managing Director Sam Fryer, tells the classic story made famous by the 1946 Frank Capra film but with live sound effects and incredibly talented voice actors who populate the town of Bedford Falls all in the style of a classic radio program. The show runs Dec. 4-20. Visit the website for showtimes and ticket prices at www.TownHallTheatre.com.

The California Academy of Performing Arts presentation of "The Nutcracker" at the Campolindo Performing Arts Center Dec. 17-21. This family favorite is a feast for the eyes, filled with surprises and delights for all ages. The story is narrated as it unfolds, guiding young viewers through the beautiful ballet and making it much more enjoyable for little ones (and grown-ups) who might not be familiar with the timeless story of Clara and her magical Christmas Eve dream. This production is huge, with more than 100 local performers. Tickets for the general public (\$22) can be purchased at Eventbrite.com. For more info, visit www.capadance.net.

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