

Lamorinda's Religious Services



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

Lafayette United Methodist Church

955 Moraga Rd., Lafayette,
284-4765, office@thelumc.org

Worship Sunday 10 am
Children & Youth Faith Formation Sunday 10 am
Youth Group Sunday 5 pm

Christmas Eve, December 24th

5pm Worship for Children and Families
11pm Candlelight and Christmas Carols

► **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

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.willowsspringchurch.net

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, Orinda

DECEMBER 21

Single Service at 9:30 a.m.
10:40 a.m. Sunday School Christmas Program
Childcare available for ages 5 and younger

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

4:00 p.m. a family-friendly service
6:00 p.m. a contemporary candlelight communion service
10:00 p.m. a traditional candlelight communion service
(Childcare available at 4 and 6 p.m.)

Worship December 28 and January 4, 2015
single services at 9:30 a.m.

433 Moraga Way www.holyshepherd.org 254-3422

SAINT GILES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the peoples."
- Isaiah 56:7; Matt. 21:13; Mark 11:17



Christmas Eve Nativity Service: 9pm
Sunday Holy Eucharist Service: 9am

in the SMC Chapel, 1928 Saint Mary's Road, Moraga

Saint Giles is an Inclusive & Affirming Community...All are Welcome!

www.stgiles-moraga.org ~ 925-376-5770

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.

◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

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.

Valley Art Gallery "Artful Giving" runs through Dec. 23 at 1661 Botelho Drive, Walnut Creek, including the annual collection of beautiful fine art and crafts that make unique gifts for everyone on your list. Extended holiday hours. For info, visit valleyartgallery.org.

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. The exhibit runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through March 6, 2015, UC Berkeley Campus, Doe Library Annex.

MUSIC

WomenSing, the adventurous East Bay women's chorus, offers a festive celebration of song accompanied by chimes and timpani – from traditional carols to Latin American spice at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 17 at St. Mary's College Chapel, Moraga. Cost: \$30 premium seats, \$25 general admission, \$20 seniors, \$10 students/youth 18 and under. Tickets online: www.womensing.org or at the door. WomenSing will be holding auditions for experienced singers for the continuing 2014-15 season on Tuesday, Jan. 6, or by appointment. New this season is the formation of the new WomenSing Ensemble, a small a cappella ensemble, selected from the larger WomenSing chorus. For info, email at audition@womensing.org, or visit website www.womensing.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. Registration is not required.

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 Leshar Center box office, or online at <http://www.lesharartscenter.org/hansel-and-gretel/>. For more info, visit www.SoloOpera.org.

THEATER

Synergy Theater is back with two fantastic shows for the month of December: "Backer's Audition" at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 20 and "Spontaneous Combustion" on Sunday, Dec. 21 in The Big Room Theater at Lamorinda Music, 81 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette. For info, call (925) 408-8540 or visit www.SynergyTheater.com.

The holiday season at Town Hall Theatre is all about family and tra-

dition, 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 through Dec. 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.

LECTURE & LITERATURE

Join Julia Scheeres, Berkeley resident and New York Times and London Times bestselling author as she discusses her latest book, "A Thousand Lives: The Untold Story of Jonestown" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15 as part of Sweet Thursday program at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center. In this true life story of blind loyalty and daring escapes, of corrupted ideals and senseless, haunting loss, Scheeres follows the experiences of five Peoples Temple members who went to Jonestown. Vividly written and impossible to forget. Free.

OTHER

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Temple Isaiah is thrilled to announce a Hanukkah celebration from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18 at Walnut Creek on Ice located at Civic Park- 1375 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. This event will feature a Hanukkah menorah candle-lighting, live Hanukkah music, traditional Jewish "sufganiyot" jelly donuts and festive chocolate Hanukkah "gelt" candy and dreidel giveaways for children. For more information visit www.temple-isaiah.org

Winter Solstice Ceremony Celebrating Lucina, Scandinavian Goddess of the Returning Light, Dark Moon in Sagittarius by Local Goddess Circle. Daughters of the Goddess, a Bay Area women-only Goddess Temple, will be holding its annual Winter Solstice Ritual from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20. Location of East Bay address upon RSVP. Newcomers: \$15. Contact Leilani at (925) 787-9247 or email Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com for info, or visit www.DaughtersoftheGoddess.com.

Light up your home and heart with a new kitty. Community Concern For Cats invites you to visit its beautiful kittens and cats from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20 and from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21 at Pet Food Express in Lafayette, 3610 Mt. Diablo Blvd. For more info, go to www.communityconcernforcats.org.

Join the National Park Service for a free winter solstice-themed campfire program on Sunday, Dec. 21 at

John Muir National Historic Site (NHS) in Martinez. The program begins at 3 p.m. with crafts and games in the park orchards and continues with a campfire from 5 to 7 p.m. Rangers will lead the group in songs, stories and activities to celebrate the longest night of the year. No reservations are required. Meet at the front gate of the John Muir National Historic Site, 4202 Alhambra Avenue, in Martinez. Come with warm layers, picnic blankets, lawn chairs, marshmallows and a desire to have a good time. For info, visit www.nps.gov/jomu.

Saint Giles' Episcopal Church will be holding its annual Christmas Eve Nativity Service at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24 at Saint Mary's College Chapel, 1928 St. Mary's Road, Moraga. The service will include a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, Christmas carols, a Christmas homily by the Rev. Justin R. Cannon, and more. All are welcome to attend! For more info, visit www.stgiles-moraga.org.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church Christmas Eve Service at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24, 451 Moraga Way Orinda. Please come out and join us for a traditional service of lessons and carols. This year will feature music coordinator Christopher Giffen.

Registration is now open for the next series of Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. They will be held at the Lafayette Community Center, 500 St. Mary's Road. Classes begin Jan. 13 and are held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. every Tuesday night through Feb. 24. Classes are open to residents and employees of the Lamorinda area, as well as teenagers 16 and older with a parent. Classes are free, but there must be a commitment to attend all classes. Register online at www.lamorindacert.org.

5 Habits of Healthy Families Nutrition Workshop from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13 at Lamorinda Music, 81 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette. Join an interactive workshop with Jill West, RD, author of the book "400 Moms" and a nutrition consultant in Lafayette. Cost: \$37. To register, visit <http://www.400moms.com/workshop>. For more info, email Jill@400moms.com.

GARDEN

The Lafayette Garden Club January meeting from 9:30 a.m. to noon on Jan. 1 in the Lafayette Veterans Memorial Hall, 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd., will feature Gary Bogue speaking on the subject of "Garden Friends and Not-Such-Friends." Gary was curator at Lindsey Wildlife Museum and a long-time gardening and wildlife columnist for the Contra Costa Times. Now in "retirement," he is an author, lecturer, and friend to all who garden. Guests are welcome at this meeting.

The Walnut Creek Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 12 at the Gardens at Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Road, Walnut Creek. Tom Liggitt, a local, well-known rose breeder and co-president of the Contra Costa Rose Society will speak on heirloom varieties of fruits, vegetables, as well as roses. You do not need to be a gardener to join the WCGC. For info, contact mslittle44@gmail.com.

Worm Composting Bin Workshop from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 17 at Heather Farm Community Center in Walnut Creek. Learn about vermicomposting and build your worm bin. All supplies are covered, including worms. Cost: \$20 per household. Space is limited and registration is required by Jan. 9. Visit www.wastediversion.org to download registration form. Sponsored by the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority. For info, call (925) 906-1801.