

Sonoma Valley Interfaith
Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021 / 12 pm–1 pm
<https://www.sonomavalleyinterfaithma.org>
sonomavalleyinterfaithma@gmail.com

Present: Steve Finley, Nicole Trotter, Scott Pryor, Marie Wilson Johnson, Donna Thomas, Jim Thomas, Manette Fairmont, and Peadar Dalton.

12:00 pm

- **Welcome/Opening Blessing** - Marie, words from hymn “It is well with my soul”

- **Non Profits Check-in and Updates.**
 - S.O.S.** - Rabbi Steve, Town Hall meeting tonight issues, no winter shelter, ongoing issues with monies not received.
 - Sonoma County Interfaith** - Scott Pryor shared an interfaith discussion flyer for The Status of Hate Crimes in Sonoma County, Monday November 1st, 12-1:30pm, check your email for information.

- **Thanksgiving** - you will be receiving an email from share.sonomavalleyinterfaith@gmail.com. Please send your Thanksgiving video message back to this email address. Our editor will need time to prepare them all. The service will be pre-recorded and available for viewing on Thanksgiving Eve on YouTube. We will also ask some of our non-profits and city leaders to send in a message. If you have suggestions for songs or other readings or would like to have members of your congregation, chorus or choir prepare something please do so.

- **Hanukkah** - the community lighting of the big menorah will be on Sunday, November 28th, 4:00pm on Spain St. in front of FCC/CSS and will last approx. 30 min.

- **Donation** - We have received a generous donation of \$5000 “*To be used exclusively for collaborative community support and interfaith activities.*” Let’s all come up with some ideas. Donna suggested an interfaith calendar with photos of each church/faith group and it’s members/congregants as well as city leaders and non-profits. It may be too soon to have this prepared for this year end but let’s consider this for next year to be handed out between Thanksgiving

and Christmas. Scott would like to plan a meal and/or other gifts for groups such as NA, AA etc. who may be struggling and might be looking towards some sort of faith support.

12:30 pm

- **Guest: Erik Larson - the Village Movement**

Erik is the co-chair with Whitney Evans for [Care Partners Initiative](#) and has extensive experience in management of senior care facilities. They have received a grant to explore the need for and interest in creating a Village (neighbors caring for neighbors) in Sonoma County. Read more about the Village Movement [here](#). The Council on Aging has agreed to participate in support of a new adult daycare in Sonoma Valley at the Sonoma United Methodist Church. The church is currently moving through the state licensing stages and we are hopeful to have this begin by the end of January 2022. There will be space for 15 clients and 5 volunteers (three times that of the current Vintage House program). As the program and need grows we are looking to opening a second program at Trinity Episcopal Church in the future. 75% of seniors do not qualify for or can't afford care services leaving people who can not care for themselves and relying on family. Caregivers are in need of respite and support which is what this program is hoping to provide. We will continue to search needs in the county and open more Villages, Sonoma Valley is the first.

How can we help?

Be involved with your congregation and what they need for seniors care and caregiver respite, share the program, seek volunteers, offer support.

- **Guest: Leonardo Lobato - La Luz Executive Director**

Born in Mexico Leonardo has a business management background with a passion for giving back to communities and low-income families. His focus is on educating organization who serve local communities. Read more about Leonardo [here](#). He believes in one Sonoma Valley working all together where all have equal opportunity to succeed and his guiding light is the mission statement: "La Luz Center strengthens communities through family services, economic advancement and community engagement."

- Family Services. Read more [here](#). La Luz has supported 500,000 families so far with emergency rental assistance and have approved another 350,000 coming up.

There are 7000 underserved families in the Springs and having served 1500 there is much work to be done.

- Economic Advancement. Read more [here](#). La Luz helped prepare taxes to optimize returns and they provided 250 adults with English education.
- Community Engagement. Read more [here](#). This year they provided 7000 people with information related to Covid-19, resources and testing.

How can we help?

Refer people to La Luz to seek support or information.

- **Next meeting:** Our Nov./Dec. combo. meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 8th, guests will be Vintage House E.D. & Homeless Action Sonoma.
- **Closing:** Nicole closes with a blessing titled “In the Leaving” from the book “Circle of Grace”.
- **KSVY - Please mark your date on your calendar.**

Due to Covid-19 no one is coming into the studio. The call in number is [933-9133](tel:933-9133). Or, you can zoom in as well. The information is on their website www.ksvy.org

Nov. 2	Donna Thomas	707-939-6774
Nov. 9	Manette Fairmont	707-529-9562
Nov. 16	Scott Pryor	831-747-0139
Nov. 23	Jim Thomas	707-933-6514
Nov. 30	Peadar Dalton	707-939-7613
December 7	Nicole Trotter	707-996-6024
December 14	Steve Finley	818-207-1757
December 21	Marie Wilson-Johnson	707-996-2151
Dec. 28	Donna Thomas	707-939-6774