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Kindly Consider
A Monthly Donation!

Our illustrated newsletter Calendar
is on page 2 of this newsletter.



Coming Changes

Contributions to the Humanist Community have not kept up with our expenses. For this reason, starting January 2024, in-person forums will be only the first and third Sundays of the month. We plan to continue presenting forums on Zoom the remaining Sundays, but may gather at a restaurant some Sundays instead to meet in person and maintain the sense of community. We have no definite plans yet and are open to suggestions.

Winter Solstice

The Winter Solstice has been celebrated since recorded history. Throughout, humans have created spiritual and cultural traditions to celebrate the rebirth of the Sun after the darkest period of the year.

Traditional Solstice celebrations existed in many cultures. The Roman feast of Saturnalia, honoring the god Saturn, was a weeklong December feast. Persians celebrated the lengthening of days by paying homage to Mithra, the god of light.

In the later Roman era, the Christians of the time endeavored to attract pagans to their faith by adding Christian meaning to these existing festivals.

The annual Sun's return after the darkness of winter is celebrated with all the symbols of light, such as candles, burning Yule logs, the glowing tree, strings of lights on our houses and yards and even the blazing plum pudding.

Loved ones gather and gifts are given. We Humanists honor that tradition with our Solstice gift table and urge everyone who attends our live forum meetings this December to select something from the gifts gathered here.

We celebrate the return of the Sun's nurturing warmth, on which all life depends.

- Sena Havas

Humanist Forums

Forums are held Sundays at 11:00AM at our new location, the Mountain View Senior Center at 266 Escuela Avenue, and still simultaneously available on Zoom.

You can get the Zoom location from [meetup.com/humanistcommunity](https://www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity).



HUMANIST COMMUNITY

In Silicon Valley

December 2023

www.humanist.org Vol 30 Issue 9

Sun.

Mon.

Tues.

Wed.

Thu.

Fri.

Sat.



December
Discussion
Francisco

1



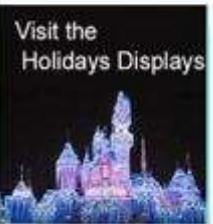
3 11:00 AM Sunday Forum
California Motherlode
Gold Country
Susan Shalit
Lunch



6 7:00 PM
Freethought
Discussion
Book

7:00 PM
Academic Video

8 "Pretend to be a
Time traveler"
Day



10 11:00 AM Sunday Forum
Israel-Palestine:
How the Conflict is Covered
G. Sharat Lin
Lunch



13 7:00 PM
Freethought
Discussion
Book

14 7:00 PM
Academic Video

15 10:AM
Topical Discussion
Ethical Culture
Society



17 11:00 AM Sunday Forum
Immigration Policy?
Scott Wakefield
Lunch

18 7:00 PM
Board
Meeting
Members Welcome



20 7:00 PM
Freethought
Discussion
Book



First Jukebox
1898



First Christmas
336 AD
Rome



27 7:00 PM
Freethought
Discussion

28 7:00 PM
Academic Video



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