

TEMPLE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9 am to 12 noon & 6 pm to 8 pm
Friday, Weekends & Holidays
9 am to 8 pm

**PASCHIMAVANI****DIRECTIONS**

From Freeway 580 in Livermore
Exit North Vasco Road,
Left on Scenic Ave,
Left on Arrowhead Avenue

NEWS FROM THE HINDU COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER, LIVERMORE
SHIVA - VISHNU TEMPLE

"OM NAMAH SHIVAYA"

www.livermoretemple.org

(925) 449 6255

info@livermoretemple.org

"OM NAMO NARAYANAYA"

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Om Ganeshaya Namah Om Namah Shivaya Om Namo Narayanaya

Dear Devotees of the HCCC, Namaskaram and blessings from Shiva Vishnu Temple, Livermore, CA. I am honored to accept the esteemed position of Chairman of the Livermore Temple. I extend my heartfelt appreciation along with others, to Ramarao Yendluri for leading the organization in the first six months of the 2024-25 term. I am fully committed to upholding the values of this sacred institution and earning your respect through diligent work.

Thank you, all the devotees, for your greater participation, many of you with invaluable volunteering and donations. Volunteers are the greatest asset of our temple, not only volunteer in well needed areas but also take up function coordinator roles, which is a great experience.

Volunteers, priests, and staff together provide an unparalleled spiritual and ritualistic experience for the greater bay area devotees with numerous religious, cultural, youth and education, young adults, human services and annadana programs/events. Every penny received is put to good use by the temple and your donations are making a valuable difference in our community. The temple can use more volunteers, donors, and event coordinators. Please continue to support our beloved temple.

We made lots of progress with architectural enhancements of the Akella assembly hall and Lakireddy auditorium, thanks to the tireless efforts of the TAC (Temple Architectural Committee) and started making progress with other buildings & structures. Inside the temple, we are adding relief images on the side walls. The Hindu Heritage Hall is being visited by lots of devotees. If you have not visited, please stop by during your next visit to the temple for a unique experience. Additionally, Annadana and Naivedyam Kitchen Renovation work will start soon.

Temple IT system has been modernized including devotee services and payment system modules. We are waiting for annadana hall project approval from the city, looking to complete HINTS 2.0 (remaining parts of IT system modernization).

We have hired three more priests and are looking for Aparakarma and Tamil/Kannada speaking priests, thanks to our priest selection committee. The Sampradaya Committee is finalizing the Devotee Sampradaya Document with all the details. Board is currently exploring HCCC's presence in the South Bay as well as Folsom area in order to extend the temple's reach to devotees.

Management and volunteers are working hard to plan for the upcoming off-site events - Sri Venkateswara Vaibhavotsavam at Peterson Middle School in Sunnyvale on Saturday October 19th, 2024 and Kailasha Vaibhavotsavam in the Folsom area on Saturday November 16th, 2024. Please visit the temple website <https://www.livermoretemple.org> for the latest information covering the annual and special events.

New year 2025 preparations will start very soon, please sign-up for volunteering if feasible for you. We can use 4 hour of continuous volunteering on the January 1st in the areas of parking (multiple lots and neighborhood roads) for smooth flow, kitchen for preparation and distribution of prasadam, overall queue management including the staging rooms (as we do not want devotees stand outside in cold weather as far as feasible, registration and other areas.

As your Chairman and a devoted volunteer of the temple, I am committed to leading with integrity, transparency, inclusivity, and accountability together with the President, Sainath Kala, Corporate Secretary, Chitra Mani, the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee Members, the Steering Committee Members, Volunteers, Priests, Pachakas, and Staff.

Looking forward to your participation, come and join the "Happy Volunteering group of HCCC".

Thank You and Best Wishes

Best Regards,

Srinivasa Malladi

Srinivasa Malladi, Chairman 2024-25.

2024-25 Management Team

Board of Directors

Board Liaisons

Srinivasa Malladi	Chairman, Treasurer, Finance, Fundraising, Endowment Fund, Annadana Hall
Sainath Kala	President, Kitchen Renovation, Fire sprinkler
Usha Ramaswamy	Vice Chairman, Human Resources, Religious Inventory and Procurement & Cultural
Chitra Mani	Corporate Secretary, Hundi, Food, EC-Secretary, Election
Ramarao Yendluri	Young Adults, Sampradaya
Mahesh Illuri	Construction, Facilities Committee, & HINTS Member, Temple Architecture
Krishna Vutukuru	Religious, Publicity (Calendar) & Youth and Education, Hindu Heritage Hall
Prabhakar Bhanoori	Maintenance, Volunteer Coordination & Administration, Security Grant Task Force
Sudha Surapaneni	Information Systems, Human Services & Public Relations

Executive Committee Members

Portfolios

Bhaskar Chadalavada	Construction Committee
Bhaskar Swaminathan	Human Services Committee
Dimple Cyril	Young Adults Committee
Ganesh Puram	Facilities Committee
Goutham Vedanti	Youth and Education Committee
Kala Iyer	Human Resources Committee
Naveen Mareddy	Information Systems Committee
Neelamegam Govindsamy	Administration Committee
Calaimany Bhoopathi	Volunteer Coordination Committee
Raghu Malladi	Fund Raising Committee
Ramesh Gadamsetti	Food Committee
Rema Ramani	Cultural Committee
Sainath Kala	President
Shyamala Venkateswaran	Publicity Committee
Sudhakar Mallampati	Public Relations Committee & Vice President
Suresh Kolan	Maintenance Committee
Umashankar Meda	Religious Committee
Upendra Tiwary	Hundi Committee (Joint treasurer)
Vani Pulapa	Religious Inventory and Procurement Committee
Venkat Rangan	Finance Committee (Treasurer)
Vivek Deshpande	EC Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Modern Payment Methods with Point of Sale (POS) Device Now Available at HCCC improving Devotee Service.

Authors: Naveen Mareddy, EC IT 2024-25 & Chandra Devireddy, Chairman HINTS 2.0

BACKGROUND:

HCCC (Shiva Vishnu Temple) of Livermore is a spiritual and cultural hub for the Hindu community, offering regular religious services, cultural events, and educational programs to foster faith and preserve traditions. It provides convenient access to temple schedules, donations, and event registrations, helping devotees stay connected and engaged. By promoting community involvement through social gatherings, volunteer opportunities, and charitable activities, the temple supports both spiritual growth and cultural continuity, making it a valuable resource for the Hindu diaspora in Livermore and beyond.

The temple thrives on the dedication and generosity of volunteers and donors who play a central role in its operations. Volunteers are essential to the day-to-day activities, from organizing religious ceremonies and festivals to maintaining the temple's facilities and managing educational programs. Their commitment helps ensure that the temple remains a vibrant center for worship, community events, and cultural preservation. This blends volunteer efforts and devotees' experience.

Donations are equally crucial, as the temple relies on the financial support of devotees to sustain its operations. Contributions help fund the upkeep of the temple, religious events, educational classes, and charitable activities, all of which are central to its mission. HCCC online system HINTS and its portal livermoretemple.org provides an easy way for devotees to contribute through online donations, making it convenient for the community to offer their support. This new Point of Sale (POS) system is an addition to the existing modes of payment, including cash, check, and PayPal.

The POS system was launched over the Labor Day weekend and has already gained popularity among devotees. Many are now using Apple Watch and iPhone to make payments via Apple Pay. With this system, devotees can donate or pay for services in under 20 seconds, significantly improving the payment process and enhancing overall satisfaction.

On the temple premises and at special events like the San Ramon Srinivasa Kalyanam, devotees used a familiar payment system similar to those used at grocery stores and department stores. The POS system has been functioning smoothly, improving the reliability of credit card transactions with higher success rates and providing clear error messages when a card transaction fails.

This system has been a long-standing dream of the IT team, and with HINTS 2.0, financial contributions ensure the temple continues to thrive as a spiritual and cultural haven for Hindus in the region.

Donations at the temple via credit cards used to be a time-consuming process, taking up to 3 to 5 minutes per devotee. The process required manually entering credit card details before processing, which was also prone to errors. One of the goals of the HINTS 2.0 committee is to automate the credit card donation process for devotees, in addition to modernizing the overall application system.

ACTION TAKEN:

Naveen Mareddy, EC-IT Chairperson and the lead technical architect of HINTS 2.0 committee, had taken the lead to research on Elavon Point of Sale (POS) devices and technology to go with it. He prototyped it and found an elegant solution that simplifies the software for windows enabling the POS processing from windows machines. Then he worked with Innominds team (Mohan L, Mahesh G, and Satya J) to implement the solution. The next challenge for Naveen had been

certifying this device so we could go live. He persisted and followed up with Elavon solutions engineering staff for us to go through the certification by verifying the solution with 50+ test cards. Finally, all the software was certified and he ordered 10 POS devices for HCCC.

LAUNCH:

The HINTS 2.0 Committee, in collaboration with IT Chair and BoD representatives, is excited to announce that our temple now supports modern payment methods such as Apple Pay, Google Pay and tap-to-pay features. These options are available for both credit and debit cards, providing a seamless payment process and laying the foundation to make it a reality. We faced numerous technical challenges along the way, including trial and error and several technical pivots. However, the dedication of the Hints 2.0 Committee, the Innominds team, and the HCCC IT team has brought us to this milestone.

The POS system is just the beginning of modernizing the temple's payment experience. We have more features planned to further enhance the payment process both on-site and online.

Thanks to HINTS 2.0 committee members (Yugendhar Meka, Ganesh Puram, Senthil Annamalai, Ritesh Ketireddy), BoD members and EC members (Sudha Surapaneni, Mahesh Illuri, Venkat Rangan) and past year and current year HCCC Chairman, President, and management members involved for their perseverance and hard work in bringing this vision to life!

Following are some pictures of our volunteers making this POS-device launch happen, enabling the new system and making the payments on the launch day.

Since we launched this new POS device on August 31, 2024, devotees have donated ~ 3000 times using this.



Figure 1: New Point of Sale (POS) Device



Figure 2: Front-end and backend-software contributors Mohan L, Mahesh G, Satya J



Figure 3: Naveen Mareddy (EC IT Chair & HINTS 2.0 member), HINTS lead architect Launching POS device at front office



Figure 4: Naveen Mareddy Testing POS device before launching



Figure 5: Testing POS device in the lab along with Naveen in USA



Figure 6: Office Manager Krishna and Staff Hema testing the new POS device in production.



Figure 7: Ganesh Puram (HINTS 2.0 member) using new POS device in production accepting donations for Clay Ganesha

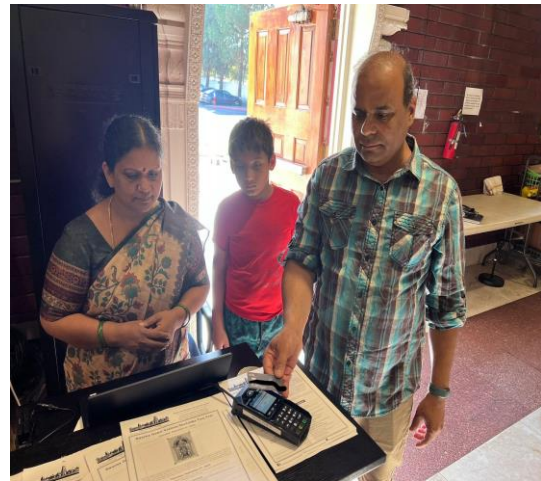


Figure 8: HCCC Staff and EC member Upendra Tiwary using the POS system inside the temple main hall



Request for Coordinators for 2024-2025 Religious events



We, at Shiva-Vishnu Temple, are very proud to have an unmatched group of volunteers helping with various religious events throughout the year. If you are interested or know someone who is interested in coordinating a particular event, please send an email to Religious Chair Umashankar Meda (ec_religious@livermoretemple.org)

Please include the following information in the email:

- Your name
- Contact Phone Number & email ID
- Interested in event.

Kindly note that the factors such as commitment and experience among others will be considered when assigning co-coordinators for an event. Please do not get disappointed if your name or your nominee's name is not chosen. It will be added to the potential coordinator list and reviewed for future years.

Religious Schedule - Planned Special Events

EVENT NAME & DATE	
	<p><u>Karwa Chowth Puja / Katha</u> Saturday, October 19th, 2024, 4:00 PM - 6:15 PM</p>
	<p><u>Annamacharya Day</u> Sunday, October 20th, 2024 - 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM</p>
	<p><u>Sri Maa Kali Puja</u> Thursday, October 31st, 2024, 8:00 PM (Thursday) - 1:30 AM (Friday)</p>
	<p><u>Deepavali Celebrations Lakshmi Kubera Puja</u> Thursday, October 31st, 2024</p>
	<p><u>Skanda Shashti Celebrations</u> Friday, November 1st - Thursday November 7th, 2024</p>
	<p><u>Karthika Masa Somavara Shiva Abhishekam</u> Monday at 6:00 PM on November 4th, 2024, Monday at 6:00 PM on November 11th, 2024, Monday at 6.00 PM on November 18th, 2024, Monday at 4.30PM on November 25th, 2024</p>
	<p><u>Sri Vishnu Pushpa Yaagam</u> Saturday, November 09th, 2024</p>
	<p><u>Sita Parinayam</u> Saturday, November 9th, 2024 at 1.00 PM</p>
	<p><u>Lord Shiva Annabhishekam</u> Friday, November 15th, 2024</p>
	<p><u>Ayyappa Mandala Puja Celebrations</u> Saturday, November 16th - Wednesday, December 25th, 2024</p>
	<p><u>2025 New Year Day Annadana Program</u> 2025 New Year Annadana Suggested Sponsorships: \$251, \$501, \$1001, \$5001, \$10001</p>

Sri Venkateshwara Vaibhavotsavam

(One day in Tirumala)



Saturday October 19, 2024

8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Peterson Middle School
1380 Rosalia Avenue, Sunnyvale CA

Event Schedule

Time	Pooja
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Suprabhatham
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Thomala Seva
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Koluvu Panchanga Sravanam
9:15 AM - 10:00 AM	Sahasranamarchana Seva, Naivedyam & Sathumarai
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Sarva Darshanam, Srinivasa Sankeerthana Seva
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	Srinivasa Kalyanothsavam
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Sarva Darshanam, Mahaprasadam
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Brahmotsavam
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Lakshmi Hayagreeva Puja (Group Puja performed for Education & Mental Health)
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Sarva darshanam, Nritya Seva
5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Dolotsavam (Unjala seva)
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Swarna Pushpa Archana
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Sarva Darshanam**, Aarati, Mahaprasadam, Ekanta Seva

Karthika Masa Maha Rudra Vaibhavam

Saturday, November 16th, 2024

8:00 AM to 6:00 PM



Oak Ridge High School - Multi Purpose Room

1120 Harvard Way, El Dorado Hills, CA 9576

Event Schedule

8:00 AM to 8:30 AM	Ganapati puja, Punyahavachanam, Mantapa Aradhana
8:30 AM to 10:30 AM	Mahanyasa Poorvaka Maha Rudra Abhishekam (Devotee Participation)
10:30 AM to 11:00 AM	Sarva Darshanam
11:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Dwadasa Jyotirlinga Archana, Theertha Prasadam
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM	Sarva Darshanam, Lunch Break
2:00 PM to 3:00 PM	Gowri Kumkuma Puja (Devotee Participation)
3:00 PM to 3:30 PM	Sarva Darshanam
3:30 PM to 5:00 PM	Gowri- Shankara Kalyanotsavam
5:00 PM to 6:00 PM	Shiva Aarathi and Sarva Darshanam

Event Gallery

Temple Anniversary Kumbhabhishekam





Ganesha Chaturthi Celebrations





Pavithrotsavam Celebrations



Murugan Mahayaagam Celebrations



Balaji Kalyanaotsavam - San Ramon



Human Services Programs

Safety Awareness and Knowledge presentation on July 13th, 2024

Education program about SAFETY AWARENESS and STAY SAFE, this program presentation by Livermore Police Department by officers Donald Swanson and Sheryl Long. It was an eye-opener on crimes that are happening and how everyone can stay alert and safe.

Blood Drive by Vitalant on July 14th, 2024

On the eve of Temple 38th Temple Anniversary, Human Services hosted a special blood drive as part of community services. We had more than 25 donors come forward from the neighborhood and donated.

Annual Health Fair on July 20th, 2024

The Health Fair was started with lighting of lamps by special guests by State Assembly and City Council members. It was a whole day event where more than 15 specialties doctors, many health care like hospitals and many non-profit information booths participated. This is completely for FREE consultations services, testing booths for Glucose, Cholesterol. We had about 225 visitors who attended and benefited from the fair.

Health Advisory Center started doctors services on both Saturday & Sunday by volunteer doctors. We encourage anyone interested to volunteer, refer to Human Services for additional details to join this group.

Yoga Meditation on August 10th, 2024

The Senior Program runs in-person every 2nd Saturday between 11AM to 1PM. We always bring special guests to share information. Shefaali Sanghavi ji was a special guest who demonstrated and engaged seniors to participate by simple Yoga meditations that everyone can do, it was a very engaging one everyone happily participated.

Community Services at Christensen Middle School on September 7th , 2024

HCCC volunteers group of 20 members joined in a project to keep School clean which includes removing dirt, weeds and raising soiling level for plants.

Following are the upcoming programs, please look for flyer about the details and plan to join us:

Saturday October 19 Flu Shot. FREE for everyone

Saturday October 19 Dr. Tony Nader MD, PhD, on the Benefits of Meditation and Understanding Consciousness

Sunday November 3 Diwali Mela at Livermore Downtown

Saturday November 9 Seniors Navarathri and Diwali program

Sunday November 17 Blood drive, partnering with Vitalant

Sunday November 24 Blood drive, partnering with Stanford

Saturday December 14 Blood drive, partnering with American Red Cross

Human Services Photo Gallery





Crossing Over, a pilgrimage to America

By Gaurav Rastogi

In ancient times, Adi Shankaracharya traversed the vast Indian subcontinent, establishing sacred tirthas - crossing places between the mundane and the divine. Today, we Hindu Americans find ourselves on a different kind of pilgrimage, having crossed oceans to reach the shores of America. Like those ancient tirthas, we too stand at a unique crossing point - between East and West, tradition and modernity, the familiar and the unknown.

To be a Hindu in America today is to occupy a position of unique privilege. As one of the most academically, professionally, and socially successful communities, we find ourselves at a crossroads of opportunity and responsibility. Our journey to America is more than just a physical relocation; it's a spiritual and cultural pilgrimage that calls us to serve as bridges between diverse worlds.

Our Hindu heritage provides us with invaluable tools for navigating this new landscape. The concept of "Ekam Sat Vipra Bahudha Vadanti"—the truth is one, but the wise call it by many names—allows us to embrace the diversity of our adopted homeland while maintaining our cultural roots. This ability to hold multiple perspectives serves us well in our personal and professional lives, fostering understanding and cooperation in an increasingly interconnected world.

In our professional endeavors, we draw upon the wisdom of Karma Yoga. By focusing on our actions rather than their fruits, we find a path to excellence and fulfillment. This approach leads to success and provides a sense of purpose and spiritual growth in our work lives. As the Bhagavad Gita teaches, "Yogah Karmasu Kaushalam"—yoga is skill in action.

Our material success need not come at the cost of our spiritual well-being. Hindu philosophy teaches us to balance artha (wealth) and kama (pleasure) with dharma (righteousness) and moksha (liberation). This holistic view helps us navigate the pressures of modern life without losing our spiritual compass.

We also have a responsibility to give back. Guided by the principles of Datta (give), Damyata (control), and Dayadhvam (compassion), we strive to use our success responsibly and effectively for the benefit of others. Through acts of seva (selfless service), we contribute meaningfully to the betterment of our communities and society.

We remain open to continuous growth and adaptation as we engage with the world. The Hindu concept of lifelong learning keeps us resilient and relevant in a rapidly changing world. We embrace new ideas and experiences, striving to grow and contribute positively to our surroundings.

Our journey to America is a continuous pilgrimage, a crossing-over between cultures, ideas, and ways of being. Like pilgrims, we stand at the confluence of diverse streams of thought and experience.

Our unique position allows us to facilitate understanding and harmony in our diverse society. We are called to be both rooted and adaptive, honoring our traditions while contributing to the progress of our adopted land. We strive to embody the highest ideals of both our heritage and our new home. We seek truth in our actions and words, cultivate understanding through our experiences, and find fulfillment in our service to others.

Our pilgrimage doesn't end with our arrival in America; instead, it continues each day as we navigate the complexities of modern life while staying true to our spiritual heritage. We are uniquely positioned to help others understand the richness of Hindu philosophy in a Western context, bridging cultural, spiritual, and intellectual divides.

May our journey as Hindu Americans create spaces where diverse thoughts and cultures converge. In doing so, we enrich our lives and contribute to a more harmonious, understanding, and enlightened society.

About: Gaurav Rastogi is a Board Member and Dean of the Hindu Spiritual Care Institute and also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA.

Note from Publicity Chair

Dear Devotees Namaste.,

Please review individual event flyers posted on our Temple web site (<https://www.livermoretemple.org>) for most current information on events. Event schedules may change after publication of this newsletter and devotees are requested to visit our Temple website for most accurate schedules.

We have made several enhancements to our HCCC publicity efforts in order to reach out to broader devotee community including our presence on social media to stay connected. We now have official presence on facebook, twitter and Instagram.



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Livermoretemple>



Twitter: <https://twitter.com/livermoretemple>



Instagram: <https://instagram.com/livermoretemple>



YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/LivermoreTempletv>

Please do like us on Facebook and follow our HCCC activities on twitter and Instagram. Our presence on social media should encourage technology savvy individuals as well as younger devotees to connect with our Temple activities more closely.

Please mark your calendar and plan on participating in all the events planned.

Finally, you can now view/read your favorite quarterly newsletter PaschimaVani on any device whether it is mobile or otherwise with a custom reader to fit your needs. Please do send us your feedback on our newsletter as well on our web site content.

May the divine blessings be with you and your family always.

Regards,

Shyamala Venkateswaran

Publicity Committee

Email: ec_publicity@livermoretemple.org

