

**MISSION PEAK  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CONGREGATION**



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2016-2017**



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# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation Annual Report 2016-2017

## Report from the Minister

Rev. Jeremy D. Nickel  
May 15, 2017

It was another full year for our congregation. We tried out some new outreach ideas, by hosting booths at several events and joining the chamber of commerce. We held excellent worship. Our Children and Youth Program exploded with energy. And despite the announcement that both our DRE Shawn Snavelly and I would be leaving, accomplished a very successful canvass campaign and search for a new DRE and Interim Minister – almost simultaneously. There is a lot to be proud of here.

### Worship

It was another year of excellent worship services at Mission Peak UU! Some highlights were our joint MLK Sunday service with the FUMC, topical services on issues of race and white supremacy, and responding to the hurt and anxiety caused by the Presidential election cycle. Our Worship Associate team continued to work on improving our service, and welcomed a few new members this year.

### Pastoral Care

Under the leadership of Rev. Barbara Meyers, our small but dedicated team of Pastoral Care leaders continued to care for and tend to the emotional needs of the congregation. While the workshop this group offered in conjunction with a Sunday service did not result in a growth of members to the committee, it did help refresh the circle of care list. Understanding how this committee needs to evolve is essential to the future of this congregation and important work that needs more attention.

### End of my Ministry at Mission Peak UU

Much of the last few months of this congregational year became side-tracked by the necessities of responding to my announcement that this would be my final year as Minister at Mission Peak UU. I was very impressed, however, with the result of that work, and the response from the congregation. A lot of questions were answered in a short period of time, and I am leaving with a feeling that this congregation is ready for their next chapter!

### Annual Summary

It is hard to leave this congregation after all that we have experienced together over the past seven years, but I leave confident in the lay leadership, and excited for the possibilities that will emerge under the incoming Interim minister. I will miss you all, and wish this congregation only the best. Thank you for all the support you have shown me as I grew into my first settled ministry. I will never forget this time. Blessings to you all!

# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation Annual Report 2016-2017

## Report from the Community Minister

Rev. Barbara F. Meyers  
May 2017

### Community Ministry Mission, Vision, Strategy

**Mission:** Give compassionate help to people with mental health challenges and to their families, within and beyond the walls of our congregation.

**Vision:** to increase their hope, knowledge, and insight and help them find a sense of meaning in their lives.

**Strategy:** using fellowship, education, advocacy in the public arena, and honoring and deepening their spiritual lives.

**Chair:** Rev. Barbara F. Meyers

### Successes / Status of Efforts

1. Continue to work quarter time at Life Reaching Across to Life center which is a peer-support center in Fremont. This has been on-going since the beginning of my ministry.

2. Leading effort to create UU Congregational Disability Certification Program. This program became generally available throughout the UUA in June of 2015. Successful field test helped immeasurably. Supervised a new administrator for the program. Recruited teams of people to follow congregations who apply for the program. A number of UU Congregations are now in process in the program, and 3 congregations have made it through the entire program.

3. The Connections Counseling Center ceased operations on September 30, 2016 due to financial reasons. We were able to keep it running for nearly 2 years and served 1500 counseling appointments, trained a number of therapists and started groups. Many of these contributions continue in the community after we have closed.

4. Spent 6 months in discernment of what follows Connections. Here are the main efforts that emerged:

- Emotional CPR
  - Trained to be a eCPR practitioner and apprentice facilitator
  - Will help with some business aspects of eCPR organization
  - Work with school district to use eCPR in their anti-stress effort
- Webinars for UU ministers and leaders, sponsored by UU regions
- Co-leader of Ableism Task Force for the UUMA
- Volunteering once a month as a peer at John George Psychiatric Hospital
- Leading Elder Group at Mission Peak UU
- Work with NAACP and other organizations on racial justice issues.

5. Completed an excellent 2-year program in Entrepreneurial Ministry sponsored by the UUA and the UUMA.

6. Been requested by Skinner House Books to write a book about mental health ministry in congregations.

### Desired support from the Congregation

Continue to support the ministry.

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**Report from the Community Minister (Continued)**

**Future plans**

- The most important future activities are to continue the momentum of these new initiatives, and to keep past initiatives going.

**Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation**  
**Annual Report 2016-2017**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**2016-2017 Summary Annual Report**

Name of Committee Chair: Melissa Holmes, President  
Date: June 30, 2017

### **Committee Mission**

The Board does not have a Mission Statement but the Board duties are specified in the Congregation's By-Laws. The general tasking of the Board is:

**The Board has general charge of the property of the Congregation, the conduct of its business affairs, and the control of its administration, including the establishment of Committees and Councils, which includes approving their Charters.**

**Chair:** Melissa Holmes, President

### **Successes**

Some of the successes of the year were starting to work on the new governance model and, later in the year, working through the resignations of our DRE and Minister. The Ministry Council was the most successful Council, organizing Mission Peak's participation in two local events, Interfaith Harmony Day and the City of Fremont Earth Day. There was good turnout for both events and the Ministry Council also planned our attendance at Fremont Street Eats starting in August.

While it was not a success that both the Minister and DRE resigned in the spring, I felt the Board really pulled together during both of these situations. All Board members stepped up to help move us through the process to get a new DRE and an Interim Minister hired. The Board made it very clear that we needed to speak with one voice when we made recommendations to the Congregation and even though some Board members had personal opinions that differed from the majority of the Board, everyone had the same message for the Congregation at large.

While it was not really a Board success, Shyno Chacko Pandeya began working on our social media presence. She started driving our messaging on Facebook, Meet Up and other social media sites to make sure our content is up-to-date and reflects everything we are doing as a Congregation.

### **Desired support from the Congregation**

To participate when feedback is requested and make sure that the Board knows what issues are important to the Congregation. With the new Leadership Development Committee, I would ask the Congregation members to keep finding ways to participate in the activities of the Congregation when the LDC asks for each member's interests.

### **Future plans**

We need to deal with our budget deficit permanently instead of continuing to put it off.

Once the governance structure is solidified, we need to work on a strategic plan so that the Congregation is all moving together down the same path.

I would like Mission Peak to find a good way for us to live out our values in the greater community, which is what every member wants to do, in my opinion. However we need to find a productive way to do that. We also need to become more cognizant of the fact that people are looking for what we offer, and we need to make it easier for them to find us.



# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation Annual Report 2016-2017

## Adult Religious Education

Linda Messia  
May 1, 2017

### Committee Mission

The mission of the Adult Education Committee is to offer a variety of classes, workshops or seminars which will nurture and stimulate the spiritual and personal growth of our adult church community.

**Chair:** Linda Messia

### Successes

The committee continues to be grateful for members who step up to both teach and attend classes. We have been able to offer a large number of classes/activities providing a wide variety of information and experiences. Although we have experienced a drop-off from the last couple of years, we still have had close to 104 members and friends sign up for 13 classes. (Many have enrolled in more than one class.) Classes have covered a broad spectrum of interests.

We had some very interesting offerings this past year. Eric Dittmar offered *A Long Strange Trip* – a series of six DVDs detailing the history of Unitarian and Universalist thought from the beginning of the Christian era to what we know today as Unitarian Universalism. Rev. Jeremy offered *Building Your Own Theology*. Jackie and John Porter brought back an old favorite: *Soup and Soul – The New Earth by Eckhart Tolle*. Sharon Davis taught *Cancer 101* and Lucienne Bouvier hosted a discussion of the *Ethics of Abortion*. Ilze Duarte offered a 4-part series on *Public Speaking*. We also continued to offer some of our old favorites: *the Enneagram*, *Poems*, *Compassion Meditation* and *Singalong with Jackie and Joann*. Thanks to everyone for making this an exciting time for Adult Education.

### Desired support from the Congregation

We hope to be able to continue the success we have had this year. We would like members of the congregation to propose to us classes they would like to take and/or teach. To teach a class, obtain a Proposal Form from the Committee Chair. This information may be submitted any time of the year. The committee will be responsible for arranging which classes will be included each quarter.

Ilze Duarte will be joining the committee for the coming year. We are always looking for members who may be interested in joining our committee.

### Future plans

We hope to be able to continue our current popular classes: *the Enneagram*, *Singalong with Jackie and Jo Ann* and *Compassion Training*. In addition, we always try to offer some new classes. We hope to expand the number of offerings that we have. This however will be dependent on space and instructor limitations. So if there is anything you would like to teach or take, please let one of the committee members know.

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**Children and Youth Religious Exploration (CaYRE)**

Natalie Campbell  
May 8, 2017

**Committee Mission**

The Children and Youth Religious Exploration Committee (CaYRE) sets the direction of the children's religious education program at MPUUC and works with the Director of Religious Education in organizing childrens' religious exploration and classes and activities.

**Chair:** Corby Dale (Through February) Natalie Campbell (Through June)

**Successes**

Organizing and Implementing our Coming of Age Program.

Strengthening and expanding our high school-aged youth group.

Organizing the Judeo Christian Winter Pageant.

Supporting teachers through greater materials and curriculum preparation by the DRE.

Being flexible about classroom assignments to allow for the realignment of Sunday classrooms to accommodate a shifting congregational body more effectively.

Hiring a new DRE when our original DRE had to move on in March.

**Desired support from the Congregation**

Adults to help chaperone Youth Group activities and to mentor youth.

Identify additional members that are interested in becoming a Sunday teacher or part of the CaYRE leadership team.

**Future plans**

Adolescent programs: The OWL program will be held this coming year. There is much talk of trying to host it at Mission Peak again. We would like to open it up to the wider (not necessarily UU) community.

Sunday School: We intend to continue with the 2 classroom + nursery structure for the foreseeable future. Our 2017- 2018 three-year cycle calls for a UU curriculum for the coming year. We will let our new DRE look into curricula. Our large number (12 anticipated) of 8-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth will meet in Room 2.

# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Annual Report 2016-2017

### Choir

Drew Wilson  
May 11, 2017

#### **Committee Mission**

1. Develop final Job Description
2. Establish a search plan with a timeline
3. Develop a fundraising plan and timeline, including how to make this a sustainable part of our budget going forward.

**Chair:** Drew Wilson

#### **Successes**

The choir has continued to perform and improve under Shauna Pickett-Gordon's excellent direction, with able assistance from Jo Ann Schriener.

#### **Desired support from the Congregation**

The various fundraisers have raised almost a year's worth of part-time choir director salary. To continue beyond one year, we will need regular funding from the budget, but at present that looks unlikely, due to the extreme tightness of the budget.

We know there are more singers in the congregation who are not members of the choir, and we could use a few more of you!

#### **Future plans**

We continue to search for a permanent choir conductor, however the search is on the back-burner due to the budget problems. We will hire someone if they are qualified and become available, but the job may be only for one year, due to continued tight church budgets.

# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Annual Report 2016-2017

### Denominational Affairs

Holly Ito  
Date: May 15, 2017

#### **Committee Mission**

Raise and maintain the congregation's connectedness to the larger Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) movement within the Pacific Central District (PCD), the Western Region (PWR) and nationally.

**Chair:** Holly Ito

#### **Successes**

In June, Rev. Barbara Meyers, Holly Ito and Robert Jensen attended and served as delegates at General Assembly 2016 in Columbus, Ohio.

In May 2017 PCD District Assembly was held at Mount Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church in Walnut Creek and featured a forum with the 3 UUA Presidential Candidates. A number of Mission Peak members attended the program and annual District Meeting.

Holly Ito continued serving as a member of the PCD Board for a 4th year and served as Treasurer on the Board.

Rev. Meyers continues to lead the Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry program which is a joint program of the UUA and EqUUal Access, the umbrella UU disability organization. She also gave a well-attended mental health webinar to the New England Region in February.

Mission Peak was featured In the Fall Issue of UU World Magazine as a "Break-through" Congregation by the UUA.

Mission Peak has maintained its status as an Honor Congregation for its contributions to both the UUA and the PCD Annual Program Funds.

#### **Desired support from the Congregation**

The committee was formed in January 2010 with Rev. Barbara Meyers as the interim chair. Holly Ito agreed to take over in the fall 2012. However, there are no committee members and no meetings have been held. Support from Congregational Leadership would include assistance in identifying potential committee members and encouraging members and teams of members to participate in workshops and other PCD and PWR events and attend General Assembly.

Connecting our youth to the PCD's MUUGS and Youth programs would also help expand our congregation connections within the district.

# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Annual Report 2016-2017

### Facilities Committee

Graham Bell  
May 15, 2017

#### **Committee Mission**

The mission of the Facilities Committee is to maintain and improve the facilities which MPUUC occupies to serve the needs of the Congregation

**Chair.** Graham Bell

#### **Successes**

Throughout the past year, Facilities has taken the following actions

- New Podium Microphone: \$40
- New "4-bar" wireless internet connection in Cole Hall
- New ceiling cabling to support HDMI graphics connection to ceiling projector
- Chair rubber feet replacement to avoid scratching the floor in Cole: \$20
- Typically, 4-6 ceiling lights are replaced per year
- Scaffold for changing center ceiling lights or to run new cabling to the ceiling projector in Cole Hall: \$100
- Replacement bulb Cole Hall Projector: \$70
- New audio cabling to support video recording by the Minister's GoPro video camera
- Replacement of batteries for remotes, etc.
- Cleanup of storage spaces

#### **Desired support from the Congregation**

Several members such as Steve Wallcave, Mark Henriques, John Landers have answered the call to help with the above activities and they are to be thanked. Ongoing support of this kind from MPUUC members and friends is very much appreciated, especially for larger jobs.

#### **Budget**

\$100

#### **Future plans**

- Remain in compliance with fire code and support future needs of the Congregation.

# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Annual Report 2016-2017

### Membership Committee

Annette Breingan  
May 17, 2017

#### **Committee Mission**

The Membership Committee works with the minister and the congregation to recognize and welcome newcomers. We facilitate the transition from newcomer to involved participant and to member of the congregation. We monitor the membership of the congregation and keep others informed.

**Chair:** Annette Breingan

#### **Successes**

The Membership Committee welcomed 37 first-time visitors to MPUUC in 2016/7. Two New to UU classes were held. We had one ingathering of 2 new members. Another ingathering is planned for May 28 when we expect to welcome at least 3 new members. We currently have 104 members. In recent months, 3 new people have joined the Membership committee.

#### **Desired support from the Congregation**

For the past 3 years, we have seen significantly fewer than normal first-time visitors. This, coupled with a loss of old members has caused a decline in membership. The board needs to explore ways to improve publicity to increase the number of visitors to the congregation.

Bringing in friends and acquaintances to visit MPUUC, welcoming newcomers, educating them on Unitarian Universalism and our congregation, and helping integrate new members is a job for the whole congregation, not just the Membership Committee. Representatives of the board need to be present at the New to UU classes. The committee can also use help with childcare and food for newcomer and new member events.

The coming two years will be challenging due to the loss of our settled minister. There will be a transitional period with an interim minister. The congregation as a whole needs to work to continue to make MPUUC a welcoming and vibrant community in order to retain existing members and to bring in visitors and help them transition to active members.

#### **Future plans**

An ingathering of new members is planned for Sunday, May 28.

Annette Breingan will step down as chair at the end of June. Gayle Tupper will become the new chair.

We will continue to welcome newcomers and are exploring the best ways to integrate new people during the coming transitional years

# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Annual Report 2016-2017

### Ministry Council

Michealle Havenhill  
May 15, 2017

#### **Committee Mission**

To share MPUUC with the community, to create more awareness of MPUUC and its Mission. Adult RE, CaYRE, Committee on Ministry, Music, Pastoral Associates, Small Group Ministry, Social Justice, Worship Associates, Choir

**Chair:** Michealle Havenhill – President-Elect

#### **Successes**

Mission Peak is a proud member of The Fremont Chamber of Commerce

On Feb 4, 2017 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm MPUUC attended the Harmony Day at sponsored by the Tri-City Interfaith Council and Compassionate Fremont. We chose this as our first event to try out our skills in talking to others about our faith. We knew people were there to hear specifically about MPUUC and the other faith communities represented at the event. We had about 20-25 MPUUC members attended and had an opportunity to speak in small groups with other people from the community. I want to thank all the volunteers Rev. Barbara Meyers, Eric Dittmer, Corby Dale, Melissa Holmes and myself. I apologize if I missed anyone but want to thank-you for participating.

Our second event was on April 22, 2017 from 11:00am – 3:00pm at the Washington Women's Wellness Center. I really want to thank Allysson McDonald for convincing the sponsors of the event to take a chance on our congregation. This is not a normal occurrence for them to allow congregations to participate.

Some facts from the sponsors:

- Attendance 967
- Exhibitors 48
- MPUUC handed out 87 Flyers and 50 of MPUUC information brochures. We made 75 bookmarks mounted on matte board and used every one of them. Again, thanks to Allysson, having the children color bookmarks, the parents stay and talk with us longer than they normally would. Our volunteers were Allysson McDonald, Jay Steele, Jessica Steele, Mark Henriques, Beckett Gladney, and Michealle Havenhill.

The Ministry Council has been amazing in trying out a new idea, I am excited about what our next adventures will be out in the greater community.

July – June.

#### **Desired support from the Congregation**

Now that Mission Peak is a member of the Fremont Chamber of Commerce we need members to attend the events they put on such as Boot Camp and lunch events. Linda Messia and Shyno Chacko Pandeya agreed to attend a boot camp. We need members to attend and report back to the Ministry Council what is learned at these events. If you want to meet others from Fremont this would be a great way to help the Ministry Council in our mission to get our name out in the community.

We also need ideas of events we can attend to get our name out in the community. We need time to plan the event, but please let me know.

In the 23 years Mission Peak UU Congregation has been around this is the first time we

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**Ministry Council (Continued)**

have participated in events outside of our congregation.

**Future plans**

From May 5 – October 27 the Street Eats event is put on by the Chamber of Commerce, City of Fremont and Food Truck Mafia. This event takes place every Friday and live entertainment is part of the event. We found out last year if we joined the Fremont Chamber of Commerce we could be a part of these events. We have excellent musical ability in our congregation we can participate in these events as often as they have lots available for us to do this. The band and/or the choir can be part of these events. We can have a booth set up and talk about MPUUC.

We have free concerts in the park, I don't know if we can participate but it would be interesting to find out. If we had a service to offer, we might be able to have a booth at the event. If anyone has any ideas please let me know.

We will do Harmony day again and Earth Day.

We will be teaching Our Whole Lives again. This is an excellent way to reach out to the community and offer an amazing curriculum.

By July 2018 we will participate in the Arts and Wine Festival. We are starting the planning now.



# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Annual Report 2016-2017

### Operation Council

Michealle Havenhill  
May 15, 2017

#### **Committee Mission**

To gain a better understanding of our operation, includes the Website, Stewardship, ICON Church software, membership database, and Sunday Set-up.

**Chair:** Michealle Havenhill – President-Elect

#### **Successes**

Our new website is up and running thanks to Steve Wallcave concerted effort to get it up and running

We have a Stewardship Committee – Canvass falls under the aegis of the Stewardship and with excellent leadership of Natalie Campbell and DeAnna Alm.

July – June.

#### **Desired support from the Congregation**

The Operation Council did not have an opportunity to meet. The model of having past, present and future presidents running the councils should help make the Operation Council as successful as the Ministry Council.

We need volunteers for the Stewardship Committee and Sunday Set-up. If you are interested notify Jen King of the Leadership Development Committee.

#### **Future plans**

To have the Operations Council meet as all the Councils meet.

To merge the church software with Ty White's database

To continue to update the website with new and exciting content

**Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
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**Pastoral Associates Circle of Care Committee (PACC)**

Barbara Meyers  
May 2017

**Committee Mission**

To work with the parish minister in providing pastoral care to congregation members and friends.

**Chair:** Rev. Barbara F. Meyers

**Successes**

- Trained all pastoral associates at on-going training at each meeting
- Held a service commissioning pastoral associates and completely updated our Caring Circle referral list.
- Met with the Committee on Ministry

**Desired support from the Congregation**

Participation in the Caring Circle. Financial support in the budget.

**Future plans**

Continue helping in pastoral care in the congregation

# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Annual Report 2016-2017

### Small Group Ministry

Summer Lander  
May 12, 2017

#### **Committee Resources**

##### **Meeting Time, Location and Frequency**

The leaders group meets every few months, usually a Sunday after service.

##### **Committee Chair, Duties and Contributions**

The Chair along with the Minister leads the leaders' meeting, organizes the End-of-year Potluck, assesses needs for training throughout the year as issues arise.

##### **Committee Members, Duties and Contributions**

Summer Lander, Chair

#### **(List other leaders here, and the groups they lead)**

Allysson McDonald, open group, 2 Mondays a month 7:30-9:30 pm  
Beth Schaefer, 2nd/4th Tuesday 10-12 am, women only  
Ty White, 1st/3rd Wednesdays 7:00-9:00 pm, men only  
Rev. Barbara Meyers, 1st/3rd Thursdays 1-3 pm, seniors only  
Summer Lander & Wallcaves, 1st/3rd Thursdays 7:30-9:30 pm, open group

All leaders share the topics they lead in their own group with all the other leaders. Thus many topics are discussed in several of the small groups. All SGM and their leaders are encouraged to choose topics of interest to them. Topics can also be adapted to each particular group.

#### **Desired support from the Congregation**

If possible, we would like support from the interim minister in both joining our leaders' meeting and being available as a resource.

#### **Budget**

We do not have a budgetary line item.

# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Annual Report 2016-2017

### Social Justice Committee

Allysson McDonald  
May 12, 2017

#### Committee Mission

The mission of the Social Justice Committee is to affirm, promote, and work toward Social Justice, based on Unitarian Universalist principles and guided by the Mission Peak mission statement, both outside and within our congregation.

Chair: Allysson McDonald

#### Successes

- Our annual Guest at Your Table collection for the UUSC was coordinated by Natalie Campbell. This year we collected \$1,269 from the congregation in January (about \$400 more than last year!), which with the Shelter Rock matching gift of \$800 raised a total of \$2,069 for this worthy cause.
- Share the Plate was also managed independently by Natalie Campbell. This year we raised \$3,776 through April (May's collection is not included), for the local non-profit organizations we supported. The recipients are always genuinely grateful and surprised by your generosity. The new Share the Plate Coordinator is Allysson McDonald.
- The Sandwich Squad purchased supplies from their own budget to make sandwiches on the third Sunday monthly for TriCity Volunteers. Shyno Chacko Pandeya is heading that up.
- In partnership with the Abode Service Home Warming program we are collecting furnishings and other necessities for one family in May.
- In February we honored the TriCities Interfaith Council with a Courageous Love Award. The award was given in conjunction with the national *Standing on the Side of Love* campaign, which promotes equality for marginalized communities. how people can get involved in working on them. Members of the local community were invited to attend.
- Over the winter several smaller Social Justice/Charitable actions were taken by the congregation under the leadership of a variety of folks who stepped up to make a difference. The idea came from Jen King and she worked with Allysson McDonald to coordinate a kick-off meeting.
- Allysson McDonald and Gail Jones have been attending meetings of the RISE Fremont Coalition <http://www.risefremont.org/> as they work for housing justice.
- Allysson coordinated with SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) Bay Area to offer a workshop focussed on White Supremacy and Implicit Bias in Unitarian Universalism (and ourselves) to be held on May 28.

#### Desired support from the Congregation

- We need new committee members. Several members were taken up with other congregational duties and some had new family commitments. We have had no meetings since last summer. Mission Peak UU likes to think of itself as putting a lot of energy into social justice and we claim to stand on the side of love. This work needs more engagement to be sustainable. If you read this see Allysson and she'll give you a prize!
- We also still need a **Home Warming Coordinator**- It would be helpful (but not necessary) to have a strong back and a big truck.
- We appreciate your responses when we ask for input, such as nominations for our annual Courageous Love Hero award and suggestions for social justice actions and projects.
- Please attend our workshops, book discussions and movie nights!

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**Social Justice Committee (Continued)**

**Future plans**

We will continue to, encourage share the plate offerings and the sandwich squad, and work with Family Giving Tree or other organizations to serve children in need. We hope to continue to support Abode Services rehousing projects, but that will depend on having a coordinator. We will support Sunday services on justice related topics, make a Standing on the Side of Love award, and hope to offer congregational reads. However, we also want to find more ways to participate in social action, to affect change and make a lasting difference. In particular we want to have continuing conversations and devise actions around affordable housing in the TriCity area,

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### Stewardship Committee

Co-Chairs DeAnna Alm/Natalie Campbell

May 21, 2017

#### Committee Mission

The Canvass Committee plans and conducts the annual canvass campaign. The canvass efforts aim to collect pledges of financial support from members and friends of the congregation for the upcoming fiscal year.

#### Guiding Principles:

- Canvass will be welcomed as an opportunity for the entire congregation to learn about congregational finances and how to talk about money.
- Canvass will be a shame-free process. Every effort will be made to celebrate abundance, to connect as a community, and to inspire joyful giving. Guilt and fear will not be used to solicit pledges.
- Canvass will provide an opportunity to clarify membership status, so individuals will either recommit to our community or elect to be removed from active rolls.
- It's OK for Canvass Season to be fun!

#### Successes

70% of the congregation increased their pledges, which helped make up for the loss of the pledges of some longer-term members. The 1-to-1 canvass model worked well, and we would strongly encourage doing it again next year. The Congregational Dinner was well attended, beautifully decorated, and people seemed to enjoy the dancing.

#### Desired support from the Congregation

- We will need a new set of 2 canvass co-chairs for the 2017-2018 church year.
- Especially if the next Committee wants to do a 1-to-1 canvass again, we will need people to agree to sign up as canvassers. Like many other things, we found it not as difficult to do as we expected, once it was done the first time!
- We will need the interim minister or some other person to lead a training event for new canvassers or people who feel they need a refresher.

#### Future plans

- Obviously, Canvass is one of those things that MPUUC cannot do without, as it provides the majority of our funding for the coming year. We hope that with our updated process description, it will make it easier to recruit chairs, because of clearly laid out tasks and timelines.
- Next committee should get a copy of the brochure printed early, in time for making future corrections. Unfortunately, we found that chart labels that were readable on our computers were NOT readable when printed out.

# Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Annual Report 2016-2017

### Worship Associates

Drew Wilson  
Date: May 12, 2017

#### **Committee Mission**

The Worship Associates work closely with the minister in order to provide Worship Services that are meaningful and well organized. They lead services in the absence of the minister, and constantly work to improve the worship experience at MPUUC.

**Chair:** Drew Wilson

#### **Successes:**

- Provided Worship Associates to weekly Worship services, including for many guest speakers.
- Provided Worship Leaders to 5 Worship services.
- Reviewed the Worship Diary regularly.
- Supported our minister in a new/refresher Worship Associates training.

#### **Desired support from the Congregation**

We would like to see more comments in the Worship Diary, as we do use it to help decide on changes to the Worship service practices.

We wish feedback on changes, when introduced, into our Worship Services.

#### **Future plans**

- We will continue to provide Worship Associates and Worship Leaders as needed.
- We will continue re-evaluating our Worship Services.

**Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
Annual Report 2016-2017**

