

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! May 20, 2020

Greetings!

Ministerial Musings

Do you ever have those days where you feel your mind is blank, where maybe you're in a fog and you just can't see ahead of you what is next? I am feeling like that these days. Tuesday runs into Wednesday runs into Thursday and sometimes I can't tell you what day is what. Our lives are radically different, even those of us who are still working or are retired and feel financially secure. Our lives are different. And not how we planned them.

I've been struggling with writing this monthly article as I write this today. Mainly because I don't want to dwell on our current circumstances, and yet, it feels a bit disingenuous to bring joy and optimism right now. We do have much to be grateful for, I have a new settled ministry to anticipate as does Mission Peak which truly is joyous! And I'm beginning to think as a short-timer and know that the sadness of leaving you is fast approaching. And the fact that I may not be able to say good-bye in person is something I simply cannot contemplate right now.

What I am grateful for right now is that I've had the opportunity to read more, to contemplate, to meditate, to review my special poems and books that mean so much to me. That has given me solace through this time of change and insecurity and doubt about the future. I feel comforted by the words in my favorite books, the words in my new books yet unread, the poems that comfort me and spirit me off into a different world.

Here is one of my favorites, I hope you enjoy.

Clearing

BY MORGAN FARLEY



I am clearing a space
here, where the trees stand back.
I am making a circle so open
the moon will fall in love
and stroke these grasses with her silver.

I am setting stones in the four directions,
stones that have called my name
from mountaintops and riverbeds, canyons and mesas.
Here I will stand with my hands empty,
mind gaping under the moon.

I know there is another way to live.
When I find it, the angels
will cry out in rapture,
each cell of my body
will be a rose, a star.

If something seized my life tonight,
if a sudden wind swept through me,
changing everything,
I would not resist.
I am ready for whatever comes.

But I think it will be
something small, an animal
padding out from the shadows,
or a word spoken so softly
I hear it inside.

It is dark out here, and cold.
The moon is stone.
I am alone with my longing.
Nothing is happening
but the next breath.

Loving blessings to you all.

Rev. Jo

Please feel free to contact me
By email: minister@mpuuc.org
By phone: 510-972-3890

This Sunday's Service:

We have transitioned to virtual services because of the Coronavirus pandemic. See mpuuc.org/zoom each week for how to connect.

The Integrity of our Times

Proposed Board Slate

The Leadership Development Committee is pleased to announce the proposed slate of candidates to be presented at the annual Congregational meeting, which will be held on May 31st.

The positions below that are in bold type are positions that will be voted on. Nominations will also be accepted during the annual meeting. The positions not in bold type are those who are continuing the term of their particular elected position.

Board

Past President - Steve Wallcave

President - Allysson McDonald

President Elect - DeAnna Alm

Treasurer - Melissa Holmes

Secretary - Annette Breingan

At-Large (2 yrs) - Eric Ryan

At-Large (finishing 2nd year of 2-yr. term) - Jay Steele

Leadership Development Committee

Jen King (1 yr. left)

Linda Messia (2 yrs. left)

Valerie Stewart (begin 3-yr. term)

Committee on Ministry

The following members were selected by the Leadership Development Committee and approved by the board. The congregation will vote yes/no/abstain to confirm them. The candidates up for confirmation are:

Ilze Duarte (2 year term)

Alan Davis (2 year term)

Colleen Arnold (1 year term)

If you have any questions, please contact, Kathy Wallcave, Jen King, or Linda Messia

Rev Jo is always available during this time of Shelter in Place

As we continue to Shelter in Place and are unable to be together physically, we are under a constant state of anxiety. Please know that I am available to talk with if need be. You can call me, text me, or send me an email during this time if you need to reach out in any way. Even though I am Zoom Candidating this week and next, I am still available to you all.

You can email me at minister@mpuuc.org or call or text me at 510-972-3890.

I hope you are staying safe and healthy and know that you have me and all of these congregants here in this community to rely on to find comfort or friendship. We will get through this time and be the stronger for it.

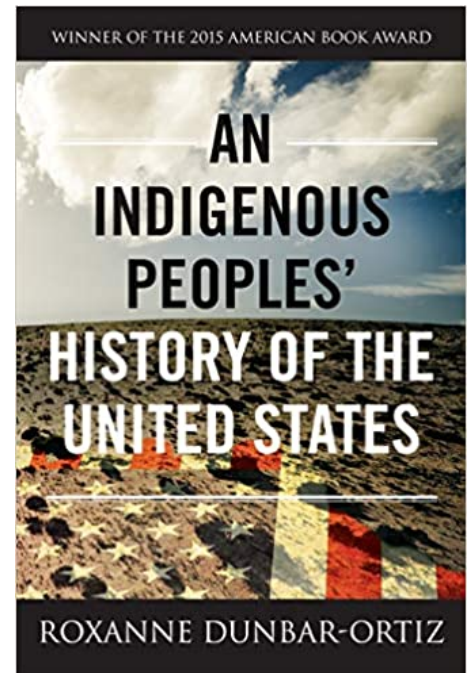
Blessings to you all,



JUSTICE CORNER

Indigenous Peoples' History Discussion Postponed

Our discussion of this year's UUA Common Read, An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States, has been rescheduled for May 30, at 10 am. If you plan to participate please contact Allysson McDonald for the zoom link, as our discussion will take place online.



Board Briefs

The annual Congregational meeting is on May 31st after service on Zoom to pass our budget, elect board and Leadership Development Committee members and confirm Committee on Ministry members. Every member (with email) should have received an email with more details. Please contact Steve if you did not get the email announcement.

At the May 14th Board Meeting:

- We passed a budget to present at the congregational meeting.
- Voted to approve a Committee on Ministry (COM) startup procedure
- Voted to approve COM members submitted by Leadership Development Committee
- Become a fiscal agent to receive and distribute a Unitarian Sunday School Society grant for Rev. Greg Ward
- Selected the recipient of the Pat Rodgers Volunteer of the Year Award, to be presented at annual meeting
- Scheduled our next regular board meeting for July 9th at 7PM

Board Announcements

- We received a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan from a local Credit Union
- The Board has an updated Board Policy [April 22, 2020 Board Policy](#)

For complete board minutes of this and previous meetings or text of committee charters go to the members only section of our web site at mpuuc.org/about-us/members-only

For more details or questions email president@mpuuc.org



So in retrospect, in 2015,
not a single person got
the answer right to "Where
do you see yourself 5
years from now?"

So far the most useless thing I bought in 2019 was a 2020 planner.

If you have contributions to the Humor Corner, please send them to Sandra before 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

ACT NOW!

WE ARE ONE

**"APPLAUD FOR OUR HEROES"
EVERY THURSDAY at 7:00 p.m.**

Every Thursday evening, step outside and APPLAUD FOR OUR HEROES for a few minutes!

Let's clap, cheer, and make joyful noises for our Healthcare workers, First Responders, and Essential Workers who are doing so much to keep the rest of us going. Be creative! Make signs, sing or play a song, dance for joy, or just clap and smile at your neighbors! PLEASE SHARE - Spread the word for our heroes! If there was ever a time that showed us that WE ARE ONE, it's surely now. (Flyer attached - [PDF](#))



APPLAUD FOR OUR HEROES!

Join our community to thank our heroes:

- Healthcare Workers
- First Responders
- Essential Workers

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

starting April 23, 2020.

Continuing every Thursday while we shelter-in-place.

We invite you to step outside your front door and clap, cheer, and make joyful noises for a few minutes to thank our front line and essential workers who risk their own health everyday so we can be safe. Be creative! Make signs, make music, or just clap and smile at your neighbors. We appreciate all who are keeping things going during these trying times.

WE ARE ONE

#WeApplaud #ClapBecauseWeCare #ThanksHealthCareHeroes
#ThankYouEssentialWorkers #StayHomeSaveLives
Tri-City Interfaith Council Compassionate Fremont

[#ThanksHealthcareHeroes](#) [#WeApplaud](#) [#ThankYouEssentialWorkers](#)
[#StayHomeSaveLives](#) [#ClapBecauseWeCare](#) [#ThankfulThursdays](#)

WE ARE ONE



***Express Gratitude
and Spread Kindness***

as we

Shelter-in-Place



Since we are not able to physically gather for our monthly rallies, the Tri-City Interfaith Council and Compassionate Fremont encourage you to focus on acts of gratitude and compassion, as we continue to shelter-in-place. Think about all the people who are keeping our lives and our spirits going: the healthcare workers, first responders, grocery employees, postal and delivery workers, sanitation and other city workers, faith leaders, countless volunteers, and any and all who are making it possible for us to stay safe at home. We can also take the time to spread a little kindness in the world. Everyone can use a little cheer these days. After all, we're all #InThisTogether.

Here are a few ideas possibilities. Share your ideas with us, too!

- *Create and post signs in your yard, or window, to thank these heroes.(Covering old campaign signs works well.)*
- *Ask neighbors to join you in applauding and cheering at a given day and time (or nightly.)*
- *Thank people, whether by phone, or in person --- 6 ft. away, of course.*
- *Post your appreciation to our heroes on FB, or other social media.*
- *Use sidewalk chalk to express your thanks to essential workers. Kids love to do this.*
- *Write a Letter to the Editor, thanking our heroes.*
- *Call someone to keep in touch and lift their spirits. We all know someone who could use a little sunshine.*
- *Write a real letter, send a card, an email, or text greetings to someone, just to let them know you care.*
- *Wave at neighbors, even strangers, as you walk in your neighborhood.*
- *Draw a smile or greeting on your face mask.*

There's no special date; this is ongoing. Kindness costs nothing and means so much.

Peace and Blessings

***Tri-City Interfaith Council
Compassionate Fremont***

Call your Elected Officials!

Calls can make a difference! Contact your representatives to alert them to your views!

Representative Eric Swalwell 510-247-1388 or go to [house.gov](https://www.house.gov)

Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631

Senator Kamala Harris (202) 224 - 3553
Senator Diane Feinstein (202) 224-3841



STAY CONNECTED:



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