

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! June 17, 2020

Greetings!

A Good Farewell

A sadness is coming over me knowing that this is my last writing on Week on the Peak that I will be sending you. I still have a few more weeks with all of you, but this will be my last column with you as the church year comes to an end soon. It was a quick 2 years, it feels like only a few months ago I arrived here with you all to gain a new understanding, a clearer mission, and a chance to work together towards a common goal.

I have shared with you my thoughts and dreams over these years and you have shared yours. I have finally gotten to know all of your names and don't confuse Elke with Erika any longer! We shared countless meetings together, we've shared potlucks and life rituals and laughter and sorrow together. I have been privileged to know your deepest private secrets and shared your public joys. As an Interim Minister I have always known I would be leaving and you all knew that too, even though some have wished it away wanting me to stay. I understand that pull, that reluctance for change, that comfortable feeling of familiarity and informality we have come to experience. Change is always a beginning and an ending of something so even though our relationship will be ending, you all have a new beginning with your new settled minister to come.



Change doesn't have to be hard; it doesn't also have to be melancholy or depressing. We can look at our memories and hold those close in our hearts. And we can anticipate what is to come. My last service with you all will be July 12th so I am still here, won't be moving until the end of July and will still have opportunities to talk with you, to sit with you, maybe even in person, depending on the virus conditions yet to be determined. I feel that we all have grown the last 2 years for the better. We have all come to know each other better, we have worked hard together to accomplish goals for this congregation and also individually. It is the way of Interim work that we always knew we would be separating. And under the guidelines of Interim work, through tried and true practices, it has been proven that separation is the best path to follow so that you all can enjoy and work with

your new minister, Rev. Greg. So, for the next 2 years, I will not be in contact with you. If you email or call me, do not expect a response. And it's not out of malice or meanness that I will be taking this direction, but out of these tried and true guidelines that have proven a good transition for you and your new minister. I want the best for each and every one of you, individually and as a congregation, and this really is the best way to proceed.

I will hold you all in my heart and you all have a place there that will never disappear. We have been a good fit for each other, all of you and me. Let us use these next few weeks to laugh together, still to plan together and hopefully soon to actually be together in person! That is my heartfelt wish anyway! May you be blessed with a fruitful future for this congregation.

I love you all beloved congregation.
With heartfelt thanks for all you do,

Rev. Jo

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

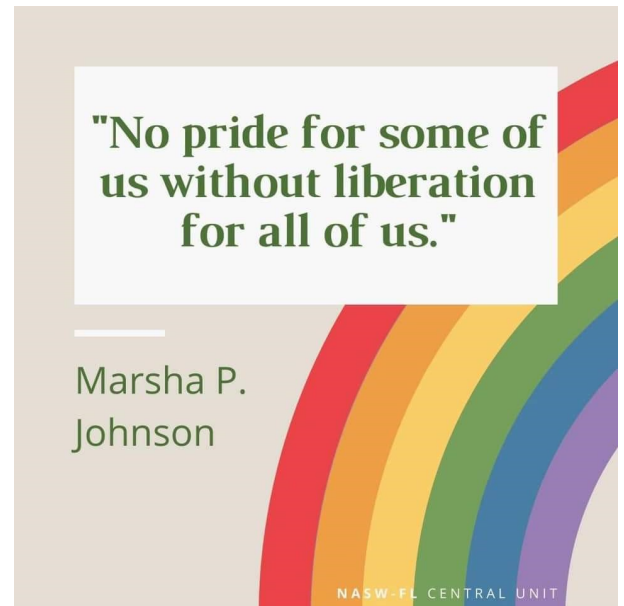
This Sunday's Service:

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

Dismantling the Party, Returning to the Riot

We have come a long way from the start of LGBTQ rights, but at what cost did we get here and who have we left behind in the journey. In this service we will explore the history of pride as told by a few of those who have been left out of the story

Shawn Snavley will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Katherine Alm. Worship Virtual Host will be Steve Wallcave. Peak Rocks will provide our music.



Because we will not have services in Cole Hall where you can donate money, below are 3 ways you can donate and/or fulfill your pledge:

Mail check to

1. Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
P.O. Box 545
Fremont, CA 94537-0545
(If you use Bill Pay with your bank, you could use them to mail the check)
2. Drop envelope with check or cash in Mission Peak UUU mail slot addressed to:

2. Drop envelope with check or cash in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to:
Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
We will be collecting this once per week.
3. Pay on line at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card.
Note we use PayPal for this and they charge us around 3%.

LGBTQ+ 101 WEBINAR



Saturday June 20th, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Want to know more about being a good ally to the LGBTQ+ community? Want to ask questions but have been afraid to do so? Join our Director of Religious Education in this webinar on the LGBTQ+ community, their history, and how you can better support them. To join please email Shawn at dre@mpuuc.org for the zoom link and handouts.

What? Another Meeting??

In case you didn't have enough congregational meetings in May, here's one more, and it is really important for members to participate. At our June 7th service, Rev. Jo urged us to do something in response to the outcry regarding the treatment of black people by the police and about the continuing racial inequalities in the country. The time is now! The board voted to call a special congregational meeting on June 28 at 12:00 p.m. to:

1. Discuss how to support Black Lives Matter
2. Make Anti-Racism education and action a priority for the coming year.



Please watch for more information at mpuuc.org/zoom about how to participate.
For more information contact president@mpuuc.org.

JUSTICE CORNER

UUAGA (Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly)

Allysson McDonald and Kathi Bayne will be delegates and will be representing our congregation at the UUAGA between June 24 and June 28, 2020. The General Assembly (GA) will be discussing the items below. Links have been added for more information.

-Proposed Bylaws changes:

- Bylaw amendments to section 8.7 and 8.8 clarify how vacancies in the role of co-moderator are filled
- Bylaw amendments to sections to section 9.4 and 9.6 extending nominating and election process to conform to contemporary speed of communication

https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/2020_final_agenda.pdf (Page 70-72)

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/bylaws>

https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/uua_bylaws_2019.pdf

-Proposed business resolution:

"Embodying Human Rights in our Investment Decisions," asks for us to support socially responsible investing (SRI) by divesting from organizations with human rights violations.

https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/2020_final_agenda.pdf (Page 67-69)

-Acts of immediate Witness (AIW):

AIW can only be proposed at the GA but anyone can propose one.

<https://www.uua.org/action/process/guide/aiw>

Please Contact Kathi Bayne if you have any comments or suggestions.

We are being asked to help shift funding Away From JAILS To Community Services

There is an ongoing, time-sensitive ask to continue to apply pressure on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, who have already voted to approve a \$318 million INCREASE in jail spending, while there are deep cutbacks in school spending and other services. There is still time to ask members to rescind their vote by June 21.

You can read more of the information on the [Santa Rita Jail Watch site at the Ella Baker Center](#). There you'll also see concrete action items (contacting Board of Supervisor members, attending the June 21 meeting, etc) for folks to take.

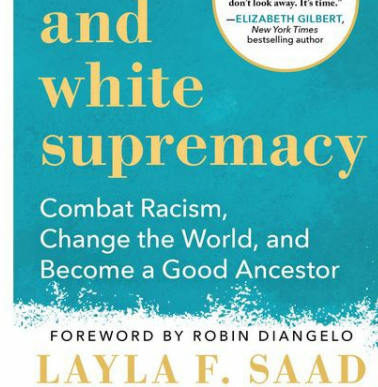
Me and White Supremacy

"Me and White Supremacy" is a 28-day guide to examining our internal and usually unconscious attitudes towards race and racism. Each day tackles a different aspect of white supremacy and privilege, and ends with reflective journaling prompts to help us integrate the information.



Using The Circle Way facilitation guide in the book as a starting point, Colleen Arnold will host a series of 4 weekly Zoom meetings starting the last week of June (week of 6/29/20 - if everyone gets the book quickly, it may start sooner) to discuss our reactions and what we're learning.

[Here](#) or contact Colleen Arnold.



Easy Climate Justice Action!

As a commitment to our 7th Principle - "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part" - Mission Peak UU has a newly chartered Climate Justice Committee. Committee member Jeff Goby reminds us that East Bay Clean Energy began offering cleaner, greener electricity at lower rates than PG&E to Alameda County residents back in November 2018. This Bright Choice option delivers electricity that is 87% carbon-free compared to 40% for the PG&E plan, and at a 1.5% discount. Jeff says "This is an impressive achievement, but we can do even better!" To exercise our commitment to mitigating global warming, each of us can opt up to the Brilliant 100 (100% carbon-free) plan offered by EBCE. The Brilliant 100 plan costs the same as what you were paying PG&E before the switch. Please click [here](#) to get more info. on how to opt up! As Unitarian Minister Edward Everett Hale said: "I am only one, But still I am one. I cannot do everything, But still I can do something; And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do."



Board Briefs

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

We had a special board meeting on June 10th where we:

- Approved our Lease to rent our office full time and part time use of other rooms on the First United Methodist Church of Fremont campus
- Specified that Mission Peak UU's special summer collections go towards funding for Sandwich Squad supplies (August) and to funding for the Civic Engagement Get Out the Vote project letter/postcard writing supplies (July).
- Called a congregational meeting on June 28th at Noon about Justice issues. Members should have received an email with more details.
- Talked about how to make the amount the UUA asks us to donate each year more transparent to us by a possible amendment to the UUA bylaws.
- Decided to wait until Alameda County allows for reopening church attendance before we have a MPUUC board meeting to decide what changes to make
- Voted to give our administrator a bonus to thank her for her work this year during the pandemic and to celebrate her 10th year with us.
- Voted to give our DRE a bonus to thank him for his work this year during the pandemic.
- Voted to give our Nursery Child Care Provider (who asked not to be paid during the pandemic) with a bonus to thank him.



Our next regular board meeting is on July 9th at 7 p.m.

Humor Corner

Bookstore sign:

Post-apocalyptic fiction has been moved to current affairs.



"FREE HAMMOCKS, all over town. It's like a miracle!"



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

ACT NOW!

WE ARE ONE



BLACK LIVES MATTER:

Calling for an end to racial inequality

We stand in solidarity with our Black brothers & sisters in calling for an end to the injustices they have suffered.

We will not be silent in the face of the systemic racism and social injustice continuing to plague our nation and our institutions. We believe in the value and dignity of all human life. We reject hate and violence and choose compassion, respect, non-violence, and equality for Black people everywhere.

Thursday, June 25, 2020

At home, as you shelter-in-place



We invite you to post a message on your social media pages to show your support for BLACK LIVES MATTER.

On Thursday, June 25th please post a message that would be an appropriate sign or poster you would carry if you were attending an actual rally. You could even make a sign and post a photo of yourself holding it.

Use the hashtag #BlackLivesMatter

Let's flood the internet with support for Black Lives Matter!

**Tri-City Interfaith Council
Compassionate Fremont**

**Please Spread The Word:
160,000 Bay Area Kids Have Till
6/30 To Access Pandemic \$'s For
Food Purchases**



Interfaith Sustainable
Food Collaborative

Your congregation has the opportunity to ensure food access for low-income children in your community. Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer, or P-EBT, is available for all school aged

students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Families receive up to \$365 per child to help buy food while schools are closed.

About 300,000 Bay Area students have already received a P-EBT card in the mail last month. This first roll out of P-EBT was automatically delivered to student households receiving CalFresh, Medi-Cal, or Foster Care Benefits. Your congregations' communication and outreach network is needed to ensure that the students who ARE eligible for free or reduced price meals but did NOT receive a P-EBT card enroll before June 30th, 2020.

P-EBT card enroll before June 30th, 2020.

For more information contact: info@interfaithfood.org or go to our [Pandemic-EBT page](#).

Black-owned Businesses

On Yelp they are collecting information on Black-owned Businesses here in the East Bay. Please click the link [here](#) to find these businesses.

Bekah Dhand

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

Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631

Senator Kamala Harris (202) 224 - 3553

Senator Diane Feinstein (202) 224-3841



STAY CONNECTED:



♥ Black Owned Businesses in the East Bay



THANK YOU for supporting black owned businesses in the East Bay ♥. Each of these businesses has given us approval to be included and we have reached out to a long list of additional businesses and are waiting for their permission. If you have a business you'd like to see added to this list, please email eastbay@yelp.com (note that we will have to receive permission from the business first before being added).