

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! August 12, 2020

Greetings!

The COVID pandemic has magnified our anxieties on a range of issues beyond public health. Many of these have been long-standing issues in our society, such as economic insecurity, racial inequality, and global climate change. As Unitarian Universalists we seek remedies through our values and principles, and we do this even though the issues are complex and often interwoven. One of the many ways we do this at Mission Peak UU is by promoting and taking action on Climate Justice. Climate justice frames global warming as an ethical issue that relates to social justice, human rights, and community health, not simply environmental health.



I'm the current chair of Mission Peak UU's new Climate Justice Committee, whose mission is to promote awareness of global warming and implement the congregation's activities to reverse the negative impacts of global warming with help from others. In years past Mission Peak UU helped launch the Stone (Community) Garden in Nilas, and the congregation may soon have new opportunities to take steps in local engagement by planning for and demonstrating its ability to make meaningful and measurable change toward becoming carbon negative. The state of carbon negativity is one where carbon emissions are reduced to such a level that any remaining emissions are more than offset by other activities: building soil, planting trees, etc.

Inspired by the work of Project Drawdown (drawdown.org), a climate change mitigation project initiated by renowned Bay Area environmentalist Paul Hawken, our Committee is developing an action plan that describes a carbon negative vision for Mission Peak UU that engages with other congregations taking similar steps. Near-term actions could include engaging in the City of Fremont's and other cities' Climate Action Plans, buying carbon-free power, energy audits, urban forestry projects and other activities that have a measurable impact. Measurement of our impact may be possible through sites like the Fremont Green Challenge, with additional support and resources through Interfaith Power & Light.

Our 7th Principle is "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part." If you're someone who recognizes the opportunity of congregational action toward reversing global warming and its impacts on society, and would like to help with our action plan, let's discuss.

Erik Alm

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.

Cultivating Resilience: Finding our Spiritual Hardiness

Some say we learn the most about ourselves in the midst of difficult times because this is when we find our source of strength. What keeps you going when everything seems to be falling apart? Join me as we explore ways to cultivate our own resilience through spiritual practices.

Shawn Snaveley will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Katherine Alm. Worship Host will be Graham Bell. 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

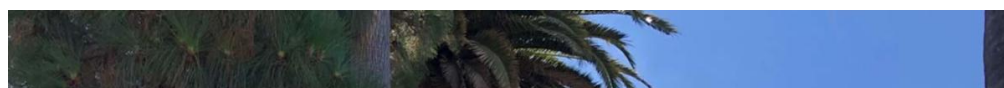
1. Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
P.O. Box 545
Fremont, CA 94537-0545
(If you use Bill Pay with your bank, you could use them to mail the check)
2. Drop envelope with check or cash in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to:
Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
We will be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

Our BLACK LIVES MATTER (BLM) Banner is Here!

Mission Peak UU Congregation voted overwhelmingly to display a Black Lives Matter banner and to educate ourselves about racism and oppression.

Our BLM banner has been installed at the entryway to the FUMC/MPUUC parking lot.

THERE WILL BE AN



**OFFICIAL
DEDICATION OF
OUR BANNER
AUGUST 16, 2020
AT SUNDAY
WORSHIP SERVICE.**

If you are willing and able, PLEASE MAKE a SIGN that says "BLACK LIVES MATTER", which you will hold up during the responsive reading of the BLM dedication service, August 16.

You can print a sign at the link below, if you prefer.

<https://www.stencil1.com/black-lives-matter/> (print page 2)

Please see our new Anti-Racism Work web page!

<https://mpuuc.org/anti-racism-work/>

For any questions, please contact your BLM banner task force (Terri King, Don Ramie, Ingrid Avery-O'Brien, Bekah Troxler D'hand, or Kathi Bayne.



August 15th and 29th 10am-11:30am- Physically Distanced Youth Gathering



We are going to take another shot at giving our youth some physically distanced social time. Youth will be gathering with their youth advisors to play a few games designed by our very own Eric Dittmar. Eric has managed to come up with four game options for physically distanced fun! Teens will compete in teams and the winner will receive notoriety in our WOTP.

Youth need to wear masks and closed toed shoes for these events. We will be abiding by all of the guidelines established by Alameda County. Please use the following [link to register](#) your youth and give permission for them to attend these events. This meeting will take place on the lawn in front of Cole Hall.

August 16th, 2020- 1pm-2pm- Parents' Meeting

As we prepare for our fall semester we would like to take the time to present our plans to our parents and guardians in order to get your feedback about our intended curriculum. After you register you will be sent information about our current educational plan and how we hope to implement it so that you can review it before attending the meeting. Please use the following

[link to register](#) for this event.





Ministerial Support for August

Our interim minister, Rev. Jo Green, is on vacation and study leave until her final day of employment, August 18th. In the meantime, if you are in need of emergency pastoral care between now and August 31st, please contact Rev. Barbara Meyers. Her email and phone number are listed in the directory, which is in the members-only section of our website.

Our new settled minister, Rev. Greg Ward, begins with us on September 1st. At that point you will be able to reach him at the same Mission Peak UU phone number and email that Rev. Jo used. Rev. Greg's first day in the pulpit will be Sunday, September 13th.

JUSTICE CORNER

ANTI-RACISM ANTI-OPPRESSION TASK FORCE (ARO)

MPUUC created our Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression task force (ARO) to educate ourselves on racism and BLM.



Our first recommendation is:

- In collaboration with UUSC, Side With Love is offering an exciting new 5 session webinar series to deepen our collective activism and participation in the Movement for Black Lives.
- We invite you to sign up on this link and participate in [Taking A Collective Breath: Deepening our alignment with the Movement for Black Lives](#), built around the elements of the BREATHE Act.

Kathi Bayne

"Safe Place" People of Color (POC) Affinity Group

Please join us in "Safe Place" People of Color (POC) Affinity Group - for POC congregants and loved ones! UUA General Assembly highlighted the importance of such groups. I am so excited, as Momma to mixed children of color, that "Safe Space" will strengthen our POC and enrich the congregation by providing community from which POC and their loved ones can bring even more to the table, finding deeper pride and voice together.



Contact Kathi Bayne and Bekah Troxler D'hand.

Stay tuned for additional Affinity Groups dedicated to LGBTQ+ and mental health! Contact Ingrid O'Brien Avery.



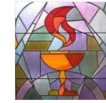
ADULT EDUCATION FALL 2020

The Adult Education Committee is pleased to announce its course offerings for the 2020 Fall Quarter. All classes will be offered on Zoom, and links will be sent to registered students prior to the beginning of the class. To sign up for a class, please email Linda Messia at lmessia@yahoo.com.

To view class brochure, click [here](#).

Linda Messia, Len Tiemann, and Eric Dittmar

Adult Education Classes Fall Quarter 2020



Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

From the Adult Education Committee
The Committee offers these programs for the fall quarter, with many thanks to each presenter.
The Committee includes Linda Messia, Len Tiemann, and Eric Dittmar.
You may register for classes by emailing Linda at lmessia@yahoo.com.

Poems

John & Jackie Porter
via Zoom 6 places
Mondays: September 14 & 28,
October 12 & 26, November 9 & 23,
7 - 9 pm

Poetry is simply the most beautiful, impressive, and widely effective mode of saying things, and hence its importance.

Basho

Twice a month we gather, via Zoom, to read, listen to, and discuss poems. Bring what you would like to read and discuss. Light up your life by sharing poems with friends.

Held (Book Study)

Barbara Meyers

Four meetings: Wednesdays
October 7, 14, 21, & 28
7:00 - 8:30 pm via Zoom

Held - Showing Up for Each Other's Mental Health - A Guide for Every Member of the Congregation by Rev. Barbara Meyers.

This book illustrates how members of liberal religious congregations can be supportive to those living with mental health problems, and their loved ones, in our congregations and society at large. It addresses the fundamental elements of spiritual support—truth, hope, presence, acceptance, encouragement, authenticity, public witness, and pastoral care—with stories from real life situations and suggestions for how parishioners can provide and advocate for support in their congregations.

We will use the study guide in the book for this book-read.

People can order their own books from the UU Book Store at <https://bit.ly/2BUR1UR>, or from Amazon

The Righteous Mind

(Book Study)

Steve Walcave
Three meetings: Tuesdays:
September 8 & 22;
October 6, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
10 participants

The Righteous Mind - Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion
By Jonathan Haidt

In his book, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt challenges conventional thinking about morality, politics, and religion in a way that speaks to conservatives and liberals alike.

This will be a book discussion.

Board Briefs

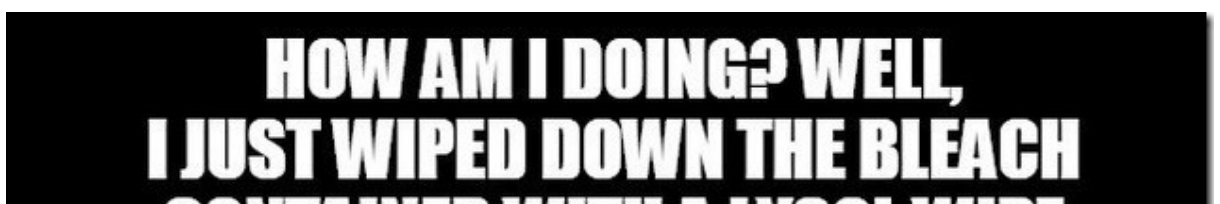
Our next board meetings are on
Aug. 12th at 7 p.m.
Sept. 9th at 7 p.m.

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 about meetings or questions email president@mpuuc.org



Humor Corner





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

ACT NOW!

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 Dianne Feinstein (202) 224-3841

STAY CONNECTED:

