

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! November 11, 2020

Greetings!

Hello! I'm Colleen Arnold, and I'm the chair of the Committee on Ministry this year.

The question most often asked about COM is "what exactly do you *do*?" and it's a reasonable question, because COM often works in the background of the congregation's life. COM is charged with monitoring the health of the congregation's ministry, namely, are our congregational priorities true to our mission? Is there anything threatening the health of the congregation's ministry? So what COM does is dependent on what's going on in any given year, and will change according to the events of that year.



This year, Alan Davis, Terri King, Rev. Greg and I have taken on the task of working with you to create a Congregational Covenant. As you may remember from Rev. Greg's sermon a few weeks ago, a Covenant in this case isn't really a contract or an agreement, it's an aspirational statement of how we want to treat each other, or how we want to be in relationship with each other. So when conflict occurs, as conflict will in any organization, we have a guidepost to turn to. It's an important part of a healthy congregation, and it will take all of us to put it together.

I encourage you to watch for our covenant-developing sessions and make it a priority to come. A strong covenant will help strengthen our already-strong foundation, and help us grow to whatever new heights await us. The number one favorite trait of this congregation that has come out of every survey I've seen is community. Let's put in some time to keep ours healthy.

Also, don't forget to buy your tickets to the Black & White Gala this Saturday, check out the online boutique and auction websites, and come dressed in your favorite destination fashion. See you there!

Colleen Arnold

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 Communion That's Hard to Swallow

We live in a world of great disparity. Some get a lot. Some get enough. And some live every day on less than enough. The inequity of distribution of wealth and food and housing and privilege is striking when we look at it. What we do to see this or ignore it will determine whether it changes or remains in place.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Kathy Wallcave. 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

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)

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.

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%.

Bring a Friend Sunday is next Sunday, November 15

I suspect most of us feel lucky to be a part of this beloved community. There are people out there who have never heard of us, who are looking to be a part of a community like ours. Do you know someone who is looking for healing, perhaps needs to hear a message of inclusivity, where diversity is celebrated? Do you know people who are looking to join a group that is making efforts to fight anti-racism, anti-oppression? Do you know someone who is looking to connect with others to join in the work to make our communities and this country better?

Since you can't physically bring a friend, we ask you to invite friends, neighbors, relatives, and colleagues. Then please invite them to our Sunday service on the 15th. With Zoom, they can live in anywhere in the world!

If you've been wondering what you might say, consider these ideas we came up with in our brainstorming session on [how to reach out and invite people to church](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kathy Wallcave
Membership Chair

2020 Black & White Gala Count Down!

It's Here! It's Now! It's Saturday! It's confusing! Let me try to clarify things a bit...

Usually we have a big event and have all the 'parts' (boutique, raffle, auction, party) on the same day at the same time. This year, of course, we're doing things remotely. This means that we're doing the same things, just a little differently.

- **Boutique** – The Boutique is online. Follow this link (<https://mpuuc.square.site/>) and it will take you there. In the boutique you can purchase homemade and handcrafted items which will be delivered, contact free, to your door. In the Boutique you can also make donations and/or purchase ticket packages for our 2020 Black & White Gala Zoom Event. You can also purchase extra Raffle tickets.
- **Raffle** – We will be having a raffle this year, but it will be a little different. Instead of being able to put your raffle tickets in for different raffle items we'll be pulling all the tickets from the same 'pot' and each winner will choose their prize from the remaining raffle prizes. A Raffle Tracker sheet will be sent out on Thursday or Friday detailing all of the Raffle Prizes. Each Event Ticket comes with Raffle tickets (which will either be included physically in your Goodie Bag or the numbers will be emailed to you.)
- **Auction** – The Auction is online and is up and running and accepting bids NOW! Here's the link to check it out: <https://www.32auctions.com/MPUUCBW2020>. Bidding will run until 10:00 pm on Saturday, November 14. You should have received an email on Monday outlining what you need to know to participate in the online auction.
- **Party** – This is everyone's favorite part and, of course, we can't party in person this year. So, we're having a LIVE Zoom Event on Saturday, November 14 from 7:00-9:00 pm. IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE LIVE ZOOM EVENT YOU MUST PURCHASE A TICKET. During the Live Zoom Event you will be able to visit with other attendees in a large group and in small breakout rooms. We will hold the Raffle. We will announce the winner of the Fudge Off. We will have games and lively conversations and perhaps even some special Auction Items. During the Live Zoom Event is when you should wear your fun accessories, enjoy your beverage of choice, and dig into the yummy treats that all came in your Goodie Bag.
- **Event Tickets** - Ticket packages are available for purchase in the boutique. An Event Ticket with Goodie Bag gets you: Access to the Live Zoom Event, Raffle Tickets, Fun Wearables, Yummy Snacks, and a Beverage of your choice. If you are local, your Goodie Bag will be delivered to your door on Friday. If you are not local or decide you don't want a Goodie Bag there are options to order your Event Ticket without the Goodie Bag. All Event Tickets come with Raffle Tickets.

2020 Black & White Gala FAQ's

Q: I want to donate something. Is it too late?

A: Probably not. Please call Jen King ASAP to tell her about your donation and figure out the details.

Q: Why do I need a ticket for a virtual event?

A: Because this is a Fundraiser and we need to raise funds! Plus, the Live Zoom Event tickets get you a Goodie Bag full of Yummy Snacks, a Beverage of your choice, your Raffle tickets, and fun Wearables.

Q: Will the Auction only accept bids during the Live Zoom Event on Saturday?

A: No. The Auction is live now and will accept bids from now until 10:00 pm on Saturday.

Q: I'm trying to order something from the boutique and am having trouble checking out.

A: First, make sure you've put in a local address. If you're not local, put in the church address, or Jen's address, or your old address - it really doesn't matter. If you're still having trouble, just call Jen and she'll help you out.

Q: Why are there so many 'repeats' in the Auction?

A: In order to sell multiple 'seats' for an event we have to auction each 'seat' off separately. So, if you want two 'seats' to an event, you will need to bid on two separate auctions for that event.

Q: Now that I've seen the awesome Raffle items I want to buy more Raffle tickets. Is it too late?

A: Nope, in fact we'll be selling them during the Live Zoom Event. We will just email you the numbers for your tickets so you can follow along.

Q: I want to support Mission Peak UU, but all this online stuff is just too much!

A: Pick up the phone and call Jen and she will help you out. You can do this and Mission Peak is worth it!

Q: When we have the in-person event we are encouraged to invite friends. Is that allowed for this event?

A: Yes! We would love to have family and friends join us. Many of the events offered in the auction will be via Zoom so anyone can participate. Feel free to send the links to the Boutique and Auction to people you know. However, please don't post it to Facebook or other public sites. Also, Jen would prefer not to have to ship boutique items to people, but is happy to deliver them to anyone local (or deliver them to you and have you ship them to your friends/family). We would love to introduce more people to Mission Peak and this event is a good way to do that. [Don't forget that Sunday, November 15 is "Bring A Friend to Church" Sunday.]



This year's Guest at your Table theme is home. For many of us, our relationship with home has intensified this year. The pandemic has given many of us new appreciation for, and concerns about, the places we call home and the centrality of these places in our lives.

This year during Guest at Your Table, we invite you to witness stories of our partners around the world as they tell you about home. Our partners in Central America are working to make sure no one is forced to flee their home due to violence or economic devastation. Our partners in Alaska, Louisiana, and the Pacific are fighting for their homes and ancestral lands against the ravages of extractive industries and climate change. And our partners in Burma, Bangladesh, and beyond are working tirelessly to support the rights of the Rohingya ethnic minority of Burma after facing government backed genocide in their homeland.

The ways in which our congregations and families come together may look different, but the beloved tradition of Guest at Your Table is here and needs your support. From now until December 16th, MPUUC will be participating in the Guest at your Table program. Because of social distancing measures we will not be distributing boxes this year, but there are a number of ways that you can create space for collecting donations. You can use [this template](#) to print and make your own box at home or you can use household items to create a place to collect your donations such as a small bowl or basket.



UPCOMING YOUTH GATHERING NOVEMBER 22ND @ 1PM @ MPUUC

On Sunday November 22nd at MPUUC Middleschool and High School Students will have game day in person, physically distanced, in front of Cole Hall. All 4th-12th graders are welcome to attend. All participants will need to wear a mask, wear closed toed shoes, and bring their own bottle of water. If your youth(s) are interested please complete the following [registration form](#)



MPUUC COMING OF AGE 2020?

MPUUC RE program is interested in offering a home grown Coming of Age program over zoom and through socially distanced events, but before we get started we would like to know how many teens we would potentially be planning for. Basing our program on MPUUC resources means that we have space to play around with some of the parameters of the program and the logistics involved in pulling it off :) If your teen(s) are interested in participating or you are interested in serving as a mentor please contact Shawn at dre@mpuuc.org by Nov. 20th.

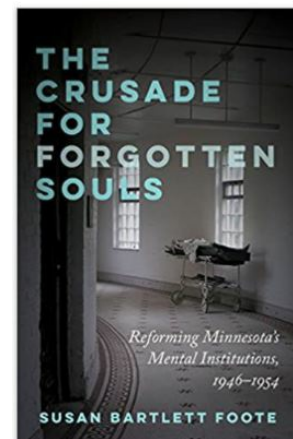
Susan Bartlett Foote

Watch Susan Bartlett Foote, speak about her book “The Crusade For Forgotten Souls – Reforming Minnesota’s Mental Institutions, 1946-1954”, University of Minnesota Press, 2018. She tells the story about how Unitarians in Minnesota helped to reform the mental institutions in Minnesota.

[Click here](#)

We thank Graham Bell for taping and editing the video.

Rev. Barbara F. Meyers



Board Briefs

The board participated in the New Ministry Start Up Workshop on October 24, facilitated by Melissa James of the Pacific Western District of the UUA.

For complete board minutes or other board info go to the Members Only section of our web site at mpuuc.org/about-us/members-only



Please contact president@mpuuc.org for more information about future board meetings.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service moves online

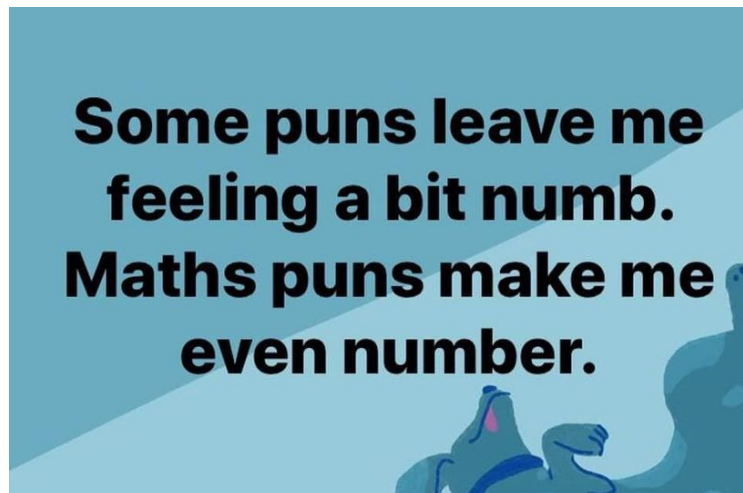
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 59th annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service is coming online. It will still be held on the Monday before Thanksgiving, on November 23, at 7:30 p.m., only it will be held on the Zoom platform.

To register for the service – advanced registration is required – go to tinyurl.com/tcicTS2020.

The service will include prayers, readings, recorded music, and dance offered by several different faith and spiritual communities in the Tri-Cities. It will also include a brief sermon by TCIC President, the Rev. Jeffrey Spencer, which he has tentatively titled “Chairs and the Table.”

Jeff is the Senior Pastor at [Niles Discovery Church](#). The service is expected to last about one hour. You can download a flyer for the event by clicking [here](#)..

HUMOR CORNER



I want a simple life. I want to get up late, drink tea, and read old books. I also want a spaceship and a pet dragon.

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

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