

This Week on the Peak

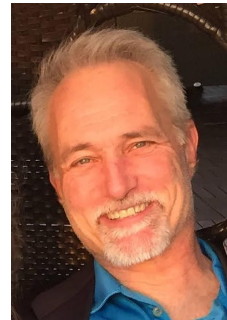


Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! November 18, 2020

Greetings!

Dear Friends,

There have been many moments in my life where I have found myself so amazingly grateful to be part of community. And not just any community, but one that felt especially vibrant and loving, playfully and creative, resilient and responsive. There've been moments I encountered I still remember. Moments I've spent my life trying to recreate.



Sometimes these moments came in the midst of an unbearably difficult time. Like, when I was seven and my parents divorced. And it felt like my siblings and I got passed from one family in the church to another. And we felt ourselves surrounded with kids our age, other sets of caring adults. Food. I learned from these moments that I could feel my feelings – even the feelings that were uncomfortable; that were sometimes discouraged at home. I could share my confusion and people didn't walk away or try to change the subject. I felt accepted, even while I struggled with a moment that felt unacceptable.

A few of these community experiences were in my teen years where I was just figuring out who I was. Where I was trying out new ways of expressing myself. Taking risks. Discovering emerging or latent parts of myself. Times where I was petrified of being rejected or unwanted. Times I didn't always understand my responsibilities in relationship. Or my needs. But I was held in an intentional space where peers and elders promised to show up. And did. They understood I would make mistakes. I got honest and direct feedback. I also got a lot of acceptance and allowance and encouragement to help me learn and grow.

I remember a church that taught me about being a leader; making decisions that affected others; that taught me how to summon empathy, look for other people's needs; understand that there was sometimes a difference between my intention and the impact I had; how to apologize when I hurt people by making my need to connect with people more clear than my need to be right.

I've also been in communities that have felt unsatisfying. And unsupportive. Where I felt like I had to tiptoe on terrain built out of sensitivities. Where I walked on landmines of pet peeves or self-interest.

And, of course, I've experienced life in our modern-day consumer society where everything we do is a transaction. Where it's hard to feel like I amounted to anything more than just another commodity.

Looking back on those communities that infused me with gratitude, I realized that they were all put together deliberately. There was a complex weaving together of intentionality. Agreements based on high standards of kindness, acceptance, understanding and forgiveness. Commitment was huge. And resilience. Looking back, the best parts of who I am were discovered in such places.

Now, Mission Peak community is wanting to explore what kind of intentionality it takes to become one of those communities – or, at least, deepen the parts of our commitment that already makes us one. This Sunday, after the Worship Service, the Committee on Ministry is going to lead us through a conversation about what ingredients are essential for communities moving into this territory of beloved community. We will talk about what the community does as well as what each person does to help us get there.

Please join us for this heart opening conversation. I look forward to seeing you there.

I love you all.

Rev. Greg
(he, him, his)

minister@mpuuc.org

(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.



From Doctrine of Discovery to the Beloved Community - Revisiting a Whitewashed History

As a nation, our relationship with the land on which we live - and the people who lived on it before us, is awash in complicated and unreconciled conflict. More and more, people are wanting a place of healing. To get there we must walk backwards on a trail of tears to a shared understanding of history.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associates Bekah Troxler D'hand and Drew Wilson. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jo Ann Schriener, Knuti Van Hoven and Peak Performers 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%.

JUSTICE CORNER

UU The Vote

We have [posted videos](#) from our post-election vigil and community gathering on November 5th.

We hope you will take a moment to ground yourselves in the gifts of music, story, and love offered in this service.

Each element from our event is [downloadable](#) and may be used by congregations in upcoming worship services. You can [view the entire service](#) on Facebook.

In faith and solidarity,
The UU the Vote National Team.

How We Win: National Debrief for UU the Vote

Join us for a faith-wide debrief, Saturday, Nov. 21st, 4-5:30 pm ET/1-2:30 pm PT

Do not miss this important examination of how and why we won and how we keep winning! We'll be landing a date soon with our partners for when we can all come together for this critical event. [Sign up today](#) and be the first to get updated on how UU the Vote is building power into 2021!

HELP PROTECT CALIFORNIANS FROM OIL & GAS DRILLING



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020

"STAND WITH KERN" WEBINAR @ 12PM PACIFIC
GOV. TWITTERSTORM @ 1PM PACIFIC
VIRTUAL RALLY W/CA YOUTH VS. BIG OIL @ 7PM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

MAKE CALLS TO GOV. NEWSOM ALL DAY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

RECORD & SEND VIDEOS TO GOV. NEWSOM ALL DAY!
GOV. NEWSOM TWITTERSTORM @ 1PM PACIFIC

LEARN MORE & SIGN UP AT
[UJMC.A.ORG/INACTIONISINJUSTICE](https://uujmca.org/inactionisinjustice)

FOLLOW ON TWITTER

#INACTIONISINJUSTICE

@LASTCHANCE_CA

@VOICESCA

We demanded Gov. Newsom to take real climate action to prioritize public health. **Instead**, he issued over 1,500 permits for new wells, but also he has failed to institute health-protective setbacks. His inactions on protecting the health of frontline communities are an insult to those fighting for their lives during this pandemic

Join UJMC.A (a member of the Last Chance Alliance) for a week of action from November 17-20 to urge the Governor to roll out 2500-ft health and safety buffers for oil and gas wells between homes and schools. Our week of faithful, organized action includes the following ways to connect, collaborate, and create climate justice:

November 19

Call-in Action Day 2 to Gov. Newsom's Office

November 20

1:00 PM Twitterstorm to Gov. Newsom

All Day—Send videos to the Governor on social media

ANTI-RACISM ANTI-OPPRESSION TASK FORCE (ARO) RECOMMENDATIONS



Education: OnBeing Podcast: [Robin DiAngelo in conversation with Resmaa Menakem](#)

"The show we released with Resmaa Menakem in the weeks after George Floyd's killing has become one of our most popular episodes, and has touched listeners and galvanized personal searching. So we said yes when Resmaa proposed that he join On Being again, this time together with Robin DiAngelo, the author of *White Fragility*."



Action: [Interfaith Vigil: Living with Integrity on Indigenous Land](#)

Friday, November 20 • 10:00 – 11:00 am

Join the [Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity](#) for an Interfaith Vigil led by Corrina Gould, co-founder of [Sogorea Te' Land Trust](#), and Ariel Luckey, co-founder of [Jews on Ohlone Land](#). We invite the inter-faith community to reflect how we can live with integrity as migrants, settlers, and non-indigenous people on the sacred lands we live on, and how congregations can be a part of healing and reparations to the indigenous community. [View on Facebook Live](#), [or join on Zoom](#).

2020 Black & White Gala Follow-Up

First off I want to say that Mission Peak UU ROCKS! Thank you, Thank you, Thank you to each and every one of you who participated in ways large and small in this year's all virtual Black & White Gala. You were all up to the challenge and Mission Peak is the winner! We raised over \$14,000 this year which is amazing!

The Boutique is still open and will be for a week or so more. All of the items that didn't sell in the Auction are now available in the Boutique at "Buy It Now" prices. Please check that out <https://mpuuc.square.site/>.

The usual post-Auction letters to donors and purchasers will be coming out in the next couple of weeks so watch for those. Donors, once you receive your letter identifying who purchased your item(s) please follow up with them.

Once again Thank You all for your support and participation of Mission Peak!

Jen King

Video of "The Communion That's Hard to Swallow" Service 11/15/20

You can view the Nov. 15, 2020 Service and share with your friends who you invited but were not able to attend. Besides an excellent message, the music by Peak Rocks was great! You can see it here: <https://mpuuc.org/services/the-communion-thats-hard-to-swallow/>



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.

Board Briefs

The board met on November 11 at 7 p.m and:

Finalized and approved the Board Covenant
Agreed to and started use of a Process Observation model
Set up a RACI task force for tracking task responsibilities
Approved a budget of up to \$3100 for A/V replacement equipment
Approved change of Internet provider & budget increase of \$500
Discussed Canvass
Discussed additions to Board Agreements



The next board meeting is on Wednesday, December 9 at 7 p.m.

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

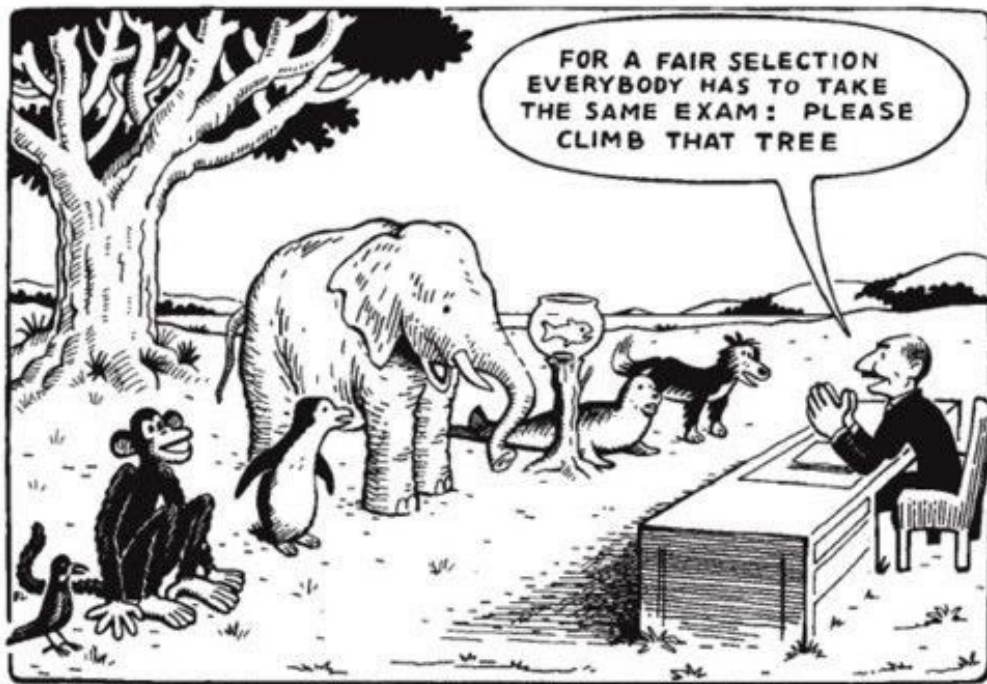
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 59th annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service is coming online. It will still be held on the Monday before Thanksgiving, on November 23, at 7:30 p.m., only it will be held on the Zoom platform.

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.” The Mission Peak Choir provided music. Rev Greg and Rev Barbara recorded a reading.

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



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



Mission Peak UU | 2950 Washington Blvd Fremont CA | 510.252.1477 missionpeakuu.org



Share



Share



Tweet