

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! November 4, 2020

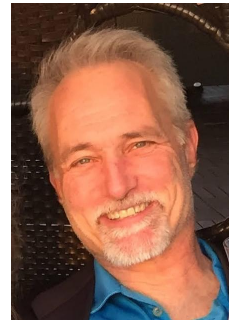
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Greetings!

Dear Friends,

This morning, as I write this, I am holding all of you in my heart. I am holding your hopes. Your hurts. Your worries. Your pain.

It is election day – the far-away day that we've been waiting for. The day candidates and the media have long gestured toward. I know many have had this day in mind for years. The magnitude and urgency of this day – and what it means – has grown as the days passed. So much has happened in the last four years that have felt militaristically partisan. And the promises 'of the people, by the people, for the people' have often wound up in the back seat while greed, corruption and duplicity have strip mined much of our democratic process for parts and taken us on a power trip. For some time, we've all been on a tour of the Divided States of America, rather than the United States of America.



I'm writing this in the morning with the hope that we will begin turning a new page even without knowing how the election will turn out. By the time you read this, news will have come about the outcome to many races. Regardless, we are still just approaching the starting blocks of the human race.

I really hope it's time we can start talking to each other. Starting conversations beyond our own echo chambers. Conversations that begin by tending to the wounded. Conversations that start with listening. With people willing to be open, real and resilient.

On Wednesday and Thursday MPUUC will be holding Virtual Conversations for Healing Hearts. These will be online. The links can be accessed by clicking above or going to the link on our Zoom Page. Our time together online will include creating space and listening for those people who need somewhere to go to name their feelings. We will have some testimonies, some prayers, some meditation, some music. But mostly, we will have space for those feeling tired or tender and in need of loving attention.

On Friday, we will have a LIVE in person vigil, outside of Cole Hall. This will be a socially distanced opportunity for people to gather and share stories of pain, hope and resilience

and a singing procession to Washington Blvd to stand in front of our Black Lives Matter Banner for a flashlight vigil. If you would like to gather with us, please register at (click [here](#)).

Rev Greg Ward  
(he, him, his)

[minister@mpuuc.org](mailto:minister@mpuuc.org)  
(510) 972-3890

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## This Sunday's Service:

**We have transitioned to virtual services because of the Coronavirus pandemic. See [mpuuc.org/zoom](https://mpuuc.org/zoom) each week for how to connect.**



### Recover to What?

As I write this, I do not know who shall prevail in the election at any level. We shall explore how others have recovered from traumatic events that had lasted all their lives. In some cases the promise of escape was fulfilled and sometimes not. If there is hope on this Sunday, it will be about what can put us back into right relationship, else about how shall we endure the unendurable.

Mark Rahman will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Barbara Meyers. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jay and Jessica Steele 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%.

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## Share the Plate - Sunday, November 8, 2020

November is Native American Heritage Month which pays tribute to the rich history and

culture of indigenous peoples. The Ohlone have lived in the Bay Area since 4000 BCE. Our offering Nov. 8 will go to the Sogorea Te Land Trust, an indigenous organization established to collectively buy back plots in the traditional lands of the Karkin and Chochenyo divisions for communal use. More information about the Sogorea Te Land Trust can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

*Please donate generously if you are able, in one of these ways:*

Write a check to MPUUC with “**Segorea Te**” in the memo line and mail 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 an envelope with a check (with “Segorea Te” on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating “For “Segorea Te”) in our mail slot addressed to: Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Pay online at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card. Choose “Special” as the donation type. Please state “For “Segorea Te” in the message. Note we use PayPal for this, and they charge us around 3%

## Bring a Friend Sunday on Nov 15

We had a great conversation about inviting people to visit our MPUUC community – especially in these moments as we look to invest in our values of inherent worth, inclusivity, diversity of beliefs, democracy in process and the interdependent web of existence. We talked about wanting to help rebuild compassion and civility in society. We came up with a number of things to keep in mind regarding [WHO to ask, WHY to ask and HOW to ask someone to come to MPUUC](#). Please check it out!

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



**Education:** [“A Quick Read for White People Who Don’t Consider Themselves Racist”](#) Quote from the article: "The problem is that white people see racism as conscious hate, when racism is bigger than that. Racism is a complex system of social and political levers and pulleys set up generations ago to continue working on the behalf of whites at other people’s expense, whether whites know/like it or not."



**Action:** [Unsettling Truths: Racial Justice and Native People](#)

Saturday, November 7 • 10:00 – 11:30 am

SURJ Contra Costa County invites you to explore the history of local Native People and what white people can do to help heal past and present harms. The virtual meeting is facilitated by Diablo Valley College librarian Lindsey Shively, a long-time racial justice activist and coach for two new SURJ chapters focusing on Indigenous solidarity work in Wyoming and

Detroit Lakes, MN. After the discussion, the chapter's three committees will continue their work: Action, Education, and Communication. [Please sign up by Friday, November 6 to receive the Zoom link.](#)

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## MPUUC Plans Multiple Post Election Events

In a year full of stressful events the upcoming election is, for some of us, the most stressful of all. Worrying about the outcome of the election and the safety of ourselves and others has definitely added to our anxiety level. To help us deal with our feelings and fears Mission Peak UU is offering multiple Post-Election Events. In addition to these events, please feel free to reach out to Reverend Greg, Reverend Barbara, or members of the Pastoral Associates if you feel the need for additional support.

### **Post Election Vigil II with UUA President Susan Fredrick Gray and Music Director Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout**

**Format:** Via Zoom

**Date/Time:** Thursday, November 5, 5:00-7:00 pm

Watch with your fellow MPUUC as we stream together the vigil with Rev. Susan and Dr. Rideout. We will be able to chat together while watching. Rev. Greg and Rev. Barbara will be available to talk afterwards (6:30). You are welcome to drop in anytime between 5:00-7:00 pm using the link below and share your joys and concerns with your community.

[Post Election Chat 2 Zoom Link](#)

**Meeting ID: 972 9571 9722**

### **Post Election Chat for Kiddos**

**Format:** Via Zoom

**Date/Time:** Thursday, November 5, 5:00-6:00 pm

This session will provide a safe place facilitated by our Director of Religious Exploration, Shawn Snavelly, for our kids to come together and share their thoughts and fears about the election and its outcomes. Please use this [link](#) to register for this event: . Children of all ages are welcome and parents are welcome to attend with their children.

### **Post Election Gathering & Demonstration**

**Format:** Zoom & In Person Gathering

**Date/Time:** Friday, November 6, 5:00-7:00 pm

**Location:** Zoom/Outside of Cole Hall

This event will be a chance for us to come together as a community to express visibly our response to the election. Those who are comfortable are welcome to meet in person (socially distanced) outside of Cole Hall (we will set up chairs 6 feet apart in an outside area that has access to WIFI). We will stream the program via Zoom for those who are unable to or uncomfortable with meeting in person. Reverend Greg and Reverend Barbara will lead the service. After the service those who attend in person will process down to Washington Blvd (near the BLM banner) and hold a candlelight vigil. Those who attended online will work together (led by Rev Barbara) to research and put together a list of actions that MPUUC members might be moved to undertake in the following days/weeks in response to the election. Those who attend in person will be encouraged to add to the list and it will be made available via the Week on the Peak & the website.

Please use the following link to register for this event no matter whether you are planning on attending via Zoom or In Person (the 'in person' gathering is limited to no more than 25 people). Additional instructions will be sent to you once you register. [Register by clicking here](#)

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## Buy Your Black & White GALA Tickets TODAY!

Only 10 days until the 2020 Black & White Gala!! This year we've got all the aspects of a great Mission Peak fundraiser that you've come to know and love...we're just doing them all virtually. With that comes a bit of a learning curve, but never fear – the internet is here! All of the information you will need is available on the new Black & White Gala pages of MPUUC.org. Click on the link on the home page (or go to the Connections menu and select Black & White Gala) and you'll be instantly connected to all the information you need.

More Importantly - our Online Boutique is up and running. Go to <https://mpuuc.square.site> and purchase your Event Ticket Packages, make monetary donations, and shop for all sorts of homemade and hand crafted goodies. Many thanks to those who have already made purchases. Please check back again as many new items have been added. **Remember: The Online Boutique is where you purchase your Event Tickets.** There are several Event Ticket Options so please read carefully. Each Event Ticket comes with 10 Raffle Tickets. However, you can also buy additional Raffle Tickets. PLEASE be careful and make sure you're buying the correct type of tickets.

We're working on getting the online auction up and running. Look for an email with all the Auction details arriving on the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>.

We understand that finding and purchasing items online can be challenging for some of us. If you would like to participate in the Black & White, but you need assistance with purchasing your tickets or other items online, PLEASE contact Jen King. She can help you by placing the order for you or helping walk you through the process. Jen, however, asks that you not to wait until the last minute. Take a break from worrying about the election and think of fun things you'd like to do with your friends at MPUUC. **Remember, funding MPUUC means funding our liberal voice for social justice in Fremont and beyond.**

This week's action items:

- BUY YOUR EVENT TICKETS - <https://mpuuc.square.site>
- Read the Auction Instruction email when it arrives
- Participate in the Online Auction starting Monday, November 9th

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## Zoom Tips Week 5

Hello,

This is our last Zoom Tips article. We hope you have found the tips helpful. We also hope it will help visitors to feel more welcome to our friendly congregation. Don't forget! **Sunday, November 15th is our Bring a Friend Sunday!** Remember, friend can mean friend, relative, neighbor, colleague, or acquaintance. Please think about someone you know who might be looking for our message of openness and inclusivity.

### TIP #5 Put a photo on your screen

We get it. Sometimes you don't want people to see you "live." Did you know that rather than just having a blank screen showing, you can use a photo of yourself? A photo is much more welcoming. (You do need a zoom account to do this. They offer a free account.) Here are some links to help you.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201363203-Customizing-your-profile>

<https://www.guidingtech.com/show-profile-picture-instead-video-zoom-meeting/>



**TIP #6 Muting yourself during a breakout room** If there is background noise in your home environment, such as a phone ringing, it's okay to let people in your breakout room know that you are going to mute yourself because of background noise. You can always unmute yourself once the noise has stopped.

From your Membership Committee

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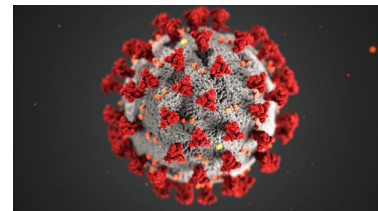
## Opportunity to help with Mission Peak UU sound and video in Cole Hall and over Zoom



We need to purchase new audio and visual equipment for Cole Hall since most of our equipment was stolen in the August burglary. We are looking for people interested in helping us specify what to replace it with. We want to be able to continue offering services over Zoom after we are able to return to Cole Hall so we will be looking at what works best for both in Cole Hall and over Zoom. Please contact Steve at [wallcave@mpuuc.org](mailto:wallcave@mpuuc.org) if you are interested!

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## Covid-19 Task Force Report Available



The Covid-19 task force recommendations are now posted in the member's only section of the web site. The task force was formed to help the board decide on how and when to have a partial startup in Cole Hall. If you have trouble finding the report email Steve at [wallcave@mpuuc.org](mailto:wallcave@mpuuc.org) to get a copy of it over email.

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## Board Briefs

The board met on October 21 at 7 p.m and:

Discussed and approved the Board Work and Communications Agreements.  
Discussed the Board Covenant.  
Reviewed the Priorities for the Minister



The next board meeting is on Wednesday, November 11th 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](http://mpuuc.org/about-us/members-only)

Please contact [president@mpuuc.org](mailto:president@mpuuc.org) for more information about future board meetings.

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## Interfaith Thanksgiving Service moves online

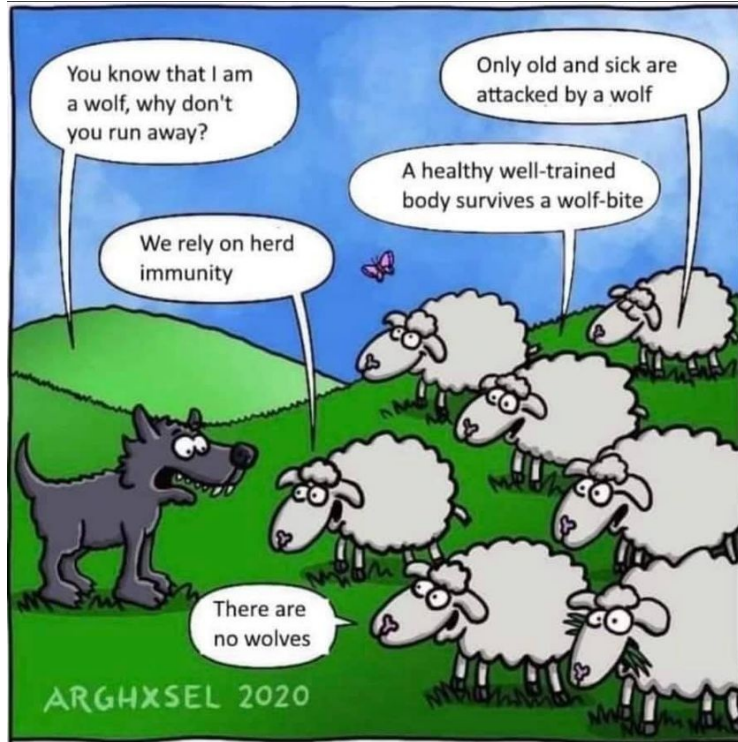
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 59th annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service is coming online. It will still be held on the Monday before Thanksgiving, on November 23, at 7:30 p.m., only it will be held on the Zoom platform.

To register for the service – advanced registration is required – go to

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



**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](http://missionpeakuu.org)



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