

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! December 23, 2020

Greetings!

Hi Everyone,

Jen King here. As you may or may not know, each year the UUA chooses a Common Read – a book that all UU members are encouraged to read and come together and discuss. This year's Common Read selection is *Breathe* by Imani Perry. We at Mission Peak UU will be pairing this with *Between The World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates. Both books take the form of letters from black parents to their children. Each book is less than 200 pages and they are available in physical book, Kindle, and audio book form from Amazon; *Breathe* is available in physical book form from the UUA Book and Gift Shop; and both books are available in audiobook format from bookshop.org. Both books are also available in all formats from the Alameda County Library. If you are interested in participating please purchase the books and start reading ASAP. If you need help acquiring the books please let me know.



I will be leading the discussion of both books as one of our upcoming Adult RE offerings. We have scheduled four 2 hour discussion sessions (although there is a good chance they won't run the entire 2 hours). The discussion sessions will be from 1:00-3:00 pm via Zoom on January 17 & 31 and February 14 & 21. If you would like to sign up for the class, please drop me an email by January 11. I know that we all need another Zoom meeting like we need a hole in the head, but I feel that these books are important and worth reading and discussing and each interaction, even via Zoom, brings us into closer fellowship as a congregation.

Jen King

Christmas Eve Service:

We have transitioned to virtual

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



A Funny Thing Happened on the Road to Bethlehem

Rev. Greg Ward leads us through a lessons and carols format transporting us on a journey to Bethlehem. We will meet a host of MPUUC members bringing the main characters to life..

Worship Host will be Graham Bell.

Peak Performers as well as individuals, groups and guests of our choir - including Peak Rocks - will provide our music.

Lessons and Carols format in conversation with the various figures in the traditional nativity story.

Bring a Candle to help us celebrate our Christmas Eve Service

[Instructions for bringing a candle to the Christmas Eve Service](#). Spoiler alert: The candle lighting portion of the Christmas eve service doesn't work as well on Zoom. But it's still possible. During Rev. Greg's prayer (toward the end of the service), you are invited to dim the lights (or just use the lights of the Christmas tree or light from an adjacent room) and listen to the prayer in the low light of the room. After the prayer, when the singing of Silent Night starts, light your candle (a small tea saucer and votive candle works nicely). The important thing is for each face to be illuminated in the darkness – symbolizing the light we each bring into one another's lives. Thank you for being part of the service. And the community. And the hope we are able to offer one another.

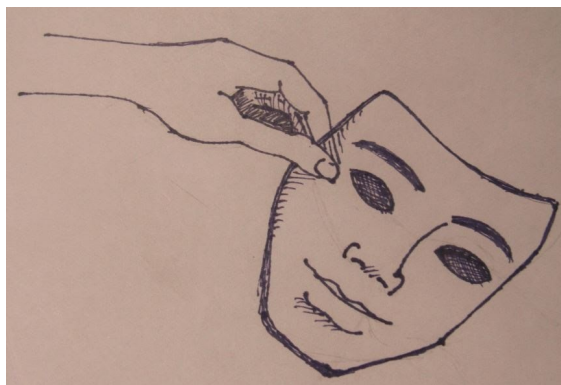
Please Check out our [MPUUC Staff Christmas Letter](#) to Members and Friends

This Sunday's Service:

Never Say No

Why you may want to recalibrate your automatic responses to things that are new and different and your notions of what you can and can't do.

Knuti VanHoven will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Paul K. Davis. Worship Host will be Drew Wilson. Jo Ann Schriener 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%.

Daytimer's Discussion Group

This coming Wednesday (December 30) 10:00 am Discussion with Rev. Greg will address saying goodbye. There are some things about 2020 which will be easy for us to bid farewell. But there are also a few things (and many people) which will take a piece of our hearts. [Press here](#) to connect with the zoom link and join the conversation (also on the website and events calendar).

Save the Date for Regional Assembly 2021: Love Right Through

Please watch this newsletter and the PWR website for more details on our virtual Regional Assembly:

Love Right Through

February 13, 12-5 PM (with district-specific programming on February 12 and a worship service on February 14)

A Virtual Regional Gathering

Virtual General Assembly 2021

The UUA Board of Trustees has passed a resolution making the 2021 UUA General Assembly a 100% virtual event. Let's reach record-breaking attendance June 23-27, 2021! Registration opened December 1, 2020 and costs \$200 per person. Financial support for registration as well as a payment plan are available. You are warmly invited you to [submit a Program Proposal](#). We are looking for programs that are the best of the best - adding tremendous value to this experience. Proposed programs should provide meaningful opportunities for learning and skill development, as well as address one or more of the following focus areas - liberatory theology, grief and trauma healing, community of communities, preserving connection to Milwaukee, and social justice. See the [Program Proposal Guidelines](#).

ADULT EDUCATION WINTER 2021

The Adult Education Committee is pleased to announce its course offerings for the 2021 Winter 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](#).

JUSTICE CORNER

SHOP BIPOC BUSINESSES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Please consider shopping at black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) businesses this holiday season.

Click on the Amazon link below:

[Amazon Link](#)

[CreateClimateJustice.net](#)

(CCJnet) platform with CCJnet's Outreach Specialist, Diane Brooks. This is a great way to learn how to navigate and fully utilize the site. These calls are held three times monthly, on every 1st Wednesday at 4 p.m. Pacific/ 7 p.m. Eastern, every 2nd Tuesday at 4 p.m. Pacific/ 7 p.m. Eastern and every 3rd Monday at 5:30 p.m. Pacific/ 8:30 p.m. Eastern. You must register in advance for this meeting; after registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about how to join the Zoom meeting.

[Register here](#)

UU The Vote

Election Defenders, a UU partner is offering GOTV (Get Out to Vote) activities for the GA state election run off, including knitting and phone banking

From home:

- Print out [coloring pages](#) made by our wonderful and talented Election Defender artists and post your creations on social media
- Participate in our [countdown](#) on Saturday at 6pm, local time
- Knit hats and scarves or sew face masks to distribute among Georgia voters—find instructions [here](#)
- **Sign up to phone bank for the [New Georgia Project](#) or [UU the Vote](#)**

[Vote Forward](#)

Please click the link below if you would like to send letters encouraging registration and voter turnout in the Georgia election January 5, 2021.

<https://votefwd.org/>

Crediting Our Activities helps get us funding and support of our work

PLEASE, If you have not already done so, contact Kathi to let us know how many letters, postcards, phone calls or texts you have completed this year.

Thank you,
Kathi

Board Briefs

The board met on December 9 at 7 p.m. and:

Decided that no in-person MPUUC events would be approved until the shelter in place order is removed

Approved a revised contract and job description for the Office Administrator

Approved additions to the Board Agreements

Adopted Covenant, Fellowship, and ARO as our visioning points for the coming year and canvass

Approved a \$1000 donation to FUMC to help with the new Internet installation with the money coming from the PPP fund

The next board meeting is on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 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.



HUMOR CORNER

When this is all over (really over) I say we throw a huge party! Decorate for Christmas and eat Thanksgiving dinner, hunt for Easter eggs dressed in Halloween costumes, exchange belated birthday gifts and set off 4th of July fireworks.

Are we still allowed to leave Santa milk and cookies? Or is that considered indoor dining now? Asking for a friend

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



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