

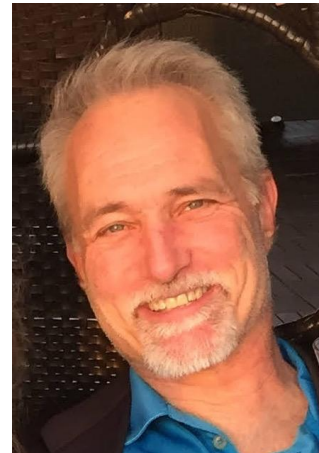
This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA
The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond!
March 24, 2021

Greetings!

I take you
to be no other than yourself
Loving what I know of you
trusting what I do not yet know
with respect for your integrity
and faith in your abiding love for me
I will offer harbor
and encourage adventure
in good times and bad
in sickness and in health
Through each tomorrow
and every lesson before us
I will love you
every day



When I married Lucy – not quite two years ago – these were the vows we spoke. It was the best day I can remember – partly, because of how much thought went into it. The words we chose were not traditional – not the kind of thing said agreeably, but forgettably. They were chosen with care because we planned to make good use of them. Remember them. Refer to them. And I'm grateful for the care we took. And that it was something we worked on together.

On April 25th, we will hold our Service of Installation celebrating the Shared Ministry we enter into. During that portion of the service, we will join in speaking **the Covenant Between the Minister and Members**. Like vows in a marriage, the words forge a covenant. They are aspirational promises. They call us each to bring our best even when it's hard. Even when we're tired, or scared, or hurt or disappointed.

There is no covenant police, no court of law to turn to. It is a moral agreement where integrity and honor (rather than lawyers and police) are the guides. And yet, I expect you – who have made and kept such promises yourself – understand they are not less

important than contracts, just different.

Please – PLEASE – take some time and respond to the [Survey](#) to help us make all the necessary adjustments to this covenant such that it becomes the best guide it can be for our sustainable future together.

We have also taken numerous pieces of feedback to make adjustments to the [Covenant Among Members](#). We encourage you to check it out. We will be talking about these covenants at our Congregational Conversation after service this Sunday.

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.



A Life Less Ordinary

The greatest of epiphanies provide something amazing - something we couldn't imagine. But they also take from us something we thought we would always have... something we couldn't live without. The greatest periods of growth always come when we are ready to stop holding so tightly to 'what is,' long enough for 'what can be' to slip in and take root. It is a adventurous and visionary to let go of the ordinary and be willing to live a life less ordinary.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Mark Rahman. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Peak Performers with UUCS singers, Peak Rocks, Knuti VanHoven, and Jo Ann Schriner 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%.

It's Canvass Time of Year!

We are in the middle of our yearly pledge drive, or Canvass, where we make a pledge for our upcoming fiscal year which starts July 1, 2021, and ends June 30, 2022. Hopefully you have been contacted by your Connector to schedule a 1-on-1 "Connection" meeting. If not please let me know. These conversations are a great way to connect with someone you may not have talked to recently, and to share your hopes for how we can make Mission Peak a bigger and better force for positive change in the world!



If you're looking for some detailed information about Canvass, to include costs, needed pledge income and other specifics, please check out our Canvass webpage at this [LINK](#). Please don't forget that we have matching funds available if you raise your pledge by 10% or more. If you have additional questions about anything Canvass-related please contact me, Melissa Holmes at treasurer@mpuuc.org.

A big Thank You to everyone who has already submitted a pledge!

Daytimer's Discussion Group

The Minister's Daytimer Group meets this Thursday (March 25) at 10:00 a.m. This week's topic is Generosity: who taught us about generosity and what were they generous to that made such an impression? To what are we generous and who do we want to teach about generosity? The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#) (Or you can find the link on the MPUUC website and events calendar). Next week's topic (April 1 at 10 a.m.) is about "What's so Good about Good Friday?" We will explore the loss and grief that is so often a precedent to fundamental change and transformation.

Rev. Greg Ward to be installed!

Mission Peak UU is installing Rev. Greg Ward on Sunday April 25th at 1PM over Zoom using a covenant Mission Peak UU members will vote on adopting on April 18th. Yes, We will be voting on two covenants on April 18th. Please read Rev. Greg's article about them at the beginning of The March 17th This Week on the Peak at <https://mpuuc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/March-17-2021-This-Week-on-the-Peak.pdf>. Even more information about both covenants is also at <https://mpuuc.org/building-the-mission-peak-uu-covenant/>

For more information contact The committee on ministry or Rev. Greg

We are Ordaining one of our own!

In the Unitarian Universalist denomination only congregations are able to ordain ministers. The Mission Peak UU board voted in January to jointly ordain Robert Alex Jensen on June 6th, along with the congregation where he is serving as an intern, First Parish in Wayland, MA. Alex grew up in our congregation and is graduating from Harvard Divinity School with a Masters of Divinity degree in May. When he graduates, he will have all of the credentials to practice as a UU minister and was accepted for fellowship by the UUA.

Mission Peak UU is accepting donations to help pay for his ordination costs. An ordination committee with Steve Wallcave, Alex and some members from First Parish in Wayland, MA are planning the ordination. Both congregations are donating to fund the ordination. First Parish donated \$1500 to the ordination fund and Mission Peak UU has donated \$500 from our reserves. We are accepting donations with the goal of raising \$1000 to fully fund this exciting event. It's an honor that our congregation helped plant roots for our next generation of ministers!

For more information contact Steve Wallcave.

Mission Peak Media Exchange - Last Chance!!

There are still over 900 items in the Media Exchange spreadsheet (books, cookbooks, audiobooks, DVD's, music CD's, and puzzles). All of which are currently stored in Jen & Melissa's living room. Jen will be taking all remaining items to Half Price Books on April 2. Please click on the link below to see what is available. There are two sheets on the Media Exchange spreadsheet. The first has instructions. The second contains all of the available items. Sheets are accessed via tabs at the bottom of the spreadsheet.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11uQnD9PX9FtrNprPkQm0i3k9-HiQ9_ssbckYg4W72z8/edit?usp=sharing

Multiple 'categories' have been included to try and help you find items you're interested in. Ordering instructions are available in the spreadsheet. Items that have been 'claimed' are removed from the spreadsheet. Items you request will be dropped off for you "no contact".

Jen King

JUSTICE CORNER

MPUUC is joining the Fremont Green Challenge!



MPUUC now has a group page on the Fremont Green Challenge, and over the next month we'll be letting everyone know how it can help us measure the impact of our local climate actions. With our congregation, we are hoping to have 50 households join and take 3 actions each by Earth Day to reduce CO2 by over 50 tons. The first step is for your household to join [your local climate challenge](#), then find and link to the MPUUC group. In the process you will conduct an energy profile, learn about solutions, and start taking climate-friendly and sustainable actions. There's more to come ... we're looking forward to celebrating what everyone at MPUUC is doing to protect our air, water, and our future.

Erik Alm

Asylum and Immigration Committee

A.B. 937, the "VISION Act," is a new bill in the State Assembly aimed at preventing immigrants in California jails and prisons being transferred to ICE custody. IM4HI, the group we are partnering with in accompanying Sergio, is setting up meetings with CA Assembly members Bill Quirk (District 20) and Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (District 16) to

discuss. If you are in one of these districts and would like to participate or know more, please contact Meredith Miller (annmeredithmiller@hotmail.com) or Gala King (gking@im4humanintegrity.org).

Combat Voter Suppression in Georgia

Black Voters Matter is organizing actions that target AFLAC, Coca Cola, Delta, Home Depot, Southern Company, and UPS. They state: "Corporations support Black lives and Black voters when it's convenient for them but continue to support politicians who are pushing voter suppression bills that will impact Black communities. We will NOT back down!" [#StandWithGA](#).

[Tell Georgia Corporations to show up for Georgia voters!](#)

Resist Anti-Asian Hate and White Supremacy

As Unitarian Universalist's, our faith calls on us to Side With Love.

Asian Americans Advancing Justice are calling for a community response. [Read their statement.](#)

[#VoteLove](#) [#DefeatHate](#) [#ForThePeople](#)

- [Send an email message to your Senators](#) in support of the For the People Act-S1 through UUSJ's Action Center here.
- [Call your Senators now](#). Coalition member Common Cause has set up a toll free number and call center here.
- View and [share the short film, SUPPRESSED 2021 from Brave New Films](#). This is a 5-minute video on the voter suppression bills introduced in state legislatures and how the For the People Act will push back.

Kathi Bayne

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

This week, ARO is highlighting ways that MPUUC members can join the fight to [#StopAsianHate](#).



Education: ["The Atlanta shootings can't be divorced from racism and misogyny"](#) from Vox

"The suspect has claimed that these attacks weren't racially motivated even though they predominantly targeted women of Asian descent."

Action: [AAPI Youth Rising Rally](#)

Sunday, March 28 • 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Join in solidarity with our Asian American and Pacific Islander community members at this youth-led rally featuring speakers

Organized by Mina and friends - Anna, Bee and Juno

**ASIAN AMERICAN
PACIFIC ISLANDER
YOUTH RISING**

A YOUTH GATHERING - JOIN US
SUNDAY MARCH 28TH FROM 2-4 PM

from local organizations and Berkeley city government. After the rally, we'll march to the Bay Trail Pedestrian Bridge where we'll hold up banners and signs. [RSVP here](#). Location: Meet at Berkeley's Aquatic Park next to Waterside Workshops (84 Bolivar Drive).



Donate: Support the AAPI Community Fund

The Support the AAPI Community Fund aims to amplify AAPI voices and find ways to uplift, empower, and protect the AAPI community, addressing the urgent issues that face the AAPI community as well as broader, systemic problems. With the donations received through the Fund, GoFundMe.org will issue grants to trusted AAPI organizations working to rectify the racial inequalities in our society.

Disrupt Hate: "[Safety Tips for those Experiencing or Witnessing Hate](#)"

Board Briefs

The board met on March 10 at 7 p.m. and:

Discussed the current governance structure, which is not working in the best way for a congregation of our size.
Approved combining our 3 Councils into a single Council until that time when more Councils would enhance our operation.

Planned for April Super Council meeting.

Approved \$500 as budget for ordination of Alex Jensen and authorized a special donation to raise additional funds for that ordination.

Approved an additional \$500 for the installation of Rev. Greg Ward.

Approved congregational meeting on Sunday, April 18 to vote on the Congregational Covenant and the Minister/Congregation Covenant.

The next board meeting is on Wednesday, April 14, 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

For more details about meetings or questions email president@mpuuc.org



HUMOR CORNER

Lets see who's really
behind COVID-19



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

Virtual General Assembly 2021: Register Now!

Circle 'Round for Justice • Healing • Courage is the theme for General Assembly 2021. General Assembly is a time to circle 'round in community. We circle 'round in care and healing; for liberation and justice; and for love and courage. We share stories of the work happening at our Association and in our congregations. We study ways to implement and live into our mission. UUA GA 2021 will incorporate recommendations from the Commission on Institution Change report, "Widening the Circle of Concern" and dialogue with the Article II Commission about our Principles and Purposes.



- Registration is open! Registration for virtual GA 2021 is \$200 per person. [Learn about registration details.](#)
- [Volunteer Applications](#) are open for those who want to volunteer to lower their costs to attend. Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

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

Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631

Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553

Senator Dianne Feinstein (202) 224-3841

Stay Connected



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