

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! April 21, 2021

Greetings!

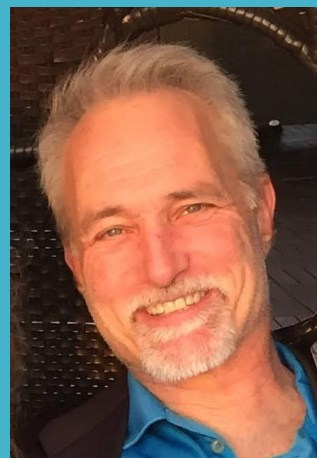


Uh... we're here to install the new Minister.  
Where do you want him?

Q: how many Unitarian Universalists does it take to install a light bulb? A: One, but the light bulb has to really want to change. You could probably say the same thing about installing a minister.

By now, I think we're all getting better at understanding that installing a minister isn't about finding that well-worn, fixed place we've always put them in the past. Hoping you ordered a good one and got what you ordered. Hoping he comes with a warranty. Hoping that whatever you end up getting that he's trainable enough so that, over time, he'll fit in to what you do.

The truth is that, ironically, the only way you can ever tell you got a good minister is when you realize that, after a while, you're doing things you never thought you'd ever do because you've been trying things you never thought you'd try. It's really good when your minister



starts saying the same thing.

I hope you'll be with us this Sunday (1:00 p.m.). You'll hear one of my favorite preachers (Rev. Dr. Kikanza Nuri-Robins). I'm very excited to share this with you and see you in the drive by Hurrah! Because, mostly, I'm excited about the work that is in front of us. And proud that we can approach this with open hearts, open minds and open arms. Our success isn't about business as usual. It's about making the usual business making the world successful. Thanks for all you've done to help us get this far.

Rev. Greg  
(he, him, his)  
[minister@mpuuc.org](mailto: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](https://mpuuc.org/zoom) each week for how to connect.**



### **THIS is JEOPARDY!**

There are a lot of questions facing the world - and Unitarian Universalism. How well do we remember and understand the past sometimes determines how well we will do in facing the future. (And showing some humility by phrasing our responses in the form of a question)

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Drew Wilson. Worship Host will be Graham Bell. Peak Performers, Knuti VanHoven and 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%.

## It's Canvass Time of Year!

We are finishing up 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. Most people should have been contacted by their Connector to schedule a 1-on-1 "Connection" meeting.

I know that some of our Connectors have not been able to reach out to all their connectees yet, and that some connectors and connectees have not been able to find a time for their 1 on 1 discussions. If your Connector has reached out to you to set up a time to talk with you but you haven't been able to get back to them yet, please take a few minutes today to see if there's a time that will work for you and let your connector know. If your Connector has not reached out to you yet, please know that we are working to help make that connection with you, and we really appreciate your patience.

I really encourage you to schedule your Connection meeting if you haven't; these conversations are a great way to connect with someone you may not have talked with recently, and to share your hopes for how we can make Mission Peak a bigger and better force for positive change in the world!

So far we have seen amazing generosity from the Mission Peak community! We have currently received 52 out of the 66 pledges (79%) and we are at just over \$188K - that's 86% of our \$220K pledge goal! But the best news of all is that of the 52 pledges turned in, 33 increased their pledge by 10% or more to qualify for our generous matching grant. That is truly amazing!! We also know that different families have different circumstances. Some are not able to increase and there is no shame in that. But those who can increase make sure that we, collectively, are providing resiliency and resourcefulness for our community. We are so grateful and fortunate - AND we really need to continue making those connections and get the remaining 14 pledges. Our goal is to have all pledges made as soon as possible so that we can start setting our budget for next year.

If you have any questions about anything Canvass-related please contact me, Melissa Holmes at [treasurer@mpuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@mpuuc.org).

A big Thank You to all our connectors, all those who pledged and all those who will pledge sometime in the next week!



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## Daytimer's Discussion Group

The Minister's Daytimer Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week's topic "How many Unitarians Does it take to Install a Minister?" (Thoughts on the installation of Shared Ministry). 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 29) will be 'The role of the Elderly in Society – How did we go from depending on wise elders to be indispensable sages to becoming dependent and disposable?'

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## Rev. Greg Ward to be installed!

Mission Peak UU is installing Rev. Greg Ward on Sunday April 25th at 1 p.m. over Zoom using a covenant Mission Peak UU members adopted on April 18th. You should have gotten an email about a "Drive By Hurrah!" from 4:00-5:00 p.m. Sunday to celebrate the installation. If you did not get the email contact Jen King for more information.

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## We are Ordaining one of our own!

The Mission Peak UU board voted in January to jointly ordain Robert Alex Jensen on June 6<sup>th</sup>, along with the congregation where he is serving as an intern, First Parish in Wayland, MA.

For more information contact Steve Wallcave or go to [ordainalex.com](http://ordainalex.com).



## JUSTICE CORNER

Planned programming for these free, online, part-day Saturday convenings includes:

- Updated, faith-rooted organizing frameworks & tools to help you engage and sustain congregationally based justice ministries
- Information, legislative updates, and action opportunities in our core issue areas (abolition & racial justice, climate justice, economic justice, immigration justice)
- Issue-focused breakout groups & connection opportunities
- Meet & Greet with UJMCAs staff and leadership as our organization evolves!
- (Optional) Friday evening spiritual grounding and virtual "potluck"

Learn more and let us know you want to attend one or more of these free Regional Justice Convenings by signing up here! If you have any questions, feel free to send us a message at [info@uujmca.org](mailto:info@uujmca.org).

- All of us at UU Justice Ministry of California  
**Sign up for an RJC Today!**

Kathi Bayne

**Register Today!**  
UU JUSTICE MINISTRY OF CALIFORNIA'S  
**Regional Justice Convenings**

<b>MAY 14 &amp; 15</b> NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	<b>MAY 21 &amp; 22</b> CENTRAL CALIFORNIA	<b>JUNE 11 &amp; 12</b> SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
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[uujmca.org/RJC](http://uujmca.org/RJC)

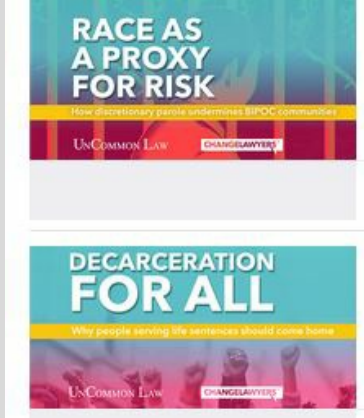
## ANTI-RACISM ANTI-OPPRESSION COMMITTEE (ARO) RECOMMENDATIONS



Action: [SURJ Action Hours](#)

Thursday, April 22 • 5:00 – 6:00 pm  
Friday, April 23 • 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Feeling rage and deep sadness about racism and white supremacy, but not sure what to do? Join SURJ for an hour of action! We'll meet over Zoom to take concrete steps—calling elected officials, signing petitions, etc.—to combat racism against Black and Indigenous people and communities of color. Closed captioning will be available in the main room of Action Hour calls. [Sign up here!](#)



## Education: Race, Trauma, and Incarceration

April 26, 12:00pm • Part 2: Race As Proxy for Risk

May 12, 12:00pm • Part 3: Decarceration for All

How has intergenerational trauma contributed to the mass incarceration of Black and Non-Black People of Color? How can healing be used to dismantle the criminal punishment system? Join **UnCommon Law** and **ChangeLawyers** as we explore whether our society is willing to offer healing to those who are both survivors and perpetrators of violence. Episodes will center the experiences of incarcerated people and their families, and will be moderated by UnCommon Law's Executive Director Keith Wattlely. Sign up for these free events here: [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#).

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## Board Briefs

The Super Council met on Saturday, April 10 and brainstormed and discussed right-sizing for the congregation. The minutes are on the website.

The board met on Wednesday, April 14 and:

Approved the Program Council charter

Approved our delegates to General Assembly

Set the Annual meeting for Sunday, June 13 following the service

Approved our lease from Fremont United Methodist Church

Approved the Congregational Covenant and the Covenant between the Minister and Members and planned for the Congregational meeting

Discussed follow-up to the ideas on right-sizing from the Super Council meeting

Set up a Budget Task Force

The next board meeting is on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 7 p.m.

There was a congregational meeting on Sunday, April 18 and the congregation approved the Congregational Covenant and the Covenant between the Minister and Members. The approved documents are on the website.

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](https://mpuuc.org/about-us/members-only)

For more details about meetings or questions email [president@mpuuc.org](mailto:president@mpuuc.org)



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## HUMOR CORNER



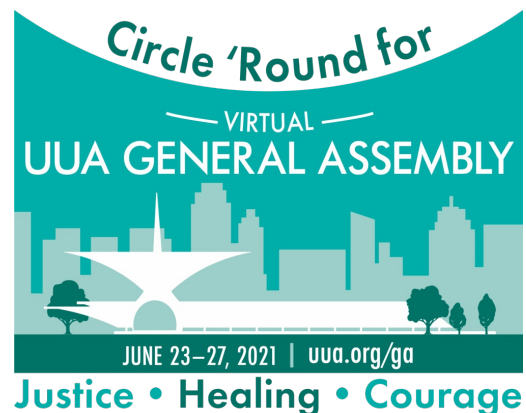
me going on a stupid little daily walk  
For my stupid physical and mental health



**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](https://www.house.gov)  
Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631  
Senator Alex Padilla (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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