

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! April 7, 2021

Greetings!

Hello, this is your Climate Justice Committee Chair Erik Alm. The coming of Spring and vaccines has brought with it a renewal of hope, looking forward to better days ahead. We have reason to be hopeful about climate action as well. Our current federal, State and local government are all increasingly willing to make commitments toward climate action. As individuals and as a community, we need to show what those commitments should look like, and demonstrate our own commitment to being part of climate solutions.



That's where MPUUC's role in the Fremont Green Challenge comes in, which can help us be more aware of and measure the impact of our local climate actions. We hope you'll all take a moment and look into this simple way of seeing how our individual and collective actions towards climate action make a difference. The first step is for your household to join **your local climate challenge** (at <https://werenew.net/>), then find and link to the MPUUC community group. Please feel free to get started, and we'll have more to say about this soon. Climate action activities coming up at MPUUC include an introduction to the Tri-City Urban Forestry Alliance on April 11th, more information on MPUUC's role in the Fremont Green Challenge on April 18th, and a climate justice Call to Action on May 16th. That service will feature the renowned environmental theologian Reverend Michael Dowd as a special guest speaker, who brings a powerful and hopeful message to help motivate our Call to Action. Hope and renewal is indeed in the air, and I'm looking forward to being a part of it with our MPUUC family.

Erik Alm
Climate Justice Committee Chair

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.



Can We Afford NOT to Make Reparations a Real Thing?

The old song goes 'which side are you on? There are no neutrals there' The world around us with all its hate and inability to acknowledge humanity is not one that we can wall off. We are a part of the whole and our lives are intertwined. To do nothing is to make a choice. What is given to us to do is to bring the whole of society into right relationship. If by some miracle racism disappeared, the current and ongoing effects of racism would continue. How can we move forward?

Mark Rahman will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Paul K. Davis. 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%.

SHARE THE PLATE with the Tri-City Urban Forestry Alliance (TUFA)

MPUUC is pleased to welcome the Tri City Urban Forestry Alliance (TUFA) to Share the Plate with us on April 11th. TUFA is a relatively new organization (founded January 2019) advocating for strong, vibrant Urban Forest programs in Fremont and its neighboring cities under the leadership of Lynn Miller. They have been impacted, as most have, by the COVID19 pandemic. However, as Spring arrives and the pandemic loosens its grip, they are once again starting to plant trees, educate the public, and help make Fremont and the Tri-Cities a place where beautiful, environmentally important trees are restored. They grow trees in a new nursery and are working closely with the City of



Fremont as they develop their Urban Forest Program in the years ahead. They leverage volunteer groups to hold tree planting events, and have a close relationship with the Tri-City Ecology Club, a well-respected environmental group that has served the Tri-City area for over 40 years.

Find out more about TUFA at <https://sites.google.com/view/tri-cityurbanforestalliance/home>. We're looking forward to having Lynn Miller speak to us at MPUUC on April 11th, telling us more about her organization and the role of urban forests to healthy communities.

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

Write a check to MPUUC with "TUFA" 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 "TUFA" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "For "TUFA") 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 "TUFA" in the message. Note we use PayPal for this, and they charge us around 3%

Time to Connect!

If you have not been contacted by your "connector" to schedule a 1-on-1 conversation, please let me know. We are winding 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. We had hoped to have all our connections complete and pledges turned in by April 4, but there are many members who have not yet participated. These conversations are a great way to reconnect 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! We want to hear from you, even if you are unable to pledge this year. If you have connected, please remember to fill out your pledge form online.



So far we have seen amazing generosity from the Mission Peak community! We have currently received about 60% of our expected pledges and we are getting close to our \$220K pledge goal! . But the best news of all is that of the first 37 pledges turned in, 24 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 pledges. Please make your pledge soon so our leaders can start planning for the coming year.

If you have any questions about anything Canvass-related please contact me, Melissa Holmes at treasurer@mpuuc.org.

A big Thank You to all our connectors, all those who have pledged and all those who will pledge sometime this week!

For more information, check out our Canvass webpage at this [LINK](#).

Daytimer's Discussion Group

The Minister's Daytimer Group usually meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. BUT... Rev. Greg will be away this week. Daytimer's Discussion will resume on April 15 where the topic will be 'Capitalism – The Economic and Social Incentives of Economy.'

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!

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. Mission Peak UU is accepting donations to help pay for his ordination costs with a goal of raising \$1000. You can donate in one of these ways:

- Mail check to Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation with "Alex Jensen Ordination" in the memo line.

P.O. Box 545

Fremont, CA 94537-0545

- Drop envelope with check (with "Alex Jensen Ordination" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating for "Alex Jensen Ordination") in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to: Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation.
- Pay on line at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card. Choose "Special" as the donation type. Please state for "Alex Jensen Ordination" in the message. (Note we use PayPal for this and they charge us around 3%.)



For more information contact Steve Wallcave or read the longer article from last week.

Special Selection of Porters' Book Offered in Media Exchange - Deadline to Purchase 04/16/21

There are still over 900 items in the Media Exchange spreadsheet (books, cookbooks, audiobooks, DVD's, music CD's, and puzzles) including a special selection of books from John & Jackie Porter's library. The books from John & Jackie are labeled 'J&J' in the 'Category 2' column of the spreadsheet. I will be taking all remaining items to Half Price Books on April 16 (so I can have my livingroom back). 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

Letter Writing to NoDAPL Political Prisoners

Tuesday, April 6 at 4 PT / 5 MT / 6 CT / 7 ET

Join the Unitarian Universalist Association, UU Ministry For Earth, UU Service Committee and Love Resists for a letter writing campaign to show solidarity with [Steve Martinez](#), a NoDAPL political prisoner who has been recently incarcerated after refusing to face a grand jury for a second time. Steve, an Indigenous water protector, was first subpoenaed to a federal grand jury in 2017 for his participation in the NoDAPL resistance movement and refused to comply then as now. On the call, hear from Water Protectors and UU organizers about Steve's current legal situation, and write your own letter to Steve and other NoDAPL political prisoners.

Another way to support is to [DONATE](#) to Steve Martinez's GoFundMe.

Kathi Bayne

Board Briefs

We will be having a Super Council Meeting this Sat. from 9AM to Noon. If you are a committee chair and have not gotten an email invitation please email Steve at wallcave@mpuuc.org to get details on how to join.



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

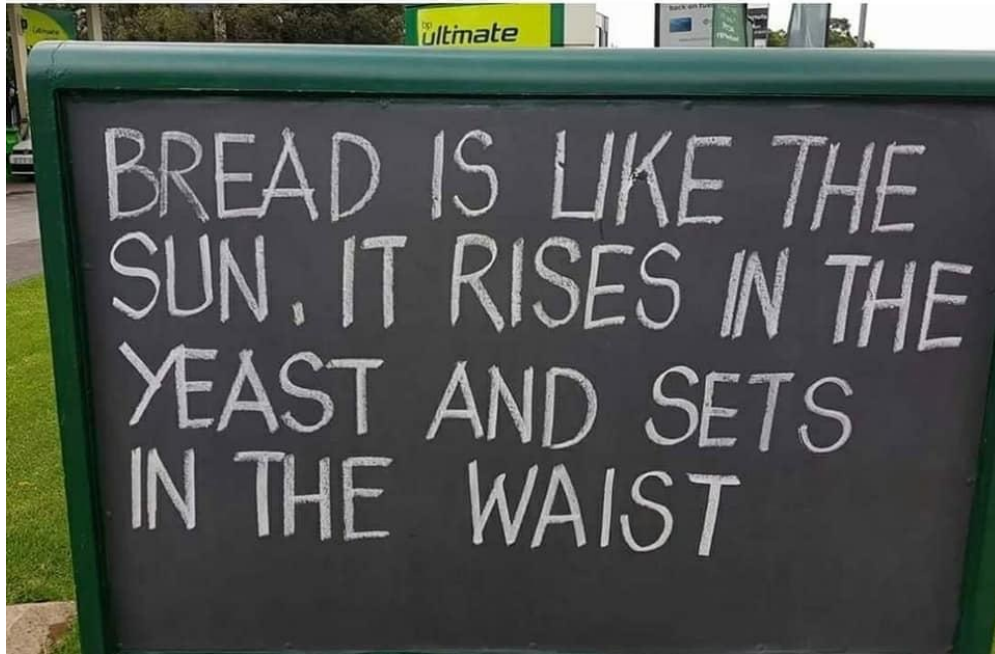
The next board meeting is on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 7 p.m.

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

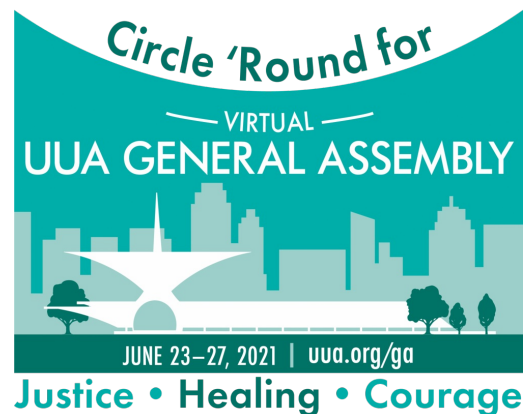
I loaf it 😂



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



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