

This Week on the Peak

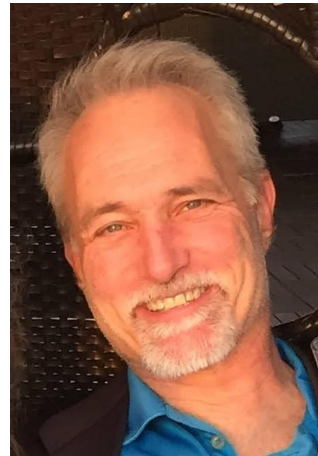


Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! March 31, 2021

Greetings!

April comes with a promise. This month's showers bring next month's flowers. We are beginning to see vaccinations opening up to the wider population. The restrictions on public gatherings slowly paint the picture many have longed to see. The covenants we have been working so hard on are nearing final draft form – ready to approve and begin practicing. And the long awaited ceremonial commencement of this new ministry is in sight.

It is important to say that the courageous contributions and conversation that have come from all corners of the community have filled my heart with reassurance, affirmation and excitement. The Covenant Between the Minister and MPUUC Members received some important editing based on your feedback. We (CoM/Cov) have also put it into a new format so that you can get a better feel for how it will feel when we do it live. This is not a final draft. There is still a little time to continue to clarify and improve. But we did want to pass on our efforts to incorporate your suggestions.



I am currently working with Jen King to incorporate a special sense of celebration, symbolism and connection into the ceremony. We have, indeed, been cursed by a bonefide plague that has kept us from kicking up our heels in person – something we plan to rectify at our earliest possible convenience. But even plagues cannot stifle our creativity. You will be receiving a goodie-bag sometime this month that will be complete with ways we will be able to turn this covenant into real live love, commitment and care.

And, of course there's the ceremony and celebration itself which will include some historic and contemporary faces as well as some of our friends in the larger UU World cheering us on. For now, please accept my love, appreciation and praise!

Rev. Greg (he, him, his)

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.



What They Dreamed Be Ours to Do

2000 years separate their lives, but they both sacrificed much in their own life to dream about what might be possible for others to know a bigger life than what they had ever been able to imagine. What is the secret to breaking through and transcending our limitations such that, in our wake, others will find possibility where only obstacles and barriers had been? This is a sermon about the secrets of Easter. It will help us understand where – and to whom – we look to help make Easter real.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Kathy Wallcave. Worship Host will be Drew Wilson. Peak Performers 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 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 37 out of the 65 pledges (57%) and we are at just over \$170K - that's 77% of our \$220K pledge goal! . But the best news of all is that of the 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 28 pledges. Our goal is to have all pledges made by Sunday, April 4.

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 pledged and all those who will pledge sometime in the next week!

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

Daytimer's Discussion Group

The Minister's Daytimer Group meets this Thursday (April 1) at 10:00 a.m. This week's topic is "What's so Good about Good Friday?" We will explore what it means to prepare for loss grieve it and be open to being changed by it. 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). PLEASE NOTE: Next week (April 8 at 10 a.m.) we WILL NOT HAVE OUR DAYTIMER'S DISCUSSION as Rev. Greg will be in meetings with the Ministerial Fellowship Committee.

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.

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 16. 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



Weekly Update

On April 7, we have an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the call to defund the police and invest in the community. “Community Safety: Conversation, tactics and action to defund the police” on **Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 8-9:30 pm ET/5-6:30 pm PT**

Join a conversation and workshop with Rev. Jason Lydon (Minister at Second Unitarian Church of Chicago), Laura Wagner (Executive Director of UU Mass Action Network), and Janine Gelsing (Executive Director of UU Justice Arizona)

At General Assembly 2020, we committed ourselves to the work of racial justice by passing the “**Amen to Uprising**” Action of Immediate Witness. Don't miss “Community Safety: Conversation, tactics and action to defund the police” on **Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 8-9:30 pm ET/5-6:30 pm PT.**

Register today!

What can we learn by studying the organizing around community safety and police violence? How can we as Unitarian Universalists show up in this moment?

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: Asian Americans: Facing Hate, Fighting for Justice, and Shaping the American Story

Thursday, April 8 • 1:00 – 2:00 pm

In this **SpeakOut** webinar, two outspoken, activist Asian Americans speak their minds about anti-Asian racism and misogyny in the current climate of hate—and how they seek to build multiracial, multicultural unity to address white supremacy and sexism. **Renee Tajima-Peña** is an award-winning filmmaker whose work focuses on immigrant communities, race, gender, and social justice. **Helen Zia** is a noted author and activist on social justice issues ranging from civil rights and gender equality to countering homophobia and hate violence. **Tickets are \$5-\$25**. All who register will receive a link to watch live or later at their own convenience.

Action: Print and Post this Sign!

Show your solidarity with the Asian-American/Pacific Islander community by printing out this sign proclaiming #StopAsianHate and posting it in your window.



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.



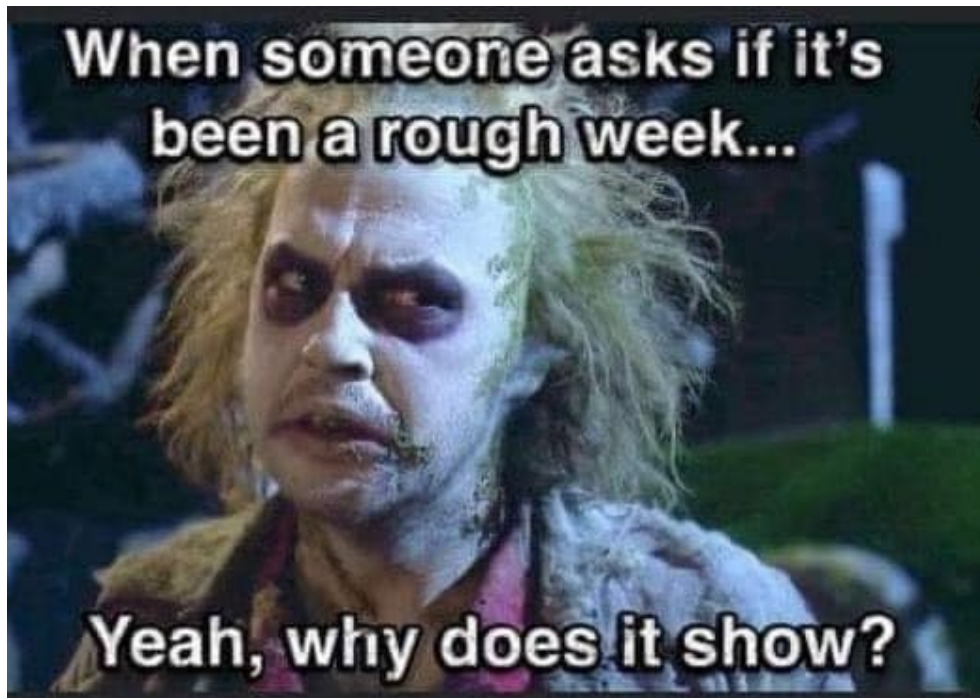
Approved an additional \$500 for the installation of Rev. Greg Ward.
Approved congregational meeting on Sunday, April 18 to vote on the Congregational Covenant and the Minister/Congregation Covenant.

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



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

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