

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! May 26, 2021

Greetings!

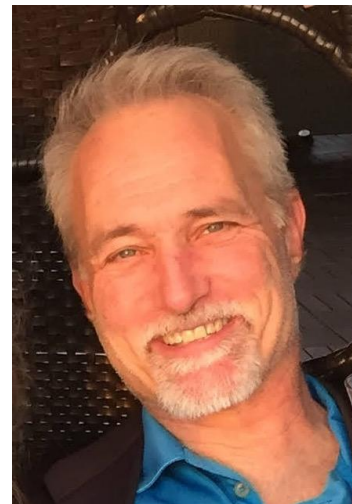
I have a confession to make: I'm not very good at letting go of things I've loved. I noticed at a very early age that when I finally realize that something or someone I've loved deeply isn't coming back – that it's not going to be part of my life any more – I don't handle it well. My thoughts swirl. My throat constricts. My chest gets tight trying to hold a panicky sadness inside me trying desperately to get out. It's, unfortunately, happened enough times that I've gotten familiar with those moments. And I've dared to let them teach me a few things.

For about 25 years, I've turned to mindful meditation – mostly to work on my struggles with attachment. Moments of loss – especially when people I love die – I realize that it doesn't matter how much meditation I practice – the physical and emotional pain of losing something still hurts. I know, heartbreak is real.

But if there is something else I know, it's how important it becomes to accept the pain instead of resist it. And, for me (your mileage may vary), part of accepting has become sharing.

I come from a long line of stoics. My family line has perfected the withdraw and suffer alone strategy. But, having tried this for a long time, I can say that healing tends to happen more fully – and more quickly – when I dare to share my sense of loss and grief. And part of the practice I've found that helps most is to speak the name of what I've lost out loud.

Several spiritual communities include cultures that speak the names of those we have lost. Part of it honors the dead. But another part honors the time and space that those important people took up residence in us. This Sunday we will have a special service called, the Tolling of the Bells. We will say the names of those who we've lost. We invite you to honor those who've open your mind or expanded your heart by having their name shared. A bell will be rung to carry their name into the world. If you would like to have a



name included in our service, please Add your loved one's name [here](#).

We look forward to presenting this sacred service from Cole Hall.

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.**



### Tolling of the Bells

It is important to set aside time to remember and honor the important figures who have died in service of the world. We will take time to recognize and remember those from MPUUC who we've lost, those in the greater UU World, those in the world at large and all those who've been taken by the tragedy of this pandemic.

This Sunday Rev. Greg and Rev. Barbara will present, 'Tolling of the Bells' – a service to name and honor those who have passed in the previous years. We will recognize those who have died from Covid, those who have died from Violence, Those in the UU World (including Mission Peak UU) who've died as well as those in your personal family who've died. If your family has lost someone in the past year, we will include them in the names we read if you let us know by adding their name to the [LIST OF LOVED ONES WHO'VE DIED IN THE PAST YEAR](#).

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Barbara F. Meyers. Worship Host will be Graham Bell. 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.

Dear Friends and Family,

Please gather with us to celebrate our dear John Landers  
- his rich life and what he means to each of us - with  
memories, pictures, and songs.

**Celebration of John Landers**  
Saturday, June 19, 10:30 am  
Ceremony and Sharing of Memories

Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
2950 Washington Blvd, Fremont

Light refreshments will follow

Donations in John's memory are welcome and may be  
made by check to Tri-City Ecology Center, PO Box 674,  
Fremont, CA 94537 or at [tricityecology.org/donate](https://tricityecology.org/donate).

Due to local Covid guidelines please bring a mask and be prepared for the possibility that  
the ceremony will be outside.

We are working on the possibility of remote attendance via the internet.

Contact or questions: Russ 510-919-4391, Paula 510-693-9122, Joanne 510-656-8877.

---



## We have started to use Cole Hall again!

Our Worship Hosting Team has been working extraordinarily hard to facilitate the return to Cole Hall. Because Covid has taught us to 'stream' and extend ourselves outward to the larger world, we have reconnected with those who moved away. We have committed ourselves to remaining connected by practicing a 'hybrid' approach to simultaneously presenting service for a live audience AND streaming all over the globe.

Over the summer we plan on having 3 types of services:

1. The worship team will be streaming from Cole Hall from Sunday, May 30 to June 13<sup>th</sup>.
2. On June 20<sup>th</sup> we will be having a service with congregants in Cole Hall. Currently we will be limiting the number of people in Cole Hall to 25. There will be overflow seating on the patio, where people can watch the service through the windows and listen to it over the outdoor speakers. (The rules about the number of people allowed in Cole Hall may change before then.)
3. If enough people volunteer to help in Cole Hall (see Sunday Service Team article for details) we will be having live services or watching the Zoom service in Cole Hall after June 20<sup>th</sup>. (If we do not have enough volunteers, we will be having Zoom only services many weeks)

Each week This Week on the Peak will inform us what type of service is planned for the upcoming service. We will also give details on [mpuuc.org/zoom](https://mpuuc.org/zoom).

**All service types will be streamed over Zoom as well as any components**

in Cole Hall.

For more information on how we currently plan to safely go back to Cole Hall see

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y4CMRY3mnnLnZciKTZ7GISmOy5iZgiatJccvGfX\\_X9M/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y4CMRY3mnnLnZciKTZ7GISmOy5iZgiatJccvGfX_X9M/edit?usp=sharing). Note that this is the safety plan. The Worship Team and the Sunday Service Team are deciding how and when to meet in Cole Hall.

---

## The Sunday Service Team is starting up again!

This is your chance to volunteer to help us meet in Cole Hall every Sunday starting June 20<sup>th</sup>. We plan on a self-serve approach to chairs, hymnals and cushions when we start. We will not be serving food or drinks at “coffee hour”. The following functions are needed to support a service in Cole Hall:

- Pulpit Set-Up/Take Down
- Aesthetics
- Greeters
- Safety Monitor
- Zoom and A/V host
- Key Holder

For Job descriptions for these see <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1yAiBBTLvYaiVZW33Dj1jutFR2j0Szl42WTBZ11cl5Fk/edit?usp=sharing>. Training will be provided.

To volunteer or find out more information please contact Jen King - [jenking@alumnae.mtholyoke.edu](mailto:jenking@alumnae.mtholyoke.edu).

---

## Daytimer's Discussion Group

The Minister's Daytimer Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week's topic “Tolling of the Bells” – this discussion is in prelude of our Service on May 30. We will explore the people we have lost this year. We will reflect on those taken by Covid... those taken by violence... Those taken in the larger UU community, MPUUC and our personal family. 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. Next week's topic will be about Spiritual Practices – What are they? How do they Work? And how can we find one that works for us?

---

## Michael Dowd Discussion Postponed to May 27th

On May 27th from 6:30-8:00 p.m., Rev. Michael Dowd will engage in a 90-minute discussion of his video presentation, “[The Big Picture: Clarity, Compassion, and Love-in-Action](#),” which you are invited to watch between now and then. That program builds on content in his two TEDx talks and his book, Thank God for Evolution, which was endorsed by 6 Nobel Prize-winning scientists, noted skeptics, and by religious leaders across the spectrum. The Zoom link for this 90-minute discussion is:

Topic: Michael Dowd's Discussion

Time: May 27, 2021 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[Click here](#)

Meeting ID: 947 1023 6690

Passcode: 506412

One tap mobile  
+16699009128,,94710236690#,,, \*506412# US (San Jose)  
Dial by your location  
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

---

## Welcome New Members!

This past spring, two people signed our membership book. Later this year when we are holding in-person Sunday services, we will have an official New Member Ingathering for them. Until then, if they end up in your breakout room after a Zoom Sunday service, be sure to say hello!

Celeste King moved here from North Carolina with her husband Benjamin and is the mother of Allie King, mother-in-law to Eric Ryan and proud grandma of Maya.



Suzette is a teacher in the Fremont Unified School District but in earlier years worked at Sunol-Glen. She worked closely with former member Natalie Campbell and also knows Melissa Holmes and Jen King.



## Remote Members and Friends

Normally when someone from the congregation moved out of the area, we did not see them unless they visited. With Zoom services now, we have a number of members and friends who continue to be involved and are able to join us on Sundays, even though they live too far away to drive to Cole Hall. They are: Danette McGilvray, Calista Ames, Heather Gorgen, Julie Ganzlin, Ron and Yvonne Hughes, Louise and Lisa Lefkort, Paul Kwinn and Beckett Gladney, and Gail Jones.

---

## Ordination of Alex Jensen to the Unitarian Universalist Ministry

Sunday, June 6th, 2021  
12:00 PM Pacific / 3:00 PM Eastern

All are invited to join us for a virtual event and celebration for this joint ordination of Alex Jensen by Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist



Congregation and First Parish in Wayland.

RSVP here: <http://www.ordainalex.com/>

Religious professionals, clergy, and seminarians are invited to gather at 11:15 AM Pacific / 2:15 PM Eastern on the Zoom link for centering prayers before the service. This will be followed by a tech runthrough before the start of the service.

We will display a virtual procession of religious professionals. Please send your picture, name, and professional title(s) to [info@ordainalex.com](mailto:info@ordainalex.com) by May 31st, 2021 to be included.



The Ordination service will start at 12:00 PM Pacific / 3:00 PM Eastern and will last about an hour in duration.

Additional information will be posted to the website closer to the date. The Facebook Event can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact [info@ordainalex.com](mailto:info@ordainalex.com).

---

## Outdoor Celebration of Alex Jensen's Ordination

When Alex is back in Fremont (2 weeks after his ordination) we will celebrate his ordination with him outside of Cole Hall, on June 20th at Noon. **For those who RSVP by June 14th we will serve a light lunch**, including carrot cake, a favorite of Alex. RSVP to Steve Wallcave – [wallcave@mpuuc.org](mailto:wallcave@mpuuc.org).

---

## Vaccine Help

If you are having difficulty finding or signing up for a Covid-19 vaccine appointment, please email [vax@mpuuc.org](mailto:vax@mpuuc.org) and we will help you sign up. All Covid vaccines are free of charge.



---

## JUSTICE CORNER

---

**CreateClimateJustice.Net** Intro  
Tour and Q&A - Wednesday, June 2 at  
4pm PT / 5 MT / 6 CT / 7 ET -  
**REGISTER**

**Save the Date & Reminders**

Green Sanctuary 2030: Mobilizing for Climate Justice Monthly Call - Wednesday, June 2 at 4 PT / 5 MT / 6 CT / 7 ET (Every first Wednesday at this time) - **ZOOM LINK**  
Strengthening Local Climate Commitments: Happy 1st Birthday Celebration - Wednesday, June 2 at 5pm PT / 6 MT / 7 CT / 8 ET (Every first Wednesday at this time) **RSVP**  
UUA General Assembly - June 23-27 - **LEARN MORE**

Create a free account on *CreateClimateJustice.Net*, the platform dedicated to UU climate and environmental justice work! From there, you can add your own group's events and connect with other UUs. Need tech support? Reach out to Diane Brooks, [diane@createclimatejustice.net](mailto:diane@createclimatejustice.net).

---

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



I am delighted to invite you to UUSC's 10th Annual Human Rights Award, a virtual celebration featuring a conversation with U.S. Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley. We have great respect and appreciation for Congresswoman Pressley's strong support for human rights and progressive change, including her co-sponsorship of the **BREATHE Act**, which UUSC strongly endorses. The event will be an evening of hope and inspiration, to take place in advance of the UUA's General Assembly, on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 7:00 PM ET / 4:00 PM PT.

If you would like to join us, we ask that you please [register here](#). While donations are not required to attend, we ask that you please consider a special gift in support of UUSC's work to advance social justice around the world.

For additional details, please contact Elizabeth Auwood at [eauwood@uusc.org](mailto:eauwood@uusc.org).

## Board Briefs

The board met on Wednesday, May 12:

- **Approved the Path to Services proposal from the reopening task force**
- Approved adding a Reparative Justice line item to the 2021/22 budget
- **Approved the updated Outdoor Events and Office Use policy, See section 18 of board policies.**
  - Corrected the GA delegates and added an alternate
  - Approved the planned special summer collections
  - Approved the proposed 2021/22 budget to be presented at the annual meeting
  - Approved the covenant between Rev. Greg Ward and Rev. Chris Schriner
  - Approved the right-sizing task force charter



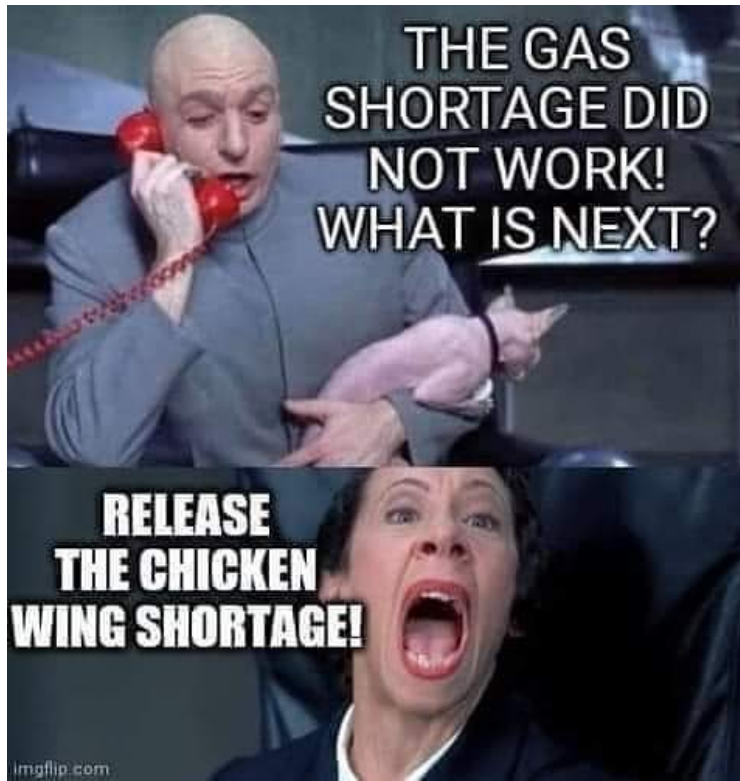
The next board meeting is on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 7 p.m.

**The annual meeting is on Sunday, June 13 at 11:30 a.m.** We will elect next years board members and approve our annual budget at this meeting.

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

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

## HUMOR CORNER



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 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](https://missionpeakuu.org)



Share



Share



Tweet