

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! July 14, 2021

Greetings!

It's summer! Yay! As a kid, summer always meant a road trip, camping with my parents, and visits with my older brothers and their wives. My dad was a minister, so he had a longer break than most (except teachers). When I was a teenager he was in a Master's program that held classes during the summer in Ottawa, where one of my brothers lived. I was along for the ride most times.



I have so many wonderful memories from those trips - the infestation of "no-see-'ems" that were smaller than the screen mesh, the heavy fog that meant we could only see the red lights of the truck ahead of us near one of the Great Lakes, the time the railway tracks at the bottom of a hill dislodged the trailer from the hitch, and the failure of a speedometer in the Rocky Mountains! Well, I do have better memories than those - browsing book shops, majestic mountains, special times with family, new foods, a giant Paul Bunyan, dipping toes in the Pacific, and swimming in a COLD mountain pool. It was all pretty memorable - even the scary stuff made me stronger.

Ministers often take a combination of vacation and study leave in the summer in order to rejuvenate and get in some professional development that they don't really have time for during the congregational year. In some places the churches shut down for the summer, especially in places where large numbers of congregants head "to the lake" for the duration. MPUUC meets year-round, but without our settled minister for a few weeks. Our worship associates will be leading most of our services - I always enjoy hearing from them as they all have such different experiences to draw from. Rev. **Barbara Meyers** will provide pastoral care.

If you are in town, please join our services in person in Cole Hall or outdoors on the patio - be sure to wear a mask - or join by Zoom if that doesn't work for you. If you are going to be attending in person, consider volunteering for a Sunday (or three) with some of the tasks that are necessary for having services in person. Contact Jen King to find how you can help.

A lot of our leaders are traveling too, so we may not have an introductory article here

every week. If that happens please read the rest of the Week on the Peak to stay up to date with everything Mission Peak UU. And enjoy your summer (sans no-see-ums)!

Allysson McDonald

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## **This Sunday's Service:**

**We have transitioned to hybrid services. See [mpuuc.org/zoom](https://mpuuc.org/zoom) each week for how to attend services.**



## **Who Is My Other?**

We usually talk of connectedness by asking who is my sibling (brother) or neighbor. But this limits to whom we may be connected. Should I ask who is to me someone who is the other? How are they my other when my value system informs me that I must acknowledge their inherent worth and dignity. Is it possible to have an enemy, a competitor or someone who sees me as the other and not have them be my other?

Mark Rahman will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Paul K. Davis. Meyers. Worship Host will be Erik Alm. Peak Rocks, Peak Performers, Jeff & Maya Bohnhoff will provide our music.

## **Whether you are attending services in Cole Hall or remotely you can donate money and/or fulfill your pledge in the 3 ways shown below:**

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%.

**If you are attending services in Cole Hall we will provide envelopes so you can donate money by placing checks or cash in the office mail slot.**

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## **Rev. Greg away until August 17**

Rev. Greg will be on leave (a much earned vacation as well as study leave) until August

17. There is a fabulous line up of lay leaders and guest ministers throughout the summer. Rev. Barbara Meyers is available for Pastoral Emergencies. You can contact her at [bfkmeyers@gmail.com](mailto:bfkmeyers@gmail.com). If you have a Joy or Concern you want to share with the congregation, but can't be at a service to share it yourself, you can send a note to the Encouragement Committee at [ECteam@mpuuc.org](mailto:ECteam@mpuuc.org). Questions about Rev. Greg's vacation and study leave time? email [president@mpuuc.org](mailto:president@mpuuc.org).

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## Services in Cole Hall Began June 20th

We are now having services in Cole Hall with worship leaders and congregants. We will provide three ways to attend the service — via [Zoom](#), sitting inside Cole Hall, or sitting on the patio outside Cole Hall. Our sound system works well inside, outside and over Zoom. Our worship leaders will either be inside Cole Hall or use Zoom to connect to the service in Cole Hall in future weeks.

**[Please volunteer to help in Cole Hall, if you are able, so we can CONTINUE TO have services in Cole Hall after June 20th](#)**

Attendees should be masked inside and outside of Cole Hall during the service. We allow worship leaders, associates, and other service participants to be unmasked while speaking if they voluntarily disclose they are vaccinated and are 10ft apart from others who are not fully vaccinated.

The board is considering making changes to the safety policy on how we allow services in Cole Hall. You will be able to find it in the “[About->Congregational Documents](#)” section of the [mpuuc.org](http://mpuuc.org) web site after Friday. If you wonder how we are trying to keep us all safe as we gather together again, please read it. We expect to continue to monitor what is safe and make changes as needed.

We also have other board policies related to Covid-19 in section 18 of the [board policies document](#), which is also in the “[About->Congregational Documents](#)” section of the website. The outdoor event guidelines in section 18.2 will control how we would be able to have food or drinks outside after the service, or for special events. Contact Steve Wallcave with any questions about either safety policy.

**[Please volunteer to help us meet in Cole Hall every Sunday starting June 20th. Contact Jen King to volunteer.](#)**

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## The Sunday Service Team needs your help so we can have services in Cole Hall each week!

This is your chance to help us continue to be able to meet in Cole Hall every Sunday We plan on a self-serve approach to chairs, hymnals and cushions when we start. While we would love to offer our traditional coffee hour after the service, we must prioritize getting volunteers to have the service in Cole Hall first so we will not be serving food or drinks at “coffee hour” until we have volunteers to fill all of the positions below. 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 see <https://mpuuc.org/services-in-cole-hall-starting-june-20th#volunteer>. Training will be provided.

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

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## Midweek Discussion Group

The midweek zoom discussion group established by Rev. Greg will be continuing over the summer, at 10:00 AM each Thursday. All are invited. To participate click on [this link](#) at 10:00. Tomorrow we will discuss Who is my brother, who do I see as my other? We will choose each week's topic at the end of the previous week's session, until Rev. Greg returns from vacation. For further information you may also contact Paul Davis at [paulkdavis@earthlink.net](mailto:paulkdavis@earthlink.net).

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## JUSTICE CORNER

### SURJ (Show Up For Racial Justice) BAY AREA

Mondays, July 12, 19, 26 & August 2

**Poor Peoples' Campaign: Season of Nonviolent Moral Direct Action**

The Poor People's Campaign, joined by dozens of partners including SURJ (showing up for racial justice) National, 40+ state coordinating committees, and thousands of faith leaders, has announced a Season of Nonviolent Moral Monday Direct Actions for democracy and justice. It kicked off on the 12th with a press conference followed by a massive online call-in action to every U.S. Senator. Demands are for Congress to end the filibuster, pass all provisions of the For the People Act, fully restore the 1965 Voting Rights Act, and raise the federal minimum wage to \$15/hr. Each Monday, there will be a different focus—July 19: A Women's Moral Monday March on Washington DC, July 26: Moral Monday Actions in 45+ States, and August 2: Moral Monday Action in DC with Faith Leaders and Poor and Low-Wage Workers. [Learn more here.](#)

Tuesday, July 20 • 6:00 – 7:30 pm

**Anti-Racism 101: How to Show Up for Racial Justice**

In this free virtual SURJ workshop, we'll explore how white people can engage in an ongoing practice of anti-racism to actively dismantle white supremacy in their daily lives. Attendees will have opportunities to engage in small-group dialogue and create a plan for taking at least one action in support of racial justice within their personal spheres of influence. Join us as we come together in community to learn, empower, and participate in change. Event is free, registration and more information [here](#).

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

#### **Opportunity to Join ARO (Anti-Racist/ Anti- Oppression group)**

This year, the UUA General Assembly overwhelmingly passed a statement of conscience on **Undoing Systemic White Supremacy: A Call to Prophetic Action** "Seeking universal justice and equity, we call upon the Unitarian Universalist Association and Unitarian Universalist individuals and congregations/groups to actively engage in undoing systemic white supremacy in all of its manifestations."

Our ARO group is actively working to make this a reality at MPUUC. This past year, we have sponsored congregational book reads, reparative justice, a Safe Space for BIPOC people on our MPUUC website, congregational discussion groups, and presented services and homilies on slavery and reparations. This next year, we plan to work on the 8th principal of UU, publicity, and making MPUUC a more welcoming community. It is a chance to really make a difference in our congregation and our community.

If this work is exciting for you, we would like to give you an opportunity to be part of this exciting work, bringing your passion, your energy, and your open heart. Please contact Barbara Meyers if you would like to join us.

### **Action of Immediate Witness**

Stop Voter Suppression and Partner  
for Voting Rights and a Multiracial Democracy



**The For the People Act (S.1)**  
**The John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act**  
**The Washington, D.C. Admission Act (S.51)**

## **UUSJ sponsored a successful Action of Immediate Witness(AIW) at General Assembly in June.**

This action calls on the Unitarian Universalist Association and its congregations to work in partnership toward theologically-grounded understanding and meaningful action on democracy matters -- eliminating voter suppression, restoring the right to vote to formerly incarcerated returning citizens, ensuring fair districts, protecting the right of protest, demanding transparency with respect to money in politics, supporting D.C. statehood, and more.

Each year, up to three AIWs can be voted in by the General Assembly delegates. (Read the full [AIW HERE](#)). The other two passed this year were: Defend and Advocate with Transgender, Nonbinary, and Intersex Communities and The COVID-19 Pandemic: Justice. Healing. Courage. To learn more about the UUA's 2021 AIWs click [HERE](#).

UUSJ's Immigration Action Team focused on "[Pathways to Citizenship for Immigrant Essential Workers](#)" and their families. The Team conducted 15 meetings with Senate offices, involving nearly 40 UU constituents from across the country, including four UU ministers and four UU State Action Network representatives. The *Write Here! Write Now!* campaign generated nearly 150 letters to more than 40 legislators. UUSJ partnered with [We are Home](#), representing moral owners from communities most impacted by immigration policies and UUA's Side with Love.

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## **Board Briefs**

The next board meeting is on Wednesday, July 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](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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# The Defusing Hatred Program

By TriCities Interfaith Coalition (TCIC).

*Learn nonviolent communication skills in a safe environment and develop tools for responding to uneasy situations and hate speech.*

TCIC hopes this program will help us build robust communities of care and protection of the vulnerable around us, especially in this time of heightened tension and public acts of aggression.

**Wednesday, July 21st at 7 pm**

## Everyday Peacemaking Program

Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm

*Following up on The Defusing Hatred Program, this module explores practical ideas for staying in conversation with others, conflict management, and how our spiritual practices help us stay calm in tense situations.*

## Courageous Conversations:

Going Deeper – 2 sessions

Wednesday, August 4th & 18th at 7 pm

*Following up on The Defusing Hatred Program, these sessions explore Compassionate Listening and other communication skills in a safe environment to develop tools for going deeper in potentially fraught conversations*

**Register in advance for these meetings, save the link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0scuuqqDMoHNUToNhYkMFzHx-1gysl3zgZ>

*These sessions will be recorded.  
Please plan to join all 4 sessions.*

Enjoy an informative, visual presentation followed by conversation and experience through role-play. Our trainer is Rev. Will McGarvey, Executive Director of the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County, who developed this training.

Please click [here](#) for flyer.

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## HUMOR CORNER

**THE CRUISE WAS FANTASTIC!**



**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**



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