

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! June 30, 2021

Greetings!

My name is Allysson McDonald, and I am a member of the board (on July 14 I will no longer be president, but step into the lighter role as past-president). Many of you know that I am Canadian, so Thursday, Canada Day, has special significance.



As a Canadian immigrant who has lived in the US since 1989 the chronologically close holidays of Canada Day (July 1) and Independence Day are always special. We usually celebrate the 4th of July with friends, but I actually became WAY more patriotic (to Canada) after moving here (absence makes the heart grow fonder?), especially after having children and wanting to impart some of my culture and national pride. I wear RED on Canada day, sometimes have a party, always fly the maple leaf flag, and try to eat something “Canadian”.

But Canada Day this year will be different. You may have read about the recent discoveries of hundreds of unmarked graves at former residential schools in Canada. Here's a [link](#) to a recent NYT article. Canada Day has become a controversial topic in my Canadians in the US facebook group. Is it right to celebrate a country that perpetrated such wrongs so soon after their discovery, while the First Nations (what indigenous “tribes” are called in Canada) are in mourning? Some have suggested wearing orange instead of red this year, the official color of the new September Canadian statutory holiday - National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. The moderators of one group have requested that members not post “Happy” Canada Day this year.

I was torn - I had already picked out one of my Canadian T-shirts (red) to wear on Thursday. I was going to ask my sons to wear their “Grown in the US with Canadian Roots” shirts, too. But I think this year I will forgo all that. I will still try to eat something “Canadian” on Canada Day, but in writing this article I have finally concluded that this year I will be wearing orange. No one here will know why, only my family might question why I am not wearing my “Made in Canada and Aged to Perfection” shirt. But I will know. I will know.

Being a patriot for me does not require blind faith and acceptance. It means holding fast to

principles and aspirations that define my country for me. I am saddened and angered that children were not only kidnapped and forced into an education system that was designed to strip their culture from them, not only did they suffer from abuse and a loss of family connection and the PTSD and other psychological harms, but they were killed - in the name of civilization, in MY name! This is the hypocrisy that both our nations were built on. And it is far from being ancient history - the school in Saskatchewan, near where I grew up, was operating into the 1990's. I see Canada taking ownership of what was done. Apologies have been issued. For that I am proud. But I will wear orange this year, in memory, in mourning, for the children.

So I will not wish you a happy Canada Day, as I might have. I won't wish you a happy Independence Day either. I will ask you to be a true patriot - to hold your country/ies to the values they stand for. I do ask you to remember the children.

Allysson McDonald

This Sunday's Service:

We have transitioned to hybrid services because of the Coronavirus pandemic. See mpuuc.org/zoom each week for how to attend services.



Democracy

Democracy is sacred to Unitarian Universalists. This is concretely expressed as one of our values: "The right of the conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and society at large". But democracy is not a simple word, it is a complex process, a process which includes much more than simply voting, though voting is of extreme importance. Full democracy must both protect the majority from an oppressive minority and protect minorities from an oppressive majority - no easy task. And democracy is not just something to be established, it must be effectively maintained. Our July 4th service will explore the processes of democracy, their historical roots, and our present needs.

Paul K. Davis will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Kathy Wallcave. Worship Host will be Erik Alm. Peak Performers 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.

Unitarian Universalist General Assembly (UUAGA) 2021 summary of voting results

Election Results

- Board of Trustees #3: Rev. Elizabeth Mount
- Board of Trustees #6: JeKaren Olaoya
- Board of Trustees #8: Rev. Sam Trumbore
- Commission on Appraisal: Adrian Graham
- Financial Advisor: Lucia Santini Field
- General Assembly Planning Committee: Chelsea Surfus
- Nominating Committee: Tim Atkins, Rev. Danielle Di Bona, cristy cardinal

Act of Immediate Witness (AIW) (3 were approved for discussion to as per UUA bylaws)
The General Assembly affirmed these Actions of Immediate Witness

- [Defend and Advocate with Transgender, Nonbinary, and Intersex Communities \(PDF\)](#)
- [The COVID-19 Pandemic: Justice. Healing. Courage \(PDF\)](#)
- [Stop Voter Suppression and Partner for Voting Rights and a Multiracial Democracy \(PDF\)](#)

Statement of Conscience

The Statement of Conscience (SOC): [Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy \(PDF\)](#) was adopted

More details are available at <https://www.uua.org/ga/program/business-agenda>

FUNDS RAISED at UUAGA

\$155,000 was raised for the Living Tradition Fund, the Katie Tyson Fund for Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Side with Love, and our Sunday worship beneficiary, MICAH: Milwaukee Inner-city Congregations Allied for Hope.
Any final [gifts to these collections](#) can be made through June 30.

Kathi Bayne

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. 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.

Questions about Rev. Greg's vacation and study leave time? email president@mpuuc.org.

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 passed a **[New Safety Policy on how we allow services in Cole Hall](#)**. You can also find it in the **["About->Congregational Documents"](#)** section of the **mpuuc.org** web site. 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.](#)

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**.

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 our July holiday experiences, Canada Day, US Independence Day, Bastille Day. 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**.

Save The Date!! – The 2021 Black & White Gala will be held Saturday, November 6th!!

JUSTICE CORNER

DEADLINE FOR DEMOCRACY

Every day, we're getting closer to a very real deadline to take action to pass the For the People Act: a Deadline for Democracy.

We have been showing up to demand our elected representatives to pass the For the People Act, the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, and D.C. statehood, urgently without letting the filibuster get in the way. click on the link below for more information on what you can do.

<https://indivisible.org/resource/deadline-democracy-event-toolkit>

ANTI-RACISM ANTI-OPPRESSION COMMITTEE (ARO) RECOMMENDATIONS



SIGN A PETITION:

[Protect Amah Mutsun Sacred Grounds from Proposed Santa Clara Quarry](#) – Juristac (Huris-tak) lies at the heart of the ancestral lands of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band near Gilroy, CA. For thousands of years, Mutsun ancestors lived and held sacred ceremonies at this location in the southern foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, above the confluence of the Pajaro and San Benito rivers. The cultural landscape encompassing Juristac is today known as the Sargent Ranch. An investor group based in San Diego purchased the land at a bankruptcy auction and is currently seeking to develop a 320-acre open pit sand and gravel mining operation on the property. The Amah Mutsun vehemently opposes the proposed mining project, and is asking the public to join them in standing for the protection of their sacred grounds. [Learn more about their campaign here](#) and [sign their petition here](#).

READ THE SURJ BLOG:

[The Latest Culture Wars: The Censoring of Teaching About Race and Racism](#) – SURJ Bay Area member Felicia Gustin writes about the conservative movement to ban teaching of Critical Race Theory in classrooms across the nation, and what we can do to fight back.

Board Briefs

The board met on Wednesday, June 9:

- [Approved a board policy on in-person services at Cole Hall](#)
- Approved an exception for the memorial service on June 19
- Approved beginning in-person services at Cole Hall on June 20
- Reviewed the logistics for in-person services
- Received a progress report from the Right-Sizing Task force
- Discussed possible reduction in the size of the board
- Reviewed the Ministry Assessment
- Approved a policy on the Minister's Discretionary Fund



The Program Council met on June 19 from 2-5 pm.

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

For more details about meetings or questions email president@mpuuc.org

HUMOR CORNER



"The poor thing has been in lockdown for so long she's befriended household objects."

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

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