

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! October 20, 2021

Greetings!

Greetings All!

Yes, it is the autumn, and we are writing about Canvass, which we'll be doing in the spring.

Hello, I am Valerie Stewart, the Chair of the Leadership Development Committee (LDC). But I am really part of a Team – of Lisa Newstrom, Tiffany Longfield, and me.



In fact, all of us here at Mission Peak are part of the same team, the MISSION PEAK TEAM. We have all come here and come together because as Mission Peak, each of us finds a place to be in community, in beloved community, and finds a spiritual home for ourselves.

Some of us have been teachers, or engineers, or parents, or children, and in those roles we have all thought ahead, planned ahead to reach for something in our future that we wanted to create, to see come to fruition, to happen. Well, the LDC is asking all the Mission Peak Team to think ahead to our future as a beloved community and think if you can help be a part of making that happen. Whether you love building community or have a head for logistics or are just interested to try on a new role and would be interested in being a member of the Canvass Team for this spring, or even its captain or co-captain, please reach out to one of us and we can share more information about the tasks involved. Many hands make light work, and this year's Canvass team will have the benefit of a supportive minister experienced at working with a Canvass team and of former Canvass members in the congregation willing to share their knowledge and experience. We hope you'll be on the Canvass Team!

Please feel free to reach out and talk about your interest. You can reach us at LDC@mpuuc.org.

Lisa, Tiffany and Valerie

This Sunday's Service:

We have transitioned to hybrid services. See mpuuc.org/zoom each week for how to attend services.



Animal Blessing

The bonds forged between human beings and our animal companions can often be the most compelling and powerful of all emotions and loyalties. Acts of cultivating these connections are among the greatest lessons available in our lifetimes. They require an open-heartedness, a selflessness, a shared - instead of a selfish - reality. Daring to open our hearts even after they've been broken is an act of transformational love. In this service we will name, honor and bless the animals that taught us to stretch to the bounds of our humanness.

Shawn Snavley will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate MPUUC Youth. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jo Ann Schriener, Knuti VanHoven, and Shawn Snavley 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.

ANIMAL BLESSING CALL FOR PICTURES

We are excited about providing a blessing of Love for all our beloved animals who have provided us with so much Love. If you would like to participate you can bring your pet to Cole Hall on Sunday – OR – send in a picture of your pet to our [Pet Picture Folder](#). Please save the picture of your pet with their name and dates (i.e. current pets = 'Rocky' the Raccoon; Past pets = 'Smelly' the Skunk 2012-2018)

RON HUGHES MEMORIAL – November 20 at 1:00 p.m.

On Saturday, November 20 at 1:00 p.m. we will gather to celebrate the life and living of Ron Hughes. Those who knew and loved Ron know enough that this won't be a somber event as much as an appreciative sharing of stories and a joyful tribute to his love of life and love of people. This will be Hybrid Service (at Cole Hall AND live streamed). Some Safe-gathering protocol will be in place for Cole Hall and the off-site reception to follow the service. Stay tuned for details.

Black & White Gala – Check out the Boutique – We Need More Auction Items – Wanna Taste Some Fudge?

Less than 2 weeks before the online auction goes LIVE! We need MORE auction items! Please contact Jen King if you need ideas. Also, please check out the online Boutique (link below) as new items are being added DAILY. Don't forget that you can purchase a 'Fudge Off Judgeship' in the Boutique and do your part for MPUUC by EATING FUDGE!!

[MPUUC Boutique](#)

RE-WIRE ANTI-RACISM CLASS

The RE-WIRE anti-Racism class is off to an exciting start – but will be accepting a few last minute sign ups for people interested in making a commitment to attend this once / month 8-month course (3rd Tuesdays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.). The key objective of the class is becoming more aware of the power and privilege that comes with being white in America while also being committed to using that power and privilege in anti-racist ways. There is some required reading and a small donation requested. If you are interested, here's the link: [SIGN UP FOR RE-WIRE](#)

Catching a Glimpse of Your Larger Identity

"I am not small because I am a part of the universe, and the universe is not small."
– Barbara Williams Pemberton

We can *"expand into a more capacious self which has left its previous boundary behind."*
– Edwin Burtt

Our Minister Emeritus, Dr. Chris Schriener, will be teaching an adult RE class at UU Palo Alto via Zoom, October 25, November 1 and 8, 7 to 9 PM. The series is entitled, "Opening the Great Window: Catching a Glimpse of Your Larger Identity", and Mission Peak folks are also invited to attend.

When we were younger we may have felt full of potential, open to many paths and varied experiences. Before long most of us narrowed our vision, limiting ourselves to a few simple story lines. This unique workshop invites you to open the window wide once again, tapping the wisdom of brain science, philosophy, and spiritual traditions for a lively exploration of your larger self. The class will draw upon three chapters of Dr. Schriener's book, *Do Think Twice: Provocative Reflections on Age-Old Questions*.

To allow interaction, enrollment in the workshop will be limited and pre-registration is required.

Contact Marilyn Austin at areclasses@uucpa.org in order to get the zoom link. MPUUC members who do not already have Chris's book, *Do Think Twice*, \$15.00, can contact him at: cschriener@uuma.org. He can also provide a fuller list of themes included in the class.

Please click [here](#) for flyer.

Sunday Services – Need Volunteers to do Aesthetics

We need volunteers to do Aesthetics for the In Person services in Cole Hall on the Third Sunday of each month. Doing Aesthetics involves arriving early for the service and decorating the pulpit area in Cole Hall. No heavy lifting or furniture moving is involved. This job enables you to let your creative side out as you use fabrics (provided), flowers (you would need to provide these, but they're entirely optional), and other decorative items to decorate the area around the pulpit in Cole Hall. The job also entails setting out a chalice, the chime, the stones for the sand table, etc. Training will be provided. If you are willing to volunteer for this job, please contact Jen King ASAP. Thanks!

Safety Policy for Hybrid Services in Cole Hall

When we have volunteers to support a hybrid service we will provide three ways to attend the service — via Zoom, sitting inside Cole Hall, or sitting on the patio outside Cole Hall. Our worship leaders will either be inside Cole Hall or use Zoom to connect to the service in Cole Hall

Attendees should be masked inside and outside of Cole Hall during the service. **Because it is becoming apparent that vaccinated people can still spread the disease to others, we strongly encourage those in contact with children, and unvaccinated or immunocompromised adults to attend services outside or via Zoom.** 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 Safety Policy on how we allow services in Cole Hall](#) is 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.](#)

Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister's Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week's topic is Lessons We've Learned From Our Pets. In honor of our Animal Blessing Service, we will explore the relationships we've forged over the years with our pets, what they've taught us and how they helped us become who we are. The link to the conversation has changed and can be found if you [Press here](#). Next week's topic will be about Liminal spaces. The time around All Hallows Eve and All Souls Day is revered in Pagan and Celtic communities as times when the veil between worlds is particularly thin. It is time we feel the presence of our ancestors. How do we invite ancestors into our lives in ways that are honoring rather than haunting?

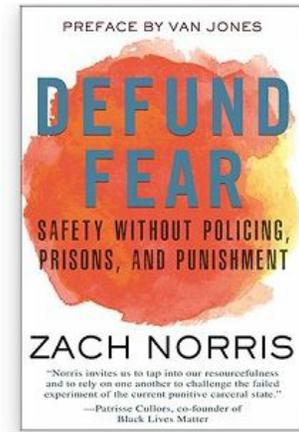
Covid-19 Booster Shots Available

Covid-19 booster (Pfizer and Moderna only so far) shots are now available for people who are over 65 and for those who have pre-existing conditions putting them at increased risk.

Safeway and CVS pharmacies, among other places, allow you to make appointments online. If you are using Medicare, the pharmacy can charge it directly, even if you have assigned your benefits to a Medicare advantage plan. There is zero cost to the recipient.

2021/2022 UUA Common Read

Each year the UUA selects a book that it recommends that we all read. The Common Read brings us together by providing a shared platform for reflection and a shared focus for action. This year the book they've selected is Defund Fear by Zack Norris. Jen King will be leading the discussion of this book over several Zoom sessions in January/February 2022. Sign-ups will start in December. This is just a 'heads up' in case you want to get a jump on the reading. [If getting a copy of the book is a financial hardship for you, please contact Jen.



JUSTICE CORNER

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

PWR Regional Assembly

When: Friday, February 4 through Sunday, February 6, 2022

Where: Hyatt Regency Mission Bay, 1441 Quivira Road, San Diego, CA or participate from home

The [latest details](#) including registration, accommodations, tentative schedule, workshop proposals, and vendor and volunteer information can be found on our website.



The bloody 2021 coup in Burma (Myanmar) wasn't the first time the country's military junta brutalized its own citizens. **For decades, the Burmese military has committed innumerable acts of violence, including the ongoing expulsion and genocide of the Rohingya ethnic minority.**

The United States is among the global powers who have been unwilling to take bold action to hold the Burmese military to account — even as U.S. leaders were well aware of the violence being inflicted on the Rohingya.

Take action by signing our petition to Secretary of State Antony Blinken demanding the United States call the Burmese military's actions genocide.

[All of Me: Nurturing Healthy Identity Development in Multiracial/Mixed Race Children Workshop](#)

Monday, October 25 • 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Join SURJ Bay Area's Youth and Families Committee as they offer this workshop for everyone who is loving, caring, and nurturing multiracial/mixed race children/youth. This is our invitation to come together in community to learn, reflect, and commit to actions that support the multiracial/mixed race children/youth in our lives. Together we will look at our family experiences, explore multiracial/mixed race identity formation, and discuss concrete support actions. All are welcome! Free, but please [register](#). Online via Zoom,

click [here](#) for more information and to RSVP.

ANTI-RACISM ANTI-OPPRESSION COMMITTEE (ARO) RECOMMENDATIONS

Saturday, October 23 • 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Saturday Dialogues: Creating a Call-In Culture

Were you taught that your individual identity was more important than your connection to your community? Have you been looking for a quick fix to end racism? Our current system was created for white people to buy into the concept of individualism. In this session, we will explore the white supremacy culture characteristics of *individualism* and *sense of urgency*. Saturday Dialogues is a space where we explore how white supremacy shows up in our lives and how we can begin to dismantle it within ourselves, our relationships, and our communities. Through small and large group dialogues, we build skills to create a culture that supports calling people into the movement from a place of love. The space is open to any white person interested in honest conversation, reflection, and confrontation with race, racism, and white privilege. [Register here](#).

“Transformative Faith--The Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism” by Chris Cameron

Offers a historical perspective on the history of Black UUs, and draws a direct line to the modern-day Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU) and the Black Lives Matter movement. Based on interviews with UU BLM activists.

Board Briefs

The board met on Wednesday, October 13:

- Approved hiring a consultant to review our financial systems and the Treasurer’s job and make recommendations for streamlining.
- Approved Worship Hosts charter.
- Approved special assignment of Past-President Allysson McDonald to reduce her board activities and work on reviving Small Group Ministry.



The next board meeting is on Wednesday, November 10 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

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

“Making a Home Together” is the theme for the 60th annual program which will be hosted on Zoom on Monday, November 22, at 7:30 pm. Sponsored by the Tri-City Interfaith Council (tcicouncil.weebly.com), the Thanksgiving service is a time for our community to come together to share the joys and challenges of a diverse community. You must register in advance to receive the Zoom link:

<https://bit.ly/interfaiththanksgiving2021>

The program includes prayers, music and dance from many local faith communities: Hindu, Muslim, Jewish, Unitarian Universalist, Sikh, Baha'i, Buddhist and Christian.

An offering to support the work of The City of Fremont's Afghani Refugee fund and the Muslim Community Center in San Ramon which is also supporting refugees from Afghanistan will be requested.

For more information click [here](#).

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Making A Home Together

Monday, November 22, 2021 @ 7:30pm via Zoom meeting



Tri-City Interfaith Council

A COOPERATION CIRCLE OF
UU

RSVP for Zoom link at
Sponsored by
Tri-City Interfaith Council
telcouncil.uueebly.com



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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