

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! November 10, 2021

Greetings!

It's Time to Side With Love!

The year seems to be flying by! Can you believe the Black and White fundraiser is all over but the fun and games? My name is Allysson McDonald, and one of the hats I wear is coordinator of our Community Partners programs. One aspect of this is our Share the Plate collections the second Sunday most months. The other aspect is our annual Courageous Love Hero award which we grant in February. Yes! February is virtually around the corner - first come the holidays, then it will be time to plan for the award! But before that we need to chose a winner. That means we need nominations, and soon!



Does someone in the local area (Fremont, Union City, Newark, or Milpitas) come to mind?

- Is there someone who has inspired a local movement for love?
- Is there an organization or individual who has faced oppression, discrimination, and prejudice with grace and inspired determination?

If you know someone who fits that description, please send some info. about them to Justice@mpuuc.org.

The Courageous Love Hero Award will be presented at our service the morning of February 13, 2022, in conjunction with Thirty Days of Love, and our Share the Plate offering in February will be for the Love Hero's organization. *Thirty Days of Love* is an annual celebration that runs approximately from Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January through Valentine's Day in February. It is an opportunity to lift up the ways Unitarian Universalists and many of our partner organizations are building and organizing by taking bold, courageous action for justice. Its all part of "Side with Love," which has become a rallying cry in situations in which people are being marginalized and oppressed because of who they are. The goal is to harness love's power to challenge exclusion, oppression and violence based on sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status, race, religion, or any other identity. More about the Side with Love organization [here](#).

This Sunday's Service:

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



That's How the Light Gets In

Family - which is the origin of our work to forge a workable self-image - is, ideally, loving and supportive. Unfortunately, few of us live, exclusively, in an ideal world. So, it is rare that any of us escapes the entirety of our upbringing without a few cracks and chips in our self image - often rendered by those with whom we are closest. Some of us recognize - sometimes years later - that part of our ego or self image was bent or cracked in places. Often we inherit these imperfections from our caregivers who attempt to love us through their own imperfections. Our challenge is to recognize the strength - even the blessings - of these imperfections.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Paul K. Davis. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jay and Jessica Steele 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.

SHARE THE PLATE with Fremont Sogorea Te' Land Trust

November is Indigenous Peoples' Month. The National Congress of American Indian writes "The month is a to educate the general public about tribes, to raise a general awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced both historically and in

the present, and the ways in which tribal citizens have worked to conquer these challenges.”

This Sunday, November 14, we have elected to Share the plate with Sogorea Te' Land Trust.

Sogorea Te' Land Trust is actively rematriating SF Bay Area land previously owned by the Ohlone people and cultivating traditional and medicinal plants along with a variety of fruits and vegetables. They have built a rain water catchment system with over 5,500 gallons of potable water storage and emergency response hub to provide essential, culturally relevant, resilience and survival support in some of the most marginalized parts of Oakland.

Please donate generously if you are able, in one of these ways:

Write a check to MPUUC with “Sogorea Te” in the memo line and mail 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 an envelope with a check (with “Sogorea Te” on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating “For Sogorea Te” in our mail slot addressed to: Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Pay online at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card. Choose “Special” as the donation type. Please state “For Sogorea Te” in the message. Note we use PayPal for this, and they charge us around 3%

For more information see <https://sogoreate-landtrust.org/> and share with your social networks.

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 a 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.

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.](#)

2021 Black & White Gala Wrap-Up

A HUGE Thank You to each and every one of you who donated, bid, purchased, or participated in any way in the 2021 Black & White Online Gala. Once again it was a success thanks to all of you!! We raised over \$16,000!!

The Boutique is still open and will remain so until December 15. New items have been added just this week including the very few items which didn't sell during the Auction. If you have placed a Boutique order in the past week (or prior) Jen will be working to get your items to you ASAP. Those of you who won 'baskets' in the Basket Raffle should be receiving those this week as well. Auction Follow-Up letters will be sent before Thanksgiving. These letters let the donors know who purchased their items, and remind the purchasers which items they purchased.

Thanks again to everyone for your amazing support of MPUUC!!!

Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister's Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week's topic is 'Home for the Holidays' – but specifically, we'll be looking at the hard parts – the exploding cigars or trap-doors found in going home. Sometimes the people who know us the best (and particularly, the ones we need to love us the most) can also be the most hurtful. What's hard for us and what can we do short of cutting such people out of our life. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#). Next week's topic will be about the transgender community and what it is like to be gender non-conforming. We will talk about the risks and realities as well as the responsibilities of allies.

JUSTICE CORNER

[UU the Vote Skill Up: Get Involved in a Volunteer Squad](#) [Sunday, November 21, 1 pm - 2:30 pm PT / 4 pm - 5:30 pm ET](#)

Our UU faith calls us to be lifelong learners, and organizing traditions teach that we need to share what we know for our movements to grow. So we are kicking off Squad Skill Ups: a monthly series of trainings on organizing skills to help build our **UU the Vote Volunteer Squads** and help you build stronger teams in your congregation and community. This is also a chance to find out how to get more involved as a UU the Vote volunteer and meet members of the Volunteer Squads. [Register here](#).

[Taproot: A National BIPOC Space](#) [Thursday, November 11, 6 pm - 7:30 pm PT / 9 pm - 10:30 pm ET](#)

The work of spiritual community is complicated in the 21st century. From busy schedules to the ever pressing tension brought on by systemic injustice, the need for faithful

leadership that's grounded and resilient is imperative. This is all the more true for leaders within our communities and congregations who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). All too aware of this need, Congregational Life is excited to explore and co-create a network with congregational leaders that support them in this time through [Taproot: A National BIPOC Space](#).

Civic Engagement

Re-Districting - YOUR input counts!

Every ten years, electoral districts must be redrawn so that each district is substantially equal in population. This process, called redistricting, is important to ensure that each district has about the same number of constituents. Redistricting is done using U.S. Census data.

Congressional Districts - www.wedrawthelinesca.org

California's citizen redistricting commission has unveiled a proposal of what congressional and legislative districts could look like for the next 10 years. They show some big shifts among Northern California's districts for the House of Representatives. Californians can submit feedback on the proposed maps through the Dec. 27 deadline.

Alameda County Redistricting 2021 - www.redistricting2021.acgov.org

County Supervisorial districts also must be redrawn. In the County of Alameda, the Board of Supervisors is responsible for drawing these supervisorial districts. Redistricting determines which neighborhoods and communities are grouped together into a supervisorial district for purposes of electing a Board of Supervisor member.

For Alameda County, the redistricting process must be completed by December 15, 2021. There are three versions of maps currently under review. The three Visualization Maps can be found at: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ruY_sMAqonPzLnAkVERewG1c9JEvCsgy/view?usp=sharing

(Only Visualization B keeps Fremont in one District.) The redrawn District lines are in response to input from folks living in self-identified areas and are called "Communities of Interest". Comments can be read on the website.

How can you get involved?

The Board of Supervisors will be holding hearings to receive public input on where district lines should be drawn. Those hearings and workshops are available on Zoom:

- Special Board Meeting: Tuesday 11/16 at 6 pm
- Special Board Meeting: Tuesday 11/23 at 6 pm
- Special Board Meeting: Thursday 12/2 at 6 pm

ANTI-RACISM ANTI-OPPRESSION COMMITTEE (ARO) RECOMMENDATIONS

Sunday, November 21 • 1:00 – 2:00 pm

[SURJ QT Action Hour](#)

Join this special Action Hour hosted by SURJ's Queer & Trans Committee. Want to take tangible steps to end racial injustice and white supremacy? This is one way to truly Show Up for Racial Justice! We meet over Zoom to take concrete steps together: calling elected officials, signing petitions, etc. The facilitators and pod leaders for this event are active members of the Queer & Trans Committee. We welcome everyone to join, but are especially excited to join in community action with other queer and trans folx. [Register here](#).

8th Principle Learning

“The Black Wealth Gap” from The Week “Decades after the civil rights movement, African Americans still hold a fraction of the wealth of white Americans. Why? Here's everything you need to know:”

Board Briefs

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](#).

For AARP Members

Free Lecture: Thoreau, Emerson, Walden Pond & More
WED., Nov. 17, 6:30 p.m. ET

Learn about these famous writers' search for mindfulness and inner peace in this virtual lecture and live Q&A with Stanford University's Caroline Winterer.

Learn more by clicking [here](#).

Monthly Zoom Gathering for Trans and Non-Binary UUs (all ages)

Tuesday, November 23, 5 pm PT / 8 pm ET

Join the UPLIFT monthly gatherings focused on trans, nonbinary, and other not (completely or at all) cis UUs. Connect with other trans/nonbinary UUs and co-create support and community across our faith. All you need to bring is yourself (and other trans/nonbinary friends, if you'd like). Gatherings focus on getting to know each other and

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
UUI

RSVP for Zoom link at
Sponsored by
Tri-City Interfaith Council
tcicouncil.weebly.com



Save the date!

United Nations Official Commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

24 November 2021



UN Women is pleased to invite you to the upcoming official commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. The event will take place virtually on Wednesday, 24 November 2021 from 10 am – 11.30 am (EST), kicking off the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence.

The 2021 **UNITE** campaign under its theme “Orange the World: END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN NOW!” will highlight the universal nature of violence against women and girls and acknowledge the particular challenges related to COVID-19, humanitarian and conflict situations. It will also amplify successes to demonstrate that violence against women and girls is preventable and mobilize greater investment in the proven solutions.

The event will involve the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Executive Director of UN Women, the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, its Causes and Consequences, Leaders of the Action Coalition on Gender-based Violence, civil society and women’s rights organizations, including **UN Trust Fund** grantees and more champions from across the world.

Register [Here](#)

Candlelight Vigil Monday, November 29, 2021 6-7 p.m.

St. James' Episcopal Church
37051 Cabrillo Terrace
Fremont, CA 94536
(Thornton Ave. at Cabrillo)

Please join us in person for an outdoor interfaith candlelight vigil to memorialize members of the homeless community we lost this year.

Masks are required for all attendees.

Please bring your canned goods to donate to our food drive. A video will be available for viewing after the conclusion of the event at saintj.com/AbodeVigil.

For more information, contact:

Amber Beeson at abeeson@abodeservices | (510) 657-7409 x213

Please click here for [flyer](#).



COMPASS: Navigating the Paths to Liberation Together

Saturday and Sunday, December 11-12

Come reflect on the theme of “interdependence” and how it guides us in our individual and communal lives. The weekend will include invigorating worship, special musical guests, and thought-provoking presentations and much more. (Yes, Rising Appalachia Trio will be there!)

Registration is now open. [Learn more about Compass and register here.](#)

Saturday December 11

Beginning at: 10am PT/11am MT/12pm CT/ 1pm ET

And ending at: 6pm PT/ 7pm MT/ 8pm CT/9pm ET

Sunday December 12

Beginning at: 9am PT/10am MT/11am CT/ 12 pm ET

And ending at: 1:30pm PT/ 2:30pm MT/ 3:30pm CT/4:30pm ET

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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