

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! November 24, 2021

Greetings!

Hello! Happy Thanksgiving Eve! My name is DeAnna Alm and I am this year's President of the Board. I'm enjoying the prospect of heading into the holiday season and seeing family. Time really does fly by -- I started attending Mission Peak UU before I had children, and many of you were here for their dedication ceremonies. Now one of them is in college and the other one is thinking about where he wants to go!



This is the season when we are often called to report on what makes us feel gratitude, and Mission Peak UU is always (ok *almost* always) at the top of my list. We have created a home and family here that is precious. From Sunday services that inspire us to look beyond ourselves, to activities that bring us together for fun and education, to honest sharing of joys and sorrows, to engagement in social justice that helps take our world just one small step toward being better -- all of that can be found here.

And it is found here because of each one of us. WE are the bricks that built, build and will continue to build this sanctuary for all of us. From Mission Peak UU's beginnings with parents gathered in a playground wanting better things for their kids' futures, and continuing through our many years and surviving what feels like a never-ending pandemic, we all contribute, and we all help hold up the roof that shelters us all. My heart is filled with gratitude.

DeAnna Alm

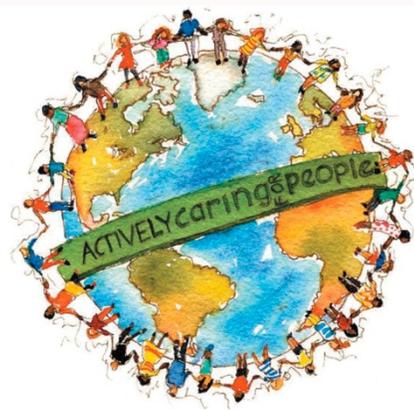
This Sunday's Service:

We have transitioned to hybrid services. See mpuuc.org/zoom

each week for how to attend services.

Guest at Your Table

In the 1930's the Unitarian Service Committee was created to recognize and serve those persecuted by Nazi xenophobic push. Since then, the service program has continued to reach out to all parts of the globe to serve those who are treated unjustly. The Guest at Your Table (GAYT) program introduces our 2020-21 GAYT 'Partners'



Rev. Mary Katherine Morn will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Valerie Stewart. Worship Host will be Graham Bell. Knuti VanHoven, Paul K Davis, Peak Performers, and Jo Ann Schriener 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.

OK, I'm ready for Sunday services at Cole Hall!



Why Is Cole Hall So Cold??

Because it is 4 times harder for Covid-19 to spread when there is good air circulation, we are currently keeping all doors open during Sunday services. We may close 1 or 2 if there is a lot of wind or rain. We are providing what heat we can, but please dress warmly. We are sorry for the necessity! -- MPUUC Covid-19 Task Force.

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 - Canceled for tomorrow

The Minister's Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week's discussion has been cancelled due to Thanksgiving. Next week's topic will be an open discussion with lay facilitators..

Holiday Potluck - December 11 @ 6:00 pm

We will be having an in person Holiday Potluck on Saturday, December 11 @ 6:00 p.m. Please join us in person at Cole Hall if you feel comfortable doing so. Weather permitting we will have tables set up inside and outside on the patio. Please bring a dish to share. Beverages will be provided. Please feel free to bring a favorite game to share. We will also be decorating gingerbread houses.

For those of you who are not comfortable or able to meet in person we will set up a Zoom meeting for the same time – Saturday, December 11 @ 6:00 p.m. and you can log in and have your dinner and visit online. If someone would like to volunteer to be the Zoom Host for the online 'potluck', please let Jen King know.

Save the date

Christmas Eve will bring an exciting and relevant story of lessons and carols. We will start at 5:00 p.m. on December 24th in Cole Hall. We will hear a little bit about what it would be like if the journey to Bethlehem were held today – right here in Fremont. Come prepared to sing and carry the joy to the only place it can be born – in our hearts and in our times together.

JUSTICE CORNER

Alameda County – ReDistricting -needs YOUR Voice

On November 16th, the Alameda County Supervisors unanimously voted to remove all but one visualization (proposed map) from consideration in their redistricting process. This "Map A" is very similar to the current district boundaries, with few changes. If adopted, it would:

- keep Pleasanton separate and apart from the rest of the Tri-Valley area
- continue to split the unincorporated area of the county into multiple districts
- split the [Tri-City area](#) into multiple districts maintain a district that stretches from Oakland to the Tri-Valley
- incorporate the lowest amount of community input possible

FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS!!!!

By removing all other possibilities, other than the status quo, and essentially ignoring all the community input in the previous meetings, our Board of Supervisors has undermined the process created by the FAIR MAPs Act—to facilitate participation by people of different backgrounds, knowledge bases and geographic locations.

There are only two meetings (Zoom) left before the map adoption process. Make your voice heard before it is too late. Bring others to speak up. NOW is the opportunity for you to be heard. More information at www.redistricting2021.acgov.org
Meeting information:

To log in: <https://redistricting2021.acgov.org/meetings/>
Agendas: <https://bos.acgov.org/>

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

For learning about race and racism, there is a fabulous podcast from *Scene on Radio*, a 14-part documentary series of podcasts called "Seeing White." These are highly recommended. The first two podcasts are:

S2 E1: Turning the Lens

Events of the past few years have turned a challenging spotlight on White people, and Whiteness, in the United States. An introduction to our series exploring what it means to be White. By John Biewen, with special guest Chenjerai Kumanyika.

S2 E2: How Race Was Made

For much of human history, people viewed themselves as members of tribes or nations but had no notion of "race." Today, science deems race biologically meaningless. Who invented race as we know it, and why? By John Biewen, with guest Chenjerai Kumanyika. Photo: The Monument to the Discoveries, Lisbon, Portugal. The highlighted figure in the center

8th Principle Learning

We are planning a number of activities to get congregation members ready for the vote on the 8th principle at next year's congregational meeting.

- January 23 - Paula Cole Jones worship and workshop with multiple congregations participating
- February 6 service focused on the book *Caste*
- March 20 service focused on the book *The Color of Law*.
- May 15 ARO service with 4-5 testimonials about anti-racism with congregational conversation after

Board Briefs

The board met on Wednesday, November 10::

- Brainstormed possible ways to connect the congregation and the community.
- Discussed President-Elect Jen King's resignation from the board, effective the end of 2021, and came up with a list of possible replacements to pass on to the Leadership Development committee. Jen will continue in other leadership roles in Fellowship and the Black and White service auction.
- Approved a list of possible delegates to the Pacific Western Regional assembly along with scholarship money to attend if needed.



The next board meeting is on Wednesday, December 8 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

Winter Donations for Abode Services

We will be collecting donations for Abode Services on Sunday's through December 12. Abode is very much in need of the items listed below. Please drop off your donations in the collection box at Cole Hall or at Jen King's home. Another option is to give a

monetary donation to Jen King and she will purchase items to give to Abode. Please be as generous as possible. Please NO used items.

Items Requested by Abode:

- Men's Underwear - brief or boxers (size Med - 3XL)
- Women's underwear (size Med – XXL)
- T-Shirts/Undershirts (size Large - 3XL)
- Men's & Women's Pajamas
- Men's & Women's Bath Robes
- Bath Towels
- Wash Clothes
- Twin & Full Size Blankets

Please Join Us For General Assembly 2022!

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists for conducting business of the Association, exploring the theological underpinnings of our faith, and leaning fully into our mission and principles.

In 2022, we will have the option of meeting online or in-person! For those who enjoyed the convenience and accessibility of remote participation, General Assembly will continue to offer a virtual experience with robust programming and enhanced delegate discussion tools. For those who miss the in-person experience, GA 2022 offers opportunities to re-connect with friends old and new, local site attractions, and more! **Join us June 22 - 26, 2022 online or in-person in Portland, Oregon.**

View the [2022 Summary Schedule!](#)

Register Now for In-Person GA 2022!

Registration is now open for in-person attendance. Full-time registration is \$475 for adults, and \$250 for high school youth and retired and candidate ministers. [Financial support](#) for registration, lodging credit within the [GA room block](#), as well as a payment plan are available. In-person registration rates will increase on March 1 and again on May 1. **Registration for virtual participation will open March 1. Click [here](#) to register.**

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](#).

Candlelight Vigil

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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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