

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! February 16, 2022

Greetings!

Hello Mission Peak UU Family,

I am DeAnna Alm, this year's president of the Board. I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who was able to attend our January 30th Congregational Conversation, and those who responded to our questionnaire afterward. It was a long meeting, with a lot of information packed in. Our questionnaire was short, but did ask everyone to look deeply into themselves in order to determine what role(s) we all will be able to fill in the coming year. (If you would like to read or re-read the presentation, it is available here: <https://mpuuc.org/congregational-conversation/> , in the members-only section of the website.)



As I said to someone after the service today, "The questionnaire gave us some idea of what ingredients we have. Now we have to figure out what kind of soup we can make." Some things will need to change -- we want our members to feel cherished by our community, not overworked by it. The Board is working hard to come up with workable proposals and will remain in communication with you all.

Thanks again to everyone who participated, and special thank you to those who let us know what kind of roles you might be willing to fill next year. We know that everyone is tired and everyone is feeling pulled in a lot of directions, particularly after two years of Covid and other chaos-causing events. Mission Peak UU will continue to ask of you, but it GIVES to all of us too. We work together to create and maintain something that is larger and more important than anything we could do on our own.

DeAnna Alm

This Sunday's

Service:

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



What If I Only Had 30 Days to Love?

30 Days of Love is our Side With Love campaign's annual celebration that runs approximately from Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January through Valentine's Day in February. It is taken as an opportunity to collectively nurture our spirits, deepen our understanding, and take action on our values for collective liberation. The celebration this year concluded with Side With Love Sunday. This is a worship service featuring stirring music, deep-hearted reflection, and moving testimonies from a range of UU leaders including President, Susan Frederick Gray.

Various UU Leaders will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associates Revs. Greg Ward and Barbara Meyers. Worship Host will be Graham Bell. Rev. J.Q. Henry 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! Funding Drive for Safe Parking Vehicles Fund (There is still time to donate)

Our Courageous Love Hero - Fremont for Everyone - doesn't have non-profit status, so their leadership team selected the Fremont Safe Parking Vehicles Fund as the recipient of our monetary donation. The Fremont [Safe Parking Host Site Pilot Program](#), launched on January 31, 2022, is designed as a safe, transitional space for individuals living in their vehicle. It's a rotational model, with four faith-based organizations across the city hosting individuals or couples on their site for one



month before rotating to the next site. Volunteers staff the check-in and check-out process in the evenings and mornings, fostering a community for our unsheltered neighbors. The pilot program currently has capacity for 15 passenger vehicles. **The Safe Parking Vehicles Fund**, run by the City of Fremont, helps individuals living in vehicles with the means to repair their vehicles, pay for registration, smog check, etc. This allows car dwellers to go to work, look for housing, and to participate in the Fremont Safe Parking program.

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

Write a check to MPUUC with "SPVF" 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 "SPVF" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "For SPVF") 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 SPVF" in the message. Note we use PayPal for this, and they charge us around 3%



CIRCLE OF LIFE

This is a new section of Week on the Peak from your Encouragement Committee. Each week, we will post those sharings during Sunday's Joys and Concerns that we were given permission to share. We encourage you to follow what is on the hearts of your fellow members and reach out on occasion to celebrate and console those you care about. Here are the **Joys and Concerns** from this week. If you would like your joy or concern to

appear in the Circle of Life, contact the Encouragement Committee at ecteam@mpuuc.org



Masking Continues at Cole Hall



In order to maintain the safety of all our members, Mission Peak UU is continuing to require masking inside and outside Cole Hall during services. While Alameda County Health is allowing some public places to stop requiring masks as of February 16th, places that serve more vulnerable populations (like hospitals and schools) are still mandated to mask, and we are following that example.

Safety Policy for Hybrid Services in Cole Hall

Attendees should be masked inside and outside of Cole Hall during the service. We encourage people to wear N95 (or equivalent) or surgical masks which are more effective than cloth masks. We have such masks available in Cole Hall on Sunday mornings. We encourage people to only come inside Cole Hall if fully vaccinated and boosted. Because vaccinated people can still spread the disease to others, we strongly encourage those in contact with unvaccinated or immunocompromised people to attend services outside or via Zoom.

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.

Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister’s Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week’s discussion will be about reflecting on what we would do if we only had 30 days to Love. How would we prioritize our time? Who would we want to see? What would we want to say? How would we love? The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#) Next week’s discussion will be lay led and deal with the purpose and potential problems of labeling things.

JUSTICE CORNER

Monday, February 14 • 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Monday, February 28 • 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Monday, March 21 • 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

[#CloseCAPrisons Action Hour](#)

This spring, the state legislature will be holding critical hearings on state spending on prisons. SURJ Bay Area is teaming up with our partner, [Californians United for a Responsible Budget \(CURB\)](#), to mobilize people across California to have our voices heard at these critical meetings and demand that we divest from cages and invest in communities. Join us for three special action hours, where we’ll learn more about CURB’s Prison Closure campaign and collectively make calls, send emails, and take other actions in support of prison closure in California. [Register for one date or all three here.](#)

CURB **SURJ**
Showing Up for Racial Justice

**State Budget Committee
Action Hours**

Schedule
Monday February 14th 12-1pm
Monday February 28th 12-1pm
Monday March 21st 12-1pm

REGISTER

Bit.ly/Sub5ActionHours

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Thursday, February 17 • 1:00 – 2:00
p.m.

[Red, White, Black & Blue: Highlighting Racial Illiteracy](#)

In this [SpeakOut](#) virtual event, nationally syndicated cartoonist and inspiration for the Hulu series, "Woke," [Keith Knight](#) combines comics, storytelling, statistics, and facts to make the case that one of this country’s biggest problems is its inability to have a frank and honest discussion



about race. How we, as a nation, come to terms with race, police brutality, the justice system, media, and the importance of social activism will determine our future. And while these can be difficult conversations, Keith's slide show presentation, infused with urgency, humor, satire, and politics, is designed to inspire constructive, civil dialogue amongst people of all ages, races, orientations, and political persuasions. Tickets are sliding scale \$5-\$30. All who register will receive a link to watch live or later. [Learn more and register.](#)

8th Principle Learning

Brian Lehrer Podcast: ["Ijeoma Oluo on Uprisings, Exhaustion and Leveraging White Privilege For Justice"](#).

BRIAN LEHRER
a daily politics podcast



WNYCSTUDIOS

[Will you join us to sharpen your skills this spring with our Skill Up Spring Series: Action Center 101 Soup to Nuts?](#)



What's a Skill Up?

This is our monthly series of trainings on organizing skills to help build our UU the Vote and Side with Love Volunteer Squads and help YOU build stronger teams in your congregation and community. We'll start the session with some spiritual fun and then launch into our training. This is also a chance to find out how to get more involved as a Side with Love volunteer and meet members of the Volunteer Squads.

[Sign up now](#) to come live, or be the first to get the recordings!

Board Briefs

The board met on Wednesday, February 9:

- Heard a presentation from DRE Shawn on possibilities for configuring the Children's RE program going forward and discussed this.
- Received an update from Canvass chair Valerie on this year's Canvass plans.
- Discussed responses to the Congregational Conversation survey and possible steps to move forward.
- Identified potential General Assembly delegates from MPUUC and approved some funds to offset their expenses if desired.



The next board meeting is on Wednesday, March 9 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

Please Join Us For General Assembly 2022!



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

A Multi-Platform Banner Parade!

The Banner Parade is a GA institution, and this year the tradition will be reimagined for a multi-platform audience. Banners will be displayed in the General Session Hall and the celebration will be live streamed. This year, participants will be dropping off their banners before the Opening Celebration begins. Volunteers will be able to decorate the hall before the celebration, allowing attendees to enjoy the event without having to wait in line for a processional.

Please bring your congregation's banner to General Assembly in Portland, Oregon, or [submit a high-resolution photo of your congregation's banner](#) by Friday, April 29. [Registration is now open](#) for in-person attendance. Full-time registration is \$475 for adults, and \$250 for high school youth, emerging adults, and retired and candidate ministers. [Financial support](#) for registration, lodging credit within the [GA housing 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.**

Submit a Proposal for the 2022 GA Poster Fair

You are warmly invited to submit a proposal for inclusion in the 2022 GA Poster Fair. Stories, initiatives, and examples of inspiring work in Unitarian Universalism will be featured in the Virtual Poster Fair, available to GA registrants through the General Assembly App by Whova. Selections will be made based on the quality of proposals, embrace of diversity and inclusion, potential to provide attendees with concrete and usable tools, and the balance of multiple identity-based and theological perspectives. The proposal deadline is Tuesday, March 15.

[Propose a Poster](#)

Register Now for In-Person GA 2022!

[Registration is now open](#) for in-person attendance.

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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