

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! February 9, 2022

Greetings!

Hello, my name is Allysson McDonald, and I am Past President at Mission Peak UU. I am excited to announce that Fremont for Everyone will be the recipient of our 2022 Love Hero Award!



As a member of MPUUC for about 25 years, I've taken on a variety of roles, but the one thing I've probably been doing the longest is coordinating our annual Courageous Love Award, which we present on the Sunday closest to Valentine's Day. The award goes to a person or organization in the local area who has inspired a local movement for love or who has faced oppression, discrimination, and prejudice with grace and inspired determination. For the last several years we have also donated our February Share the Plate offering to our awardee, or to an aligned organization.

Rev. Barbara Meyers and Valerie Stewart nominated Fremont for Everyone for their work advocating for inclusive, affordable housing for all Fremont residents. The award is given in conjunction with the U.U. national *Side with Love* campaign, which promotes equality for marginalized communities. The goal of the campaign is to harness love's power to challenge exclusion, oppression and violence based on identity. We felt that Fremont for Everyone does this by lifting up the poor and unhoused who so often suffer from discrimination and marginalization.

The leadership team at Fremont for Everyone requested that our February Share the Plate be donated to the Safe Parking Vehicles Fund (SPVF) which 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. Congregants and other supporters are invited to write a check to Mission Peak UU Congregation or donate online at MPUUC.org, noting that the donation is to be directed to SPVF.

We see these awards as a chance to uplift others; strengthen and support our community relationships; and to join with joy and with purpose those who share our values. I hope you'll join us for Sunday morning worship, online or in person, to honor our awardees.

This Sunday's Service:

We have transitioned to hybrid services. See



See mpuuc.org/zoom each week for how to attend services.

What Does a Fremont For Everyone Look Like?

Every idea that offers hope to the hurting, requires courage. It takes courage to think out of the box - courage to go beyond the problem and all the reasons it got to be this way... courage to see those in pain... courage to get proximate, accept them and understand how to connect those needs to promises of it being different. Our Recipient for this year's Courageous Love Hero award is Fremont for Everyone. We will have a conversation with them to understand more about how courage can make a difference right where we live.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Shawn Snavley. Worship Host will be Erik Alm. 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! Funding Drive for Safe Parking Vehicles Fund

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%

Safety Policy for Hybrid Services in Cole Hall

Because of the large surge from Omicron, attending in-person services at Cole Hall is an inherently risky activity, both for the attendees and for the people they have contact with throughout the week. If you are OK with that risk we welcome you. We are blessed to be able to offer an excellent virtual worship experience, and encourage anyone concerned about COVID-19 risk to take advantage of that.

We 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. **We encourage people to wear N95 (or equivalent) or surgical masks which are more effective than cloth masks. We encourage people to only come inside Cole Hall if recently vaccinated or boosted.** Because it is apparent that 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.

Where to get Masks:

Cloth masks offer significantly less protection than surgical, N95, and KN95 masks. Now that these masks are widely available, the Covid-19 response team strongly recommends acquiring and using masks with higher levels of protection. Below are two sources of quality masks:

<https://bonafidemasks.com/powecom-kn95/> - KN95 has ear loops, from US distributor
<https://shop.projectn95.org/> - Many different choices of N95 and KN95 masks

Contact Steve Wallcave with any questions about our [Covid-19 safety policies](#).

Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister's Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week's discussion will be about the power of love to change the world. How has Love fueled social movements? How does its presence or absence affect change in general? In particular, how does the presence or absence of Love affect 'othering'? The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#) Next week's discussion will be about how to show and share your love. If you only had 30 days to Love, what would you do to share the love you have in you?



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's the [Joys and Concerns](#) for the 1st week in February. If you would like your joy or concern to appear in the Wheel of Life, contact the Encouragement Committee at ecteam@mpuuc.org.

Project HomeKey

On January 27, 2022, the City submitted a Homekey application to the State for a \$40.2 million grant to purchase a motel and convert it to an affordable housing apartment complex for acutely low-income residents, which includes most homeless individuals or those at risk of becoming homeless. If awarded, the funding will be used to convert the Motel 6 located at 46101 Research Ave. in Fremont to 156 units of affordable housing. The State is expected to announce their funding decision next month. The Homekey application was submitted after the Fremont City Council voted unanimously to apply for the funding and, if awarded, use it for the Motel 6 site.



To provide more information to the community about the possible Homekey affordable housing project, the City has prepared a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document available at Fremont.gov/HomekeyFAQs. This document will be helpful for community members who have questions about the project or want more information.

The City has also created a project webpage available at Fremont.gov/HomekeyProject. This webpage will be updated as information becomes available, including a Chinese language FAQs document coming soon. Project updates can also be received by email by subscribing to the City's [Homelessness Interest List](#).

JUSTICE CORNER

CLIMATE JUSTICE

As [week 4 of 30 Days of Love](#) begins, I'm thrilled to introduce myself to you. I'm Rachel Myslivy, Climate Justice Organizer for the UUA's Side With Love Organizing Strategy Team.



30 Days of Love 2022

Week Four

Feb 7 - 14

Climate Justice



Throughout this last week of 30 Days of Love, we encourage you to listen, learn, reflect,

and take actions through the lens of climate justice to shape a more just and equitable future for all.

- Join our [political education webinar E Ala E! The Red Road to DC Totem Pole Journey Mural](#). Indigenous sovereignty is critical to Climate Justice, and The Red Road to DC journey and corresponding mural emphasize the need to protect gravely imperiled Native American sacred sites, lands, and waters across the United States.
- Join UU Ministry for Earth and Side With Love for a [live concert with Emma's Revolution](#).
- Explore our [on-demand multigenerational resources](#) and invitations to Read, Watch, Act, Listen, and Worship.
- Take part in our [individual and congregational actions](#) for climate justice
- And as always, we will be offering our weekly Chalice Lighting (Monday), Meditation (Wednesday), and [Friday Songs of Joy: Embodied Practice](#).

We have the [Order of Service](#) posted for this year's Side With Love Sunday, and will have the entire service available on February 7.

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Devastating Dereliction of Duty

What is most tragic in the Senate's failure to clear the way for the *Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act* is what's going on at the state level.

In 2021, nineteen states passed more than 34 laws undermining the freedom to vote. These anti-voter laws narrow eligibility by purging voters from the rolls and enacting strict voter ID requirements. They restrict access by limiting early voting options and reducing the number of polling places in predominantly Black, Brown, and Native communities. They increase the prospects of election sabotage by allowing trusted election officials to be replaced with partisan actors, therefore, increasing the chance that every vote won't be respected or consequently counted properly.

The cost of this Senate inaction and dereliction of duty represents a real and present danger for our individual liberty to partake in our own political destiny. For example, last year, Texas moved quickly to enact new anti-voter laws, placing its legislature at the center of the controversy. So much so, that state lawmakers came to Washington D.C. to explain what was happening to their federal counterparts. A year later, residents are experiencing the results. [Up to half of the vote-by-mail applications are being rejected](#) in some counties because of the new restrictions.

To learn more about the Texas experience, its implications for all of us, join UUSJ on [February 17th](#) when we host the "State Of Our U.S. Democracy: A UU View From The Texas Legislature," with Texas State Representative Donna Howard, D-48 (Austin).

[Read More](#)

8th Principle Learning

8th Principal Learning Community ZOOM Meeting

When: Feb 9, 2022.

Remember that this meeting is planned in two parts. You can attend either one or both parts.



Times are in Eastern Time Zone. Please adjust according to your location.

7:00-7:50 PM

Adopting the 8th Principle: **Dealing with challenges in your congregation**

8-9:30 PM

A Date with Possibility

We can look at the 8th Principle as a call to spiritual and cultural transformation.

We can look at the 8th Principle as an invitation from Unitarian Universalists to people who are seeking or interested in a progressive spiritual community.

What is possible? Where does the 8th Principle potentially take us in the future?

Last month we asked ourselves to share the 8th Principle with young people in our families. On February 9th, **Paula Cole Jones will give us a glimpse into a window of possibility as she discusses the 8th Principle with David Cole and Sie Lyons.** Neither David nor Sie are Unitarian Universalists, but they are inspired by the work that we are doing. Come and listen to the impact of our work. What happens when we share what we are up to?

PLEASE CONTACT Kathi Bayne or Barbara Myers to register for this and future meetings.

[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 next board meeting is on Wednesday, February 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**

General Assembly, June 22-26, 2022: Once again, the Pacific Western Region has the honor of hosting all the participating congregations from across the Association at the **[UUA General Assembly](#)** in Portland, Oregon. This will be both an in-person and a virtual

gathering, the largest we will have ever had. Click on the link above for registration, volunteer opportunities, Covid protocols, and anything else you want to know about GA 2022. It will be a wonderful time to celebrate our faith and the delights of the Pacific Northwest!

Register Now for In-Person GA 2022!

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, 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.**

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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