# This Week on the Peak



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

#### Greetings!

When I was young, my family went through some difficult moments. Financial struggles. Health struggles and dying of grandparents. Bullying at school. The usual things. I was a pretty sensitive kid and I took things to heart and sometimes I let things get to me. When things were hard around me, I often felt them hard within me. It was easy for me to be hard, in return, to those around me. I saw other people do that. I figured that was just the way things were.

But I came across a couple of people who revealed a different approach. Instead of 'passing on the hurt that had been passed to us,' I saw some people intentionally 'breaking the chain.' When they saw me experiencing other people's thoughtlessness or carelessness, they responded with a little



extra thought or care. When others noticed that neglect had been felt, they took strides to be present.

Some of these people were friends at school. Some were other families in my church. But regardless of who, or where or why, it always led to the better part of me being brought out. I almost always responded in kind. Returning care. Giving attention. Building trust. Several of those relationships survived a great many twists and turns so that the connection is still alive today as adults.

I just filled out my pledge card. I increased my pledge almost 10%. There are a great many reasons why. But chief among them is that I recognize that the community needs care right now. And I want to be one of those people who sees what's needed and steps up when asked. I want MPUUC to be around – and to be connected for years to come.

Please join together in being the folks who become the change they want to see. Who build the world we dream about. Let's help MPUUC in this Moment that Matters and Move Forward Together.

Rev Greg Ward (he, him, his)

minister@mpuuc.org

# This Sunday's Service:

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

#### The Color of Law

The conversation around 'reparations' has



been a hotly contested and highly polarizing conversation in American Social Policy for over 175 years. In Reparative Justice, we rely on agreed upon evidence to determine whenever someone has been 'wronged' and then attempt to discern what action could be taken by the perpetrator and what benefit could be received by the survivor such that a common reconciliation might be possible. In this service, we will look at 150 years of racial discrimination under U.S. law and where that leaves us in terms of reparations.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associates Kathi Bayne and Rev. Barbara Meyers. Worship Host will be Graham Bell. Peak Rocks 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 a check 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 <u>https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/</u> 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.

### SUNDAY SERVICE TEAM NEEDS HELP

Our Sunday Services come from Cole Hall and most of our members attend Services online. We are all grateful to our members make that this possible, as the Zoom Hosts, and others who have been so resourceful and learned all sorts of new tech skills to create programming and music, and Rev. Greg who has helped bring the wider UU world into our Services.

And, there is a small crew of folks who come together at Cole Hall each week to set up the chairs for in-person attendees, aesthetically set up the pulpit, and greet folks at the

door.

We need more folks on the crew, please. Elke and Rodd Gunn who have been Greeters one week each month will be moving to Chicago in March. Currently some folks are doubling up on duties or coming more than once a month; and sometimes they need a break, or to have someone cover in case they have a to be away from Cole Hall on a Sunday.

If you could take one week in March, April, May or June – as a Greeter, Set-up/Takedown, or Aesthetics, please contact Valerie Stewart about the schedule at <u>ValerieS4kids@aol.com</u> or 510/673-4287.



appear in the Circle of ecteam@mpuuc.org

### 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 <u>Joys and Concerns</u> from this week. If you would like your joy or concern to Life, contact the Encouragement Committee at

### 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 "<u>About-</u> <u>>Congregational Documents</u>" 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 "<u>About->Congregational Documents</u>" section of the website. <u>The outdoor event guidelines in section 18.2</u> 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.

#### Men's Breakfast is Coming Back!

The Mission Peak UU and First United Methodist joint Men's Breakfast is coming back in April. We need interested men to help us pick which day is better for them, Wed or Friday at 10AM. We will meet at Suju's coffee at 4949 Stevenson Blvd. in Fremont once each month. If you are interested please let Steve Wallcave <u>wallcave@mpuuc.org</u> or John Holmes know your day preference and we will let you know which day we are meeting.

### **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 degree to which any of us grew up recognizing the degree of racial zoning that was going on in the neighborhoods in which we lived. If we knew, how did we know? What did we do about it? What response did we see from role models? The link to the conversation can be found if you <u>Press here</u> Next week's discussion will be lay led and will be about our glimpses of the sacred. When did we notice that we were seeing something 'holy'?

### **Desserts for people who have pledged!**

Dear Members and Friends of Mission Peak,

We are in the middle of March and the middle of our Canvass effort. Thanks to everyone on the Canvass Team for ALL your time and talents that have gone into the organization and execution of this year's Canvass. The Canvass Team especially wants to thank and recognize all those who are Hosts and



Facilitators for your time and energy to support our Canvass. Thanks Rev. Greg, Kathy Wallcave, John Porter, Yvonne Hughes, Gayle Tupper, Tiffany Longfield, DeAnna Alm, Suzette Takei, Colleen Arnold, Jay Steele, Allysson MacDonald and our fabulous WebMaster Steve Wallcave for the Pledge Parties.

Thanks to everyone for signing up for the Pledge Parties! On Sunday March 20 at Cole Hall, please come to collect your DESSERTS! Boxed collections of delicious desserts will be available for everyone who has pledged. Out-of-area Members and Friends, you will receive a package in the mail. Thanks for supporting MPUUC!

The remaining Pledge Parties are Zoom meetings. Please sign-up at least 48 hours BEFORE a Pledge Party date to ensure that we can get all the necessary folks notified-including you.

Here is the link to the Pledge Party Sign-up form if you haven't signed up yet.

Link to sign up to pledge party

Hosts will email you before your meeting. The Canvass brochure is available at <u>www.mpuuc.org</u>.

The Board will begin to plan next year's budget (July 2022- June 2023) at the beginning of April. So, completing Canvass during March is important to MPUUC. As a community we share this Moment

that Matters for Mission Peak and we will go Forward Together !

With gratitude,

Valerie Stewart Canvass Coordinator <u>canvass@mpuuc.org</u>

# **JUSTICE CORNER**

### **Intergenerational Spring Seminar**

"Displacement & Human Rights: All in for Climate Justice" April 22 – May 1

The Intergenerational Spring Seminar, hosted by the UU Office at the United Nations (UU@UN), UU Ministry for Earth, Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) and Side With Love is an opportunity to collaborate with others while learning how to be a



Office at the United Nations

global activist. Through workshops, panel discussions, community building activities, and worship, you will undergo a process of learning, reflection, and growth while exploring

some of the most challenging issues facing humanity today. Learn more and register here.

# Take Action to ensure that our Supreme Court represents ALL citizens

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination to the Supreme Court should be celebrated, she is an exceptional choice and more than qualified as a lawyer and a jurist. As a former public defender, Judge Jackson will bring an invaluable perspective to the Supreme Court. This nomination is a long-overdue step towards a Supreme Court that better reflects the country it serves. When judges and justices come from diverse backgrounds, their decisions and rulings are more likely to reflect a variety of outlooks and perspectives. What's more, public trust in our judiciary increases when people see jurists who look like them, understand their issues and care about their needs. Her confirmation would be the first time in the Supreme Court's 233-year history that four women are serving simultaneously, achieving near gender equity on the nine-person bench.

How can you help?

# Tell the Senate: Confirm Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson – the hearings start March 21st

Both of California's Senators have expressed support for Judge Brown and it is a good idea to tell your Senator what YOU think.

Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553 <u>https://www.padilla.senate.gov/contact/contact-form/</u>

SenatorDianneFeinstein(202)224-3841https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-me224-

IMPORTANTLY, tell your family and Friends in OTHER States to contact their Senators, please.

#### Greetings!

Sending care and concern to wherever you find yourself today.

To build the connected community needed to resist the ravages of the climate crisis - emphasized in the UN's latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) <u>report</u>- and create relationships for justice, equity and compassion in the world we live, we invite you to the following events this month:

#### Spring Equinox Dinner Church: THIS SUNDAY -

March 20 @ 5pm PT / 6 MT / 7 CT / 8 ET **Gather together!** UU Ministry for Earth is excited to partner with <u>Nourish UU</u>. Together, we offer an interactive plant-based dinner church experience for those working for justice to gather, restore and prepare for the work now and ahead!

#### **Register for Dinner Church!**

Congregational Climate Convergence: March 22 @ 10am-1:30 pm PT /11am-2:30 pm MT / 12-3:30 pm CT / 1-4:30pm ET

*Calling all congregational lay leaders and religious professionals passionate about climate justice!* Join Side With Love, Green Sanctuary 2030, and UU Ministry for Earth for a day of community nourishment, resource sharing and skill-building to support your local eco ministries!





# Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

#### JUBILEE 3 anti-racist anti-oppression training.

Hello UU Communities in the western part of the country,

I am inviting you to consider participating in the Jubilee Three Workshop on the weekend of <u>March 25-27, 2022</u>. Jubilee Three is an antiracism workshop that we have been providing since our congregations shifted to virtual programming. Since September 2020, over 500 UUs have gone through the training.

We are offering Jubilee Three for people who live in or near the Pacific Time Zone to make the schedule more convenient. This training does not require prior courses.

#### You can register here https://www.paulacolejones.com

What the Jubilee Three training offers people, of course, depends on where they are in their own life and in their relationships. In the amount of time we have, we cannot cover everything.

We will address:

- how racism was constructed in the U.S.
- how it works systemically in this country.
- the intersection of racism and classism
- the intersection of racism and gender

 $\cdot$  how we have all been socialized into systems and a culture historically built from white supremacy, a theme that runs through the training

#### Register at https://www.paulacolejones.com

Please note all times are for the Pacific Time Zone. This is an online training, and all UUs are welcome.

- Friday, March 25th 6:00pm to 9:00pm
- Saturday, March 26th 9:00am to 8:30pm
- · Sunday, March 27th 12:00pm to 6:30

The trainers are Paula Cole Jones, Dr. Leon Spencer and Lutricia Callair.

Enrollment is limited so sign up today! Registration fee: \$170 per participant, \$85 for second or third person in the same household. The first person must register at \$170 for subsequent family members to receive the discount. Deadline is <u>March 20, 2022</u>.

BLACK EXCELLENCE

#### Celebrating Black Excellence

During the month of February, we reflected on Black Excellence. We highlighted Black Americans who have contributed to US society, culture, governance, and wonder. If you missed our series about these groundbreaking Americans, you can visit our post here. https://uujmca.org/2022/uujmca/black-history-month-2022/ #ReimagineCommunity #BlackExcellence #BlackHistoryMonth #blackexcellence #uujmca

### 8th Principle Learning

How To! With Charles Duhigg: <u>"How To Fight Racism in</u> Your Town"



# **Board Briefs**

The board met on Wednesday, March 9 and:

- Discussed board restructuring ideas
- Discussed proposed bylaw changes
- Received and discussed proposal from financial consultant on streamlining the Treasurer's position.
- Approved process for receiving financial consultant's proposal on implementation of ideas
- Discussed elimination of "cash through mail slot" donation option
- Received information on canvass results so far

The next board meeting is on Wednesday, April 13 at 7 p.m. For complete board minutes or other board info go to the Members Only section of our web site at <u>mpuuc.org/about-us/members-only</u>

For more details about meetings or questions email president@mpuuc.org

### Please Join Us For General Assembly 2022!



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY** MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

#### The General Assembly Housing Reservation System is Now Open!

The GA Housing Reservation System offers premium amenities, discounted rates, and the best networking opportunities for in-person GA attendees. By booking in our hotel block, you assist the UUA in effectively controlling meeting space, attrition and penalty fees; all of which directly benefit you and the future of General Assembly. Additionally, the UUA is able to negotiate on behalf of our block of attendees for <u>sustainability</u> and <u>accessibilities</u> requirements. Get a head start on your travel plans and book your housing today on the <u>GA Housing Reservation Page</u>.

Dormitory housing at Portland State University and information about home hospitality, if available, will be published in March 2022. <u>Reserve Now!</u>

#### Safety and Wellness in Portland

In compliance with UUA and Oregon Convention Center guidelines, entry to General Assembly 2022 in Portland, OR is open to people who are fully vaccinated. Additionally, the OCC's requirement of vaccination extends to all contracted service providers working in the facility.

#### Oregon Convention Center COVID-19 Safety Measures

In addition, masking is required and physically distanced seating options will be reserved in our meeting spaces.

Register Now for In-Person GA 2022! Registration is now open for in-person attendance.



# UUA General Assembly 2022: Virtual Registration Opened March 1

June 22-26, 2022 Can't view email? Click Here to View as Webpage

#### Virtual Registration for General Assembly Opens March 1.

Do you enjoy the convenience and accessibility of remote General Assembly participation? GA 2022 again offers virtual attendance with robust programming and enhanced delegate discussion tools. <u>Virtual Registration</u> opens <u>March 1st.</u>

#### Multi-Platform General Assembly: Choose Your Platform

**In-person Registration** is required for all live GA events and programming taking place in Portland, Oregon. In-person registration includes access to virtual content available on the GA app, powered by Whova. In-person registration is the same process for delegates and non-delegates; delegates may register before or after determining their delegate status. General Assembly registration is required for all in-person participants, including in-person delegates. **Register now!** 

**Full Virtual Registration** is required for access to virtual GA programming, including workshops, worship services, the Ware Lecture, featured speakers, Opening and Closing celebrations, exhibits, entertainment, and networking. Virtual GA programming will be streamed on the GA app, powered by Whova. Delegates will use the GA Delegate Platform for discussion and voting during General Sessions. Virtual registration is the same process for delegates and non-delegates; delegates may register before or after determining their delegate status. <u>Register starting March 1</u>

**Business-only Virtual Registration** provides access to the GA Delegate Platform for discussion and voting during General Sessions. Payment is not required but a donation to offset production and platform costs is suggested. Business-only registrants will access to delegate chat rooms but will not have access to GA programming, the GA app, networking opportunities, or the exhibit hall. GA delegates are strongly encouraged to register as Full Virtual Registrants. <u>Register starting March 1</u>

# Gloria Wahl looking for an ADU or in-law apartment to rent

Gloria Wahl, who has been attending Mission Peak UU since Dec. and is looking for a new place to live because the owner of her current cottage in Fremont has a relative moving in to it soon. She is looking for an ADU but is also open to sharing someone's home or a caretaking position. She is retired; has excellent references; does not smoke and has an 11-year-old 8# rescued ShihTzu dog. She can be reached at 406.350.4204 or mtrockgal@gmail.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 Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631 Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553 Senator Dianne Feinstein (202) 224-3841

