

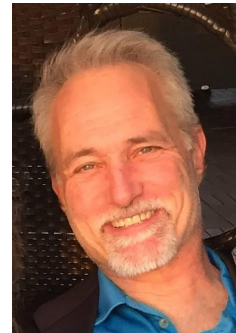
This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! April 13, 2022

Greetings!

We are in holy week of the Christian Calendar. If you don't spend time reflecting on 2000 year-old events, suffice it to say that it was a challenging transition. Jesus brought a progressive agenda into a place of tradition. Money changing tables got overturned. A whole lot of bickering ensued about what needed to be done and who was going to do it. There was pain. Significant change. And then, suddenly, there was good news.



Well, there are some similarities between Jerusalem 0000 and MPUUC 2022. The process of money changing – i.e. the role of the Treasurer in the congregation – has, traditionally, become quite taxing on the person holding that responsibility. It was clear that it was feeling somewhat sacrificial from the fact that it has been painfully difficult – and obvious – that no one, this year, was willing to do it.

The MPUUC board – responding with a more progressive and compassionate approach than ancient Jewish or Roman boards – has been working on change. They hired an excellent financial consultant who interviewed a dozen people involved in the process and, ultimately, made a list of recommendations for how the Treasurer position could transfer the vast majority of accounting and financial management responsibilities to a paid position. The transfer considered cost (both personal and financial) and integrated appropriate checks and balances. Some of the good news is that we have Sandra Lange, an amazingly skilled administrator with training, who reviewed the plan and is willing to take on these responsibilities for less than 4-5 hours / wk. Our current treasurer, Melissa Holmes, says this relieves her of over 90% of the burden she was carrying.

We're grateful for the Board's insight and hard work – and particularly the hard work of Melissa who helped us get to this place. We're also incredibly grateful for Sandra and our consultant. But the real good news actually appears to be that, thanks to everyone, our canvass this year met its goal and brought in the money needed to accommodate this transition.

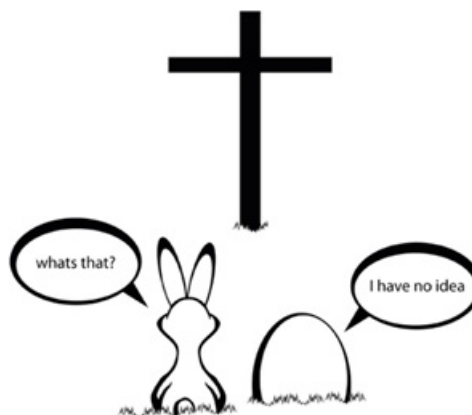
The meaning of Easter for us: Even when key processes need to change, we can come

together to make them happen – and no one has to die or be sacrificed in the process. And, in the end, we can all come together to believe in and support what we do together.

Rev Greg Ward (he, him, his)
minister@mpuuc.org

This Sunday's Service:

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



The Easter Exam

What is Easter? Beneath all the fancy clothes, the music and pagentry... Beyond the history, theology, and confusing stories of eggs, empty tombs, bunnies and brunches... what would we find that gives us real hope? What's there that would tell us whether we're on the right track for transformation in our lives and for the larger world around us? This is a service where we will explore what the Easter exam is asking, It's not about passing organized religion's test. It's about living up to the real hope we are part of providing.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associates Paul K. Davis and Don Ramie. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. 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 <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.



Each week, we post the previous Sunday's Joys and Concerns that we were given permission to share. We encourage you to make room in your heart for the hopes and fears of your fellow members. Reach out to celebrate and console those you care about. Here's the [Joys and Concerns](#) for April 10 as well as the prior 3 weeks. If you would like your joy or concern to appear in the Wheel of Life, contact the Encouragement Committee at

ecteam@mpuuc.org

Safety Policy for Hybrid Services in Cole Hall - Updated March 30th

Attendees should be masked inside and outside of Cole Hall during the service. We encourage people to wear N95 (or equivalent) which are more effective than cloth or surgical 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.

SPIRITUAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY (AND SERMON WRITING) FOR FUN AND PROPHET

2 Tuesdays - April 26 and May 10 - 7:00 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.

Each of us has some key moment in our past that prompted us to pivot in our lives or leveraged us to a new discovery about ourselves or the world. Our lives can be divided into *before* this discover or *after*. Often, these moments contain some universal truth that, when shared, help others experiencing transition. Each year, Rev. Greg offers a two session workshop for people to take these memorable moments from their life and unpack them – give them a narrative arc. Some turn these ruminations into worship offerings. Some use them as an opportunity to gain clarity. If you are interested in this class, please send an email to Rev. Greg (minister@mpuuc.org). The class is open to SIX people.

Baseball Sunday Returns – May 15

Rev Greg is reviving Baseball Sunday at MPUUC. This year it will be Sunday, May 15. What is Baseball Sunday you ask? Well, it means you can wear your favorite sports team gear to Sunday service and enjoy a sports themed sermon from Rev Greg (and perhaps some sports-themed snacks). After the service those who are interested will gather at the Oakland Coliseum to watch the Oakland A's play the LA Angels. Tickets are \$27 each and can be purchased here: <https://mpuuc.square.site/>



Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister's Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week's discussion will be about Easter. A lot went into Easter. Progressive ideas challenging tradition. Clash of cultures. Power being questioned. Authoritarian vs. Democratic processes. What did Easter once mean and what might it mean today? The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#). Next week's discussion will be about Earth day – what has it been, what is it now and what could it be?

CANVASS

MISSION PEAK – WE ARE GOING **FORWARD TOGETHER!!!!**

Words seem inadequate – when faced with a Moment that Matters – Mission Peak comes together as a Beloved Community and lives its values!



Our official Canvass season is over and with only a few outstanding pledges to confirm, our goal has been met. Our Board can create a budget for next year.

Thanks, Thanks and THANKS again. For those who participated in the Pledge Parties – it was wonderful to talk about our hopes, as well as our concerns, for going **forward together**. **Hosts** and **Facilitators**- YOU made those connections possible! Generous **Donors** of “Matching funds” you provided inspiration and incentive.

For all those folks on the Canvass Team – YOU ARE A ROCK! Everyone took a task and completed it with devotion, talent, imagination, intelligence, endurance and humor. Rev. Greg, you masterminded the theme and compiled the excellent training materials. Melissa and Steve, besides handling your massive duties as Treasurer and Tech Coordinator - thank YOU for always answering my pesky questions. Kathy – you are the **best** side-kick! Graham- you are magic; someone asks or makes a suggestion – and poof, like a rabbit pulled out of a hat, you create a solution, with grace and kindness. Gayle – in spite of your injury you are always reaching out and checking things twice. And Sandra, before taking your vacation- you made sure everything worked. **WOW !!** WHAT a **TEAM!!!!**

With gratitude,
Valerie Stewart
Canvass Coordinator canvass@mpuuc.org

JUSTICE CORNER

Intergenerational Spring Seminar

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

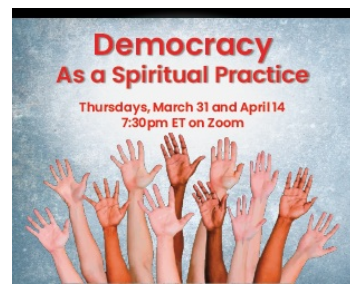
The Intergenerational Spring Seminar, hosted by the UU Office at the United Nations (UU@UN), UU Ministry for Earth, Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) and Side With Love is an opportunity to collaborate with others while learning how to be a global activist. Through workshops, panel discussions,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



Climate Change Activities

[Did you know that people who list climate change as one of their highest priorities often skip midterm elections?](#)

After the Protests: Democracy as a Spiritual Practice
Session II: Thursday, April 14, 7:30pm ET on Zoom
[Register Here](#)



Join us for part two of the ongoing compelling two-part series on Democracy as a Spiritual Practice. After the Protests, which explores how we can engage and rebuild our civic society to bring our democracy back into balance. This program is led by the Rev. Sharon Welch, professor and author of numerous books (including After the Protests), and First Parish in Concord's Social Action Manager, Rev. Paul Langston-Daley. The first session was held on March 31 (Strengthening our Civic Muscles)(video forthcoming). Everyone is welcome to register for the second session.

This series is co-sponsored by Reclaim Our Democracy, First Parish in Concord, First Church in Belmont, the UU Church of Manchester NH, and Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice.[ARO](#)

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Write Your Senators to Modernize the *Electoral Count Act* - [Action Alert](#)

The Electoral Count Act (ECA) regulates the counting of President and Vice President electors by the joint session of Congress. The lack of clarity and the potential for abuse fueled many disputes over the 2020 Presidential election results. [A draft of the revised bill](#) for discussion has been put forth by Senators Angus King (ME), Amy Klobuchar (MN), and Dick Durbin (IL). More ECA information is available on this [ECA web page](#) put together by Protect Democracy and this 6-minute [video](#).



The Democracy Action Team had several informative meetings on the ECA with Sen. Susan Collins (ME), Sen. Tim Kaine (VA), and Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (AZ). There is general bipartisan support for the bill, but there is disagreement on how to reform the Act. After an initial push, it is now moving slowly due to other Senate priorities (Ukraine, budget) and realizing that it will take time to reach a bipartisan consensus.

Meanwhile, it's unlikely that any substantial elements of the Freedom to Vote: John Lewis Act will make it into the final bill, given the difficulty in agreeing on the bill basics and Republican opposition to voting rights reform.

Sen. Collins' office hoped to get a draft of the bill in the next couple of months and then send it to Senate Rules Committee for review and markup. The hope is to get it done by the end of the year.

8th Principle Learning

Essay: ["Racist or Anti-Racist" by Ibram X Kendi](#)

Board Briefs

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 mpuuc.org/about-us/members-only

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



Video Engagement Strategy with Peter Bowden

LIVE STREAM DAILY: April 25 - April 29, 2022
Monday through Friday at 1:00 PM EDT
30-Minute Sessions with Q&A



The need for our congregations to effectively engage with people online has never been greater! During this free five-day live series (Youtube Live Stream), Peter Bowden will share video-based strategies to support online visitors, increase engagement with weekly worship themes, and amplify advocacy and witness efforts. Each 30-minute live stream will include a presentation followed by Q&A. Peter Bowden is a Unitarian Universalist trainer and coach specializing in media, digital strategy, and congregational life. This series shares the core strategies from his popular Video Ministry Academy training and is sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Association. For more information and to register click here <https://www.peterbowden.live/uua-live-training>

WE ARE ONE



RALLY |



PEACE & CLIMATE JUSTICE GO TOGETHER

Thursday, April 28, 2022
5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Walnut & Paseo Padre, Fremont

Curbing climate change is an act of peace-making. If global emission rates are not reduced, the likelihood of climate-induced violence is fivefold.

When nations sell fossil fuels and use the money to buy weapons, our dependence on fossil fuels supports war. As long as our economy relies on fossil fuels, we will be at the mercy of petro dictators who use their influence on global energy prices like weapons.

This is a moment to decisively break from fossil fuels. We cannot continue to live this way. It will destroy our civilization.

The world's top energy experts, economists, and social scientists say it's still possible to avoid the most catastrophic consequences of climate change, but only if societies take immediate, drastic action to put the planet on a safer path. We must urge our leaders to act NOW!

"This moment is a clarion call for the urgent need to transition to domestic clean energy so that we are never again complicit in fossil-fueled conflict."
- Senator Ed Markey

**Tri-City Interfaith Council
Compassionate Fremont**

[Click here for flyer](#)

Serra Center is hiring

The Serra Center is urgently hiring Living Skills Instructors. If you are an individual with a caring heart and great people skills, this is the job for you! If you know someone who meets these criteria, please pass along this job opportunity!

Serra Center provides various living skills support to a diverse age group of adults with developmental disabilities. Your goal would be to provide respectful, personal, and motivating services that enable our clients to participate in all aspects of their community, and lead meaningful lives centered around independence and empowerment.

If you're a student or someone seeking work with non-traditional hours, this may be the perfect fit for you! No experience required. Join our team - make a difference!

Learn more about Serra Center at <https://www.serracenter.org/>.

Send resumes to humanresources@serracenter.org.

Tri-City Interfaith Council and
Temple Beth Torah invite you to

Interfaith Yom HaShoah Service

a Holocaust remembrance

Sunday, May 1 7pm

Temple Beth Torah
42000 Paseo Padre Pkwy
Fremont, CA

This event will be multi-access, In-Person and Virtual
Pre-register by Friday 4/29 at <https://bit.ly/YomHaShoah5782>

Please Join Us For



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 [sustainability](#) and [accessibilities](#) requirements. Get a head start on your travel plans and book your housing today on the [GA Housing Reservation Page](#).

Dormitory housing at Portland State University and information about home hospitality, if available, will be published in March 2022. [Reserve Now!](#)

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. [Virtual Registration](#) opens March 1st.

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. [Register starting March 1](#)

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. [Register starting 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

Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631

Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553

Senator Dianne Feinstein (202) 224-3841



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