

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! April 20, 2022

Greetings!

I've been thinking a lot about leadership lately. From Zelensky to Tucker Carlson, from Kavanaugh to Ketanji Brown Jackson and from Biden to Putin, there are many varied examples of leadership on parade these days. And what successful leaders *stand for* (model and represent) now, will determine what we all *stand for* (put up with and allow) in time.



If it were all left up to the court of public opinion (and social media), I would despair. Luckily, it is not. Just like Ukrainians who, rose and took action when their backs were against the wall, I am seeing a pipeline to real leadership growing in commitment and determination.

Studies show that Millennials and Gen Z (different age groups) are inheriting wealth (power) at an unprecedented rate: \$100 Trillion is projected to transfer hands between 2020 and 2030. Those generations – right now – are researching and 'trying on' leadership models that will help them determine how to use that wealth and power. What's at stake is the difference between democratic and autocratic systems.

For decades, spiritual communities have been falling out of favor among emerging generations because they have been seen as stuck – intransigent and, at best, pawns in the arc of social change. Exceptions to this are congregations that intentionally teach leadership. Specifically, the ones who give people opportunities to practice listening, community organizing, coalition building, resiliency in moving through challenge.

It's important to both lift up leadership happening now (the work of the Board, CoM, LDC and Stewardship) who've been modeling innovation and collaboration; as well as recognize that leadership is always evolving, growing and being passed on. We are part of building the world we dream about. And it doesn't happen without everyone stepping in. Leadership is not something we need in order to live into our purpose. Leadership IS our purpose.

Thanks especially to everyone who stepped in to lead Mission Peak to its best pledge drive ever. That is shared leadership!

## **This Sunday's Service:**

**We have transitioned  
to hybrid services. See  
[mpuuc.org/zoom](https://mpuuc.org/zoom) each  
week for how to attend  
services.**



### **The Interdependent Web of Life of Which We're a Part (Earth Day)**

Almost everyone will tell you that they care about the earth. They care about the relationship they have helped to co-create [and re-create everyday] with the other 8.7 million species that co-habitate with us on planet earth. But what does it really mean to responsibly live up to our end of the interdependent bargain? This service celebrates our relationship - and our promise - to the millions of other plants, animals, flora and fauna that make up our creative co-existence.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Paul K. Davis. Worship Host will be Graham Bell. Knuti VanHoven, Jo Ann Schriener, Shauna Pickett-Gordon, Peak Performers and 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.**

**Share the Plate for LEAF in April**

In honor of Earth Day we will share the plate on April 24 with Local Ecology and Agriculture Fremont (LEAF). LEAF is a non-profit organization serving our friends and neighbors in and around Alameda County. Their mission is to alleviate food insecurity and to educate the community about the values of growing healthy food, living sustainable lifestyles, and becoming better stewards of our environment. They achieve this through philanthropic giving and by offering essential learning opportunities to those around us. LEAF was founded in 2008 under the leadership of Bruce Cates, MPUUC member, and in 2015 we partnered with them to create the Stone Garden which produces tons of fresh food for local food banks. Attend the service on April 24 to hear an update from Elaine O. about their *Growing for Good* program which is aimed toward alleviating food insecurity by approaching the issue from multiple angles. Click [here](#) for more information on LEAF.



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

Write a check to MPUUC with “LEAF” 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 “LEAF” on the memo line) 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 “LEAF” in the message. Note we use PayPal for this, and they charge us around 3%

## **MPUUC – LEAF INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE EARTH DAY APRIL 23rd**

earth day 2022  
INVEST IN  OUR PLANET

The Earth Day Celebration is going to take place on Saturday, April 23rd from 11 am to 3 pm at the new Fremont Event Center at 3500 Capitol Avenue in downtown Fremont.

### **2022 Earth Day Recycling Event**

**LEAF and Eeviee are teaming up again this year to have an Earth Day Collection Event.**

Collections to begin at the Earth Day Celebration and thereafter at Stone Garden on Monday and Thursday mornings.

- **Denims;** new donated, used recycled into insulation for the housing industry
- **Socks** both new donated and used recycled into insulation material for the automotive industry.
- **Bras** both new/used donated to organizations supporting women in need and used recycled into carpet padding
- **Crayons** both new/used. New are redistributed locally. Used are remelted into new crayons and donated to local hospitals.

**Other APRIL 23 Earth Day Booths will be taking-back/collecting the following items:**

- FREE paper shredding
- Syringes and needles (in approved containers)
- Eyeglasses
- Mercury thermometers
- Unused takeout utensil packs and condiment packets
- Plastic toothbrushes for free bamboo toothbrushes

HERE IS THE LINK TO LEAF:

#### **RECYCLING**

[Click Here](#)

#### **EARTH DAY**

[Click Here](#)



### **CIRCLE OF LIFE**

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 17 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](mailto:ecteam@mpuuc.org)

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## **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.

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## **SPIRITUAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY (AND SERMON WRITING) FOR FUN AND PROPHET**

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

**STARTS THIS TUESDAY APRIL 26!!**

Each of us has some key moment in our past that prompted us to make a pivotal change. Our lives can be divided into *before* this discovery or *after*. Often, these moments contain some relevant or universal truth that resonates with others. 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](mailto:minister@mpuuc.org)). There are still **two slots left!**

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## 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/>



**Please note tickets need to be purchased by end of day on Tuesday, April 26.**

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## Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister's Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week's discussion will be about Earth Day and your personal relationship with the earth. If 'being with the Earth' is a part of your spiritual practice, how do you pay homage? What does your devotional look like? How is the Earth better because of your practice? The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#). Next week's discussion will be lay led and will be about Eid al-Fitr – a Muslim holy day commemorating the end of Ramadan where old wrongs are forgiven, money is given to the poor and special foods are prepared for a feast that can last up to three days.

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## JUSTICE CORNER

We collectively achieved two decisive victories in our campaigns to uphold the dignity of immigrants! These victories were won due to the tireless efforts of the people who have been detained, their loved ones, activists and organizers, our partners, and advocates like you working toward justice for those in migration. **These successes mean more asylum seekers will be allowed to live their lives in freedom, together with their families in a welcoming community, safe from violence.**



• An End to Title 42

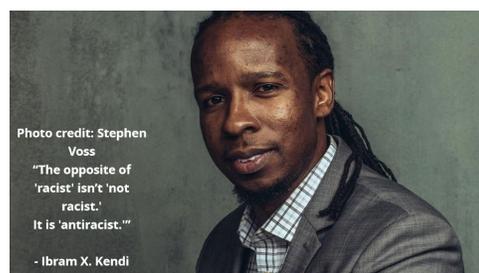
For over two years under Title 42, migrants at the U.S. border faced immediate expulsion, instead of being allowed to exercise their right to claim asylum. [The Biden administration has directed this policy to stop on May 23.](#)

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June 22-26, 2022

Ibram X. Kendi is the 2022 Ware Lecturer

Ibram X. Kendi is author of five straight #1 *New York Times* bestsellers, including [How to Be an Antiracist](#) and the National Book Award-



winning [Stamped From The Beginning: A Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America](#). In 2020, *Time* magazine named him one of the 100 most influential people in the world. His relentless and passionate research puts into question the notion of a post-racial society and opens readers' and audiences' eyes to the reality of racism in America today. Kendi's events are sharp, informative, and hopeful, serving as a strong platform for any institution's discussions on racial discrimination.

Ibram X. Kendi is the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Boston University and the founding director of the BU Center for Antiracist Research. He is a contributing writer at *The Atlantic* and a CBS News correspondent.

For more information on Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, please visit [www.prhspeakers.com](http://www.prhspeakers.com).

Dr. Kendi will deliver the lecture at 4 p.m. Pacific on Saturday, June 25. In-person registration is required to attend the event in Portland, Oregon. In-person or full virtual registration is required to live-stream the event on June 25, or access the video on-demand when it is posted.

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

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**UUSJ is an avid supporter and partner of the Poor People's Campaign (PPC). As well, UU's around the country work**



**closely with PPC and support its mission. Below is a message from one such person**

My name is Kirk Freeman. I am a member of All Souls, Unitarian, in Washington, DC, and I am currently serving as a Ministerial Intern at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville, MD. I am organizing and showing up for the Poor People's Mass Mobilization on June 18 because, as Dr. King once said, "The time is always right to do what is right."

As a Unitarian Universalist, it is my deep belief that all people are connected in an interdependent web of existence, that each and every person has inherent worth and dignity, and that I have a moral, ethical, and spiritual obligation to side with the forces of love, justice, and equity in our world.

It is morally unacceptable that 4 out of 10 people in the United States are living in poverty or just above the poverty line. Despite what some would have us believe, this is not a matter of personal responsibility. Nor is it a failure in our social or economic systems. It is a *feature* of those systems and it is rooted in structural racism, classism, militarism, and exploitation.

Now is the time for a moral fusion movement - a movement that will overturn these underlying and intersecting structural oppressions by following the leadership of the people who are most directly harmed by them. Now is the time for a movement like the Poor People's Campaign. Now is the right time to do what is right!

**Please join me in Washington, DC, on June 18.**

**If you would like to help plan UU involvement for the June 18 Assembly in Washington, DC with The Poor People's Campaign, and the UUA's PPC Council, contact Pablo DeJesus, UUSJ Executive Director ([pdejesus@uusj.org](mailto:pdejesus@uusj.org)).**

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## 8th Principle Learning

Rev. Anya's Facebook Post is below, shared with her permission

## Installation Service for Rev. Alex Jensen this Sunday, April 24 @ 7:30 a.m. PST

The Installation Service celebrating the ministry of the Rev. Alex Jensen with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse will be at 7:30 AM PST (10:30 AM EST) on Sunday, April 24, 2022. The service will be livestreamed via YouTube linked [here](#).



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## Board Briefs

The board met on Wednesday, April 13 :

- Voted and accepted the proposal from the financial consultant to revamp and streamline MPUUC's financial process, including installing a new web-based financial and membership database.
- Agreed on the proposed update to our bylaws and set up a process for informing the congregation of the proposed changes and getting feedback.
- Discussed the canvass results, which are above the goal with some pledges still not received.
- Created a budget subcommittee.
- Approved a recipient of the Volunteer of the Year award
- Set an additional meeting to complete agenda.



The next board meetings are via Zoom on Sunday, April 24 at 4 p.m. and Wednesday, May 11 at 7 p.m.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, June 5, after the service. 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](https://mpuuc.org/about-us/members-only)

For more details about meetings or questions email [president@mpuuc.org](mailto:president@mpuuc.org)

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## 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](#)

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### 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](mailto: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  
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 [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](#)

### Register Now for GA 2022! GA Registration Rates Increase May 1.

[Registration is now open](#) for in-person attendance and virtual attendance. [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 May 1. Virtual registration rates will increase on May 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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