

This Week on the Peak



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

Greetings!

Mid-summer greetings to you all!

I am DeAnna Alm, and I am at the beginning of the third year of my time on the MPUUC Board. Prior to our bylaw changes, I would have been serving as Past President, but now I am a Member at Large. I am working with our new President, Suzette Takei, to share information and past experiences, and to continue to revamp the job so that it will hopefully be less time-consuming for the person who follows her into the job.



This summer will be a time of transition. The Board will be operating under the new bylaws, and will be looking at the Board policies to see what needs to be changed in order to make them congruent. Our goal is always going to be to simplify wherever possible! Another big thing we will be reviewing is the Black and White Auction. The person who headed it up for years is taking a well-deserved break, and so we will need to see what we can do with it during a time of continuing-long-past-when-we-expected Covid and leadership change.

Mission Peak UU Congregation wants to continue being a support for its friends and members in a variety of ways. This home for all of us is keeping its doors open, and that is thanks to everyone who volunteers for anything! I want to encourage us all to stretch out and try new things, while also reminding us all that you don't have to do ALL the things.

DeAnna Alm

This Sunday's Service:

We have transitioned to hybrid services. See mpuuc.org/zoom

each week for how to attend services.

Words Matter

Everything we say, every way that we say it, every way that people can hear what we say has an effect on those around us. How that works is often outside our awareness of the communication that is taking place. Communication is a two way process in which we only vaguely know the other side. Today's world is so divided and stressed that it is easy to cause pain and not be aware of it. What can we do to ease the path and maintain good relationship when we do cause pain?



Mark Rahman will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Paul K. Davis. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Peak Rocks and Peak Performers 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%.



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 July 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

Attendees should be masked inside and outside of Cole Hall during the service. We encourage people to wear N95 mask (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.

Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister’s Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. Discussion topics over the summer will be lay-led and vary in focus according to the topics that are pressing on our hearts or the ethics calling us to respond. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

Pastoral Care

For questions about pastoral care, contact the Encouragement team (ecteam@mpuuc.org). This will go to a team of people who, over the summer, are led by Rev. Barbara Meyers. You can contact Rev. Barbara at bfkmeyers@gmail.com. From July 14-22, filling in for Rev. Barbara will be Jo Ann Schriener and Sharon Davis. They can be reached at the following numbers:

Jo Ann Schriener - 510-648-8963
Sharon Davis - 510-449-3869

Pre-Hearing Prayer for Sergio, July 14 at 7:30 PM

Sergio, the asylum seeker we have been accompanying, will finally have his hearing on July 15. On the evening before the hearing, some of us will be meeting briefly via Zoom for an interfaith prayer of support. Members of Kehilla Community Synagogue in Piedmont and Lakeshore Baptist Church in Oakland will also be present. Please contact Meredith Miller, annmeredithmiller@hotmail.com, if you are interested in attending.

JUSTICE CORNER

UUSJ’s Democracy Action Team (DAT)

An Avalanche of Principled Concern Is Needed

UUSJ can’t underscore enough how close we came to a coup after our last election. We need you to write a letter to your Senators urging their support of the Electoral Count Act (ECA) to protect the decision of the voters in presidential elections.

We will not give up on voting rights or free and fair elections. Nor will we relinquish any expectation for peaceful orderly transitions of power, in deference to our civil authority.



The ECA would update, tighten and clarify the existing 1887 law that governs the casting and counting of the electoral votes for the presidency, including the role of Congress and the vice president. Revising this law is aimed at averting the chaos and misinformation

that followed the 2020 presidential election.

At the congressional January 6 hearings, we're learning more about the coordinated political and legal assault on our democracy as well as the physical violence of the insurrection. This has deepened our commitment to political engagement and accountability. Our democratic process, cannot rest solely on the moral fortitude of a handful of elected officials or high-level staff, such as the now-famous "Team Normal."

By refusing to act on the ECA, the Senate continues playing a numbers game with voting rights and free elections when there are fundamental risks to our democracy. The Senate's inaction comes despite bipartisan support for ECA.

We want a restoration of voting rights. We want free and fair elections. Guaranteeing the most basic protections for our democracy starts with the Electoral Count Act. Join us in urging the Senate to pass it now, before the 117th Congress expires, before the lame-duck session, and prior to the start of the 118th Congress when new players, issues, and dynamics take hold.

See the [full item here](#). Write your [Senators](#).

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Part of our collective path forward to fight back against this ruling is working to shift power in Washington and at the state level.



The representatives in Congress have the power to approve or reject federal judicial appointments. Governors can veto repressive laws including those that would seek to punish people seeking abortions. State houses will be the gatekeepers of legislation to allow abortion, to criminalize those seeking abortion, and we must keep organizing for bold candidates in every state.

Here are four ways white people can show up today to take action for reproductive justice:

1. [Find a rally near you](#).
 2. [Join our mid-term elections program](#)— Block, Build, Grow— to organize white people to shift power around issues like abortion and healthcare. Our first action is a text bank in support of Stacey Abrams for the Governor of Georgia on July 13th.
 3. Donate to people-of-color led organizations that fund and organize for abortion access like [SisterSong](#) and the [National Network of Abortion Funds](#).
 4. [Watch our webinar](#) with long time reproductive justice activist, Loretta Ross, to better understand why abortion is a racial justice issue and why white people have a key role in organizing to defend this right.
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8th Principle Learning

Holy Post - Race in America - Part 2

This is an excellent, stimulating, and easy to watch video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-yun74BJEc&app=desktop>



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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