

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! July 6, 2022

Greetings!



“The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move with it, and join the dance.” - Alan Watts

How do you personally feel about change? For me, change keeps life fresh and never boring. Change provides learning opportunities and growth. I’m never bored because there’s always something new to do, try, or learn. Approximately 38% of people like to leave their comfort zone, while 62% do not. Many people feel uncomfortable with change, and the fear or insecurity it brings can cause stress, resentment, and the inability to move or make decisions.

Why is this? Our feelings about change come from a complex mix of past experiences, innate personality, and the interpretations individuals put on any new piece of information. Thus, people presented with the same information, such as “we have a new board and new operating procedures for MPUUC for 2022-23,” will react differently and have different emotions associated with this new fact.

For me, this is not a new fact; it’s one I’ve been preparing for since May. But for others, it may bring up worry or concern. Because I love change, I see this next year as a great learning opportunity. I’m going to learn a lot more about Unitarian Universalism, I’m going to have opportunities to connect on a deeper and more meaningful level, and I’m going to get to share myself and my love through my favorite act of love - service to others. I hope that this new board brings positive feelings forward for you. Each of us has decided to volunteer to serve MPUUC because we love you and this church organization very much.



The ‘ripple effect’ works both with negativity and positivity. I hope you will each adopt a little of my excitement and love for change by welcoming the new board and the changes that are sure to come with open arms and open minds.

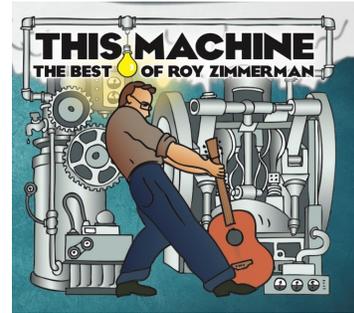
We met recently and found so many ways that we are alike and many ways in which we balance each other well. I'm looking forward to working with each of these beautiful people and serving the MPUUC congregation. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out via email, text, or an old-school phone call.

If you're curious about your own feelings and reaction to change, take the online test "[How Do You Personally Feel About Change?](#)"

Suzette Takei
takeisj@gmail.com
510-468-6767

This Sunday's Service:

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



This Machine

Roy Zimmerman is a musical, social satirist extraordinaire whose signature blend of heart and hilarity is so on point you will be laughing, smiling, nodding your head and clapping your hands. Roy's songs have been heard on HBO and Showtime, he has shared the stage with musical and comedic luminaries like Robin Williams, Ellen DeGeneres, Arlo Guthrie, Bill Maher, Holly Near, John Oliver, George Carlin and others. Joni Mitchell says, "Roy's lyrics move beyond poetry and achieve perfection." His videos have garnered hundreds of millions of views. This service will be a musical social commentary you will NOT want to miss.

Roy Zimmerman will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Beth Schaefer. Worship Host will be Graham Bell.

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%.

Summer Collection

Special Collection to support Muwekma Ohlone Indigenous People

The Mission Peak ARO Team has corresponded with a group of native Ohlone cultural historians of the Muwekma Ohlone tribe about creating a land acknowledgment that we can use in our worship services and other events. They have agreed to create a land acknowledgement for us to use. They have sent us a greeting and a document with many details of their history. The greeting says:

"We Are Muwekma Ohlone, Welcome To Our Ancestral Homeland!
Welcome Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation, the City of Fremont, and Surrounding Towns Located Within the Intermarried *Alson/ Thámien Ohlone* and *Tuibun Chochenyo Ohlone* Ancestral Muwekma Ohlone Territory"

Mission Peak UU would like to help compensate them for their work with us, and to support their efforts to keep their culture alive. That is the purpose for this special collection. Thank you for your generosity.

Congregants make a donation to Mission Peak, with a note in memo line that it is to be directed to the spotlighted organization (in this case, "Muwekma Ohlone Preservation"). The tribe has a number of funds that accept donations directly on their website www.muwekma.org if people are looking for additional ways to donate.

Please note we will be collecting for Muwekma Ohlone until July 31.



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 3 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 (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

Line Dancing Event in Cole Hall

Mission Peak UU is invited to join the United Methodists for Line Dancing Event in Cole Hall on Friday, July 8th from 4:30-5:30pm. This session is free, no talent or prior experience is necessary, and if you don't care for Country music, our instructor (Michael Quebec) plays oldies rock and roll! The trial session in May went well, so we will continue during the summer every other Friday. Even if you don't think you want to dance, please come and tap your feet to the music. It will be great family fun! Note that this event will be following the Alameda County guidelines regarding the wearing of masks, which means they are recommended but not required. If you have questions, please contact Donna Potter, dpotterhome@mac.com



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)

Shut The Door On The Next Coup:

Reform the Electoral Count Act

ECA Team Led Issue Briefing

Tuesday, July 12

8pm ET | 7pm CT | 6pm MT | 5pm PT

Learn about the issue, join the UUSJ Democracy

Action Team on July 12th at 8pmET/5pmPT to hear more about the Electoral Count Act, in support of the July Write Here! Write Now! letter-writing campaign and meetings. [RSVP here.](#)

Correcting Flaws In The ECA

[Write Your Senators Here](#)

Help the advocacy: Are you a constituent in Alaska, Maine, New Hampshire, North Carolina, or West Virginia. If so, [fill out this form](#) so that UUSJ can better pursue meetings with your Senators on the ECA.

Join the advocacy: If you are a constituent of Connecticut or Ohio, these meetings have been set, you can [use this form](#) to RSVP for these ECA meetings.



UUSJ's Democracy Action Team (DAT) has been pushing for passage of the ECA since the Senate's failure in January to clear the way for the Freedom to Vote: John L. Lewis Act and its [devastating dereliction of duty](#). has been working on the [Electoral Count Act](#). Yet these public hearings would seem to represent the best chance to apply public pressure, reset the landscape of expectations on [voting rights](#) and free elections, and motivate Congress towards action.

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 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 inclusion 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>



Denominational Affairs

Results of the 2022 Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly Portland, OR

The following Actions of Immediate Witness (AIW) were overwhelmingly affirmed:

- [AIW 1: We Do Not Consent: Rejecting Legal Challenges to Abortion](#)
- [AIW 2: Anti-Racism and Reparations](#)
- [AIW 3: Stop Privatization of Medicare](#)

Results of UUAGA elections

Board of Trustees position #7 Rev. Susan Fast

Board of Trustees position #9 Sherman Logan

Board of Trustees position #10 Rev. Dr. Adam Robersmith

Board of Trustees position #11 Rev. Justin Sullivan

General Assembly Planning Commission

- Sam Wilson

-Reverend AJ Van Tine

-Mary Beth Spencer

Nominating Committee

-Courtney McKenney

-Rev. Xolani Kacela

-Debra Gray Boyd

Presidential Search Committee

-Jamie Dingus

-James Snell

-Cathy Seggel
-Denise Rimes
Marva Williams

Board Briefs

The board met on Wednesday, June 8:

- Voted and approved 2 special collections for the summer
- Discussed transition to the new board
- Reviewed and voted on streamlining some of the restricted funds to simplify financial accounting
- Issued thanks all around to the old board



The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, July 12 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

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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