

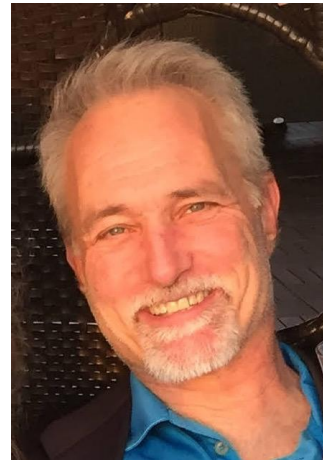
This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! August 24, 2022

Greetings!

*Honoring who we have been, embracing who we feel called to be, we come together as an inclusive and diverse community, growing in love and truth, courageously collaborating to liberate one another from hurt and hate and to create hope and justice.
(Preamble of our MPUUC Covenant)*



I want to tell you why I am here at MPUUC. Why I love this institution. Why I love you as individuals but, even more, why I love you as community. It has to do with what holds us together. The promise of being stronger together than we are as individuals.

I am here – and love being here – because of the covenant that connects us. As a child, as a man, as a minister, as an uncle and god parent, as a partner to someone I love dearly – I recognize that I am better with others than I am alone. My dreams and aspirations have more power and purpose. My courage is deeper. My wisdom broader. By myself, I feel the limits of my fear. But with others who are honest and courageous, I feel buoyant. Resourceful. I find more meaning and purpose in everything I do when it is known and held by others.

I believe that the best of who I AM comes when I root myself in all WE ARE. Our mutuality and collaborative acceptance strengthens and inspires me to face hurts, explore and dissolve my hates and biases, and work to build something better for others. Something that looks like justice.

Placing my hopes and commitments alongside others reassures me that my

best self – and the world I dream about – is more likely and more far reaching alongside others. Being with people who are part of a common promise – who learn, lead and love in concert together – gives me greater hope and higher purpose. I don't mind faltering, because I know I am part of the lifting up when faltering comes. Knowing that makes resilience possible.

Thank you for being part of this community – and this covenant – which we create and live into 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.



What Happened to You?

Because of the rapid proliferation of technology and communication, traumatic events and acute personal reminders have become much more commonplace experiences. We've become conscious of what previous generations could only imagine. These difficult new experiences can startle and trigger anxiety and alarm rather than empathy and compassion. This is a sermon about what recent events have taught us about mental health and how to cultivate compassion instead of paralysis.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Mark Rahman. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jo Ann Schriener 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%.



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 are the [Joys and Concerns](#) for the past 4 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 masks (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. The topic this week is the impact of trauma in today's life on both individuals, communities and society at large. Studies indicate that at least 40% (this is considered a very conservative estimate) of children growing up today have at least one traumatic experience in their past that has affected their mental, emotional and social development. What responsibility do we have regarding trauma? Does the privilege of living without traumatic experiences ask anything of us? The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

Asylum Hearing August 25

Sergio, the asylum seeker we have been accompanying, will have the second part of his hearing Thursday, August 25, at 1:00 p.m. If you would like to observe the hearing virtually, please contact Meredith Miller, annmeredithmiller@hotmail.com, for the link. We will gather on Zoom at **12:45 p.m.** to give the organizer time to work out any technical issues before the hearing starts, and notify the court of who is attending.



Boutique News

Sign Up to be a Vendor at the Boutique on Nov 5th. Cost is \$30 per table. Please share with your crafty friends & family!

Link: <https://bit.ly/vendor-nov5>

What will you contribute to the boutique? Sign up to donate items or donate your time to help make the boutique successful!

Sept. 11 AFTER SERVICE




Join Us!

We are looking forward to a whole congregation meeting to share news about the boutique and auction.

In person & zoom attendees will be broken into groups for discussion.

Boutique & Auction




- Learn about changes
- What can you donate?
- How will it all work?
- Who's doing what?



Get Excited!

We are collecting items for the boutique, raffle baskets, and auction!

Take a look at some of the great items already donated!



JUSTICE CORNER

UUSJ Encourages Support For Arriving Afghan Families

UUs are asking about Afghan families arriving in the United States. Please know, we are communicating with our allies and partners to ascertain the best way UUs can be engaged, so we can make appropriate referrals.

If you, or your congregation, plans to be involved in this support, let us know info@uusj.org so we can apprise you of what we learn about UU coordination and/or further interfaith efforts.

We do know these families will need help with transportation, housing, and other basic necessities since many have just received alerts for departure to the U.S. and the circumstance on the ground in Afghanistan is dire and disorganized.

From recent headlines we know, this need to evacuate allies is precipitated by the fresh

Unitarian Universalists
for Social Justice

UUSJ

Advocating for UU Values in the Nation's Capital

advance of the Taliban into Kabul and the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. The Biden Administration plans to evacuate individuals to the U.S. before September 11, 2021, under the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program.

SIV provides a legal path to safety for individuals who have worked with U.S. forces and personnel since 2002 when the U.S. began employment of local Afghans to serve alongside troops, diplomats, and other U.S. employees to advance its military and diplomatic goals. Under the Afgan SIV plan and program:

- First, comes an evacuation of Afghan Allies and their families.
- Second, they are paroled into the U.S. and housed briefly at Ft. Lee, located outside of Richmond, VA.
- Third, once all immigration paperwork and medical screenings are completed, their status is adjusted to SIV.
- Fourth, they are transported to their final destination.

SIV holders choose their destinations which are often based on their relationships and family ties anywhere in the U.S.

UUSJ's Immigration Justice Team is working to gain a fuller understanding of the program and players.

In love, and for justice,

Pablo DeJesus
Executive Director

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Saturday, September 10 • time TBA

[Rally for Juristac](#)



Join the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band for a historic rally in downtown San Jose to protect their sacred grounds, Juristac. Located near Gilroy in Santa Clara County, Juristac is now a potential site for a 403-acre sand and gravel mining operation that would devastate this place of utmost cultural and spiritual importance to the tribe, eliminate important open space habitat for native species, and disrupt a critical migration corridor for wildlife. The Amah Mutsun Tribal Band and allies are vehemently opposed to the mining plan and are asking local communities to stand with them and speak out loudly! [Learn more here](#), [sign the petition](#), and join them on September 10th.

Location: downtown San Jose, *exact address and time coming soon; please check the link closer to the date.*

JUBILEE Three Ant- racism Training Now Available

Training Goals:

- To develop a shared analysis of racism and its individual, institutional, and cultural manifestations, and
- To begin to apply this common understanding to the history, culture, and institutional structure of our society, and to envision the next steps in taking action.

Agenda Topics Include:

- The history of racism and resistance to racism in the Americas
- Defining racism
- The effects of racism on people of color and on white people
- Dismantling racism
- Claiming and shaping an anti-racist identity

Here are the registration links for the next two Jubilee Three Workshops.

August 19th - 21st in the Eastern Time Zone

Registration is now live-

<https://www.uua.org/central-east/calendar/jubilee-3-822>

September 9th - 11th in the Pacific Time Zone

Please use this link to access the Wufoo Registration Form:

<https://pcolejones.wufoo.com/forms/rz6jjju0epm0ff/>

8th Principle Learning

Video:

[“The Game Is Fixed” Against Black People in America](#)



explore and integrate new understandings
of our individual and collective spiritual
and religious journeys

FALL CAUCUS

SAT, OCT 1

a BIPOC-only Zoom event
10 AM - 1 PM Pacific
tinyurl.com/DRUUMM-Oct1



Mission Peak Money Matters: Contact Info

Responsibilities for Mission Peak UU's financial processes are shared between our administrative assistant, Sandra Lange (office@mpuuc.org), and our treasurer, Terri King (treasurer@mpuuc.org).



- Sandra handles most ongoing operational tasks, such as pledge tracking, reimbursement requests/status, contribution statements, and the like.
- Terri focuses on budgeting, reporting, and overseeing our financial processes.
- Please feel free to contact either of us. When in doubt about which of us to contact, don't worry - reach out to either of us, and we will forward to the other if necessary. If something is time-critical you may want to contact both of us.

For all official MPUUC money matters, please be sure to use our MPUUC email addresses and NOT our personal emails.

Thanks!

Board Briefs

Board briefs from August 2022 meeting.

The board met on Tuesday, August 9.

- Discussed the annual boutique, raffle, and auction. The boutique and raffle will be at Cole Hall on Saturday, Nov. 5. There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, Sept. 11 for feedback and input regarding the auction.
- Are conferring with the Methodists about re-opening the nursery, including information about new legal requirements.
- Reviewed the financial process transition.
- Per the MPUUC bylaws, voted and approved a motion that Secretary Gayle Tupper will stand in for President Suzette Takei if necessary, until the board decides otherwise or the President becomes available again.
- Updated, voted, and approved the Board Covenant.



The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, September 13 at 6:30 pm.

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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