

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! September 7, 2022

Dear Sandra,

Happy September, Everyone!

As your treasurer, I've been mulling over what it means to serve on our board, and that has me thinking about stewardship. I have been asking friends what they think of when they hear the word "stewardship" and their responses have been enlightening, gratifying, and thought provoking.



The consensus is that stewardship often entails protecting the property or assets of a group, and yet it's bigger than simply "fiduciary responsibility." Here are some of the comments I've collected:

- \* historically, a steward was a servant who brought the wine
- \* one dictionary definition of a steward is: a person morally responsible for the careful use of money, time, talents, or other resources, especially with respect to the principles or needs of a community or group
- \* stewardship means taking care of what is sacred and most dear in our hearts, that which we see as precious
- \* we are stewards of our Earth, which means we should care for it, not have dominion over it
- \* to steward well requires love, generosity of spirit, and a mindset of abundance rather than of poverty, insecurity, or scarcity
- \* we are each stewards for the divine light within, for our own life essence and all the gifts we have been given
- \* stewardship requires trust, conversation, and a vision for the future
- \* stewardship requires both good boundaries and flexibility
- \* practicing our Mission Peak covenants can help us be better stewards

What do you think of, when you think of stewardship? What are the precious things in your life that you steward? What helps you be a better, more visionary, loving steward?

What role do each of us play in the stewardship of our Beloved Community? Let's continue this conversation! I'd love to hear what you think.

Wishing you all the best,

Terri King

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## **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.**



### **Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander**

In 1968, Trappist Monk wrote Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander responding to some of the horrific events on the political landscape trying to examine what sense of accountability the good citizen had in failing to make a nation safe for its people. Today, we can look back 21 years and ask ourselves some of the same questions. And one of the questions that needs an answer is how the patriotism we initially responded with has impacted our democracy.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Paul K. Davis. Worship Host will be Erik Alm. Jay and Jessica Steele 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%.

**Share the Plate**

Our Share the Plate partner for the month of September is Side with Love. Side with Love is a public advocacy campaign of the UUA that seeks to harness love's power to stop oppression. Each of its 4 projects have never been more important than they are right now.



- **UU the Vote** knows that the power of the vote is the power to change. It is working to restore voting rights and encourage those eligible to bring their values to the ballots.

- **Create Climate Justice** recognizes the impact we've had with carbon emissions and the threat it brings to our ability to pass on a life giving planet to our children and grandchildren.

- **Uplift Action** From opposing "Don't Say Gay" laws to the de-criminalizing life-saving gender affirming and abortion care, UPLIFT Action commits to work toward living the truth that every body is sacred.

- **Love Resists** are people of faith and conscience committed find ways of accompanying refugees to sanctuary. It teaches us the many ways our system criminalizes and incarcerates people of color.

Please find out more. And give generously.

Make a check payable to MPUUC with 'Side with Love' in the memo line.



## 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 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](mailto: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](http://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 about the tension between contemplation / reflection and action. Have you ever rushed headlong into demonstrating your outrage still wearing the reactivity of the hurt and fear you're feeling – only to wonder if you didn't just make things worse? And have you have been palsied by the fear that you don't know enough to get involved in an important cause only to do nothing while good people experienced harm? How do we find the right balance of contemplation and action?The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

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## COVID Survey Results

Many thanks to all of you who took the time to complete our recent survey regarding Covid-19 and how it affects attendance at MPUUC. We know it is easy to feel "over-surveyed," but especially when so many folks are attending virtually, it is the easiest way for us to attempt to contact and hear from our members.

Due to our reading of current scientific thought and the preferences of our responding members, it appears that we do not need to make any significant changes to our Covid-19 policies. Our Zoom services are a popular choice for many, and we expect they will continue as long as we have the technical and personnel support we need to make them possible. We have cut down the wording of our pre-service safety announcement in order to make it more concise, but we are continuing to require attendees to be masked, keeping doors open as much as possible, and requiring that eating and drinking be done outside Cole Hall.

Follow this [link](#) to read some additional details of the results.

## 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!

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

# 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!



## FELLOWSHIP CORNER

### **Sunday, September 18th: Picnic at Cole Hall**

Plan to bring a bag lunch to enjoy some fellowship after service for in-person attendees. Zoom attendees, have your snacks nearby and we'll have the iPads passed around to connect virtually with you.

### **Friday, September 30th: Fire Pit & S'mores**

RSVP to enjoy some fellowship and treats under the stars! I'll start a fire and have all the marshmallows and S'mores fixings. You bring a jacket, blanket, and favorite beverage or treat to share. Let's hang out and enjoy a relaxing evening outdoors together. 8pm at Suzette Takei's House. RSVP via email: [president@mpuuc.org](mailto:president@mpuuc.org) and I'll get you an address w/ directions.

## JUSTICE CORNER

**Beyond Fracking Belief, A Permits**

## Race Is On!

The **Inflation Reduction Act** of 2022 has kicked off a permits race. We must stop the **Mountain Valley Pipeline** (MVP) for fracked gas. What is the MVP? See [here](#). This is the first battle on the permit fast-tracking policy front. If the deal Senator Manchin (D-WV) set up slides through, it sets a terrible precedent. So this is an all-hands effort.



Appalachia is leading the way, calling from its hilltops and hollers to all allies, as well as other sacrifice zones such as Alaska, Gulf Coast communities, the Midwest, and more. They are asking UUs to show solidarity and give support to those at risk due to this legislation by attending a **mobilization in D.C. on September 8th** for advocacy, witness, or both.

- [RSVP](#) for a 5:00 pm ET rally near the Capitol and indicate if you want to join the advocacy
- If you can't attend in D.C., stay tuned for details on distributed actions near you or online amplifications



Join The Advocacy And Witness  
Stop Senator Manchin's Dirty Side Deal  
For Permit Fast Tracking

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

**Saturday, September 10 • 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**[Protect Juristac Sacred Grounds](#)** Support the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band as they prepare for a historic rally in downtown San Jose to protect their sacred grounds, Juristac.

Located near Gilroy, Juristac is now a potential site for a 403-acre sand and gravel quarry that would devastate this place of 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 like SURJ San Mateo are opposed to the plan and asking local communities to [sign a petition](#), write letters, and join them at a rally.



**Location:** McEntee Plaza in front of County Administration Building, 70 W. Hedding, San Jose

## 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 is the registration links for the next Jubilee Workshop.

September 9th - 11th in the Pacific Time Zone

Please use this link to access the Wufoo Registration Form:

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

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## 8th Principle Learning

**Article:** [“A Quick Read for White People Who Don’t Consider Themselves Racist”](#)



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](https://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](mailto:office@mpuuc.org)), and our treasurer, Terri King ([treasurer@mpuuc.org](mailto: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!

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## 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](http://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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## 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](http://house.gov)

Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631

Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553

Senator Dianne Feinstein (202) 224-3841





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