

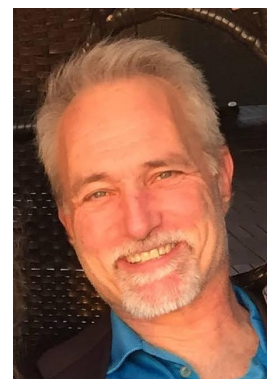
This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! October 19, 2022

Dear Sandra,

Two years ago, as fall turned to winter after my arrival here as MPUUC minister, the country was polarized. We were divided on issues health care – especially our Covid response; on racial issues – after the videotaped murder of George Floyd by police; around guns and the removal of confederate monuments and acceptable ways of political demonstration. Ukraine was in the news – even back then – and whether foreign aid was quid pro quo for dishing dirt on your political opponent.



I remember feeling exhausted, hearing about the media's daily feeding frenzy regarding the barrage of tweets released in the previous 24-hour news cycle. It was the hardest – and most antagonist election cycle I ever witnessed. I think everyone held on to some hope that – one way or another – the vitriol would end with the election in November.

But, of course, it didn't. Donald Trump wouldn't acknowledge losing the vote. And many within his party supported his claims, culminating in an insurrection on the capitol. What has slowly become clear from that time is that the election wasn't about electing a particular person as president. It was about whether or not we still wanted democracy. And whether we were willing to do the work to keep it.

It was shortly after January 6th that we began coming up with the words of our covenant. Our aspirations as a community. And we came up with one – the 6th aspiration of our covenant – that felt as true beyond our doors as well as within them.

*We aspire to aid in the success of our leaders by staying informed,
participating in the democratic process,
and taking our place in leadership as we are able.
We honor collective decisions even when we do not agree.*

Democracy is about staying informed, staying engaged, supporting our leaders and one another.

I hope in the weeks to come we do all of these things. What's more, I hope we do so with care, kindness, and civility. And with a belief that we have a lot to learn from the people who understand things differently than we do.

This Sunday's Service:

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

The Politics of the Brokenhearted

At a time when the U.S. was still a fledgling democracy and we were even more tenuous and fragile than we are today, Abraham Lincoln attempted to play a role in leading this democracy to a place where he asked us to appeal to 'the better angels of our nature.' What was he asking and what were the concerns he was responding to? And what do they have to do with today?



Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Kathi Bayne. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jo Ann Schriener and Knuti VanHoven 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 October is Amah Mutsun Land Trust. The Amah Mutsun people have lived for thousands of years on the sacred land they call Juristac. It is located in Gilroy, Santa Clara County and is the heart of their spirituality, culture, and sacred ceremonies.

We will be collecting until October 30. Please either drop a check in the mail or leave a check in MPUUC's mail slot. Please indicate in the memo line that it is for "Amah Mutsun Land Trust".



Our Share the Plate partner for the month of September was Side with Love and we collected \$406.02.



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

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. We welcome all voices who wish to participate in discussion on interesting topics. This week's conversation is about the Politics of the Brokenhearted – what do we do when we feel hurt by those around us? Do we lash out and take revenge? Do we ignore and retreat? Or is there a more enlightened and noble option? The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

Boutique News

We need help to make the boutique a success! Please sign up to donate 2 hours of your time on Saturday, Nov. 5th.

<https://forms.gle/a9bDjrKxfpdnJ9ZP9>

Please post on your social media pages and email your friends & family. Invite everyone to our boutique on Saturday, Nov. 5th. Shopping will be 9am - 3pm.

Link to share & post: <https://rb.gy/5sclwz>

MPUUC's Annual

Holiday Boutique



- cake pops, mix-n-match cupcakes
- Color Street nail art
- hand beaded jewelry
- watercolor prints & cards
- photo cards, notecards, stationary
- homemade jams & jellies
- granola & treats
- wood engraved products
- tie-dye clothing
- resin trays & ornaments
- handmade quilts & blankets
- homemade bread

Saturday, Nov. 5th, 9am -3pm

**Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
2950 Washington Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539**

Sign up for your professional photo session!

Jerry Ramie (Don's brother) will be taking portraits of individuals, couples, families, even you and your pet! The cost is \$25 for the photo session and you will be emailed the images that you can then print, use for your business adventures, email, or turn into holiday cards.

[Sign Up Here](#)

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Friday, October 21st: Lake Elizabeth Walk, 10am (outdoors)

Join Graham and Allysson McDonald on a lovely outdoor walk around Lake Elizabeth. Bring a snack and we can enjoy a small picnic at one of the tables when we are done. Plan to meet here: https://maps.app.goo.gl/JNhySE3CTssDSVBx8?g_st=ic Please

RSVP to Allysson so they know who to wait for! allyssonmcdonald@gmail.com

Tuesday, November 8th: Watch Party (in person and on zoom)

Let's get together to watch the poll results come in. Eat, drink, be merry, bite your fingernails...whatever you need...you'll be in good company. RSVP to Suzette (president@mpuuc.org) . If you'd like to host, I'm happy to come to your house! Feel free to take this over and I'll help you:)

Sunday, November 13th: Guest at My Table & Thanksgiving Feast, 5:30pm (in person - indoor and outdoor)

The services during the month of November will highlight four specific organizations and promote table discussions within your home. We invite you to ours to continue the conversation prompted by the "Guest at Your Table" UU series. Let's get together to enjoy delicious food, deep conversation surrounding our UU principles and the work of some amazing organizations. We can potluck style a wonderful feast for all to enjoy. RSVP to Suzette at (president@mpuuc.org). No limit, the more the merrier. This is a family friendly event; kids, teens, and adults welcomed and encouraged.

NEEDS HOST (you choose the date & time): Murder Mystery Party (zoom)

I will deliver to you everything you need to host this fun murder mystery game. You host and lead the party to figure out "Who done it". Sure to be a super event!

BOOKCLUB (fiction) ANYONE? There's been an expressed interest in a book club....anyone interested in joining? Email: president@mpuuc.org and I'll put those of you who are interested together.

CROCHET, KNIT, YARN CRAFTS?? Maybe those of us who are crafting want to get together once a month or every other week (zoom or in person) to create and chat. Email: president@mpuuc.org and I'll put those of you who are interested together.

Want to host a social event on zoom or in person? Just email me & I'll help you get it into WoTP. president@mpuuc.org

JUSTICE CORNER

Saturdays • 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

[Get-Out-the-Vote Phone Banking with New Georgia Project](#)

Join SURJ Bay Area as we phone bank with New Georgia Project (NGP) every Saturday until Election Day. This is a huge election year, and NGP is aiming to phone thousands to get out the vote. In NGP's phone bank Zoom room you'll get all the training and support you need to reach Black, Brown, young, LGBTQ+, rural Georgians, and others who have the power to move the state forward. You'll help folks make their plans to vote and support them in navigating voting rights barriers. This is a great opportunity to increase your 1:1 skills in community, be with other SURJ Bay Area members, and learn what communities of color are facing in the South. Register to join us on one or multiple Saturdays before the election. (Weeknight shifts are also available; all times on the sign-up page are Eastern time).

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Help us share SURJ National's newest video, [Our Story, Our Stake](#), that tells the story of SURJ's work and how we bring white people into movements for justice through engaging their shared interest—what white people stand to gain by joining fights for racial and economic justice. You can find sample posts to use on social media in [this handy toolkit](#).



8th Principle Learning

It is a mistake to dismiss the racist conspiracy known as the "Great Replacement Theory" as fringe or extremist—versions of this scarcity-based thinking permeate right-wing media and political talking points as well as everyday conversations, all rooted in the belief that if people of color have enough, white people must be losing something. [In this toolkit from SURJ National](#) you'll find background about the Great Replacement Theory, examples of where this kind of thinking shows up in conversations and in the media, discussion tools for how to identify these frames and redirect people away from them, along with further reading.

[Protect abortion in Kentucky.](#)

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!

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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