

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! November 16, 2022

Dear Sandra,

Hello to all! My name is DeAnna Alm and I am a member of the Board. I don't know if it is the same for all of you, but I am now at the time of year when it feels like the days are passing at twice their normal speed. Every few days, I hear myself saying, "Wait, what?? It's already time to...order the Thanksgiving turkey, work on family holiday plans, write my Week on the Peak article...??" *(I am going to admit that I wrote this article the morning before its publication date.)*



It's often hard to remember to stop and take a breath. And yet, without that brief pause, it's easy to forget what all this hurrying is for. Renewing connections with friends and family is important, not managing an event so it's picture-perfect, Instagram-worthy and Facebook-fabulous. Reaching out to all of you, my Mission Peak UU folks, to say that I see you and I value you is important, not crafting the perfect piece of prose.

So, whether this upcoming holiday season is a busy one or a quiet one for you, whether it is a season of joy or a season that brings melancholy (or a combination of them both), whether you are a founding member, a returning friend, or one of our new members being ingathered this coming Sunday, please know that I'm thinking of you, I'm seeing you, and I'm cherishing you. This spiritual home that we share is a special and unique place, and it is those bonds that we build, rebuild and strengthen with each other that keeps it so.

DeAnna Alm

This Sunday's Service:



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

Survival of the Friendliest

How in the world did we make it this far? Had impartial observers witnessing evolutionary dynamic been asked to place a wager on which human species would thrive and go on to dominate the planet, Homo Sapiens would certainly not have been the leading candidate. But the reason we did is not due to the misunderstood theory of Darwin dealing with 'survival of the fittest'. It is more accurate to say we successfully evolved due to 'survival of the friendliest.' In this service we will explore the internal tendencies that led to our success and how we have sometimes overridden such evolutionary code to our peril. In this service we will welcome our new members joining MPUUC.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Mark Rahman. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Peak Rocks 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%.

Fellowship, Food, and Fun- Thanksgiving Potluck

After the service this Sunday (Nov. 20th) we are having a potluck lunch to celebrate 3 people joining our congregation during the Ingathering that morning. It's also a great kick-off to Thanksgiving week, because we are thankful to be part of this wonderful, caring congregation. There is no sign-up sheet. Just bring whatever you want, a true potluck! To be eco-friendly we encourage you to bring your own plate and utensils from home, but if you forget, we will have some available.

Guest at Your Table

Ever since it committed to providing response to the suffering of the Holocaust, the Service Committee has been part of extending Unitarian and Universalist values across the globe. Each year for the last 40 years, the UUSC has brought the world – its people and its possibilities – to us. Four places in the world are chosen where our UU values could be the difference between life and death. A few courageous activists living in those cultures invite us to be guests in their communities. We get to appreciate the power and beauty of their cultures as well as the significant threat to health and safety.

For the next four weeks (Nov 6 – Nov 27) we are asking you to set an extra plate at your table. The cost of one meal, each night for 28 nights buys us the chance to see the connection between the difference that's needed and the difference we can make. Guest at Your Table Boxes are available in Cole Hall or [online](#). You can access the stories of [this year's hosts](#) as well as seeing the [difference you can make](#). Together, let's learn about people directly connected to human rights work, reflect on our own lives, and raise funds to advance justice in communities near and far. Thank you for the love that turns into justice.



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. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

Boutique News



Thank You

For your donations of items &
time, your pocketbook
● support, and your enthusiasm. ●
The Holiday Boutique raised
just over \$2600!

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

MPUUC Members — Did you know that you can plan an event or gathering and post it here for others to join in your fun?? Take a minute to think about what you like to do and let's try to start a wave of social gatherings (zoom or in person)! It's all up to you:) Send an email to president@mpuuc.org and I'll get it added to WoTP.

Sunday, November 20th: Thanksgiving Feast & New Member Welcome, after service (in person - Cole Hall- indoor and outdoor)

On Sunday, November 20th, after the service, we are having a potluck lunch to celebrate three people joining our congregation as well as a kick-off to Thanksgiving. We are thankful to be part of this wonderful, caring congregation. Please see article above for more information.

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

By now, you may have heard that there is a runoff Election happening in Georgia yet again. If you are interested in learning more, joining in action or donating toward the runoff, I invite you to the *“It Ain’t Over, UU the Vote Runoff Update!”* Event on Thursday, November 17th, at 7:30pm EST



Click below to sign up!

[Join Runoff Update!](#)

Good Trouble Congregations Update

Now that there is runoff, you have more time to reach your Good Trouble Congregational goals! To get your questions answered and learn more, join us for the UU the Vote Runoff Update, Thursday, November 17th at 7:30pm EST.

Hope to see you there for the next phase of UU the Vote

In community,

JaZahn Hicks

UU the Vote Campaign Manager

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

SURJ

Thursday, November 24 • 5:30 – 8:00 am

[Indigenous Peoples’ Thanksgiving Sunrise Gathering](#)



Join the International Indian Treaty Council for a powerful sunrise gathering on Alcatraz Island to give thanks for the survival, continued resistance, and cultural resilience of Indigenous Peoples in California, the Americas, and around the world. The event will honor the veterans of the 1969 Alcatraz occupation and will feature Pomo and Aztec dancers, All Nations Drum, Indigenous cultural presenters, and special guests. Ticket office opens at 4:00 am, boats depart from 4:15 to 6:00 am. Tickets \$14, children under 5 free. Wheelchair accessible. The event will also be broadcast live on KPFA 94.1 FM and simulcast via IITC’s Facebook page.

Location: Pier 33 in San Francisco; Alcatraz Island

Friday, November 25 • 10:00 am

[Shellmound 2 Shellmound Prayer Walk](#)

Join the Save the West Berkeley Shellmound coalition for a 3-mile prayer walk from the West Berkeley Shellmound to the Emeryville Shellmound, honoring the Lisjan Ohlone ancestors who have lived and prayed here for thousands of years. Meet at the West Berkeley Shellmound at 10:00 AM then walk together to the Emeryville Shellmound where all will regroup for the closing.

Start location: 1900 4th St., Berkeley, CA

End location: Shellmound St. & Ohlone Way, Emeryville, CA

8th Principle Learning

Article: [“I Wanted to Know What White Men Thought about their Privilege. So I](#)

[Asked](#)” by Claudia Rankine

The poet Claudia Rankine shares her attempts to engage white men on the topic of white privilege, mostly in airports and on airplanes. I love her wry wit as well as her insights. Rankine is turning this article into a play, but that is not yet available in print.

You are cordially invited to the 61st annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. This year we offer you the choice to attend In Person or on Zoom.

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

**Embracing Hope
Expressing Gratitude**

Please register in advance by clicking the appropriate link below. Click [here](#) for Facebook post.

Date: Monday, November 21, 2022

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: In Person (up to 100 people) at Niles Discovery Church OR on Zoom from wherever you are (up to 250 people)

Zoom <https://bit.ly/TCICThanksgiving2022> In Person <https://bit.ly/ITS2022InPerson>

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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