

This Week on the Peak

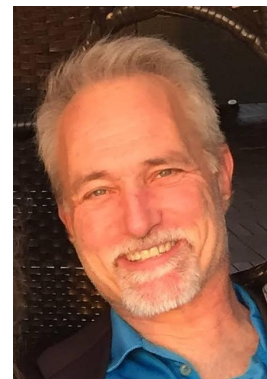


Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! November 9, 2022

Dear Sandra,

Where and how is love needed? What would Love say and to whom?

I write this article as I'm waiting for election returns to come in. I know, already, I'm not going to like all the news. There are going to be places where deserving people with understandable needs are going to walk away disappointed. The candidate that cares didn't win. The initiative that can help didn't pass. In those moments how can we, the voters, step in and make some difference after the results are in.



Where and how is love needed? What would Love say and to whom?

Elections are great, but candidates and legislation can't do everything. There are places where the laws or the rules or the plan in place comes up short – and Love needs to step in.

This Sunday, I invite us to a congregational conversation after the service where we can talk about a situation that didn't go the way we wanted it to. At the close of the 'church year' (June) we expected to see Shawn Snavley in September and celebrate a pretty remarkable tenure served during a very difficult time.

But Shawn left earlier than expected. And without the celebration and fanfare we'd all hoped. Shawn experienced some discomfort and hurt that led to their need to pull back. We don't know all the reasons. And we may not ever fully know. But we do know that we love Shawn. And wanted better for them. And we wanted better from – and for – ourselves.

The point is not to beat ourselves up. Or assign blame. The point is to listen and to learn and restore love where it is short. Sometimes, the real key to changing the world is showing up, opening hearts, sharing stories and listening with love.

This Sunday, after the service, I hope we can all explore where and how love is needed. Where and how love can show up and what love would have to say and to whom.

Rev Greg Ward (he, him, his)

This Sunday's Service:

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



A Dream Forgotten

Our MPUUC CaYRE program (for Children and Youth) has been in significant transition. Several events over the last five years have led to families, parents, Youth, Children and others taking a step back. Most recently, a beloved DRE also stepped away. The good news is that I strongly believe there are amazing insights that will help us understand and remember the Dream that we - together - all held for MPUUC's CaYRE program. The bad news is I can't say exactly what they are. But, I believe without a doubt, that WE can. Our collective wisdom knows both the love within the dream; and the disappointment of a dream denied. In this service we will explore the power of our hope as well as our hurt.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Michelle Wallace. Worship Host will be David Gibbons. 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 October was Amah Mutsun Land Trust and we collected \$1,864.90.

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. This week's conversation is about responding to hard conversations with courage and love. We're going to talk about the ending of Shawn Snawley's ministry at MPUUC. We'll explore what we know, what we don't know and how we think Love would show up in this moment and what Love would say. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Sunday, November 13th: Congregational Conversation, after service (Zoom & in-person)

Stay after service and help participate in a circle of trust about how we can move through challenging conversations in a creative and loving way.

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. More details will follow but we hope you will mark it on your calendars to attend this don't-miss event!

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

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.](#)

**American Indian Heritage
Celebration**

Coming up on November 11 – 13,

**AMERICAN INDIAN
HERITAGE CELEBRATION**

SPECIAL GUESTS:
ARVOL LOOKING HORSE,
BILLY MILLS,
SUPAMAN, AND MUCH
MORE!

AMERICAN INDIAN /
ALASKAN NATIVE VETERANS
HONORING
CALIFORNIA DANCERS

HOMELAND
TRIBE



2022



NOV 11 - 13 — FRIDAY 4-10PM
SATURDAY 12-11PM
SUNDAY 12-8PM

AMERICAN INDIAN / POW WOW | FRYBREAD BOOTHS
MARKET | AZTEC DANCERS

FREE EVENT
3 DAY EVENT - PARKING (\$15)

SANTA CLARA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
GATEWAY HALL, 344 TULLY RD, SAN JOSE, CA 95111
QUESTIONS OR MORE INFO EMAIL VMCLOUD@IHCSCV.ORG
VENDORS APPLY HERE [HTTPS://DOCS.GOOGLE.COM/FORMS/D/1D-V9KEBIPiOLTkAFCw1Z3C9X9W3MH01HC0A2NPXA00G/EDIT](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1D-V9KEBIPiOLTkAFCw1Z3C9X9W3MH01HC0A2NPXA00G/edit)

there will be a 3-day event sponsored by 3 Bay Area tribes; Muwekma Ohlone, Amah Mutsun and Esselen Nation tribal bands. The events will be at the Santa Clara Fairgrounds. People interested in attending one or several of these events please contact Barbara Meyers (bfkmeyers@gmail.com). Several UU Bay Area congregations (Starr King UU Church, Mission Peak UU Congregation, and First Unitarian Church of San Jose) have members who are interested in attending. After the event, we will have a joint meeting to share our stories.

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!

Board Briefs

Board briefs from October 2022 meeting.

The board met on Tuesday, October 11, 2022.



- Approved purchase of air filters for Cole Hall as a portion of the very generous donation by Maggie Mulcahy in memory of her husband, Jack Mulcahy. These filters will enable us to close the doors during cold weather. We are so grateful to Maggie for enabling this purchase! (The final decision on whether to keep the filters will be subject to noise levels -- we're testing them now.)
- Approved spending \$200 not in budget for Quickbooks support as part of the financial transition to new software.
- Approved September minutes and attachments as written, to be posted on website.
- Noted the previous email approval correcting omission of a line item of sabbatical funding in the Charters for Restricted Funds that had been previously approved.
- Approved the letter from MPUUC's Anti Racism Anti Oppression Committee (ARO) commenting on the UUA's Article 2 proposal. The letter was sent from ARO and the Board to the UUA's Article 2 Commission. The Board recommends to ARO to have a congregational conversation to update/explore this topic.
- Agreed to move the November board meeting from the regularly scheduled date of November 8 (Election Day) to Tuesday, November 15.
- As Christmas Day is on Sunday this year, the Board voted not to have Sunday service the morning after our Christmas Eve Service. Instead, for those who wish it, there will be a small Zoom gathering on December 25 to share some Christmas cheer. If you are interested, please send an email to Rev. Greg (minister@mpuuc.org).
- Voted to approve the transfer of signature authority at SRI Credit Union from previous board members to the current MPUUC Treasurer (Terri King), President (Suzette Takei), and Secretary (Gayle Tupper).
- Received update on the financial process transition. We believe the transition is the right thing to do. It will take longer than expected, and we may be asking for assistance.
- Continued work on updating board policies to concur with MPUUC's bylaw changes.

Due to the timing of the 2022 midterm elections, the Board meeting is moving from November 8th to November 15th. It will be held via Zoom from 6:30-9:30 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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