

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! December 28, 2022

Dear Sandra,

Message from an Occasional Attendee

This time of year qualifies as an occasion for many of us, and once again I found myself joining other MPUUC folks to celebrate. I would call myself an occasional attendee of our services. Despite not attending many services, I still consider MPUUC an important part of my spiritual and personal life. So, what does it mean to me to be a member of MPUUC and why don't I participate more?

Before answering those questions, I will introduce myself since one disadvantage of not being more regular in my attendance is that there are many of you that I don't know and who don't know me. Probably more of you know my wife, Beth, since she is a worship associate and participates in other activities. Beth and I started attending MPUUC many ministers ago. I used to be the Treasurer and I've served on the Committee on Ministry. Beth and I are also sometimes (even more rarely) joined at service by our 15 year old daughter Amy. Perhaps at a future blessing of the animals you may even meet our puppy - Max.



I agreed to write this intro because I think that there are a few of us part-timers lurking at Mission Peak. We each have our reasons for attending, and for not attending more frequently. For me, I often choose to join a service based upon the topic. For example, while I know that it is an important part of membership, I tend not to get involved in the more organizational aspects of UU and, since I'm not really a history buff, I've learned as much UU history as my brain is able to absorb. On the other hand, I really enjoy exploring topics that could help me understand my relationship to other people, the universe and whatever concept of spirit or god I am living with at the time.

I often feel a bit guilty for not participating more fully. I know that there is more I could gain, and more I could give, by opening myself more to what we all have to share with each other. However, I know that this vulnerability is part of the reason I hide in the shadows. Most of the time, I'm not ready to be introspective, especially in a group.

Fortunately, I am confident that as my spiritual journey takes its long and wandering route, Mission Peak - as a congregation and as a group of amazing people - is here. It's something I try not to take for granted. Thank you to each of you, part-timers and regulars, new and old, that form this important community. I appreciate you.

This Sunday's Service:

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



Why Democracy?

Unitarian Universalist principles include "the use of the democratic process within our congregations and society at large," but the need for democracy is much deeper. Not only is it a mechanism for realizing other U-U principles, it is also basic to the survival of humanity. Worship leader Paul Davis has delivered previous messages on the functioning of democracy; this message will explore the importance of democracy.

Paul K. Davis will lead the service and assisting will be Rev. Barbara Meyers. Worship Host will be Erik Alm. Peak Performers 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 for December: Minister's Discretionary Fund

One of the things about being in a covenanted community is having one another's backs. The ministerial discretionary fund this past year helped people get to the doctor; buy gas; get food when they – or their family – was sick; pay an unexpected bill; helped prevent eviction; bring or deliver flowers to let them know they are loved and not alone. This is a fund that isn't a line item in our budget. It is dispersed with love by Rev. Greg and our Encouragement Team. If making sure there is a loving response feels important to you, we would love your support. Write a check to MPUUC with Minister's Discretionary Fund in the memo line. We will continue to collect throughout the year. Your generosity turns into love all year 'round.



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](#)

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.

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

Black & White Auction

Black & White Virtual Auction

FEB. 11TH, 2023



December

Answer the phone! Talk to a B&W Auction helper to determine your talent and what you can provide to the Auction.

January

- Buy your ticket for the event! \$25 pp
- Confirm your auction donation



Fudge-Off

Make enough fudge to provide 6-8 pieces to 6 judges.

*If you win first place in the competition, you owe one batch of fudge to the winner bid at the auction.

Fudge Judges Needed

Judge the Fudge!

\$25 gets a variety box of fudge delivered to your door at the end of January.



Contact Kathy Wallcave to participate in the Fudge Competition. kwallcave@gmail.com

Contact Colleen Arnold to offer a donation. colleenag@sbcglobal.net



MPUUC's B&W Auction
is our largest fundraiser of the year!

January 8 – YOU ARE INVITED to CELEBRATE with Tiffany and Stephen Longfield...soon to be new parents.

Mission Peak is hosting a BABY SHOWER for the new

"Kiddo"!!

After the Sunday Service in Cole – join in-person or in a Zoom Chat Room (we are hoping this works!) as Mission Peak joins together to celebrate the upcoming birth of a new child. Tiffany and Stephen have been the 4th Sunday Set-Up Team for as long as they have been members of Mission Peak. Stephen also plays bass in Peak Rocks. The "Kiddo" is due in February and we are all excited to welcome this new person and support Tiffany and Stephen as they enter parenthood. The Kiddo needs a changing table, so members of Mission Peak who wish to contribute - please contact Valerie Stewart.



If you plan to attend the Baby Shower- please RSVP to Valerie- ValerieS4kids@aol.com by Saturday, January 7.

JUSTICE CORNER

Tell Senators To Support The Child Tax Credit & Earned Income Tax Credit

Stewardship and Development staff will be available via email (development@uua.org) and phone (888-792-5885) to assist with year-end giving questions from 9am - 5pm Eastern Time between December 20-23 and December 26-30, and from 9am - 4pm Eastern Time on December 31.



Remember the last day for making a 2022 donation is Saturday, December 31 . We suggest you [make year-end gifts online](#) to avoid any mail delays. Thank you!

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

SURJ (Show up for Racial Justice)

CURB, a Black-led statewide coalition of more than 80 organizations, is working to reduce the number of people in prisons and jails, reduce the number of prisons and jails, and shift spending away from incarceration—and toward things that actually keep people safe, such as housing, healthcare, and jobs. As leaders of the #CloseCAPrison campaign, CURB co-coordinates five statewide workgroups that are pushing demands for California to close 10 prisons in 5 years and engage in a just transition away from prisons and towards a safer, healthier California.



USE YOUR VOICE

Join Californians United for a Responsible Budget's (CURB) #EyeCandyCampaign. California's prisons are racist, toxic, and harmful. In California, 68% of people sentenced to Life Without Parole are Black or Latinx, and 80% are people of color. It can be hard to talk to loved ones and neighbors about the need to #CloseCAPrison, but these eye-catching graphics are a great place to start! Over the next 5 weeks, CURB will be posting Eye Candy graphics that highlight an issue that's exacerbated by CA Prisons and what we can imagine for our communities once prisons are dismantled. [Use this toolkit](#) to access and share the graphics on your own social media, and amplify CURB's [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) posts.

LSPC organizes communities impacted by the criminal justice system and advocates to

release incarcerated people, to restore human and civil rights, and to reunify families and communities. They build public awareness of structural racism in policing, the courts, and the prison system, and advance racial and gender justice in all their work. LSPC has been focused on getting bills passed, helping the communities they serve, and continuing their vision of restoring civil and human rights, including through programs such as Re-entry Training, Community Organizing, Computer Basic Trainings, Quest for Democracy, Community Giveback, FriendsGiving, and Welcome Back Home Dinner.

[Show up for real people and real justice, not reductive systems and inhumane cages, by making a donation to #ShowUpRiseUp today.](#)

USE YOUR VOICE

Support Pomo Land Back! Jackson Demonstration State Forest is the largest state forest in California at nearly 50,000 acres. It is located in the unceded ancestral Northern Pomo and Coast Yuki territory of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians. Since its inception in 1947, the State has primarily managed this forest to cut it for profit, not preserve it. Ongoing logging, road-building, and herbicide use have seriously damaged the ancestral cultural resources of the Tribe and devastated this beautiful, bio-diverse ecosystem of redwoods. [Please sign the Coalition to Save Jackson State Forest's petition](#) demanding EQUAL co-management of State lands between Tribes and the State. You can also [donate to the Tribe's legal strategy here](#).

8th Principle Learning

How To! With Charles Duhigg:
[“How To Fight Racism in Your Town”](#)



Mission Peak Money Matters: Contact Info

Responsibilities for Mission Peak UU's financial process are shared between our Congregational Administrator, Sandra Lange (office@mpuuc.org) and a treasurer (treasurer@mpuuc.org).



- Sandra handles most ongoing operational tasks, such as pledge tracking, reimbursement requests/status, contribution statements, stock donations, and the like.
- In the absence of a treasurer, please send any questions to both the treasurer email (treasurer@mpuuc.org), which is being monitored by our President, Suzette Takei and also to Sandra (office@mpuuc.org). This will ensure that any financial questions are answered promptly.

Board Briefs

Board briefs from December 2022 MPUUC Board meeting.

The board met on Tuesday, December 13, 2022:

- Approved November minutes and attachments to be posted on website.



- Approved \$2000 increase in the Worship budget through the rest of the 2022-23 fiscal year. This item is to cover honoraria for non-MPUUC speakers when Rev. Greg is away. This information will also be noted for operations budget planning for the next fiscal year.
- Discussed the vision for the upcoming Canvass with Valerie Stewart, Canvass Chair, who attended this part of the meeting.
- Approved Valerie Stewart, Kathi Bayne, and Michelle Wallace as MPUUC delegates to the 2023 Pacific Western Region (PWR) Regional Assembly.
- Received update that Paul Clifford has agreed to fill a vacancy on the Committee on Ministry.
- Approved \$1000 from the PPP account (federal Paycheck Protection Program loan was forgiven) for payment to Kristi Wagner, Financial Consultant, for assistance with the financial transition from the old system, ICON, to the new system, Quickbooks.
- Continued updating wording on Board policies. Sections are being reviewed and updated each month so the entire document can be adopted in its entirety when all sections are completed.

The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, January 10 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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