

This Week on the Peak



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

Dear Sandra,

“Food may be essential as fuel for the body, but good food is fuel for the soul.”

–Malcom Forbes

The annual Black & White Virtual Gala & Auction planning is in the works. Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 11th, 2023. Tickets will be on sale in January.

Your “Boutique Coordinators” have become your “Gala Coordinators” and we need your help!

What can you do?

- *Answer the phone when Julie calls* She will be helping you decide what you can donate to the auction. Everyone has a talent or service they can share - let's find yours!

- *Sign up to be a Fudge Judge*
\$25 gets a plate of fudge delivered to your door. You taste, enjoy, and evaluate fudge to determine the MPUUC fudge champion. Email Kathy Wallcave (kwallcave@gmail.com)

- *Sign up to make some fudge*
Compete against the reigning champions~ Suzette & Colleen! Do you have what it takes? Join us! Let's make this a fun competition. Email Kathy Wallcave (kwallcave@gmail.com)

- Volunteer to help
All of our needs are virtual and involve emailing or making calls. Email president@mpuuc.org to help.

Have a wonderful week!



This Sunday's Service:

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



It's Dark Out There

We are entering into the season in our trip around the sun where we are the farthest - and most tilted away - from the light and the warmth of the sun. This means light and warmth are most scarce. Those who are unfamiliar and sensitive to living in cold, dark climates struggle. When it is dark as we leave the house and dark when we return, it can become hard to keep the chill and the lack of visibility from dampening our mood, our energy, our vision and even our hope. This is so true, some even allow the symbols of darkness to assume feelings of fear and resentment. This is a service about learning to understand, accept and maybe even invite darkness into our lives.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Sharon Davis. 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 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 take a collection at the Christmas Eve service, but you can write a check any time. Your generosity turns into love all year 'round.

Guest at Your Table - still collecting through December 11



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 topic is about reconciling our fear of the dark and how important darkness is in our lives. If you've never considered how important understanding and honoring darkness is to life and health, than this is the discussion for you. 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.

Friday, December 9: Hot Cocoa, Wine, Fire Pit, S'mores, 7:30pm @ Suzette's

Let's relax and enjoy the evening together! We'll wing it — just come hang out and relax a bit. Dress warm for an outdoor fire pit. But we can always move indoors for some pinball and pool.

RSVP to Suzette (president@mpuuc.org)

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

Families in Need - Kids in Need

From Suzette Takei (the teacher, not MPUUC President)

I work at Robertson Continuation High School in Fremont. I teach Algebra and Physics and provide mentoring support to new teachers and struggling students. My school's enrollment is about 160-180 students at any given time. RHS is one of three Title 1 schools in Fremont, but because we serve the students that are suspended, expelled, unit deficient, and/or homeless the poverty level and trauma are very high. We have the highest number of English Learners, Special Education, and Homeless students of any high school in the Tri-Cities area.

If you might be willing and able to offer some assistance to these local families, please click this link to find out more. [CLICK HERE to read more](#)

JUSTICE CORNER

State of Our Democracy:

Racial Oligarchy And Fiscal Conservatism, Ending The Anti-Tax Era

Tuesday, December 13

8pm ET • 7pm CT • 6pm MT • 5pm PT

[RSVP](#) – Free Online Event

[Vanessa Williamson](#), Ph.D. is a Senior Fellow in governance studies at the Brookings Institution. Vanessa has written for outlets such as Dissent, Washington Post, New York Times, the Atlantic, and Teen Vogue. She has appeared for NPR, CSPAN, CNN, and CNBC. Vanessa is the author of Read My Lips: Why Americans Are Proud to Pay Taxes, and co-author of The Tea Party and the Remaking of Republican Conservatism.

Doctor Williamson engages the public on topics of school segregation, tax opinion, tax politics, anti-union legislation, voter registration strategies, democracy and organizing, taxpayer citizenship, philanthropy, as well as austerity and white supremacy.

Do not miss Vanessa's comments with a mind toward our work for social justice in the 118th Congress.

Join UUSJ Witness List

A December Concert, the Winter Solstice, & Giving Season

Next Monday evening, feed your spirit and be galvanized!

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

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

SURJ **SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE**
BAY AREA

Black or Latinx, and 80% are people of color. It can be hard to talk to loved ones and neighbors about the need to #CloseCAPrisons, 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.

Join us online or in-person in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

[Click here to view this email as a webpage](#)



Board Briefs

Board briefs from November 2022 MPUUC Board meeting.

The board met on Tuesday, November 15, 2022.

- Approved October minutes and attachments to be posted on website.
- Approved the updated Executive Charter.
- Continued to update the 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.
- Discussed revising the weekly Sunday Service Board announcements.
- Began brainstorming ideas for upcoming Canvass. Canvass Chair will participate in upcoming discussions regarding next year's Canvass.



The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, December 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

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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