

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! February 15, 2023

Dear Sandra,

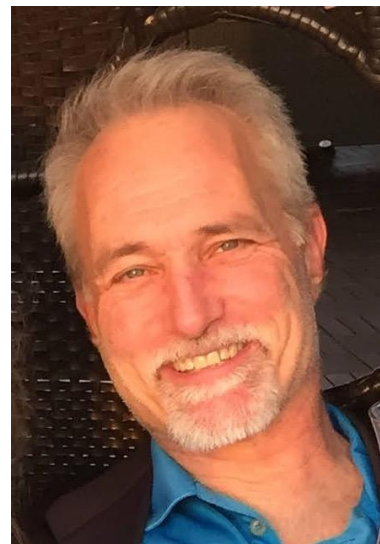
When I was very young I remember getting so excited about something about to happen that I felt like I would explode in a million pieces of anticipation. And I remember how my excitement was so noticeable by everyone else around me. My parents could feel it from me. So much so, they would begin to feel it in themselves as well.

It's a delicious memory. Partly, because it doesn't happen for me now that I'm older. Not in the same way. Not with the same intensity. But the sad part that comes to mind is not even that I haven't felt that unbridled excitement in some years, but that I stopped even noticing it had ceased to be such a regular part of my life.

So, when I felt a giddy excitement this week in the process of hiring Ariel Smith-Iyer as our Religious Education Coordinator, I took notice. Like the others on the search team (Paul Clifford, Mark Rahman and Lisa Newstrom), I was quite taken with her ideas, her creative imagination, her flexibility and her willingness to try new things. I lived the sense that she is the kind of person who has been shaped by wonder and playfulness; and that she hasn't seemed to lose those parts of her or their importance in her life.

I love Mission Peak as we are. And, after conversations with Ariel, I can't help but wonder, if we couldn't be even better – more excited – by imagining (and making room for) more sights and sounds and hopeful anticipation of a truly multigenerational community.

Now, I know that Ariel can't do anything that is not already in me – in us. But what makes me most excited is the certainty with which she helps me believe that the power of new possibility is not done with me. I hope you will be as excited when you meet her and begin wondering what multigenerational ministry means at MPUUC.



Rev Greg Ward (he, him, his) [minister@mpuuc.org](mailto:minister@mpuuc.org)

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## This Sunday's Service:

**We have transitioned to hybrid services. See [mpuuc.org/zoom](https://mpuuc.org/zoom) each week for how to attend services.**



## Temptation

We all remember the 7 Deadly Sins (now what was that last one?) that are considered temptations. But there are parts of our inner being that can lead us astray often without our knowledge. They become habits that are part of a natural order as considered by our inner being. Can we unlearn the habits of a lifetime and see when we are taking an easy path that leads away from the right relation?

Mark Rahman will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Paul K. Davis. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Peak Rocks and others will provide our music.

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## Share the Plate Special Collection for Courageous Love Hero - Sergio Jaime Lopez

If you are able, please donate generously to this special collection in one of these ways:

- Make your check out to MPUUC with Love Hero in the memo line.
- 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) If you are making a pledge, please indicate "pledge" on the memo line.

- Drop envelope with check (with Love Hero on the memo line) in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to:

Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

We will be collecting this once per week.

- Pay online at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card. Choose "Special" as the donation type. Please state for "Love Hero" in the message. (Note: 3% surcharge).

We will be collecting through March 12, 2023.

**Please note donations for this special collection are not tax deductible.**

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## 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%.

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## 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](mailto:ecteam@mpuuc.org)

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## Meal Train for New Parents



Tiffany and Stephen are welcoming their new baby any day now! Their friend Katy is organizing a meal train, to deliver home cooked meals once they're home from the hospital. If you would like to sign up, email Katy Bosworth at [<jkb27@cornell.edu>](mailto:jkb27@cornell.edu).

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## 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](http://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.

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## 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, the conversation will be lay led. You will find there is a warmth and acceptance and sincere curiosity about one another and the issues that affect us all. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

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## Welcoming Each Other

Hello from your Membership Committee!

Feeling a sense of community is an important reason why many people have become involved in this congregation. Hybrid services have been wonderful in allowing all of us to be together, those that don't live in the area, those who live in the area but are unable to attend in person, and those in Cole Hall. The small disadvantage to hybrid services is it can be more challenging for us to feel connected to each other like we did when everyone was in Cole Hall.

Though not required, we ask those attending via zoom to turn on their cameras. Having our cameras on helps those in Cole Hall feel connected to those on Zoom. It helps those on Zoom feel more connected to each other. Last but not least, it helps visitors to get a better sense of who we are by seeing live faces and not blank screens.

After the Board Welcome, we will have a chance for in-person and remote attendees to wave at each other, which is called Welcoming Each Other. We experienced this last month with the Methodists when we had our joint service with them and liked the idea. Though this is something new and may need adjustments, it is our hope that this small act of greeting each other will help us feel a stronger sense of love and connection.

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The CaYRE team is excited to introduce MPUUC's new Religious Education Coordinator. **Ariel Smith-lyre** has been an educator most of her adult life teaching PE classes and understands the intuitive inclination to play is a great gift of young people. She has been a member of UU Berkeley Congregation for 15 years, teaching in the RE program and serving on the RE Committee. She also has two children of her own. The search team was very impressed with her flexibility, creativity, imagination, and resourcefulness. "I see a world of untapped possibilities in the pursuit of multi-generational, beloved community," she says. "I'd love the opportunity to talk with you more about these

possibilities and how we might collaborate." Stay tuned for more information about Ariel and her emerging role at MPUUC.

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## LET MPUUC BUY YOUR 1 YR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NAACP

Last month, at our shared MLK service with the Methodists, we raised over \$1100 to support the NAACP. The Board celebrated by turning your generosity into an opportunity for the whole congregation to deepen its awareness and commitment to the NAACP. For the next two months, the Board will use these funds to pay for an annual NAACP membership for all MPUUC members who wish to become members. You can click [Join the NAACP](#) and join (and pay) on your own. OR you can click [MPUUC + NAACP](#) and fill out the form and MPUUC will sign you up and pay for your 1<sup>st</sup> annual membership. All funds raised not used in providing annual membership fees will be donated to the NAACP general fund. Thank you for your commitment to end racial injustice.

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## JUSTICE CORNER

In March 2022 we launched the Good Trouble Congregation program. Nine months later, over 300 congregations took action with UU the Vote and reached over 2 million voters! The Good Trouble Congregations program is an invitation to stretch ourselves and our communities to resist racist and anti-democratic attacks on our communities and institutions.. It challenges us to build deeper relationships in our congregations, to show up with and for our partners and neighbors, and to take risks, great and small, to #VoteLove and #DefeatHate.



Now it's time to join together for a national celebration to honor all your amazing work of UU the Vote 2022 and to lift up the amazing work of our congregations.

Come hear from partners, President Susan Frederick-Gray, and a special keynote speaker. There will be a special recognition ceremony for congregations as well as folks who served as poll workers and Election Defenders. Don't miss this inaugural celebration. Register [here](#)

## Denominational Affairs

### Pittsburgh Celebrates Black History

There is extensive significance in the role that Black communities have played throughout the history of Pittsburgh and Southwestern Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh is celebrating these achievements during Black History Month with special programming in February and exhibits and locations you can visit all year long.

Take a journey through more than [200 years of the Black experience in Pittsburgh and Southwestern Pennsylvania](#)



### Looking for a GA Roommate to Share Expenses?

Attending General Assembly in-person this year? Interested in finding a roommate to share the cost of housing? The GA Room Share Board is a resource for anyone. Simply fill out the form below and you'll automatically be added to the Room Share Board. There, you can browse the list of others interested in room shares, and reach out directly to discuss options.

[Request a Roommate](#)

[View Roommate Requests](#)

### GA Housing Reservation System is Now Open!

The UUA has contracted rooms at specific hotels near the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA. These properties have agreed to offer competitive rates to GA attendees as well as rebates and other incentives that will reduce the overall cost of hosting GA in Pittsburgh. By booking with the GA housing block, you help the UUA meet this goal. Additionally, you benefit from reservation management and customer service offered by Connections Housing.

Reserve your housing today! To book your room today, visit the [GA Housing Reservation System](#). Any reservations canceled after May 22 will be subject to a \$50 cancellation fee. The housing reservation system will close for new reservations on May 23.

## Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

### JUSTICE FOR TYRE NICHOLS

SURJ Bay Area joins in solidarity with the family of Tyre Nichols who was brutally murdered by Memphis police during a traffic stop, and with people across the country who demand an end to police violence.

#### Actions you can take:

- [Sign the Color of Change Petition](#) to the Memphis City Council demanding Justice for

Tyre.

- [Donate](#) to the Tyre Nichols Memorial Fund set up by his mother to support his family and his memorial.
- Support groups organizing against racist policing in Memphis. Donate to [Just City](#) and [Black Lives Matter Memphis Chapter](#).
- Learn more about racist racist policing and abolition: visit the websites of [Anti Police-Terror Project](#), [Critical Resistance](#), and [UC Berkeley's Othering & Belonging Institute](#)

## 8th Principle Learning

“The black hole in the white UU psyche” by Mark Morrison-Reed

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/black-hole-white-uu-psyche>

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### Tri-City Interfaith Council

invites you to join



World Interfaith Harmony Day

## How to be a Good Guest at Your Neighbor's House of Worship

Islamic Networks Group and Tri-City Interfaith Council are cosponsoring this inter-religious panel during World Interfaith Harmony Week.

Panelists from major world religions will discuss how to be a good guest at your neighbor's house of worship, how to be a good host when welcoming people of other faiths into your house or worship

Date: **Saturday, 25 February 2023**

Time: **3:00 pm - 5:00 pm PST**

Local time: [Click Here](#)

Please use the Signup Genius to register for either the Online-Zoom Link or \*In-Person attendance. The link below works for both. Click on the link & scroll down to select your preference. \*Due to COVID restrictions, masks are mandatory at the In-Person event.

Register [Here](#)

Click [here](#) for flyer

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### 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](mailto:office@mpuuc.org)) and a treasurer ([treasurer@mpuuc.org](mailto: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](mailto:treasurer@mpuuc.org)), which is being monitored by DeAnna Alm and also to Sandra ([office@mpuuc.org](mailto:office@mpuuc.org)). This will ensure that any financial questions are answered promptly.

- **Important note** - if you are making a stock donation/pledge, please notify Sandra at [office@mpuuc.org](mailto:office@mpuuc.org) and [treasurer@mpuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@mpuuc.org) immediately.

## 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](http://house.gov)

Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631

Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553

Senator Dianne Feinstein (202) 224-3841



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