

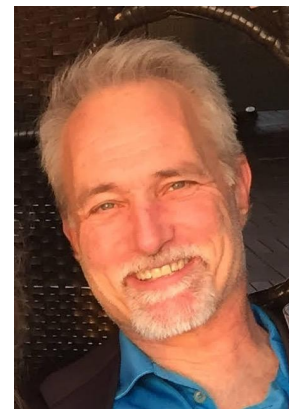
This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! March 8, 2023

Dear Sandra,

I remember the two years at church between 6 and 7 years old. My UU church had to move. The city bought our building to put in a freeway. It took us two years to find a place to move. When we finally did, we were excited, but overwhelmed. It was a big piece of property, adjacent to a canyon and a big park. It was everything we'd been asking for. But it was also a lot of work. I remember going to church every Wednesday afternoon for nearly two years to work on building the Religious Education Space. I put in a lot of 7 yr old sweat equity – right next to my minister and religious education director.



When it was finished, and we opened our doors, I felt pretty proud of what I helped make happen. It felt a little like it was my building.... my church... my people. So, that spring, when we held our annual canvass, the RE program had a special service. I was asked to speak in the service. It was the first time I ever felt like I had something important to say. I can't remember exactly what it was... but I do remember that I was moved enough to promise a portion of my allowance. It was the first time I ever thought of myself as a leader... and having something that was worth sacrificing for. Our family's name went on a little plaque. That meant a lot to me.

This moment feels somewhat the same. It feels like we're building something special. We just hired Ariel Smith-Iyer to lead our multigenerational efforts and she is really special. And we are about to extend an offer to Mission Peak's first ever paid Choir Director. These are the kind of people who responded to our aspirations and fashioned their gifts to our dreams. It makes me want to do more. And helps me believe that if we all show up, we will definitely be BETTER TOGETHER.

Rev Greg Ward (he, him, his) minister@mpuuc.org

This Sunday's Service:

We have transitioned to hybrid services. See

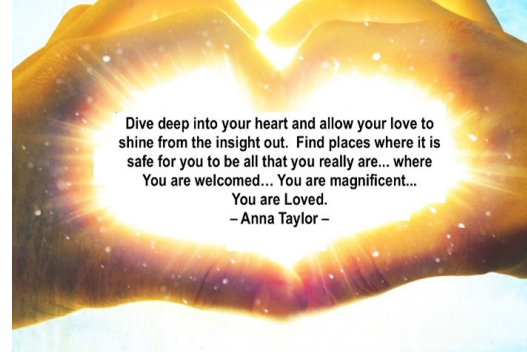
mpuuc.org/zoom each week for how to attend services.

Loving From the Insight Out

What makes you shine? And how does the light you possess brighten the world around you? Those are hard questions for Puritan minded folks who were taught not to pay any mind to the light within.

But, often, they don't prove much easier for UUs who, on the one hand eschew archaic religious ways of thinking; but on the other still have trouble and 'hide their light under a bushel.' Still, if we believe our first principle, none of us are an exception. Or a mistake. In this service we will explore Marianne Williamson's oft cited concern: 'it is our light - not our darkness - that most frightens us.'

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Sharon Davis. Worship Host will be David Gibbons. Various UUA music artists will provide our music.



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.

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%.



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

The Mission Peak UU Safety Policy for Services and Events changed March 8th

We encourage attendees to be masked inside, using N95 (or equivalent) which are more effective than cloth or surgical masks. We have such masks available in Cole Hall on Sunday mornings. The end of the mask requirement does not mean the end of COVID-19, which will remain present in our community. We are allowing attendees to decide which tools to use to keep themselves and others as healthy as possible.

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 Safety Policy on how we allow services in Cole Hall and other events 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.

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, we will explore what makes us shine? Who are the people who instilled in us the feeling like we had something special to offer the world? What holds us back from shining as brightly as we can and what do we do to overcome that doubt? The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

LET MPUUC BUY YOUR 1 YR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NAACP

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 1st 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.

JUSTICE CORNER

I (Cal Ball) came to activism late in life after retiring from a career in music and then technology. I didn't know anything except that I wanted to do something to contribute to making the world more equitable for all. Armed only with my lofty goals, I reached out to folk in the UU community, a little intimidated but willing to learn. I was met with welcome, patience, humor and support by some extraordinary folk that had been doing this work for years.



Now I coordinate Side With Love's [Skill Up Series](#), our monthly trainings on organizing skills to help YOU build stronger teams in your congregation and community. When I think about our Skill Ups, they mirror my experience: welcoming, fun, and educational offerings to help all of us get to a higher level in this work that we cherish of harnessing love's power to stop oppression.

[Will you join us this semester?](#)

This Spring, our Skill Up Theme is "**How to Talk About Hard Things.**" You are heartily invited to attend these very informative and rich workshops that not only cover high-level concepts but also offer practical guidance and hands-on practice. Each topic will be delivered by experts and long-time organizers with special knowledge and experience presenting

- **Mar 19** - [Evaluation is an Act of Love](#), led by Sarah Berel-Harrop, Side with Love Squad and Texas UU Justice Ministry Leader
- **Apr 23** - [Facing the Apocalypse With a Smile](#), led by Rachel Myslivy, Side with Love Climate Justice Organizer
- **May 21** - [What Do Impacted Communities Need - How Would I Know?](#) Led by Rev. Michael Crumpler, UUA LGBTQ and Multicultural Programs Director

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Friday, March 10 • 12:00 – 1:00 pm



[SURJ Bay Area Action Hour](#)

Want to take tangible steps to end racial injustice and white supremacy? Join a SURJ Action Hour! This is one way to truly Show Up for Racial Justice—and it's just an hour a week. We meet over Zoom to take concrete steps together: calling elected officials, signing petitions, etc. We meet on Friday every week. Closed captioning will be available in the main room of Action Hour calls. Please register for these or future dates on the SURJ website. **Wednesdays: March 8 – May 10 • 6:30 – 9:00 pm (with 2 exceptions and no class 4/12)**

[SURJ Virtual Study & Action Program 2023](#)

Doing the work to unlearn white supremacy and taking accountable, principled action toward racial justice is needed now more than ever. SURJ Bay Area invites you to participate in our free, virtual Study & Action Program, which will dig into the history of white supremacy while working closely with one of our accountability partners, Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB), on their campaign to close 10 prisons in California in the next five years. By studying the history of colonialism, genocide, and slavery, as well as the ongoing fight for civil rights as told through the experiences of those most impacted, we deepen our understanding of injustice, and learn to take strategic, effective action and accountability to dismantle white supremacy. Follow the link in the title for class details, weekly topics, and more.

Monday, March 13 • 7:00 pm

[SURJ San Mateo Meeting](#)

Do you know about the Watsonville race riot? White men with pistols and clubs roamed the streets for five days in 1930, assaulting Filipino farm workers who were accused of "stealing their jobs" and pursuing romantic relationships with white women. It culminated in the killing of Fermin Tobera who was sleeping in a San Juan Road labor camp.

SURJ San Mateo's next meeting will help us learn about the history of Filipino immigration around Watsonville after Spain ceded its longstanding colony of the Philippines to the United States in the Treaty of Paris ending the Spanish-American War of 1898. Our guest presenters will be Professor Kat Gutierrez and Mr. Roy Recio. Dr. Gutierrez is professor of History at UC Santa Cruz. Mr. Recio leads the [Tobera Project](#).

Join via [Zoom](#) with case-sensitive password: AntiRacism

8th Principle Learning

[A brief history of anti-Japanese/ anti-Asian policies in the U.S.](#) by Heather Cox Richardson

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/8thprinciplelearningcommunity/permalink/1180652802819236/>

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 our temporary treasurer, DeAnna Alm. (treasurer@mpuuc.org).

- Sandra handles most ongoing operational tasks, such as pledge tracking, reimbursement requests/status, contribution statements, stock donations, and the like. If you are submitting a reimbursement request, please send to both office@mpuuc.org and treasurer@mpuuc.org.

- Please send any questions to both the treasurer email (treasurer@mpuuc.org), which is being monitored by DeAnna Alm and also to Sandra (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 and 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

Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631

Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553

Senator Dianne Feinstein (202) 224-3841



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