

This Week on the Peak

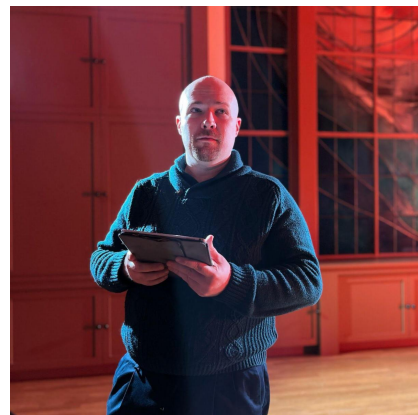


Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! April 26, 2023

Dear Sandra,

Dear Mission Peak Community:

I'm happy to join Mission Peak as the new choir director of the Peak Performers. I'm grateful to the work done by Shauna Pickett-Gordon, and the warm welcome I've already received from the members of the choir. You've already heard my voice join the choir in March and April, and I look forward to working with the choir to provide music that elevates the experience of everyone who attends any sort of service here. There is a depth and diversity of musical expression at Mission Peak, and I'm happy to be a part of that community.



As many of you may have questions, a little background on me: I was raised in a very musical family in Pocatello, Idaho. I have three younger brothers and a younger sister, and each of us in my family sings, plays piano, and most of my siblings learned another instrument. Music, singing, and choirs were a large part of my upbringing, so it wasn't a great surprise when I pursued music as a career, starting at Idaho State University. After my undergraduate studies, I moved to the Boston area to pursue a Master's degree, and stayed in the area after graduation from the Longy School of Music. I've sung in a variety of settings, including liturgical, ensemble, musical theater, and opera. I moved to the Bay Area in 2018 with my husband and shiba inu when the former was hired by a large tech company. I have experience as a music director and as a singer, and currently am soprano section leader at an Episcopal church in Portola Valley, as well as a core member of Clerestory, an a cappella ensemble here in the Bay Area. I also teach with the Community School of Music and Arts in Mountain View, which is where I met Drew Wilson, who made me aware that Mission Peak was looking for a choir director.

I was happy to discover during the interview process that the committee asked excellent questions that pointed towards a sincere interest in helping all of the music at Mission Peak to thrive, and in the well-being of the choir and of the choir director. As the choir still meets remotely and assembles our final product from member submissions, I am already in debt to everyone who records, submits, and joins rehearsals to make a joyful sound.

I look forward to helping elevate the choir and musical life of Mission Peak. If you feel called to become more involved in this work, please let me know at music@mpuuc.org.

Be well,

Von Bringhurst

This Sunday's Service:

Service can be attended in-person at Cole Hall or online. See mpuuc.org/zoom each week for how to attend services.



Everything Must Change

Change is inevitable. It is always happening within, among and inside us. Sometimes change is welcome and other times not so much. How do we cope and even embrace it? Rev. Connie Simon, Interim Minister at the UU Church of Davis, is our special guest Worship Leader.

Rev. Connie Simon will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Barbara Meyers. Worship Host will be Erik Alm. Jay and Jessica Steele will provide our music.

Whether you are attending services in Cole Hall or remotely, you can donate 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 CHDC in April

Community Housing Development Corporation (CHDC) is a well rated 501(c) group working for a more equitable future by helping Bay Area black families purchase and keep their homes through down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, and financial management education. Please help support CHDC by sharing our plate



Please donate generously if you are able, in one of these ways:

Write a check to MPUUC with "CHDC" in the memo line and mail 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 an envelope with a check (with "CHDC" on the memo line) in our mail slot addressed to: Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Pay online at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card. Choose "Special" as the donation type. Please state "For "CHDC" in the message. Note we use PayPal for this, and they charge us around 3%

Please note we will be collecting for CHDC until May 14.

Calling All Sages!

In May of 2021, we had a Sages Sunday, where we honored those in our congregation who were 80 years old, or more. This June we will welcome new sages to our "Sages Circle." If you turned 80 as of May 2021 and have not yet been contacted by me, PLEASE let me know by May 11th. We don't want to miss anyone.

Kathy Wallcave kwallcave@gmail.com



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

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](#)

Children's Chapel during service Sunday, April 30th!

Following the Time for all Ages, children are invited to join Children's Chapel in one of the RE classrooms, location tbd. Depending on the ages of those who come we plan to sing a little song and read a book, then enjoy some free-play. Parents/grandparents/caregivers are welcome to join the program or remain in service.

Children's Chapel
Sunday April 30th during service
following the Time for all Ages

We'll sing a song and read a book together, then have free-play time. Parents/grandparents/caregivers are welcome to join us or remain in service.

 Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Are you longing for more young people in attendance at services on Sunday mornings? Join us on April 30th for Children's Chapel during service and help build the momentum! 1-2 volunteers are needed. Our safety policy requires two adults in attendance when there are children present. This event will repeat monthly, dates tbd through the spring and summer, settling on a recurring monthly Sunday by the fall. If you can help out please let Ariel know and if you can't help out on April 30th but would like to help in future Children's Chapel events you can also let Ariel know (dre@mpuuc.org).

SPIRITUAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND SERMON WRITING FOR FUN AND PROPHET - May 11 and May 18 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

In this annual class, Rev. Greg will encourage all participants to explore stories from within their own lives that may have universal life lessons. What are the powerful stories of your life that taught you your most valuable truths? We will both explore these stories with the group and we will find out more about turning them into a compelling sermon – or part of a service with others. [SIGN UP HERE](#) or contact Rev. Greg for more information.

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Stepping Stone Mosaic Project

Do you have bits of broken ceramics that were once special to you but can not be repaired? Would you like to see them made into something new and useful and beautiful? Bring in your bits and pieces, leave them in the box in Cole Hall labeled "Ceramics for Mosaic Project" . Over the course of the summer there will be several opportunities to come together and create stepping stones for feet of all sizes to walk through the garden bed out front of Cole Hall. More information with dates and how to sign up in future editions of Week on the Peak.

Some examples shown below for inspiration- our MPUUC mosaics will be made with whatever we collectively share.



JUSTICE CORNER

GET INVOLVED WITH SURJ BAY AREA

Create a great offer by adding words like "free"

"personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining"!

Interested in learning more about how you can get involved with SURJ Bay Area? We are now offering intro one-to-one meetings with a SURJ committee member where you can learn more about what we do, ask questions, and figure out the best way for you to get engaged in the racial justice work of our local chapter. An intro one-to-one is the first step to organizing with SURJ. [Please fill out this form](#) so we can arrange a one-to-one for you!



Join a SURJ Action Pod! Action Pods are a great fit if you: want to build a socially and racially-just future in a supportive environment; want to get to know people who are also committed to justice; and want to be an active member of SURJ, but a committee isn't the right fit for you. [Learn more here](#) and [sign up here!](#)

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Friday, May 5 • 6:00 – 9:00 pm
[Critical Resistance 25th Anniversary](#)



[Critical Resistance](#) (CR) will mark its 25th anniversary with a conversation between Angela Davis, Andrea Ritchie, and others, moderated by CR's Kamau Walton. The event will take stock of the gains made building a movement to abolish the prison industrial complex (PIC) over the past 25 years, assess the current conditions of struggle, and envision the next two decades of PIC abolitionist organizing. Tickets sliding scale \$0-\$30.
Location: S.F. State University McKenna Theatre or online

Sunday, May 7 • 5:30 – 6:30 pm
[Do the Work! How You Can Take Action Against Racism](#)

In their *Do the Work!: An Antiracist Activity Book*, comedian W. Kamau Bell and activist Kate Schatz deliver a guide to "dismantling white supremacy in America" that humorously implores you to get involved. This colorfully illustrated, informative workbook gives you a hands-on understanding of systemic racism. Chock full of engaging games, vibrant comics, and surprisingly deep conversation starters, the innovative volume challenges you to think critically and act effectively. A Bay Area Book Festival event, Bell and Schatz will be in conversation to commiserate on how to best *do the work*.
Location: Freight & Salvage, 2020 Addison, Berkeley

8th Principle Learning

Recent experiences at a UU congregation

[Click here](#)

There's a difference between assimilation, limited inclusion, and belonging.

Assimilation says, "be like us and leave parts of you behind."

Limited inclusion says, "be a part of us and bring some uniqueness, but not too much."

Belonging says, "you belong here; this place is better because you are here, and you are free to take up space."


@lorettalester

**Team Stronger Than You Think (STYT)
Presents Symbiosis 2023: Out of**

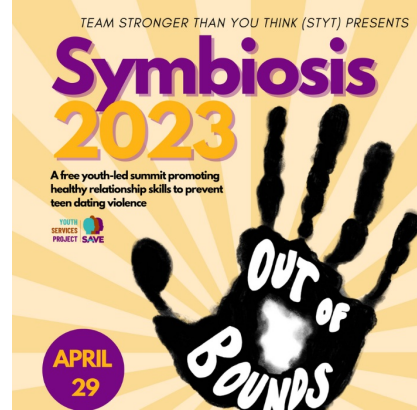
Bounds

April 29

9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Ohlone College

Symbiosis is a free summit created by and for youth that aims to uplift queer and trans youth, provide education about healthy relationships, and empower youth activists in their home communities. At Symbiosis, junior high and high school-aged folks will learn from breakout session workshops, hear from keynote speakers, create art, enjoy performances, and build community. 2023 marks the 6th annual Symbiosis co-hosted by Team STYT and SAVE. Visit the SAVE [website](#) for complete information.



No One Dies Alone seeks Volunteers

Washington Hospital has created a new volunteer program called No One Dies Alone (NODA) to train and coordinate end of life companions for those who are passing away in the hospital. They are educating, empowering, and organizing interested volunteers to sit vigil in the hospital room and to help create the conditions for a dignified death for a patient who is actively dying at Washington Hospital.

Interested parties may contact JB Goodier, Spiritual Care Coordinator at Washington Hospital for more information: (510) 818-6569 or jeremy_goodier@whhs.com.

YouTube links:

[The Birth of No One Dies Alone](#)

[A Nurse's Personal Story Participating in No One Dies Alone](#)

Denominational Affairs

Please find updated information on the UUAGA conference June 22-25, 2023 in the link below.

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



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.

Board Briefs

Board briefs from April 2023 MPUUC Board meeting.

The board met on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

- Approved Lucienne Bouvier as a potential General Assembly delegate or alternative. Rev. Ward will coordinate with potential GA delegates for MPUUC representation.
- Continued transition to new financial software. Noted that the Treasurer position is much easier than it used to be.
- Discussed summertime Share the Plate collections.
- Discussed recruitment for Board positions for 2023-24 and coordination with Leadership Development Committee.
- Approved the updated Membership Committee charter.



The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, May 9 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!

Assembly Member Alex Lee 408-262-2501

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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