

# This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA  
The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond!  
May 17, 2023

Dear Sandra,

What a wonderful Sunday Service we shared together on May 14! Rev. Greg and his childhood friend Ramona offered a loving insight to the special relationship that exists between a mother and child. Jay and Jessica provided music and whether you were on Zoom or in Cole Hall, we all had the pleasure of sharing this special time together.



In the Week on the Peak last Week, Rev. Greg wrote frankly about the current situation facing Mission Peak, our inability to put together a slate for our Board for July. Some folks may not feel they are ready for a 'leadership' position and that word can be scary.

What we are asking you to do is think about why Mission Peak is special to you? What about this community of caring hearts and inquiring minds is important to you? Besides talking about the budget, we want your answers to be part of the discussion at the Annual Meeting, June 4<sup>th</sup>. We want to celebrate the reasons we are together in community and we hope we will gain insights about how to be **Better Together!** [CLICK HERE](#) to take a three question survey.

With gratitude,

Julie Ganzlin and Valerie Stewart  
Stewardship Committee

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## This Sunday's Service:

Service can be attended in-person at Cole Hall or online.  
See [mpuuc.org/zoom](http://mpuuc.org/zoom) each

## week for how to attend services.

### The First Thing to Know about the 2nd

The right to bear arms has a history even longer - and clearer - than our country's history. It has been cited by proponents as a non-negotiable right belonging to early colonists who had to protect themselves in the wilderness. It was a central issue in the war of independence to remain sovereign from foreign interests; and it was central to the intense negotiations behind passing the rights guaranteed in our Constitution. But Carol Anderson's book, The 2nd, points out that there is a common factor connecting our safety, our sovereign interests and our rights. Her book clearly explains that she is neither for or against the 2nd. But she is adamant about the first thing everyone needs to know about the 2nd.



Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Kathi Bayne. Worship Host will be Erik Alm. Peak Rocks will provide our music.

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### 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 Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association Juneteenth Celebration in May

Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association (SNA) is sponsoring the first Juneteenth Celebration in Milpitas. Our goal is to honor our Black Milpitas ancestors, celebrate our rich cultural heritage, African and African American history, and continue to unite our diverse community while connecting residents with valuable resources and services.



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

Write a check to MPUUC with "SNA" 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 "SNA" 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 "SNA" in the message. Note we use PayPal for this, and they charge us around 3%

**Please note we will be collecting for SNA until June 4.**

**Please note we ended collecting for CHDC on May 14. We will have the total amount collected in next week's Week on the Peak.**



## 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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## 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 be exploring guns, power, fear and focus. We will be asking ourselves to share about our history with guns, our feelings about them and how we talk to people with different views. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

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# Children's Chapel

Sunday May 28th 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**

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## Parent / Grandparent Discussion Group Forming

Calling all parents and grandparents! Do you sometimes feel like you could use some support navigating the demands of parenting/grandparenting? Ever find yourself at a loss, longing to be heard or to hear that others share the same struggles? If those questions resonate then this group is for you. Fill out this [brief survey](#) to help us determine the important details: when to meet and what to discuss. Please respond by May 21st so we can get a group together for June. If there is enough interest this group will continue to meet monthly.

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## UU Ups and Downs: Lessons from the Past

Former UUA President, Rev. Dr. John Buehrens Six-part UU History Course with emphasis on the bay area. Sundays this summer online via Zoom Webinar. Each class will run 4:00-5:30 pm PT. July 9, 16, 23 August 13, 20, 27 Pay what you can \$25-90 [Register Here](#)

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## FELLOWSHIP CORNER

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### Wednesday May 24th, 6-8pm potluck and mosaic stepping stone project kick-off event

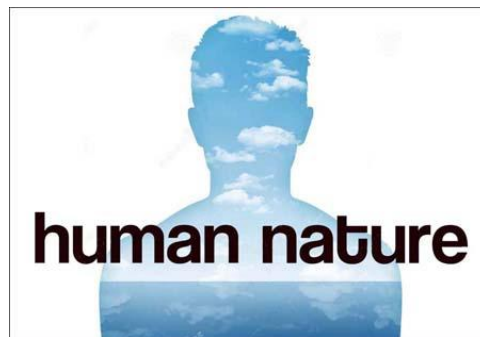
Come eat dinner together in Cole Hall then clear the tables and enjoy a little right-brain

creative project, arranging our collected broken pieces together to become something new, and useful and beautiful- to become stepping stones to lay in the garden bed out front of Cole Hall. Children's Chapel will be once a month and part of their activities each month will be watering the plants. These stepping stones will help little feet find their way through the garden without trampling the things we're growing there. [RSVP](#) preferred.



### Experience Human Nature at Its Finest!

Saturday, June 3, 2023  
1:00–3:00 p.m.  
Don Ramie's house  
35982 Cabral Dr.  
Fremont, CA 94536



There's a party at Don's house and you're invited! Don has made a set of intriguing cards with quotes from books by leading psychiatrists and social psychologists. We will take turns drawing a card and let the discussion begin!

Snacks and drinks will be provided, but you will need to get your own transportation. Or call Don if that's a problem.

Sergio, the friend of our congregation from Nicaragua, will be there to show that human nature is truly universal! Don's brother, Jerry, might also show up to prove he's human as well.

Any questions, call Don at (510) 791-6842 or write an e-mail to [donramie2@gmail.com](mailto:donramie2@gmail.com)

## JUSTICE CORNER

Co-sponsored by UUSJ



### Democracy: Its Value and for Whom?

Friday, May 19, 7:30pm ET / 6:30pm CT / 5:30pm MT / 7pm ET

Online (and In-person) - [Register](#)

Co-sponsored by UUSJ

A panel discussion titled Democracy: Its Value and for Whom? with four excellent speakers:

- Danielle Allen, Harvard professor and founder of Partners in Democracy
- Tania Vitvitsky, direct experience with the importance of democracy in Ukraine
- Tanisha Sullivan, President of Boston's NAACP
- Jim Tull, an expert in international conflict management

Sponsored by First Parish in Concord Social Action, Reclaim Our Democracy, and the

### Meetings With House Staff On Democracy

In the last several weeks, the Democracy Action Team has been meeting with House staffers to determine what democracy legislation can move forward. The team had an informative conversation with three offices:

- Rep. James McGovern (D-MA), Ranking Member, House Committee on Rules, cosponsor of H.J. Res 13 and End Dark Money Act
- Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA), Member of the Jan. 6 Commission, sponsor of H.J. Res 13, and cosponsor of the End Dark Money Act
- Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Co-Chair of the Problem Solvers Caucus and sponsor of the CLEAN Elections Act and the Restoring Faith in Elections Act

UUSJ had useful conversations with each office about the current situation in the House. Staff still consider it very early in this session of Congress and, at least for now, the Freedom Caucus members are driving what is being discussed.

### Want To Join The Engagement With The House?

Email Fred Van Deusen, Democracy Action Team Convener at [democracy@uusj.org](mailto:democracy@uusj.org).

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

### Revoke Hiring of the Man Who Killed Breonna Taylor



Residents of Carroll County, Kentucky need your support in opposing the recent decision of Chief Deputy Robert Miller to hire former Louisville Metro Police Officer Myles Cosgrove. Cosgrove was fired for violating policy and procedures by using deadly force in the killing of Breonna Taylor on March 13, 2020; he entered Taylor's home with a no-knock warrant obtained with falsified statements and killed the 26-year-old unarmed, innocent Black woman. The Carroll County community wants to feel safe—demand that Sheriff Miller rescind his hiring of Cosgrove by [adding your name to this letter](#).

### 8th Principle Learning

Dwyane Wade, the Miami Heat's all-time leading scorer and who has trans daughter, no longer lives in Florida. He says he left Florida because his family 'would not be accepted' there.

[Click here](#)

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## Denominational Affairs

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

Join us online or in-person in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

[Click here for more information](#)



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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 our temporary treasurer, DeAnna Alm. ([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. If you are submitting a reimbursement request, please send to both [office@mpuuc.org](mailto:office@mpuuc.org) and [treasurer@mpuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@mpuuc.org).
- 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!

Assembly Member Alex Lee 408-262-2501  
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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