

WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PITTSBURGH • JUNE 21 - 25, 2023

General Assembly

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Meyers
Worship Associate: Sharon Davis

Worship Host: Steve Wallcave
Music: Jay Steele

Sunday, July 16, 2023 10:00 AM
Service theme for the month: Visiting

We are very glad that you are with us today and hope you feel our welcome. If you would like to learn more about us and receive our weekly email newsletter, please send an email to welcome@mpuuc.org. We request your name, email, phone number and address. We'd be happy to answer any questions.

Our Mission Statement:

The foundation of Mission Peak is love. We are a spiritual community of open minds, nurturing growth and healing in ourselves and all people. Together we strive to live compassionately and courageously as we work for a nonviolent, just and sustainable world.

We, the Member Congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Covenant to Affirm and Promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of the conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Order of Service

Sunday, July 16, 2023 10-11:15 a.m.

Centering Thought

"I humbly accept the role of President of the Unitarian Universalist Association. I promise to love you for 6 years. I hope you will understand the messiness of what it means to be in relationship with me for six years so that we can do the work of this faith together. "
- Sofia Betancourt

"In the face of people who oppose knowledge and human dignity, who seek to use law and violence to make us cower as they did back then, we have to sustain courage. Courage to read the books. Courage to face down the bullies. Courage to do our level best to break the unjust laws or refuse them - be disobedient to them"
- Imani Perry

Prelude

Bell Sharon Davis

Call To Worship Sharon Davis

Unison Chalice Lighting Sharon Davis

We light this chalice...To remind ourselves to treat all people kindly,
because we are all one family;
To take good care of the Earth, because it is our home;
To live lives full of goodness and love,
because that is how we will become the best people we can be.

Welcome Jay Steele

Welcome Song #145 *As Tranquil Streams* Jay Steele
Words: Marion Franklin Ham, Music: Musicalisches Hand-buch Hamburg 1690

Time for all Ages *Whatever Comes Tomorrow* Sharon Davis
Author Rebecca Gardyn Levington; Illustrations Mariona Cabassa

Special Donation (Offering) **Sandwich Squad** Don Ramie

Please donate generously to Sandwich Squad at MPUUC in one of these ways:

- Make Check payable to MPUUC with Sandwich Squad 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 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 "Sandwich Squad" in the message. (Note: 3% surcharge).

Joys and Concerns Invitation

Rev. Barbara Meyers

Music Selection	<i>Mach's Mit Mir, Gott (Hymn #183)</i> Johann Hermann Schein	Jay Steele
Shared Joys & Concerns		Rev. Barbara Meyers
Prayer and Silence	Praisesong Mark Belletini	Rev. Barbara Meyers
Anthem	Poem Yiruma	Jay Steele
Message	General Assembly 2023	Rev. Barbara Meyers
Closing Hymn	<i>Hymn #123 Spirit of Life - Repeated Twice</i> Words and Music: Carolyn McDade	Jay Steele
Extinguishing the Chalice	#456 We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.	Sharon Davis
Benediction		Rev. Barbara Meyers

Next Week's Service: July 23 – "My God"

Paul K. Davis will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Don Ramie. Worship Host will be David Gibbons. Knuti VanHoven and Jo Ann Schriener will provide our music.

Though we Unitarian Universalists do not have any required or standard theology, we have our individual understandings of the divine. My understanding of the divine began to develop in my youth, and has continued to grow and shift throughout my life. From studying many belief systems from many sources, I have realized that there are many meanings of the word GOD. As a result, I have concluded that I am an atheist, an agnostic, and a theist, all three, depending on which meaning of GOD is used. I will recount some of the GODs in which I do not believe, some concerning which I am uncertain, and what I do believe. MY GOD is abstract, consisting of the concepts of LOGIC, TRUTH and LOVE. My faith is that these can consistently guide my life.

Go to <https://mpuuc.org/zoom/> for order of service and how to connect for all services

Announcements:

In search of mental health family support or peer support resources in the larger Tri-City area? Contact Rev. Barbara Meyers, a mental health educator and peer support provider. There are some activities that are available during the pandemic. Email com_minister@mpuuc.org, or call 510-796-5722.

UUA Bylaws Article II Purposes and Covenant (with passed amendments, 6/24/23)

Section C-2.1. Purposes.

The Unitarian Universalist Association will devote its resources to and use its organizational powers for religious, educational, and humanitarian purposes. Its primary purposes are to assist congregations in their vital ministries, support and train leaders both lay and professional, to foster lifelong faith formation and spiritual development, to heal historic injustices, to support and encourage the creation of new Unitarian Universalist communities, and to advance our Unitarian Universalist values in the world.

The purpose of the Unitarian Universalist Association is to actively engage its members in the transformation of the world through liberating Love.

Section C-2.2. Values and Covenant.

As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

Interdependence. Interdependence. We honor the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. With humility and reverence, we covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation, creating and nurturing sustainable relationships of repair, mutuality, and justice.

Pluralism. We celebrate that we are all sacred beings diverse in culture, experience, and theology. We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We embrace our differences and commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect.

Justice. We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive. We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We support the use of inclusive democratic processes to make decisions within our congregations and society at large.

Transformation. We adapt to the changing world. We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

Generosity. We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope. We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.

Equity. We declare that every person has the right to flourish with inherent dignity and worthiness. We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

Section C-2.3. Inspirations.

As Unitarian Universalists, we proclaim that direct experiences of transcending mystery and wonder are a

primary source of inspiration. These experiences open our hearts, renew our spirits, and transform our lives. We draw upon, and are inspired by, sacred, secular, and scientific understandings that help us make meaning and live into our values. We respect the histories, contexts, and cultures in which these understandings were created and are currently practiced. These sources ground us and sustain us in ordinary, difficult, and joyous times. Grateful for the experiences that move us, aware of the religious ancestries we inherit, and enlivened by the diversity which enriches our faith, we are called to ever deepen and expand our wisdom.

Section C-2.4. Inclusion.

Systems of power, privilege, and oppression have traditionally created barriers for persons and groups with particular identities, ages, abilities, and histories. We pledge to replace such barriers with ever-widening circles of solidarity and mutual respect. We strive to be an association of congregations that truly welcome all persons who share our values. We commit to being an association of congregations that empowers and enhances everyone's participation, especially those with historically marginalized identities.

Section C-2.5. Freedom of belief.

Congregational freedom and the individual's right of conscience are central to our Unitarian Universalist heritage. Congregations may establish statements of purpose, covenants, and bonds of union so long as they do not require that members adhere to a particular creed.