

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! September 6, 2023

Dear Sandra,

Hi

I am Kathi Bayne, and I am the lead for Civic Engagement at MPUUC.

Our Civic Engagement committee represents MPUUC in our community by demonstrating how we live our values, including promoting democracy for all.



In the past, some of our activities have included attending environmental demonstrations, the Women's March, and town hall meetings in Fremont to support the unhoused as well as helping with youth voter registration. Also, we have written over 7,000 letters and postcards in 2020 and over 2,000 letters in 2022 to encourage others to vote. We participated in the successful effort to increase voter turnout in Ohio to preserve women's health choices.

We are writing letters for Vote Forward, a nonprofit which targets low propensity voters on the Democratic rolls in swing states. In 2020, Vote Forward letter writers wrote 17.6 million letters. Vote Forward research suggests that this netted more than 126,000 more votes, far more than the winning margin in many states.

This season of 2023-2024 may be the most significant time in our nation's history in the struggle to preserve democracy. Therefore, our dedicated letter writers are gearing up to make a difference, once again.

We need your support. Paper, stamps, ink, and other writing supplies costs about ninety cents per letter. Stamps, the major part of the cost, support our post office against the attacks of corporations and politicians who want to eliminate it.

For me, our letter writing group provides a much-needed spiritual experience. We come together as UUs to do the work of our 5th principle while sharing good company, food, and the fire of commitment.

We would welcome your donations to the Sunday, September 17, Special Collection as well as any help you can give us.

Thank you,
Kathi Bayne

This Sunday's Service: PET BLESSING + WATER COMMUNION

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



As the Water Rises, Remembering We're Blessed

In this year's annual ingathering service, we're going to invite the beloved non-humans in our household to recognize and celebrate the thing that all living things need more than anything else: Water. Plan to bring your pet to church and we will explore how our animals help us to be more loving and humane.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Ariel Smith-Iyer. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jessica and Jay 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%.

PET BLESSING + WATER COMMUNION

Our annual blessing of the animals is THIS SUNDAY. If you have a beloved pet who loves the company of people and other animals, please bring them (leashed or crated) to service. But if your pet would feel more traumatized than blessed by being surrounded by other animals, PLEASE tune in on line or bring a picture and we will bless them virtually.

Summer Special Collection for August: Fellowship and Community Building

There is still time to contribute for our Fellowship and Community Building collection. We will announce how much we collected for our summer collections in the next two weeks.

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

Write a check to MPUUC with "Fellowship" 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 "Fellowship" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "Fellowship") 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 Fellowship" in the message. 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

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's topic is exploring the animals who taught us about love and care and service and reflecting on the various ways we blessed them (let them know they were sacred to us). The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

Please note the link has changed as we are using a different Zoom account.

REV. GREG'S SABBATICAL

In October, Rev. Greg will begin a 3 month sabbatical. Extensive planning has been done to make sure this time is collectively successful and rewarding. If you're just hearing about this, you'll want to read the [Sabbatical Brochure](#) that explains who will be MPUUC's Sabbatical Minister and what arrangements have been put in place and what you can understand for this to be successful.

Mission Peak is doing an outreach event!

Saturday, September 23rd from 1-3pm we will be hosting a Fall Fest in and around Cole Hall. This festival will be an earth day in disguise. There will be stations of activities (recycle relay, solar pizza oven, pledge to the

earth, etc) and tables with info and inspiration, including Urban Forest Friends, Tri City Ecology Center and the Fremont Sustainability Manager, in addition to others.

If you: a.)want to help attract families with young children to MPUUC and, b.)care about our planet, please consider making some time to lend a hand. [This Signup Genius](#) can tell you where we still need help.

Or you can email [Ariel](#) and plan for a phone chat to figure out where your energy could best be used. This is an all-hands on deck event, please consider helping as you are able. Plus, it should be a blast!



Mission Peak is hosting a Tri City Interfaith Council (TCIC) event.

Saturday, September 23rd from 3-4pm there will be a special service called a Ritual of Balance for Autumn Equinox. This service will feature a welcome from Rev Greg and then be co-led by Ariel and a group of leaders from TCIC. There will be poetry and music, along with readings and a special time of meditation, a space to grieve climate change and the precarious place our planet now finds itself. Those in attendance will be given a seed to plant and the opportunity to share seasonal fruits with our interfaith community. Please consider attending! This service is now a quarterly event, held on or near the solstice and equinoxes. Watch for the next one, to be held on or close to the winter solstice, Dec 21st at a TCIC congregation.

Boutique News

MISSION PEAK The BOUTIQUE is happening! And we want you to participate and enjoy the event!

WHAT: LOCALLY SOURCED CRAFTS AND PERSON-MADE GOODS FOR SALE TO THE PUBLIC AND MEMBERS OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY
Including items for the coming holidays

WHEN: OCTOBER 14, 2023 SATURDAY 10:00 - 3:00 p.m.

WHERE: 2950 WASHINGTON BLVD., FREMONT -COLE HALL
(First United Methodist Church Campus)

PLEASE click [HERE](#) to join this festive event! We need the support and participation of ALL to make this a success! We are always **Better Together!**

Click [here](#) for flier

Click [here](#) to see information on our website

The BOUTIQUE at Mission Peak

LOCALLY SOURCED CRAFTS AND HANDMADE GOODS FOR SALE
Including items for the coming holidays



OCTOBER 14, 2023 SATURDAY 10:00AM - 3:00PM

2950 WASHINGTON BLVD., FREMONT - COLE HALL
(First United Methodist Church Campus - TOP of the hill)

<https://mpuuc.org/boutique/>

Greetings Mission Peak UU Members and Friends,
your support for the Boutique is critical.

Folks who want to sign -up as a VENDOR....please use this form: [Vendor form](#)

Folks who will help with the Boutique, in advance or day-of
the Boutique, please fill out this [Boutique Participant form](#)

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

POTLUCK – POKER – BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Mark your calendars for FUN! Saturday September 16 is a potluck here in Cole Hall at 5:30 p.m, celebrating Rev. Greg's Birthday – AND – Rev. Greg's annual Poker (Tournament style Texas Hold'em) with the Pastor Fundraiser. You don't need to play poker to come to the party and you don't need to be good at poker to play. It's all for fun and to support Mission Peak.

POTLUCK DETAILS: Cake will be provided.

BIRTHDAY DETAILS: No presents except your help and your presence.

POKER DETAILS: Tournament starts at 7:15 pm

If you bought a spot in our Auction, your \$25 buy-in is covered
Anyone who didn't buy a spot at the auction can buy-in for \$25
Anyone who gets knocked out can re-buy for \$20.
All proceeds go to the MPUUC General Fund
1st and 2nd place prizes for Poker winners.

Fall Fellowship opportunities- mark your calendars!

Let's celebrate this fall with some great reasons for getting together:

Saturday September 30th, 5:30-7:30pm potluck, game night and final stepping stone making event.

Saturday October 21st, 5:30-7:30pm potluck, game night and TBD art-making event

Saturday Nov 11th, 5:3--7:30pm potluck, game night and Diwali celebration

[RSVP](#) requested (but not required) and coming closer to the date

JUSTICE CORNER

[Write to President Biden](#)

The initiative set up by Texas Governor Greg Abbott known as Operation Lone Star (OLS)

has been impacting asylum seekers at the Texas-Mexico Border. OLS has imposed cruel, inhumane, and deadly treatment in the execution of its official mandate “to combat the smuggling of people and drugs into Texas.”

Recent reporting has drawn attention back to OLS, with stories about:

1. Migrant children being pushed into the Rio Grande and other migrants denied water,
2. The opening of a jail facility for migrant women, as arrests increase under OLS driven by a reliance on misdemeanor and trespassing charges
3. The apparent death of migrants due to one of the newly installed “barrier buoys”; and,
4. Reports about Texas troopers separating families.

The Biden administration must do more to prevent migrant arrests, mistreatment, and family separation occurring under OLS.

Let us urge President Biden and his administration to do more in challenging Operation Lone Star.

UUSJ Immigration Action Team

Right now, asylum seekers are forced to comply with unnecessarily long waiting periods before they are able to legally work in the United States. Without the ability to work, people seeking asylum are deprived of the right to earn an income and support themselves and their families.

Please consider writing to your member of Congress and ask them to support the Asylum Seeker Work Authorization Act of 2023 (H.R. 1325). If passed, this legislation would shorten the waiting periods and make it easier for asylum seekers to obtain a work permit and contribute to their communities.

[Write to President Biden](#)

WILL YOU SIGN A PETITION FOR THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT??

The ERA passed Congress with the needed 2/3rd vote of the United States House and Senate as well as the legislatures of the needed 38 states.

Congress must immediately recognize the Equal Rights Amendment and pass the following United States House and Senate resolutions:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that notwithstanding any time limit contained in House Joint Resolution 208, 92nd Congress, as agreed to in the Senate on March 22, 1972, the article of amendment proposed to the States in that joint resolution is valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution, having been ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States.

[Learn more about the history of the ratification process, why the ERA must be recognized by Congress as ratified; and why the ERA is still needed to guarantee equal rights to all.](#)

<http://www.signup4era.org>

[Sign the Petition!](#)

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Wednesday, September 13 • 7:00 – 8:00 pm PST
Sunday, September 17 • 9:00 – 10:00 am PST

[Fall Study & Action Orientation](#)

Study & Action is back for the fall season with weekly sessions hosted on Zoom. You can register for Wednesdays from 6:30-9:00 pm PST or Sundays from 8:30-11:00 am PST. This powerful, virtual program 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 7 more prisons in California in the next five years. Deepen your knowledge about abolition, develop new skills, and take action in a supportive community. Click above to learn more and register.

8th Principle Learning



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/8thprinciplelearningcommunity/permalink/1263349531216229/>.

Denominational Affairs

Save the Dates: Pacific Western Regional Assembly

April 19-20, 2024

Online and in-person

Look for details about registration, location and presenters in upcoming editions of the PWR Newsletter.

Online and in-person

Look for details about registration, location and presenters in upcoming editions of the PWR Newsletter.

Click [here](#) for more information from Pacific Western Region Newsletter.

Russell City Blues with the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District

When: Friday, September 8, 2023 7:00 PM

Where: Morrison Theater 22311 N 3rd St,
Hayward, CA 94546

In Person: \$15



What: Celebrate the history and uncover the joy of Russell City, a lost Bay Area community, through on-stage interviews and storytelling with the people who lived there. A live band will be on hand to take us back in time, honoring the musical legacy of the town where the blues thrived until the bulldozers rolled in. Presented by KQED in partnership with the Hayward Area Recreation & Park District at the newly reopened Douglas Morrison Theater

Registration: <https://www.kqed.org/event/3394>

Ukraine History Zoom Seminar

Would you like to know more about Ukraine, to better understand the daily newsreports about the war? The Sacramento Archeological Society, which serves northern California, is offering a seminar via zoom on Saturday, Sept. 9th, at 2:00 PM. An hour presentation by SAS Vice President Paul K Davis, a member of MPUUC, will survey everything from archaeological discoveries through the latest military actions. This will be followed by half an hour of questions, answers and discussion. All are welcome, just click [here](#) for more information and the Zoom link.

History of Ukraine
Saturday, September 9
2:00 PM to 3:30 PM

Multifaith Peace Picnic & Prayers

Monday, September 11, 2023
6:00 to 8:15 PM
King Plaza, 250 Hamilton Ave. Palo Alto, CA
Dinner & sowing the seeds of friendships - 6:00-6:45PM Program – 6:50 to 8:15PM

Click [here](#) for flyer.



Multifaith Peace Picnic & Prayer Service
"Let us move From Fear to Friendship."

Sponsors:

- American Muslim Voice Foundation
- Dave Cortese, CA State Senator
- Multifaith Voices for Peace & Justice

Co-sponsors:

- 9/11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows
- First Congregational Church, Palo Alto
- Nasreen and Zareen Raza
- Munira & Amer Charitable Fund
- Unitarian Universalist Church, PA
- Rabea Chaudhry & Farah Rashid
- Asian Law Alliance
- In memory of Sayed & Raiaa Inamdar
- People Acting in Community Together
- Speak Church
- Amna Chaudhry, Realtor
- Custom Lighting, Sound & Video Projection
- Bekhele Masjid (Mosque)
- South Bay Jewish Voice for Peace
- ICNA Council for Social Justice, Bay Area Chapter
- Congregation Beth Am
- Council on American Islamic Relations
- Congregation Kol Emeth
- MATRE
- UIFS Social Justice
- First United Methodist Church, PA
- Bahai Community of Palo Alto
- First Presbyterian Church, Palo Alto
- Youth Community Service
- Silicon Valley Interreligious Council
- MPIA Masjid, Muslim Worship Place
- Pro Bone Photography
- El Chaplin
- With the support of Palo Alto Human Relations Commission

Contact: saminasundas@gmail.com
Website: www.amuslimvoice.org

Multifaith Peace Picnic & Prayers
Monday, September 11, 2023
6:00 to 8:15 PM
King Plaza, 250 Hamilton Ave. Palo Alto, CA
Dinner & sowing the seeds of friendships - 6:00-6:45PM
Program – 6:50 to 8:15PM

This event is free and open to ALL.
You will enjoy a multifaith prayer service, children's performances & dinner.
Link for registration: <https://tinyurl.com/2p838f65>

The program will conclude with a Candlelight Vigil
We invite all of you to be a part of this peace and community building event.
Together we can build an inclusive, harmonious & peaceful world.

Meet Your District Attorney: Town Hall with Alameda County DA Pamela Price

Wednesday, September 13th, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Via Zoom, or in person at Niles Discovery Church in [Fremont](#)

The voters of Alameda county elected Pamela Price for District Attorney on a platform to reform the criminal legal system. After 7 months in office, how is it going? To find out directly, you are invited to attend *A Town Hall with Alameda County District Attorney, Pamela Price*. Register [here](#) (where you can also propose questions to ask the DA). The moderator will be Yoel Haile, Director of the Criminal Justice program of the [ACLU Northern CA](#). This event is organized by [Faith in Action East Bay](#) and the [Interfaith Coalition for Justice in our Jails](#). Please help us distribute the DA Town hall [flier](#) to your networks!



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 treasurer, Jay Steele. (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 Jay Steele 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.
-

Share the Plate Suggestions

8 times per year (once a month, September – May) MPUUC organizes a special collection for a worthy agency that promote our values in the larger world. We try to select some local agencies, some denominational agencies and, occasionally, some global agencies. You can help by suggesting what agencies would be good candidates for this special fund, reaching out to connect with a representative to address the congregation and share it's mission. If you know an agency that would be a good justice partner with MPUUC, [sign up here](#).

Making announcements

If you've ever had an announcement you wanted to share about an upcoming MPUUC event or meeting but didn't know how, you're in luck. This [Announcement Sheet](#) will go directly to Sandra, our Administrator (to put in the OOS); or to a Board Member (to announce at a Sunday service. Deadline for posting Sunday announcements is Thursday at 5pm.

Board Briefs

Board briefs for July 18, 2023 board meeting:

- This board meeting was conducted jointly by Suzette Takei, out-going board president, and Beth Schaefer, new board president.
- Unanimously approved a two-year lease agreement with FUMC for the period beginning July 1, 2023. The rent for the 2024-2025 year, which begins July 1, 2024, will increase by no more than the annual Social Security cost-of-living increase for the year, but will be capped at 2.5%.
- Email accounts and google groups for officers have been updated to be used by current board.
- Unanimously approved the Consumables Charter put forth by Steve Wallcave to allow all event planners to inventory, coordinate and appropriately shop for paper plates, napkins, etc.
- The fall equinox festival put on by the Tri-City Interfaith Council will be held at MPUUC on September 23.
- Discussion of possible dates for the Stewardship events for MPUUC for the 2023-2024 year: Canvass, boutique, auction. Agreed that the canvass must begin about March 15- April 1 in order to collect pledges and plan next year's budget. Several proposals for which months to schedule the boutique and auction. This will be discussed with past leaders of these events and voted on at next board meeting,



Board briefs for August 8 will be posted in an upcoming Week on the Peak. The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, September 12 at 7:00 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](https://www.house.gov)

Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631

Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553

Senator Dianne Feinstein (202) 224-3841



Mission Peak UU | 2950 Washington Blvd Fremont CA | 510.252.1477 missionpeakuu.org



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

Mission Peak UU | 2950 Washington Boulevard, Fremont, CA 94537

[Unsubscribe office@mpuuc.org](mailto:office@mpuuc.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data](#)

[Notice](#)

Sent by minister@mpuuc.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!