

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! October 4, 2023

Dear Sandra,

Hi friends,

I'm Jay Steele and I'm a member of your MPUUC board of trustees as Treasurer.

This is my first year as MPUUC Treasurer, I'm not a professional accountant, and I'm learning a lot about MPUUC finances. First, I'm very grateful to Deanna Alm for being the previous Treasurer, and taking time to introduce me to the new role. Second, we should all be grateful to Sandra Lange (our church administrator) for handling the MPUUC finances so smoothly. She certainly makes my job as Treasurer easier. So far, I'm aware that Sandra handles pledges and donations to MPUUC, generates monthly payroll reports to a company issuing paychecks to MPUUC employees, and maintains accounting software keeping track of MPUUC budget items and funds. Please thank her for her good work when you see her.



Just to share some new learnings, for those of you who don't know the difference between a budget item and a fund: we have budget items that get reviewed and possibly renewed every year, and the items start over at the beginning of the fiscal year in July. The budget comprising the budget items is approved by you the congregation in the annual meeting. A fund stays in place from year to year, and may be spent on funding specific budget items, subject to approvals. Once a month, Sandra puts together a report of the status of the different budget items from the previous month (how much of the total is spent so far, how much income is received so far), as well as a statement of the different financial accounts and funds from the previous month. I present these reports to the MPUUC board of trustees in our monthly meetings.

My goals as Treasurer include cleaning up access rights to MPUUC financial accounts, learning more to eventually be Sandra's backup for chores such as monthly payroll, and work with others to develop a good financial strategy for MPUUC.

I hope this topic was interesting to you. It is important to keep our church finances in good order, to keep our merry little MPUUC organization humming along and help it grow.

Peace,
Jay Steele (he, him, his)

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.



Buen Camino

The Camino Santiago de Compostella is a path of pilgrims. Although it has, in recent times, been romanticized, it was not established for the romantic. Or the adventurous. It was made for those who were bereft or lost. It was made for those in pain - or whose life consisted of ignoring or resisting pain and couldn't remember what joy looked like. This is a service about Rev. Greg's discoveries on the Camino and his hope for all pilgrims searching for 'the way.'

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service assisted by Mark Rahman. David Gibbons will be Worship Host and 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 October: TCIC

The TriCity Interfaith Council has been working for World Peace each fall since it's inception. This year, it is pursuing it's commitment to peace by attending two of the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals: Providing nutritious food and clean water. The number one cause of war is dispute over resources and the two most essential resources are food and water. On October 8th, we will Share the Plate and join with our neighboring faith communities to help provide enough food and water for peace to be possible.

Write a check to MPUUC with "TCIC" 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 "TCIC" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "TCIC") 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 "TCIC" in the message. Note we use PayPal for this, and they charge us around 3%

FUDGE and FELLOWSHIP and JUDGES.....OH MY!!!!!!!

As our annual Black & White Auction approaches
(SAVE THE DATE - NOV. 18, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom)
so too does our annual **FUDGE-OFF!!**

The skilled **Fudge** Makers and **Fudge** tasting Judges of the MPUUC community are called into **fellowship** to decide the fudgemaker to be awarded the coveted **Golden Spoon trophy** Fudge Judges sign up as a taster before October 25 for \$30, fudge delivered 10/29. **Fudge** Makers sign up by Oct 21!! Delivery for judging is due Sunday, Oct 29 at Cole Hall.

To sign-up email Valerie at ValerieMPUUC@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](#)

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

Men's Fellowship Coffee Time on Friday, Oct. 6

The next joint Mission Peak UU and First United Methodist men's fellowship coffee time will be this Friday, Oct. 6th at 10 a.m. at Suju's Coffee on Stevenson Blvd at Blacow in Fremont. There is a range of coffees, teas, and juices, plus breakfast pastries and a variety of breakfast egg sandwich dishes are available. If possible our tables will be set up in the area on the east side of the room toward Sundale Ave where there seems to be less noise from other groups which facilitates our conversations. (If that area is occupied look around, the group will be in some other area) If you know someone who might enjoy the fellowship feel free to bring him along.



Please let John Holmes know if you plan to come so enough tables can be arranged for our group. (holmesfam@comcast.net) Hope to see you there Thanks, John

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 need to understand for this to be successful.

Mission Peak Leadership Assessment

Leadership is essential for Mission Peak to be successful. And feedback is essential for leadership to learn. The Committee on Ministry has a short survey that will help inform Rev. Greg and MPUUC leaders. Please take the [MPUUC Leadership Survey](#). In just 10-15 minutes, your insight can help leaders be even more successful. Although the survey requires we put our name, all feedback shared in Congregational Conversations will be without attribution.

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Fall Fellowship opportunities- mark your calendars!

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

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

OKTOBERFEST is happening again!

Saturday, October 7, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

At Don Ramie's house:
35982 Cabral Dr., Fremont, CA 94536

(510) 791-6842

Everyone from Mission Peak UU is invited, as well as friends and family!

German beer and German snacks will be provided. You can also bring some other drink and a munch of your own if you like. We had a great time last year, and it's a great way to get to know each other better. Lots of street parking.



JUSTICE CORNER

We're grateful for the courageous

advocacy of Rev. Christina Branum-Martin, Rev. Misha Sanders, and all the Unitarian Universalists who are faithfully showing up to put Cop City on the ballot and to demand that the people of Atlanta decide. This morning UUs helped to deliver the over 116,000 petition signatures collected by the Cop City Vote Coalition in support of letting Atlantans decide if they want Cop City.



The City Clerk claims that they are not “legally obligated to verify signatures” because of the 11th circuit court stay ruling. We join with the Cop City Vote Coalition in calling on the City of Atlanta to honor the signatures and add the Cop City Referendum to the ballot TODAY.

Visit <https://bit.ly/StopCopCityBallotNow> to call the Atlanta City Council and view our sample script to tell City Council to add the referendum to the ballot today. See image descriptions in the comments.

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

In 2009, I moved back to my hometown of 2,500 people in rural South Dakota to be a teacher. That same year, my little sister, who is Native, started kindergarten and was called racist names on the playground by her classmates.

While my sister faced unchecked racist bullies, I was buying classroom supplies and being chastised for talking about race in my middle school classroom. Both of us were unsupported by our school system. Our 100% white school board had been organized into the divide-and-conquer worldview of the far right, believing that honest conversations about race were the problems in our schools, and not the lack of funding we received.

This year, SURJ is launching our first ever school board campaign, “All In for All Students.” We’ve recruited a cohort of 17 teams across the country that are working at the school board level in their local communities, some supporting candidates running for election and others working on issues like fighting for trans kids’ rights.



[Our first phone bank is this Wednesday at 6 pm ET where we'll be calling other SURJ members to turn them out for this work.](#)

[Can't make that phone bank? Give a donation to support our work to grow our school board work this year.](#)

8th Principle Learning



Georgetown University and Jesuits donate \$27 million to foundation for descendants of enslaved people

By [Nicole Chavez](#), CNN

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/09/14/us/georgetown-university-jesuits-enslaved-people-gift-reaj/index.html?fbclid=IwAR1u4RyH5N-nl4Mbd4RNBMI6DPtnASLUykkBmTZ00SRSp5YgwAQSEr-Zc>

You are welcome to join us to a film and discussion about youth suicide on Oct. 28th at 7PM in Cole Hall at 2950 Washington Blvd. at the top of the hill.

For more details email com_minister@mpuuc.org.



Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

WHAT I WISH MY PARENTS KNEW

Youth Mental Health
FREE Film Screening + Discussion




<p>Saturday, October 28th 7:00 - 8:30pm</p>	<p>Methodist Church Campus • Cole Hall 2950 Washington Blvd. Fremont, CA</p>
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Childcare will be provided.
RSVP for Childcare at dre@mpuuc.org

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.

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.

Board Briefs

Board briefs from September 2023 MPUUC Board meeting.

The board met on Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

- Approved an updated Board Covenant.
- Discussed upcoming COM survey that is to compare with the last (2021) survey.
- Discussed October 1 Reparations Service. A notice will go in Week on the Peak September 13 for the Oct. 1 congregational meeting and vote regarding reparations.
- Discussed September 17 workshop by the Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) to educate the congregation about the UUA's work on the UUA Bylaws Article 2.
- Discussed stewardship projects. The MPUUC Auction will be on November 18 at 7 pm via Zoom and will include elements of a Boutique, rather than having a separate Boutique in October.
- Discussed the 2024-25 Canvass, the need to recruit a coordinator, and timeline.
- Approved the Outreach Committee Charter update (formerly Publicity Committee).
- Discussed the UUA's DRUUMM survey, which will be sent out to MPUUC members on behalf of DRUUMM.
- Discussed clarification of the facility lease with the Methodists (landlords).

The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, October 10 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

Share the Plate Suggestions

8 times per year (once a month, September – May) MPUUC organizes a special collection for a worthy agency that promotes 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 its 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.

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



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