

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! October 25, 2023

Dear Sandra,

At Mission Peak we've talked about fellowship a lot in the last couple of years. I think it is part of almost everything we have done. We must consider fellowship important, don't you think? What does it mean? Some synonyms are communion, friendship, cooperativeness, partnership, companionship, mutuality, and it is, I think, what we call "Beloved Community".



Our faith is founded on several principles and my spiritual basis is in the first: "The inherent worth and dignity of every person", expanded to "every living thing". That broadens the scope of "worth" to our planet and all living on it and encompasses much of the other principles. If we believe in that inherent worth, then our faith calls us to be in Beloved Community, in fellowship, or as our new UUA President Sofia Bettencourt says "to live faithfully."

Mission Peak is a hopeful, aspiring community of kind, curious, hard working people. We created a congregational covenant, a promise between us about how to be together in a supportive and respectful "Inclusive and diverse community, growing in love and truth, courageously collaborating to liberate one another from hurt and hate and to create hope and justice." Look at all we do together; create worship, make music -all kinds of music, search for spiritual meaning, create social justice action, create a safe place for people to be together, celebrate our children, take action to support members of our community who don't have the resources that we have, support one another when one of us faces life's difficulties, celebrate together what one of us, or all of us, can accomplish, because *We Are Better Together*. And we do all this in the pursuit of creating a faith community based on spiritual growth, service and respect for one another. I think that is a worthy endeavor. I hope you do also.

Whether you sing in the choir, play with Peak Rocks, write a sermon, set out tables for a potluck dinner or Games night, test the speakers and the computer connections that makes virtual attendance possible, create art in our worship space, organize democratic public actions, set up chairs, make sandwiches, play with small children so their parent(s) can be in the Sunday Service, we are in fellowship with one another. We are creating a Beloved Community.

I have been wonderfully surprised this week by so many people reaching out to ask about donating for the upcoming Black and White Auction. This is one of those

special times when we all are in 'the same room' together, albeit a Zoom room. The items of service that we offer to one another in the Auction are more than raising money to financially sustain Mission Peak, they are ways of being together in fellowship. How wonderful that this Beloved Community enjoys being TOGETHER. See you at the Black and White GALA on November 18!

Valerie Stewart

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.



A Spiritual Facelift

Our UU tradition encourages lifelong spiritual growth, even including that encouragement among the seven principles. But just what does spiritual growth look like? If you described how you have grown spiritually since becoming a UU, what would your description say? This service reflects what we might mean when we speak of spiritual growth and how that shapes our choices, as individuals and as congregations.

Rev. Kathy Hurt will lead the service and assisting will be Rev. Barbara Meyers.. Graham Bell will be Worship Host 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%.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO BE HELD OCTOBER 29 TO VOTE ON PUBLIC ENDORSEMENT OF CALIFORNIA REPARATIONS TASK FORCE

This message is to inform you that the Board of Trustees of Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation is calling a meeting of the Congregation, to be held after service on October 29. At this time the congregation will vote on whether to publicly

support the statement: ***We endorse the overall efforts of the California Reparations Task Force to study reparations for African Americans.*** The work of the Task Force has already been endorsed by the Board; this is to determine whether the Congregation as a whole endorses it.

On October 1, Mr. Don Tamaki, a member of the Task Force, spoke during our service about the goals and activities of the Task Force and the detailed report, including many suggested types of reparations, it has presented to the California legislature. This is the video of that [talk and Q-and-A](#). For more information, see the links here, which include the report's [Executive Summary](#), a [video](#) of a similar talk Mr Tamaki did at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, and an [editorial](#) from the San Jose Mercury News in support of the Task Force's work. A list of the many [organizations](#) that have endorsed the work of the Task Force is also available.

Votes will be counted from members attending in person and those attending via Zoom. Absentee ballots may be requested from president@mpuuc.org

Beth Schaefer
President
Mission Peak UU Congregation

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. We will continue to collect for TCIC through October.

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%



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.

MPUUC Survey of our diversity

DRUUMM (Diverse & Revolutionary Unitarian Universalist Multicultural Ministries, the oldest and largest UU People of Color Ministry) and UU leadership are requesting that our Mission Peak UU members join many other congregations in completing a survey of ethnicity, gender identity, and ability diversity within our UU congregations.

The survey is brief and anonymous. More details have been sent to you by email.

MPUUC diversity survey link: <https://forms.gle/8ufv5C7aoLJe5A4JA>

Please help us highlight and document our diversity!

What I Wish My Parents Knew film screening and discussion.

Come join us at 7PM on October 28th in Cole Hall. We will watch a 45-minute documentary film that explores the inner struggles of several children battling depression and anxiety and express in great detail what they wish their parents and families would have known and how they could have helped.

[Click here for more information.](#)

For more information contact Rev. Barbara Meyers at com_minister@mpuuc.org. For free childcare at event please email dre@mpuuc.org in advance.



Tri City Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

SAVE THE DATE!!! You are invited to the 62nd annual Tri-City Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Monday, Nov. 20, 2023, at 7:30 pm. The service will be held in person at Niles Discovery Church, 36600 Niles Blvd., Fremont, 94536, and streamed to a Zoom meeting. To attend via Zoom, register in advance at: <https://bit.ly/TCIC-ITS2023>.

Click [here](#) for flyer.

Black & White Auction

The Black and White Auction is COMING!

November 18, 7 pm on ZOOM

Donate **YOUR** Service item(s) now for our premier Fellowship event of the year.

Link [2023 FALL Donation Form](#)

If we don't hear from you this week- expect a call from Valerie.

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!!!!

Tickets are \$25 per attendee.

Purchase tickets with this Square link: <https://square.link/u/tml1FSIn>

Or you can mail a check to -

Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

P.O. Box 545, Fremont, CA 94537-0545

with the Memo line :B&W - Tickets

Last Call -FUDGEMAKERS to sign up to make your FUDGE

Email ValerieMPUUC@gmail.com

Thanks to ALL who signed up to be FUDGE Judges.

Delivery on October 29 - scores returned by Nov. 11

Fremont Homeless Response Plan Community Survey

The community survey for the Homelessness Response Plan is now available! Your input is important, so please take a few minutes to complete the survey. The survey is quick, anonymous, and open through November 2023.

Click [here](#) for survey.

The feedback received from the survey and all other community engagement efforts will be reviewed and considered by City staff and the consultant team as they develop the Homelessness Response Plan. The goal is to bring the plan to the City Council for adoption in 2024.

A Many Splendored Thing

Of all the human emotions, the most powerful is love. As Euripedes wrote, it is “the greatest pleasure in life;” according to Socrates, it “frees us from life’s weight and pain.” The single English word ‘love’ carries many meanings, while Greek offers a kaleidoscopic love language from the friendship of philia, the storge of parents, the philautia of compassion, and the eros of desire.

Clerestory’s program *A Many Splendored Thing* explores love in all its forms and facets. From composers like Ivan Hrušovský to longtime Clerestory favorites Gerald Finzi and Stacy Garrop, and to Rogers and Hart, we invite you to learn Clerestory’s a cappella love language this November.

Please join us on **Saturday, November 11 at 7:30** amid the shifting artwork of the Berkeley’s David Brower Center, or **Sunday, November 12 at 4:00** among the dancing saints murals at St Gregory of Nyssa in San Francisco. Tickets are available now!

November 11, 2023 | 7:30pm | David Brower Center, Berkeley | [Tickets](#)

November 12, 2023 | 4:00pm | St Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, San Francisco | [Tickets](#)

In addition, CSMA will present this concert as part of their Community Concert Series.

November 18, 2023 | 7:30pm | Community School of Music and Arts, Mountain View

www.clerestory.org

<https://arts4all.org/concerts/clerestory-a-many-splendored-thing/>

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

All Mission Peak members and friends invited!

Friday, October 27, at sundown (6:14) until 8:30 p.m.

Don Ramie’s house
35982 Cabral Dr., Fremont, CA 94536 (510) 791-6842

Pizza provided for both carnivores and plant people. Bring special drinks you want.

Costumes optional, or choose one that Don has on hand.

Photographs will be taken.



Mark your calendars for a very special November fellowship opportunity, Saturday Nov 11th from 5:30-7:30pm

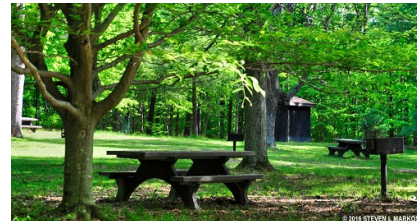


Diwali themed dinner / pot-luck / pooja. Diwali is the South Asian Festival of Lights. MPUUC will order some Indian food for all, you bring a side dish to share. Feel free to wear any South Asian clothes you may own or borrow. There will be a short pooja (prayer/chant) and a small art project planned. **RSVP required** since we're ordering food to include in the potluck.

Black Friday
GREEN Friday!

Lunch on Nov 24th

Most people know of Black Friday, the Friday that follows Thanksgiving, as a day to shop. This year you are invited to skip the shopping and spend some time in nature. Bring a picnic lunch, wear your walking shoes if a stroll sounds good or just plan to chill under the trees and get a dose of nature. Location is still TBD so if this sounds like what you need in your life and you have a location suggestion (somewhere somewhat wild but with bathrooms and close proximity to parking) please be in touch with Ariel. dre@mpuuc.org



December fellowship opportunity, **Saturday December 9th**, cookie decorating and holiday singalong with our choir director, Von! More details to follow.

JUSTICE CORNER

Earlier this year, Side With Love and UU the Vote program and field staff offered this hybrid workshop at General Assembly 2023, "UU the Vote: Mapping Our Impact, Charting Our Future."

We were joined by UU State Advocacy Network staff and UU volunteers to talk about the impact of UU the Vote on the 2020 and 2022 elections as well as plan for what we will be doing in 2024.

This interactive workshop invites us to dive deep into the practices, relationships, and strategies of our electoral organizing that helped us to reach over 5 million voters since 2020. [View it now.](#)



Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

SONGS FOR SHOWING UP

Drop-In Choir

Weds Nov 8, 7pm
San Anselmo



Sing easy-to-learn
songs that give you
energy for action!

singwithmarv.com
surjmarin.org



Wednesday, November 8 • 7:00 – 8:30 pm
[SURJ Marin: Songs for Showing Up](#)

Sunday, November 12 • 2:00 – 6:00 pm
[Putting it Into Practice: Skills for Racial and Gender Justice](#)

Are you someone who benefits from white male privilege and is willing to contribute to racial and gender justice? Join STAND: White Men for Racial, Gender, and Economic Justice for an afternoon of connection and growth. The workshop will explore how to show up in movements for justice with integrity, imagination, and your whole selves. You'll look at the ways gender and racial hierarchies show up in people's lives as well as practice

difficult conversations. Whether you're unfamiliar with these issues or deeply connected, you'll be welcome - especially if you're new. While this is a free event, STAND will be collecting donations for Sogorea Te' Land Trust.

Location: Greenpeace Warehouse, 955 7th St., Oakland

Tuesday, November 28 • 7:00 – 8:15 pm

[SURJ Partner Voices: TGI Justice Project](#)

What is going on with the incarceration of Black trans, gender-nonconforming, and intersex people following the passage of The Transgender Respect, Agency, and Dignity Act (SB-132)? You'll hear about that and more at this SURJ webinar with partner TGI Justice Project, a group of transgender, gender-variant and intersex people—inside and outside of prisons, jails and detention centers—creating a united family in the struggle for survival and freedom. Learn how they forge a culture of resistance and resilience to fight against human rights abuses, imprisonment, police violence, racism, poverty, and societal pressures.

Group of Syracuse Jews calls for cease-fire in Gaza (Your Letters)

<https://www.syracuse.com/opinion/2023/10/group-of-syracuse-jews-calls-for-cess-fire-in-gaza-your-letters.html>

8th Principle Learning



The case for reparations
The Atlantic

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631/>

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 and note that our

An invitation from FUMC folks:

The new ping pong table that lives in Ockerman 3/4 is starting to get some regular use on Tuesday mornings and Mission Peak congregants are invited to join in. It's all very casual, no score keeping, just simple fun which starts at 11 every Tuesday- come if you're free!



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 from October 2023 MPUUC Board meeting.

The board met on Tuesday, October 11, 2023.

- ❖ Paul Clifford represented the Committee on Ministry to report on the results of the leadership survey.
- ❖ Breeze Charter discussion with DeAnna Alm; the board voted unanimously to accept it as edited. A statement of policy will be created and added.
- ❖ There will be a congregational meeting after the service on 10/29/2023 to vote on making the public statement: "We endorse the overall efforts of the California Reparations Task Force to study reparations for African Americans."
- ❖ Rev. Greg presented a new announcement policy for WotP. The board voted unanimously to accept it.
- ❖ The annual congregational meeting will be held on June 9, 2024.



Change of date for Board Meeting in November

The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Thursday, November 9 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



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