

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! November 1, 2023

Dear Sandra,

Friends, we need your help!! One of the highlights of our year, the Black and White Gala, is coming on November 18th!

The Black and White Gala was the way I first started volunteering at Mission Peak, way back in....I don't even remember when I started, but my now-21-year-old son was in a little tuxedo and ran the elevator. It's been a while. The Gala itself has been through a lot of changes, from gathering at Cole Hall, to several years at the Macau Cultural Center in Niles, and then especially when we had to make it a remote event during COVID. But it's still Mission Peak's main fundraiser for the year, and a really important evening to celebrate together.



Like all of you, I've been thinking about what to donate. I usually go between offering something at Halloween and something St-Patrick's-Day, so I may offer another Halloween Scavenger Hunt this year. Jen King and I are also helping Allysson McDonald host a Holiday Tea in December, so that should be fun and delicious! We've got some very popular auction items already confirmed, including Ty White's flying lessons, Annette Breingan's genealogy work and some special food deliveries from our preeminent cooks and bakers!

The Gala itself is always a fun time. Our own John Schaefer and Julie Ganzlin will be hosting this year's events, and they already have a fantastic line-up of entertainment and fun planned. I've seen a preview and I'm telling you, you don't want to miss it! Buy your tickets (\$25 per person) now through SQUARE at: <https://square.link/u/tml1FSIn> or send a check to Mission Peak (be sure to write "Black and White Tickets" on your check!)

The Black and White is also a way to fill our social calendars for more fellowship through the coming year. The events we offer one another are a gift of our time and talents, cultural identities and love for each other. While the themed events are always amazing, what really makes them special is the chance to spend time in community with each other.

If you're not feeling up to hosting an event this year, there are other ways you can contribute! Gift certificates to local restaurants have been popular in the last few years, giving members a chance to enjoy a nice meal out with the money benefiting Mission Peak. Gift certificates for personal training, spa treatments, and other special ways to take care of ourselves are also welcomed.

If you've figured out your donation, feel free to let us know here:
<https://forms.gle/NQQZ11zVvSGWszQm6>

We'd love to have all the donations in by November 4th.

I will be building the auction catalog again this year, so if you have questions about donations or how it all works, email me at colleenag@sbcglobal.net or text me at 510-589-7481. (I keep my cell phone ringer off at all times, so calling isn't the best way to reach me).

With gratitude, Colleen Arnold

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.



The Chalice of Our Being: a Spiritual Compass

Rev. McKinley shares how our UU chalice works for him as profound symbol and spiritual compass. He uses it to ground and focus him amidst the confusions of the constructed world. It brings him back to our home in the cosmos and right place in life.

Rev. Jim McKinley will lead the service and assisting will be Don Ramie. Erik Alm will be Worship Host and Peak Performers 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%.

Black & White Auction

The Black and White GALA is COMING!

November 18, 7 pm on ZOOM

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 for DONATIONS

YOUR contribution to the Auction is vital to our success and creates opportunities for fellowship together with other members and friends.

Link **2023 FALL Donation Form**

(It is also on our website - <https://mpuuc.org/black-white-gala/>)

Mission Peak Votes to Support Reparations

There was a congregational meeting after the service on October 29 to vote on making a public endorsement of reparations for African Americans. At the meeting, the wording of the proposed statement was changed slightly to: "We endorse the overall efforts of the California Reparations Task Force to support reparations for African Americans." The final vote of those present in person and on zoom was: 24 yes; 0 no; 1 abstain. Because the wording of the statement was changed during the meeting, absentee ballots could not be included in the final vote. The news of this public endorsement by MPUUC has been sent to the California Reparations Task Force, which gratefully received it.

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



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.

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Men's Fellowship Coffee Time this Friday

The next joint Mission Peak UU and First United Methodist men's fellowship coffee time will be this Friday, November 3, 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

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.



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! Please click [here](#) for flyer.



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**

**SURJ
MARIN**
SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

**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-cease-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/>

Denominational Affairs

Virtual GA 2024 Theme Announcement

The theme for 2024 Virtual General Assembly is **Love Unites, Stories Ignite**. Virtual GA participants will receive:

- Memorable, high-impact content for faith formation, with an easy and accessible experience
- Sense of belonging in the online community, with flexible approaches for a variety of needs
- Renewed connection to the wider faith of Unitarian Universalism.
- Inspiration and support to carry forward to your local congregations and beyond.

The 63rd General Assembly will take place virtually Thursday, June 20 through Sunday, June 23, 2024.

Click [here](#) to read more

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.

www.clerestory.org

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

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.

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.

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 broker information changed this year.
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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



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



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