

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! November 15, 2023

Dear Sandra,

Fun is back! After years of pandemic-induced social distancing, it's wonderful to see so many cars in the parking lot on Sunday mornings. I think I speak for us all in welcoming a return to fun, in-person events.

Why is it important for us to have fun? Having fun together fosters personal connections, deepens our understanding of each other, and creates a mutually supportive community. It provides common ground to build on so we become more comfortable sharing with each other. And I do think that engaging in fun events together vaccinates us against the onslaught of bad news from around the world. (Is that why I eat so much chocolate while doom-scrolling the news?) Besides, it's fun!



I won't go so far as proposing another UU principle, but the others do sound so serious, and well, as the great pop-philosopher-songwriter Robert Sherman coined, "a spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down". And he knew what he was talking about. Sherman was among the first American soldiers who entered the Dachau concentration camp, and was seriously injured in the war. After, he teamed up with his brother Richard and together composed more motion picture musical song scores than any other songwriting team in history. And their songs were all fun!

My most recent dose of MPUUC fun was the Diwali potluck, and I'm particularly thankful to all our Indian food cooks. Fresh off that potluck we have quite a lineup of events to start the holiday celebrations; I hope to see you at some of these:

- This Saturday evening -- B&W Gala via Zoom at 7 pm. Who will win the Annual FUDGE-OFF? See the details in this newsletter.
- This Sunday after services -- How do you all like our Sabbatical Minister? Not bad, huh? You're all invited, either in-person or via Zoom, to a second Congregational Conversation after services. Has our Sabbatical so far brought any surprises, insights, unmet needs, or better ways we can coordinate with each other now or after? We all want to hear from all of you.
- Friday Nov. 24 -- Green (not Black) Friday at Mission Peak. Skip the shopping and instead spend some time in nature. We've booked the Hoot Hollow picnic area in Coyote Hills, so bring a picnic lunch and join us starting at 10 am. Take Patterson Rance Rd. from Paseo Padre to its end and the picnic area is adjacent to the visitor center. Easy parking and the entrance fees are waived!
- Saturday, Dec. 9: Join us for cookie decorating and a holiday singalong with our

Paul Clifford

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## **This Sunday's Service:**

**Service can be attended in-person at Cole Hall or online. See [mpuuc.org/zoom](https://mpuuc.org/zoom) each week for how to attend services.**



### **Preoccupied**

We often feel like our lives are being taken over by outside events and influences. The Sunday before Thanksgiving marks the onset of the likelihood of added holiday season stress and alienation. With gratitude, appreciation and mindful reflection we can reoccupy ourselves and share in the fullness around us.

Rev. Jim McKinley will lead the service and assisting will be Mark Rahman. Steve Wallcave will be Worship Host and Peak Rocks will provide our music.

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### **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%.

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## **Black & White Auction**

### **The Black and White GALA is**

November 18, 7 pm on ZOOM

**Folks - the Zoom link will be sent by email on Saturday. Look for it. Remember- we use 32Auction.com for**

**Bidding. Make sure you can sign-in!**

<https://www.32auctions.com/mpuucfall2023>

And we'll announce the winner of the  
**GOLDEN SPOON** for the **BEST FUDGE!**

**BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!!!!**

Tickets are \$25 per attendee.

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

IF YOU MAIL A CHECK - email [ValerieMPUUC@gmail.com](mailto:ValerieMPUUC@gmail.com), so we know to send you a LINK.  
Mail to: Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
P.O. Box 545, Fremont, CA 94537-0545  
with the Memo line :B&W - Tickets

**SEE YOU AT THE GALA!!!!!!**



## 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](mailto: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](#)

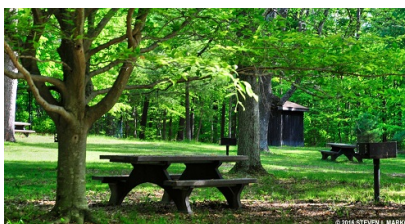
**Please note the link has changed as we are using a different Zoom account.**

## FELLOWSHIP CORNER



**BYO Picnic lunch Black Friday, Nov 24th from 10-1pm at Coyote Hills Regional Park, 8000 Patterson Ranch Rd Fremont**

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. **The location is at Hoot Hollow** in Coyote Hills Regional Park, which has waived entrance fees for Green Friday! More information contact [dre@mpuuc.org](mailto:dre@mpuuc.org)



## Pop-up GENTLE YOGA class Friday December 8th from 10:30-11:45AM

Fellowship meets fitness in Cole Hall! Registered Yoga Alliance teacher Makiko Kambayashi will lead this gentle yoga class, blending elements of Hatha and Yin yoga, incorporating a variety of postures that are coordinated with breathing to enhance flexibility and balance. She will personalize your practice with the use of props to meet your individual needs and offer a guided meditation. All levels welcome. Coffee and tea to follow the class. RSVP required by end of day Wed Dec 12/6 [here](#) or with an email to [dre@mpuuc.org](mailto: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

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.

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## 8th Principle Learning



The case for reparations  
The Atlantic

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

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## Denominational Affairs

### **DEADLINE of 5pm ET on February 1, 2024 for submitting any new amendments to the Article II Commission**

After extensive engagement with UUs across our faith tradition, the Article II Study Commission have completed their Final Proposed Revision to Article II of the UUA Bylaws. Links to the text and additional important information are in this email, including a deadline of 5pm ET on February 1, 2024 for submitting any new amendments. The Commission's letter that follows lifts up all of the creative energy around the process, reflecting generations of UUs actively shaping our faith.



**(A submission form, information links, and the remainder of the letter are in the link below)**

Click [here](#) to read more

Outside Mission Peak

## URGENT HELP NEEDED! 250 Frozen Turkeys Needed!

Dear Wonderful Community Members,

As the holiday season approaches, we find ourselves in a special place of gratitude, but also in need of your generous assistance. It's that time of the year again when LOV – The League of Volunteers and its partners, seeks your support to make our 35th Annual Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner a heartwarming success.

Click [here](#) for more information

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### 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.

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### 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](mailto:office@mpuuc.org)) and our treasurer, Jay Steele. ([treasurer@mpuuc.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@mpuuc.org) and [treasurer@mpuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@mpuuc.org).
  - Please send any questions to both the treasurer email ([treasurer@mpuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@mpuuc.org)), which is being monitored by Jay Steele and also to Sandra ([office@mpuuc.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@mpuuc.org) and [treasurer@mpuuc.org](mailto: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.

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**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](https://missionpeakuu.org)



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