

This Week on the Peak

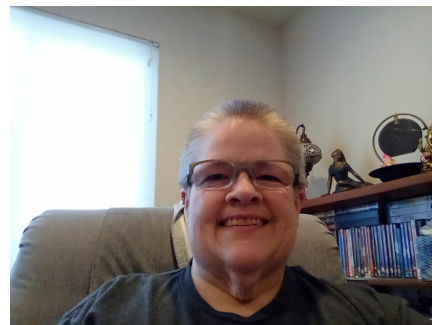


Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! February 14, 2024

Dear Sandra,

Greetings to my chosen family and beloved community! My name is Michelle Wallace, and I am the secretary of the Board of Trustees here at Mission Peak. I have been a member of this congregation for about 15 years now. Time seems to move more quickly as I get older, and I have been thinking about this a lot lately. For one thing, I will be turning 60 next month, and I am having a really hard time wrapping my brain around that. I used to think sixty was really old, but with each passing year, it seems less and less old.

I don't feel like I am about to turn 60; physically, I feel a lot older because of osteoarthritis, but mentally and spiritually I feel much younger. It's strange how we look at age in our world. For example, the President of the United States is 81 years old, and all the media can talk about is his age. They seem to think that he is too old to be president—that he is experiencing mental decline. In all honesty, we all are. It's the human condition. We all experience these little short circuits now and then, but that doesn't mean that we no longer have anything to contribute to the world in which we live. Our President possesses a wealth of experience as a leader, a negotiator, a diplomat, an orator, and a husband, father, and grandfather. He is a man of faith who expresses deep compassion for those he serves. It doesn't matter how old he is or how old I get, we can choose to stay young at heart and to keep our minds active and productive. Sometimes, the physical stuff gets in the way and affects how we see the world and how it sees us, but as many are fond of saying, age is only a number. It doesn't have to define our lives and limit our participation in society; as a matter of fact, we can share our experiences with others so they know that they are not alone in how they think, feel, and exist as a part of the interdependent web of life. So as I approach this next decade of my life, I will strive to make it the best decade so far, which I do every decade, and continue to grow in wisdom and experience to continue what I can to my Beloved Community.



With much love and appreciation,

Michelle

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.



You Are Welcome...Here?

Our Unitarian Universalist congregations often stand as beacons of inclusivity in a world that regularly emphasizes differences. Yet, the question lingers: How can we ensure that our welcome extends genuinely to everyone who accepts our invitation to visit us? Join us for a thoughtful exploration of this question as we delve into ways of creating truly inclusive spaces within our Unitarian Universalist communities.

Angeline C. Jackson will lead the service and assisting will be Rev. Barbara Meyers. Erik Alm will be Worship Host and Peak Rocks 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%.

February's Share the Plate for our 2024 Love Hero – Patrick Hebbert

Donations for Patrick's legal pursuit of Asylum will be collected until March 3. Please know that your donations to this specific Love Hero collection are not tax deductible.

Write a check to MPUUC with "Asylum" 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 "Asylum" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "Asylum") 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 "Asylum" 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. This week we will be exploring what we do to be a thoughtful and sensitive host? How are we welcoming – especially when we aren't that familiar with those who are our guests. 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](#)

New Members

Welcome to our new members! Here is what they tell us about themselves. We look forward to getting to know them better and fully making them a part of our Mission Peak beloved community.

[Bio of David Johnson](#)

[Bio of Joshua Gray](#)

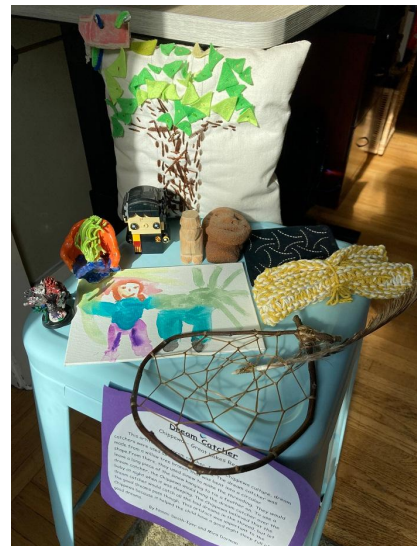
[Bio of Isaac Haugen](#)

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Pot-luck dinner and gallery walk- featuring *your* art!

Saturday, March 23rd 5-8pm in Cole Hall

Let's come together to share a meal and to share our creative endeavors! Maybe your kiddo made a beautiful painting or put together an amazing report for school. Maybe you have a bit of embroidery or a new song you want to share. Whatever it is, you're welcome to bring it this night and lay it out in the "gallery" where we all can admire it, learn a bit more about each other and nurture the growth we affirm in our congregational mission. Helpers at clean-up are much appreciated. Contact Ariel with questions. All family-friendly art is welcome:)



**Fremont Earth Day with our
partners at Tri-City Interfaith
Council**

Saturday April 20th



JUSTICE CORNER

30 Days of Love 2024: Imagining an Interdependent Future

January 15 - February 14, 2024

[See full details](#)

Side With Love has announced 30 Days of Love 2024! The annual month of spiritual nourishment, political grounding, and shared practices of faith and justice, 30 Days of Love will go from Martin Luther King Jr. Day (January 15) through Valentine's Day (February 14).



UUSJ is cosponsoring or offering several events in the spirit of collaboration with [30 Days of Love 2024](#)

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

[Partner Voices with Transgender Gender-Variant & Intersex Justice Project](#)

Join SURJ Bay Area's next online Partner Voices event to learn what's going on with the incarceration of Black trans/TGI people after SB 132. TGI Justice Project is 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.

DAILY • 12:00 – 12:30 pm

[Jewish Voice For Peace: Power Half-Hour for Gaza](#)

POWER HALF HOUR
FOR GAZA

CHANNEL GRIEF AND FEAR INTO
ACTION TO STOP A GENOCIDE

DAILY
12PM PST / 3PM EST

JVP.ORG/GAZAPH

JVP ALL ARE WELCOME JVP ACTION

Many of us are grieving, angry, scared, and confused. Wherever you are, you are needed urgently now to act to interrupt the genocide against Palestinians in Gaza. Join Jewish Voice for Peace in channeling our grief and fear into action. "Power Half-Hour for Gaza" is being held on Zoom daily. Call on Congress to demand they stop fueling violence, get messaging resources for having hard conversations with people in your life, and help counter the media narratives beating the drums of war against Palestinians.

8th Principle Learning

Hold the date!
Wednesday, February 21, 2024
7:00 - 9:30 PM

Soul Work Revisited!

Soul Work: anti-racist theologies in dialogue is one of the most important books in my library! The book, edited by Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley and Nancy Palmer Jones, was published in 2002 by Skinner House Books. It has been more than 20 years and Soul Work is as relevant today as it was at the time of a critical moment in advancing antiracism in Unitarian Universalism. This is UU history that all who care about the 8th Principle need to know.

I am excited that some of the contributing authors to **Soul Work** have accepted the invitation to be with us. More details will be provided soon. Meanwhile, save the date and register at the link below.

Please note that we usually meet on the second Wednesday of the month. In February, the second Wednesday is the 14th, Valentine's Day. We dare not compete with that! Instead, we will meet on the third Wednesday, February 21st. We hope that you can adjust your schedules and that we will see many of you there. -- Paula

Zoom meeting information

When: February 21, 2024
7:00 PM Eastern Time Zone (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81869012345>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



How are reparations happening in the U.S. if not at the federal level? Through the lens of the 2023 DOC NYC film festival, we talk to the filmmakers and subjects of THE COST OF INHERITANCE to explore the film, the controversy surrounding reparations, the cases setting the groundwork, and why the issue can only be solved together. (Continue reading by pressing [here](#))

Denominational Affairs

General Assembly 2024 June 20-23. GA is a Virtual Program in 2024. For details about scholarships and early bird registration (March 15 deadline)



Click [here](#) for more information

Pacific Western Regional Assembly: Registration Opens January 4! Mark your calendars for April 19-20, 2024!

Elevate your Unitarian Universalist experience by immersing yourself in the 2024 Pacific Western Regional Assembly. This is more about more than geography; it's a community of individuals like you, representing local UU congregations and communities. Your active involvement is not just valued – it's indispensable. Whether you choose to participate virtually or in-person at the inspiring First Universalist Church in Denver, this gathering promises an enriching and enjoyable experience, fostering connections among individuals and congregations. Friday evening kicks off with a compelling keynote conversation between our UUA president, Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt, and the new President and General Minister of the United Church of Christ, Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson – both remarkable women of color dedicated to justice work. More details can be found [here](#).

Board Briefs

Board briefs from January 2024 MPUUC Board meeting.



The board met on Tuesday, January 16, 2024.

- The board discussed the plan presented by John Schaefer for the canvas this spring, including two congregational events to be held on March 17 and April 7, and voted unanimously to accept the plan and timeline.
- The board continues to learn more about the City of Fremont's overnight parking program at churches and how MPUUC may work with FUMC to do this on our campus.
- MPUUC has been recertified as a member congregation of the UUA.

The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 7 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

Outside Mission Peak

You are invited to a free program on gun violence prevention, sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark and Union City.

Please share this invitation with your friends, neighbors, and communities. *Save the Date* and join us! (Details below)



Sponsors a free event

Beyond Thoughts and Prayers: Responding to Gun Violence

Saturday, March 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Niles Discovery Church, 36600 Niles Blvd., Fremont, CA

Gun Violence has been an issue of public health and safety in our nation for many years and it worsened during the pandemic. No other developed nation has as many guns, as much gun violence, or as many gun deaths as the U.S.

LWVFNUC will feature speakers from Brady United Against Gun Violence. Brady is one of America's oldest gun violence prevention organizations, and its history of success goes back decades. Learn facts about gun violence, Brady's programs to reduce gun violence, and what you can do to support sensible change to keep our nation safer.



Kath Tsakalakis is a Brady National Board Member, NorCal Regional Council Co-Chair, and co-leads the San Francisco Brady Chapter. She worked for 20 years in strategy consulting, including two years in South Africa where she survived an armed carjacking. Her understanding of guns from three years in the British Army has turned out to be very relevant to life as an American citizen. Kath finds hope in the overwhelming support from a majority of Americans for background checks on gun sales. She supports Brady "because of the mission, strategic focus on practical initiatives and the can-do approach."



Shikha Hamilton is Vice President of Organizing at Brady and has worked on the issue of gun violence since 2000. She's held various roles with Brady, including Chapter Leader, State Chapter President, and member of the Board of Trustees. Shikha is a licensed attorney in California and Michigan. She uses her skills to support efforts to prevent gun violence and to help others advocate for sensible gun laws. She is most proud of her work in California where she lives and continues to work with local chapters to pass laws that have been instrumental in reducing CA gun deaths by 51%.



Toni Shellen is Past President of the Tri-City Alameda County Brady Chapter and served as a member of the CA Brady Executive Committee for ten years. She is a Bay Area native who earned her degree and teaching credential at San Jose State University and went on to teach elementary school in the Fremont Unified School District. She was a founding member of Pax Christi Fremont, and is a member of the Tri-City Interfaith Council and the League of Women Voters FNUC. Toni believes we must work to end gun violence to leave the world a better and more peaceful place for children today and future generations.



"Being Good Neighbors": an Interfaith Symposium

Join us on Saturday, March 16th, 2024, from 4:00 PM to 8:30 PM for "Being Good Neighbors": an Interfaith Symposium. We will gather together at Washington Hospital West, as we strengthen cross-cultural communal bonds and learn how to better support their Muslim and Jewish neighbors in the Bay Area during this time of increased intolerance and violence. This event will feature interactive "Meet Your Neighbor" conversations, a Panel entitled "How to Be Good Neighbors to Muslims & Jews In Our Community" with distinguished speakers, a community dinner to break the fast of Ramadan, and a Havdallah ceremony concluding Shabbat, the Jewish day of rest. Advanced registration is required by Tuesday, March 12th, at <https://bit.ly/BeingGoodNeighbors>.

"Being Good Neighbors" is open to people of all backgrounds. This event is sponsored by Tri-City Interfaith Council, and is supported by its Community Partners. Don't miss this opportunity to help make our Tri-Cities a more connected and supportive community for all its residents.

Rewarding volunteer opportunity! Deliver meals to seniors SOS Meals on Wheels Fremont, Newark, Union City M-F, 10:30am - 12:30 pm 10-15 clients per route Contact John, 510-244-0165

John@sosmow.org
www.sosmow.org



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.

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



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 byandra@missionpeakuu.ccsend.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!