

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! March 13, 2024

Dear Sandra,

It's here! This Sunday – Community Canvass Celebration Day! The service this Sunday, March 17, and its afterparty, will be the start of the Creating a Better Community Canvass for 2024-25. This special service will feature more Mission Peak members, more uplifting music, more energy than ever – so come check it out!

The service will last a little longer than usual (still less than 90 minutes); afterward, if you're present in Cole Hall, you can pick up a delicious light lunch to eat while you hear more of your fellow congregants' insights into Mission Peak. During the service, you'll hear from your favorite musicians and you'll hear short sharings from many members on the MPUUC activities they're involved in and why they love Mission Peak. What do these fellow community members do around the congregation? Some things you know well; some may surprise you. I suspect you'll be left with an awareness of and renewed respect for all the pieces that go into making Mission Peak work! Those diverse, interacting pieces are what makes our community strong yet flexible.



As we approach the 30th anniversary of MPUUC's founding in May, your Board has been reflecting on what big changes are now happening, and planning around visions we have for the coming year for Mission Peak. You can read more about our vision points in my President's Canvass Letter in the canvass brochure and online, but in brief, we're focusing on: (1) Supporting our blossoming Music Program and Multigenerational Religious Education programs. (2) Letting our voices be heard through our boldly growing and deepening social justice programs. (3) Letting our devoted and talented staff know we appreciate their partnership. (4) Keeping on the same page, a mutually beneficial one, with a reorganization of Mission Peak's committees and leadership structures. (5) Reaching out beyond our walls with publicity that informs the world of all we have to offer, and invites it to share that with us.

In the course of the service, your Canvass Co-Chair, John Schaefer, and Treasurer, Jay Steele, will briefly explain the MPUUC financial situation and the points you need to know to make your pledge. For the final step, there will be pledge cards, a canvass brochure for more information, and computers available after the service, so come prepared and you can make your pledge on paper or online right then and there – then don't give it another thought!

Thank you for your contribution to Mission Peak's growth and well-being.

Beth Schaefer
President, MPUUC

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.



Community and Canvass Celebration

Our community is made up of giving, loving people demonstrating our commitment to each other in many ways. During this service we will kick off our canvass by celebrating a few of the many groups that make us who we are. There will be live performances by the Peak Performers, Jo Ann and Knuti and top hits from the Peak Rocks archives. You will hear from many of our members about groups that bring us all together and you will have the opportunity to reflect upon why Mission Peak is important to you and how you will support us during the next year. This service is expected to be about 90 minutes but it will be worth it. Please come in person if you are able. There will be a light lunch immediately following the service and you will hear from additional members about what they value about our community.

John Schaefer and Julie Ganzlin will lead the service and assisting will be Stewardship Team. Melissa Holmes will be Worship Host and Host of Musical Ensembles 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%.

March's Share the Plate Sunrise Village Homeless Shelter

We will continue to collect through March 31.

Write a check to MPUUC with "Sunrise Village" 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 "Sunrise Village" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "Sunrise Village") 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 "Sunrise Village" 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

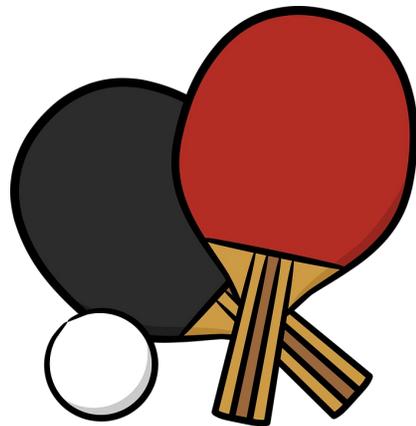
Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister's Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week, our topic will explore the relationship between individual and community evolution: how is the community's ability to thrive dependent on the individuals within it and how do the individuals within a community depend on the community to thrive? The Midweek Discussion Group welcomes all voices who wish to participate in discussion on interesting topics. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

FUMC invites MPUUC folks to join their ping pong fellowship

Every **Tuesday at 11am** members of our neighboring congregation at FUMC get together to play some leisurely ping pong and we're invited. No experience necessary. Meet in rooms 4 & 5. Contact Ariel with questions.

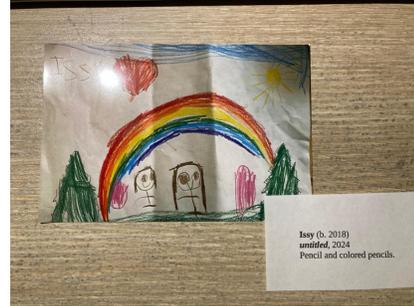


Pot-luck dinner and gallery walk- featuring **your* art!*

Saturday, March 23rd 5:30-8pm 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 affirmed in the congregational mission. RSVP requested [here](#). Contact Ariel with questions or if you need help dre@mpuuc.org. If you want a card made to go along with your art, fill out this [form](#) by March 20th.



JOIN THE MPUUC ACCOMPANIMENT
COMMITTEE IN A

WELCOME SHOWER

FOR SERGIO'S FAMILY AND THEIR NEW
HOME

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH AT 12 PM

Cole Hall, 2950 Washington Blvd, Fremont
Refreshments and a Donation-Filled Free Store For
Sergio, Yadira, and their boys

Wish list at sokindregistry.org/MPUUC

Contact Lisa Newstrom or Meredith Miller for details



Spring Parent Night Out dates available!

Saturday March 30th and Saturday May 11th, both from 5:30-8pm at MPUUC. Mission Peak members and friends are invited to bring their children to enjoy a fun night of care and connection while their parents enjoy a few hours of well-deserved time off. We'll order pizza and play games, there may be some storytelling and art projects happening. RSVP required by the Friday before each date. RSVP required [March 30th PNO rsvp](#) and May [11th PNO rsvp](#). Reach out to Ariel with any questions.

Storytelling Workshop lead by Rev Greg

Saturday, **March 30th from 6-7:30pm** in the MPUUC office.

Join Greg in this interactive workshop designed to teach the fine art of storytelling. This is also a Parent Night Out evening so when the workshop concludes participants will be invited to join the kids and practice the skills they learned.



RSVP required by filling out [this form](#).

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

Saturday April 20th



JUSTICE CORNER

UU the Vote 2024 Launch: March 14 at 4pm PT / 7pm ET

UU the Vote 2024 is an ambitious strategy to grow a powerful pro-democracy majority. The work that is needed in 2024 will require us to anchor in our power and connect authentically to mobilize UUs, voters, and our local communities.

[Join us on Thursday, March 14, 7:00pm - 8:30pm ET](#)

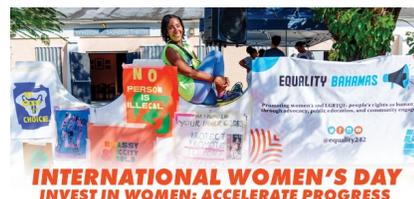
for the official launch of UU the Vote 2024. You'll learn about our work with [UU State Action Networks](#) and their partners in key states, key ballot initiatives, political education and spiritual grounding opportunities and our mass voter contact program.



This year we will continue to support and collaborate with local organizing groups leading some of the biggest fights, and we are thrilled to introduce two of our 2024 partners: **UU Funding Program Grant Deadline is March 31**

UUSC funds grassroots women's groups like these in 26 countries around the world because we know where women's rights are advanced, whole communities thrive.

In honor of International Women's Day, consider making a special gift to UUSC to help fund our



women-led partners around the globe making big strides toward a more equitable world.

DAILY • 12:00 – 12:30 pm

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

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.



Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Put Up a Black Lives Matter Sign – SURJ has Black Lives Matter lawn and window signs and postcards available for easy pickup in Berkeley, Oakland, San Leandro, and Walnut Creek/eastern Contra Costa County. These are free but if you want to help cover costs, you can [donate here](#). Grab some for friends and family too! [Pickup locations are listed here](#).



8th Principle Learning

Books by Black Authors – Black History Month may be over, but not our desire to highlight powerful works by Black authors. Check out these fiction and non-fiction recommendations in this blog put together by three of our SURJ Bay Area chapter members, Erin Kane, Rachael Devlin and Micki Luckey.



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 February 2024 MPUUC Board meeting.



The board met on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

- Community and Canvass Celebration: March 17, 2024. We will have a longer than usual service, and afterwards, we will have computers and paper pledge forms available.
- Canvass Wrap-Up Day is April 7, 2024. Please have your pledges ready to turn in if you haven't done so earlier
- DeAnna Alm gave an update on Breeze, the new software that we will be using for record keeping.
- May 1st is our 30th anniversary here at MPUUC, so be on the lookout for more information about our big celebration coming soon!
- We are working on getting recertification as an official Welcoming Congregation, so if you would like to help with this, please contact Michelle Wallace.

The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, March 19, 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

"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.

Sponsored by Tri-City Interfaith Council



Being Good Neighbors

Interfaith Symposium Seeks to Foster Understanding and Neighborly Relationships in Tri-City Community Amidst Rising Antisemitism and Islamophobia

Saturday, March 16th, 2024,
4:00 PM - 8:30 PM

at

Washington Hospital West

Cost: Free



Featured Events:

- **Interactive "Meet Your Neighbor" Conversations**
- **"How to Be Good Neighbors to Muslims & Jews In Our Community"** featuring: Maha Elgenaidi, Founder of Islamic Networks Group (ING) and Rabbi Zoe McCoon, rabbi of Temple Beth Torah of Fremont, CA. Questions Facilitated by Rev. Jeff Dodge-Hogarth, of St. Anne's Episcopal church.
- **Vegetarian Community Dinner** to Break Ramadan Fast
- **Havdalah** - brief musical Ceremony ending Shabbat, the Jewish day of rest, will conclude the event

All Backgrounds Welcome. Programming for Adults; suitable for Ages 10+.
Advanced Registration is required by Tuesday March 12th, and can be completed at <https://bit.ly/BeingGoodNeighbors>

Share the joy of Ramadan with us
We would like the pleasure of your company for an Interfaith Ifatr dinner

What: Iftar dinner Time: 6:30 pm to 8:45
When: Sunday, March 17th, 2024.
Where: First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto
625 Hamilton Ave, Palo Alto

Click [here](#) for flyer



Please join us for...

Queer Craft Night!

Hosted by LuluBean at Tamper Room

Date: Thursday, March 2 1st from 6-9 pm

Location: Tamper Room in Fremont

Part of the new Lavender Lounge !

COST: FREE TO ATTEND- FOOD AND DRINKS (WINE AND NON-ALCOHOLIC) FOR PURCHASE, MASKS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED

Featured event: **Bookmark Making!**

Draw your own bookmark or color in a Bean bookmark, laminate it, and add a fun tassel! Cost to make a bookmark will be \$5 to cover materials :) Swipe on post to see bookmark designs with some black and white designs in progress! A few color versions will be available too to personalize with a tassel!



Inviting all LGBTQ+ folks and allies to crafts and croffles! Bring whatever craft you want (crochet, journal, etc) or purchase art kits! Free Bean coloring pages and materials will be provided.

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



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