

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! March 20, 2024

Dear Sandra,

Hi MPUUC friends,

This is your friendly neighborhood Treasurer with an update on budgetary issues for you this week. You have honored me with the trust to be your Treasurer for this year from July 2023 until the end of June 2024 (FY 23-24). As Treasurer, I have worked with our Board President Beth and the Canvass Team (John and Julie) to develop a preliminary budget proposal for the next fiscal year (FY 24-25) in combination with the Canvass pledge goals. As those of you who attended this past Sunday's service heard, we presented this budget proposal and our Canvass pledge goals for FY 24-25. The budget includes raises for our staff (Rev. Greg, Sandra, Ariel, and Von) to keep up with inflation, as well as reward them for their great efforts in helping us to build our beloved community. This budget also includes extra hours for Ariel and Von to continue enhancing the children/adult RE and music programs. We also have a small (2.5%) increase in rent for part time usage of Cole Hall and the office. We project the FY 24-25 budgeted expenses to increase from \$278,160 (for FY 23-24, not including special minister sabbatical expenses) to \$289,255. Of this \$289,255 in expenses, \$210,512 is for staff salaries and \$49,723 is for rent.



This past Sunday, we communicated a planned deficit of \$10,700 for FY 24-25 with an average increase of 5% in pledges plus some (generously given) matching pledges. We would dip into savings to pay for this deficit. However, early indications are that many of you have stepped up and we may get sufficient pledges not to have a deficit for FY 24-25 and still cover the enhancements to our programs. That would be great! I am deeply grateful for all of your contributions across the financial spectrum. Without a deficit, we can continue building up our savings and invest it into interest bearing CDs. I hope we can use this savings in the future to continue building our community with strong programs in social justice, children/adult RE, and music. I think we are on the right track right now to gradually build up our programs with the help of our staff.

Please feel to reach out to me if you have any questions about the MPUUC finances.

Peace,
Jay Steele

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 History of Women in Jeopardy

March is national women's month and, although there have been many who have heroically advanced the role of women in the U.S. and around the world, it still remains astounding the roadblocks we continue to encounter in shattering the glass ceiling. In this, our annual Jeopardy service, we will look at milestones and missed opportunities of offering full equality to women and some of what we have missed out on due to our failure.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service. Erik Alm will be Worship Host and Jo Ann Schriener and Knuti VanHoven 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%.



Creating A Better Community

Thank you to everyone who participated in our [Canvass](#) Celebration last Sunday. The positive energy was sensational and uplifting. As of March 20, 27 percent of the pledges have been returned. Thanks to your generosity we are on track for a very successful campaign that will support our goals for the coming year. If you have not yet pledged, please click [here](#) and make your pledge TODAY. Thank you. John and Julie - your canvass co-chairs.

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

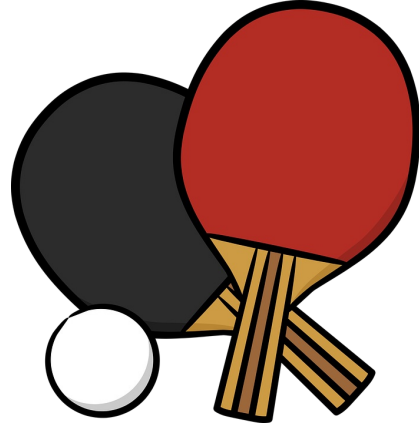
Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister's Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. This week, our topic will explore when we first realized that rights and privileges associated with gender were unfair. What circumstance pointed it out? Who did we tell and what was the response we got? When were we able to begin recognizing that all oppressions are linked? 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

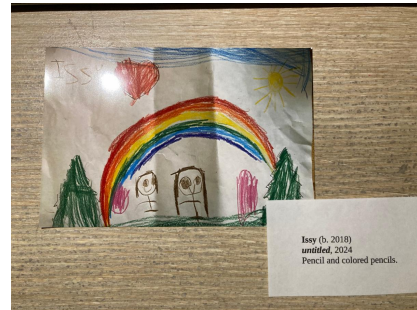
Every **Tuesday at 11am** members of our neighboring congregation at FUMC get together to play some leisurely ping pong and we're invited. No experience necessary. Meet in rooms 4 & 5. Contact Ariel with questions.



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

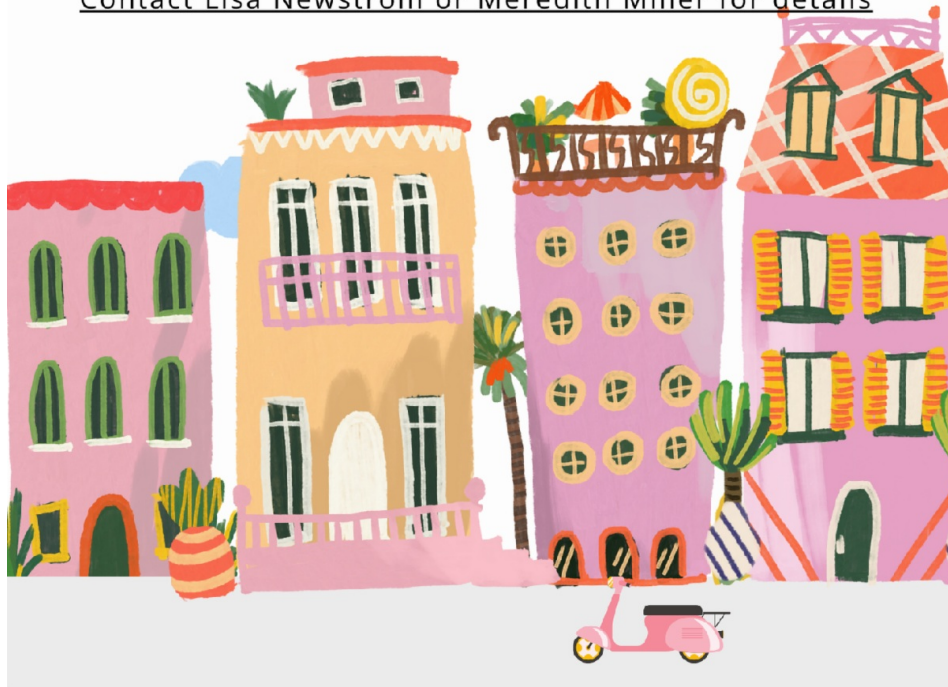
FOR SERGIO'S FAMILY AND THEIR NEW
HOME

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](#).

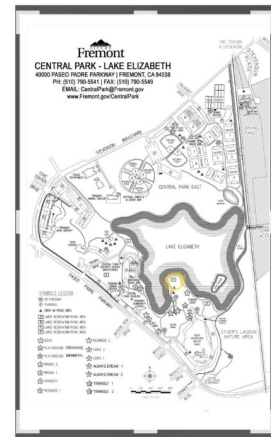
Fremont Earth Day with our partners at Tri-City Interfaith Council

Saturday April 20th



**Save the Date! June 16
MPUUC Joyous Juneteenth Celebration in the park**

ARO (Anti Racism and Anti Oppression group) is sponsoring a Juneteenth picnic at Lake Elizabeth Park June 16, 2024 at Lions 1 picnic area near the boat house. At least part of Sunday service will be in the park followed by the picnic. More details will come later.



JUSTICE CORNER

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.

POWER HALF HOUR FOR GAZA

CHANNEL GRIEF AND FEAR INTO
ACTION TO STOP A GENOCIDE

DAILY
12PM PST / 3PM EST

JVP.ORG/GAZAPH



ALL ARE WELCOME



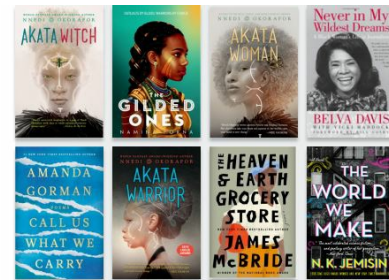
Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

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

Engaging UUs in a Conversation on Article II

Click [here](#) for more information.

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](#).

Outside Mission Peak

We Had a (Small) Part: Native Land Restored



On Thursday, March 18, the [Monterey Herald](#) ran an Associated Press story titled: "Berkeley to return sacred native land to the Ohlone". Berkeley's City Council had voted the previous Tuesday to adopt an ordinance giving title to the only undeveloped portion of the Berkeley shellmound, dating back thousands of years, to Segorea Te' Land Trust. This was not a freebie! The article explained that the City was sued in 2018 by a developer when their application to develop the land for a combination of housing, retail, and parking was denied. The developer agreed to settle for \$27 million and turn the property over to the City of Berkeley. The City paid only \$1.5 million, and Segorea Te paid the remaining \$25.5 million. Here's a [link](#) to an NBC Bay Area story on the topic.

Click [here](#) to read more.



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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