

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! March 6, 2024

Dear Sandra,

Greetings All,

I am Valerie Stewart and I am serving my 1st term on the Board. A longtime volunteer, this is my first time on the Board. And, I offer my deep thanks ☐ to all those who have served previously - YOU all have kept the flame ☐ of Mission Peak bright for nearly 30 years.



The word 'consideration' came up recently and it struck me that the first (Webster's Dictionary) definition, "kindness and thoughtful regard; to think about something before making a decision; careful thought over a period of time ..." is an element of creating ♥Beloved Community. I think that all of us at Mission Peak try to practice kindness towards one another, and, in fact, that is something that makes being together, virtually and in-person, so special.

I found myself aware of some recent situations with MPUUC friends where I did not give "careful, thoughtful regard" to what was happening. My usual behavior, hurrying to get tasks completed in a timely and efficient manner, makes "taking time to consider" a challenge for me. Maybe it is the speed with which our world seems to move these days, with news coming from all over the world "as it happens" and digital communications seeming to demand instant replies that leave little time for "thoughtful regard" of the moment or considering the effect of the reply on the other. We think it is 'considerate' to reply or react quickly, but I am beginning to question that premise.

Is it more considerate to learn more information about a situation before reacting? Is it more considerate to carefully read communications, and even ask questions, before fashioning a reply?

"Thoughtful regard" could be more important, and "time taking" might provide more of an opportunity to react with the kindness that is really intended. So, as Rev. Jim reminded us "take a breath!". I will try breathing a little longer before I speak or act, so that the kindness with which all in our ♥Beloved Community are held, is more

apparent. I appreciate being part of this community where we can ask questions and have thoughtful conversations.

🙏 with gratitude,  
Valerie

---

## **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.**



### **How Am I Loving the Essence of the Moment Right Now?**

From birth, we learn to pay close attention to what will win the approval of caregivers. We carefully master ways to shape our behavior to what is wanted so we can get the love we know we need. We silence our own voice in order to please caregivers - even when those caregivers criticize us or lead us to doubt our own worthiness. It's an all too common formula. Follow it long enough and we wake up someday in the future to realize we have suppressed our authentic selves. But at some point, we realize love is different than approval. And we begin asking ourselves some pretty important questions. This is a service about the courageous choice to overcome self doubt and live into our best selves.

Rev. Greg Ward and Ariel Smith-Iyer will lead the service and assisting will be Sharon Davis. David Johnson and Steve Wallcave will be Worship Host and Von Bringham 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%.



---

### March's Share the Plate Sunrise Village Homeless Shelter

The Sunrise Village Homeless Shelter is associated with ABODE services and is an emergency and transitional shelter for individuals and families with children. It is only a few miles from MPUUC and provides a great opportunity to develop safe and direct personal relationships with those experiencing a frightening transition in housing. Sunrise Village provides those in need with emergency shelter, job counseling and social and emotional support as they navigate ways to move into a more permanent, affordable, stable living situation.

One of the ways our Multigenerational programming at MPUUC is proposing to teach the values, principles and covenant of UUism is through direct social and spiritual witness. This is an opportunity for all people to consider being part of such a safe, supportive, learning environment.

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%

---

### March 10 Congregational Conversation after Service

The Committee on Ministry will be hosting the follow up to our January post-sabbatical Congregational Conversation after service on Sunday March 10. We will explore the questions posed earlier, 'If, one year from now, we looked on the front page of the regional news and saw an article on MPUUC what would it describe? If it had a picture, what would it show? If you were quoted, what would you say?' Please give this some thought. Prizes will be awarded for **most creative** and **most relevant**.

---



## 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. This week, our topic will explore the paradox that we – and the world around us – is constantly changing and that we are called to accept and love the reality of what IS (in ourselves and in the world) right now. 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](#)

---

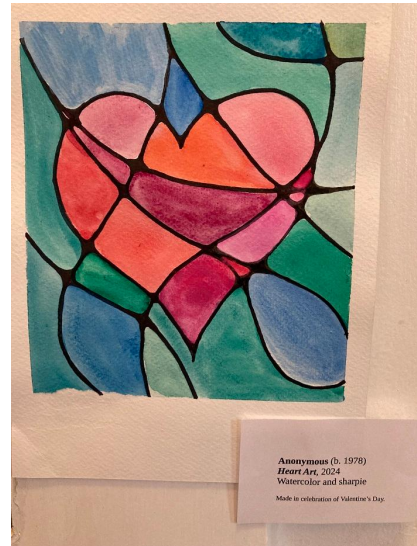
## FELLOWSHIP CORNER

---

### 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](mailto:dre@mpuuc.org). If you want a card made to go along with your art, fill out this [form](#) by March 20th.



### 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 20<sup>th</sup>**



---

## JUSTICE CORNER

**Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)**

**Supporting Burma's Struggle for Freedom and Safety**

February 1 marked the three-year anniversary of Burma's attempted military coup, which our partners and people across the country continue to respond to and resist. [Watch a short new video](#) that reminds us all what's at stake and how we can keep the world's attention focused on securing justice for the people of Burma.



---

**UUSC Response to the ICJ Decision on Genocide**

Following the International Court of Justice's recent ruling on the humanitarian crisis happening in Gaza, UUSC calls on the United States and the rest of the international community to provide financial support to relief agencies attempting to save lives on the ground in Palestine.



[Read UUSC's statement here.](#)

---

**Mosaic Virtual Spring Conference**

Saturday, March 16, 2024  
2pm-3:30pm ET / 1pm CT / 12pm MT / 11am PT

The Mosaic is a hub of connection, resources, and support for Unitarian Universalists dismantling racism and oppression. Through resources, programs, trainings, and gatherings, The Mosaic fosters belonging and liberation in Unitarian Universalist congregations and communities. Our work for collective liberation can be as colorful, multi-faceted, and diverse as the tiles of a mosaic. Together, all of our contributions create something beautiful.

Join us as we worship together and discern our way forward as an association of congregations committed to dismantling racism and oppression in all its forms. We hope you will join us as we recommit to a more inclusive and liberated Unitarian Universalism.

Learn more [about The Mosaic](#).  
[REGISTER TODAY](#)

Click [here](#) for more information

---

## Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

---

Wednesdays, March 13 – May 8 • 6:30 – 9:00 pm  
[Spring 2024 Study & Action Program](#)

There is a lot to be angry, sad, and anxious about in the world right now. So much of what's happening isn't new: violence, genocide, injustice, and hate is deeply rooted in our history. So is the fight for justice and freedom. The wisdom and insights of Black women first formed the path toward collective liberation, and their teachings have kept many of us on that path to this day.



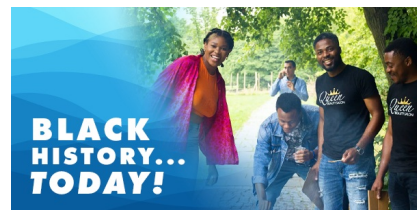
Join us for Study & Action to find purpose, joy, community, and power in learning our history and fighting for collective liberation. Part of this series will focus on the history of Palestine and the many interconnections with the Black liberation movement in the United States

---

## 8th Principle Learning

### Connect to and Learn from Black History Month

Throughout February, we're lifting up the courageous work of Black-led organizations, such as UUSC partner [Alliance for Black Justice Poland](#). They are a beacon of hope that fills a crucial role in aiding Black and Brown individuals during the Ukraine crisis, providing transportation, legal aid, healthcare, and other support.



## 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](http://mpuuc.org/about-us/members-only)

For more details about meetings or questions email [president@mpuuc.org](mailto: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

## 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.

---

## 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](http://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](http://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 [sandra@missionpeakuu.ccsend.com](mailto:sandra@missionpeakuu.ccsend.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!