WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



The Seventh Story

Worship Leader: Rev. Greg Ward
Storyteller: Ariel Smith-iyer
Worship Associate: Don Ramie

Worship Host: Steve Wallcave
Music: Peak Rocks

Sunday, April 21, 2024 10:00 AM
Service theme for the month: Initiative

We are very glad that you are with us today and hope you feel our welcome. If you would like to learn more about us and receive our weekly email newsletter, please send an email to welcome@mpuuc.org. We request your name, email, phone number and address. We'd be happy to answer any questions.

Our Mission Statement:

The foundation of Mission Peak is love. We are a spiritual community of open minds, nurturing growth and healing in ourselves and all people. Together we strive to live compassionately and courageously as we work for a nonviolent, just and sustainable world.

We, the Member Congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Covenant to Affirm and Promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of the conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Order of Service

Sunday, April 21, 2024 10-11:15 a.m.

Centering Thought

Between playground squabbles and nuclear wars, violence takes a thousand forms, from domestic violence to mass shootings, from petty crime to gang warfare, from drive-by's to ethnic cleansing. We humans are stuck in a dysfunctional relationship with violence. *René Girard*

I'm a professional storyteller. That may sound high-falutin, but not when you realize everybody is a storyteller. It's the thing that sets human beings apart from other sentient beings (although I think it's possible that dogs and cats are storytellers as well). But,the task of maturing in life and help co create a better world, is to become conscious of the stories we're believing and the stories we're telling. *Garreth Higgins*

Salman Rushdie said it well: "Those who do not have power over the story that dominates their lives - the power to retell it, rethink it, deconstruct it, joke about it, and change it as times change - truly are powerless, because they cannot think new thoughts. *Brian D. McLaren*

Prelude

Bell Rev. Greg Ward

Story Part I Ariel Smith-iyer

Chalice Lighting Don Ramie

Welcome Song There is More Love, Somewhere Peak Rocks
Trad. African American Spiritual

Welcome Jay Steele

Story Part II Ariel Smith-iyer

Practice of Generosity (Offering) Don Ramie

Please donate generously if you are able, in one of these ways:

- 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 check in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to:
  Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
  We will be collecting this once per week.
- Pay online at https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/ with credit or debit card (Note: 3% surcharge).

Story Part III Ariel Smith-iyer

Joys and Concerns Invitation Rev. Greg Ward

Song of Reflection	Waiting on the World to Change John Mayer	Peak Rocks
Shared Joys & Concerns		Rev. Greg Ward
Story Part IV		Ariel Smith-iyer
Anthem	When You Believe Stephen Schwartz	Peak Rocks
Story Part V		Ariel Smith-iyer
Closing Hymn	Get Together The Youngbloods	Peak Rocks
Extinguishing the Chalice	#456 We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.	Don Ramie
Story Epilogue		Ariel Smith-iyer and Rev. Greg Ward

Next Week's Service: April 28, 2024 – "Why is this Service Different from All Other Services?"
Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service. Worship Host will be David Johnson and Erik Alm. Jo Ann Schriner, Knuti VanHoven will provide our music.

Passover is an important story of the Jewish Community which recalls and illustrate the Jewish effort to escape the bondage they experienced in Egypt and find their way to freedom. Many of us, Jewish or not, have attended a Seder dinner where essential truths uncovered over 3000 years ago are read and made relevant by applying them to an almost universal effort to fully embrace liberation. In this service, we will make the truths of the Haggadah real for Jew and Gentile alike.

Go to https://mpuuc.org/zoom/ for order of service and how to connect for all services

Announcements:

In search of mental health family support or peer support resources in the larger Tri-City area? Contact Rev. Barbara Meyers, a mental health educator and peer support provider. Email com_minister@mpuuc.org, or call 510-796-5722.