

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! April 3, 2024

Dear Sandra,

Over the last year as I have watched my kids Adelaide and Rioghan engage with Children's Chapel, it has been a privilege to watch them continue to display their budding (forgive the pun) sense of fascination with things that grow. We spent a goodly amount of time in the summer and fall (over)watering the flowers and succulents in the beds in front of Cole Hall with the other littles. We picked pretty plums from the garden's encircling fruit trees. We helped to plant a manzanita in a plot envisioned to teem with other California-native flora. Perhaps most exciting, though, the children were able to bend and twist their way into the tomatoes Valerie had planted, harvesting an abundance to munch and to share with the congregation. Dirt under their fingernails and the fruit's sticky tanginess dribbling all over, they've been abuzz with thoughts to share and questions to pose.



This last year in the garden has certainly provided an excellent vantage of our kids growing (transitively and intransitively). Their (and my) experiencing some aspect of the transformation from seed to plenty forms a significant component of our 'why' in engaging with this community. And, as freelance writer Robert Brault asked: "why try to explain miracles to your kids when you can just have them plant a garden?"

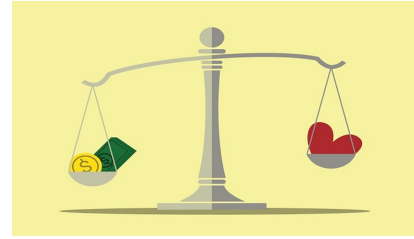
Spring continues to get into full swing and I have wanted to continue to cultivate (I couldn't not) in my kids the child-like tendency to share from a place of bounty. So far we've sown a few rows of carrots, some beets, and some flowers. We've even already seen some little shoots poking through! With Ariel's help ahead of the most recent Parents Night Out, we just put some potatoes in the earth, and yesterday we planted a few new tomato plants, too. If you'd like to help with watering, weeding, or otherwise get your hands in the dirt, please let me know; you are most welcome. My hope is to nurture these plantings towards harvest time, and to have enough to share the joy of them. Maybe that will be after Sunday service at Cole Hall, or maybe that will be somehow with our friends at Sunrise Village. Until then, please join me in

encouraging the children to be patient as they grow; it can feel like a long time until noticeable maturation.

-Chase Adams

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 Value of Care is Invaluable

What is most valuable in our culture cannot be monetized because care, tenderness, service, and loving kindness are beyond the designation of dollars and cents. They are the currency of the heart and soul.

Rev. Terra Collier-Young will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associates Sharon Davis and Drew Wilson. Erik Alm will be Worship Host and Von Bringhurst 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%.



Creating A Better Community

We love to talk with you but...

We'd prefer to not discuss canvass when we speak. Please help us by completing your

pledge today. For those of you that have already completed this important activity - thank you. For those that haven't, please spare us a phone call and use this [link](#) or send John a message to declare your commitment. So far 37 of you have responded and we are at 91 percent of our goal. Thank you!



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, Rev. Greg will be away, but our topic will explore the value of care. Expressing care sometimes requires time and energy and resources. Sometimes that time and energy comes with a price. Have you sacrificed something for yourself to provide care to others? Maybe you've provided care to others instead of fulfilling the expectations of professional peers? How do you measure the care, given and received, in your life? 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](#)

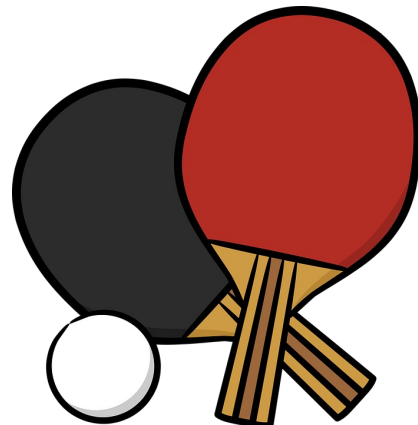
Mistakes and Miracles Book Discussion

On four consecutive Wednesday evenings starting April 24th at 6:30 pm (April 24, May 1, May 8, May 15) we will hold a book discussion group for Mistakes and Miracles, written by Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones and Karen Lin. This will be facilitated by our ARO team. The book has particular interest for Mission Peak because we were cited as one of the examples of microaggressions. We have learned a great deal since the time of this example. We will be exploring ways we can put our new understanding into practice. If you are interested in being part of this discussion group, please [SIGN UP 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.



Men's Fellowship Coffee Time

this Friday

The time has come again for our next men's fellowship coffee time. It will be this Friday, April 5th, at 10 a.m. at Suju's Coffee on Stevenson Blvd at Blacow in Fremont.



Parking is in the parking lot adjacent. There is a range of coffees, teas, and juices, plus breakfast pastries and a variety of breakfast sandwich dishes are available. If possible our tables will be set up in the area on the east side of the room toward Sundale Ave where there seems to be less noise from other groups which facilitates our conversations. (If that area is occupied look around, the group will be in some other area.) If you know someone who might enjoy the fellowship feel free to bring him along.

Please let John Holmes know if you plan to come so enough tables can be arranged for our group. (holmesfam@comcast.net) Hope to see you there Thanks, John

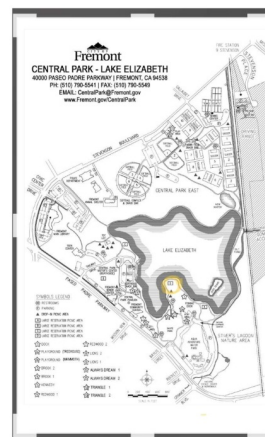
Fremont Earth Day with our partners at Tri-City Interfaith Council

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

Environmental Justice: Using Our UU Principles as a Theological Guide

I joined the Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission in 2012 as a part of an effort to diversify the commission and refocus it toward public health and

community resilience. Another new member was Rochelle, a community activist from North Minneapolis, which has the highest poverty rates and largest concentrations of indigenous people and people of color, thanks to the city's history of racially-restrictive covenants and redlining. ([Continue reading](#))

Meleah Houseknecht

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

[Petition to Exonerate the Port Chicago 50](#)

– In 1944, a Navy cargo vessel explosion at a Bay Area port killed hundreds of sailors, most of whom were Black due to the Navy's segregation. When many of the surviving sailors protested the unsafe working conditions, they were threatened with death and then convicted of mutiny. They have since been recognized as heroes, having sparked the desegregation of the U.S. Navy and the beginnings of the civil rights movement. Sign this petition calling for full exoneration for the Port Chicago 50 to restore honor and justice to their legacies.



[SURJ Bay Area's solidarity statement on Justice for Palestine](#)

– Many of us are talking about Palestine, marching to demand an end to the war on Gaza and the West Bank, acting to end the Occupation. This is a good time to remind ourselves why we are acting together and to reread the SURJ BA solidarity statement on Justice for Palestine that was written collectively and released last spring.

8th Principle Learning

The Jesus of my understanding only rises
as WE rise, together, with each other,
with every part of our Creation reconstructed,
HOLY... SAVED... SACRED... WHOLE.

On this Easter Sunday, may we remember
that we are saved together, and
the resurrection of our very wholeness is
grounded in the work of justice.

Rev. Dr. Sofía Betancourt

[The 8th Principle: A UU Embrace of the Transgender Community](#)

Click [here](#) for more information.

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

A Blood Drive and Preparedness Seminar will be held on Saturday April 27 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Scott Creel LDS Chapel at 48950 Green Valley Rd., Fremont.

Community experts will cover areas such as Emergency Services, Hazard Risks and Preparedness for Earthquake and other Disasters for Home and Family, Wellness Seminars and presentations by other community service organizations including Ham/Amateur Radio operators will be offered.

The program is free to all interested parties. Click [here](#) for more information.

A promotional poster for a blood drive and preparedness seminar. The top left section is titled 'FREMONT STAKE BLOOD DRIVE' and provides details: 'SCOTT CREEK CHAPEL, 48950 GREEN VALLEY RD., FREMONT, CA', 'APRIL 27, 2024, 8AM - 2 PM', and 'REGISTER ON-LINE @ REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG'. The top right section is titled 'PREP CON 4 LIFE FREE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND WELLNESS CONVENTION' and lists 'LEARN ABOUT' topics: 'Emergency Services', 'Personal preparedness for home, family and neighborhood', 'Hazard, risk and preparedness for earthquakes (Hayward Fault)', 'Blood Drive', 'Wellness Seminar(s)', and 'About organizations that offer services and resources'. The bottom right section is titled 'LOCATION: THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS' and provides the address: '48950 Green Valley Road, Fremont, CA 94539'. The poster features a central image of two hands forming a heart shape and the American Red Cross logo. At the bottom, it says 'REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG | 1-800-RED-CROSS'.

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
Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631
Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553



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