# This Week on the Peak



# Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! October 23, 2024

Dear Sandra,

I'm excited to share with you one of the biggest upcoming worship events to happen this year. It is called Action Sunday and it will happen on November 10. Action Sunday is an entirely different kind of worship platform. It is based on the great success that a few other congregations have had will trying it. The goals are to have a service that is energizing, informative, participational and where we engage in creative ways with people we might not have thought about working with on the subject



It all begins with a service that starts like all services do. We will ring our

bell, light our chalice, have a Call to Worship and a quick welcome and sing. But then, everything will change. We will be self dividing by interest in one of three groups (two groups if you are on Zoom). Each group will be facilitated and we will all be encouraged to bring our best listening and respectful sharing skills into the group we join.

The three topics that we're going to explore all have to do with 'Gathering the spirit' (our hymn for the day) and putting 'Love at the Center'. We will invite deep reflection – and even some creative brainstorming – on one of three topics

- 1. One group will process what happened in the election earlier in the week. We will name some of the outcomes (besides who won) we are aware of and the response we think a community steeped in love would offer after the election.
- 2. Another group will consider the mission and the purpose at MPUUC, what this moment means to us and how we feel we can best reveal who we are by trying to offer what we think our larger community is needing
- 3. Our third group will be preparing Mattering bags for those who are heading into the holidays without that deep down 'mattering' feeling we all need when the days get shorter and the nights get colder.

Two of these breakout groups will include hybrid capacity to promote participation from Zoomers. At 11:15, everyone comes back together for some snacks and conversation about the ideas they explored and the ways they realized they could put Love at the Center.

This is a really great service to make sure you attend in person, if you're able. And for those who have skills and would be willing to offer even a few ideas or a small bit of leadership, we'd love your help. Email me at <u>minister@mpuuc.org</u>.

Rev. Greg Ward

# This Sunday's Service:

Service can be attended in-person at Cole Hall or online. See <u>mpuuc.org/zoom</u> each week for how to attend services.



### **Exactly What is Religion?**

Religion means many things to the 8 billion souls on this earth. Where did it come from? How does it work? What changes has it gone through? What have the component parts been over time? What does it do for the people who believe in the tenets? Are there parts of religion that are not themselves religious? In this changing world, what do we want religion/spirituality to do for us and our loved ones?

Mark Rahman will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Don Ramie. Melissa Holmes will be Worship Host. Jay and Jessica Steele 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 <u>https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/</u> with credit or debit card. Note we use PayPal for this and they charge us around 3%.

#### **Black and White Auction**

Keep the Party Going - the 2024 Auction Needs Your Help

Do you remember how much fun it was to get together for that special dinner hosted by your friends at MPUUC? Did you find the perfect event or item at the auction? Did you have a blast bidding and connecting with your fellow Mission Peakers? Let's Keep the Party Going throughout the next year.

The 2024 auction will be held online on November 9 from 7-9. It will be awesome, but we need your help to



make it happen. Buy tickets, donate items and be prepared to bid on November 9. You

*can buy tickets for \$30 per person* <u>here</u> (Auction Zoom link will be sent to ticket holders). You can donate your item(s) online using <u>this form</u>. For more details <u>visit the web page</u>.

#### POST ELECTION VIGIL November 7 from 5pm – 7:00pm

I want to reach out and invite everyone to come to Cole Hall on November 7 – two days after the election – to gather as a community and find / offer solace to one another at the end of a very anxious and stressful election cycle. This will not be a rally or a call to action. No matter what the results of the election, there will be a need for that later. This will be a time to recognize what is going on around us and name what is in our hearts. We will have a little food if you're coming from work, candles to light, a few songs to sing, a couple readings and some contemplative reflection. But mostly, we will have people who can hold the feelings – and the people – in the room.

#### **October Share the Plate - Planting Justice**

We will be collecting through November 3.

Write a check to MPUUC with "Planting Justice" 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 "Planting Justice" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "Planting Justice") in our mail slot addressed to: Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Pay online at <u>https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/</u> with credit or debit card. Choose "Special" as the donation type. Please state "Planting Justice" 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 <u>Joys and Concerns</u> 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. The Midweek Discussion Group meets online and welcomes all voices who wish to participate in discussion on interesting topics. The link to the conversation can be found if you <u>Press</u> <u>here</u>

Starting the week of October 13th, Sustainable Style will sweep in and help you make the most of these resources. We will be bringing clothing recycling bins for you and your family to donate your collected garments to. Every year, only 13% of clothing is donated or recycled to maximize their environmental and socioeconomic value, while the others account for millions of tons of waste. Sustainable Style encourages the reuse of these precious resources, as we will directly provide all your donations to local secondhand shops to improve the longevity of these materials and help more Fremont locals afford this necessity.

Simply bring your old clothing to Mission Peak UU, and we can work together to improve our Fremont community and global environment! For any questions, please reach out at <u>lemengkong@gmail.com</u>.



\*Sustainable Style is a youth-led environmental-awareness 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in the Bay Area. For more details, visit **stylesustainably.com**.

## FELLOWSHIP CORNER

#### Dates to mark on your calendar.

Saturday, Nov 2nd **Diwali** dinner/celebration Cole Hall Saturday, Nov 9th **Black & White Annual Auction** Friday, Nov 29th **Green Friday** BYO picnic lunch Coyote Hills, no rsvp req'd- just come! Saturday, Dec 14th 3rd annual **Cookies and Carols Party** in Cole Hall 3:30-5pm Monday, Jan 20th **MLK Jr Day of Service** time and location TBD



MPUUC Potluck Dinner and art night Saturday November 2nd from 5:30-8pm

🍅 … WE'LL BE IN COLE HALL \cdots 🍅 … 🎕

#### MPUUC Diwali potluck / dinner / art night!

Saturday Nov 2nd 5:30-8pm. RSVP requested at <u>this link</u> by Oct 31st.

Click here for flyer

# **JUSTICE CORNER**

We continue to pray for all congregations impacted by Hurricane Helene and any of those in the path of Milton. Rev. Dr. Audette Fulbright Fulson, Lead Minister/Executive at UU Congregation of Asheville and a long time UUMFE Board member shared this message:



**"The Emotional Lifecycle of a Disaster** is going to be tremendously important in the days ahead. Please be aware that as much as anything else, this is a difficult emotional journey.

Folks at the church on Sunday already began to recognize some exhaustion setting in; trauma affects the brain deeply, but recovery also does. Beauty, care, repair and rest all help recovery. C.A.R.E. -- Compassion (for self and others), Act (with consideration), Rest, Exchange (sorrow for joy, labor with leisure, pain with beauty because all cycles matter)."

Click here

#### **Listening Circle**

October 30, 2024 8-9pm ET | 7-8pm CT| 6-7pm MT| 5- pm PT



Join Rev. Kelly Dignan and Rev. Lauren Levwood for a time of sharing, song and spiritual practice as

we hold our grief and offer compassion to you and all those suffering at this time. Registration and Zoom link

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

Christian Zionism: A Major Unrecognized Force in Support of Israel – Read the latest SURJ Blog from Paul Kivel. It delves into the major role Christian Zionists play in not only supporting Israeli policies and expansion, but also in promoting long-standing Islamophobia and anti-Arab racism. As Paul writes, Christian Zionists' power and funding continue to be major obstacles to any progress in ending the violence and creating a lasting and just solution to the crisis in Middle East. Read on to dig deeper.



# 8th Principle Learning

#### **Unitarian Universalist Association**

As Unitarian Universalists, our faith calls us to imagine a world where everyone belongs, where love is at the center of all we do. This, for us, is Beloved Community.

But we also know that the work of confronting racism and oppression has never been more challenging—and we remain committed.

Join us at this year's Mosaic Fall Conference, where we'll gather strength and wisdom from Nicole Pressley, Director of the UUA's Organizing Strategy Team, in her powerful keynote, "For the Living of These Times".



There's still time to register! Don't miss this transformative event: https://bit.ly/3MIcU9v

#### **Making announcements**

If you've ever had an announcement you wanted to share about an upcoming MPUUC

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Lee 408-262-2501 alwell 510-247-1388 or go to <u>house.gov</u> ana (202) 225-2631 2 <b>) 224-3553</b>
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