WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



Love at the Center

Worship Leader: Rev. Greg Ward **Worship Host: Steve Wallcave**
Worship Associate: Rev. Barbara Meyers **Music: Peak Rocks**

Sunday, September 15, 2024 10:00 AM
Service theme for the month: Celebration

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.

Order of Service

Sunday, September 15, 2024 10-11:15 a.m.

Centering Thought

Love liberates. It doesn't just hold - that's ego. Love Liberates. *Maya Angelou*

Theology is not about you. It takes a lot to realize that you may not be the most important person in the world, that your questions might not be the right questions or the most profound questions. *Dr. Susan Schreiner*

Justice is what love looks like in public. *Cornell West*

With Love at the center, we might even find that we are less afraid of conflict. We might find that conflict is creative when are not afraid of it and we hold Love close. *Connie Goodbread*

Love, like truth and beauty, is concrete. Love is not fundamentally a sweet feeling; not, at heart, a matter of sentiment, attachment, or being "drawn toward." Love is active, effective, a matter of making reciprocal and mutually beneficial

relation with one's friends and enemies. Love creates righteousness, or justice, here on earth. To make love is to make justice. As advocates and activists for justice know, loving involves struggle, resistance, risk. *Carter Heyward*

Our values are not eternal guarantees of right decisions or of proper analyses; they are calls to action. *Sharon Welch*

Prelude

Bell Rev. Greg Ward

Call To Worship Rev. Barbara Meyers

Chalice Lighting Rev. Barbara Meyers

All:
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Rev. Barbara:
We embrace and give life to this mission statement by:

All:
- Offering each other love, trust, respect, and support in time of joy and need.
- Creating worship services and encourage spiritual exploration and personal growth.
- Providing educational experiences for all ages that encourage a free and responsible search for truth and meaning, and an acceptance of religious and social diversity.
- And serving the community in accordance with our social conscience and our Unitarian Universalist principles.

We welcome to membership every person who shares these values.

Welcome Beth Schaefer

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

Time for all Ages A Little Spot of Love — Diane Alber — Moomi Read Alouds

Pulpitorial Sogorea Te — Kathi Bayne

Share the Plate Rev. Barbara Meyers

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

- Mail check to Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation with Sogorea Te in the memo line.
  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. Choose "Special" as the donation type. Please state for "Sogorea Te" in the message. (Note: 3% surcharge).

Joys and Concerns Invitation		Rev. Greg Ward
Song of Reflection	Who'll Pay Reparations on My Soul Gil Scott-Heron	Peak Rocks
Shared Joys & Concerns		Rev. Greg Ward
Reading	Excerpt from Love at the Center Edited, by Sofia Betancourt	Rev. Greg Ward
Anthem	Another Day in Paradise Phil Collins	Peak Rocks
Message	Love at the Center	Rev. Greg Ward
Closing Hymn	Hymn # 298 Wake Now My Senses Words, Thomas J.S. Mikelson; Music, Trad. Irish Melody	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.	Rev. Barbara Meyers
Benediction		Rev. Greg Ward

Next Week's Service: September 22 – "The Spiritual and Political Crises in the World, How They're Related and What We Can Do **"**

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Chris Cook. Worship Host will be Melissa Holmes. Jo Ann Schriner and Knuti VanHoven will provide our music.

At some point, for those of us who consider ourselves even nominally 'spiritual,' it becomes important to ask how far such spirituality goes. Does spirituality go beyond our relationship to ourselves? To awe? To the holy? Does it compel us to connect with others? Even those with whom we don't agree. What is the extent - and limits - of spirituality in today's political reality? Where do you rank yourself on the spirituality spectrum from Ayn Rand and mystic?

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

Announcements:

The Tri-City Interfaith Council is hosting an event called International Day of Peace this coming Saturday, Sept 21st. There will be a short walk along the creek starting at 10am which offers the chance to meet someone new, then the program begins at 11. Various faith groups, including MPUUC, will take turns offering a prayer to mark this annual day begun by the UN in the early 1980's. People of all ages are welcome to attend any part of the event. More info in The Week on the Peak newsletter.

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 510-493-1796.