

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! December 4, 2024

Dear Sandra,

POSSIBILITIES! There are so many before us!

Hello, I am Valerie Stewart, a member of the Board.

We've all been saddened by the recent political events, illnesses and losses in our families and among friends and the division we see happening in our nation. But even with these events facing us, we still have much to be grateful for here within our own Mission Peak Community and without. Ariel Smith-Iyer, our Director of Multigenerational Community Building often creates events with gratitude in mind for us to share. If you haven't attended one recently, please come next time.



Our Congregation is exploring how we can be more active in our larger community and we'll share a bowl of soup and have that discussion together December 15, 2024, starting at noon. YOU are invited to share your ideas, hopes and concerns and plan a path forward for action in our community- together.

The best way to stay hopeful is to take action -in whatever way you can. If the environment is of concern to you there are tools to reverse the damage and local residents can participate in the Fremont Green Challenge. The tools available are not limited to just Fremont residents. Community Climate Solutions, a non-profit group used by the City of Fremont, has tools for all. Learn all about what you can do at www.FremontGreenChallenge.org. Don't forget to check-out the website for Local Ecology and Agriculture in Fremont, <https://www.FremontLEAF.org>.

Our cities are trying to address housing and the unhoused in many ways. The City of Fremont has created a Safe Parking program for those living in their vehicles. And our wonderful neighbors at FUMC are the December hosts for the Safe Parking program. You can learn more about this at <https://www.fremont.gov/residents/homeless-response/homeless-services/safe-parking>.

So many possibilities! Possibilities are everywhere! Stay well and courageous.

Valerie

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.



All We Are Saying, Is Give Peace a Chance

In 1941, after the horrific simultaneous Japanese attacks the day prior at Pearl Harbor, Guam, The Phillipines Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaya, Franklin Delanor Roosevelt addressed the nation, calling the horrific series of attacks, "A day that will live in infamy." One might have hoped that such violence would have emboldened a commitment to peace. But instead it prompted us toward blame.

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Don Ramie. Melissa Holmes will be Worship Host. Jo Ann Schriener and Knuti VanHoven 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%.

Check out this year's UUSC Guest at Your Table Partners

These short videos give us an introduction to the brave people organizing around the world for the values Unitarian Universalists believe in. (Click on the links to watch short video)

[Haitian Bridge Alliance](#)

Working to document abuses in the immigration system and helping liberate those in detention procuring national and international legal protections

[Jo-Jikum](#)

Helping communities heal from the destructive legacy of nuclear testing by the U.S. while envisioning a sustainable future for the Marshallese people.

[Pink Haven Coalition](#)

Creating networks of safety and welcome for trans and gender expansive people forced to flee unsafe states in the United States.

[Queer Svit](#)

An organization offering resources and companionship to the queer community in Ukraine who have been impacted by Russia's invasion.

We will be collecting through mid January.

Write a check to MPUUC with "GAYT" 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 "GAYT" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "GAYT") 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 "GAYT" 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 [Joys and Concerns](#) for the past 4 weeks. If you would like your joy or concern to appear in the Wheel of

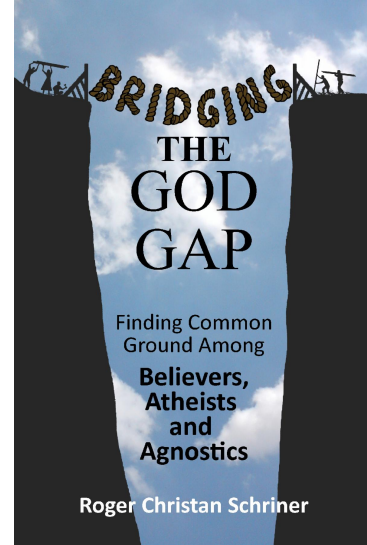
Life, contact the Encouragement Committee at ecteam@mpuuc.org

Midweek Discussion Group

The Minister's Midweek Discussion Group meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. The Midweek Discussion Group meets online and welcomes all voices who wish to participate in discussion on interesting topics. This week, we will explore our experiences working for peace. Why, if we all believe in peace, do we see violent conflict between countries? Violent rhetoric between political parties? Violent discrimination against marginalized communities? What does our own personal effort to growing peace look like? The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

Holiday Season Book Signing: On December 8 our Minister Emeritus, Dr. Chris Schriener, will sign copies of his books after the service. Do you have family members or friends who are interested in spiritual exploration, theology, philosophy, or ways of reducing stress? They might appreciate a gift of one of these books by Chris. Twenty percent of the proceeds will be donated to MPUUC.

Bridging the God Gap: Finding Common Ground Among Believers, Atheists and Agnostics shows how to have honest and respectful conversations with those who disagree with us about religion. Its principles also apply to political disagreements! ([continue reading](#))



DATE: December 15, 2024

TIME: 12:00 pm (immediately after the Bell Choir Concert)

JOIN US IN COMMUNITY to



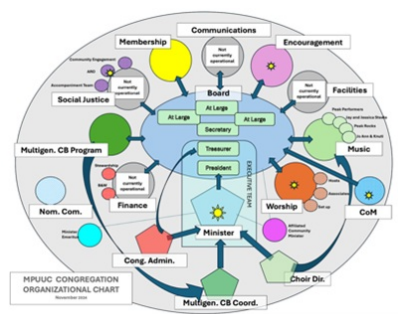
YOU are invited to share your ideas, hopes and concerns and plan a path forward for action in our community. We'll have "Stone soup"- the original community food and bread to share (you are invited to bring an ingredient to Cole Hall by Dec. 8). Then join us to share our goals for community action and carve a path forward together.

Cole Hall is located at the top of the hill of the campus of the First United Methodist Church at 2950 Washington Blvd., Fremont CA 94539

For more information see www.mpuuc.org

Check out our Organizational Chart.

The Board is working toward helping us all communicate and organize together. We are in the process of clarifying our structure so that everyone knows how MPUUC and where to go / who to talk to do what is needed quickly and effectively. Please [TAKE A LOOK BY CLICKING HERE](#) and see if you can understand how Mission Peak works.

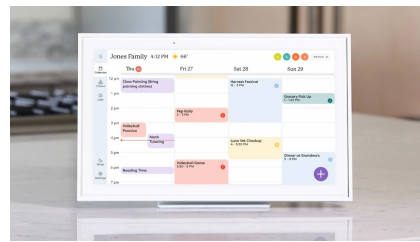


FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Dates to mark on your calendar:

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



Men's Fellowship Coffee Time this Friday

We'll have our monthly coffee time this Friday, December 6th, at 10 a.m. at Suju's Coffee on Stevenson Blvd at Blacow in Fremont.



Parking is in the lot adjacent. As always 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 invite him and 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 -- or 510-791-0175) Hope to see you there.

JUSTICE CORNER

How we understand the rule of law might be at stake in the lame-duck

In the last four years, great strides have been made to improve our judiciary by confirming judicial nominees dedicated to civil and human rights. We must continue building a federal judiciary that lives up to its promise of equal justice and neutral judging.



The Senate should ensure all eligible, qualified, pending judicial nominees are confirmed by the end of the year. With **16 lifetime nominees** pending on the floor right now, and more to be reported out of Committee this week and in coming weeks, from the **roster of 67**, the Senate needs to be intentional and diligent.

Kathi, tell your Senators that they must confirm every pending judicial nominee in the remaining weeks of the 118th Congress. This must be done expeditiously, and the Senate must stay in to get it done.

Our democracy depends on qualified, fair-minded judges committed to upholding the rights of all of us, as well as neutral judging traditions. Please act now.

Sincerely,
UUSJ Democracy Action Team

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

ONGOING EVENTS Daily

• 12:00 – 12:30 pm • **Jewish Voice For Peace:
Power Half-Hour for Gaza** (VIRTUAL)



Fridays • 9:00 – 10:00 am • **American Friends
Service Committee Action Hour for a Cease-Fire Now** (VIRTUAL)

Fridays • 12:00 – 1:00 pm • **Friday PSA: Palestine Solidarity Announcements**
(VIRTUAL)

8th Principle Learning



A Prayer for My Queer and Trans Siblings

Here you are.
Here, in this holy space,
on this ground that is holy
because you are here.

Here you are, in flesh and bone,
filling up this body that belongs to you alone.
Your pumping heart is a wonder
because it keeps you alive.
Your loving heart is a blessing
because it keeps all of us alive.

The Spirit of Love has a home in you.
May we all see that love in you
and let our hearts become mirrors
for the compassion at your core.

The Spirit of Justice has a home in you.
May we light our wicks
from one another until we are all aflame,
until we burn out every prejudice
we carry in these bones.

Here you are.
Holy as you are.

Blessed be.

—Jess Reynolds
Love Like Thunder



SKINNER
HOUSE
BOOKS

37TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRÈCHE EXHIBIT

COME TO BETHLEHEM

DECEMBER 7-11, 2024

Saturday-Wednesday • 12:30-8:30PM

ADMISSION FREE

A GIFT TO THE
COMMUNITY

Nativity art from around the world
Hands-on activities for all ages
Christmas concerts, stories,
marionette shows, and more

Celebrate Jesus Christ's birth.
Feel His light and His love.
Share the joy of Christmas.



3865 Middlefield Road
Palo Alto, California
650.382.3487

The Menlo Park, Los Altos,
and Saratoga Stakes
The Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints

@ ChristmasCreche

#paloaltocreche

ChristmasCrechePaloAlto

#LightTheWorld

ChristmasCreche.org

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 12pm.**

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](https://www.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



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

Mission Peak UU | 2950 Washington Boulevard | Fremont, CA 94537 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!