

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! January 8, 2025

Dear Sandra,

I am Valerie Stewart, a member of the Board. Greetings in the NEW YEAR! This year promises to hold many challenges. I see our community as one of enduring faith -and involvement- as we face these challenges.



Late in December we learned of a proposed Fremont City ordinance that would essentially criminalize being “unhoused” if you “*camped” on public or private property without consent. In one day, our community reacted with letters, emails, phone calls and testimony at the City Council meeting affirming that we -as citizens- and members of our faith community DO NOT approve of such an ordinance and do NOT approve of criminalizing the unhoused.

This past Monday I attended a webinar offered by the UU Social Justice Action Team in collaboration with a coalition of faith groups. They called the meeting “Do Not Obey in Advance”. Organizers and leaders from many faith groups urged everyone to remember that speaking truth to politicians is our “super power” and we cannot be silent now. Since these leaders are located in Washington DC, they are organizing faith communities to urge Senators to review and oppose Cabinet nominees who are not qualified.

Our involvement is not a “one and done” situation. Our values don’t turn-on Sunday morning and turn-off that night. The Fremont City Council members, Desrie Campbell- dcampbell@fremont.gov and Kathy Kimberlin- kkimberlin@fremont.gov , who questioned the “camping” ordinance and

voted against it, should continue to hear from us frequently that THEY made the better decision and have support in the community for creating better solutions for the unhoused.

Our enduring values -simply stated in our traditional chalice lighting-...to treat all people kindly, because we are all one family, to live lives full of goodness and love because that is how we will become the best people we can be.... need to be heard in challenging times. So remember to speak these values to power – it's a demonstration of our enduring faith and our SUPER POWER!

“Go in Peace, Return in Love”, as we say, and email, or call your local/national leaders and state YOUR values.

Valerie

*Defined as being present and/or having personal property located on such locations.

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.

Faithful Fools: To Coddiwomple

Faithful Fools was founded in 1998 by Kay Jorgensen, a Unitarian Universalist minister and Carmen Barsody, a Franciscan from Little Falls, MN. The two of them were inspired to create a community of people from all walks of life to work together for deep personal change in the service of deep social change.

Rev. Carmen Barsody will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Greg Ward. 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 <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card.
Note we use PayPal for this and they charge us around 3%.

Guest at Your Table 2024 - collection ends

Friends,

Thank you for supporting the UU Service Committee through the **Guest at Your Table** collection.

January 12 ends our **GAYT** collection.

If you have yet to contribute and wish to please put a check or cash in the mail slot at Cole Hall or online at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate>

Choose "Special" as the donation type and write "**GAYT**" in the message.

LOVE AT THE CENTER BOOK DISCUSSION – JANUARY 26 After Worship

In June of this past year (2024) the [UUA underwent a democratic process to update Article II](#): how we describe Unitarian Universalism's unique approach to religion. The [Seven Principles and Purposes](#), along with the [Six Sources of Wisdom](#) were largely incorporated into a new motif of six shared values which we covenant to uphold with Love at the Center. Given how attached many were to the 7 principles, many congregations required deep reflection to understand what it means to put Love at the Center. From August – December of this past year, MPUUC presented summaries of 17 of the 26 essays contained in the book, [Love at the Center](#) describing what UUs mean when we say we put Love at the Center. On January 26, after Sunday Worship, MPUUC will hold a discussion of the book. You can click in the title above to order your own copy.



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 we will explore our relationship with 'people who live on the streets.' We will examine the degrees of separation between our lives and their lives of those on the street and the degree of separation between us and the people with the power to change those conditions. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

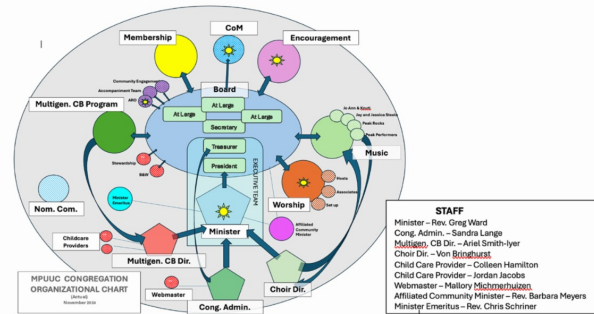
LUNCH AND LEARN UPDATES - THIS SUNDAY AFTER THE SERVICE

This Sunday – January 12 – immediately after Worship, we will Continuing our work on Community Organizing with our 2nd Lunch and Learn. We will serve delicious homemade soup (2 kinds: Vegetarian and Chicken) with bread and dessert. After, we will learn more

about the 1:1 Conversations that build relationships and forge networks. You can review the Dec 15th [1:1 CONVERSATION HANDOUT](#) describing some of the fundamentals. This week, we will be practicing how to have conversations for our 1:1 Conversations on our January 19 Action Sunday field trip to the Irvington Farmer's Market. To see our Lunch and Learn Schedule or volunteer to help click on [SIGN UP TO SET UP / CLEAN UP](#) and / or [SIGN UP TO MAKE SOUP](#). OR, simply come and join in the learning. Questions? Ask [Rev. Greg](#) or [Kathi Bayne](#).

New MPUUC Organizational Chart

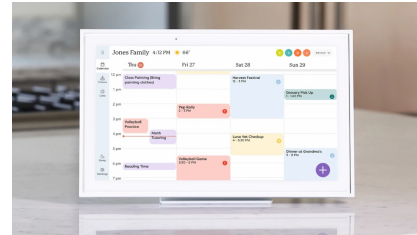
It is with great joy (and significant work) that the MPUUC Board has approved and presents to you our new Org Chart. It is hoped that this will provide an intuitive visual understanding of how we operate so that both newcomers and long time members alike will have a sense for how to be involved at Mission Peak.



FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Dates to mark on your calendar.

Monday, Jan 20th **MLK Jr Day of Service** along with community partners, Cole Hall 11-1pm
Jan 24-26th **Youth Retreat** at San Francisco UU, reach out to Ariel for more information
Feb 2nd **Blessing of the Animals** during service
Feb 8th **Parent Night Out**
Feb 22nd **Visioning Multi-gen Futures**



Men's Fellowship Coffee Time - January 10

We'll have our monthly coffee time Friday, January 10, 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.



Community service opportunity

Monday, 20 January 2025	Cole Hall 2950 Washington Blvd Fremont	10AM-12 noon while supplies last
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You are invited to this all-ages event to create care packages for unhoused members of our community and to learn more about housing insecurity.



co-sponsored by:

Mission Peak Unitarian
Universalist Congregation



Tri-City
Interfaith Council

in collaboration with:



for more info
scan the QR code
mpuuc.org
dre@mpuuc.org



JUSTICE CORNER



UUSJ Unitarian Universalists
for Social Justice

Advancing UU Values in the Nation's Capitol

The People's March: UU Meet-Up in DC



[Click here for more information](#)

Saturday, January 18

Rally: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET

RSVP to get reminders, and so we know to look for you

Click [here](#) for more details.

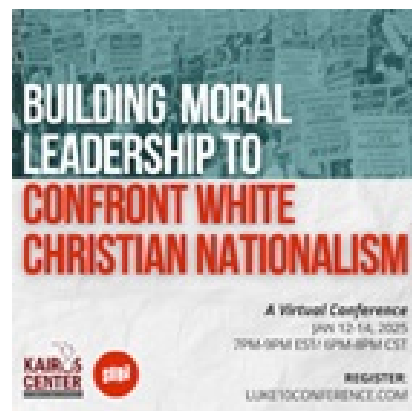
Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Sunday, January 12 – Tuesday, January 14 • 4:00 – 6:00 pm

SURJ Faith: Confronting White Christian Nationalism (VIRTUAL)

SURJ SHOWING UP FOR
BAY AREA RACIAL JUSTICE

2025 will see Donald Trump take office in a highly polarized nation where White Christian Nationalism holds significant influence over our shared political, religious, and cultural life. This is a pivotal time for people of faith to lead the charge in resisting White Christian Nationalism, and SURJ Faith is partnering with the Kairos Center for Religion, Rights, and Social Justice to gather faith communities for this important work. Join SURJ Faith for this virtual 3-day conference that will explore questions like: how do people of faith make sense of this moment, how do we effectively confront religious nationalism, and how do we move beyond playing defense to actually embodying the just society God calls us to build?



Monday, January 20 • 11:00 am

Save the Date: March to Reclaim MLK's Radical Legacy (IN PERSON)

For the 11th year in a row, the Anti Police-Terror Project (ATPP) is organizing their Annual March and Week of Action to Reclaim Martin Luther King, Jr.'s

Radical Legacy. Towards the end of Dr. King's short life, he had moved towards a politic rooted in Black liberation and freedom—and he vociferously rejected war, capitalism, and white supremacy. This year, when MLK Day coincides with Inauguration Day, join APTP in reclaiming the true revolutionary spirit of Dr. King and showing that Oakland does not concede to fascism. Stay tuned for more details; if you're interested in helping out, you can [sign up to volunteer here](#). Location: Oakland (exact location TBD)



Sundays, February 9th – March 2nd • 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

[AWARE-LA Unmasking Whiteness Institute](#) (VIRTUAL)

AWARE-LA offers a workshop series on building white anti-racist practice and community in an intensive 4-day institute designed specifically for white people. Through personal reflection, group dialogue, activities, and embodiment practices, this institute invites white people to explore:

- meanings of whiteness
- white privilege and multiple identities
- addressing guilt and shame
- structural, institutional, and systemic racism
- anti-racist practice, identity, and community

Program is sliding scale \$200–\$300+ with no one turned away for lack of funds.



8th Principle Learning

Immigration Policy: Need for Shift in Values

The current state of our immigration system raises ethical concerns. One key issue that we seem blind to is the underlying materialistic production values that underpin the system. These values were primarily obscured from public view until they were brought to light by recent controversies surrounding the H-1B Visa program. We Americans are implementing a policy blocking and deporting millions of agricultural low-tech immigrants but, at the same time, increasing the number of high-tech-engineer immigrants. ([Continue reading](#))

Southwest Asian and North African (SWANA) Caucus Monthly Gathering

When: 14 Jan 2025, 5:00 PM-6:00 PM PST
Where: Online (Zoom link provided with confirmation)

<https://druumm.org/>

EVENT DETAILS:

The Southwest Asian and North African (SWANA) caucus of DRUUMM gathers to build



community and for discussion monthly on the 2nd Tuesday from 5 to 6 PM Pacific/8 to 9 PM Eastern.

Please honor that this gathering is for only those who identify as Southwest Asian and North African.

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

Representative Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631

Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553



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