

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! February 12, 2025

Dear Sandra,

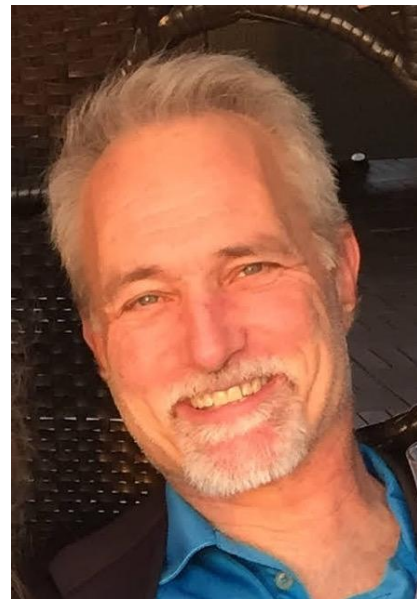
As some of you know by now, the City Council met last night to a packed house for the second reading and final vote on the ordinance to criminalize the unhoused. The ordinance, also known as the 'camping ban' ordinance, eliminates any area the unhoused can go in Fremont without being identified as a violation of the municipal code. You can read more about. [Read what the SF Standard says about Fremont's ordinance.](#)

There is a new moral ethos emerging in our country that not only dehumanizes 'the other' (the unhoused, the immigrant, LGBTQIA, the 'woke,' etc.), but who are eager to rewrite legislation, targeting those on the margins even further.

The city council chamber was packed with two overflow rooms. 194 people signed up to offer a 1 minute testimonial to the council, but there was only time for 80. I was one of those who got to speak.

I shared that MPUUC is committed to helping Fremont 'Love the Hate out of this world.' I shared the African proverb that says, 'People aren't homeless because they run out of money. People are homeless because they run out of relationships.' I shared theologian Gabriel Garcia Marquez's well known line, 'God holds a preferential option for the poor. 'This is not a financial decision,' I shared. 'It is a moral decision. And Fremont will reveal its moral position through this vote.

Sadly, at nearly midnight, the council pushed the vote through by a 6-1 margin. Many filed out of the meeting holding despair for where we've come. But not me. I do lament the decision and the radicalized way our citizenry is successfully being pitted against each other by politicians feeding public fear. But I have never been more proud of MPUUC for showing out and showing up in such a wholehearted way. There were a dozen of us in our purple shirts. Vice Mayor Desrie Campbell (the dissenting vote) cited MPUUC's



language, and dances, which spread to other communities during the 1870s. The tribe is now revitalizing their culture through workshops on language, songs, traditions, dances, regalia, native plant restoration, and cultivation. Our donations will support these efforts.

Write a check to MPUUC with "Ohlone" 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 "Ohlone" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "Ohlone") 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 "Ohlone" in the message. Note we use PayPal for this, and they charge us around 3%



CIRCLE OF LIFE

YOU ARE ALL INVITED to celebrate and console those in the MP family who need it. Each week you can find those people right here at your fingertips if you click on the [link](#). Let's increase our caring connections with each other with calls when appropriate, cards, emails, offers of help, etc. When you have Joys and Concerns for this Circle of Life, contact the

Encouragement Committee at ecteam@mpuuc.org. Or ask one of us: Greg, Barbara, Sharon, Jo Ann S, Don, Lucienne, Julie

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 the topic of how someone outside your immediate family spoke out for you and helped you feel the support of something bigger than you previously knew. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

Our Next Lunch and Learn will be on February 23rd. Our ARO team will help lead us in practicing conversations that help those people from marginalized identities who often encounter unconscious prejudice feel welcome.



If you'd like to join us for some delicious soup and a little practice at offering an informed, loving welcome, please join us.
[Sign Up for Set up / Clean Up Volunteers](#)

Previous 1:1 Communication Handouts

[12/15 1:1 Conversation](#)

[1/12 1:1 Conversation](#)

On Sunday February 9th, Mission Peak UU Congregation welcomed three new members into the fold! If you haven't had the opportunity already, please make sure to welcome them the next time you see them!

Jenny Katzen is a mostly born-and-raised resident of Fremont who joins MPUUC in search of community and opportunities to give back. She is a devoted auntie, foster youth advocate, teacher, and cat mom who strives to live intentionally through service to others. She is happy to have found her spiritual home at MPUUC.



Brian Culp arrived in Fremont in 2019 after spending most of his life in Kansas City. He's an author and technical writer focused on electric transportation. He's also an amateur cyclist, BBQ chef, and gardener; long ago, he played baseball for a living. Today, he's thrilled to join this congregation as he seeks opportunities to serve others and embody the UU's mission and covenant.

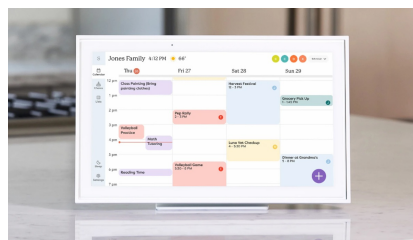


Jen Culp arrived in Fremont with her husband Brian and daughter Alexandria in 2019. She works as a software engineer and user experience designer. For fun she loves to ride bikes, hike, camp and pals around with the family dogs, Remington and Nora. Jen's excited to join MPUUC for community, spiritual growth and to join in the chorus of compassionate justice that radiates from this congregation.

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Dates to mark on your calendar:

Feb 22nd **Visioning Multi-gen Futures**



TriCity Friends Group: “Where Wisdom Meets Community”

Discover a vibrant new community in the TriCity area! The **TriCity Friends Group** warmly welcomes men and women aged 50 and above to join us on an enriching journey. Let’s create lasting bonds, share experiences, and gracefully venture into the next retirement phase.

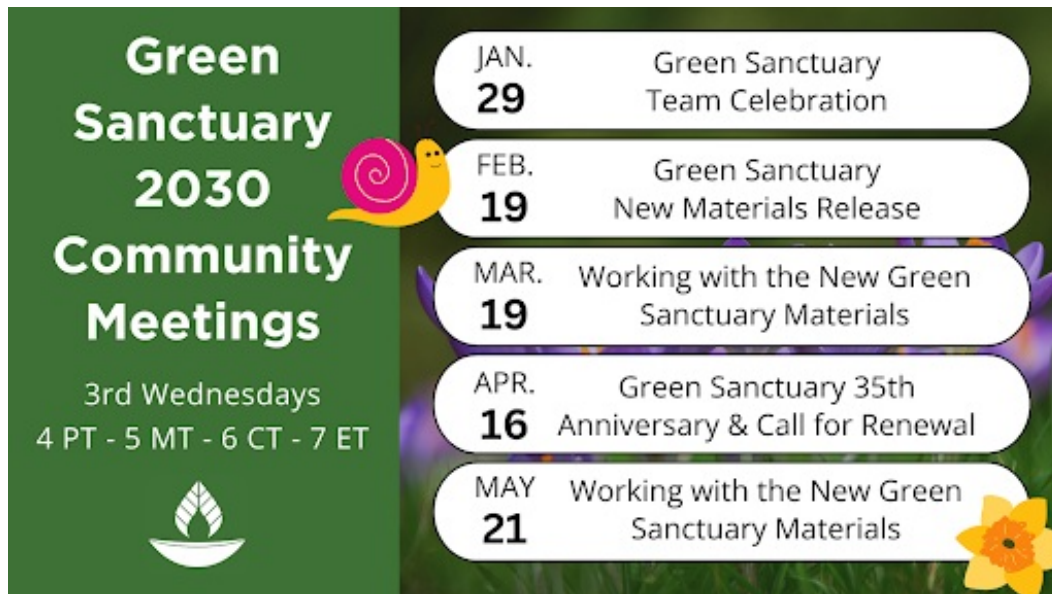
We plan to have our first get-together on Sunday, February 23rd, from 12 PM to 2 PM with a potluck lunch. Please [REGISTER HERE](#)

When it seems like bad news is everywhere, what do you do? How do you move through the overwhelm to start something, anything, that matters to you?

—CREATE—
CLIMATE JUSTICE

Being together with kindred spirits, sharing stories, and focusing on the good and useful things soothes my soul and fortifies my heart for the long work ahead. I firmly believe that together, we can reimagine thriving communities and realize a flourishing world...even if it's hard to believe at times. I remind myself: there are so many of us doing this good work. When it's tempting to withdraw, let's stay connected. Togetherness is a balm and a buoy!

[_Thousands of UUs are reimaging thriving futures through UU Climate Justice Revivals](#)



Green Sanctuary 2030 Community Meetings

3rd Wednesdays
4 PT - 5 MT - 6 CT - 7 ET

JAN. 29 Green Sanctuary Team Celebration

FEB. 19 Green Sanctuary New Materials Release

MAR. 19 Working with the New Green Sanctuary Materials

APR. 16 Green Sanctuary 35th Anniversary & Call for Renewal

MAY 21 Working with the New Green Sanctuary Materials

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

A week after Trump's inauguration, we're already seeing his agenda being rapidly rolled out with attacks on civil rights and environmental protections. The flurry of executive orders this past week is intended to overwhelm us into inaction, and the divisive rhetoric aims to turn us against each other. SURJ Bay Area invites you into hope—by taking action to protect our communities and resist injustice. Each week, this newsletter is full of ways you can get involved as we build in the Bay Area and block the forces of MAGA. Supporting each other through collective action is the way forward. Join us!



Friday, February 14 • 12:00 – 1:00 pm
SURJ Bay Area Action Hour (VIRTUAL)

Want to take tangible steps to end racial injustice and white supremacy? Join a SURJ Action Hour! This is one way to truly *Show Up for Racial Justice* through collective action. We meet over Zoom to take concrete steps together: calling elected officials, signing

petitions, sending emails etc. Closed captioning will be available in the main room of Action Hour calls. If you can't make it but you'd like to access the agenda, which is updated weekly with actions you can take,

email actionhour@surjbayarea.org.



Saturday, February 15 • 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Free Watermelon! Free Palestine! (IN PERSON)

How did the watermelon become a symbol of Palestinian resistance? SURJ's Palestine Solidarity Campaign will be talking to the public about just that as we give out watermelon candy outside the Grand Lake Farmers' Market. We also hope to encourage folks to take action—by supporting SURJ's "Apartheid-Free Communities" divestment campaign, attending an upcoming protest, or signing a petition. The ceasefire is only temporary and we have to keep up the momentum to demand a permanent ceasefire and an end to U.S. arms shipments to Israel. No need to RSVP—we hope to see you there!

Location: Outside the Grand Lake Farmers' Market, 746 Grand Ave, Oakland



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

8th Principle Learning

We join in solidarity with our partners at Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice in condemning the litany of anti-immigrant Executive Orders released in the last two days by the Trump Administration.

As Unitarian Universalists who value the right of every person to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion, we are called to show up for all families, regardless of immigration status, and to strive to create welcoming communities and congregations.



From the statement: "We Unitarian Universalists disagree with the incoming administration's approach to immigration. We name and center the threat to our faith, families, freedoms, and futures. We will not denigrate migrants, refugees, or asylees. We will not condone mass deportations. We will not ignore Dreamers and other DACA recipients. We reject the proposed constitutional rollbacks." - Pablo DeJesús, Executive Director of Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice

Read the full statement from [Interfaith Immigration Coalition](#) to learn more.

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

Click [here](#) for more information on Meet the Music Leaders for the 2025 UUA General Assembly

Board Briefs

Board briefs from December 17, 2024 MPUUC Board meeting.

The Board met on December 17, 2024

- The new Safety Policy has been approved.
- The new organizational chart has been approved.
- Rev. Greg has been approached by two groups to use the Cole Hall space for events focused on South Asian mental health and pre-retirement communities. He is going to work with them to understand their needs and how that meshes with MPUUC's mission.



The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, February 18, 2024 at 7 pm.

For complete board minutes or other board info go to the Members Only section of our web site at mpuuc.org/about-us/members-only

For more details about meetings or questions email president@mpuuc.org

Tri-City Interfaith Council News/Events

RCOZ

तेहाठ बातचीत करेण™
"Let's just talk"

**The Love We Show,
The Love We Don't**

**AN INTERACTIVE
DISCUSSION**

**FEBRUARY 16
3:00PM-4:00PM**

**Centerville Comm. Center and Park
3355 Country Drive, Fremont**

rcoz.us | info@rcoz.us

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



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