

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! February 19, 2025

Dear Sandra,

Last week, our calendar marked Valentine's Day, a day where the whole world comes together to celebrate the UU value of holding Love at the Center.

People celebrate love on Valentine's Day in so many different ways, from candy hearts to heart-shaped pizza, and a bit of heart-shaped chocolate in heart-shaped boxes. Really, just heart-shaped food in general.

But when we say that we want to "Love the Hate out of this World", we're not just talking about heart-shaped food (not to diminish its importance!). We're talking about the power of welcoming people into our community and supporting one another through our individual trials and tribulations. We're talking about the power that love has to show people a new path, and the power it has to be the light in the darkness.



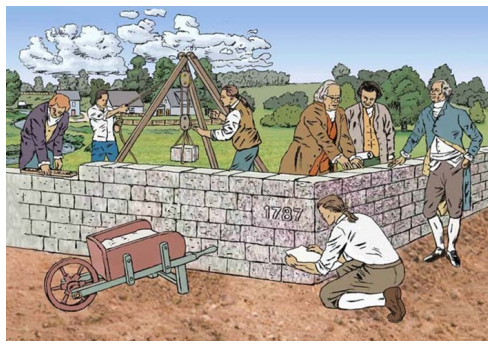
I've seen this love show up in a lot of ways in our congregation—from small acts like welcoming guests, setting up chairs, or making coffee for the service and reception, to bigger ones, like taking on the Fremont City Council, or being there when someone needed support.

That is love that's truly worth celebrating. I hope everybody had a Happy Valentine's day, and that we continue to live this love throughout the year!

Stephen Longfield
Member of the Board

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.



The Founding Fathers

At the Constitutional Convention in 1787, the “Founding Fathers” of the United States designed a democracy for an entire nation. This was something altogether untried, with global consequences. The experiment proved both durable and flexible. The idea persists that the “Founding Fathers” were Christians, and therefore this is a “Christian nation.” Pastors and some politicians like the ring of that. And so, the debate over the religious faith of these men has become a cultural war in the U.S. What are the facts?

Don Ramie will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Drew Wilson. Erik Alm will be Worship Host. Jo Ann Schriners 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%.

January Share the Plate - Muwekma Ohlone Tribe Inc.

We will be collecting through February 23.

The Muwekma are a landless tribe whose families enrolled with the Bureau of Indian Affairs from 1928-1971 and attended Indian boarding schools in the 1930s-40s. Scattered throughout the Bay Area, they lacked communal spaces to preserve their traditions, 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, in honor of President's Day, we will explore the topic of the founding fathers and what their intention was for this nation and what they might think of the nation today. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

This Sunday we will have a special Lunch and Learn (we share soup and bread and dessert and learn something useful). This one will be hosted by our ARO Team (Anti-Racism / Anti-Oppression) who will help us offer a well-received warm welcome – especially to those who may present differently. Expressing genuine welcome comes with signals of safety, belonging and permission to be themselves. Sometimes, if we see hair or certain clothing or hear an accent or observe a way of moving in the world (with a wheelchair or a brace) that is different, we focus on it. This can unintentionally convey that people 'like them' aren't in this community very often. This 35 minute opportunity to intentionally cultivate acceptance and appreciation will be fun and informative.



Please come. Here's a [Sign Up Sheet to Bring Food](#) and one for [Set up / Clean Up](#)

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.

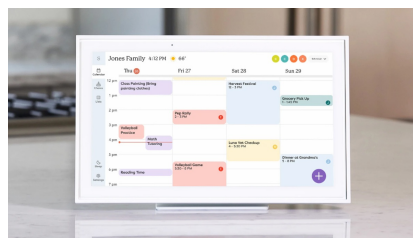


Jen Culp arrived in Fremont with her husband Brian and daughter Alexandria in 2019. She works as a software engineer and user experience designer. For fun she loves to ride bikes, hike, camp and pals around with the family dogs, Remington and Nora. Jen's excited to join MPUUC for community, spiritual 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](#)

JUSTICE CORNER

<https://www.fremontforeveryone.com/opposing-criminalization>

UUSJ Applauds UU Decision to Sue the Administration

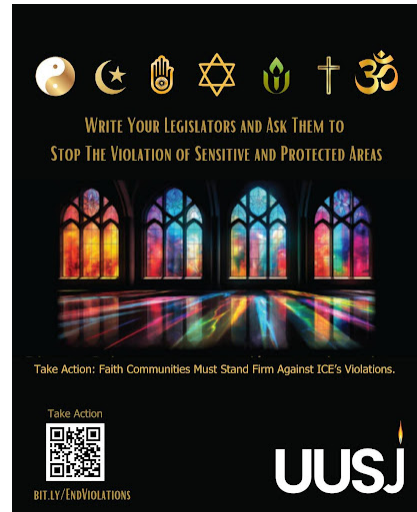
We must defend the broad protections for performing religiously motivated actions

Washington, D.C. — The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) joined more than two dozen Christian and Jewish religious denominations and associations on February 11 in filing a lawsuit against the Trump Administration’s new policy that allows immigration raids, arrests, and other enforcement actions at houses of worship.

The new policy empowered enforcement actions that could interrupt religious services in furtherance of the Administration’s mass deportation plans. The Trump Administration’s rescission ([memo](#)) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) “sensitive locations” policy that had restricted Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from conducting immigration raids, arrests, and other enforcement actions at houses of worship is a violation of the broad protections for individuals performing religiously motivated actions.

Tell Your Legislators - The new administration has selected immigration for its assault on the Constitution, our norms, and our liberties.

ICE should not be allowed in our schools, hospitals, public demonstrations—and never at our houses of worship!



Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

Nationwide Economic Blackout on February 28

Why It Matters

Early into his presidency, Trump ended several DEI initiatives in the federal government. He issued an executive order that funds could be frozen for companies that do not comply, and Trump also outlawed any messaging that promotes inclusion-based language. The orders have caused [PBS](#) to close its DEI office, while major companies like [Amazon](#), [Target](#) and [Google](#) are taking steps to dissolve DEI initiatives.

<https://thehill.com/homenews/race-politics/5095793-al-sharpton-boycott-dei/>

8th Principle Learning

[Companies reinforcing their commitment to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion](#)

Apple

Costco
Bank of America
Delta
JP Morgan
Marriott
Microsoft
Procter & Gamble
Goldman Sachs
American Airlines
Southwest Airlines
United Airlines
Catholic Health



Companies Scaling Back or Denouncing DEI

Tesla
Target
Amazon
Boeing
Brown-Forman
Caterpillar
Ford
Harley-Davidson
John Deere
Lowe's
Molson Coors
META
McDonald's
Nissan
Stanley Black & Decker
Tractor Supply
Toyota
Walmart
Home Depot

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

We encourage congregations to identify and register their delegates by March 31 to lock in the lowest GA registration rate. Registrations are non-transferable, so be sure to register specific individuals early! This gives them access to financial aid, volunteer opportunities, and plenty of time to arrange travel and housing.



Congregations will be able to begin distributing member delegate credentials via the credentialing system in April.

The UUA Board of Trustees is working to engage delegates earlier than ever. Delegates can dive into the agenda, discuss amendments, and build consensus on the UUA discussion forum. Being prepared helps ensure a positive experience!

To support delegates, the Board will host online candidate forums and “What to Expect” webinars before GA. Business Mini-assemblies may take place in May or June. Election balloting will open on June 1.

Early registration is the key to staying informed and confident in this important role. Rates go up April 1—don't wait!

Click [here](#) to register

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!