

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! June 18, 2025

Dear Sandra,

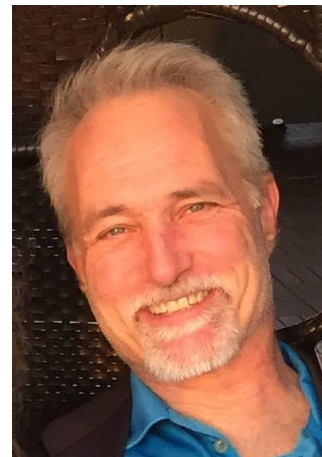
Like many of you, I've been very worried about what's going on in this country – and the world. When a respected senator is slammed to the ground by federal agents and when the comptroller and mayoral candidate of the largest city in the U.S. is arrested by plainclothes ICE agents, we are no longer a civil society, much less a democracy. Scapegoating and ruthless violence has got to stop.

I know I'm not saying anything that's not completely obvious. But the response I'm recommending may not be the first thing that comes to mind. I'm proposing a three part strategy that's counter intuitive.

First, show up – especially for those people who are being targeted for hostility. I believe that living into our Unitarian Universalism can be a revolutionary response to challenging times. If more people who were the recipients of this administration's irrational hate were to consider Cole Hall a second home, I am confident they would be better off (and we would be better for helping them). That said, such people are not going to find us on their own. The number one reason why people would consider reaching out to us is because we reached out to them first. And we became as well known for kindness as the current administration is becoming known for hate.

Second, be kind. Although reading almost anything in the news – especially about the current administration – may make contempt, disdain and doubt look fashionable, it does not cultivate creativity, leadership or happiness in the same way that making the intentional choice to be kind will do.

And finally, dare to hope. We need hope. Not only is it necessary for building a better world, but it's necessary for staying sane. It's helpful for me when I remember to think of hope as NOT an evidence-based response. But, rather, as a revolutionary and disorienting tactic that confounds and frustrates haters. Think of hope as a virtue that we choose not because it's obvious or inevitable; but because it is what's needed for good to



prevail. Good people do it to make what's needed more possible.

For the next seven weeks, I'll be away seeking ways I can show up, be kind and cultivate hope. I will miss you and pray that you all take care of each other. And I'll look forward to returning and figuring out how we can work together to take care of the world that needs us.

Rev. Greg Ward

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.



John Porter's Last Class

For over 20 years, John Porter has brought really important leadership to MPUUC. His two poetry groups are an inspiring way of drawing upon the wisdom of the world's great poets. Borrowing from Robert Reich's movie, this service will be an opportunity for John to share a little of what he was trying to accomplish with sharing his writing and give some of the people in his poetry groups a chance to share their favorite John Porter writing and what they learned from him in the process.

John Porter and Friends will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Greg Ward. Steve Wallcave will be Worship Host. Jo Ann Schriener and Peak Performers 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%.

JUNE 22 SPECIAL COLLECTION – Dir. of MCB Discretionary Fund

This coming Sunday, we are going to take a special Collection to support MPUUC's Multigenerational Community Building. It is the Dir. of Multigenerational Community Building Discretionary Fund. This is a fund will allow Ariel to pursue creative initiatives across a variety of platforms that require a small amount of funding to equip or promote. Ariel's vision and initiative make good things happen. Here is a [Letter written to](#)

[the MPUUC Board praising Ariel's work](#) in the district from the Regional Visioning Multigenerational Futures Team.

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

For TCIC - we collected \$532.16
For Abode - we collected \$1,344.80
For Hero Tent - we collected \$394.79
For UU Mental Health Network - total will be posted next week



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. The link to the conversation can be found if you [Press here](#)

FREMONT PRIDE

This past Sunday, MPUUC's picnic was, coincidentally, right next to the Fremont LGBTQ community picnic. They are an amazing group of people with a common mission of collective liberation and caring for one another. They invited us to join them at the Main Library in Fremont for Pride Festival on Saturday June 21 from 10-2. Let's go make some connections.

HELP WHILE OUR MINISTER IS AWAY

Rev. Greg will be away on vacation (camping and caring for Lucy's mother) from June 23 – Aug 10. If you have any Administrative questions [contact Sandra Lange](#), our Congregational Administrator. If you have program questions, [contact Jay Steele](#), our board President. If you have Pastoral Questions, [contact Rev. Barbara Meyers](#), our minister on call. Keep good company, stay safe and love one another.

2025 Biennial Assessment

The results for the 2025 MPUUC Biennial Assessment are in. We had 13 responses. A summary of the feedback given can be found [HERE](#).

MPUUC Community Garden

The MPUUC Community Garden beds are now ready for planting, and we probably should get some veggies in the ground right away. We have two beds on the north side, one on the south, and a long bed on the east.

This is not only a tremendous opportunity to infuse beauty and purpose to our campus, but to potentially provide food for lunch and learns as well as local residents of shelters and encampments who don't often get healthy fresh produce.

We need people who would like to tend a section of the garden and who can be part of a team to weed, water and maintain the garden. If you're interested in planting or tending part of the garden [PLEASE SIGN UP HERE!](#)

Update - Letting you know that the garden is open. There are 4 raised beds. Because it's a spring-fall thing, I've named them in honor of the Giants defense. If you're standing in the garden entryway looking from L to R, the beds are: **Chapman, Adames, Lee, and Yaz.**

Beds Chapman, Adames, and Yaz are each divided into three 4-ft sections. The Lee bed - the one in "center field," like its namesake J.H. Lee - is sectioned into three 8-ft spaces. A dozen sections in all.

Now it's time to sign up and get some plants going! I've made a [sign up sheet here](#), and have attached a sketch. Oh, and ignore the Tasks column in the sign up... I'll update that as needed. For now, I think we just need to see how much of the space folks want to plant. (Also, signing up for multiple sections is fine by me.)

Thanks for helping get the word out. We're here to help, answer questions, etc.

Brian and Jen

Free MPUUC T-shirts!

New T-shirts:

These come in Medium, Large and X-Large sizes.

They are a cotton/polyester blend and a little cooler than our original vintage T-shirts

Vintage T-shirts:

These are still available to anyone who wants them.

They are mostly sizes Small, X-Small and XX-Large.

They are a little darker purple color than the new T-shirts, but we will still look like one family.

Please contact a member of the MPUUC Board to pick up a T-shirt in the office.

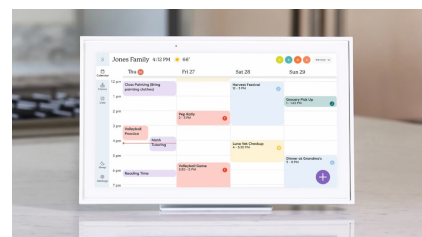
FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Dates to mark on your calendar:

6/28 - Family Night Out - 4:30-8:00 p.m.

7/12 - Family Night Out - 4:30-8:00 p.m.

8/23 - Family Night Out - 4:30-8:00 p.m.



Summer fun for families!

Join **FNO (Family Night Out)** one Saturday evening each month this summer, June 28th, July 12th and Aug 23rd from 4:30-8pm. This is for all MPUUC members and friends with school aged children and will include engaging programming for all-ages, then a chance to sit together and enjoy a potluck dinner. After cleanup the parents are invited to a separate space for a facilitated check-in for connection and support while Ariel and company supervise the kids for free play in the nursery. We'll all come back together for ice cream before calling it a night by 8pm. RSVP required by the Friday before each event. RSVP [HERE](#). Questions? Email Ariel dre@mpuuc.org

Click [here](#) for flyer



SUMMER FUN FOR MPUUC
MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

FAMILY NIGHT OUT

- Organized, all-ages programming begins at 4:30
- pot-luck dinner followed by
- time for parents to circle up, check-in and connect while the
- kids have free-play with Ariel and Jordan
- ice cream dessert finished by 8pm

Saturday, June 28th
Buddhism and mindfulness

Saturday, July 12th
Whole Body Play

Saturday, August 23rd
Chalice Making and Learning

4:30-8pm

QUESTIONS? EMAIL ARIEL DRE@MPUUC.ORG

RSVP now for all three or by
the Friday before each date
Scan the QR code



JUSTICE CORNER

8th Principle Learning

So True

Harvey Mudd commencement speaker Reshma Saujani (founder Girl's Code and founder and CEO Moms First) tells Harvey Mudd 2025 Graduation class: "The greatest challenge facing today's graduates is not what you think.

(The great lie that is intentionally dividing and distraction us all.)"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2EvAuieixM>



DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

The GA 2025 Schedule is Here—Start Planning Your Experience!



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
BALTIMORE • JUNE 18 - 22, 2025

Click [here](#) for more information

Please Offer your feedback on the 2025 Proposed Actions of Immediate Witness to our MPUUC Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly (UUAGA) to delegates, Beth Schaefer and Kathi Bayne

An Action of Immediate Witness (AIW) is a statement about a significant action, event, or development in the world that necessitates immediate engagement and action among UU member congregations and groups. This year, the **UUA Commission on Social Witness** received five proposed AIWs.

Delegates and congregations are invited to attend feedback sessions via Zoom to both learn about each proposed AIW and provide feedback to the proposers:

Actions of Immediate Witness Feedback Sessions

Join the UUA's Commission on Social Witness to learn more about each AIW, offer feedback, & connect with others interested in the issue!

- **June 2 at 4pm PT / 7pm ET:** We Declare and Reaffirm: All People Have Inherent Worth and Inalienable Rights.
- **June 3 at 4pm PT / 7pm ET:** Faithful Defiance of Authoritarianism: Reaffirming Our Covenants for Democracy and Freedom.
- **June 4 at 4pm PT / 7pm ET:** Bringing a Feminist and Womanist Lens to Resistance and Activism.
- **June 5 at 4:30pm PT / 7:30pm ET:** Funding Global LGBTIQ Freedom Amid Crisis: A Call for Immediate Action and Solidarity
- **June 8 at 4pm PT / 7pm ET:** Voter Justice and Racial Equity for the Citizens of the Nation's Capital.



All Sessions will take place on Zoom
Register at uua.org/socialwitness

Commission on Social Witness (CSW) Pre-GA Action Items

(Click [here](#) to continue reading)

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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