# This Week on the Peak

Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA

The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond!

July 9, 2025

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Dear Sandra,

Hi Beloved MPUUC Community,

I hope you are all well. I would like to introduce myself as your new MPUUC president for this congregational year (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026). I am very excited to work together with a new MPUUC board starting this year consisting of Drew Wilson (Treasurer), Valerie Stewart (Secretary), Mark Rahman (at large) and Michelle Wallace (at large). MPUUC voted on this board in our annual meeting on June 8, 2025. Thanks Valerie and Michelle for staying on the board for another year! Subsequently, Don Ramie volunteered for the remaining board-at-large position, and the new board already voted via email and phone to accept Don. Our first board meeting will be on August 12, 2025.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Beth Schaefer for her great work as MPUUC board president for the last two years. Beth brought to her presidency a big heart combined with writing and organization skills. Yes, I have big metaphorical shoes to fill! Thanks Beth for all you do! Also thanks to Stephen Longfield and Kathi Bayne for their service on the board for the last two years.

My current personal situation is that my daughters are mostly independent young women now, my job (for the near foreseeable future) is stable, I continue working on my technical education with classes on the side, I spend some time on daily exercise and physical challenges to stay healthy, and I have a very supportive partner in my spouse Ilze. And for this next year, I'll resist changing jobs to some startup company with crazy workload hours to attempt to become a Silicon Valley success. I will endeavor instead to be a responsible and inspiring president for MPUUC, keeping with the high standards set by my predecessors.

I hope to help continue to build our beloved MPUUC community this year. It's a little heartbreaking when folks leave, particularly because of some perceived slight. But very encouraging to see some new folks come and start becoming engaged with our community. I think our community has a lot of potential, but we need to get out more often and be open to other cultural frameworks. We can be a community to help the Tri-City area be more compassionate and also to nurture ourselves. Also, keep on wearing your MPUUC t-shirts to public events such as protests on Paseo Parkway!

As a final note (for today), please remember to pay up your pledges for the previous fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2025. This helps to finalize the books for FY 2025-26 and keep our finances healthy.

Thanks for your contributions!

In peace,

Jay Steele
MPUUC President

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# 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.

### What Unitarian Universalism Has to Say in 2025

Things are changing in every part of the country, the world and life in general. This is a service to help us keep tabs on not only what is changing around us, but what is changing within us - as Unitarian Universalists. A number of people went to General Assembly this year - including Ariel Smith-Iyer who attended for the first time. This is what they see as the relevant changes within our own approach to building the Beloved Community.

Rev. Barbara Meyers will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Kathi Bayne. Erik Alm 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%.

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## 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**

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### Curtis Lum Memorial Service

Please see **attached** information on Curtis Lum's Memorial Service

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### 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.

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### 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

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### 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

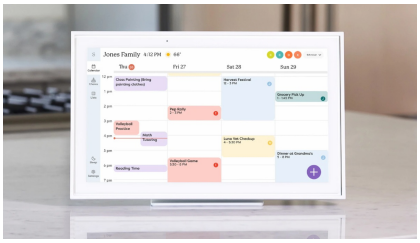
Vintage T-shirts:
These are still available to anyone who wants them.
They are mostly sizes Small, X-Small and XX-Large.
They are a little darker purple color than the new T-shirts, but we will still look like one family.

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*:**

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

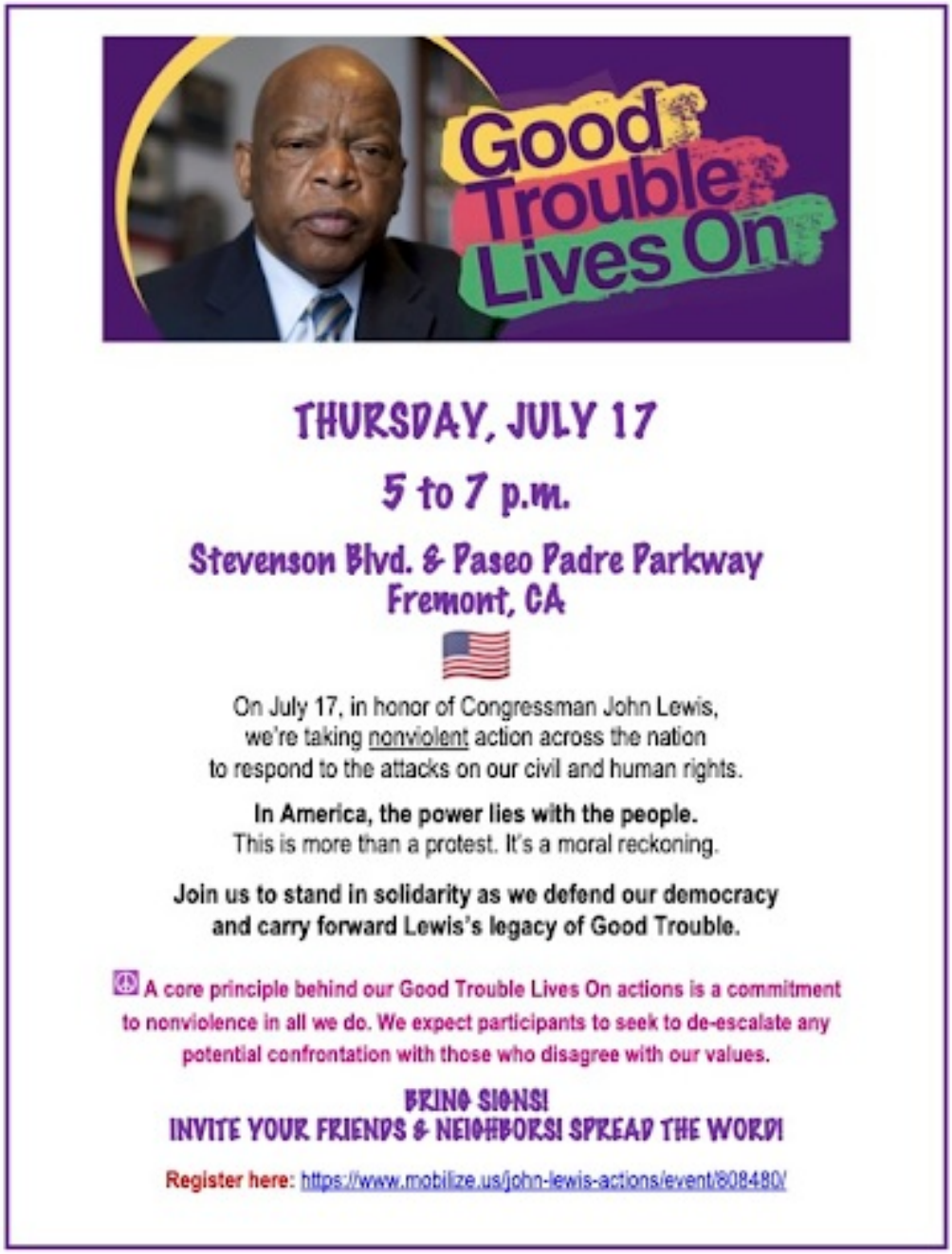
**Have fun this summer and learn a new skill!**

FUMC INVITES YOU TO COME PLAY PING PONG
-NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! THURSDAY EVENINGS
6 – 7:30 pm
IN THE OCKERMAN BUILDING (just down the hill from Cole Hall).

## JUSTICE CORNER

### Good Trouble Lives On John Lewis Demonstration

Where: Stevenson and Paseo Padre Fremont, CA (Please note that the address is a little different.)
When: Thursday, July 17 5PM-7PM

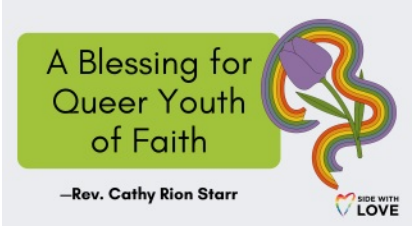



## The Infinite Divinity

We are whole and holy; we are loved beyond all measure. And in our refusal to accept anything less, may we know we are rooted in the infinite divinity.

Chalice Lighting | By Jami Yandle | August 1, 2024 | From WorshipWeb Tagged as: Awe, Body, Freedom, Gender, God, Imagination, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer, Pride Sunday, Transgender Day of Remembrance, Wholeness, Wonder, Worship

## A Blessing for Queer Youth of Faith




A Blessing for Queer Youth of Faith
Bless you, for who you are, right now, right here. Bless you in your queerness, your genderfabulousness, your questioning, wondering, exploring, declaring. Bless you in the words you create and evolve and claim for yourself.

Blessing | By Cathy Rion Starr | June 27, 2024 | From WorshipWeb

Tagged as: #LGBTQ, #Pride, #SideWithLove, Community, Connections, Faith, Gender, Identity, Interdependence, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer, National Coming Out Day, Pride Sunday, Wholeness, Worship, Youth/Teens

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## Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations

### UUA Condemns U.S. Military Action Against Iran

June 21, 2025
The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) condemns U.S. military involvement in the expanding conflict between Israel and Iran. The involvement of the United States will only escalate a deepening crisis of war in the region, lead to an even greater loss of life, and prevent diplomatic resolution to the region's geopolitical challenges.

This action by the U.S. government represents a moral failure and Unitarian Universalists (UUs) are compelled through our religious beliefs to speak out against it. Throughout our 200-year history and especially in recent times, UUs have supported peacemaking efforts and addressing the root causes of conflict. This includes a General Resolution that UUs passed at our General Assembly in 1979 and a 2010 Statement of Conscience on Creating Peace, in which UUs expressed, “we repudiate aggressive and preventive wars, the disproportionate use of force, covert wars, and targeting that includes a high risk to civilians… We affirm a responsibility to speak truth to power, especially when unjust power is exercised by our own nation.” Additionally, in 2008, UUs opposed a U.S. attack on Iran in an Action of Immediate Witness.

We renew our opposition to attacking Iran in the wake of this action. Unitarian Universalists will continue to work for a world where our shared values of pluralism and interdependence are realized, and where the inherent dignity and worthiness of all people are recognized.

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## 8th Principle Learning

Paul Neeley
June 13 at 4:14 PM

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Keep this in your back pocket and compare it daily with what you read. It's worked this way for many centuries in many countries.

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## DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

### Results of the UUAGA (Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly)

ELECTED OFFICIALS (unopposed)
UU a moderator
Rev., Kimberly, Quinn, Johnson, and Bill Young
Board of trustees position seven
Mary Heafy
Board of trustees position, nine
Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern
Board of trustees position 10
Rev Adam, Roberdmith, DMin PhD
Board of trustee position 11
Rev. Justine Sullivan
Commission on appraisal
Rev., Dr. Rodney. Lemery
Rev Dr. Matthew Johnson
Rev., Dr. Tracy Barrett
Rachel A Feltner
Nominating committee
Kathy Charles
Debra Gray Boyd

Courtney McKenny

## Actions of Immediate Witness (AIWs)

AIWs express the conscience and carry the authority of the delegates at the GA at which it is passed. AIWs are initiated by individual delegates and move through their entire creation and adoption process during a single GA. The top 3 voted on were chosen.
AIW Ballot Results - June 17th

1. 854 votes (30.3%) - We Declare and Affirm: Immigrants Are People Who Have Inherent Worth and Inalienable Rights
2. 762 votes (27.1%) - Faithful Defiance of Authoritarianism, a Call to Action: Reaffirming Our Covenants for Democracy and Freedom!

587 votes (20.9%) - Defending LGBTIQ Freedom Amid Funding Crisis: A Call for Global Solidarity

The top 3 AIWs chosen were all approved by the UUAGA delegates and will be actionable immediately.

## Congregational Study/Action Issues (CSAIs)

CSAIs are issues selected by Unitarian Universalist member congregations for three years of study, reflection and action. There have been no CSAIs in the past few years, and the cycle for proposals began again in the Fall of 2024 resulting in three
consider but only one could be chosen.
Result of the rank choice voting was the selection of:

- **Abolition is Faith Formation** Abolition is a holistic approach to systemic social change that includes, but is not limited to: the abolition of slavery; replacing systems and cultures of violence, coercion and control with transformative justice and relational practices; and dismantling the prison-industrial complex as we now know it…..

Contact **socialwitness@uua.org** if you have questions about AIWs and CSAIs.

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## 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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