

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! September 24, 2025

Greetings!

Welcome to this week's WOTP from you treasurer. Mission Peak is fortunate to have many generous members and friends whose contributions of time, talent and treasure allow us to have a strong program, especially for our small size. We can be proud of all we have accomplished in our nearly 32 years since Charter Sunday.



One of our many strengths is our music program, including our small but mighty choir. We started the choir a couple of years after our founding, and I have been singing in it ever since. If you have ever thought about joining, the holiday season is a great time to do so. For one thing, we sing more often during the season, such as Christmas Eve and one night of Las Posadas (which is a multiple night reenactment of the story of Mary and Joseph's journey to the inn in Bethlehem followed by singing and snacks sponsored by the Fremont Cultural Arts Council). A lot of the songs we will be singing are Christmas songs of which you are already familiar, so even folks who've never sung in a choir already have a head start.

Singing with others forms bonds, teaches cooperation and listening skills, and how to, quite literally, work in harmony. Bad choir pun aside, Von Bringhurst, our patient and talented director, helps us all achieve our best, while keeping things fun. Even if you have never sung in a choir before, you are welcome and Von and the choir will help you find the voice you didn't know you had.

Finally, singing in a choir is a lot of FUN! As our hymn #108 says: "When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing!" If you would like to rejoice and sing with us, please join us at our Wednesday evening rehearsals in Cole Hall. Any member of the choir can tell you more, just ask.

Drew Wilson
Treasurer, Music Committee chair, and choir member

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.

God is Betting on Us - Part III - This Superman Moment

In this concluding segment of the sermon trilogy, we will use one of the most iconic figures of American culture to help reveal evidence showing the ways society has slipped into unprecedented low in civility. MAGA critics pushed hard on the claim that the new Superman movie is 'wokism'. But the real truth is we have simply allowed greed, selfishness and cruelty to become normalized - making kindness and decency seem odd or unusual. This is a sermon that asks us how we might restore 'truth, justice and the American Way.'



Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Brian Culp. Elizabeth Bartmess will be Worship Host. Jo Ann Schriener, Knuti VanHoven, Sharon Davis and David Johnson 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%.

September Share the Plate - Black Wealth Builders Fund

We will be collecting until October 12.

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

I'd love for us all to fall
madly in love with ourselves
and to know nothing
human is alien to us.

Holley Starey



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](#)

Ever Had trouble hearing the Sermon in Cole Hall?

I have exciting news to share! We have a new device in Cole Hall that streams audio directly to people's assistive listening devices (hearing aids, Cochlear implants) and/or earbuds. It has been a game changer for me being able to understand the sermon at services by removing the bad echoing in Cole Hall. It is an Auracast transmitter connected to our PA system.

Most people will connect to Cole Hall's Auracast stream using Auracast Assistant on their phone or hearing device. (I use the Auracast Assistant part of my Jabra hearing aid app).

I am happy to email with you about how your device may work with our system and have a partial list of compatible devices that work with Auracast. Please email me at wallcave@mpuuc.org. I will also be at Cole Hall before and after the service to answer your questions or help you connect on October 19.

Many modern assisted listening devices and earbuds are compatible with Auracast, although many may need a firmware update to take advantage of it. For definitive answers on whether your hearing aid or Cochlear implants are compatible with Auracast you may need talk to your hearing professional.

Questions? Contact Steve Wallcave

MPUUC Directory

The MPUUC directory of members and friends has been updated and is available on the members-only section of our website, www.mpuuc.org/members-only. You need one password for the members-only section, and another to open the directory. If you do not recall your passwords, please email our Congregational Administrator at office@mpuuc.org.

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.

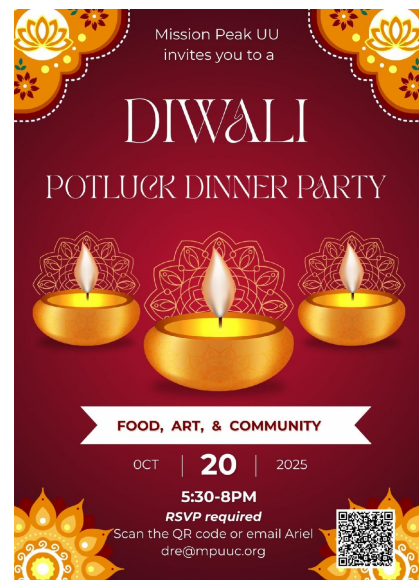
They are a little darker purple color than the new T-shirts, but we will still look like one family.

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

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Sat Oct 4th **Parent Night Out** [RSVP required by Oct 3](#)

Mon Oct 20th **Diwali** [RSVP required by Fri Oct 17th](#)



Sat Nov 15th **Parent Night Out** [RSVP required by Fri Nov 14](#)

Fri Nov 28th **Green Friday** no rsvp required- just come! We'll have coffee and pastries for the early birds:)



We Denounce The High Court Ruling On Racial Profiling



*This takes our republic back to the precipice of Jim
Crow, in one step*

WASHINGTON D.C. — On Monday, September 8, 2025, the U.S. Supreme Court released a ruling in [Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem](#). The decision allows immigration agents to conduct roving immigration raids and stops, even when race is a central factor in their decision to detain someone. In effect, this ruling authorizes and normalizes racial profiling.


Further arguments on this case are expected, which could shape the future of constitutional protections for decades. In the meantime, this ruling permits the federal government to continue arrests and raids that violate the Constitution's foundational protections.

Pablo DeJesús, Executive Director, Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice, stated:
Click [here](#)




[Click here](#)



 Help **Kay** double their impact!
Sign up and join them on **Sat,**
Oct 18 at 11:00am PDT.

NO KINGS Fremont, CA

Rally · Volunteer organized

 **Saturday, October 18**
11am – 1pm PDT

 Walnut Avenue & Paseo Padre

[sign up link](#)

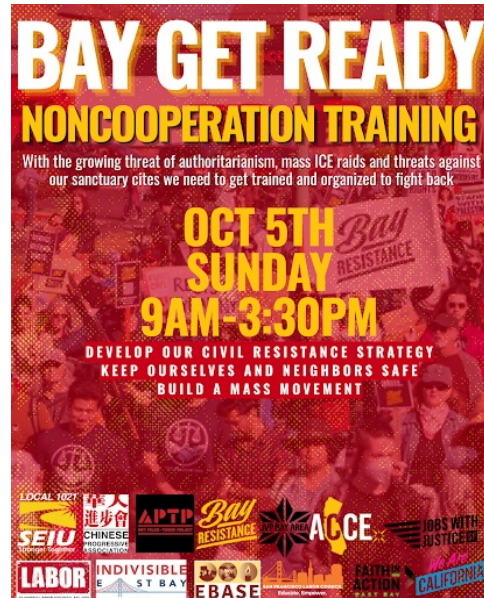
Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations



Sunday, October 5 • 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

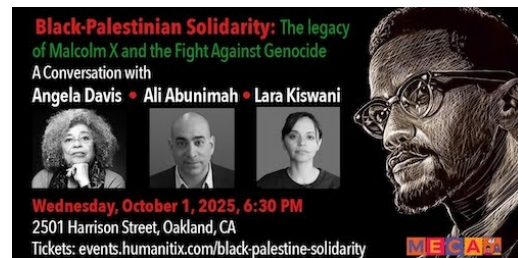
Bay Get Ready: Noncooperation Training (IN PERSON)

With the growing threat of authoritarianism, mass ICE raids, attacks on communities of color across the country, and threats against our sanctuary cites, we need to get trained and organized to fight back. Join this training with Bay Resistance and other local organizations to develop noncooperation civil resistance strategies, build on-the-ground skills for neighborhood safety, and organize for a mass movement against authoritarianism. As we face a never-ending news cycle of atrocities committed against our communities, it is essential that we ground ourselves in community organizing and resist the regime that seeks to keep us fearful and powerless. Now is the time to come together, bring your neighbors and friends, and get ready so we can stay ready.
RSVP for location.



Join the Middle East Children's Alliance (MECA) for a conversation with Angela Davis, Ali Abunimah, and Lara Kiswani on the two years of ongoing genocide in Gaza, the legacy of Malcolm X, and Black-Palestinian solidarity. While the genocidal assault on Gaza intensifies, the international Palestinian solidarity movement is gaining strength. A united resistance is the only way forward and can take

inspiration from the revolutionary internationalism of Malcolm X, 100 years after his birth. Malcolm X drew a direct parallel between the displacement of Palestinians and the oppression of Black people in America, emphasizing that both were part of a universal struggle for justice and self-determination against a system he saw as a new form of colonialism.



Location: First Congregational Church Oakland, 2501 Harrison St, Oakland

8th Principle Learning

A pastor and congressman speaks out against white nationalism

James Dell Talarico, American politician, pastor, and former educator, serves in the Texas house of representatives.

https://youtu.be/Blph_2RSBno



Board Briefs

September 2025 BOARD BRIEFS

The next meeting of the board is via Zoom, Tuesday, October 14, at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

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

- The Board approved the Letter of Employment for Sabbatical Minister Jim McKinley who will hold that position from October 4, 2025, through December 7, 2025. The letter was sent to Rev. McKinley for his signature.
- The Board established a Search Team for a contract minister to serve at the time of Rev. Ward's retirement in June 2026. Jay Steele is scheduling a meeting with UUA Congregational Transitions Director Christine Purcell.
- Rev. Ward is attending a Zoom meeting with Attorney Anthony Prince regarding the status of the lawsuit against the City of Fremont regarding the "camping ban". No Amended Complaint was ever filed, naming Mission Peak as a plaintiff.
- MPUUC is purchasing a new multi-task color printer and an electronic keyboard for the use of the Music Committee and Music Director.
- The Board approved a new Budget category for funds for ASL Interpreter services.

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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