

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! October 15, 2025

Greetings!

Hello MPUUCers!

I am Valerie Stewart, a member of the Board. It was great to see so many faces at the Congregational meeting this past Sunday!

I am always so amazed at the collective talents of the members of our community- we have bakers and scientists -of all sorts- and medical providers, and software engineers/programmers, mental health counselors, and artists -of all sorts-, writers, therapists, teachers, and musicians – of all sorts-, lawyers, HR specialists, community organizers, facilitators, trainers, medical device designers/engineers and many more skill sets! We are truly blessed with all the talents and skills in our community. And now we have at least 2 upcoming opportunities to use all our talents – **together**.



First, we are in the processing of designing and compiling the information for our **Ministerial Search** application to the UUA for a Contract Minister for the 2026 church year – and beyond. When Rev. Greg announced he would retire at the end of June, the Board created a Ministerial Search Task Force to look at the options available from the UUA for recruiting ministers to a congregation. The Task Force has recommended that MPUUC use the process for a Transitional/Contract Minister. What is that?

In a contract ministry, a congregation and minister make agreements for ministerial service with a term-limited, potentially renewable contract. The Contract search process is less expensive and easier on volunteers than the settled search process and provides the flexibility of being in partnership with a minister for a couple of years before deciding mutually whether to move toward a call process.

The Board appointed the Search Team (of volunteers) Kathi Bayne, Lucienne

Bouvier, Mark Rahman, Elizabeth Schaefer, at its meeting last night and they met to begin their task, of consulting with the Congregation about and completing, the application to the UUA. Our application is due to the UUA in approximately one month. PLEASE, watch for a survey from the Search Team and be part of our **Ministerial Search** process!

Second, our annual **Black and White Service Auction** is set for November 22, 2025! It is called the **Black and White Auction**, because we used to dress up in black (tie) and white and enjoy fancy desserts and drinks before the Auction of great services and donations began. (Colleen and Greg's sons were about 6 when they starred as the 'runners' in their small tuxedos!) Since "the Pandemic", we've gone virtual and been able to share the fun with MPUUCers all over the country- because you can do that on Zoom! This year there will be a truly memorable Auction – led by John and Beth Schaefer, David Johnson, Princess Julie Ganzlin and Emily Hessenauer. There will be 2 options, an "in-person" time slot at Cole Hall and then a Zoom online auction. What do you want to contribute to or bid for at the Black and White Auction?

And the best part of Mission Peak, is being**together!**

Valerie Stewart

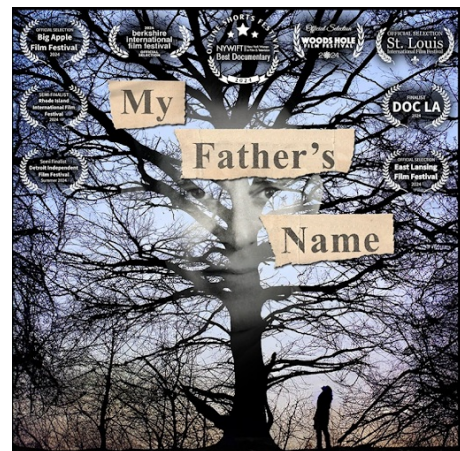
This Sunday's Service:

Service can be attended in-person at Cole Hall or online. See mpuuc.org/zoom each week for how to attend services.

My Father's Name

Years after his death, Lee Ed Frazier's daughter, Jan, made a shocking discovery. When he was a young man, her father participated in a lynching. It was an iconic moment because the story and photos were published in Time and Life magazines - the first time actual photos were included in national publications. Those articles supported anti-lynching legislation. Additionally, she realized that no names of the lynchers were ever published. The photographer was even protected by a cloak of anonymity. Shaken by this white privilege and the brutality it sought to minimize, Jan had to sort through the conflicted feelings of love for her father and belief in accountable for harm done.

ARO will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associates Rev. Jim McKinley and Rev. Barbara Meyers. Steve Wallcave will be Worship Host. Peak Rocks archive/Oakland Chancel Choir 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%.

CALLING ALL MISSION PEAK MEMBERS
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2025 -after Sunday Service

Dear Fellow Congregation Members,
The Board notifies you of a **CONGREGATIONAL Meeting**
on **November 2, 2025**, after the Sunday Service.

The Ministerial Search Team and the Board will update you on the status of the Search process AND you will be asked to decide the TERM of the Ministerial Contract we will offer for this application. Terms for contract Ministers are usually 2 or 3 years in length with the option to renew, if the parties chose to do so.

If you want a copy of the handout from the meeting on Oct.12, with information about the "Contract Minister" search process- please send your request to
Secretary@mpuuc.org.

Black and White Auction Returns

The 2025 Black and White Auction is back and we have exciting news - IT'S HYBRID. Mark your calendars now for the event which will be held on Saturday November 22. You will have the opportunity to join others in Cole Hall from 5:30 - 6:30 for nourishment. At 6:30 we will start the online auction party. Bids will close, and the party will end, at 8:00. Watch your email for more details soon. The planning committee is led by John Schaefer with assistance from Beth Schaefer, David Johnson and Emily Hessenover.



October Share the Plate - Equal Justice Initiative

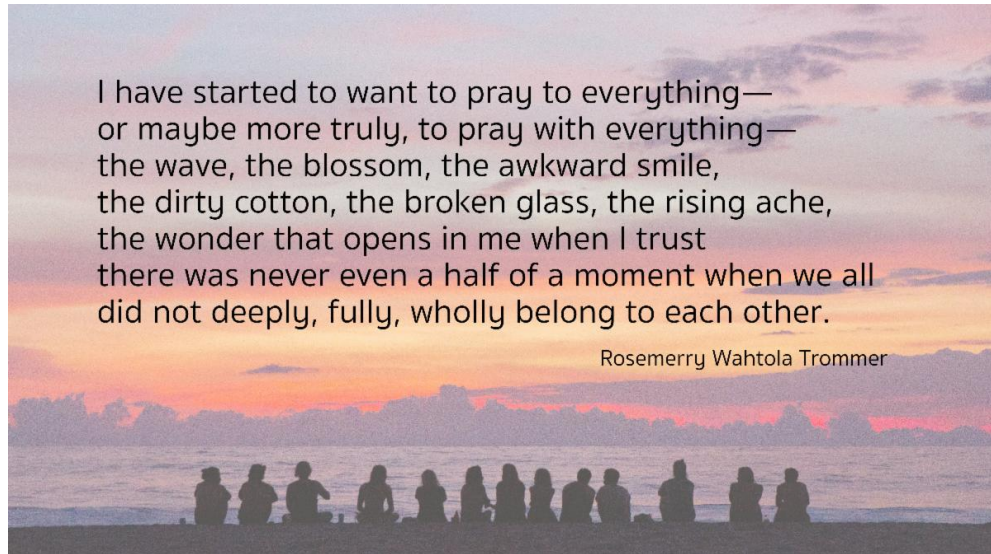
Our Share the Plate this Sunday will go toward the Equal Justice Initiative. Founded by Lawyer and author, Bryan Stevenson, The Equal Justice Initiative organizes toward ending mass incarceration, challenging racial and economic injustice, raising awareness of the trauma inflicted by racial violence and protecting the human rights of the most vulnerable people in American society.

We will be collecting until November 9.

Write a check to MPUUC with "EJI" 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 "EJI" on the memo line) or cash (with a note stating "EJI") 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 "EJI" 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

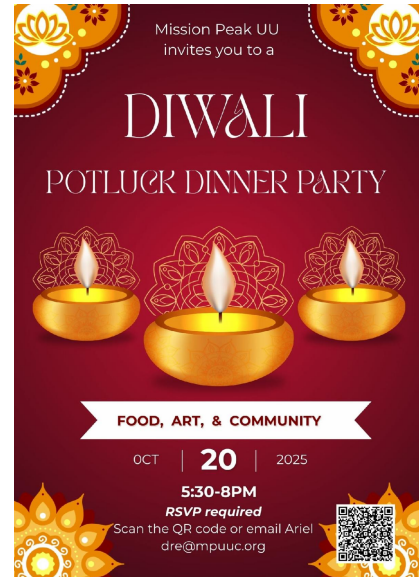
Encouragement Committee at ecteam@mpuuc.org. Or ask one of us: Greg, Barbara, Sharon, Jo Ann S, Don, Lucienne, Julie

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

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

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



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

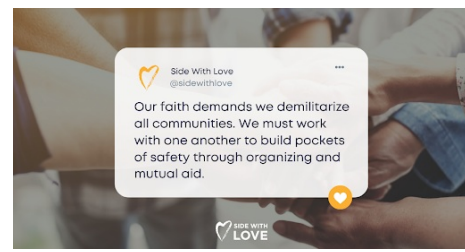
Fri Nov 28th **Green Friday** no rsvp required- just come! We'll have coffee and pastries for the early birds:)



JUSTICE CORNER



We are witnessing further consolidation of authoritarianism in the U.S. with 35,000 US troops deployed domestically. This increase in militarization at home and abroad doesn't make anyone safer.



We know UUs are showing up in this moment to resist. Around the country, people of faith and conscience are supporting ICE watch endeavors, establishing and maintaining solidarity funds, and showing up at detention centers - like those that were [tear gassed and assaulted](#) at Broadview Detention Center in Chicago.

We offer this [prayer](#) for those in communities with military occupation:

Our faith demands we demilitarize all communities. We must work with one another to build pockets of safety through organizing and mutual aid. As UUs, we believe all people deserve safety in their communities with investments in health care, housing, and community.

Check our [weekly action updates](#) for curated readings, resources, and actions so we may respond faithfully and strategically in this moment. Updates are posted on Tuesdays at noon ET.

ACT: Immigrant Defense

Dig into immigrant defense in your area—join a local solidarity fund, ICE watch, or [4th amendment workplace](#)/

If you don't have one in your area or want to skill up, check out [Defend and Recruit's upcoming Immigrant Defense Strategies trainings](#) on October 21 and 23 (with November and December dates available, too!). This introduction training will cover the basics of your immigration defense

READ:

[What You Need to Know if the National Guard Is Deployed to Your State by the Trump Regime](#)

LEARN: Surveillance Self-Defense

From the Electronic Frontier Foundation: [Surveillance Self-Defense: Tips, Tools, and How-Tos for Safer Online Communications](#).



"For Unitarian Universalists, this is faithful, moral action because democracy and the right of all people to have a voice and a vote are at the very heart of our Seven Principles. This work is about the inherent worth and dignity of every person; it is about restoring right relationship with the planet; it is about our commitment to justice and equity for all people. We are called to courageously embody the deepest values of our faith with our hearts, bodies, and spirits while building toward an abundant future in which all are free and flourishing." – Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Don't forget to vote
Special election November 4, 2025
re: Proposition 50
Encourage others to vote!

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

[A Statement from the Arab Resource and Organizing Center \(AROC\), About the Ceasefire](#) – "After two years of unimaginable horrors unleashed upon the people of Gaza, a deal was struck to stop Israel's assault, free political prisoners, and allow in desperately needed humanitarian assistance. It's a critical moment for the Palestinian people, and indeed for all movements fighting for liberation and dignity. Where we go from here will have profound implications for the region and in many ways the world at large."

[California Law Forbids ICE from Making Arrests at Courthouses. Officers Are Showing Up Anyway](#) – Read the blog by Nigel Duara of CalMatters that looks at the California law that bans immigration enforcement at courthouses and how ICE is detaining people there anyway, arguing it's a safe place to apprehend someone.

8th Principle Learning



<https://www.mobilize.us/nokings/event/843833/>

Time

Saturday, October 18
11am – 1pm PDT

Location

Walnut Avenue & Paseo Padre Parkway
Fremont, CA 94538

[sign up link](#)

<https://mobilize.us/s/rjcfHt>

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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