

This Week on the Peak



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

Greetings!

Good to be back with you! You all have all been so helpful whether in agreement or finding something needing more attention. We have made the planned progress so far. By the time you read this, we will have sent the draft to our contact at Pacific Western Region. We will have time before our 'Go Live' date arrives to be satisfied that we have given prospective ministers the best idea of Mission Peak. While the congregation has not had a formal role, they have been invaluable in the efforts of the Search Committee. Many thanks from all of us.



I have spoken before of courage. We now enter a time where we say goodbye to what is comfortable and familiar. We look forward to a new era. Past ministers have all been individuals leading the congregation in a different way and to a different way. The future will be no different. Fear of the unknown is the greatest fear of all. We can imagine all sorts of possibilities and believe in all of them simultaneously. The courage we need will take us past the barrier of the unknown. The courage will allow us to engage in something that will not be like what we recognize or go where we expect. The journey will inform us more than the destination. We shall grow from the effort and the time spent getting to know and accommodate each other. Simply accept that change is coming and the outcome is up to us to make right. I can think of no one else I would ask to have with me on this path. Take a deep breath, we are all in this together and we are not alone.

Mark Rahman

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.

Ride the Wave

Valerie Stewart has gently nudged me more than once to talk about my annual surf trips to Central America. So here, I accept the invitation and I would say both the challenge and opportunity to find the moments and reflections that make such trips a larger story, the gifts and lessons learned that could be useful for everyone in and where we live. What are the ongoing themes that help us, as the mother of my friend advised me to do after one of our earlier trips (she was 93); Keep Living Life. Sound advice.



Rev. Jim McKinley will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Drew Wilson. Erik Alm will be Worship Host. Jo Ann Schriener, Knuti VanHoven. David Johnson, Sharon Davis 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%.

2025 Black and White Auction

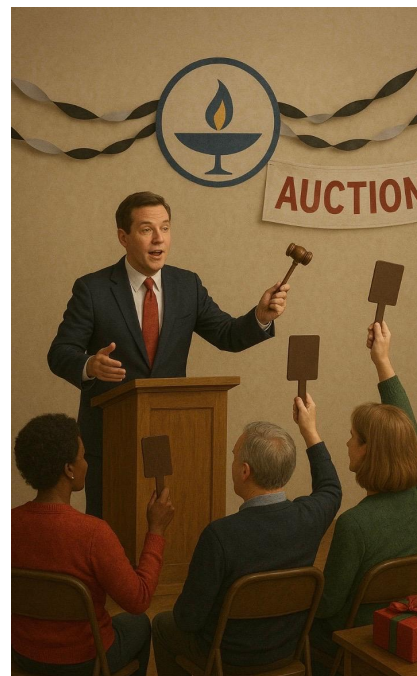
It all happens this Saturday!!!

We are very excited for the 2025 Black and White Auction happening THIS SATURDAY!!!

We have over 70 unique items, with over \$1,000 in bids already placed. Several items have a buy now option so you can lock in your win. Thank you all for your generosity.

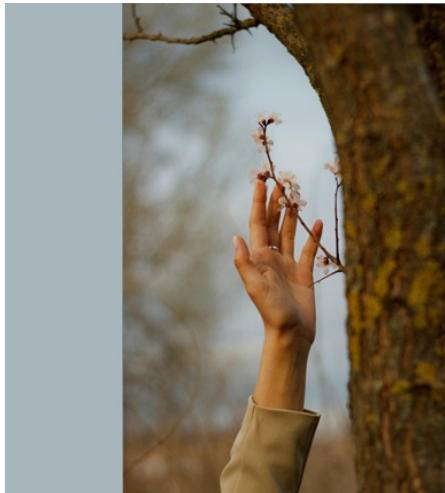
You can bid on [32Auctions](#) without coming to the party, but you don't want to miss the food and fun. We will have a catered dinner in Cole Hall from 5:30 - 6:30 followed by an online Zoom party from 6:30 - 8:00. (If you [bought a ticket](#), a Zoom link will be sent to you.

We've extended the ticket purchase time. You can now buy anytime before 4:00 on Saturday. Thank you to those who purchased early. If you have a last minute



item to donate, contact [John Schaefer](#) to make arrangements.

Let's start bidding and building out those social calendars for lots of great community building and fun.



With gratitude, optimism is sustainable. If you can find something to be grateful for then you can find something to look forward to, and you can carry on.

Michael J. Fox



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](#)

Dear Friends,

Here is the latest installment of my Ireland blog. Just click on the hyper-linked Day and enjoy. Feel free to comment on the blog or by email.

Rev. Greg's Ireland Blog

Day 1 – SFO ☐☐ Dublin ☐☐ Bushmills, No. Ireland ()

Day 2 – Bushmills, No. Ireland ☐☐ Sligo (Giant's Causeway, Bushmills Distillery)

Day 3 – Sligo ☐☐ Kilrush (Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery)



Day 4 – Kilrush ☐☐ Kenmare (Cliffs of Moher, Poul nabrone, Grange Stone Circle, Kenmare Stone Circle)

Day 5 – Kenmare ☐☐ Cork (Dingle, Tralee, Uragh Stone Circle, Drombeg Stone Circle)

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

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

Wed Dec 3rd Children join MPUUC choir rehearsal
to prepare a song for service Sun Dec 7th

Sun Dec 7th Children join the choir to sing a Christmas song in service

Sat Dec 6th 3:30-5pm Cookies and Carols we'll be in Cole Hall: you bring cookies, we'll bring decorations. No RSVP req'd. Questions? email Ariel: dre@mpuuc.org



JUSTICE CORNER

UUA President Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt Signs onto Open Letter

From Pres. Sofia:

"I am proud to join with over 100 faith leaders denouncing political violence and condemning attacks on free speech and the independence of our country's nonprofit organizations. Unitarian Universalist religious tradition upholds values of pluralism and justice and encourages free speech and open discussion from people of diverse backgrounds and experiences.

I join with other people of faith and conscience in calling on all political leaders, including the President and his administration, to unequivocally support freedom of speech and



religious liberty, and to ensure that the government does not target individuals and nonprofits for exercising that freedom.

We the people are the democracy; it lives in our commitments to one another, and we make this powerful idea real only when we can live our values fully and without fear of violence or retaliation."

You can find the full letter and list of signatories at <https://faithleadersforfreedom.my.canva.site/>

We can't wait to discuss this wonderful book with you!

If you'd like to join us, [please register here to receive the Zoom link](#), then [click here to sign up for the email list](#). You only need to register once to attend all 9 sessions.



Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations



Prepare to Mobilize If/When Trump Invades the Bay Area with ICE or Troops

While Trump has apparently backed off his deployment of troops to the Bay Area, this can change at any moment and his mass ICE raids are still happening as was the case in Stockton over the weekend. Bay Resistance member organizations (including SURJ Bay Area) are closely monitoring the situation. At any moment, we may need to mobilize to ensure authoritarian overreach is not normalized. [The best way to keep informed is to sign up for Bay Resistance alerts.](#)

Support Families in Gaza – Watermelon Connections (WC) is a grassroots mutual aid collective with a mission to help people in Gaza survive genocide. WC supports a group of over 24 families in Gaza by connecting with them personally, amplifying their stories, and fundraising to help them access food, diapers, medicine, clothes, tents, and other necessities. To get involved: 1) Visit WC's linktree of families in



need and choose one that you can support with a monthly recurring donation at whatever amount you're able to sustain. 2) Share your family's campaign with 5 friends and ask them to join you in making a monthly recurring donation!

Through community organizing, mobilizing, and education, SURJ moves white people to act as part of a multi-racial majority for justice with passion and accountability. SURJ Bay Area is one of 150 chapters and affiliates nationwide. [Learn about SURJ's mission, vision, and values.](#)



Want to get involved? We offer [one-on-one intro meetings](#) with a SURJ Bay Area member where you can learn more about what we do, ask questions, and figure out the best way to engage in the racial justice work of our local chapter.

Want to support our work? You can make a tax-deductible donation for SURJ's organizing and educational efforts. [Make a one-time donation or become a monthly sustainer.](#) Thanks!

[Learn More](#)

8th Principle Learning



Homelessness: "Beyond the Bridge" screening and discussion

Beyond the Bridge screening and discussion: You are invited to a free screening and panel discussion about the documentary *Beyond the Bridge* on Thursday, November 20, 6:00-8:00, in the Washington West Conference Rooms, 2500 Mowry Ave., Fremont. Register at bit.ly/btbfremont for a free ticket. This award-winning documentary explores the housing crisis and actions our community can take to alleviate the harsh conditions unhoused people face.

Tri-City Interfaith Council holds 64th Annual Thanksgiving Service

The Tri-City Interfaith Council (TCIC) will hold its 64th annual Thanksgiving Service at a new location, with an earlier start-time. The service will be held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at 3551 Decoto Road, Fremont, CA 94555 and start at 7:00 pm. Please park in the rear of the building. The service will be followed by a time of fellowship for those who attend in person. The service will be streamed on Zoom. You can access the livestream using the QR code on the flyer or by sending a request through the website: <https://tcicouncil.weebly.com/contact-us.html>

[Click here for flyer](#)

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Lifting Up Our Neighbors

Monday, Nov. 24, 2025 @ 7:00pm

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
3551 Decoto Road, Fremont, CA 94555
Please park behind the building.



Sponsored by Tri-City Interfaith Council tcicouncil.weebly.com

You are encouraged to bring finger food to share for the reception.

Offerings will be received for the Immigration Institute of the Bay Area.

To attend virtually, use this QR code



Board Briefs

1. The date of the next Board meeting has been changed due to travel schedules. The new date is Nov. 21 at 7:00 p.m.
2. *Update* to Board Briefs

A matter that has been deferred by the Board and is still under review is to create a policy to address how “rites of passage” activities (events that don’t happen as part of a service) will be handled at MPUUC. This year, we’ve had 3 memorials in less than 6 months and discovered that there was nothing in writing to give guidance to members or staff. If anyone would like to review the draft policy, please send a note to Secretary@mpuuc.org.



October 2025 BOARD BRIEFS

1.Ministerial Search

After participating in a meeting on 9/25/2025 with Christine Purcell, UUA Congregational Transitions Director, the Board voted to Approve the 2025-2026 Ministerial Search Committee members; Kathi Bayne, Lucienne Bouvier (UUA Liaison), Mark Rahman, Beth Schaefer (Chair).

A draft Charter, with timeline and tasks, including organizing a survey for the Congregation, was sent to Search Committee for review and input at their meeting on Oct. 17, after which they will refer Charter back to the Board, and with the Committee input the Board will take a digital vote to approve the Charter.

Board President will complete the UUA online form to initiate the Contract Minister search profile in the MinistrySearch System (the UUA on-line portal) with Search Committee information. Because the new category of “Contract Minister” is not directly described in our bylaws, the Board concluded we need a congregational vote to agree on the period for a contract minister and to clarify the Board’s authority. The Board calls a Congregational Meeting NOVEMBER 2

2. Sabbatical Ministry

Rev. Jim McKinley has begun his term with MPUUC. He is at Services most Sundays and is a joy to have with us. Dec. 7th will be his last Sunday Service with MPUUC. Sunday with Rev. McKinley in pulpit - Oct 26 /Nov. 9 /Nov. 23/ Dec. 7).

3. Financial actions

A new account was established (#319) for Music Discretionary, added \$1000 which permits funding of a new electronic keyboard and stand. These funds resulted from the summer collections.

Additional funds received have reduced the projected budget deficit (at this time) to \$11,300. These include \$825 from members for prior year pledge received in this fiscal year, \$3,500 in memory donations received in June 2025, which are going to our Operating budget.

Treasurer and President are still in process of transferring signatures on various bank/credit union accounts.

4. The Black and White Auction – November 22, 2025

This fabulous Team of John Schaefer, July Ganzlin, who are returning to lead the newcomers -David Johnson, Emily Hessenauer and Beth Schaefer are hard at work. The Black & White will be hybrid, with an in-person event starting at 5:30 in Cole Hall and the bidding will be online from 6:30-8:00 pm.

5. Community Minister Barbara Meyers

Rev. Meyers offered two quarterly reports. She continues her work as Asst. Director of Life Reaching Across to Life counseling services, which may face Measure 2 funding issues. Her UUA activities include: Mental Health Network – which included a GA workshop on Companionship and NAMI resources/ online LGBTQ support group starting /UUA Addictions Ministry / UUA Accessibility Group. Publication of her next book- addressing Disability is on the horizon, Skinner House has sent draft of the book. At MPUUC she is a member ARO/ Encourage Comm./COM. She offered a Recommended reading: *Loretta Ross – Calling In, How to Start Making Change with Those you'd Rather Cancel*

The next meeting of the board is via Zoom, Friday, November 21, 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

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



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!