

This Week on the Peak



Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! July 22, 2026

Greetings!

I send you greetings! This is the last week that we are on our own without a contracted minister. It is time for us to accept our collective responsibility, especially since Rev. Johnnie is a contract minister who has not yet been called. We hope to engage him as called but for now more of the life of the congregation is in our hands and responsibility. That is part of the reason for this week's coming congregational conversation. How may we engage, individually and one with another, in furthering our work of community.



Anticipation is a wonderful feeling. Anticipating and not knowing what we anticipate can be both wonderful and scary. The more we guide the unfolding of events, the more we will regard the results as satisfactory. Investing of ourselves is a very high quality of investment.

Now back to Rev. Johnnie. I beg of thee to listen AND hear as he introduces himself to you in direct words and in the meanings of his sermons, readings, benedictions, and considered opinions that he may have. We are in a symbiotic relationship in our thoughts where each side and each permutation of participants has another process of coming to a place no one had thought of before. I look forward to a future of ongoing results that I have no idea of, yet shall embrace with great optimism.

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.



Transitions

Traditionally we categorize change right up there with the unknown, public speaking, taxes, job search and a few other bete noirs as scary and painful. Rationally I can dispel that feeling but realistically it does not dispel as emotions do not vanish by saying 'boo' to them. We have all accomplished change in the past and reliving those experiences with survival can deescalate the accompanying fear and inconvenience. With strengths we don't know we have and resolve, the future is open to one who seeks. Even knowing change is ineluctable, inevitable and a certainty does not take away our ability to keep on keeping on.

Mark Rahman will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Paul Davis. Melissa Holmes will be Worship Host. Jo Ann Schriener, Knuti VanHoven and 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%.

Summer Special Collection for June, July and August:

June: MCB Discretionary Fund (MLK and new Rug)

June 21: Board Choice

July: Fellowship Discretionary Fund (Potluck Supplies)

August: MPUUC Outreach Materials (Pamphlets, shirts and swag)

Please donate if you are able, in one of these ways:

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



Sunday July 26 at Mission Peak

Please mark this coming Sunday Service in your datebook and plan to be part of it. Mark Rahman will be presenting the topic of "Transitions". After Service, we'll have a Congregational Conversation hosted by the Transition Team and the Committee on Ministry about our current "transitions" here at Mission Peak.

As we prepare to welcome Rev. Johnnie, let's discuss how we will build a strong, loving foundation for our shared ministry. To ensure we offer a deeply supportive and healthy environment, we invite everyone to this Congregational Conversation. We will discuss what kinds of promises we want to make to the new minister and what promises from him would we like in return

Things to think about:

1. What is your understanding of the minister's role, and how can we support them when they are balancing multiple demands?
2. What unwritten expectations or cultural norms might be helpful for our new minister to know about us?
3. How can we step up to learn about and support our new minister's vision?
4. How can we practice authentic, inclusive welcome for our new minister and their spouse?
5. How can we foster direct, open, and gracious communication as concerns or ideas arise, rather than just random "over-the-doughnut" conversations? When we have disagreements or miscommunications, how should we best resolve them?

Please bring your reflections, your open hearts, and your enthusiasm as we embark on this exciting new chapter at Mission Peak.

News from the Transition Team

Members and Friends of Our Beloved Community,

Our new ministry with Rev. Johnnie Bloom Ramirez begins on August 1. He'll be in the pulpit for the first time on Sunday AUGUST 2. If you wish to become more familiar with Rev. Johnnie, you are invited to peruse his personal website, where you'll find photos of him around the world and some of his writings. Here is the link if you wish to visit his website: <http://www.jbloomramirez.com/>

Since he is a self-proclaimed "history nerd" you might also want to see what happens at the **Guilde of St. Marie** where he is Guildemaster/President and Theatrical Director: <http://www.guildeofsaintemarie.org/>

See you at Services,

Valerie
Board Member

CALLING FOR PLAYFUL AND POWERFUL VOLUNTEERS

We have had a few amazing, fun people sign up to be Multigenerational Playful Companions on our play rug in back of Cole Hall on the 1st, 4th and 5th Sundays. We still need a couple more volunteers to make this successful and fun. [CLICK HERE](#) for a new sign up sheet where you can put your name in on the row for childcare on the play rug for any date that works for you. You can also sign up for any other easy to do Sunday task. THANK YOU for bringing your spirit of possibility to MPUUC!!

Calling all kids!

Bring your backpack to service on Sunday, August 2nd for a special Time for All Ages when we'll offer a Backpack Blessing

The best spiritual instruction is to wake up in the morning and say, "I wonder what's going to happen today."

Pema Chodron



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 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](#).



Would you like to add your shining face to a giant welcome card for Rev Johnnie?

Make yourself a sign and take a selfie then mail it to Ariel (dre@mpuuc.org) or find her on Sunday and she can take a picture of you with the sign pictured or one of your own making. Let's pile on the love for the new minister! Reach out to Ariel with any questions.

Let's give Rev Johnnie a warm welcome by leaving him a giant card! Make a small sign that says something like: "Welcome Rev Johnnie!" and take a photo of yourself (with an MPUUC friend, family member, pet) holding it. Email it to Ariel - dre@mpuuc.org - and she'll print it out and add it to the posterboard card the kids will make this Sunday which we'll leave for him on his new desk.

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

JUSTICE CORNER

Let me be clear: moral clarity alone will be insufficient for the moment we are in. We must put that clarity into faithful action.



Each of these [recent court decisions](#) carries immeasurable consequences for our communities, and we must discern how we are called not only to resist, but also to create. There is work for all of us to do right now. Let us continue building the world we need while responding to the attacks on our communities.

UU the Vote: Join UU the Vote for [upcoming training and actions](#) to reach voters and protect our elections.

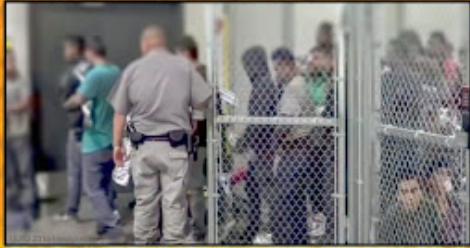
Solidarity Summits: Join a UU the Vote Solidarity Summit near you. Solidarity Summits are gatherings where communities and partners will come together to strategize about what we must build to protect our neighbors, defend our elections, and nourish the people and networks that power our movements. We have leaders planning Summits in CT, PA, TN, TX, OR, WA, WI, and VA. As dates are confirmed, they will



be added to the Solidarity Summit calendar. [Learn more](#) and plan your own by reviewing the [Solidarity Summit Toolkit](#).

The Gathering - Declarations of Democracy: As this country marks 250 years, we will examine the limits and possibilities of American democracy and our sacred call to shape a multiracial, interdependent democracy where everyone can thrive at Side With Love's monthly event to strengthen your spirit, make sense of the threats to democracy, and take meaningful action alongside others! [Register for August 10](#) on healing and repair

Detentions At Delaney Must End



The Delaney Hall Detention Center situation in Newark, New Jersey, remains highly volatile following a major hunger and labor strike launched by hundreds of civil immigration detainees.

Congress Must Act Now!

Intervene to provide investigation and oversight.



<https://usaidwatch.org/10700-26-immigration-detention-detentioncenter.html>

End the increasingly inhumane, brutal, and expanding Immigration Detention System



bit.ly/Redress_Imm_Detention

UUSJ

Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Committee (ARO) Recommendations



Documentary *Maestra* (Teacher)

Join **La Peña's** *When We Win* film series for a screening of the documentary *Maestra* (Teacher), which tells the story of Cuba in 1961, when 250,000 volunteers taught 700,000 people to read and write in one year. 100,000 of the teachers were under 18 years old; over half were women. The film explores this story through the personal testimonies of the young women who went out to teach literacy in rural communities across the island—and

found themselves deeply transformed in the process. A timely and important film to watch during this time of inhumane blockade expansion.

🍿 Tickets sliding scale \$5–\$25; no one turned away for lack of funds.

Location: La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley

Social and Economic Justice Film Festival

Saturday, July 25 • 11:00 am – 9:30 pm

Social and Economic Justice Film Festival (IN PERSON + VIRTUAL)

Join the Alliance for Social and Economic Justice—a consortium of organizations, community organizers, and cultural workers advocating for low-wage workers, immigrant workers, and unwaged caregivers—for their 7th Annual Film Festival. The day offers both feature films and shorts, online and in person, including the documentary *Sa Amin: Our Place*, about the heart of the Filipino community in San Francisco's South of Market neighborhood, and *Language Back*, a short about the importance of Native American Language Revitalization filmed with Indigenous Nations Poets. Check out this year's schedule [here](#).

🍿 Tickets \$15–\$35 depending on level of access.

8th Principle Learning

BECOME AN UU ANCHOR CONGREGATION for DRUUM CA!

To become a financially sustainable organization, can you encourage your congregation to donate an **annual generosity plate collection** for DRUUMM California and officially become one of our Anchor Congregations? Here is the official [LETTER](#) for your church board!

NEW MONTHLY SUSTAINERS

WILL RECEIVE A

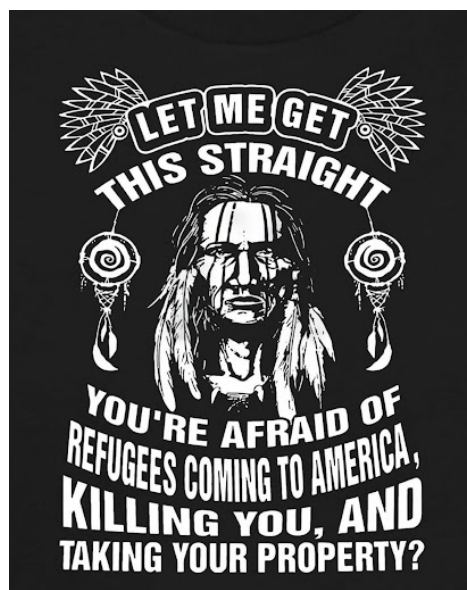
2026 DRUUMM T-SHIRT!

SIGN UP NOW!

SUPPORT. SUSTAIN. UPLIFT.

Your monthly gift helps DRUUMM California uplift, amplify, and center BIPOC Unitarian Universalists across our region.

MINIMUM \$5/MONTH FOR ONE YEAR. | THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE FACEBOOK

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JUNE 14 – 21, 2026

MEET THE MOMENT: TOGETHER EVERYWHERE

Results of UUAGA 2026

John Schaefer is working with Peggy Rahman and others to produce a special comedy show on Saturday August 15 at 7:00 at the Odd Fellows Lodge in Fremont. Proceeds from the show will benefit the Alameda County Chapter of NAMI, to support their education and outreach programs. Please buy a ticket, or consider donating directly even if you can't attend, by visiting

<https://funnyandclean.ticketspice.com/laugh-for-mental-health>.

This is a great chance for members of our community to gather in laughter while supporting an important cause.

Click [here](#) for flyer

Justice for All Vigil

In Memory of Lorenzo Salgado Araujo and Johan Sebastian Guerrero



Monday July 27,
7pm

Niles Town Plaza

37592 Niles Blvd, Fremont

We gather to honor those killed in Immigration Actions and hold their families, coworkers, and communities in prayer.

We gather to tell the truth and demand justice.

We gather to create a visible witness against violence and to say enough!

Sponsored by Compassionate Fremont, Indivisible Fremont CA
and the Tri-City Interfaith Council.

tcicfremont@gmail.com | indivisible-fremont.org

We request that signs be peaceful, compassionate and non-partisan.

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 Ro Khanna (202) 225-2631
Senator Alex Padilla (202) 224-3553
Senator Adam Schiff (202) 224.3841



Mission Peak UU | 2950 Washington Blvd Fremont CA | 510.252.1477 | missionpeakuu.org



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