

# This Week on the Peak



## Mission Peak UU - Fremont, CA The Home of Liberal Religion in the Tri-Cities and Beyond! October 21, 2026

Greetings!

Welcome friends! Welcome back from a very successful Black and White Auction! (Kudos in the thousands to Jen King and John Schaefer plus other helpers.) The success is an attribute of the courage of Mission Peak UU Congregants. In an era where many people are pulling back to entrench their economic position, Mission Peakers are investing in what will make the future more secure, notwithstanding the fiscal risk. Take a few seconds to really feel good about yourself and your wonderfulness.



Now back to work. I have written before of courage. If it were easy, I would not write about it. Physical courage is not necessarily the more difficult to apply. Emotional and psychological courage is not one wit less difficult to undertake. The fear of disapproval or loss of connection can be a very high barrier to acting as our best selves. I am aware that if people think you are a pariah your social connections shrink drastically. When Sarah's condition became obvious to the outside world, many friends/acquaintances drifted away. Some because we became tired of explaining situations that they never understood or because they were uncomfortable around us. Your circle of friends shrinks to those who understand through similar experience or those who are simply exceptional individuals.

Joining MPUUC was one effort at finding community that was not completely imbued within the mental health world. It was a wonderful discovery. We found 'people like us.' We found society able to be nonjudgmental. That was 32 years ago. We are still here. And is it perfect? Of course not. I keep getting challenged to be better than I am. No rest for the wicked. And a form of courage I was not expecting to need was that that allowed me to look within myself. To not presume that I am operating as a good person simply because I want to be a good person. That introspection can be difficult. And it is here at MPUUC that I find the community that supports me and the professionals that are well-versed in how to challenge people. I am grateful for that community that is willing to spend good money to create the environment that really can lead me to become some sort of good person. I live in the hope that you will find this such a place as well.

Mark Rahman

## This Sunday's Service:

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



### Writing Our Own Endings

What does it mean to live courageously when shame, fear, or the voices of others have shaped the stories we tell about ourselves? Through personal reflection and the wisdom of Brené Brown, this sermon explores the courage required to embrace vulnerability, reclaim our truth, and write an ending grounded in authenticity, healing, and hope.

Rev. Johnnie Bloom-Ramirez will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Don Ramie. Melissa Holmes will be Worship Host. Various artists 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.

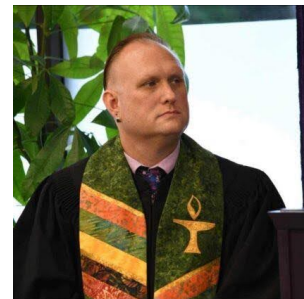
Pay on line at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card.  
Note we use PayPal for this and they charge us around 3%.

---

### Rev. Johnnie's blog

Please click on link below for Rev. Johnnie's blog

<https://mpuuc.org/worship-overview/from-your-minister/>



---

This year's black and white auction was a huge success raising about \$15,000. Thank you to everybody that donated their time and talents, purchased tickets and attended the event. Special thanks to Ariel, Melissa, Nathan and Amy Schaefer for your help.

- John will send you a list of names of people that won your item(s).

- Please work with the winner(s) to ensure delivery of physical items and to plan dates for your events.
- You should have received an invoice from 32Auctions showing what bids you won. Please make payment this week if you haven't already done so.
- Some items are still available because they were not bid on. A list of available items is here

(<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Y8WkP2UTUDixrYMnzd82m5WUMExwKhgVluUv7eFH89E/edit?usp=sharing>).

Please mark your name on the spreadsheet if you are interested in claiming a spot. Then, please contact the donor to let them know that you are buying a spot. You can make your donation using the standard payment methods that are mentioned during each service. There is no need to specifically identify it as a payment for the item (trust system is the easiest way to go here and all money goes into the same MPUUC pockets).



### JOIN the HOSPITALITY TEAM!

Can you help with Sunday Service Coffee Hour, ordering and tracking supplies for our events ? We want to have a TEAM to support our congregational events. Many hands make easy work. Interested?

Please email [Secretary@MPUUC.org](mailto:Secretary@MPUUC.org)

Here is the world.  
Beautiful and  
terrible things  
will happen.  
Do not be afraid.

Frederick Buechner



### 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](mailto: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 10:30 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](#).

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Nov 7th from 6-8pm - Saturday  
MPUUC's 3rd annual **Diwali** potluck dinner and puja to be held in Ockerman 7/8



Nov 23 at 7pm - Monday  
Tri-City Interfaith Council's **Thanksgiving Service** at Washington Health, Anderson Auditorium

Nov 27- Friday  
Green Friday at Coyote Hills- byo picnic lunch, MPUUC will provide coffee and pastries. Entrance to all EBRP is free on this day so buck the black friday trend and spend part of the day enjoying the outdoors with your UU community!

---

### Sign-Up to bring Mexican food for Nov 1 Dia De Muertos Service

On November 1, we will celebrate Dia De Muertos at our Sunday service. Afterwards, we will share Mexican food that people have brought. Here is a sign-up sheet to bring Mexican food for that service.



<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oaNrZw939VH4xMsJo95CH6nJbJZPowr-/edit?usp=sharing&oid=102940203490292123260&rtpof=true&sd=true>

## FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Saturday October 24th, 5-8pm **Halloween FUUN night!** Come in costume, bring a dish for the potluck dinner, then join games for kids in the playroom and classroom or games for grown-ups in 7/8. [RSVP requested](#) by Fri 10/23.

---

Our UU neighbors in San Jose are looking to start up a Dungeons and Dragons group and they're inviting us to help pick the time for the first meeting- follow [this link](#) to help choose the time. This is for kids 5th grade and up, any youth and adult is welcome to join.



## Children's Programming

Sat 10/24 **UU Summer Camp teaser**: there are plans afoot for next summer to hold one week of UU Camp for kids (rising 1st-8th graders) in Hayward at Starr King UU Church. Join Ariel and the teens who would lead camp for a little taste of what you could expect. We'll teach the kids the Chalice Camp song, play a classic camp game and give them a little sampling of the curriculum: UU History and Identity. [RSVP](#) so we know how many to expect and what age children. Reach out to Ariel with any questions.

---

## JUSTICE CORNER



### Do You Have a Plan to Vote?

Democracy isn't something we watch from the sidelines. It's something we build and defend together.

### Track Your Ballot Receipt

To see if your vote-by-mail ballot has been received and accepted by election officials, use the official [California Where's My Ballot? Tool](#).

To check your voter registration status in California, you can look up your official record online using the [California Secretary of State My Voter Status Tool](#).

---

Our Unitarian Universalist Faith calls us to  
protect the Earth and all beings from  
exploitation.

For 25 years, The Roadless Area Conservation  
Rule has protected drinking water, wildlife  
habitat, and world-class recreation  
opportunities across 44.5 million acres of  
national forests.

Check Out <https://roadless.org> to submit a  
comment and to learn more about what's  
at stake

Submit a Comment  
By October 6, 2026  
<https://roadless.org/>



UUSJ



**LGBTQ**

*Welcoming Congregation*

Intersex Awareness Day on Oct 26 is the 30th anniversary of the 1996 protest outside the American Academy of Pediatrics conference in Boston. It is focused on ending shame, secrecy, and non-consensual medical interventions on intersex children, while promoting bodily autonomy.

---

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



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 dozens of chapters, circles, and affiliates nationwide. Learn about [SURJ's mission, vision, and values](#).

**Want to get involved?** Learn about our [Invest in Community](#) and [Palestine Solidarity](#) campaigns, as well as our [SURJ Bay Resistance Action Pods](#) doing immigration support, plus other chapter activities.

[Fill out this short interest form](#) and a SURJ Bay Area member will be in touch to answer your questions and explore with you the many ways you can get involved in the work of our chapter.

---

## 8th Principle Learning

Why are Baby Boomers destroying America?  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y93aJxcYD68>



---

## 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](http://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!