



All Souls

www.all-souls.org

*Creating
a diverse,
spirit-growing,
justice-seeking
community.*

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Ministering to Our Neighborhood and the World

Rob Hardies, Senior Minister, All Souls Church, Unitarian

It was so exciting to see more than 150 members of All Souls Church gather to plan for the future of the church's social justice ministry. Our Social Justice Retreat in October was a resounding success, and in this newsletter you can read about the fruits of our collective labors.

Many people worked to make the retreat possible, but I want to name the members of the

Retreat Planning Committee who really put it all together: Helen Rose and Craig Dylan Wyatt, the co-chairs of our Social Justice Ministry, Ann Steinecke, Sharon Groves, Carol Fisher, Carol Minder and Christiane Geisler. When you see them, be sure to thank them personally.

The retreat has helped us envision a new future for social justice at All Souls. We know that for

many years the church has rested on the laurels of its many prophetic ministries of the past. Now we can look with equal pride and anticipation to our future. I hope that each and every one of us will find a way that we can help build this future by ministering to our neighborhood and our world.

Love,

Finding a Niche to Call Our Own

Shana Goodwin, Associate Minister, All Souls Church, Unitarian

Having recently relocated to join all of you here, I am keenly aware of one of life's challenges that seems to recur—finding one's place. I don't mean locating a place to live; I mean finding a place that creates a sense of home. This search happens within ourselves, our communities, and our world. Each of us wants to feel we have found our niche.

A great deal of my work at All Souls is centered on creating a space within this spiritual community for each of you. Whether through a covenant group, a Roots and Wings class, or one of the many social and spiritual gatherings taking place at ASC, I hope you will connect with this community in a significant way.

Recently, the committee charged with working

on adult programming met to discuss the direction of the program and to craft a mission statement. We have changed the name of the program from adult religious education to adult spiritual development. Our new mission statement is:

Adult Spiritual Development at All Souls Church, Unitarian provides opportunities for seekers to discover and articulate the *continued on page 2*



ALL SOULS CHURCH

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STAFF

Robert M. Hardies, *Senior Minister*
Shana Goodwin, *Associate Minister*
Tracy Butler, *Administrative Assistant*
Gillian Evans, *Church Coordinator*
Gabrielle Farrell, *Dir., Religious Education*
Mel Hardy, *Administrator*
Peter Mosher, *Assistant Administrator*
Constance Ofori, *Childcare Provider*
Charles Onyango, *Bookkeeper*
Angela Powell Walker,
Director, DC Children's Choir
Earl Richardson, *Receptionist*
Lenard Starks, *Director, Jubilee Singers*
John Strang, *Director of Music*
Parker Kitterman, *Music Associate*
Karen Tejada, *Childcare Provider*
Archene Turner, *Student Minister*
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Bill Kules, *Moderator*
Molly Freeman, *Membership Secretary*

BUILDING HOURS

Monday-Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

News from the Board of Trustees

by Board President Tom Fox

At its September meeting, the Board definitively approved air conditioning for the sanctuary by the late spring of 2004, with funding from a loan from the Shively Fund. Please see the ASC Web site for more details of that meeting. At the October, we reviewed plans for the sixth Ends Statement: "The Columbia Heights/Adams Morgan/Mt. Pleasant neighborhood is more just and compassionate community because of All Souls' prophetic leadership."

We are now preparing for the Dec. 7 Annual Meeting of the congregation. At that meeting, in addition to the congregation's election of new trustees and a nominating committee, the congregation will be asked to approve a budget for 2004 and a few changes to Church's Bylaws, to reflect the Board's adoption of "policy governance". Finally, the congregation will receive a written and oral report from the Board on the church's progress toward meeting the goals in the seven Ends Statements and in following Board policies. For this last item, we will seek advance congregational "input" from a survey we will send out in early November.

To prepare for the Annual Meeting's votes, on Nov. 2 at 1, in conjunction with the Church Council meeting, we will hold a town hall meeting about the Bylaw changes. Then, on Nov. 16, after the service, members will have an opportunity to review and ask questions about the proposed budget. The Annual Meeting is open to all members. In order to vote, however, the member must have signed the book before Nov. 7 and made a financial contribution of record to the church in the preceding 12 months.

Contact Board President Tom Fox at foxthomash@aol.com or any other Board member for more information.

Finding a Niche to Call Our Own ...

Continued from page 1

source of love in their life by: Holistically engaging mind, body, spirit, and heart; Creating interactive forums that foster a seeking spirit; and Connecting diverse individuals in a supportive community.

This statement shows our renewed understanding that spiritual growth and learning come in many forms. It is our challenge to bring to you choices that will allow you to access your beliefs. We each come to understand the Sacred by many modes (writing, hiking, reading, dancing, etc.). Consider this an invitation. Join a class, or if you have a talent or spiritual practice to share, let us know so that we can talk to you about facilitating a class. Speak to me or anyone else on the adult spiritual development committee: Ruel Eskelson, Nick Manicone, Carol Fisher, and Shawn Strout. Make yourself at home. May we grow together in spirit.

Blessings, Shana

Be A Part of All Souls Active Social Justice Ministry!

Faith In Action: Get Involved in Social Justice at All Souls

Over 150 people attended the Social Justice retreat on October 3-5. Facilitators led this large group through a process that identified key issues and developed task forces around each issue. A vibrant action plan for the church began to emerge by the end of the retreat. We encourage everyone to get involved in one of the task forces listed in this insert as we move forward to put our faith into action. Be a part of this exciting time for the social justice ministry of All Souls!

A Coordinating Committee will meet periodically to coordinate and support the social justice program. For more information, call Elaine Clisham, 202-667-2250, or Elizabeth Hargrave, 202-232-2533.

Voting Rights Project

This group will work on voter registration, voter education, and get out the vote with other organizations such as the "Rolling Mobilization for a New American Vision" voter registration drive that began on the 40th anniversary of the March On Washington. We hope to participate in the drive's "Circle of Light and Truth" demonstration during the State of the Union and other efforts. The voting rights task force will also work on local voting rights for Washington DC's 50,000 non-US citizens. Contact: Gretta Goodwin, 202-512-7952 or Mario Cristaldo, 202-328-8248. To receive emails: goodwing@gao.gov.

Housing

Affordable housing is diminishing in the ASC neighborhood, forcing out low- and middle-income residents. The Housing task force will support the fight for affordable housing through established groups within All Souls (All Souls Housing Corporation, Jan Keenan Housing Project, UU Affordable Housing Corporation) as well as by building partnerships with community groups (Washington Interfaith Network, Tenants Task Force on Rent Control, Coalition for Housing Justice). We also seek to educate ourselves about the demographics of ASC and the neighborhood. Contacts: Alan Johnson, 202-483-5607, Karen Williamson, 202-483-1680. To receive emails: keekat@starpower.net

Youth Programs

Our short-term goal is re-establishing and strengthening All Souls' relationship with the Columbia Heights Youth Club. We hope to meet with the staff and the board to inquire about the needs of the club and determine how we can help. Some of the long-term goals include implementing programs that include the wider youth community of Columbia Heights, Mt. Pleasant, and Adams Morgan. We also feel that it is crucial to have programs that All Souls youth will want to utilize as much as the youth in the greater community. Contact: Marcia Noble, 703-370-7068. To receive emails: noble_marcia@yahoo.com.

Seventh Principle

Our mission is to educate, inspire and organize members of ASC to lead more environmentally sustainable, just and spirit-filled lives individually and collectively. We currently sponsor the Trash Free Sundays, Fair Trade coffee, tea and cocoa sales, recycling of church bulletins and other office paper, and education programs with the Religious Education Committee. Future activities include having an environmental audit of the church, sponsoring simplicity circles and providing more education and outreach. For more information, see our web page at the All Souls web site. Contacts: Pam Sparr, 301-439-6316, Kathie Shahan, 202-307-0249 To receive emails: pamelasparr@hotmail.com, kathie.shahan@usdoj.gov.

Women's Issues/Gender Justice

The National March for Freedom of Choice (April 25, 2004) will be our focus in the short term. Events might include workshops on historical UU work on reproductive choice, theology of choice, and current legislative threats. We also hope to connect choice issues to other social justice issues, such as voting mobilization and youth programming. Eventually, we hope to expand the work of this task force to include BGLT issues, health advocacy, and welfare rights, among others. Contacts: Stacy Jarboe, 301-891-3351, Kierstin Homblette, 202-822-0355. To receive emails: jarboes@asme.org or khomblette@uua.org.

Local Community

The Local Community task force will be assessing the Emergency Assistance Program at All Souls. The summer program assisted community members with emergency food and medical assistance when local clinics or food banks couldn't meet their needs. In the past, this fund has included rental and utility assistance with money raised from donations from the congregation. The Local Community task force along with the Emergency Assistance Oversight Committee will work to find the best way the church can address the growing demand for these services while government aid has declined. We will continue to support and work with the Fair Budget Coalition, which advocates for more local funds be made available for emergency assistance. The Local Community Task Force also hopes to work closely with the All Souls Washington Interfaith Network Action Team to help better understand our neighborhood. Contacts: Helen Rose, 703-648-9134, Emily Koechlin, 301-891-1652 To receive emails: henierose@yahoo.com or e.koechlin@starpower.net

International Issues

The International Issues Task Force will concentrate on three areas: global AIDS, slavery, and the Middle East, specifically the deoccupation of Iraq and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This year we hope to learn and educate others about these issues, as well as narrow in on concrete local actions we can do that would have an impact internationally. This might include partnering with a local organization in Africa that is fighting AIDS or rehabilitating former slaves, lobbying, letter-writing, and putting on community events, such as for World AIDS Day. Contact: Amelia Rose, 202-882-0355, to receive emails: arose@uua.org.

Economic Justice

We are seeking to educate ourselves about the injustice which increasing economic disparity brings to our community, our nation, and our world. Based on that knowledge, we will take actions to bring about a more compassionate and just community, nation and world. We want to co-sponsor a Fair Trade Fair at All Souls Church in the Spring of 2004 in association with COOP-America. We will also arrange forums for authors and economists to speak on this core social justice issue. Contact: Craig Dylan Wyatt, 202-425-4563, to receive emails: cdw@rockrivertree.com

Conflict Resolution

The Conflict Resolution task force will be a resource for effective conflict resolution within our church and the larger community. This will include training for members of All Souls and attending to conflicts within our own congregation. It will also involve developing a relationship with the community in which All Souls could serve as a forum for people to voice their concerns and have conflicts resolved. Contacts: Claudia Liebler, 301-270-4132, Kat Liu, 202-486-6737, to receive emails: kali8@mindspring.com

REflections

by Gabrielle Farrell, Religious Educator

In creedal faith traditions, there is more certainty in church school. I have, over the years, reviewed lessons from some of these traditions and although impressed with their creativity and inclusion of learning modalities, the directed teaching becomes plainly obvious. Room for wondering or differing perspectives is rarely present.

Vi Hilbert, a highly respected Native American elder (who was named a national treasure by the Smithsonian) in a response about teaching says "...if you take a flower and make a flat statement to a child, 'This is a flower' and leave it at that, this is a way of strangling perception; because it is saying that there is only one way of knowing a flower. What most education today overlooks is the variety of ways in which the flower can be perceived. If you want to know what a flower is, you must examine it from a multitude of levels, from smell, and taste, and touch and hearing, from personifying and fantasizing; and all of these can coexist, and one is no more important than the other." It is to this teaching that our faith tradition demands we hold ourselves. Here we are about not only creating, but celebrating a community of souls with different perceptions and knowing.

It is who we are. See you in church!

Flowers for the Neighborhood

The Muslim American Solidarity Committee (Claudia Brown and Phil Schaefer) worked with High School teacher Barbara Corprew and Middle School teacher Molly Moore have students from the Dar Al Hajira Mosque meet with our students for a social justice project. On October 19, these folks, our Middle and High school classes along with teachers Jen Cook, Eric Peterson, Rahima Rice, Tasha Collins and special guest Katie, planted bulbs with Imam Johari and the Mosque's youth. All enjoyed themselves and learned a bit about each other. In March there will be two islands of crocus, one at the 16th St. bus stop and another near the dumpsters on 15th blooming as testament to this wonderful gathering.

Parent Letter

All children registered in the RE program should have received a letter highlighting special events and happenings during the current church year. If you haven't received one, call Gabrielle Farrell at 202-332-5266.

All Souls November 2003

Free to Be ... You & Me

Free to Be ... You and Me is a Kuumba Players production to be presented in February to the D.C. community. The play is an adaptation of the book and music collected by Marlo Thomas. The stories and music are designed to expand children's personal horizons so that they can invent their own futures without limitation. There will be many opportunities for children of All Souls to participate in this production: scenery and set design; group singing and acting and individual roles. The tryouts for individual roles will be Sun, Dec. 7 during the Annual meeting (allowing parents an opportunity to attend the annual meeting). More information will be sent out shortly.

Youth Club Looks for Space

At a meeting in June, the director of the Columbia Heights Youth Club (CHYC), Gail Oliver, told the church that CHYC would seek improved space in the neighborhood to house their programs. The difficult decision came after discussions with the church about the future of the CHYC's space. As the church and CHYC grow, it is harder to find space for both on the church's lower level. The decision does not signal an end to the 50-year relationship between the church and CHYC, which was started by the church. Far from it. Rather, it frees up the Club to seek more appropriate space to run programs that serve the youth of the neighborhood. As gang violence spreads, the Youth Club's mission of serving the neighborhood's children is more important than ever. Everyone is encouraged to find ways to get involved with the Youth Club and its mission. And as the church moves forward with plans to renovate our building, we will always look for ways that our space can serve our neighborhood.

If you have any questions, please contact Mel Hardy, administrator, or Rev. Hardies at the church.

Special Caring List

Please keep in your prayers the members of our congregation who are unable to get to church: Mary Jane Fisher, Nancy Freeman, Virginia Gray, Carolyn Howlett, Ruth Logue, Mary Louise Robbins, Marianna Sewell, Marietta Sharp, Larry Stone, Emilie Wiggins.

Notes or cards would be welcome. Addresses are in the church directory. You can also visit the Caring Table to sign cards for those homebound. If you are interested in visiting, contact Jane Pfeiffer at 202-337-5637.

A Time to Give Thanks

As Thanksgiving approaches, it is once again time to give thanks and share our plenty with others. On Sunday, Nov. 23, local UU congregations will be bringing food and money to our church to help with ASC's Annual Food Basket & Community Aid Fund. The tradition was begun by ASC minister A. Powell Davies in the late 1940s as a way to help families in the neighborhood less fortunate than ourselves, and to build relationships between local UU congregations.

We seek your food donations and monetary contributions to continue the tradition. The donated food will be sorted into meals by UU teenagers and delivered to families in All Souls' neighborhood by local agencies. The participating agencies are already requesting double the numbers of baskets from last year. The monetary contributions are used to support social services for people in need in our community. Last year, despite a record collection of \$15,000, this fund was depleted early on because of federal and city budget cuts and increased need for aid. We ask that you consider a generous donation to support those in need in the inner city.

For more information, contact Archene Tuner, student minister, at 202-332-5266, ext. 22 or atuner@all-souls.org.

The Thanksgiving Food Collection will take place from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on November 23, 2003. Bring items listed next to the initials of your last name.

Last Name Food Items

A & B	Flour, maseca, grits, cornmeal, bisquick, canned soups, canned fruits, dried beans, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise
C, D & E	Fresh onions, celery, cabbage, carrots, apples, oranges, potatoes, stuffing mix, rice
F, G & H	Canned fruits and vegetables, canned beans, canned soups, dried pasta and pasta sauces
I, J, K & L	Cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, canned meat, canned beans, sugar, flour, maseca, grits
M, N & O	Fresh onions, celery, cabbage, carrots, apples, oranges, potatoes, rice, dried beans
P, Q & R	Canned pie ingredients, cornmeal, bisquick, sugar, hot cereal, dried pasta & pasta sauces
S, T & U	Peanut butter, cooking oil, canned meat, canned vegetables, sugar, fresh carrots
V-Z	Canned pie ingredients, cooking oil, peanut butter, hot cereal, hot chocolate, teas

A Dialogue on Race & Ethnicity

ADORE is entering the new church year with energy and enthusiasm. Our purpose is to pioneer antiracism/anti-oppression institutional transformation in All Souls Church. The goals for this year are to establish a community that is actively committed to antiracism and anti-oppression; one that honors identity and encourages caucusing as a means of strengthening community and to establish a practice of institutional accountability to historically marginalized groups.

This is the sixth year of A Dialogue On Race, and we have changed our name. We are now A Dialogue On Race & Ethnicity, ADORE. We have 4 objectives: 1) Build multi-cultural community. 2) Develop a collective understanding within All Souls about accountability to marginalized groups. 3) Identify and nurture leadership. 4) Sponsor another Jubilee II workshop which offers participants the tools for genuine anti-racist, anti-oppressive engagement with the world.

ADORE meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the church from 6:45 p.m.-8:45 p.m. The topic of our dialogue on Nov. 5 is about answering the question: How does ASC become relevant to the community?

On Sun., Nov. 16, from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. at ASC, ADORE will show the video *Bowling for Columbine* and discuss what's behind the violence in U.S. culture.

Nominees for Board & Officers

The Nominating Committee, Geri Weinstock, Chair, has submitted the following slate for the 2004 Board of Trustees and Officers:

Dorothy Holmes, Board of Trustees, 3-year term
Dave Kerlina, Board of Trustees, 3-year term
Steve Marshall, Board of Trustees, 3-year term
Jon Fetter, Secretary
Ruel Eskelson, Assistant Secretary
Barry Johnson, Treasurer
Vacant, Assistant Treasurer
Molly Freeman, Membership Secretary
Bill Kules, Moderator

The Church Council will meet (briefly) on Sun., Nov. 2 at 1 p.m. to vote on the candidates for the Nominating Committee. The Council provides this to the Board prior to the annual meeting. For information, contact Bill Kules at 301-270-4325 or wmk@takomasoftware.com.

Monthly Highlights

All Souls Weekend on the Bay

Our first-ever *All Souls Weekend on the Bay* will be May 21-23, 2004 at Camp Tockwoh on the Chesapeake. There'll be plenty of fun for kids and adults of all ages. Plus, we'll have opportunities to further explore our spiritual paths and deepen the intergenerational multicultural community we're building here together. Mark the dates on your calendar now. It will be a very affordable way to have fun and get to know each other.

All Souls Book Discussion Group

The next meeting of the Book Discussion Group will be at 4 p.m. on Nov. 9 at the home of Woody Smith: 3003 Van Ness St. NW, Apt. W-1020. The selection is *Journal of a Solitude* by May Sarton, or any selection by this author. For directions, call Woody at 202-686-4107.

The Book Discussion Group meets on the second Sunday of each month at 4 p.m. Join us for any book that interests you. The contact person for the group is Nancy Simon, 301-588-8299 or e-mail whittsimon@aol.com.

Quilt to Show You Care

The Quilting Group will resume meeting on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. We are completing our work on the Caring Quilt, which, when complete, will be made available to the Caring Committee for distribution to members in need of a little T.L.C.

We are in need of new members who like to stitch and socialize. We also encourage all ASC members to stop by and put in a few stitches—as the more people that work on the quilt, the more caring is felt by the recipient. No prior experience is necessary. For more info, contact Rose Kurland at 202-243-3184 or rbkurland@aol.com or Kathie Shahan at 202-483-8284 or kathie.shahan@usdoj.gov.

Update on Covenant Groups

There is still room available in a few of the newly formed covenant groups, and spaces have opened up in some of the ongoing groups. Covenant groups are small gatherings of people that meet around a particular theme of spiritual significance and importance (e.g.—Sacred Listening, Parenting). They have become a means for creating connections within ASC. If you are interested in a covenant group, contact Rev. Shana at 202-332-5266 ext. 15 or e-mail her at shanagood@msn.com.

Interweave Meeting

Interweave will have its next meeting on Sun., Nov. 16 at 1 p.m. at the church. If you are a new member and are interested in GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual and/or transgender) issues, regardless of your sexual/gender orientation, come to our meeting. We will discuss events for the winter and fall. To learn more, contact Shawn Strout at sstroutDC@yahoo.com or 202-288-6442.

Auditions! Auditions!

Auditions for KUUMBA Players' winter production, *Free To Be... You and Me*, will take place on Sat., Dec. 6 and Sun., Dec. 7. *Free To Be... You and Me* is a celebration of human potential using music, poetry and storytelling. There are lots of parts for a variety of age groups. Elizabeth Andrews will direct. The play is scheduled for the last two weekends in February, with performances on Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons. KUUMBA will hold a pre-audition briefing on Nov. 16 to answer questions.

Also, keep in mind that the Accessibility Committee will be sponsoring the KUUMBA Players' staged reading of *And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson*. A discussion of attitudes and myths about disability will follow.

Buddhist & Taoist Spirituality

A day-long Saturday Workshop will be held on November 22 as part of the Adult Spiritual Education program. Hugh Bryne, PhD, Buddhist Studies professor for the Smithsonian, and Peter Mosher, leader of Ahimsa Practices, will be the presenters.

Beginning at 9:30 a.m. with presentations and discussions on the Buddhist and Taoist spiritual paths, followed after lunch with Taoist Qigong (including Tai Chi) and Buddhist sitting meditation, and closing with a sharing time we will explore ways to deepen our spirituality and cultivate our ability to act in love in ever-expanding circles. For more information, contact Peter at 202-332-5266 x 19 or pmosher@all-souls.org.

Revisiting the Color Line

The People of Color Caucus, the ASC Book Group and A Dialogue on Race and Ethnicity will host facilitated discussion sessions on WEB DuBois' *Souls of Black Folk*. We will discuss the implications of this historical work on the many struggles for peace, economic and cultural

justice, and racial and ethnic self-determination taking place in our world today. All Souls members are encouraged to begin reading this important work now in preparation for our review of this great literary piece in February 2004.

Start the New Year with Roots & Wings

Why not make spiritual exploration and learning more about All Souls and Unitarian Universalism part of your New Year's resolutions? All Souls will offer two new rounds of the Roots and Wings classes in Jan. 2004.

These classes offer ASC members, prospective members and friends the opportunity to learn about these things in six sessions, a class project, and a social gathering. The classes are informative, thought provoking and fun! The classes will be offered on the following dates:

Sundays, Jan. 4 through Feb. 8, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., led by Sharon Newburg-Rinn, snewburg-rinn@acf.hhs.gov and Steven Newburg-Rinn, stevennr@erols.com.

Wednesdays, Jan. 14-Feb. 18, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., led by Kat Morgan, cougarness@aol.com

To sign up, please contact one of the co-facilitators for the classes for which you are interested. As co-facilitators of the sessions, they will provide more information concerning meeting locations, etc.

Silver Souls Sponsor Holiday Lunch

The Silver Souls will sponsor a Traditional Holiday Luncheon on Sunday, Dec. 14. The luncheon will be a fundraiser toward a church refurbishment project. Dorothy Bledsoe is chairperson of the Planning Committee. We need several volunteers. Dorothy can be contacted at 301-805-7721 and dot.bledsoe@verizon.net. Additional information will be provided as plans are developed.

Also, beginning with the January meeting, the Silver Souls will meet on the third Thursday. We will continue to meet at 10:30 a.m. to fold the newsletter and then hold our meeting at 12 p.m. with lunch provided by the church. The next meeting will be Sunday, Nov. 9 at 10 a.m.

Social Justice Leaders: Use the Web Site

Currently, there are only two social justice groups represented on the ASC Web site: the Ethical Dialogue and the 7th Principle Committee. We will post the "Active Souls" brochure, which lists activities in which members can get involved, on the Web as soon as it is updated.

We encourage leaders of social justice groups to start Web pages to be included in the *Social Justice* section of ASC site. If you're interested, contact Karla Haworth at karla.haworth@chronicle.com.

New Worship Associates Needed

The All Souls Worship Committee is recruiting new worship associates for 2004. Worship Associates work with the minister six Sundays per year. They provide a vital link from the congregation to the minister. If you are interested in learning how worship is put together, this is a great position for you. Applications can be picked up at the church office, or e-mail lbuchele@hotmail.com. The deadline for submission is Dec. 1, and Worship Associates must be available for an all-day training on Jan. 10.

Partnership for Affordable Housing

All Souls Church is working with the immigrant community at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church and the Washington Interfaith Network to organize our neighborhood to create decent and affordable housing. Actions include forcing the city to enforce code violations and creating a \$100 million Neighborhood Improvement Fund to fund affordable housing in throughout the city. Please join us! The next meeting of the All Souls/WIN Action Team will be Wed., Nov. 12 at 7 p.m. at the church. For info, contact Rev. Hardies at 202-332-5266.

Ethical Dialog, November 2003

Nov. 2 • Gangs in D. C. Number 2

Nov. 9 • David Easton's Defining Narrative

Jesse Price, Presenter

Nov. 16 • Open Discussion

Nov. 23 • Fundamentalism #3 Bob Myers, Moderator

Local Community

The Local Community task force will be assessing the Emergency Assistance Program at All Souls. The summer program assisted community members with emergency food and medical assistance when local clinics or food banks couldn't meet their needs. The Local Community task force, along with the Emergency Assistance Oversight Committee, will work to find the best way the church can address the growing demand for these services while government aid has declined. For info, contact Helen Rose at 703-648-9134, henierose@yahoo.com or Emily Koechlin at 301-891-1652, e.koechlin@starpower.net.

Calling All Creative Souls

A small committee is seeking evocative designs for the All Souls banner to be carried at demonstrations and marches, displayed at General Assembly, and visible at other significant events. The All Souls Quilters will assist in selection of the final design and then work their magic to produce the banner.

Why is this important? Ask anyone who attends General Assembly! It always opens with a parade of banners—this year 700 hundred of them were carried through the audience and then displayed.

Our banner was overshadowed—to say the least. Our church is widely known within the UUA as leading the way ‘across the river’ to becoming an anti-racist, multi-cultural community, for welcoming LGBTQs, and as an urban church doing social justice work while also being a prophetic voice in D.C.

There are many churches in the UUA that bear the name All Souls. Our banner design needs to clearly reflect WHICH All Souls Church we are. For design competition information, contact Judy Leaver at 202-544-8902.

Entries must be received by November 24. Submit them to All Souls Church Quilters; ASC Banner Design; 1500 Harvard St. NW, Washington, DC 20009.

Getting Started at All Souls

The Welcoming & Membership Committee invites those interested in learning more about and/or joining All Souls Church to the following sessions.

Step 1 Introduction: Join Minister Shana Goodwin to learn more about UUs and the history of All Souls.

Step 2 Orientation: Those interested in joining ASC are invited to this three-hour session, where you will learn about spirituality and the All Souls community, and tour the church. Those who become members of All Souls can sign the book of members at this meeting.

Step 3 New Member Ingathering Sunday: New members are formally introduced and welcomed to the congregation during this special Sunday service.

All are welcome. Attendance is not a commitment to join All Souls. For more information, contact Nancy Gist at 202-544-0639, or nancygist@netscape.net

Introduction Sundays, 11/16 & 12/14, 12:30 p.m.

Orientation Saturday, 12/20, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Ingathering Sunday 12/21 during service

Member News

Congratulations to Tricia Slusser and Jen Crawford on the adoption of Kennedy Lynn, and a warm welcome to Sidney & Nicole Keating, who are home from the hospital.

Congratulations to Jillian Evans on her August wedding, and to Amy Tarasovich and Pete Talbott on their September nuptials. Glad to hear that both Tom Fox and Tom Hargrave are recovering from problems with their eyes, and that Matt Weinstock has recovered from an emergency appendectomy.

Thankfully, Virginia View and Akbar Sharieff were safe after an enormous tree fell on their house, although the house is recovering slowly.

Warm greetings to Norm and Wini Williams who have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

We're sorry that Elizabeth King suffered a bad fall, soon followed by the loss of a long time and dear friend. Our sympathy to Wells Wulsin on his grandmother's death.

Aline Prentice has recently moved to Russia for a year or two. If you are interested in receiving her newsletter on life in Siberia, write her at alinecirce@yahoo.com.

Council Focuses on Planning

The Church Council works to make the implementers of our End Statements—the people in the covenant groups, on the committees, doing our social justice work—as effective as possible. With the growth of the church, many new leaders are blooming. We want to give leaders—novice and veteran—the tools to succeed at All Souls. So we are focusing the Church Council on leadership development in support of the annual planning process.

In the coming months, we will hold a leadership development retreat. Then each committee/group will evaluate how far it has come in the past year and develop tentative goals for the coming year. In June, lay leaders and staff will gather at the leadership planning retreat. After the leadership retreat, the Executive Team will do some fine-tuning of the annual plan. Then, at the Kick-Off Barbecue in September we will review the plan.

The Council is also streamlining procedures. We will start using email and the Web, so you can always review the up-to-date calendar when planning events. We will also make sure that paper copies are available, and you can still submit paper event forms. We will no longer hold monthly meetings. For more info, contact Bill Kules, 301-270-4325.

Calendar At-A-Glance

- Nov. 1:** Beckner Fund Application Training
see page 3
- Nov. 2:** Evening of Classical Guitar & Antiwar Poetry
see page 4
- Nov. 2:** Church Council Meeting & Bylaw Review
see page 3
- Nov. 5:** ADORE Meeting
see page 5
- Nov. 9:** Book Discussion Group
see page 6
- Nov. 12:** All Souls/WIN Action Team Meeting
see page 7
- Nov. 16:** All Souls Introduction Class
see page 8
- Nov. 16:** Annual Budget Review
see page 3
- Nov. 16:** Interweave Meeting
see page 6
- Nov. 16:** ADORE Viewing of *Bowling for Columbine*
see page 5
- Nov. 22:** Buddhist & Taoist Spirituality
see page 6
- Nov. 23:** Thanksgiving Community Aid Fund
see page 5
- Nov. 24:** Banner Design Deadline
see page 8
- Dec. 3:** New Worship Associate Application Deadline
see page 7
- Dec. 3:** Beckner Fund Application Deadline
see page 3
- Dec. 7:** *Passion for Justice* at Mt. Vernon
see page 5
- Dec. 7:** Tryouts for *Free to Be ... You and Me*
see page 4
- Dec. 7:** Annual Meeting
see page 3
- Dec. 14:** All Souls Introduction Class
see page 8
- Dec. 14:** Silver Souls Holiday Lunch
see page 7
- Dec. 20:** All Souls Orientation Class
see page 8
- Dec. 21:** Ingathering Sunday
see page 8
- May 21-23** All Souls Weekend on the Bay
see page 6

Art & Culture Fundraiser

December 6, 2003

In Support of the Social Justice & Diversity
Initiatives at All Souls Church

**Lots of exciting events surrounding this
wonderful, fun filled day!**

Pre-event tour of the Romare Bearden
Retrospective at the National Gallery of Art
Pre-event reception at the Millennium Arts Bed &
Breakfast on December 5, **December 6, for 9
hours in the afternoon and evening**

Art Sale — Meet the artists
The premier screening at All Souls on the History
of the church and its Daughter Churches
(courtesy of the Estate of Lawrence Staples and
Lynn Peters, Administrator, Cedar Lane
Unitarian Church)

Re-launch of the Friends of All Souls Church

ALL SOULS

The deadline for *All Souls* is the third Friday of each month. Notices, articles and letters may be submitted anytime in manuscript or computer file form. Leave submissions in the newsletter box in the church office, or e-mail *All Souls* editor, Elizabeth Preston, at elizabeth_mae_preston@hotmail.com.

All Souls editorial team includes: Lorie Allion, Gillian Evans, Elizabeth Preston. Editorial policy: articles and letters about church activities and programs submitted by church members and friends of ASC will be published in *All Souls* in a timely manner. Due to space constraints, lengthy articles may be edited, and articles not time-sensitive may be held for subsequent issues.

Publication Deadlines:

November issue — October 17

December issue — November 21

Editor: Elizabeth Preston

elizabeth_mae_preston@hotmail.com

All Souls Unitarian Church Services

Services at All Souls begin at 10:50 a.m.

Nov. 2 • *Belief and Unbelief* • Rev. Shana Goodwin

There are many ways in which we are encouraged to rely on our unbelief. What would it mean to cultivate our capacity to believe in one another and in something greater than ourselves? We will explore what a shift toward belief could mean.

Nov. 9 • *When Death Comes* • Rev. Robert M. Hardies

The first in a two-part sermon series: *The Fundamental Experiences of the Religious Life*. UU minister and author Forrest Church says, "Religion is humanity's attempt to cope with the dual reality of living and having to die." Skeptics often deride religion as a crutch for people who fear death. Much religious thought stems from death, but how can the knowledge of our death be a positive experience for religious life?

Nov. 16 • *What Wondrous Love is This?* • Rev. Rob M. Hardies

The second in a two-part series. Next to our own death, the most fundamental encounter in the religious life is the experience of unconditional love. Where do we seek and find that love? And how do we respond to that love in a religious way?

Nov. 23 • *Glimpses* • Rev. Robert M. Hardies

The Annual Thanksgiving Service and Collection

Every once in a while life breaks through the layers of habit and routine and provides us with glimpses of life in the raw: exhilaration, profound loneliness, desperation. A sensitive soul incorporates these glimpses back into daily life. Join us for our annual Thanksgiving Service and Collection of food and money to serve our neighborhood.

Nov. 30 • *Pilgrimage* • Rev. Shana Goodwin

Many of the world's major religions require that devout adherents make a pilgrimage to worship on sacred ground. What does such a journey offer to the spiritual life? Is it possible that without ever having gone to Mecca or Lourdes we have made pilgrimages of our own?

MISSION & ENDS STATEMENTS

Mission Statement of All Souls Church

To create a diverse, spirit-growing, justice-seeking community that transforms ourselves and our world into one great family of all souls.

Ends Statements: *By 2008 we will be able to say of our congregation:*

1. Church members of all ages discover and articulate the source of love in their lives and cultivate the ability to act on that love in ever-expanding circles.
2. All Souls is an ever-more diverse congregation, overcoming the barriers that divide the human family.
3. Our building and grounds are welcoming, comfortable and accessible to all who seek their use in congruence with our mission.
4. All Souls Church is a congregation where members generously share human and financial resources to support our growing mission and ends.
5. All Souls Church is a leader in the Unitarian Universalist movement, by witnessing to UU values in our nation's capital.
6. The Columbia Heights/Adams Morgan/Mt. Pleasant neighborhood is a more just and compassionate community because of All Souls' prophetic leadership.
7. All Souls Church is a vibrant and joyful community of communities where all seekers find connection, support and spiritual growth in groups large and small.

First Class Mail

Return Service Requested

All Souls Church, Unitarian
The Voice
1500 Harvard Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009

