



All Souls

www.all-souls.org

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

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All Souls at a Crossroads

Robert Hardies, Senior Minister

All Souls Church is at an important and exciting crossroads. After several years of growth in numbers and ministry, we must make some important decisions about our future: How will we assure that there is space for all who seek our ministry? How can our aging building support us and be safe and accessible to all? Should we have two Sunday services to welcome more seekers into our midst?

It is easy to look at these questions and focus only on the logistical issues

they raise. But, fundamentally, these are questions about our mission, not logistics. What kind of church are we called to be? Are we called to be a welcoming and hospitable home for all? Will we rise to our historic calling to be a beacon for progressive religion in our nation's capital? Will we embrace our identity as an anti-racist, multiracial and multicultural congregation?

After much prayer and consideration about these issues, I've come to the conclusion that in order

for us to fully respond to our calling as a church, we must intentionally plan now for a congregation that is larger and has more capacity than we do today.

But I want to know where you think All Souls is being called. I ask you to prayerfully consider these important questions, and to participate in the upcoming opportunities to discuss them in advance of our congregational meeting in December. Together, we will find the path that will lead us into our future.

Love,

Help Shape All Souls' Future

On Saturday, November 5, the Long Range Planning Task Force will host a conversation for church leaders with Stefan Jonasson, the UUA's Coordinator of Services for Large Congregations. Jonasson will draw on his considerable experience working with large churches to address many of the issues that you have raised about growth at All Souls,

such as: how to maintain community and connection as the church grows; how to effectively engage volunteers in the church; how to successfully manage and govern large churches; and how to successfully implement two services.

All members of the Church Council and interested parties are encouraged to participate in this important conversation

on Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Pierce Hall. To register, contact Tracy Butler attbutler@allsouls.us by Nov. 2. For more information, contact Tom Fox at foxthomash@aol.com or Barbara Corprew at barbara.corprew@usdoj.gov. If you can't make the Saturday event, there will also be a Town Hall Meeting on Nov. 6 at 1 p.m. with Rev. Jonasson.



ALL SOULS CHURCH

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www.all-souls.org
phone: 202-332-5266 fax: 202-332-8968

STAFF

Robert M. Hardies, *Senior Minister*
Shana Goodwin, *Associate Minister*
Jan O'Connell, *Administrator*
Tracy Butler, *Office Manager*
Gabrielle Farrell, *Religious Educator*
Louise Green, *Dir. of Social Justice Ministries*
Peter Mosher, *Facilities Manager*
Constance Ofori, *Childcare Provider*
Angela Powell Walker,
Director, DC Children's Choir
Earl Richardson, *Receptionist*
Jorge Sanchez, *Office Assistant*
Lenard Starks, *Director, Jubilee Singers*
John Strang, *Director of Music*
Nicholas Gant, *Children's Choir Manager*
Stacey Cosey, *Financial/Database Asst.*
Jessica DiPietro, *Childcare Provider*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Dorothy E. Holmes, *V.P.* (301-590-9518)
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Molly Freeman, *Membership Secretary*
Vanessa Lowe, *Treasurer*
Julie Agarwal, *Asst. Treasurer*
Bill Kules, *Moderator*

BUILDING HOURS

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

Notice of All Souls Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of All Souls Church is set for Sunday, December 4, 2005, at 1 p.m., in the Sanctuary.

We'll be taking several crucial steps into our congregation's future: we'll hear recommendations from the task force that has been studying the church's growth, and we'll consider whether to adopt the covenant of right relations with which we've been living since April.

The Annual Meeting is the main business meeting of the year, and we'll hear from the Board on how our church is moving to meet our ends statements; we'll vote on next year's budget; and we'll elect trustees, officers, and the Nominating Committee. Candidate slates are printed starting on page 5, and they'll be posted near the Harvard Street entrance to the church. More information on the budget will be available starting with the budget hearing on November 13.

Come out and participate—this is the central opportunity to take stock of where we are as a church, and to prepare for the next year!

All are welcome to attend. To vote, you must be a church member who has made a contribution of record in the past year. To check your status, contact Molly Freeman, Membership Secretary, at mollyfreeperson@aol.com or 301-656-0948.

For more information, or to comment, please contact Bill Kules, Moderator, at 301-270-4325 or wmk@takomasoftware.com; Chuck Wooldridge, President, at 202-723-4069 or c.wool@verizon.net; or Jon Fetter-Degges, Secretary, at 202-232-1545 or jonfetterdegges@gmail.com.

All Souls Weekend on the Bay this May 12-14

Save the Date! Due to a scheduling snafu with Camp Tockwagh, this year and this year only the All Souls by the Bay weekend retreat has changed dates. If you haven't been before or have enjoyed it in the past and want to make sure you can make it this year please plan to join us—Friday, May 12th to Sunday, May 14th. That means that this year we will have a Mother's Day theme. Don't miss all the fun and community building!

Listening Session for African-American Members

There will be a special listening session for all African-American members of the congregation interested in offering ideas and input to the Multicultural Growth Task Force held on Tuesday, Nov. 29 at 7 p.m., Eaton Room. Critical to the success of our efforts is the insight and participation of as many of our current members as possible. If you are unable to attend, please contact a member of the task force: Mark Hicks, Sheila Campbell, Denise Anderson, Jim Armstrong, Marian Urquilla, Jim Regan, or Rev. Goodwin.

Help Out Local Families at Thanksgiving

On Sunday, Nov. 20 we will once again collect food for families in our neighborhood, but there is new recipe! Bring ONE double paper shopping bag with the following and drop off only on Sunday the 20 before church in Pierce Hall: two cans of cranberry sauce; two boxes or bags of stuffing mix; six potatoes, a bunch of carrots, one bag of celery, one can or package of gravy, fresh squash for six, six fresh oranges, one package of cookies or one box of pudding mix (and a partridge in a pear tree...). We will supplement this with food being brought in by area UU churches, and take a special collection during worship for ASC Social Justice Ministries. Please give generously in food and funds.

Monthly Volunteer Opportunities

These two opportunities are looking for monthly volunteers, and happen all year long.

- New! On the first Monday of the month, the Christ House Dinner Program is looking for volunteers to shop on Saturday, cook on Sunday afternoon OR prep and serve from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. on Monday. There is a complete shopping list, menu, and instructions available. (Nov. 7, Dec. 5)
- On the third Thursday of the month, there is a Sacred Heart Dinner Program, 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at 16th and Park Road in the church basement. (Nov. 17, Dec. 15)

To volunteer, contact Dave Jones, davidson@yaho.com or Louise Green, lgreen@allsouls.ws

Baltimore-Washington Growth Committee

Evelyn Spurgin & Rev. Bill Welch, co-chairs

The Baltimore Washington Growth Committee has completed the regional growth plan (http://jpd.uua.org/metro_south/doc/bwgpu-final-0613.pdf) in May 2005, and gathered the support of 18 of the 27 congregations in the region. We expect more endorsements this Fall.

Our committee has been charged to: Provide leadership to this regional effort to share and grow Unitarian

Universalism by coordinating the implementation of the regional Growth Plan, and to be the catalyst to change the culture to cooperation and collaboration.

At this time, four sub-committees are currently under development: Vital Congregations; Public Outreach; Diversity; and New Large Congregations. Additional ones, including Fundraising and Revival, are being considered.

We want you to consider joining us by serving on one of the sub-committees or serving as a liaison in your congregation.. If you have any questions OR if you wish to volunteer, contact the committee co-chairs, Evelyn Spurgin (mes@hbdlaw.com) or Bill Welch (bwelch@uucf.org) or JPD Staff member Bob Johnsen (bob.johnsen@verizon.net). Chuck Wooldridge of All Souls Church is one of the committee members. You may also contact him for more information (c.wool@verizon.net).

Caring for the Earth: Global Warming

Next month, the All Souls Seventh Principle Committee is sponsoring an Adult Spiritual Development course on the "hot topic" of global warming, facilitated by Heather McGray and Kevin Rosseel.

UUs around the country are working to craft an ethical and spiritual response to this environmental, social, and ethical issue. At All Souls, this two-part course will: discuss the science of global warming; identify the moral dimensions of the issue; look for signs of hope; explore how the strong social justice traditions of Unitarian Universalism apply; identify positive steps we can take.

Come and learn how you can help to shape All Souls' input into the denomination's Study/Action Issue for the 2006 General Assembly. The course will take place on two Thursdays, Dec. 8 and 15. Suggested donation of \$25. Sign up at <http://all-souls.org/spirituality/are/#registration> or contact Kevin Rosseel at krosseel@yahoo.com.

Join Us at the Caring Table ...

If you're interested in being part of the group that sends I cards of joy and concern each Sunday, contact Molly Freeman at mollyfreeperson@aol.com

Speaking Out Against Hatred & Violence

The Members of A.D.O.R.E.

Our minister, Rev. Rob Hardies, recently addressed the church community, Rev. Sinkford of the UUA and our assembled visitors on the question of violence and religion. What does it mean that an act of violence stands at the center of the meaning of redemption in Christianity, the dominant religious tradition in our culture? He concluded that its meaning is profound and that it matters fundamentally. Where is the cause of justice, equality, compassion and love?

Recent statements by former Education Secretary William Bennett raise the question of violence and its place in our world. On a radio program called *Morning in America*, former secretary of the Department of Education, William Bennett said: "if you wanted to reduce crime...if that were your sole purpose, you could abort every black baby in this country, and your crime rate would go down."

This appalling remark suggesting that America would be safer if 12 percent of its population were systematically killed received tepid criticism from the White House, a rebuke from the Anti-Defamation League, a call for an apology from the NAACP and a call on the FCC to investigate abuse of the public airwaves from Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX) and activist Rev. Jesse Jackson. Where is the voice of our community?

At a meeting of A Dialogue on Race and Ethnicity (A.D.O.R.E) on Oct. 5, members agreed that our community's voice should be raised against this assault on African Americans. We call on the leadership of the UUA, our church, and members of the community to speak out and take action against this outrageous use of the public airwaves. We may too often hear hateful, angry, life-denying speech. But there is much we can do to fight it and its ugly effects in ourselves, our families and communities, our church, our movement, our country and the world.

Find Our Voices

1. Make ourselves aware of our feelings about this topic.
2. Tell others how we feel; do not remain silent.

Interrupt the Process

3. Insist on speech that adheres to the seven principles.
4. Resist resignation and apathy.

Redirect the Conversation (and Action)

5. In small ways and large, we applaud ongoing and future efforts to infuse the seven principles with concrete action to build a just, equal and compassionate society.
6. We urge our leaders to speak out against hateful speech.
 - a. Letters to editors and politicians at every level helps.
 - b. Joining Jess Jackson's call on the FCC to insist on the fair and equitable use of the public airwaves, will help.
 - c. A.D.O.R.E. welcomes members to join us in fighting for racial justice and the right to life, liberty and happiness.

Striving for right relations in our lives is an ongoing process. Our leaders define the boundaries of acceptable speech and behavior. We concur with our actions or our silence. Our actions matter for today and tomorrow as our children will judge their prospects by the actions we take today. Join us.

Journey Toward a Balanced Budget

Fast on the heels of the Homecoming service each year All Souls has to prepare a budget for the next fiscal year. The **Annual Budget Hearing** is held each year as an opportunity for the congregation to review the proposed revenue and expenses for the upcoming year. This year it is scheduled for November 13 at 1 p.m. Members get to ask questions and give feedback about the budget before it goes to a final vote at the Annual Meeting. Based on feedback from the congregation, the budget will undergo final revisions. A lot of work has gone into drafting the budget over the last several months. Our new Administrator, Jan O'Connell, has been meeting with individual leaders and committees as well as forecasting figures for operational costs. Come to the meeting to learn about some exciting new plans for 2006 and see how our finances align with our end statements. Pencil in both dates now: Sunday, Nov. 13, Budget Hearing, and Sunday, Dec. 4, Annual Meeting, both at 1 p.m.

Nominating Committee Report to the Congregation

Your Nominating Committee is submitting for congregational consideration four nominees for the three three-year terms on the Board of Trustees, along with nominees for Church offices, elected annually. (The Board President and Vice President are elected by the Board itself.)

The Nominating Committee considered a number of very impressive candidates for the Board, and the nominees we are presenting are those whose particular backgrounds and strengths we regarded as most appropriate for the Board at this time. Some characteristics are always valuable in a Trustee; others would complement the skills and experience of the continuing Trustees: Sheila Campbell, Ernie Cormier, Dorothy Holmes, Paula Cole Jones, Dave Kerlina, and Steve Marshall. (Leaving the Board after completing their terms are Delabian Rice-Thurston, Liz Salett, and Chuck Wooldridge.)

The Trustees are the custodians of the mission and vision of All Souls. In their capacity as stewards, members of the Board need to lead the church community as a whole; they do not represent specific interest or activity groups. Similarly, while the Board's composition should reflect the diversity and pluralism to which All Souls aspires, members of the Board do not represent any age, ethnic, gender, race, or sexual orientation category or subgroup.

Specific qualities always valuable in a Board member are the following:

- Clear commitment to All Souls church
- Demonstrated effectiveness working within a group
- Ability to listen and communicate well
- Experience with other non-profit organizations
- Vision and broad perspective
- Sense of fairness
- Commitment to policy governance
- Facilitation and mentoring skills
- Time to devote to the duties of a Trustee
- Reputation for timeliness and reliability

Other characteristics would be particularly useful on the Board in 2006:

Commitment to the Board's goal of promoting multicultural growth, starting with a special focus on bringing in more African-American members

Experience in performance monitoring and assessment as the Board continues to develop appropriate metrics to measure progress with respect to our ends statements

Development/Fund raising experience

Ability to understand budgets and financial reports

Legal knowledge

For the statements below, candidates for all positions were asked to provide information on their All Souls volunteer activities as well as special talents and background. Candidates for the Board of Trustees were also asked to describe their vision for the church and for Board priorities. Officer candidates were asked why they were interested in the position.

Nominees for the Board of Trustees —Three Positions—

Ralph Belton — member for 15 years

The Global Concerns Committee offered an opportunity to join a UUA delegation in service to the Haitian people. The Committee on Ministry provided a most treasured opportunity to serve my community by assisting the ministers and ministry of ASC. As an architect, I am able to assist ASC as it prepares to embark on a capital campaign to improve our facilities. Twenty-six years as a teacher has honed my skills in working with others to achieve goals and exciting others to do their best. As an Architectural Consultant I have experiences and skills that can be offered to advance ASC. I bring an interest in seeing our community thrive and grow in racial and ethnic diversity and in re-visioning of our sanctuary and sacred complex. The Board's priorities should include our building and continuing development of our Policy Governance structure and of our development and dialogue on race and ethnicity.

Minneh Kane—Member for three years

I have served on the Worship Committee since 2003,

Nominating Trustees

as chair since 2004; the Planning Committee for Church Council retreat and workshop (2004-2005); and the Religious Education Committee (2003). I participate in the Words of Spirit Covenant Group and went on the 2004 Election Trip to Tampa. I am on the Board of Ecologic Finance, a non profit that provides credit to low-income people engaging in environmentally sustainable agriculture. As a lawyer at the World Bank, I have organizational, project management, and legal analytical skills. As a parent, I am committed to the future of the church. My vision for ASC is of a diverse and loving community united by shared spiritual values and a commitment to spiritual growth. The Board's priorities should be encouraging multicultural growth, ensuring that the church meets the needs and expectations of current, especially long-term, members, and deepening the spirituality of our church.

Chanda O'Donnell—Member for two years

My work as a bilingual teacher of adolescent immigrants flows from my profound sense of justice and desire to create equity. I am blessed to find a church that reflects my values and nourishes my soul. I have served as usher, collection counter, Oversoul facilitator, lunch server, and white ally. My sense of the Board's priorities is to ensure accountability to people of color as we prioritize an "evermore diverse congregation," to work for intentional, responsive growth and bountiful funds for ongoing operations, and to steward our treasured building. I envision a faith family lovingly and purposefully fostered by all in which we are rigorously honest, reflectively engaged and generously forgiving so that we may be sources of inspiration to ourselves and our world. I offer sincerity, youthful enthusiasm, board experience, skillful communication, and a commitment to uncovering common ground. It would be a joy to serve as an All Souls Trustee.

Janet Randolph—Member for four years

Co-developed Roots & Wings workshops in 2002 -- recruited facilitators, arranged and/or facilitated Roots & Wings sessions through 2003. Served on Membership Committee in 2002 and 2003. Since 2003, have co-chaired the Generosity Pledge Campaign, generating more than

\$600,000 in pledges for 2004 and more than \$720,000 for 2005; goal for 2006 is \$800,000. Chaired Nominating Committee in 2004. I bring 20+ years marketing and business operations experience as well as Board experience with a Unitarian church, credit union, and social justice non-profits. I see ASC as the national hub for spiritual, intellectual and social justice development, serving concurrently as a church, school, meeting, & celebration venue as well as social justice issue incubator. I believe the Board's priorities should be monitoring the planning and execution of a coherent growth plan that embraces current and future members, ministries, and facilities.

Nominees for the Secretary

Bryan Patten—Member one year

I've been attending All Souls since I moved to D.C. about two years ago and have been very impressed with both the people I've met and the work the institution is trying to do. I'm interested in the Secretary position because I see it as a meaningful way that I, as a relatively new member, can give something back to the church and also as a chance to learn more about the work the church is doing. If given the chance to serve as Secretary, I would take the position seriously and would certainly work hard to fulfill the responsibilities it involves. Beyond that, I currently work for a non-profit that has been going through a period of rapid growth for the last several years and would hope that some of my experiences and lessons learned from that position might be relevant to All Souls

Nominees for Treasurer

The Nominating Committee does not yet have a nominee for Treasurer. The incumbent, Vanessa Lowe, has decided not to stand for reelection in light of her possible relocation within the next year. She has enjoyed the position immensely and encourages anyone who loves numbers and finance to consider this form of service to our church. Vanessa will help with the transition and is willing to serve as interim Treasurer if no-one is elected to the position at the Annual Meeting.

In the meantime, the Nominating Committee is hoping to find a qualified candidate who could be nominated either

Nominating Trustees

by petition or from the floor at the meeting. Members who would like to be considered for the position are urged to contact either Chris Hunt (202-588-1118; jhunt@pgcc.edu) or Karen King (202-546-2464; kdking@math.msu.edu) of the Nominating Committee. For more information about exactly what is involved in the job contact Vanessa at 301-445-0168 or vaness32@earthlink.net.

Nominee for Assistant Secretary

Doug Belling—member for three and one-half years

My primary involvement has been with the 7th Principle Committee as an active committee member and in the Religious Education program as an Intermediate teacher. I am interested in the Assistant Secretary position because it is a new way for me to serve the church, and it will help me learn more about the Church Council and the Board of Trustees responsibilities. I bring numerous talents to the position including good listening skills, ability to organize and document activities and meetings, and familiarity with most of the church leadership.

Nominee for Assistant Treasurer

Louie Russell—Member for five years

Together with my wife, Ada, and daughter, Anna, I have been a member of All Souls for almost five years. I have been an usher and counter for most of those years. Counting and preparing the collection for bank deposit is a major responsibility of the Assistant Treasurer and one I have assisted in at least once or twice a month for four years. I helped initiate the innovations ushered in by the able and charming incumbent, Julie Agarwal. Julie greatly increased the number of the “Counting Corps” even as they took on increased duties, an improvement that should be maintained. I enjoy working with the other volunteers in this very concrete work done in support of the church.

Nominee for Moderator

Jody Feldman—Member for two years

I have been a UU since 1986 and have held several church leadership positions, including Board President and chair of the Council, Pledge Campaign, and Long Range Planning. I sing in the All Souls Choir and am on the Mu-

sic Ministry Committee. With the Church Council I have helped organize and facilitate our leadership and planning workshops. I am working with the Development Ministry Team to increase our sophistication in the area of financial sustenance for the church, which includes support for the Generosity Campaign and the Auction. Professionally, I am a consultant in the area of Organization Change, and I bring those interests and skills to my church life. I want us to operate efficiently, openly and fairly, in an environment that makes it easy for all of us to be involved in the life of the church.

Nominee for Membership Secretary

Molly Freeman (incumbent)—Member for 50 years

Over nearly 50 years at All Souls, I’ve done a bit of everything: hauled rocks on the Girard Street playground in the ’60s, helped redecorate the library in the ’70s, provided staff support to an ASC Growth Committee in the ’80s, chaired the Church Council in the ’90s, and since Y2K coordinated the Caring Table. I’m interested in being Membership Secretary because, to me, the joy of All Souls is its members, their quirks and talents. I believe keeping accurate membership records is important to the history of the Church, and keeping track of our members is challenging and stimulating. I’m particularly knowledgeable about and fond of our longer-term members, who may be less visible in today’s church but are appreciated for maintaining the Church on which we build today.

Nominating Committee Slate

This is the slate of nominees for the nominating committee for 2006: Hally Ahearn, Elizabeth Arnold, David Jones, Nicolas Manicone, Delabian Rice-Thurston, Wanda Rose, Kevin Rosseel, Kari Rowe, Elizabeth Salett, Nicola Wood, Charles Wooldridge

Members of the 2005 Nominating Committee who will carry over to 2006, joining the 12 members to be elected at the Annual Meeting, are Denise Anderson, Goldia Hodgdon, and Carol Falk Johnson.

All Souls Day

Charting a Course for All Souls' Future

Shana Goodwin, Associate Minister

November at All Souls offers many opportunities to reflect on the change and growth of the church, and your part in charting the course to our future. The Long Range Planning Task Force is helping us hone a vision of where we are going. The Multicultural Growth Task Force is focusing on growing our diversity.

Along with a sense of excitement, these changes bring apprehension and anxiety. These decisions weigh heavily—we know they are important, and that change and tough choices can bring disagreement and difficult conversations.

During this time, our work and reflection on the covenant of right relations will pay great dividends.

As we move into a very promising future, may we hold in our hearts the truth that we all want what is best for this congregation. We all want All Souls to thrive, to be a spiritual home in which we are nourished, and of which we are all proud.

Blessings on us all,



Jubilee Singers Presents Jazz Vespers

On Nov. 13, at 4:30 p.m., the Jubilee Singers invite you to Jazz Vespers for Peace and Healing. The focus of this service will be music that promotes healing and peace between individuals and between nations. The program will feature the Jubilee Singers, friends of the Jubilee Singers and an instrumental ensemble. Also featured will be local jazz pianist and composer, Al Davis. Davis is the director of music at St. Theresa of Avila Catholic Church in Washington, DC.

The featured work to be performed during the vespers is a provocative jazz mass, *Music for Peace* (AKA *Mary Lou's Mass*), by renowned jazz pianist and social justice activist, Mary Lou Williams. A new composition written

by Davis for All Souls will be premiered during the evening. The program will be rounded out with music by Jim Scott, Richard Smallwood, Andrew Lloyd Webber and others. Following the service, join us for fellowship and light refreshments. To learn more, visit the Jubilee Singers' table in Pierce Hall after services, call 202-332-5266 x141, or e-mail Lenard Starks at lstarks@allsouls.ws.

All Souls Day: Annual Meeting on Dec. 4

Chuck Wooldridge, President, Board of Trustees

This article is not about Nov. 2, the day on the Catholic calendar to commemorate the faithful departed. The All Souls day I want to commemorate is Dec. 4, 2005, the day we will hold our annual congregational meeting.

Participating in the annual meeting is a privilege and a responsibility. It is a privilege to carry on the democratic process at the core of our congregational polity. It is also our responsibility to ensure the strong future of All Souls through the election of church leaders and the vote on how we will spend the resources so generously given to us.

This year we will vote on the All Souls Covenant of Right Relations and brief the congregation on the recommendations of the Long-Range Planning Task Force. To make your voice heard and to be informed for the annual meeting, take advantage of several opportunities in November: the Long-range Planning and Growth Town Hall (November 6); the 2006 Budget Hearing (November 13); and upcoming discussions by the Committee on Ministry on the proposed covenant.

The health of our community can be measured by the vibrant participation at this meeting. I'll see you on Dec. 4. To borrow a saying: "All Souls, All Vote!"

From the Archives ...

In October, 1947, As All Souls prepared to host the annual meeting of the then American Unitarian Association, Winfred Overholzer, director of St. Elizabeth's Hospital and Moderator of All Souls wrote, (we) "are well aware of the threats to freedom of thought, to all that all that Unitarians hold dear, which lie about us." What might he have said today?

Regional UU Anti-Oppression Training

Anti-Oppression work is a spiritual practice. One of the ways in which we live our Unitarian Universalist faith is through justice making. This introductory training will focus on linked oppressions and the connection between anti-oppression work and spirituality. There will be programming for the advanced learner as well. The training will be held Nov. 18-20, from Friday evening at 5 p.m. to Sunday at 9 a.m. at the UU Church of the Restoration in Philadelphia, PA

For more information go to www.ConnectUU.com or contact: Elandria Williams, ewilliams@uua.org, 865-973-1896 or Kim Mason, kim@jpduua.org, 202-262-0485.

Denominational Affairs Committee

Help grow the voice of All Souls in the wider UU community—join the Denominational Affairs committee. The committee held its first meeting in late September and is looking for new members. We'll work to make the congregation more aware of denomination-wide programs, activities, and events, and to increase All Souls' participation and leadership. For more info, contact Megan Hanson at 202.445.1106 or meganleighbhanson@msn.com.

Ethical Dialog for November 2005

Nov. 6: *The Long-Range Plan: Quantity and Quality?*

Progress is being made at All Souls toward a long-range plan—can (does) a Plan include values and spiritual growth along with numbers and material growth?

Nov. 13: *Marriage: Healthy, Wealthy & Wise?*

The “til death do us part” vow, gay marriage, interracial marriage, free choice vs arranged marriages, divorce and annulments—Is marriage healthy today?

Nov. 20: *Katrina, Race and Good Governance*

The physical disaster and human tragedy of Katrina are compounded by the societal inequality (with racial overtones) and dysfunctional government performance. What does this mean to ASC and the larger community?

Nov. 27: *Open Discussion*

A chance to explore overlooked ethical challenges.

An Invitation to Support Justice

Thomas and Marsha Lillie Blanton

As members of All Souls Church, we are well aware of the history and commitment of the church in the many fights for civil and human rights. Sometimes history reminds us why we do what we do. 2005 marks the 25th anniversary of the Greensboro Justice Fund (GJF), which was established to honor the memory of five community leaders who were killed on Nov. 3, 1979 in an anti-Klan demonstration in Greensboro, NC. The organizers of the demonstration were members of the Communist Workers Party, a fact used to portray the violence as a confrontation between extremists. Although only the Klan and Nazi group members were found to have weapons, they were acquitted of the murders by a jury. Funds from a judgment in a civil suit were used to establish the GJF. Since 1980, the GJF fund has contributed more than \$500,000 to grassroots civil rights and labor struggles in the South.

We invite you to join us for a GJF anniversary celebration in D.C. on Nov. 19 for dinner and a panel discussion entitled: *The Reopening of Civil Rights Cases: Lessons for the 21st Century*. We will reflect upon the challenges we face in our efforts to build a fair and just society. The event is scheduled for: Nov. 19, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the People's Congregational Church, 4704 13th St., NW Washington, DC. The cost is \$50 for supporter; \$35 for friends; and \$15 for students. If you are unable to attend, we encourage you to make a financial contribution to the GJF (P.O. Box 1594, Northampton, MA 01061). For more information about GJF, see www.gjf.org. For information about the event, contact either of us at 202-722-4468.

Special Caring List

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the members of our congregation who are unable to get to church: Mary Jane Fisher, Virginia Gray, Loretta and Wesley Hanes, Mary Louise Robbins, Marianna Sewell, Marietta Sharp, Larry Stone, Emilie Wiggins. Notes or cards would be welcome. Addresses are in the church directory, or visit the Caring Table to sign cards. If you are interested in visiting, contact Rev. Goodwin at 202-332-5266.

Church Needs

Book Nook Monthly

The BookNook Monthly will be an ongoing column to highlight books of interest to UU members and visitors. We will highlight new books and also review older classic works. Visit us in the hall adjacent to the garden on Sundays after service to browse and buy! All proceeds benefit All Souls Church.

• *Faith Without Certainty: Liberal Theology in the 21st Century* by Paul Rasor, \$18

Paul Rasor is a UU minister, Director of The Study of Religious Freedom and professor of interdisciplinary studies at Virginia Wesleyan College, Norfolk, Virginia. His book concerns the development of liberal theology, reviewing historical roots in the 18th 19th, and 20th centuries and proceeding to the development of a 21st Century liberal theology with chapters on *The Postmodern Challenge*, *Liberation Theology* and *The Challenge of Racism* among other relevant themes.

• *Five Favorites* by A. Powell Davies, \$6

This booklet of sermons selected by the Davies Memorial Committee includes: *People Ask About God*, *The Danger of Preaching from the Bible*, *The Right to Disbelieve*, *The Uses of Frustration* and *More Lasting Than Happiness*. If you've never read Davies' work, this is a good place to start.

The BookNook is always looking for volunteers to help staff the Nook. If you love talking about books with people it's the perfect venue. Contact Ruel J. Eskelsen at 202.86.9416 or rueleskelsen@yahoo.com.

Book Discussion Group

The next meeting of the Book Discussion Group will be at 4 pm, Sunday, Nov. 13, at the home of Sheila Campbell. The book will be *Wild Ginger*, by Anchee Min. For more information, e-mail djrathman@yahoo.com. Dec. 11 we will have a movie, and for our meeting on Jan. 8, 2006, we will read *Reveille in Washington, 1860-1865*, by Margaret Leech. The Book Group usually meets on the second Sunday. Please join us for any book that interests you.

All Souls November 2005

Easy \$ for All Souls

by Carol Falk

You can get Safeway and other merchants to donate to All Souls for every purchase you make if you register your Safeway Club card, as well as credit or debit cards, at www.eScrip.com. Last year over 300 of us designated ASC as our chosen charity, generating nearly \$1,400 in extra income for the church. If you participated last year and haven't yet renewed with eScrip, you've probably missed the Nov. 1 grace period deadline for getting October purchases credited, but you can still renew and purchases will count from now on.

New participants can sign up on the web site at any time. Safeway will donate 1 percent - 3 percent to ASC, depending on the total of your monthly purchases. Other merchants and occasional special offers can produce even higher percentages. There is NO COST to you or to ASC except for the few minutes it will take you to register.

Questions? Contact Carol Falk at 202-483-5607 or falkjohnson@netscape.com.

Lunch Update

by Bailey Whiteman

As many of you know, longtime lunch volunteer coordinator Stacy Jarboe stepped down in August, and I agreed to coordinate lunch volunteers temporarily. I am happy to report that, to date, there have been seven lunches, four of them zero trash, cooked by three different teams, with more than 70 volunteers helping prep, serve and clean-up. My thanks to all who have helped so far, and to those already signed up to assist in the coming months.

As you can see, lunch is a volunteer-intensive activity. We need two chefs and 14 volunteers per week to make lunch run smoothly. All help is gratefully received! That said, we are looking for more people who can make a monthly or bi-monthly commitment. Shifts last 90 minutes, before service (9:15 a.m. -10:45 a.m.), right after sermon (about 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.) or just after lunch begins (12:15 p.m.-1:45 p.m.). We are also looking to mentor more chefs. To volunteer, contact me at 202-722-7575 or baileywhiteman@hotmail.com.

Member News

Congratulations to **Molly Moore** and **Chris Adams**, to **Stephanie Cryer** and **Todd Crosby**, to **Allison Denny** and **Topher Kendik** on their recent marriages, and to **Amanda Poppei** and **Peter Vershinski** on their engagement. Warm wishes to **Bill Price** and **Paul Pfeiffer** who celebrated 90-plus birthdays.

Many of our members moved this summer: **Al and Lois Howlett** to Maine, **Aja Kirksey** to San Francisco, the **Medskers** to New York, the **Wiley-Coukos** family to California, **Rebecca Kallem** to Spain, **Annika Black** to Maine, **Sarah and Henry Tate** to Florida via Ohio where they bought bikes and played with grandchildren. **Kiersten Homblette** is off to the Peace Corps in West Africa.

We're thankful for the safe returns of **Ralph Belton** who was replacing the roof of his mother's house in hurricane battered Grenada, and of **Ann Ross'** and **Judy Clark's** sons from Iraq.

We wish full recoveries to **Harry Quiett** who had thyroid cancer surgery, **Al Nicholson** who had malignancies removed from his nose and throat, **Mel Hardy's** father who had a benign intestinal growth removed, **Lydia Mosher** who broke her ankle badly, **Robert Trautman** who had foot surgery, **Pat Straus** who had back surgery, **Denise Anderson** who had her rotator cuff repaired, and **Janis Knorr** who's had a long illness.

Our thoughts are with **Jessie Bakeman**, **Trellis Waxler** and **Bob Myer** who continue their struggle with cancer, and with **Peter Stebbins** who is serving a prison term in Terre Haute, Indiana.

We send our sympathy and love to **Claudia Liebler** and **Allison Denny** on the loss of their fathers, to **Alan Johnson** on the loss of his mother, to **Nancy Gist** on the death of her favorite uncle, to **Stan and Liz Salett** on the sudden death of a close friend, to **George Garland** on his sister's death, to **Jean Porter** on the loss of her brother, to **Pat McGovern** whose 22-year-old nephew died in an accident, to **Nicola Wood** on the loss of her uncle, to **Lynn Rosselini** whose father-in-law has been diagnosed with inoperable liver cancer, to **Beth Lambdin** whose husband's father died, and to **Bill O'Field** whose partner, **Steven Mansburg** died suddenly on August 20.

Getting Started at All Souls

The Welcoming and Membership Committee invites those interested in learning more about and/or joining ASC to the following sessions during October.

Step 1. Introduction. Join our Associate Minister, Rev. Shana Goodwin, to learn more about UUs and ASC. After service on Nov. 13, from 12:45 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Step 2. Orientation. Those interested in joining ASC are invited to this three-hour session, where you will explore your spirituality, learn about ASC, and tour the church. Those who wish to join can sign the book of members. Sat., Nov. 19, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Step 3. New Member Ingathering Sunday: New members are formally introduced to the congregation during this special Sunday Service on Nov. 20, 2005.

All are welcome to attend these sessions. Attendance does not constitute a commitment to join All Souls. It is not necessary to pre-register for these sessions. Questions? Contact Lynne Heltman at (202)363-1478 or asc-newmembers@verizon.net.

ALL SOULS

The deadline for *All Souls* is the third Friday of the month. Notices, articles and letters may be submitted anytime. E-mail, Elizabeth Preston at elizabeth_mae_preston@hotmail.com

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.

Illustrations provided by Mark Mitchell.
Editor Emeritus: Lorie Allion

Publication Deadlines:

December Issue: November 18
January Issue: December 16

Editor: Elizabeth Preston

elizabeth_mae_preston@hotmail.com

All Souls Unitarian Church Services

Services begin at 10:50 a.m.

Nov. 6 • *The Ever-Widening Circle* •

Rev. Stefan Jonasson and Rev. Hardies

Being UU calls us to reach out in ever-widening circles to the world, but how do churches cope with the growth and change that stems from this generous mission? This Sunday we will find out.

Rev. Stefan Jonasson is the UUA's consultant for large churches.

Nov. 13 • *Spacious Souls* • Rev. Hardies

The purpose of the spiritual life is to grow a spacious soul, a soul capable of withstanding the contradictions and complexities of the modern world. How do we grow such a soul? What does a spacious soul look and feel like?

Nov. 20 • *Is There Bread in the Church?* • Rev. Hardies

Join us for a joyous holiday tradition at All Souls: our annual Thanksgiving service. As always we will take a special collection of food and funds to support All Souls' ministries of justice and compassion in our neighborhood. Rev. Hardies will challenge us to find a place for compassion in our hearts and in our church this holiday season.

Nov. 27 • *The Strange Predicament of our Times* • Rev. Goodwin

It is an odd tendency in our culture to simultaneously emphasize fear and preparedness through vast amounts of information. How in the midst of a constant barrage of disaster and news of possible doom do we keep our balance?

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.

Return Service Requested

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



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