



All Souls

www.all-souls.org

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

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Planning for the Future at All Souls

Steve Marshall, President, Dorothy Holmes, Vice President, Board of Trustees

For more than a year, the Long Range Planning Task Force at All Souls has been listening to our members; gathering and analyzing information; meeting together and with our ministers, church leaders and the Board; and talking with experts on church growth. The Task Force has issued its final report. Please join us in thanking Tom Fox, Barbara Corprew, Marian Urquilla, Judith Bauer, Stan Salett, Lloyd Wright, Ernie Cormier, David Kerlina and David Wiley for their hard work and thoughtful deliberations.

The report made a number of recommendations which the Board approved at its January meeting. To read the report, visit www.all-souls.org and click on Long Range Plan, or get a hard copy at the church office.

Now that the Board has approved the recommendations, the executive

team has begun planning implementation. Highlights include:

Second Sunday Service.

We will add a second service in Fall 2007. We're getting pretty snug in the pews these days, and Rob and Shana have a lot of ideas of how to add a second service while holding on to the feeling of community we all love.

Capital Campaign.

All Souls will soon start exploratory work on a capital campaign. Our historic building needs care, and we need more space for RE and the many activities at All Souls.

Increased Financial and Administrative Resources

Other financial issues include increasing our operating funds, and making sure that we have enough staff to meet our growing needs (and that the staff is adequately compensated).

The 2006 budget set aside funds for All Souls to hire a membership and

volunteer coordinator beginning this fall.

Church Management

The task force has recommended that we take a hard look at All Souls management processes and practices. These haven't always kept pace with our growth, so there's plenty to consider about how we can best get the work of the church done.

Inreach and Shared Ministry

The task force recommended that we continue to have dynamic conversations about where we are going in these new initiatives, and progress on the things that have already begun, like our multi-cultural outreach, continuing growth of our excellent RE program and expansion of our social justice activities.

To participate, join us in a conversation with the ministers and Board of Trustees on Sunday, March 19, from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. in the sanctuary.



ALL SOULS CHURCH

1500 Harvard Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009
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*
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*

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Jody Feldman, *Moderator* (703-812-8840)

BUILDING HOURS

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

You and Your Church

Shana Goodwin, *Associate Minister*

Each of you has a unique connection to All Souls, and your presence plays an integral role in changing, shaping, and making it what it is. Now that important decisions have been made about the future of the congregation (the long-range plan) and how we will treat one another (the covenant of right relations) it's a good time to look at involvements in the church that are important to you.

At each new member introduction session, we encourage everyone to both find a way to serve All Souls and a way for All Souls to serve them. I ask you to do the same. What activities at the church might nourish your spiritual life that you haven't yet tried? What gifts and talents do you have that might add to our communal life?

One opportunity I invite you to consider is the All Church Retreat, All Souls by the Bay, over Mother's Day weekend. From May 12-14, several hundred members will gather to deepen connections, worship, attend workshops, enjoy the beautiful natural setting, and have fun. Bring your mother! Invite someone from church you've wanted to get to know. Whatever you do, don't miss it!

Heartfelt blessings,

Join us for All Souls Auction: A Foolish Evening

On Saturday April 1, 2006, from 6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., is the best church party of the year! Come eat delicious food, enjoy the entertainment, meet church friends, and support the church through the silent and live auctions. Admission is \$10 per person, and free for volunteers. Send an e-mail to allsoulsauction@yahoo.com to volunteer to man a silent auction table, help decorate or cleanup, or tend bar. Child care is available to those who register for it by March 27. To register for child care, write allsoulsauction@yahoo.com, and include the names and ages of the children who will attend.

We are accepting donations through March 12 at the Auction table in Pierce Hall following the service, and via our website, www.all-souls.org/auction. Think you don't have anything to contribute? Think again! You could: host a poker game ... pet sit ... host a movie night ... sponsor an outing to a museum ... donate your handyman expertise ... deliver a dinner ... share your garden vegetables ... do yard work ... bake bread ... make a floral arrangement ... design a web site ... host a dinner party ... wash and wax a car ... provide a picnic dinner for two ... organize a sight-seeing trip ... donate art work ... provide entertainment ... host a children's party ... wash windows ... make a gift basket ... provide use of your pickup truck ... the possibilities are endless! Visit the Auction table to discuss your donation!

WIN Teams Up with All Souls! All Vote!

The All Souls chapter of the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) is teaming up with All Souls! All Vote! for a non-partisan voter turnout and education campaign. The first goal of the campaign is to identify what issues are most important to Ward 1 registered voters. To do this, we need your help! On Sunday, March 12, from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., we need 100 volunteers from All Souls to participate in a neighborhood voter canvass by going door-to-door (with a partner) and speaking with registered voters in the neighborhood around All Souls. You'll receive about an hour of training beforehand at the church, and you'll have a script to help you start these voter conversations. The route you will walk will be laid out for you on a map and will be safe and walkable.

We need to find out what issues are important to Ward 1 voters in order to identify which candidates support the solutions to the neighborhood's problems. Later this year, we'll educate registered voters about the candidates in the upcoming Mayoral and City Council elections, and we'll encourage them to get to the polls on Election Day.

To volunteer or for more info, email votervolunteer@gmail.com or call Colleen Fitzgerald at 202-332-5411.

Sexuality & Justice Sunday

Don't miss *Just Say Know*, a sermon on sexuality as a religious and justice issue on March 26. The Rev. Dr. Bernice Powell Jackson is a tireless advocate for civil rights, women's rights and human rights issues around the world. She has recently served as Executive Minister of the United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries, and Executive Director of the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice.

In 2005, she was elected world Council of Churches president from North America. She is continuing her prophetic ministry through consulting projects, and lives near Tampa, Fla. Rev. Jackson is our guest preacher on March 26, in a service that will include Rob Keithan of the UUA Washington Advocacy office, and will highlight the "Our Whole Lives" curriculum for young people and national training for advocates on these issues.

Volunteer Leadership Needed

UUA's Joseph Priestly District, of which All Souls is a member, is holding its Annual Conference on March 30-April 1 in Arlington, Va. In an effort to get a wide range of folks involved, they are looking for some good experienced volunteer leadership that works with children or youth to lead programming. We need three distinct leaders and three assistants to lead some programming on Saturday. The three areas which need an adult leader and assistant are for a children's program for ages 5-10, a middle school program for ages 11-13 and a youth program for ages 14-17. If interested, contact, Michele Grove at 304-283-7005 or michgr@adelphia.net

Joseph Priestly Annual Meeting in March

The Joseph Priestly District is made up 65 UU congregations in 65 communities in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Northern Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Their annual spring conference is in Crystal City this year, March 31-April 1. It will feature a keynote address from Gini Courter (UUA Moderator), an Anti-Racism service, Soulful Sundown service and 24 workshops on topics ranging from "The Generous Heart of Liberalism: It's Power to Transform" to "What Makes a UU Congregation 'Vital'?" For more information, talk to Megan Hanson (meganleighthanson@msn.com, 202.445.1106) or visit www.jpduua.org.

GA Registration Opens March 1

General Assembly is an annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists from all over the country. Five days of exciting workshops, worship services, gatherings, and meetings await attendees. This year's GA is June 21-25 in St. Louis, Mo. Highlights include a lecture from Pulitzer Prize-winning author Mary Oliver, a Sunday morning sermon by The Reverend Gail R. Geisenhainer on the Good News of Unitarian Universalism, as well as a wide variety of workshops and activities.

Early registration and housing opens March 1—for more information, visit www.uua.org/ga, or talk to Jim Heltman (202-363-1478, heltman1@verizon.net).

REflections

Gabrielle Farrell, Religious Educator

Each week in our RE classes we try to ask each of the children to reflect on something that went well or something that could have been better that day at church. I share a story that I have already shared with the teachers.

While teaching the Primary B (first and second grade) class, at its end, holding parents at bay, I called the children to a closing circle and asked each to share one good thing that had happened that morning. Some started by sharing something good that happened that week, which I redirected, explaining that sharing was for joys and sorrows earlier in class. Some asked if they could tell me something that happened on the way to church and I relinquished, interpreting this to be an exceptionally kind way of telling me nothing good had happened that morning.

Most, though, articulated that they really enjoyed making their shoebox houses, part of a lesson on homelessness. In addition to decorating the shoeboxes and using a box cutter to cut openings here and there, each child had to choose only five items to put in their home. The conversations with each other about their choices were enlightening.

One boy, who doesn't attend often, pointed and offered that the best part of his day was "that boy helping me to build my garage by helping me to cut the box." He had pointed to an older boy who had spent time in this class because he was unable to behave in his class. (I was subbing and not available to give the usual boring admonishments in my office.) The older boy was actually taken aback—moved. I could see his shoulders soften and the corners of his mouth turn up just a bit. Later he helped us clean without being asked.

When you think about it, we all come to church to learn how, or be reminded of or be inspired to, be important to someone or something, to make some difference, to make something better, to leave a mark. This past Sunday, like every one before it, it happened again.

UUSC Guest at Your Table Program

The Middle School class has adopted the UUSC Guest at Your Table program as part of their social justice work, (re-) introducing it to our church. The UUSC was founded in 1939 to rescue victims of Nazi persecution. It's now an independent human rights organization whose work is grounded in UU principles and made possible by the activism and generosity of more than 39,000 members.

This year's Guest at Your Table program is dedicated to helping strengthen workers' rights; protect the right to safe, affordable water; defend civil liberties and democratic processes; and preserve the rights of vulnerable people after disasters. Guest at Your Table is our UU tradition for educating our communities about human needs and human rights, and sharing our blessings: perfect to teach.

Each All Souls' household is asked to take a "guest (box)" home for March, sit it at your table and at each meal, invite that guest to participate by donating the cost of the meal, or some portion thereof, to the box. At the end of the month, on April 2, return your box to church.

The point, of course, is to raise money for the UUSC and its program partners doing the work of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), to borrow a Hebrew phrase. But so too, is it meant to help us develop a practice of always keeping a guest at the table, at least in our minds, hearts and spirits. Look for your favorite middle schooler on March 5 and a box to take home!

Annual Talent Show Planned for March 26

Start practicing or ... not. The RE Committee's friendly, low key, full of surprises and poignant moments Talent Show will once again come to Pierce Hall, 30 minutes after lunch, on March 26.

There's not much to do other than to show up, alone or with a group, and sign in with Bob Freeman, host extraordinaire. Everyone is encouraged to participate as a performer or audience member.

Are You Looking for an Alternative to the Religious Right?

Then start building it!

The Network of Spiritual Progressives is coming to All Souls. We are hosting the **Second Spiritual Activism Conference on May 17-20, 2006**. NSP is a project of the Tikkun Community and is co-chaired by Rabbi Michael Lerner, Professor Cornel West and Sister Joan Chittister. Its goals are to:

1. Change the bottom line of materialism in America;
2. Challenge the misuse of religion by the right wing; and
3. Encourage the left to provide a more welcoming space for those whose views are inspired by religious or spiritual sources.

We need your help! The 1st Spiritual Activism Conference in July 2005 in Berkeley, Calif attracted 1,300 people, a capacity crowd. Our team of volunteers will be working closely with NSP over the coming months to prepare for this important event in areas including hospitality, publicity and building use.

We especially need volunteers who will be available during the Conference (weekdays are a plus! – including Tuesday, May 16 preparation work). Contact volunteers@allsouls.ws for more information on all volunteering opportunities. Please indicate if you want to work on ad-

vance logistical planning for the Conference, work during the conference, or both. A limited number of individuals who work 20 hours during the Conference will be able to attend the rest for free.

Be part of the All Souls Bed & Breakfast for about 100 grassroots organizers, low-income, or student attendees. This is a chance for our congregation to raise money, and a way to provide hospitality for visitors. To host guests that will be coming to Washington, contact Jennifer Smith at kenjenna@aol.com.

To learn more, or to register, visit www.tikkun.org.

Happenings

All Souls Potluck Seder: April 8

Reserve Saturday, April 8, at 5:30 p.m. for the annual All Souls Potluck Seder.

This is an important celebration of the freedom from oppression, from whatever source. And it is fun!

We do singing, toasting (if you bring the wine), and the kids search for the Afikomen (a prize gets awarded to whoever finds the hidden Matzo, but no adults are allowed to search).

Come yourself. Bring your families, your children! Your neighbor's children! Your friends!

For further questions, or to volunteer to help in the planning, set-up, and clean-up, contact Steven and Sharon Newburg-Rinn at stevennr@verizon.net or 202-543-6629, or Delabian Rice-Thurston at 202-726-1518, delabian@aol.com.

Jubilee II Training at All Souls in March

“By 2008, we will be able to say of our congregation: All Souls is an ever-more diverse congregation, overcoming the barriers that divide the human family.”

All Souls Church is striving toward diversity, but it is immersed in a society and a culture that has yet to grasp the importance of this work. March 24-26, ASC will host a Jubilee II Anti-Racism Training.

The training will serve to remind us that we must be diligent in the face of very strong cultural counterforces and will reinforce our efforts to build a diverse, spirit-growing, justice-seeking community. The Jubilee II Training explores systemic and personal sources of racism in America. The training will help participants understand what is involved in nurturing a multicultural community.

Jubilee II Training is the place to begin the transformation of ourselves and our society into one great family of All Souls. Sign up now: It is limited to 40 participants.

The training will take place at All Souls, costs \$60 (includes training and all six meals). To learn more, contact Christine Toll at 301-738-1562.

KUUMBA Players Show Who WE ARE!

When searching for a 2006 production to fulfill the KUUMBA mission to produce socially conscious works of theater, Dr. Ysaye Barnwell's musical work became the inspiration for an original production, *We Are! A Theatrical Celebration of Dr. Ysaye M. Barnwell*.

An All Souls member and founder of the Jubilee Singers, Barnwell is acclaimed for leading the Grammy-award-winning group *Sweet Honey in the Rock*. Her songs celebrate the ancestors, honor the inherent worth of people and challenge us to continue the struggle for human rights.

Working with Dr. Barnwell, the KUUMBA Players developed a musical that blends storytelling and dance with choral selections of her work. With a cast from All Souls and the community, *We Are!* is produced and directed by Elizabeth Andrews, Gregory Ford, and Anna Hargrave with musical direction by Lenard Starks, technical direction by Ben Zitelli and choreography by Diana Dinerman.

Mark your calendars because *We Are!* will be a unique musical performance you won't want to miss. Performances are: Saturday, March 18 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, March 19 at 3 p.m.; Saturday, March 25 at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, March 26 at 3 p.m. **Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids.**

To purchase tickets and/or join the Celestial Circle of KUUMBA patrons, email annaharg@aol.com or leave a message on the KUUMBA Players voice mail at 202-332-5266 x 142. Include your name, phone number, date you wish to attend and number of requested tickets. *If you volunteer as an usher, you can see the show for free!

Sharon Fowler-Nwosu Passes Away

Sharon Fowler-Nwosu, longtime church member and member of the Jubilee Singers, mother of church member Mika Hicks, mother-in-law to member James Hicks, and grandmother (Mama Sharon) to James Jr., Jordyn, Ryen, and Ethan, died this past week. A memorial service, conducted by Rev. Shana Goodwin, was held at the church Saturday, February 25. The Jubilee Singers, of which she was an integral part, participated in the service.

Book Nook Monthly

Ruel J. Eskelsen, BookNook Chair

“In the beginning I didn’t know who they were or where to find them. But I had heard of David Eaton. In 1976, while visiting my grandmother in Washington, DC, during the Christmas holiday, I dressed up in a sports coat and tie and drove to his church on 16th and Harvard Streets. As I slipped in the side entrance of All Souls Unitarian Church I was anxious. That faded when David saw me, smiled, threw his arms wide, and spoke my name with his mid-Atlantic drawl. Then he sat me down in his wood-paneled study and said, “Man, let me tell you how it is...” He was the first African-American Unitarian Universalist minister I had ever met.

So begins Mark Morrison-Reed’s moving narrative in *Black Pioneers in a White Denomination*. The book tells the stories of early efforts to promote liberal religion in the American black community. As the opening paragraph shows, this book is sprinkled with tidbits of history from our own All Souls Church. It is both a painful and inspiring portrait of the past challenges we’ve had in striving to become a multicultural religious movement. It is also rich with ideas for realize this goal.

Please visit us in the hall adjacent to the garden on Sundays after service and browse and buy! All sales proceeds go to benefit All Souls Church.

Volunteers Needed! The BookNook is in need of additional members to help with the project. Two immediate needs: 1) bookstore sales and marketing; 2) cabinet maker for constructing a new kiosk. Contact Ruel J. Eskelsen at 202.86.9416 or rueleskelsen@yahoo.com.

Sprucing Up the Courtyard

A group of volunteers is working on sprucing up the Courtyard for upcoming springtime events (auction, plant sale, conference, weddings, etc.).

We will need extra help one Saturday in March (March 18 or 25), to lay down sod and move some plants, etc. Contact Meg Staines at 202-238-0044 or mstaines@starpower.net if you are interested in helping.

Thanks!

Transracially Adopted? Share Your Story!

Dr. Gina Miranda Samuels at the University of Chicago is recruiting black-white mixed race adults, ages 18-35 who were adopted by white parents, to interview. These interviews are being conducted for the publication of a book about the experiences of transracial adoptees who also have mixed race heritage.

The researcher is a mixed race transracial adoptee, who believes this research will make a valuable contribution to the field and to mixed race children. Participants will be asked to complete a one-hour audio taped interview and optional 30-minute follow-up interview.

You will be asked questions regarding your background as an adoptee, as well as experiences in how you have come to understand yourself racially and culturally. Interviews will be conducted at a place of convenience you over the phone.

If you are interested in participating, Dr. Samuels would be happy to answer any questions. Contact her at gmsamuels@uchicago.edu or 773-834-2163 or Amy Reyes Tam, at reyestam@uchicago.edu. (All participants will be paid \$25 for participating in the study!)

SPECIAL CARING LIST

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the members of our congregation who are unable to get to church any more: 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 (available at the Information Table in Pierce Hall). You can also visit the Caring Table to sign cards for those homebound. If you are interested in visiting shut-in members, contact Rev. Shana Goodwin at church (202-332-5266).

Ethical Dialog for March 2006

March 5

Cartoons, Humor, Blasphemy & Personal Liberty

What, if any, are the limits of propriety, political correctness, and ethical conduct when depicting “life” in literature, art, and the everyday?

March 12

The Left and the Right of the Spiritual

Can a ‘Spiritual Left’ centered on love, caring, compassion, and a capacity for awe and the wonder for life counter the Right’s use or misuse of God and religion in pursuing power and wealth? Reference Michael Lerner and the Spiritual Progressive Movement (www.dragonflymedia.com and www.tikkun.org).

March 19

Security, Wiretaps, Freedom—A Moral Mix

The controversy over legal or illegal wiretaps in the pursuit of national security and the Patriot Act offer issues for dialog in the search for freedom and security.

March 26

Open Discussion

The time for exploring neglected or overlooked ethical and moral challenges of the day.

Spiritual Practice Taught by Rev. Hardies

This class is for those who are serious about cultivating a regular spiritual discipline in their lives. Rev. Hardies will introduce a discipline that is rooted in UU tradition, open to diverse theological perspectives, and practical for our busy lives. We will learn forms of prayer, meditation, journaling and devotional reading. Participants commit to regular prayer and journaling throughout the period of the class. There will be an option for the group to continue on as a covenant group after the class ends. Register on the All Souls website: www.all-souls.org. From the home page click on the link for Adult Spiritual Development. The class will be in five evening sessions, Thursdays 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/20. Suggested donation is \$30.

ASD Courses for Spring 2006

These Adult Spiritual Development courses are being offered this spring—and some start very soon! For more info or to register, visit www.all-souls.org and click on Adult Spiritual Development.

Engaging the Political/Religious Left—Reflection for Action

Dates: five Tuesdays, March 7 - April 4

Time: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Facilitator: Rev. Louise Green

****Please note: This is a second section of the same course facilitated by Rev. Hardies; if you were wait-listed for that course, this is your second chance!****

Unitarian Universalist Spiritual Practice

Dates: five Thursdays, March 16 - April 20 (no class 4/13)

Time: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Facilitator: Rev. Rob Hardies

Building Your Own Theology

Dates: eight Monday evenings, April 3 - May 22

Time: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Facilitators: Julia Kernochan and Richard Schmechel

Evolution, Intelligent Design, and the Separation of Church and State

Dates: four Thursday evenings, April 27 - May 18

Time: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Facilitator: Megan Hanson

Image and Word

Dates and Times: two Wed. evenings, May 3 and May 10, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.; one Sat. morning, June 10, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Facilitator: Rev. Shana Goodwin

What Does Love Look Like?

(expressing love through the art of collage)

Dates: two Saturday mornings, June 3-10

Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Facilitator: Ananda Kiamsha Madelyn Leeke

Member News

Congratulations are in order for **Peter Mosher** as he starts his well deserved retirement, for **Denise Rathman** who will be using her skills as an activist in a new job, to **Frank and Lori Giblin** as they begin their marriage, and to **Bob and Molly Freeman** on celebrating fifty years of theirs.

Happy, happy birthday to three of our 90+ members who celebrated the occasion in February: **Charlie Mason**, **Elsie Paull**, and **Margaret Woodward**. It was wonderful to see Margaret in church recently.

We send healing messages to **Otto Ungar** who is at home recovering from a fall, to **Lydia Mosher** who missed Peter's retirement party because of dental work, to **Mary Bonner** whose wrist is bandaged, to **Jean Porter** who had a cataract removed, and to **Virginia View** who had knee surgery. We wish for each of them a speedy recovery.

Loving sympathy to **Neil Shister** on the loss of his mother, to **Gail Perry** whose brother has died, and to **Constance Ofori**, our nursery care provider, whose mother died, and to **Jessica DiPietro** whose grandfather died unexpectedly.

The recent snow did us some damage. **Pam Sparr** fell, hurting her back and ribs and **Libbie Buchele** fell and broke her right arm. Sadly, she is right handed and can't, even in the best of times, juggle the twins in her left arm.

We look forward to welcoming **Henry and Sarah Tate** for a visit in April. Look for them on March 16.

From the Archives

As Emancipation Day approaches, we are reminded of a former All Souls minister, Moncure Conway, who, at the request of his mother, led a group of freed slaves from Washington, D.C., through Baltimore where slavery was still legal, and safely on to the free state of Ohio—where they formed a community and prospered.

Newsletter Deadline Change!

The new newsletter deadline is the second Friday of every month, rather than the third. Don't miss the date!

All Souls • March 2006

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.

Step 1. Introduction. Join our Associate Minister, Rev. Shana Goodwin, to learn more about UUs and ASC. After service on March 5, 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. Wed., March 15, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Step 3. New Member Ingathering Sunday: New members are formally introduced to the congregation during this special Sunday Service on March 19, 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 second 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:

April Issue: March 10
May Issue: April 14

Editor: Elizabeth Preston

elizabeth_mae_preston@hotmail.com

All Souls Unitarian Church Services

Services begin at 10:50 a.m. unless otherwise noted

March 5 • *Living Ministry* • Rev. Shana Goodwin

The work of ministry (to our families and friends or to the world) is too central to our vocation as human beings to be left to ordained clergy alone. What ministry does each of us have to offer? What do we feel called to do and whom do we feel called to become?

March 12 • *City of Refuge* • Rev. Robert Hardies

Neighborhood Justice Sunday

According to biblical tradition, God commanded Moses to establish “cities of refuge” throughout the land for those seeking asylum and justice. For Neighborhood Justice Sunday, we explore how this biblical image speaks to the political and spiritual crisis in our nation’s capital.

March 19 • *Our Faith, Our Values, Our Nation* • Rev. Robert Hardies

The second in a series of sermons exploring the link between our religious values and our social and political commitments. Rev. Hardies will show how, since the 19th century, Unitarian-Universalist values have supported a progressive social vision for our nation.

March 26 • *Just Say Know* • Rev. Bernice Powell Jackson

Religious liberals have long rejected the notion that sex is sinful, but many have yet to embrace a positive theological vision of human sexuality. U.S. culture and policy is dominated by conservative religious views, leaving too many of us struggling for wholeness and happiness. What is our faith-based, justice-centered religious response?

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.

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All Souls Church, Unitarian
The Voice
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