

The Spirit of All Souls



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



Gratitude

Shana A. Lynngood, Acting Senior Minister

I want to take this opportunity to offer a sincere thank you to all of you for the support and faith you have shown me throughout the sabbatical. When Rob first left I know that many of you had concerns about how smoothly things would go, and what the church would feel like in his absence and under my leadership. I hope that as it draws to a close we have all discovered (or re-discovered) what an amazing community All Souls is. We hosted 13 marvelously diverse and engaging guest preachers. Our programs and meetings and planning and events all continued with attendance and energy high. The New Orleans trip was transformative for those who went, and we continued to welcome many new members. As we enter the summer season, when many of you are less often at church and take time to rest and recharge, I hope you will think with fondness and pride about this year gone by at the church. I hope you will also reflect on how your gifts and interests might lead you to new avenues of involvement in the church year to come. In honor of summer and my wishes for you these months of July and August, I leave you with the words of poet Mary Oliver, her poem *The Summer Day*:

Who made the world? Who made the swan, and the black bear? Who made the grasshopper? This grasshopper, I mean—the one who has flung herself out of the grass, the one who is eating sugar out of my hand, who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down—who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes. Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face. Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away. I don't know exactly what a prayer is. I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass, how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields, which is what I have been doing all day. Tell me, what else should I have done? Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon? Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?

Have a blessed and peaceful summer, *Shana*

Board Work

from Ralph Belton, Member Board of Trustees

The Board continues to meet monthly to discuss the needs of our church community. At the center of these discussions is how our model of policy governance is meeting the needs of our growth and vibrancy. No less important is a well-balanced and welcoming spiritual home to all souls—one in which all see a reflection of their spirituality, theology, ethnicity and culture.

We are constantly working to ensure that our Bylaws reflect a sense of our fiduciary responsibilities. We are sensitive to being a voice for our community and have instituted listening sessions to understand your needs. It is important that church members take advantage of these sessions. Under Policy Governance, the ET is responsible for day-to-day decisions/operations, but the Board is in constant conversation with the ET with respect to their actions.

We are in the early stages of planning a capital campaign. We have been selected by the UUA to participate in the FORTH program (Forward Through the Ages), a new Stewardship Development Grant Program designed to assist congregations with improving giving campaigns. This grant allows us professional assistance. Our giving program is strong but can always be improved as we approach our capital campaign. As we approach our summer interval, be assured that your Board continues to work on your behalf. Enjoy this season and return energized to continue our good works.

Best Regards, *Ralph* (kikonaria@aol.com)

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*We're Beginning
Two Services
September 9!*



9:15 & 11:15

(Worship Associate

Denise Anderson-pictured)

Two Services Update

by Kim Adler, Two Services Implementation Committee

1. New Elements of Worship

The move to two services provides an opportunity to incorporate some new elements to the service that have been under consideration for some time. In preparation for our fall transition you may begin to see some of these changes in the summer service when we move to the earlier time of 9:50 on July 1. Others will begin on September 9. These new elements include:

- Child Dedication Sundays once a month (both services) to welcome these new, young children to our church family. This will take place early in the service and will be the “welcome” that week.
- Use of the Congregational Concerns and Morning Prayers as a time to acknowledge the significant events of the church. (The Order of Service will continue to highlight announcements and their important details, but they will not be a part of the Worship Associate’s welcome.)
- Prominent display of the chalice, which will be brought into the church by the Worship Associate during the processional at the beginning of the service and carried out again during the benediction at the end.
- Lighting of the candles of joys and concerns, lit one from the other, after lighting of the first votive (rather than the chalice) by the Worship Associate. This will take place during the fifteen minutes – approximately 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. – prior to the start of service (as has been the custom).
- Well wishes from the minister as those from the congregation exit the church at the main entrance.

2. Update on the Lower Level Refurbishment

By the time you read this, changes downstairs are:

- The door to the Hamele Wing (formerly the Columbia Heights Youth Club) will be gone and we will be one building!
- New energy efficient lighting will have been installed in most of the Hamele area, including around the gym.
- Four (4) classrooms have undergone minor demolition (carpets and closets and extras removed). In some cases the ceilings have already been repaired. The classrooms have been patched and primed and are ready for painting.
- Matt Cohen, a church member and professional residential painting contractor, has made it possible for the use of green paints and primer (no VOC’s) from Amicus in Kensington, and we are grateful for his help.
- There has been a small disappointment in the bathrooms (the vents do not yet meet code) but this will be addressed as soon as a new Building Manager is on board allowing their use in the new church year.
- Additionally, the kitchen is slated for a total reorganization on July 5 & 6, and again July 12 & 13 -- during the day (c’mon on down if you want to help).

Gabrielle Farrell, serving us as Project Manager (due to the absence of a Building Manger), in addition to her job as Director of Religious Education Ministries, is working with various contractors to finish the work well in advance of September 9, 2007. Note: Construction debris is due for removal on July 2 – so don’t go down there until then!

3. Volunteer Recruitment Continues in Pierce Hall

Our goal is to have every slot filled in September and October by September 15—and we are about 65% there! We will pursue you until the goal is met. If you can, stop by the Two Service Volunteer Table, currently in Pierce Hall (but may go on traveling exhibition) and sign up for a Sunday or two to usher, count, serve, prep, or greet. Let’s make good on our reputation of a church that practices radical hospitality! There remain a few teaching slots open as well—contact Gabrielle Farrell by email during the summer gfarrell@allsouls.ws if interested.

4. Two Service Meeting w/the Rev. Hardies After Church August 26

All Committee Chairs impacted by two services are invited to a meeting at noon on August 26 in the Eaton Room. This includes Ushers, Greeters, RE Committee, Music Committee, Lunch, Counters, Worship Committee—have we left anyone out. If so, please contact Gabrielle Farrell about your attendance—we don’t mean to leave you out!

We look forward to the launch of two services on September 9. The first service will begin with the processional at 9:15 a.m. (with time for meditation beginning just before 9 a.m.) and the second service will be at 11:15 a.m. (with the time for meditation beginning around 11 a.m.). This is an exciting time in the history of All Souls as we add a second service in order to meet diverse needs and provide greater opportunities for growth.

Social Justice Action

Excerpt from “*Living with War, Working for Peace*,” Memorial Day Sermon

from Rev. Louise Green, Minister of Social Justice

On May 5, All Souls joined with Friends Meeting of Washington, UUs for Social Justice, the Buddhist Peace Fellowship, Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center, and others to create an interfaith convocation on human rights and torture issues. On June 5, we followed that event with a showing and discussion of Rory Kennedy’s stirring HBO documentary, *The Ghosts of Abu Ghraib*. On June 26 on Capitol Hill, an All Souls and UU delegation attended an interfaith “Rally to Restore Law and Justice,” sponsored by the National Religious Coalition Against Torture, Amnesty International, and the ACLU, among others.

On June 11, we welcomed a new full-time intern for peace issues for the UUA Washington Advocacy Office, Alex Winnett. This two-year position is very generously funded by our own member Bob Bonner, in loving memory of his former wife, Mary. Alex will work in three areas in his All Souls portion of the job: (1) with the A. Powell Davies Committee on an exhibit of our All Souls Hiroshima drawings from Japanese school children for the 2008 Cherry Blossom Festival; (2) on an interfaith dialogue project with Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center and my colleague Imam Johari; and (3) on excellent new UUA resources on peacemaking for congregations, as part of our denominational study/action issue.

While we are living with war, how will we work for peace? The words of poet David Whyte remind us that there are always choices in grieving, acting and remembering.

The Well of Grief

*Those who will not slip beneath, the still surface on the well of grief
turning downward through its black water, to the place we cannot breathe
will never know the source from which we drink, the secret water, cold and clear,
nor find in the darkness glimmering, the small round coins — thrown by those who wished for something else.*

When we remember both those in the military, and those we have imprisoned, may we wish for something else, something more, the things which make for peace.

ADORE Holds a Special Summer Dialogue with Rev. John Crestwell, July 12

by Jim Armstrong

Rev. John Crestwell is the Minister at Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church in Camp Springs, Maryland, and he has just published a book entitled *The Charge of the Chalice: The Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church Growth & Diversity Story*. Rev. Crestwell will visit All Souls Church in the coming church year to talk about his experiences and discoveries concerning building the beloved community at Davies Memorial. We will have an opportunity to foreshadow that discussion in a more intimate setting at ADORE’s special summer dialogue on Thursday, July 12, in the All Souls Church Library starting at 6:45 p.m.

Rev. Crestwell has succeeded in launching a significant growth spurt at Davies Memorial, and he has also succeeded in ensuring that this growth is broadly inclusive. Almost 40 percent of its current 150 members are people of color. Rev. Crestwell preached a sermon entitled “Unconditional Love,” at All Souls Church on February 25th and touched on some motivations for working hard to participate in a community on Sunday mornings that looks like the community he wants to live and work in all of the time. Davies Memorial has published a very specific Diversity Plan, available on its web site at <http://www.dmuuc.org/donate.html>. The church has been designated as a “breakthrough congregation” and produced a DVD that they will present at the 2007 General Assembly in Portland, OR. We will have an opportunity to watch that DVD at our dialogue on July 12.

All Souls Church knows something of the attention and diligence it takes to build a broadly diverse spiritual community and some of the difficulties and hurdles that we face to achieve that community. Please join ADORE on July 12th at 6:45 pm in the All Souls Church library when we engage in dialogue with Rev. Crestwell, view Davies Memorial’s DVD, hear about his new book and consider what we each can do to help build the kind of diverse community in which we want to live and learn.

SJ's Green Souls

ASC Goes More Green

by Lina Parikh, 7th Principle Committee (Green Souls of All Souls Church)

All Souls Moves to Greener Office Supplies

This move is part of a larger project to promote congregational purchases of more sustainable products. The project is led by the Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) of which All Souls is an affiliate. All Souls is the first UU church to take on the initiative in the DC Metro Area.

Darryl Clay, Louise Green, and Alicia Dixon of All Souls staff made the decision to adopt this initiative. They will work with the vendor Greenline Paper. Alicia noted, "Sure there is a cost difference, but we decided that this is a significant step in the right direction towards becoming a Green Sanctuary. I am extremely ecstatic about our concerted decision to order earth-friendly products and hope we motivate others to do the same."

Orders will be placed soon for greener office supplies - notepads, binders, folders, toner, etc. - as well as greener kitchen supplies - paper cups, plates, napkins, bowls, etc.

Green Sales to the Congregation

As part of the UUSJ project, member Gary Mummert will set up a booth once a month in the Fall to offer green paper and sustainable products to the congregation (such as copy paper, post-it notes, compostable plates/ cups/utensils, facial /bath tissue, tablets, compact fluorescent lamps, etc.).

Be on the lookout for UUSJ's booth - right next to the Fair Trade Sales table in Pierce Hall during Sunday lunch. This effort will be a part of a four-month test program including suburban congregations to foster regional efforts to encourage UU's to buy green.

Do you know about the All Souls Green Sanctuary program? Launched in 2006, it includes a 12-point action plan that we as a church must implement in order to achieve Green Sanctuary accreditation from the UU Ministry for Earth.

HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR GREEN RESOLUTION??

There are 156 of you participating --WOW! See your names and our current tally at <http://all-souls.org/socialjustice/7thprinciple/GreenResolution2007.htm>

Participants! Per your form, there are 3 parts to fulfill (Personal/Family Life, All Souls, and Word&Spirit). Deadline: September end.

Did you complete your entire Resolution already? If so, tell us what you did and how it inspired you and/or others. Contact: Lina Parikh at lparikh@yahoo.com.

If you haven't completed your gardening or Zero Trash pledge yet, contact the person below ASAP to reserve your slot. ZT slots are open for September and gardening slots are open the whole summer.

ASC Gardening - Meg Staines - mstaines@starpower.net (202.238.0044)

ASC Zero Trash - Matt Cohen - mattandeliz@yahoo.com (301.495.0358)

The Green Resolution project is part of the All Souls Green Sanctuary program. Launched in 2006, the Green Sanctuary program includes a 12-point action plan that we as a church must implement in order to achieve Green Sanctuary accreditation from the UU Ministry for Earth.

Music Notes

from John Strang, Director of Music Ministries

Have you considered singing with one of the choirs at All Souls? Summer is a great time to give us a try, as members of the different choirs join with members and friends of the congregation to form the Summer Festival Choir. You can sing with us for a single summer Sunday, or join us for the whole summer. The Summer Choir sings colorful and diverse music and there is no mid-week rehearsal. Arrival time is bright and early on Sundays (8:30 AM). Although this may seem early, remember that the service will be finished by 11AM. Both Lenard and I will be directors for the group. If you have questions, please contact me at johnstrang@aol.com. Summer Choir Sundays are:

Sunday, July 8th
Sunday, July 15th
Sunday, July 22nd
Sunday, July 29th
Sunday, August 12th
Sunday, August 19th
Sunday, August 26th

It is with great joy that we announce the appointment of our new All Souls Children's Choir Director, Lenard Starks. Lenard brings musical excellence, a commitment to diversity, and unique interpersonal gifts to this position. He will also share music with the RE program, including the Children's Chapel. I hope families and young people will give Children's Choir a try this year. The Children's Choir will have an increased role in worship starting in October, as they will lead one Sunday service a month by themselves. We look forward to a marvelous new beginning for this group under Lenard's leadership. If you have questions about the choir, contact Lenard Starks at LStarks@allsouls.ws.

Blessings, *John*

Jubilee! 30 Years of Soulful Singing

by *Shebbie Rice*

Save the Date! On Saturday, November 10, at 4 pm, in the Sanctuary, Lenard Starks and the All Souls Jubilee Singers will celebrate 3 decades of song with "Jubilee! 30 Years of Soulful Singing," featuring our Special Guest, Founding Director, Dr. Ysaye M. Barnwell. This 30th anniversary concert will feature vocal and instrumental favorites from all 3 decades of the group's history, 1977-2007, and will span a wide variety of musical genres—spirituals, gospel, jazz, soul, Caribbean, and more. A reception will follow in Pierce Hall next to the Sanctuary. Don't miss an evening filled with fellowship, excitement, and inspiration for all ages.



[photo courtesy of Scott Lassman]

Summer & Fall Activities

Summer Gardening Days at All Souls

by Meg Staines

Many thanks to those who participated in the early-June Gardening events, and helped prepare for them, including Lou Avenilla, Laura Bogle, Kara Burt, Carol Falk, Danielle Henry, Eliza Klose, Lina Parikh, and Adriana Suriano. You all made a big difference.

There are still many exciting opportunities this summer and fall for people who like to be outdoors and make the church landscaping look beautiful. One Saturday per month, a Gardening Day is scheduled for volunteers to come and help tend the flowers and trees at church. Also, one weekday evening per month, there will be opportunities for smaller efforts such as weeding, watering, edging, planning, etc. The Saturday Gardening Days for July-November 2007 (9:00 am to 12:00 noon) are:

July 28th
August 25th
September 15th
October 20th
November 17th

Weekday evening scheduled times (from 6:00/6:30 pm to 8:00/8:30 pm) are:

Thursday, July 19th
Thursday, August 16th
Wednesday, September 19th
Wednesday, October 17th
Wednesday, November 14th

All are welcome. For more information, feel free to contact Meg Staines at mstaines@starpower.net or (202) 238-0044. Thanks!

The Book Discussion Group

by Nancy Simon

The Book Discussion Group will not meet in July or August. For the Fall, we have changed our meeting time to 1:30 pm, after lunch, and moved the meeting to the home of Gretchen and Roy Goodrich, which is within walking distance of the church. Occasionally, we may meet at another nearby home. The book to read for Sept. 9 is *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith, for Oct. 14 it is *March* by Geraldine Brooks, and for Nov. 11, *Kindred* by Octavia Butler.

We are a welcoming group, fully committed to multicultural in-reach as well as reading a broad selection of literature. If you are looking for a book group that is open to your ideas and point of view, we hope you will join us, for one book or for many. We usually meet on the second Sunday of the month (don't forget, at 1:30 pm). Questions, including address of next meeting, email Denise Rathman at djrathman@yahoo.com.

Autumn Soul-Stice, Saturday, September 29—Save the Date!!

by Meredith Higgins-Hargrave

A day to learn and share spiritual practices. Our third annual one-day retreat for reflection and sharing. This is also the time to sign up for covenant groups for the program year. Check *The Weekly* and *Happenings* for more details in the coming weeks.

In Community

by Molly Freeman

Our apologies to **Jenice View** for granting her tenure prematurely. In fact she will work toward tenure at the Graduate School of Education at George Mason University.

Congratulations to our six high school graduates: **Hannah Barrett, Van Berg, Chelsea Brackenridge, Elisabeth Pineau Hubbard, Sara Ellen Strongman** and **Charles “Jay” View**. We wish them and their families well as they begin a new phase in their education.

We wish **Mary Shapiro** well as she begins a national tour sharing her new CD and message of peace.

We bid a fond farewell to **Laura Bogle and Katie Goslee** who are moving to California where **Laura** will begin studies for the ministry.

We're glad to hear that **Jean Porter** is recovering smoothly from major surgery, and that **Waveney Bryant** is seeing better after cataract surgery. We hope that **Jim Regan's** son, **Daniel's** exploratory surgery will go well. **Jasper Ferncrombie's** father reports that he is doing well after losing adenoids and tonsils and having stints put in both ears.

Betty Cole is living with her daughter, **Loren Beecher** at 801 Somerset Place, Hyattsville, MD 20783. **Betty** has had some health problems and is glad of loving care and good company. Cards are welcome.

Our birthday lists are incomplete, but we do know that some of our long time members will celebrate over the summer: **Segar Guy, George Denney** and **Ann Ross**. May they blow out candles with great strength.

Our loving thoughts are with **Clarence Davenport** who remains in hospice care and with **Wesley Hanes** who is in intensive care at Washington Medical Center.

Our thoughts are with **Daniel Regan** and his father, **Jim**, as **Daniel** begins treatment for testicular cancer.

We wish **Molly Freeman** a speedy recovery from surgery to be performed on June 25.

Our sympathy is with **Laura Tipson** and **Gordon Kent** both of whose mothers died recently.

With sorrow, we report the death of **Jessie Bakeman**. **Jessie**, who died at age 94, grew up in All Souls from kindergarten on, and remained faithful to the Church throughout her life. She was active in starting the Memorial Society which for many years focused on simplicity and low costs at the time of death. Her husband, **Bob**, died many years ago. She is survived by two children and her niece, **Laura Sailer**. At her request, no memorial service is planned, but if you'd like to share a picture, or a memory, send it to Laura at 3901 Cathedral Avenue, NW, Apt 303, Washington, DC 20016.

Special Caring List

by Carol Falk

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers these members of our congregation who are unable to get to church any more: **Betty Atherton, Mary Jane Fisher, Virginia Gray, Loretta and Wesley Hanes, Marianna Sewell, Peter Stebbins, and Larry Stone**.

Notes or cards would be welcome. Addresses are in the church directory (available in the office, on-line, or at the Information Table in Pierce Hall). You can also visit the Caring Table to sign cards for those homebound.

Summer Building Hours Sunday, July 1 (9:50 am Service) through Sunday, September 2

- **Sunday**—8:00 am – 1:00 pm
- **Monday thru Wednesday & Friday**—10 am – 6 pm
- **Thursday**—10 am – 9:00 pm
- **Saturday**—Closed

Normal hours will resume Tuesday, September 4



JULY WORSHIP SERVICES

9:50 am

July 1 · “More Joy Somewhere: The High Cost of Racism, For the Privileged” · Rev. Green ·

July 8 · “Restless Hearts” · Rev.

Lynngood · In our constant motion culture we seem to have forgotten how to be still. How can we find a sense of satisfaction with what is? What is it exactly that we hope to find by constantly going?

July 15 · “Soulful Leadership” · Rev.

Lynngood · We have spent some time this church year reflecting on vocation and calling. This morning we will reflect on lay leadership. What does it mean to offer to serve in our church community? How do we bring our gifts and not give until we are depleted?

July 22 · “The Purpose of Prayer” ·

Rev. Lynngood · One of my first sermons at All Souls was about the meaning of prayer. As we begin to explore spiritual development more deeply, it seems like a good time to revisit the goal of this central spiritual practice. What do we get out of prayer? Does it make a difference?

July 29 · “Getting Beyond How Are You” · Joyce Palmer ·

AUGUST WORSHIP SERVICES

9:50 am

August 5 · “Stewardship” · Peoples’ Voices Service ·

August 12 · “Lessons from Summer Camp” · Rev. Louise Green ·

August 19 · “Questions of Faith” · Rev. **Hardies**. Rev. Hardies will field your questions about life and faith.

August 26 · “TBA” · Rev. **Hardies** ·

MINISTERS

Robert M. Hardies, Senior Minister
rhardies@allsouls.ws

Shana A. Lynngood, Assoc. Minister
slynngood@allsouls.ws

Louise Green, Minister of Social Justice
lgreen@allsouls.ws

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Joneis Thomas (804.224.7058)

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Jody Feldman, Moderator (703.812.8840)

MEMBERSHIP

We invite those interested in learning about, and/or joining All Souls, to the following sessions. Attendance does not constitute a commitment to join.

Step 1. **Introduction**. Learn about UUs and ASC-**July 15 & Aug 26, 11:15-12:30**.

Step 2. **Orientation**. A three-hour session that explores your spirituality and shares information about ASC. Those who join can sign the book of members. The next session is **Wed., Sept 19, 6:30-9:00 pm**

Step 3. **New Member Sunday**. New members are introduced to the congregation during this special Sunday Service on **Sept. 23**. **Contact: Joyce Palmer, Director of Membership, 202-332-5266.**



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

Return Service Requested

The deadline for *The Spirit of All Souls* is the third Friday of the month. Notices, articles and letters may be submitted anytime. E-mail, spirit@allsouls.ws.

Editorial policy: articles and letters about church activities and programs submitted by church members and friends of ASC will be published in *The Spirit of 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:

September Issue: August 17

October Issue: September 21

Editor: Tracy Butler

Editor Emeritus: Elizabeth Mae Preston