

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS AT ALL SOULS

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

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*The mission of All Souls Church is to be a Christ-centered sanctuary where a diverse and inclusive community worships and serves. We live this mission through faithful celebration of the Eucharist, Christian education, and loving nurture of both members and neighbors.*

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## *Today*

### *The First Sunday of Advent*

10 am Faith Forum

*The Spiritual Life, by Evelyn Underhill with Mother Sara*

11 am Holy Eucharist

*The Reverend Sara Palmer, Rector*

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table.

Please join us downstairs in the Undercroft after the service for coffee hour.

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## *Today's Readings*

### **The First Lesson,**

Isaiah 2:1-5

Anne Armstrong

### **Psalm 122**

Chanted by the Choir

### **The Epistle,**

Romans 13:11-14

Kevin LaGrand

### **Gospel,**

Matthew 24:36-44

Mother Sara

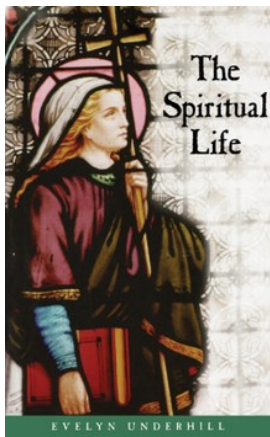
### **Prayers of the People**

Samuel Willis



## **Advent**

The first season of the church year, beginning with the fourth Sunday before Christmas and continuing through the day before Christmas. The name is derived from a Latin word for "coming." The season is a time of preparation and expectation for the coming celebration of our Lord's nativity, and for the final coming of Christ "in power and glory." ([episcopalchurch.org/glossary/advent](http://episcopalchurch.org/glossary/advent))



## FALL FAITH FORUM SERIES

**Sundays at 10 am,  
in the Conference Room**

*The following four Sundays in Advent:*

**NOV. 30:** *The Spiritual Life*, by Evelyn Underhill  
with Mother Sara

**DEC. 7:** *The Spiritual Life*, by Evelyn Underhill  
with Sebastian Wellford

**DEC. 14:** *The Spiritual Life*, by Evelyn Underhill  
with vEnessa Acham

**DEC. 21:** *Pastoral Visit* by Bishop Mariann Budde



### A MESSAGE FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN ON THE 2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

*by Jeff Wells*

With the formal conclusion of the 2026 Stewardship drive this past Sunday, the Vestry, Stewardship Committee, and Wardens are asking everyone who has not yet made a pledge to the 2026 Stewardship Campaign to do so as soon as possible. A report on the success of the campaign will be part of the Vestry's report to the Bishop in advance of her visitation on December 21st. Thanks to the more than 61 families and individuals who have already made their pledge! We are now only \$63, 890 away from completing our goal with \$361,110 pledged.



### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

#### **Sunday, Dec. 7, The Second Sunday of Advent**

10 am - Forum: *Conference Room*

11 am - Lessons & Carols with Holy Eucharist

#### **Sunday, Dec. 14, The Third Sunday of Advent**

10 am - Forum: *Conference Room*

11 am - Holy Eucharist with organ and choir

#### **Sunday, Dec. 21, The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

10 am - Forum with Bishop Budde:

*Conference Room*

11 am - Holy Eucharist & confirmation

*with organ and choir; **Bishop's visit***

#### **Wednesday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve**

5 pm - **Lessons and Carols, family service**  
(without Holy Eucharist)

9 pm- **Festive Holy Eucharist**  
*with organ and choir*

#### **Thursday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day**

11 am - Holy Eucharist *with organ and hymns*

### **Saturday, Dec. 6: Advent Retreat Day for Young Adults, 2-5:30 pm at St. Columba's**

Join Young Adult Episcopalians (20's & 30's) for this diocesan facilitated retreat afternoon at St. Columba's Episcopal Church on Saturday, Dec. 6. In a world full of uncertainty and noise, Advent calls us to slow down and listen for the quiet rhythm of promise. This 3.5-hour retreat provides the opportunity for young adults to pause, breathe, and reflect on God's unwavering love, and the hope that it brings. Retreat leader, [The Rev. Sally Slater](#), will guide the group through scripture, prayer, and silence, in creatively exploring the quiet ways God's love is at work in our lives and in the world around us. Participants are invited to wear comfortable clothing, bring a journal, and an open heart. **Contact Joe Neal if you plan to come. (neal.joseph9@gmail.com)**

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE CLOTHING DRIVE

The Outreach Committee is planning a clothing drive to benefit So Others Might Eat, a local charity serving homeless individuals in Washington, D.C. (<https://some.org/>). We hope to collect clothing in Mid-January. We are hoping you will set aside things now as you go through your winter garments and find some that are in good shape that you no longer need. Please have them laundered or cleaned. Here is their "wish list":

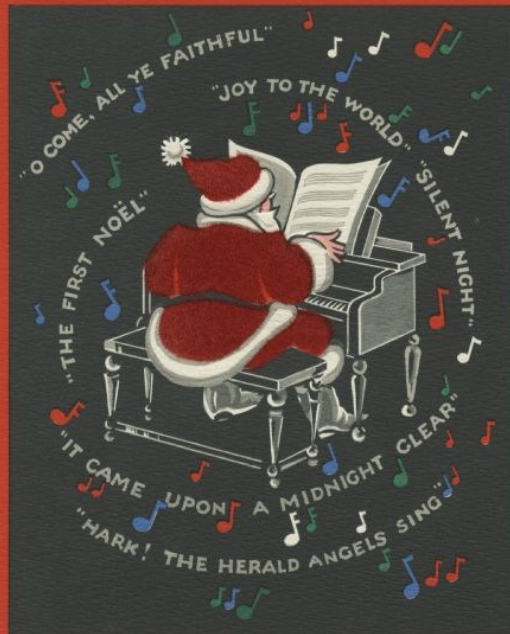


### CLOTHING WISH LIST:

- ☉ New underwear for men and women, especially larger sizes (their greatest need)
- ☉ New or gently worn socks for men and women
- ☉ New or gently worn bras
- ☉ Casual shoes
- ☉ Belts
- ☉ Men's jeans and casual pants
- ☉ Men's shirts
- ☉ Sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets (cold season only)

*Thank you in advance for  
thinking of your neighbors in need  
over the coming holidays.*

## THE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS GATHERING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11 RSVP TODAY!



The Men's Fellowship will be meeting on **Wednesday, December 11th** in the Undercroft. The fellowship hour will begin at 5:30 pm and we will serve a **home-cooked meal at 6:30 pm**. To celebrate the season, we will gather around the piano and sing Christmas carols.

If you plan to attend, please send an email to Ike Brannon at [chiefdeputyusher@gmail.com](mailto:chiefdeputyusher@gmail.com).

**EPISCOPAL 101  
BEGINS IN JANUARY  
WEDNESDAYS, 6:30-7:30 PM**

Mother Sara will facilitate a new series of seven classes beginning **January 7th, 2026 and ending on Wednesday, February 25th**. There will be no class on Ash Wed., Feb. 18. Sing up online or at the Welcome table.

## *Parish Prayer List*

### **The Washington Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for:**

St. Andrew's Church, College Park, St. Andrew's Church, Leonardtown  
St. Andrew's Episcopal School and St. Andrew's Lower School, Potomac  
St. Nicholas' Parish, Germantown, Episcopal Church Women  
United Thank Offering;

### **In the Wider Anglican Communion, we pray for:**

The Anglican Church of Australia

### **For those who are sick or in need, we pray especially for:**

All those experiencing food shortage or food insecurity; Robert, Christopher, Laura, Warren, Shinn, Charles, Eric, Joann, Tom, Nancy, Haiti, Palestine, Israel, Iran, Ukraine, Sudan;

**We Give Thanks for:** all who have pledged in time, talent and treasure to the All Souls 2026 pledge campaign supporting our outreach and ministry.

*Submit prayer requests to Andrea in the church office ([andrea@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:andrea@allsoulsdc.org)) or Mother Sara ([rector@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:rector@allsoulsdc.org)) to stay on for a month at a time.*

*We are prepared to pray indefinitely for your requests.*

*Healing prayer is available after Holy Eucharist  
on the **1st and 3rd Sundays**, at the Mary Chapel.*



# Christmas at All Souls

<b>December 7</b> <b>11 am</b> Advent Lessons & Carols	<b>December 24</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> 5 pm, A Lessons & Carols Family Service 9 pm, Festive Eucharist	<b>December 25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> 11 am Holy Eucharist with Music
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