

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

OCTOBER 25, 2026



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 neighbor

The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost



*The Rev. Sara E. Palmer,
Rector & Celebrant*

11 am Holy Eucharist

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

**The First Lesson
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18**

Daniel Callis

Psalm 1
Sung by Choir

**The Epistle
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**
Embry Howell

**The Gospel
Matthew 22:34-46**
Mother Sara

Prayers of the People
Kevin LeGrand

"Upholding One Another in Love" Stewardship Campaign Update

Thanks to everyone who has already pledged to the "Upholding One Another in Love" Annual Stewardship Campaign! **Our participation goal is 90 people/families pledging and our financial goal is \$450,000 by November 15th.**

As Abbey Stuckless noted last Sunday in her talk, by pledging you support the good works our faith community performs.

Last December, we reported the following to our bishop for 2024 and 2025:

- ◎ Monthly food contributions to the Woodley House <https://woodleyhouse.org/FoodPantry>
- ◎ Serve breakfast weekly at Christ House <https://christhouse.org/> – a decades long ministry
- ◎ 2 Christmas "Giving Trees" for Housing Up <https://housingup.org/kids> (2024/2025)
- ◎ Samaritan Ministries Breakfast Fundraiser in 2024 and 2025
- ◎ \$10,000 in grants to charities in 2024 and \$10,000 again in 2025
- ◎ \$10,000 to the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem for Gaza/Palestinian relief -2024
- ◎ \$10,635 to the Haiti Micah Project <https://haiti-micah.org/> providing meals, schooling, and medical care for orphans in Haiti – 2025
- ◎ \$5,000 to Woodley House in 2024 and again in 2025 for general support
- ◎ 2 Capital Area Food Bank service days <https://www.capitalareafoodbank.org/ServiceDays>
- ◎ 1 Rock Creek Park Cleanup Day
- ◎ 2 All Souls church clean-up days in both 2024 and 2025
- ◎ Over \$500 for the Episcopal Church in Cuba in 2024.

A REASSURING TIME WAS HAD WITH THE BISHOP ON OCT. 16

On Friday, October 16, our Parish had the joy of hosting over 70 young adults from across the Diocese of Washington, and ecumenical friends from beyond for a thoughtful discussion with Bishop Mariann Budde. With pastoral warmth and wisdom, Bishop Budde invited us to trust in God's gentle guidance through our ever-changing world and remember that we never walk life's path alone. A heartfelt thank you to our Vestry, Wardens (especially our Junior Warden who was able to attend!), and all the dedicated volunteers from our young adult group here at All Souls who welcomed our guests with such gracious hospitality.

What's Next?

The DC Episcopal Fellowship is launching a series of young adult symposiums. The first, focusing on Mental Health & God, will be held at St. Monica & St. James on Tuesday, November 10 at 7:00 PM (optional Mass at 6:00 PM). For details, please contact Joe Neal. We invite you to keep our young adults in your prayers as they grow together in faith and community. - *Peace & Blessings, Joe Neal, Co-Coordinator, DC Episcopal Fellowship (DCEF)*

DIAPER DRIVE | RUNS THROUGH NOV. 1

What's with the growing pile of diapers in the undercroft?

The DC Diaper Bank supports vulnerable families by distributing essential baby and hygiene products to those who need them most. To help in a small way, and to celebrate the opening of our All Souls Nursery, the Outreach Committee is hosting a diaper drive. Between now and All Saints Day November 1, those with extra diapers, pullups, or overnights can bring them to the undercroft (open packages ok). They can also take new and unopened wipes. Others can donate cash or checks through All Souls, indicate Diaper Drive in the memo section on your check or through Realm. Please see Daniel Callis for any questions.

POTLUCK ON ALL SOULS SUNDAY, NOV. 1st

Thank you for participating in our Namesake potluck. Table-ready foods are especially appreciated. Please plate your foods in advance, which will save time by eliminating the need to transfer them to platters. *—Thank you! vEnessa Acham, Hospitality*



WE WISH GOD SPEED TO SHEILA ARBURY ON NOV. 1ST, NOON

Come and wish Sheila a cheerful, so long, on Nov. 1st during the potluck. Sheila has been a faithful member for years. Here is a list of the ways she has served the All Souls community in her own words, and we thank her!

- ❖ I joined All Souls in 2009 which means I have been here 17 years.
- ❖ I immediately joined the choir, because my son was singing here, and I stayed in the choir for 14 years.
- ❖ I have served as a lector.
- ❖ I was on the vestry for three years.
- ❖ I have volunteered at Christ House for about eight years.
- ❖ I was on the Stewardship Committee and served as co-chair for several years.
- ❖ I have been on the Counting Committee for about 7 years and prepare the counting schedule.
- ❖ I have served on the Outreach Committee and have been co-chair for the past three years.
- ❖ I was a Foyer Dinner captain the last time All Souls had this activity".

**NEIGHBORHOOD HALLOWEEN PARADE BEGINS IN ALL SOULS PARKING LOT
SAT., OCT. 31st**

We will give out candy at our treat table. Come dressed to impress! LOL. Please contribute chocolate candy if you are able.

CAPITAL HEARINGS FALL CONCERT, SAT., NOV. 7th at 4:00 pm at All Souls to benefit Cleveland Woodley Park Village with a light reception to follow

**WOODLEY HOUSE FUNDRAISER, 6 FREE TICKETS, SUNDAY, NOV. 8th.
MOVIE BENEFIT AT THE SILVER SPRING THEATER**

An anonymous parishioner has graciously bought and donated 6 tickets to the upcoming Woodley House benefit. There is a **VIP Reception at 5 pm** and **movie fundraiser night on Sunday November 8th at 7 pm at the Silver Theater in Silver Spring MD.** The movie is TONY. Please let Mother Sara know if you would like a free ticket to this fun and worthwhile event: rector@allsoulsdc.org



CONFIRMATION & REAFFIRMATION at THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL, SAT., NOV. 14

If you have not been confirmed in The Episcopal Church yet, now is your opportunity! **Saturday November 14th at 10 am., Bishop Budde will confirm you along with members of other congregations in the Diocese.** This is a most beautiful venue to commit yourself to God. I will attend the service with you and you can bring friends and family. If you have already been confirmed in another church, you can be received into the Episcopal Church at that service. If you have been away from God for a while, you can reaffirm your commitment to Christ. Please let Mother Sara know ASAP if you want to do any of these rites on November 14th by emailing her at rector@allsoulsdc.org

THANKSGIVING DAY, THURS., NOV. 26th

Our traditional potluck follows in the Undercroft at Noon. Sign up using the QR Code.



ADVENT QUIET MORNING RETREAT, SAT., DEC. 5th, 10am-1pm

"Come apart and rest awhile", Jesus says.

Do come and join others in our All Souls family on Saturday, December 5th from 10 am to 1 pm. for an Advent Retreat. Bring a brown bag lunch for yourself.

As our schedules quickly fill with preparations for Christmas, it will be a source of blessing for us to take a morning just to be quiet, slow down, and have time to meditate on the true meaning of Advent: returning to God and preparing to welcome God's only Son, Jesus. We will be encouraged and uplifted as we share God's love. You will see signs around the church and Administrative Building declaring after Nov. 29th: SHHH! SLOW DOWN. IT'S ADVENT.

We will reflect together in our Advent Morning Retreat, both on our own and in groups, on the importance of going deeper in our spiritual lives and seeking God's wisdom. To that end, please be reading the book of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament, the letter of James, Jesus' brother in the New Testament, and the books in the Apocrypha (between the Old and New Testaments): Ecclesiasticus, Sirach, the Wisdom of Solomon. Please select two passages to share with us and explain why you chose them.

Please email your interest in coming on December 5th to Mother Sara: rector@allsoulsdc.org

MOTHER SARA AWAY, NOV 3-6.

The Rev. David Wacaster will be on call for pastoral needs at phone # 202-491-4340.

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE LECTORS' MINISTRY?

We are now compiling the Lectors' Schedule for Nov-Dec-Jan. If you feel called to join us in this ministry, please contact Will Stewart, Lector Coordinator, at lectors@allsoulsdc.org as soon as possible so we can see if you would be a good fit. [To our current lectors: please inform Will of your away dates for this quarter if you have not already done so.] Thanks! Will

PRAYER FOR USE BY CHILDREN REGARDING STEWARDSHIP

Jesus, we love you and we know you love us. Everything we have is a gift from you. Thank you for play time and for our growing bodies. Thank you for our laughter and our joy. Help us to give some of our time and some of our money back to you. When we think of giving something away to someone who needs it, help us to give two and not just one. *Amen.*

DECEMBER FAITH FORUM—ADVENT

Mother Sara recommends picking up your Advent book now to be prepared for the Faith Forum in December! Available on Amazon for \$10.22 or Audible or Kindle.

REST IN PEACE, TONY DOMENICO

Tony Domenico, a longtime former member of All Souls with his wife, Martha, passed away last month. The parish expresses its deep sympathy to Martha, the family, and to all who mourn. Tony initiated the vibrant All Souls Men's Group which continues to grow today and he and his wife both served All Souls on the vestry.

To send a card of condolence:

Mrs. Martha Domenico

3001 Veazey Ter NW Apt 1617

Washington, DC 20008-5410

PARISH PRAYER LIST

The Washington Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for:

St. Luke's Church, Bethesda St. Luke's House, Bethesda St. Luke's Church, Brighton St. Luke's Parish, DC World Mission Sunday

For those who are sick or in need, we pray especially for: Elaine Grierson, dear friend of Olivia & Ian Hodgson, Jesse Kim (friend of Carri Banholzer), Sandra Duncan (friend of Jody Koepp-Norris), Al Muller, Will Dawson's grandmother, Sally Cliff, Davis Ival, Cuba, Haiti, Palestine, Israel, Iran, Ukraine, Sudan; for all children everywhere.

For those who have died, especially:

Tony Domenico, a past faithful member at All Souls for many years who passed away last month; may his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. We also pray peace for his wife Martha.

We are thankful: for all who are prayerfully considering a new or continued pledge to All Souls as we enter our seasonal pledge campaign for 2027.

**FAITH FORUM ON SUNDAY MORNINGS
10 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM**

October

25 - Spiritual Journey Interview with Peter Lom and Owen Basil

November

1 - Religious Themes in the Poetry of Emily Dickinson with vEnessa Acham

See special insert today in advance of next week's Faith Forum

8 - Prison Ministries with The Rev. Nancy Stockbridge & Heidi Kugler

15 - The Universalist Christian Theology of Marcus Borg with Joe Howell

22 - Spiritual Journey Interview

29 - Advent Book Study with Jennifer Mindek Beckham

December

6 - Advent Book Study (Jennifer Mindek Beckham)

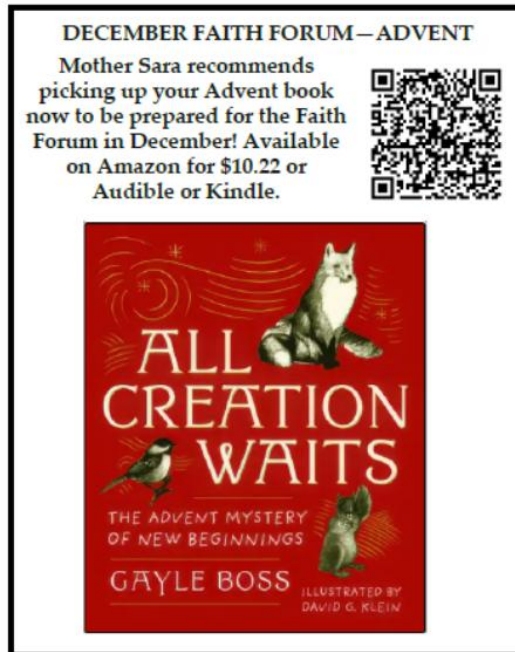
Mother Sara recommends picking up your Advent book now to be prepared for the Faith Forum in December!

Available on Amazon for \$10.22 or Audible or Kindle.

13 - Advent Book Study (Presenter: TBD)

20 - Advent Book Study (Presenter: TBD)

*Come journey with us this year as we explore these topics.
Meeting in the Conference Room at 10 am each Sunday. All are welcome*



Adult Forum: Sunday, November 1, at 10 a.m.
Undercroft (Kitchen Level)

*The Forum will focus on the poems of Emily Dickinson
and their relation to her views on religion.*

Please read the poems before the gathering. During the first part of our time together, we will discuss these poems. During the second part, we will create art collages (cut-and-paste images/materials) in response to our discussion and reflections.
We will meet in the undercroft instead of the conference room.

Thank you, vEnessa Acham.

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

"Faith"

"Faith" is a fine invention
When Gentlemen can *see*!
But Microscopes are prudent
In an Emergency!

"Some keep the Sabbath going to Church"

Some keep the Sabbath going to Church -
I keep it, staying at Home -
With a Bobolink for a Chorister -
And an Orchard, for a Dome -

Some keep the Sabbath in Surplice -
I, just wear my Wings -
And instead of tolling the Bell, for Church,
Our little Sexton - sings.

God preaches, a noted Clergyman -
And the sermon is never long,
So instead of getting to Heaven, at last -
I'm going, all along.

"This World is not Conclusion"

This World is not Conclusion

A Species stands beyond -

Invisible, as Music -

But positive, as Sound -

It beckons, and it baffles -

Philosophy, dont know -

And through a Riddle, at the last -

Sagacity, must go -

To guess it, puzzles scholars -

To gain it, Men have borne

Contempt of Generations

And Crucifixion, shown -

Faith slips - and laughs, and rallies -

Blushes, if any see -

Plucks at a twig of Evidence -

And asks a Vane, the way -

Much Gesture, from the Pulpit -

Strong Hallelujahs roll -

Narcotics cannot still the Tooth

That nibbles at the soul -

References:

Emily Dickinson

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/emily-dickinson>

Collage

<https://www.moma.org/collection/terms/collage>





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