

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS at All Souls

MARCH 8, 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 neighbors.*

**Today**

**The Third Sunday in Lent  
11 am**

Holy Eucharist

*The Rev. Sara Palmer, Rector*

If you are visiting today, we welcome you!

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

Please join us downstairs in the  
Undercroft after the service  
for our coffee and fellowship hour hosted  
by parishioner Elizabeth Ellis.

***Today's Readings***

**The First Lesson,**

Exodus 17:1-7

*Anne Armstrong*

**Psalm 95**

*Chanted by the choir*

**The Epistle**

Romans 5:1-11

*John Wiecking*

**The Gospel**

John 4:5-42

*Mother Sara*

**Prayers of the People**

*Peter Laugesen*

**THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**+ FRIDAYS DURING LENT +**

The Stations of the Cross is a centuries-old Christian devotion that invites the faithful to walk prayerfully with Jesus on His journey to the crucifixion. It grew out of the early practice of pilgrims traveling to Jerusalem to follow the path Jesus walked on Good Friday. Over time, especially through the work of the Franciscan friars, this devotion spread beyond the Holy Land so that people everywhere could make that journey in prayer, even if they could not travel themselves. Today, the Stations remain a familiar Lenten practice, helping us slow down and reflect on Christ's suffering, love, and sacrifice.

**Beginning Friday, March 6, and continuing each Friday through March 27,** All Souls Parish will offer Stations of the Cross **at 6:30 p.m. in the church nave.** Each service will last **about 40 minutes** and will be followed **by light refreshments,** offering an opportunity for fellowship afterward. Everyone, everyone, everyone is welcome.

**VESTRY NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

As required in the Parish Bylaws, the Vestry has appointed Lisa Watson, Jeff Wells, Jim Lewis, and Art Warren as the nominating committee for the upcoming May 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting where we will be electing a Junior Warden and 3 general members of the Vestry. If you are interested in serving on the vestry or would like more information about the annual meeting, please reach out to one of these individuals.

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**TODAY IS 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY WOODLEY  
PANTRY FOOD DONATION**

Please keep Woodley House in your prayers and on your grocery list when you shop! A list of needed items is on the Welcome table.



**SUNDAY, MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>**  
**SOUP LUNCHEON IN THE UNDERCROFT**  
**TO BENEFIT SUSTAINABLE VILLAGES OF HONDURAS**

**P**lan to stay for delicious soups, chili, and bread provided by the Outreach Committee after church on March 8 and hear about the work of Sustainable Villages of Honduras (SVH). Honduras is the home of the Episcopal Diocese of Honduras (EDH), which is part of Province IX of The Episcopal Church (TEC) in the United States. EDH was established as a missionary district of TEC in 1967, and elevated to full diocesan status in 1985. Bishop Budde did two years of missionary work there in the 1980s. As of 2021, EDH had 33,088 baptized members across 150 missions and parishes. EDH operates in a context of poverty and drug-trade-induced violence, addressing communities' needs through programs like microcredit, health clinics, and youth formation. The Episcopal Diocese of Washington (EDOW) had a "sister" or "companion diocese" relationship with EDH from the mid-1990s to 2004 (when EDOW announced a formal partnership with the Anglican Church of South Africa), and EDOW continues to list EDH among its international relationships, with a particular focus in 2024 on education. Individual parishes in our Diocese continue to have longstanding ties to villages and Episcopal churches in Honduras. Since the 1990s, several Episcopal parishes in the D.C. area have supported the work of an eco-agronomist named Roy Lara in villages in northeast

Honduras (the Santa Barbara Province) to diversify crops, use sustainable eco-friendly farming practices, and get excess produce to markets to produce income. This work has also expanded to include replacing indoor fires with cook stoves, dirt floors with cement ones, and barren yards with kitchen gardens, as well as establishing or improving water systems and health clinics. To better support this work, in 2018, All Souls parishioners Melissa Barrett and Kurt Jacobs along with parishioners from St. Mark's Capitol Hill established a 501(c)(3) incorporated in D.C. – SVH. Each year SVH raises approximately \$60,000 from supporters in the D.C. area to fund the work that Roy Lara and others do in rural villages in the Santa Barbara Province. In 2024-2025, this work included building a water system for the village of Monte Cristo, bringing water to 40 families/200 people who for fifty years had to walk long distances carrying buckets of water back to their village, as well as building and installing 150 cook stoves to eject smoke outdoors, paving 65 cement floors, opening health clinics, and continuing to teach and spread eco-agriculture through the villages. Come have soup and see the presentation of SVH Board member Thomas Fazio of Eco-City on the work SVH supports to make life sustainable in these Honduran villages, so that young people there have more options than attempting to get to the United States, or joining in the drug trade.  
– Outreach Committee

**PARISH PRAYER LIST**

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

Pray in thanksgiving for the life and witness of Harriet Ross Tubman, Church of the Good Shepherd, Silver Spring, Good Shepherd Episcopal Preschool, Silver Spring

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

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East

**For those who are sick or in need, we pray especially for:** all immigrants living in fear, Haiti, Palestine, Israel, Iran, Ukraine, Sudan.



**SAMARITAN MINISTRY NEXT  
STEP BREAKFAST --  
THE ANNUAL NEXT STEP**

Breakfast celebrating and supporting Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington (SMGW) **will be at the National Press Club on Saturday, March 14, from 9 am to 10:30 am.** This event is FREE, although there is an ask at the end of the breakfast for donations. **All Souls will have a table at this event, as it has in past years.** This is a special Next Step Breakfast celebrating 40 years of SMGW's service to the greater Washington area. **The keynote speaker will be Andy Shallal,** Founder and CEO of the restaurant chain Busboys & Poets, whose life-long commitment to justice, community, and human dignity reflects the values that have guided SMGW for its four decades. **SMGW was founded in 1986 by 11 Episcopal parishes and one Lutheran church, and is supported today by over 40 partner Episcopal parishes, including All Souls.** SMGW provides compassionate, on-going, one-on-one support and mentoring to individuals desiring to "take the next steps" to obtaining housing, employment, high school diplomas, and government IDs and benefits and accomplishing a host of other goals.

**Please contact parishioners Joe Neal and Kurt Jacobs about attending this year's Next Step Breakfast at**  
neal.joseph9@gmail.com and  
kurthjacobs@gmail.com  
or Sign Up on the Welcome Table  
and/or through the QR code.

**THE PASSING OF MOTHER ELIZABETH ORENS**



Mother Elizabeth Orens, beloved Priest Associate at All Souls Church for many years died January 16th, 2026. Her Celebration of Life/funeral will be on Saturday, April 25th at 11.30 am at St Paul's K Street. All are welcome! Please do continue to pray for Mother

Elizabeth's husband, John as he grieves his beloved wife of many decades. She had worked as Senior Chaplain at the National Cathedral School for Girls, teaching courses on World Religions, Literature and the Bible. She served on the Woodstock Theology Center's Inter-religious Dialogue on Education and had been past President and Chairman of the Board of the Interfaith Conference here in Washington, DC. Her prime interests were youth, peace, interfaith dialogue, and Anglican studies. She received a BA from Columbia University, a BS from American University, an MA from Union Theological Seminary at Columbia University, and a Master of Divinity from Episcopal Divinity School, and an M.R.E from Union Theological Seminary.

*Rest in Peace Mother Elizabeth. +*



**CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK  
VOLUNTEERING**

Our parish's next volunteer event at the Capital Area Food Bank **is on Saturday, May 2, from 1 pm to 3:30 pm.** We had 19 volunteers at our last Food Bank event, and had a grand time pouring through bins of canned and packaged goods, separating the wheat from the chaff, that is, the good from the past-expiration-date. Beforehand and after, we drank the Food Bank's super coffee drinks plus coffee we brought. We finished around 2:30 pm. Nineteen pairs of gloved hands make for fun and fast work. The Food Bank needs our help again. We are signed up to bring 20 volunteers this time, so please mark your calendars, sign-up, and come and have a good time contributing to your community.

Sign Up Now. *- The Outreach Committee*



### **Staff**

The Rev. Sara Palmer, *Rector*  
[rector@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:rector@allsoulsdc.org)  
Andrea Meier, *Parish Administrator*  
[office@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:office@allsoulsdc.org)  
Tom Andrew, *Director of Music*  
[tom@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:tom@allsoulsdc.org)

### **Acolyte**

Lisa Watson  
Judy Andrew

### **Lectors**

Anne Armstrong  
John Wiecking  
Peter Laugesen

### **Ushers**

Al Muller  
Vicky Drell

### **Coffee Hour**

Elizabeth Ellis

### **All Souls Vestry, [vestry@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:vestry@allsoulsdc.org)**

vEnessa Acham (2026)  
Kurt Jacobs (2026)  
James Lewis (2026)  
John Longstreth (2027)  
Tara Mancini (2028)  
Nancy Morgan (2027)  
Joe Neal (2028)  
Will Stewart (2028)  
Arthur Warren (2027)

Lisa Watson

[senior.warden@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:senior.warden@allsoulsdc.org)

Jeff Wells

[junior.warden@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:junior.warden@allsoulsdc.org)

Will Stewart

[treasurer@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:treasurer@allsoulsdc.org)

### **For Vestry Minutes and Parish Documents**

[www.allsoulsdc.org/governance](http://www.allsoulsdc.org/governance)



*Find AllSoulsDC on Facebook & Instagram*

### **All Souls Episcopal Church**

2300 Cathedral Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008-1505  
[www.allsoulsdc.org](http://www.allsoulsdc.org) | 202-232-4244 | [office@allsoulsdc.org](mailto:office@allsoulsdc.org)