

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS at All Souls

APRIL 26, 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 Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Good Shepherd Sunday  
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.

## Today's Readings

### The First Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

*Janelle Diller*

### Psalm 23

*Chanted*

*by the choir*

### The Epistle

1 Peter 2:19-25

*Kevin LeGrand*

### The Gospel

John 10:1-10

*Mother*

*Sara Palmer*

### Prayers of the People

*Bill McKinley*



**FAITH FORUM SUNDAYS  
AT 10 AM IN CONFERENCE ROOM**

*Next Week, May 3*

*White Christian Nationalism  
with David Palmer*



**TODAY**

**NEWCOMERS COFFEE  
WITH MOTHER SARA**

**Following service at 12:15 pm**

Today all newcomers are invited to grab a coffee and a bite to eat from the Undercroft after the service and

then come upstairs to the Conference Room to meet with Mother Sara. Bring your questions and find out more about All Souls and the Episcopal Church.



**CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK  
VOLUNTEERING**

Join us at Capital Area Food Bank,  
**Saturday, May 2, from 1 to 3:30 pm.**

**WELCOME SUNDAY**

**Sunday, May 3**

We will welcome our Newcomers on this day and give them an All Souls "gift bag". Do stay for Coffee hour and say hello to our visitors and new members!

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH  
& LUNCHEON**

**Sun., May 17 at 12:15 pm**

**ELIGIBLE VOTER LIST PUBLISHED**

On April 17th, the Parish published the list of eligible voters for the upcoming **Annual Parish Meeting** scheduled on **Sun., May 17<sup>th</sup> immediately after the 11 am worship**. The list has been distributed via the weekly parish email and is also available in hardcopy at the church. **Please check the list by Sun., May 10<sup>th</sup>** as it will be used to check voters in. Thank you!

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# TENDING OUR SOIL STEWARDSHIP PROJECT OF TIME AND TALENTS

*from Mother Sara on behalf of the Tending Our Soil Team*

All Souls was one of six congregations chosen to take part in the Diocesan Tending Our Soil (TOS) program; a three-year program dedicated to learning how to grow our congregations. Our cohort will graduate from this excellent and innovative program on May 30th 2026. We're excited to engage more of the All Souls congregation through our Time and Talent Stewardship Campaign, which is also our TOS final project.

Our first Time and Talent Stewardship Campaign launched last Sunday April 12 th with a discussion of the usher program. We aim not only to grow our parish numerically but also to help people grow a deeper relationship with God, with others at All Souls, and with themselves. We offer Forums, Episcopal 101 classes, and now a John Bible Study to help us all grow deeper spiritual roots and a firm foundation in Jesus Christ. We grow by volunteering to serve one another in ministry. In addition to ushering, we are inviting everyone to consider volunteering with Altar Guild, the Acolytes, the Outreach Committee, and coffee hour fellowship. Each of the next few Sundays a current member of the each of these committees will share their testimony during announcements about their joy in serving and how it has helped them grow. Just as in the Fall when we invite everyone to complete pledge cards to commit their financial support for our ongoing ministry at All Souls, during the next five weeks we invite everyone to take a pledge card and consider how they can dedicate their time and talent.

As our longer-term members age, we need more of our newer members to step forward. We all have limited time to share, but all can give something of our time and talent for the continued building of our beloved congregation. Fortunately, our congregation has

continued to grow in numbers, especially among the 20s and 30s group, a number of whom are already involved in these ministries.

I would also like to recognize and thank the TOS team as we end our work next month. It has attended various Saturday learning workshops as well as meeting regularly as a team. **Heidi Rasciner** has been our organizing Chair for these three years. Embry Howell led the first team during the rector transition and then I succeeded her in my capacity as the Rector. Ryan Burwinkel participated until he left during the second year. **John Longstreth, Al Muller**, and I have continued and **Dee Snyder** and **Tara Mancini** joined in 2025. Heidi and I have had regular mentoring monthly meetings with Anne Tomkinson of the Diocese. Our cohort group for the past year has been Christ Church, Chaptico and Grace, Georgetown. We have worked with our Vestry to discuss aims and objectives for All Souls and this initiative serves those goals.

April 15, 2026 *(below, All Souls TOS team)*



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