



All Souls

www.all-souls.org

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

Winter Quiet

Robert Hardies, Senior Minister

Dear Friends,
Winter is a quiet season. The long, dark hours send people home early. The birds and animals scurry off to someplace warm. The leaves no longer rustle in the trees.

And the snow—when there is snow—mutes the noise of the city. Winter is a quiet season. A time for reflection. A time to pause and listen for the still, small voice within.

Don't let the holiday bustle fool you. Winter is a quiet season. Let us greet this season with a quiet of our own. May peace be with you this holiday season.

Love,

All Souls Holiday Calendar

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Dec. 5 • Serving dinner at Christ House
Contact Louise Green for more information. (pg. 3)

Dec. 11 • Trimming the Tree after Church on Sunday. Bring a gift for children in need.

Dec. 15 • Serve dinner at Sacred Heart Church
Contact Louise Green for more information. (pg. 3)

Dec. 18 • All Souls Christmas Pageant at the 10:50

service. Bring a gift for children in need. (pg. 4)
Call Gabrielle Farrell to involve your child.

Dec. 18 • Silver Souls Holiday Luncheon after Church on Sunday
Purchase tickets after church through the 18.

Dec. 20 • Celebrate *La Posada* with Clinica del Pueblo
Contact Louise Green for more information. (pg. 3)

Dec. 24 • Christmas Eve at All Souls, services at 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Don't forget to bring a bell (any bell) to ring when we sing "Alleluia!"

Dec. 25 • Christmas—No Sunday service at All Souls. Worship at Universalist National Memorial, 16th & S, at 11 a.m.

Jan. 1 • All Souls' Kwanzaa Celebration at the 10:50 service.

Take Time Out for Reflection this Holiday Season

Shana Goodwin, Associate Minister

As we enter the holiday season, I invite you to see it as a time of reflection. If we manage not to get pulled into the frenzied activity and consumer focus of businesses

we can create room to look again at what is most important to us in our lives, to think again with hope and longing about what a world filled with peace and goodwill toward all might

be like if it were more than a dream. That type of hope and faith can be sustained and nurtured within a community such as ours.

We have worked hard
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ALL SOULS CHURCH

1500 Harvard Street, NW
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www.all-souls.org
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BUILDING HOURS

Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Te Quiero ...

The Generosity Committee

Remember Rob's sermon on Generosity Sunday? He began by translating the beautiful song, *Te Quiero*, explaining that, rather than a simple love song, we were hearing a song about a community of people: *en la calle* (on the street), *codo a codo* (arm in arm), *somos mucho mas que dos* (we are so much more than two). Throughout the 2006 All Souls Generosity Campaign, you have proven to be a community in love with the reality of justice through service; respect for the earth; committed to the growth and nurture of children; valuing respect and dignity for all souls; and spiritual seekers who share a progressive religious tradition.

To date you've shown that love by pledging \$720,231, or 90% of our \$800,000 monetary goal. Our heartfelt thanks to those of you who have stepped up for All Souls. *Te Quiero.*

There is a second dimension to our goal – 100% participation. 65% of families have pledged, but 35% have not yet pledged. We respect the importance of this decision to you and your family. Here are a few facts that may encourage you to complete your pledge card:

- From 2004-2005 our number of pledgers increased almost 17%; in spite of that, the net increase was just under 3%;
- Half of our pledge income comes from 17% of our pledgers;
- Half of our pledges are under \$500/year.

You can avoid receiving a phone call from the follow-up committee by making your pledge in Pierce Hall and the Dining Room any Sunday through December 18. Please do your part to help us achieve 100% participation from this great family of All Souls.

Take Time Out for Reflection this Holiday Season

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and looked deeply and closely at our community this fall. We have thought about peace and goodwill (the covenant of right relations) and our mission to be as hospitable and open to as diverse a group of spiritual seekers as possible. This will continue to be our calling and our challenge. The newly formed Multicultural Growth Task Force is holding on to the big picture of our work to reach end statement #2: being "an ever-more diverse congregation, overcoming the barriers that divide the human family." If you have ideas on how to make this vision a reality, be in touch with myself or any of the members of the Task Force: Denise Anderson, Jim Armstrong, Sheila Campbell, Jim Regan, Mark Hicks, and Marian Urquilla. We hope to hear from you and have each of you find a way to contribute to this ministry.

May our beloved community be a blessing. May this season bring us renewed hope, faith, and peace. May we believe again that great blessing may still come to our world. Amen.

Holiday blessings to all,

La Posada Gift Drive—Sunday, Dec. 18

La Clinica del Pueblo has been celebrating La Posada, a traditional Latin American Christmas celebration with the community since 1986 and at All Souls for several years. Every year they are joined by clients and neighborhood families for food, Christmas carols and the re-enactment of Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus searching for lodging. Part of the celebration includes a visit from Santa Claus for children ages 1-15 from low income families. On Sunday, December 18, we will collect age and gender-specific wrapped presents for children who attend this party in Pierce Hall on Tuesday: look for the instructions and plan to give with your entire family or group of friends!

Neighbors in Need Campaign

- *First Monday of the month, Christ House Dinner Program.* You can shop on Saturday and deliver to the church kitchen, OR cook on Sunday afternoon 1-2:30 p.m. at All Souls OR prep and serve from 5-6:30 p.m. Monday at Christ House on 1717 Columbia Road. Complete shopping list, menu, and instructions available. (Dec. 3, 4, 5 and Dec. 31, January 1 and 2) Contact Louise Green at lgreen@allsouls.ws.
- *Third Thursday of the month, Sacred Heart Dinner Program.* Food is ready from Martha's Table already made, and you serve and clean up from 5-6:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart. Just go to 16th and Park Road in the church basement. (Dec. 15, January 19). Contact Dave Jones of the Local Issues Task Force, davidsjones@yahoo.com.

Global Warming—There's Still Time

There is still time to register for *Global Warming: What Is It and What Can We Do About It?*, an All Souls Adult Spiritual Development course. Participants in this thought-provoking course will discuss the scientific, political, and social-justice aspects of global warming. They will also identify positive steps we can take as individuals and as a congregation to address this international issue. The course is two classes, on Dec. 8 and 15, and will be facilitated by All Souls members Heather McGray and Kevin Rosseel. Suggested fee is \$25, and you can register

through the "Adult Spiritual Development" link on the All Souls website. For more info, contact Kevin Rosseel at krosseel@yahoo.com or at 202 986-4332.

Beckner Fund for Social Justice Grants

Look at the all-souls.org website under "Grants Available" for our guidelines for All Souls Social Justice projects this year. This fall we approved funding for (1) An All Souls! All Vote! community-themed Spanish class for 2006, (2) Multicultural/multiracial signage for the church, and (3) A Martin Luther King Day program through our RE Committee and Multiracial/Multicultural Task Force.

Katrina Survivors Still Need Donations

All Souls Housing Corporation is seeking additional donations to outfit a Jubilee Housing apartment for Katrina survivors. Volunteer crews have put in many hours in recent weeks to rehabilitate an apartment in a building at 1740 Euclid Street NW, which is operated by Jubilee Housing for residents in need of affordable housing.

Jubilee Housing has set aside 10 of their affordable housing units in the neighborhood of All Souls for use by Katrina survivors for the next six to 10 months. All Souls Housing and UUs for Social Justice have put up \$4,000 toward the costs of rehabilitating these units and supported a fundraising event by *Sounds of Hope* in November. In addition, UUs for Social Justice provided: Eight new beds for evacuees at Jubilee apartments; gift cards for \$1,100 worth of winter clothing for evacuees; and numerous items of furniture and household goods. We anticipate that more donations will be needed. For more information, contact Gary Mummert at gmum@mindspring.com.

Help Restore Art Damaged in Katrina

ASC is part of the support network for a sister congregation in New Orleans. One of the needs expressed by that community was for the restoration of two very important portraits badly damaged during the flooding. We have received the artworks and they are presently stored in safekeeping in our archives. Members of the Hiroshima Drawings Committee of the church will provide updates on the disposition and eventual return of the paintings.

Reflections

by Gabrielle Farrell, Religious Educator

In response to the church's recent talkback surrounding the report of the Multiracial/Multicultural Task Force, the Religious Education Committee committed anew to the planned events supporting the church's efforts to become "an ever-more diverse congregation, overcoming the barriers that divide the human family." We encourage you to become involved by way of:

The Interracial Family Circle (IFC) Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Party

"Since 1984, the Interracial Family Circle has provided opportunities for the education, support, and socialization of multiracial individuals, families, people involved in interracial relationships, and transracial adoptive families in the D.C. metropolitan area." One opportunity is the MLK birthday celebration that was held at All Souls for the first time in 2003. The ministries of the church are working together to bring together at least 500 folks to play, perform and transmit the inspiring words of MLK, Jr. to the children of the D.C. area. To volunteer, contact Gabrielle Farrell at gfarrell@allsouls.ws, Shana Goodwin at sgoodwin@allsouls.ws or Louise Green at Lgreen@allsouls.ws.

Black History Gallery

MOMIE'S TLC (Mentors of Minorities in Education Total Learning "c" Sistem) is a tenant of the Columbia Heights Youth Club offering after school care program for neighborhood children. Each February they develop a week-long interactive gallery that teach black s/heros. The RE program has supported the Gallery in various ways over the years and we are looking to extend that support by all church members. If interested in working with the RE Committee on this, contact Gabrielle Farrell at gfarrell@allsoul.org The Gallery may focus on historical or living figures from DC. Suggestions of names are appreciated.

The Multicultural/Multiracial Curriculum Project

Funded by a Beckner Grant, this project is reforming with Jenice View as its Chair. Beginning in January, the new working group forms to develop a framework by which to audit the Religious Education program and develop teach-

ing using this lens. The new group will build a cohesive and big picture view to ensure that what we teach our children is what they need today and also what helps them grow into people who will work to "discover and articulate the source of love in their lives and cultivate the ability to act on that love in ever-expanding circles...while overcoming the barriers that divide the human family."

Every Night a Child is Born is a Holy Night

On Dec. 18, children of the church reenact, during the 11 a.m. service, the telling of the Christmas story. All children registered in the RE program receive invitations via email or snail mail. Group roles are as follows: Nursery children are cherubs (no rehearsal); Preschool children are the multitude (no rehearsal); Primary children are shepherds; and Intermediate Aged children are Heavenly Host.

Individual roles are assigned to seventh graders first. Eighth graders and older are welcome to serve as group supervisors or scenery handlers. If your child is not yet registered, contact Gabrielle Farrell, Religious Educator, at gfarrell@allsouls.ws or 202.332.5266. All individual and some group roles require rehearsal on Saturday, Dec. 17.

Upcoming Religious Education Calendar

Dec. 4 • OWL Teaching Staff Meeting

Dec. 11 • OWL Parents Information Meeting

Dec. 17 • Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

Dec. 18 • Christmas Pageant

Dec. 25 & Jan. 1 • No church school

Adult RE Discusses Intelligent Design

In December, the adult RE class will discuss *The Intelligent Design Challenge to Evolution*. At a time when a number of schools are facing challenges from the religious right, it is important that All Souls members understand the arguments presented by its supporters, including a few scientists who support ID. For new members interested in joining, the class meets in the All Souls Library Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. Register by e mail Thomas Hargrave at hargravet@aol.com. Discussion leaders for this series are Peter Smith, Tom Hargrave and Kat Liu.

Dr. Amiri Baraka at All Souls Church

On December 17th, All Souls Church will welcome Dr. Amiri Baraka in performance of *Letters and Jazz*. In partnership with the DC Music Center and Millennium Arts Salon, the church will host the delivery of Dr. Baraka's signature brand of insightful poetry in the cause of social justice in the environment of jazz provided by the Carter Jazz Quartet featuring Russell Carter of the DC Music Center.

This production is in keeping with All Souls Church's legacy of providing a forum for a broad spectrum of political, intellectual and religious leaders to present their views. The evening starts with a Salon, sponsored by Millennium Arts Salon at the DC Arts Center on 18th Street in Adams Morgan. The combined Salon and Performance will cover the then LeRoi Jones's founding contributions to the Black Arts Movement, through his nationalist period (now Amiri Baraka), through the socialist period and the writing of his important essay *Why I Changed My Ideology* in 1974.

The Carter Jazz Quartet is the direct outgrowth of the DC Music Center where Russell Carter is its Director. The quartet is a family affair with the "kids": Rahshaan, Russell, Jr., and Roland rounding out the quartet. All accomplished musicians, prior dates include the East Coast Jazz Festival and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

To support the performers and Dr. Baraka, tickets for this event will be \$15 for the Salon at DC Arts Center and \$20 for the *Letters and Jazz* at All Souls Church. Look for more information in the weekly Happenings.

Book Discussion Group in December

The next meeting of the Book Discussion Group will be at 4 p.m. on Dec. 11 at the home of Nancy Simon. We will have a movie. For more information, email djrathman@yahoo.com.

For our meeting on Jan. 8, 2006, we will read *Reveille in Washington, 1860-1865*, by Margaret Leech. The Book Group usually meets on the second Sunday. Please join us for any book that interests you.

A Sweet Honey of a Season!

The KUUMBA Players spring musical will be an original work that blends music, dance, and storytelling using the songs of Dr. Ysaye Maria Barnwell.

As a member of All Souls church, Dr. Barnwell founded the Jubilee Singers before joining the internationally acclaimed singing group *Sweet Honey in the Rock*, which she now leads. People from all walks of life are drawn to her songs, which honor the ancestors, encourage deeper personal connections, and call for social justice. In this unique performance, the KUUMBA Players will use music and dance to tell stories surrounding some of Dr. Barnwell's most powerful works.

Curious? Want to help or learn more? The KUUMBA Players are seeking collaborators, directors, actors, singers, dancers, musicians, set builders, costume designers, ushers, box office volunteers, etc. We encourage people of all ages and levels of experience to participate. Due to the unique structure of the show, there will be some flexibility in scheduling rehearsals (except for tech week). For more information, contact Anna Hargrave at annaharg@aol.com.

A Perfect Gift for the Holidays ... ASC CD

Everyone at All Souls (and UUs just about everywhere) knows about the music ministry that is such an integral and important part of our church. And many of us have already bought a copy (or several) of the All Souls Choir's *Music from All Souls* CD to enjoy and share.

With the holiday season here, it's time to consider buying additional copies of *Music from All Souls*. The CD makes a wonderful gift, featuring members' favorites as well as other selections that represent an array of musical traditions and languages. You can also feel good knowing that all sales support the ministries of All Souls Church. This month, the CD will be available for purchase on December 4, 11, and 18 in Pierce Hall. The cost for each CD is \$20. If you have questions, contact Kevin Rosseel at krosseel@yahoo.com or 202 986-4332.

Odds & Ends

Another Gift Idea for Your Favorite UU ...

Wondering what to give your favorite UU for a HOLIDAY GIFT? Why not a membership in the national UU Ministry for the Earth? (formerly known as the national Seventh Principle Project). Limited income donation: \$20; Regular: \$35. Your favorite environmentally-inclined person will thank you for the access to newsletters and other resources, a vote on policies and the Board of Directors, and being linked to the broader community of UUs on “green” matters. Stop by the Seventh Principle Committee table in Pierce Hall after services to arrange this!

Donate Environmental Books to ASC

Do you have a book or two on environmental themes that you are willing to donate to All Souls? The Seventh Principle Committee invites you to help us create a shelf in our church library filled with theological, spiritual, social, scientific, etc. books related to the environment and environmental justice. Drop off books at the Seventh Principle Table after church on Sundays in December and January. Thanks!

Get Merchants to Donate to ASC!

You can get Safeway and other merchants to donate to All Souls for every purchase you make if you register your Safeway Club card, as well as credit or debit cards, at www.eScrip.com. Last year over 300 of us designated ASC as our chosen charity, generating nearly \$1,400 in extra income for the church. Safeway will donate 1% - 3% to ASC, depending on the total of your monthly purchases. Other merchants and occasional special offers can produce even higher percentages. There is NO COST to you or to ASC except for the few minutes it will take you to register. Questions? Contact Carol Falk, 202-483-5607 or falkjohnson@netscape.com.

Don't Forget: Recycle Printer Cartridges

Black and color ink welcome! Recycle and earn money for All Souls! Look for the green and blue recycling bin at the Harvard St. entrance.

All Souls December 2005

Day-Long Environmental Issues Event

The UU Congregation of Fairfax, Va. will host a day-long special event for metro-area UUs interested in environmental issues. Rabbi Daniel Swartz will talk about Interfaith Power & Light. Churches will share their plans and accomplishments related to becoming a Green Sanctuary, as well as other projects and ideas. There will be poetry, music, spiritual reflection, a walk on the 11-acre grounds and tour of a new building at Fairfax, plus a vegetarian potluck lunch. Let's have a big ASC contingent! Carpooling available. More details in the January newsletter or contact pamelasparr@infoconex.com.

Covenant Group News

Covenant groups are off to a good start this year with many new members who signed up after Spiritual Deepening Day in October. A few groups still have vacancies and a second daytime women's group may be starting after the first of the year. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Rev. Shana Goodwin at 202-332-5266 or Meredith Higgins-Hargrave at higginsrpf@aol.com.

From the Archives ...

Busy bees continue to sort the ASC archives. Minutes of the Board of Trustees, financial reports, orders of service, newsletters, directories, and sermons have top priority. Want to help? Contact Bob or Molly Freeman at 301-656-0948 or mollyfreeperson@aol.com.

Special Caring List

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the members of our congregation who are unable to get to church any more: Mary Jane Fisher, Virginia Gray, Loretta and Wesley Hanes, Mary Louise Robbins, Marianna Sewell, Marietta Sharp, Larry Stone, Emilie Wiggins.

Notes or cards would be welcome. Addresses are in the church directory (available at the Information Table in Pierce Hall). You can also visit the Caring Table to sign cards for those homebound. To visit shut-in members, contact Rev. Shana Goodwin at church (202-332-5266).

Member News

Happy news this month: **Colvin Underwood** and **Elen Snider** welcomed baby **Bryn** to their hearts and home. **Ken and Bonnie Brown** welcomed grand children **Evan and Madeline**. We're certainly glad to know that **Adenia Taylor**, who was locked briefly IN her house, is now out and around. We've let her know that most of us manage to get locked OUT.

Delighted to hear that **Paul Pfeiffer and Sharon Fowler-Nwosu** are on the road to recovery after surgery. Glad that **Gertie Coleman** is safely home after a week of heart related tests in the hospital. We hope **Mary Ann Anderson** is soon through with difficult dental work, and that **Betty Atherton** will soon feel herself after a fall. Our thoughts are with **Julie Agarwal** whose father is ill in India, with **Joe Puzzo** whose mother and brother have had surgery, with **Mary Greer** who has travelled to England to be with her brother who has had a stroke.

Our love and sympathy are with **Jan Cormier** on the loss of her father, with **Jody Feldman** on the death of a grandparent who lived a long and productive 100 years, with **Lynn Rosellini** on the loss of her father-in law, with **Mary Ann Anderson** whose beloved aunt died, and with **Pamela Spratlen** on the loss of her friend

Several of our beloved long time church members continue to struggle with critical illness: **Mary Bonner** who broke her hip and subsequently had several emergency surgical interventions, **Charlie Mason** who's had hospitalizations for pneumonia, and with **Trellis Waxler, Bob Myers,** and **Jessie Bakeman** who battle cancer. Should you wish to visit, please call ahead, but cards are most welcome. We report with sorrow the death of **Inez Scope**, who, for many years was an active member of All Souls.

Congratulations to **Tom Hargrave** for his re-appointment to the UUA Fund for Unitarian Universalism panel. The Fund meets twice a year and makes grants for innovative projects designed to help support UU growth.

Newsletter Deadline Change!

The new newsletter deadline is the second Friday of every month, rather than the third, to allow the church to save money on postage. Don't miss the date!

Getting Started at All Souls

The Welcoming and Membership Committee invites those interested in learning more about and/or joining ASC to the following sessions during October.

Step 1. Introduction. Join our Associate Minister, Rev. Shana Goodwin, to learn more about UUs and ASC. After service on Jan. 15, from 12:45 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Step 2. Orientation. Those interested in joining ASC are invited to this three-hour session, where you will explore your spirituality, learn about ASC, and tour the church. Those who wish to join can sign the book of members. Wed., March 15, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Step 3. New Member Ingathering Sunday: New members are formally introduced to the congregation during this special Sunday Service on March 19, 2005.

All are welcome to attend these sessions. Attendance does not constitute a commitment to join All Souls. It is not necessary to pre-register for these sessions. Questions? Contact Lynne Heltman at (202)363-1478 or asc-newmembers@verizon.net.

ALL SOULS

The deadline for *All Souls* is the second Friday of the month. Notices, articles and letters may be submitted anytime. E-mail, Elizabeth Preston at elizabeth_mae_preston@hotmail.com

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

Illustrations provided by Mark Mitchell.
Editor Emeritus: Lorie Allion

Publication Deadlines:

January Issue: December 9
February Issue: January 13

Editor: Elizabeth Preston

elizabeth_mae_preston@hotmail.com

All Souls Unitarian Church Services

Services begin at 10:50 a.m. unless otherwise noted

Dec. 4 • *Freedom from Fear* • Rev. Hardies

Last Sunday, Rev. Goodwin spoke of courage on a personal level. This week we explore how groups of people overcome their fear and claim their freedom.

Dec. 11 • *Once More 'Round the Sun* • Rev. Hardies

As we approach the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year, we are reminded of the Earth's cycles. We can look at our own lives as cyclical, too, and in so doing, find a measure of grace and forgiveness.

Dec. 18 • *Christmas Pageant* • Revs. Hardies, Goodwin & Friends

Revs. Hardies and Goodwin join with the children of the church to tell a very special story set to some very special music. An All Souls tradition.

Dec. 24 • 5 p.m. • *Christmas Eve at ASC* • Family Candlelight Service

The early service includes all the richness of the later Christmas Eve service, with special features for families with young children. The D.C. Children's Choir and Jubilee Singers will join our ministers in this celebration of Christmas that concludes with the traditional lighting of candles and singing of *Silent Night*. Don't forget to bring a bell to ring when we sing *Alleluia*.

Dec. 24 • 11 p.m. • *Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols*

Join our ministers and the All Souls Choir in welcoming Christmas into the world and into our hearts during this candlelit service of readings and carols. Don't forget to bring a bell to ring every time we sing "Alleluia."

Dec. 25 • All Souls Church will be CLOSED on Christmas Day

Because our Christmas Eve service lasts until the wee hours of Christmas Day, we will not have a regular Sunday service on Christmas Day. All Souls members are invited to worship at our sister church, Universalist National Memorial, at 16th and "S." Christmas morning service begins at 11 a.m.

MISSION & ENDS STATEMENTS

Mission Statement of All Souls Church

To create a diverse, spirit-growing, justice-seeking community that transforms ourselves and our world into one great family of all souls.

Ends Statements: *By 2008 we will be able to say of our congregation:*

1. Church members of all ages discover and articulate the source of love in their lives and cultivate the ability to act on that love in ever-expanding circles.
2. All Souls is an ever-more diverse congregation, overcoming the barriers that divide the human family.
3. Our building and grounds are welcoming, comfortable and accessible to all who seek their use in congruence with our mission.
4. All Souls Church is a congregation where members generously share human and financial resources to support our growing mission and ends.
5. All Souls Church is a leader in the Unitarian Universalist movement, by witnessing to UU values in our nation's capital.
6. The Columbia Heights/Adams Morgan/Mt. Pleasant neighborhood is a more just and compassionate community because of All Souls' prophetic leadership.
7. All Souls Church is a vibrant and joyful community of communities where all seekers find connection, support and spiritual growth in groups large and small.

Return Service Requested

All Souls Church, Unitarian
The Voice
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Washington, DC 20009



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