



Sunday Mornings at All Souls - 10:30 AM

Sunday mornings are the place to be for worship and religious education! Below is a listing of all the sermons and descriptions for February and March 2022. Each one of these services will feature a message, music, stories and readings to inspire you for the week ahead. Enjoy!

February Theme: When Your Heart Opened

FEBRUARY 6 **The Unsettling Truth of an Open Heart** Rev. Louise Green

Committing to open your heart, collectively and/or one-on-one, is going to disrupt you - your small stories, your well-reasoned opinions, your explicit and implicit bias; it's all up for change. The complicated truths of who people actually are is unsettling. It is simple to get on the soapbox, multiple times a day, with your own fierce truth. It is more challenging to allow nuance, consider contradiction, investigate complexity and even paradox.

FEBRUARY 13 **Jesus, An Extremist for Love** Ebony C. Peace

How can we be authentic with those whom we fundamentally disagree with while staying true to ourselves? How do we love those who we fiercely disagree with? Why should we show compassion for those who mean us harm? Should we ever pause our holy work to answer criticism or keep our eyes and energy on "the prize"?

FEBRUARY 20 **On Sacred Ground** Rev. Bill Sinkford

Faith cannot be forced or enforced. It can only be found. Anyplace we find it is sacred ground. The journey of faith can travel by many waystations: courage and cowardice, learning and leaving, personal power and powerlessness. Faith asks us to be present as we visit all of those waystations and more, and as we come to recognize all that we are as an expression of the larger love which holds our life.

FEBRUARY 27 **Who's Afraid of CRT?** Rev. Kathleen Rolenz

Those who have objected to Critical Race Theory (CRT) as diminishing the reputation of the United States find themselves having to defend the United States against perceived slanders and slurs. Others are simply demanding that the whole truth of our past be revealed and taught. What's the fear about CRT? How does the truth open our hearts to the wounds of the past so that we may truly begin to heal as individuals and as a country?



March Theme: Commitment

MARCH 6 Why We Gather, Why We Give: Stewardship Sunday

Traci Hughes-Trotter & Kathleen Rolenz

Priya Parker's book, "The Art of Gathering" asks not how we should gather, but "why?" What is our purpose in gathering, really? How does that connect with why we give to this community? This is the kick off to our 2022-2023 Stewardship Campaign. Get ready! We are going to rock the house with music, message and your pledges to All Souls future.

MARCH 13

What Are We Even Trying to Do?

Rev. Rob Keithan

In our 200 years as a congregation, All Souls has done an enormous amount to promote justice in our city, nation, and world. Our bottom line is clear—we want to have a positive impact. Beyond that, there are many choices we have to make about how to focus our limited time, energy, and resources. The same is true for each of us as an individual, or a family. We can't do it all. How do we prioritize?

MARCH 20

Not for the Faint of Heart

Rev. Bill Sinkford

Religion insists, in many languages and through many metaphors, that the Kingdom, Beloved Community is a possible future, even a possible present. But religion also reminds us that much will be required of us to make that future real. We are asked to find joy in faithfulness, joy in the process of trying and then trying again and again to answer love's call. The simple requirement to love justice, be merciful and walk (or roll) humbly is demanding beyond our imagined strength. It can also be the source of our liberation.

MARCH 27

Who Do I Say That I Am?

Rev. Kathleen Rolenz

All of us carry multiple identities. Some of those identities are by chance, others by choice and still others are ones that change and evolve over time. This sermon and this service will reflect on what it means to be committed to an identity; and what happens when we decide to change that identity, as well as the spiritual tools needed to sustain joy with the identities we claim.

Programs, Classes & Connections

Information about all classes, including the zoom links and/or if the class is held in person, can be found on the church's website, and in the e-bulletin and/or will be announced on Sunday morning. Please check those sites for the most recent and up-to-date information.

JANUARY 2022

What are You Reading Right Now?



Wednesday, January 19 | 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Facilitator Rev. Kathleen Rolenz

Let's talk about books. What do you have on your nightstand or in your Kindle right now? Rev. Kathleen has been enjoying several biographies and novels, and wants to know: What are you reading or, perhaps more likely, what books have you purchased and haven't yet read? Come prepared to share some of your favorite reads from the past year; and

what you plan to read in 2022.

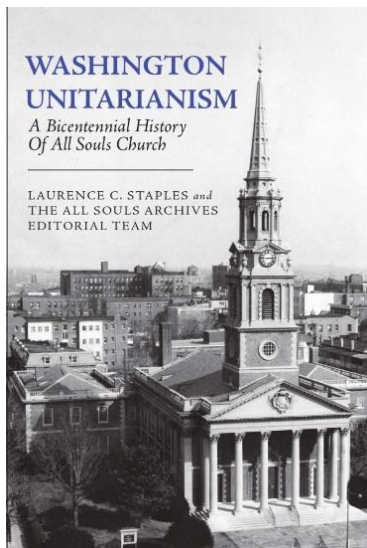
Philosophical Souls: Uncertainty

Monday, January 24 | 7:00-8:30pm

Many of us seek renewed clarity and direction at the beginning of the year...but what if the world and our lives seem to be offering something else? How can we make sense of uncertainty? What uncertainties most challenge us today? Please join us for these and your questions! We will gather via Zoom on Monday, January 24, from 7:00-8:30pm. Space is limited – please RSVP to john.tambornino@gmail.com.

Stories from Our History

Sunday, January 30th | 7:00 – 8:15 PM



All Souls now has 200 years of history as a congregation, and we have a rich archive documenting our life together, and our engagement in Washington and the nation. The All Souls archives committee has mined our treasures for an updated All Souls history book. You can purchase the book here: <https://all-souls.org/about-us/history/>.

Join us on zoom to hear stories from our history told by Allison Blakey, Mara Cherkasky, Carol Falk, Henry Hubbard, and Julie Hubbard. Emily Koechlin will moderate. Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83546765545>.

This event is organized by the Archives committee, and Adult Spiritual Development is partnering in putting this on and publicizing it.

Drumming for All – Akoma @ All Souls

Beginning Monday, January 31 – March 7 (6 weeks) | 7 PM | Church Sanctuary



Have you always been interested in drumming but weren't sure where to begin? Resident teaching artist and director of Akoma @ All Souls Kristen Arant welcomes YOU to join a six-week intensive in West African drumming and percussion, where you will learn how to play the djembe and accompanying instruments, along with rhythms of the African diaspora. This is a wonderful time to join this

community of rhythm-makers! Drumming has been proven to boost the immune system while fostering healing and connection. Contact Kristen Arant for more information, or to join: kristen@drumlady.com or visit her website: www.drumlady.com

FEBRUARY 2022

Focused Conversation with Minister-in-Residence Rev. Bill Sinkford



Thursday, February 17 | 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Saturday, February 19 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Rev. Dr. Bill Sinkford is both our Minister-in-Residence for the 2021-2022 church year, but has also agreed to serve as the Interim Lead Minister for 2022-2023. Rev. Bill brings insight and wisdom to his role as Minister-in-Residence. In his monthly “Focused Conversations” he explores one aspect of church life and invites reflection and conversation on the topic. The topic for this conversation will be announced in the e-bulletin a week ahead of the scheduled date. Rev. Bill is tailoring the topics to the needs of All Souls. Stay tuned!

Introduction to Anti-Racism for White People

February 7, 14, 28 & March 1 | 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Led by Jennifer Langer Smith and Rev. Rob Keithan



Our collective work for racial justice calls people with different identities to engage in different ways. Communities of color have specifically asked White people to take initiative and responsibility for their own education. This course will help White people at All Souls cultivate self-awareness, learn critical mindsets and skills for engaging in racial justice transformation, and develop relationships with other White people for mutual accountability and support. This class is intended to complement and/or prepare people for the

Jubilee training; it is not a replacement. [Register Here](#)



Jesus for Skeptics

Wednesday, February 16 | 7:30—9:00 PM

Led by Rev. Kathleen Rolenz

Ebony Peace’s sermon “Jesus, an Extremist for Love” explores the many ways we can know the person known as Jesus. It was Jesus himself who asked his disciples, “Who Do You Say That I Am?” So, what’s YOUR relationship with Jesus? Friend? Childhood Foe? Teacher? Savior? Let’s talk. Rev. Rolenz will also be drawing heavily upon Diana Butler Bass’s new book: *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Lord, Way and Presence*. . Rev. Rolenz’s new book, “The Bible Renegotiated” [Skinner House] is scheduled to be published in June 2022. She’s been immersed in

some Jesus-study for quite some time!

Sermon: Who’s Afraid of CRT?

Sunday, February 27 | 10:30 AM

Led by Rev. Kathleen Rolenz

Those who have objected to Critical Race Theory (CRT) as diminishing the reputation of the United States find themselves having to defend the United States against perceived slanders and slurs. Others are simply demanding that the whole truth of our past be revealed and taught. What’s the fear about CRT? On February 27, Rev. Rolenz will be offering a sermon entitled “Who’s Afraid of Critical Race Theory.”

To familiarize yourself with the controversy, you can:

- Listen to: Intersectionality with Kimberle Crenshaw: Episode #42: Educators Ungagged: Teaching Truth in the Era of Racial Backlash;
- Episode #42 Nov. 15, 2021; For insight into argument against CRT, Culture Wars with Andrew Doyle: Exposing critical race theory with Christopher Rufo Feb. 25, 2021.

MARCH 2022

Who's Afraid of CRT? A Follow-Up Discussion

Thursday, March 3 | 7:30 - 9:00 PM

Led by Rev. Kathleen Rolenz

This is a conversation following up on the sermon of February 27th. This issue particularly affects parents as local school boards and teachers find themselves caught in the cross-fire of those who seek to ban books from school libraries and deny the realities of systemic racism.

Focused Conversation with Rev. Bill Sinkford

Thursday, March 17 | 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Saturday, March 19 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Exploring Identity: An Evening with the Boston Sisters

Wednesday, March 16 | 7:30 – 9:00 PM



Join Rev. Kathleen Rolenz and the Boston Sisters, Taquiena and Michon for an evening conversation about their new podcast series “Historical Drama” and their reflection on the film “Passing.” On Sunday, March 27th, Rev. Kathleen will offer a sermon entitled “Who Do I Say That I Am,” which will consider the importance of naming and claiming one’s identity/identities in a world that insists on binary divisions. We’ll explore these questions and others with the Boston

sisters as they examine the film “Passing.” If you’d like some advance “homework” watch the film “Passing” (available on Netflix) then listen to their [podcast](#).

Talking with Conservative Family & Friends about Controversial Issues

Monday, March 21 | 7:00 – 9:00 PM

For people who identify with liberal or progressive values, it’s common to feel frustrated, angry or drained by conversations with conservative people. When it’s close family or friends, this disconnect can be very painful. Often the differences involve religious beliefs, which can be particularly hard to negotiate. In this interactive workshop, we will explore approaches and skills for having more productive conversations across ideological divides. Reviewing research on how liberals and conservatives view morality differently, we’ll share experiences and consider new approaches. We will also examine different ways of defining success in these interactions, with the goal of improving these potentially challenging relationships. Currently, we plan to offer this twice (same session each time; sign up for only one).

Sermon: “Who Do I Say That I Am?”

Sunday, March 27, 10:30 AM

With Rev. Kathleen C. Rolenz



All of us carry multiple identities. Some of those identities are by chance, others by choice and still others are ones that change and evolve over time. This sermon and this service will reflect on what it means to be committed to an identity; and what happens when we decide to change that identity, as well as the spiritual tools needed to sustain joy with the identities we claim. **Advance Learning:** Attend an evening with the Boston sisters

and come prepared to think about your own identity/identities

Opportunities for Congregational Care

Reproductive Loss

Sunday, January 23 | 11:45-12:45

Facilitated by Rev. Louise Green

Conversation about reproductive loss of any sort, or the loss of children to illness and death. Open to all genders. This follows a service where Rev. Rob will preach on reproductive justice, from an organizing and pastoral perspective. Zoom link on website homepage calendar. (There will be an additional February program on this theme in February, which includes dialogue and ritual).

Parenting in the Pandemic

Sunday, January 30 | 11:45-12:45

Facilitated by Rev. Louise Green and Dolores Miller

Conversation about the challenges of parenting in the time of ongoing pandemic flux. Working with school challenges, mental health, and the complexities of life for our youngest souls. Geared toward families with children or youth in our All Souls music or RE programs. Zoom link on website homepage calendar.

Supporting Elders

Wednesday, February 2 | 7:30-8:30

Facilitated by Rev. Louise Green

Conversation about supporting elders, parents, grandparents, in a season of health challenges, shortages and distance. Finding ways to support family and also tend to the burnout of complex caregiving. Zoom link on website homepage calendar.

Spiritual Care Session on Reproductive Experiences

Thursday, February 10 | 7:30 – 9:00 PM

Collaboratively led by Revs. Kathleen Rolenz, Louise Green, and Rob Keithan
Reproductive experiences can be among the most emotional--and invisible--challenges that we experience in our lives. There is so much cultural and religious stigma that, even among people and communities with more liberal values, it can be hard to discuss these situations openly and find a sense of healing or closure. This spiritual care session is open to anyone who is having, has had, or who has been close to a reproductive experience that they would like to have held in spiritual care. After some initial work as an entire group, there will be breakout sessions on abortion, infertility, pregnancy loss, and other experiences. Participation is strictly confidential.

Swan Song Soiree

Tuesday, March 22 | 7:30—8:30 PM

Facilitated by Reverend Kathleen Rolenz

One thing is certain: Life ends. But, thinking about life's end doesn't have to be all gloom and doom. Have you thought about your end of life recently? Made a will? What will you do with your possessions? How about all those old journals that someone will find after you die? Grab a beverage and join Rev. Kathleen Rolenz for a rollicking discussion about what does it mean to "have one's affairs in order?"