

# ALL SOULS *at 200+*

## THE ALL SOULS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Summer 2020, Vol. 1, Issue N° 1

*The All Souls Historical Society*

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“The past matters because the future matters—  
history is as much about the future as it is about the past.”

—Ann Gronningsater

See: *Facing Our Past : All Souls Unitarian Church, NYC, 1819-2020* by Mary Dugan

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### MOVING FORWARD

**W**e celebrated our 200th Anniversary only a few months ago with an array of activities in November, 2019. Our tagline was: *Honor the Past, Celebrate the Present, Shape the Future.*

The Historical Society played a major role, collaborating with the Bicentennial Committee, drawing heavily on materials from our magnificent Archives to produce our book, *ALL SOULS at 200*. None of us could have imagined the cavalcade of events that impacted every aspect of our lives as individuals, as a congregation, and beyond.

We are inspired to renew the Historical Society to capture the essence of our experiences now, and to adapt the All Souls Historical Society (ASHS) to the radically changed reality with the COVID-19 pandemic impact, and the Black Lives Matter anti-racism, human rights, social equality movement protests worldwide. Archiving our community's experiences and activities and renewed cooperation with The Unitarian Universalist History and Heritage Society and other societies interested in our history will hopefully enlighten future generations about the experiences of All Souls members and friends.

### WEBSITE

*Imagine being able to write the first draft of history!*  
*You can help share All Souls' experiences.*

**V**isit our evolving website to see what we've started and to imagine how your experience should be added: <https://www.allsoulsnychistory.org/>.

We want to give committees, our educational, spiritual programs and special events (hosts/guests) and individual members opportunity to share their stories and save them for generations to come. By preserving our experiences, we can provide an unfiltered snapshot of what life was like during COVID-19 pandemic and the movement that calls for a unified response to issues of race, class, gender, sexuality, and nationality in real time.

We are eager to receive notes, photos, questions, videos, topics for exploration, additions to what we have, contrasting points of view—let us know. Send your messages to [Archives@allsoulsnyc.org](mailto:Archives@allsoulsnyc.org).



All Souls post-renovation with the scaffolding down

Despite the whiter than usual paint on the doors, many will find it reassuring that the church still looks much the same as it always has while now being structurally sound.

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#### EVENTS (Hold the Date)

##### HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

ZOOM Gathering Open to ALL  
 October 18, 2020 (Sunday)  
 1:00-2:00PM

##### ANNUAL BELLOWS LECTURE—

An annual program of fantastic speakers to present on a variety of topics.

ZOOM—Open to ALL  
 November 22, 2020 (Sunday)  
 1:00-2:00PM

**Dr. Bernard Unti**  
 Senior Policy Adviser

The Humane Society of the United States

The Lecture will be about our former member, Henry Bergh, who founded the ASPCA with the Rev. Dr. Henry Whitney Bellows.

#### MEMBERSHIP

##### (JOIN or RENEW MEMBERSHIP)

**M**embership is a great way to contribute to preserving the past and present of The Unitarian Church of All Souls.

Your membership dues allow us to present interesting programs each year and maintain/update our archives at Meadville Lombard Theological School; restorative work; provide a stipend for a graduate student in Library Science/Archives to expand our efforts.

##### Membership Levels

Individual: . . . . .	\$20	Family . . . . .	\$40
Life Membership: . . . . .			\$100

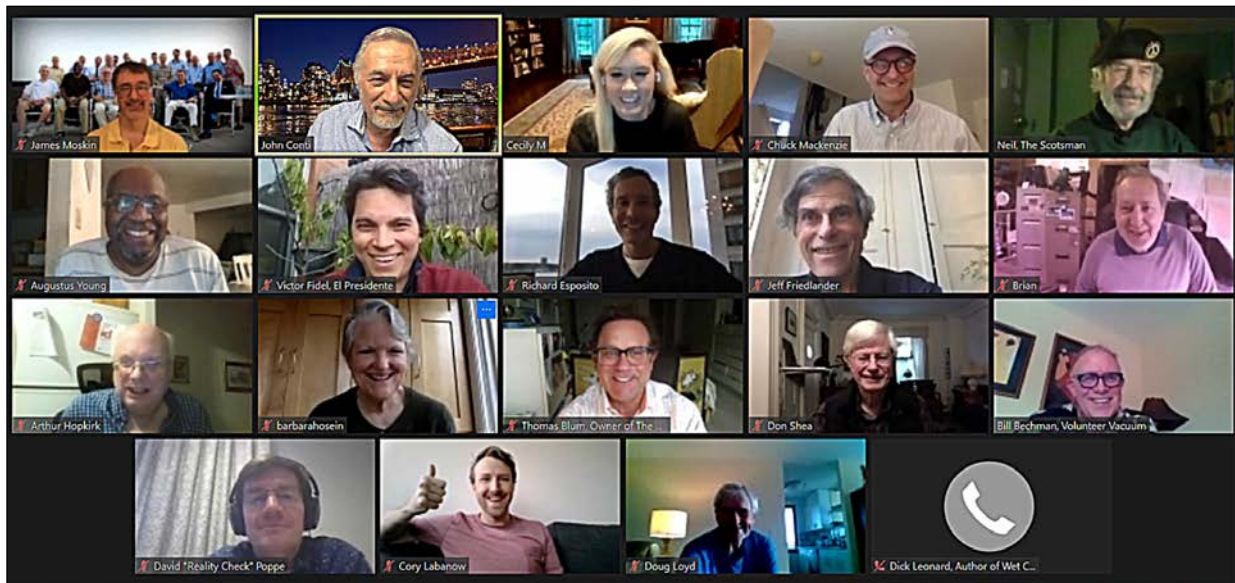
(Using our secure payment system click below)

[Online Membership Payment Form:](https://onrealm.org/allsoulsnyc/-/give/now)

(<https://onrealm.org/allsoulsnyc/-/give/now>)

Download Membership Form for Mail-in: [Mail-in Form \(PDF\)](#)

Christina Bellamy,  
 President, The All Souls Historical Society (ASHS)



A Zoom screen shot of the Laymen's League meeting on May 19, 2020. This is an example of how in 2020, with the church building closed because of the COVID-19 Coronavirus, the Zoom technology has taken over as our means of meeting, gathering, worshiping and communicating with each other. It has kept us safe and together, and allowed those who no longer live in New York City, and new people who never did, to be part of our community. We now plan to expand our online community permanently even after the church building is able to reopen.

