

# ALL SOULS *200 Years*

HONOR THE PAST

CELEBRATE THE PRESENT

SHAPE THE FUTURE

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# THE ALL SOULS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## *Celebrating our Bicentennial*

*"One of the great strengths of our institution is our flexibility and resilience. With our growth come new programs; new patterns evolve, and inevitably we change."* —Ann Gronningsater

**WILLIAM WARE**  
1821–1836

**CHARLES THEODORE C. FOLLEN**  
1836–1838  
"Acting" minister. An abolitionist, he was instructed not to preach on abolition but on Thanksgiving day, "delivered an impassioned anti-slavery sermon"

**MINOT OSGOOD SIMONS**  
1923–1941  
"This Church is dedicated to religion, but not a creed; neither upon itself nor upon its members does it impose a test or doctrinal formula."

**FRIDAY SOUP**  
has remained the same for more than thirty years; to provide a healthy, hot meal in a communal atmosphere to anyone who is hungry.

**THE WOMEN'S ALLIANCE**  
Work included the formation of the Society for the Employment and Relief of Poor Women designed to train women and enable them to earn their way out of poverty—forerunner of The Society for Assistance of the Aging and the Annie Eaton Society.

**GIRL SCOUTS IN EAST HARLEM**  
offers extraordinary opportunities for girls to grow, learn, and have fun.

**HENRY WHITNEY BELLOWES**  
1839–1882  
To help establish the precursor to the American Red Cross (Clara Barton, Founder). Dr. Bellows met with President Lincoln and secured an order establishing the U.S. Sanitary Commission.

**THE ANNIE EATON SOCIETY**  
Independent organization chartered as a non-profit foundation and funds outreach programs.

**NAVIGATORS USA**  
An all-gender, secular scouting movement that welcomes all people—children and adults no matter their gender, race, lifestyle, ability, religious, or lack of religious belief.

**THEODORE CHICKERING WILLIAMS**  
1883–1896

**WALTER DONALD KRING**  
1955–1978  
Wrote the Right Hand of Fellowship ceremony underscoring the church's commitment to freedom of conscience.

**THE HEART & SOUL CHARITABLE FUND**  
supports community-based programs that serve New York's marginalized populations through the investment of time, money and compassion.

**ALL SOULS SCHOOL**  
Founded 1965  
Established as an independent nursery school and kindergarten for the surrounding neighborhood; it became a prestigious pre-school in New York City, drawing families from all over the city.

**THE RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE**  
unites volunteer lay leaders and staff to deepen the congregation's understanding of race-related issues.

**THOMAS ROBERT SLICER**  
1897–1916

**GALEN GUENGERICH**  
2009–

**LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER**  
One of the great organizers of New York charities; formed the Women's Central Relief Association; established the first training school for nurses in the U.S. in connection with Bellview Hospital.

**THE AIDS TASK FORCE**  
First in the country to raise awareness about the disease and reach out to those in our city who were suffering from HIV-AIDS. From the 'bus ad campaign: "AIDS is a human disease and deserves a humane response."

**THE NEW AMSTERDAM BOYS & GIRLS CHOIR**  
exists to enrich the lives of children in the East Harlem community, using choral singing as a catalyst.

**150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**  
1969

**MONDAY NIGHT HOSPITALITY**  
serves over 300 meals to our neighbors in need in an hospitable and unpressured environment, along with a variety of social services.

**E. FORRESTER CHURCH IV**  
1978–2009  
The Lifelines Center—linking minds, hearts and hands: a center whose express mission is to foster and nurture connections among individuals; to create lifelines that will enhance our relationships with one another in love, work, society, and spirit.

**FLORENCE MCKINLEY**  
The first woman elected President of the Board of Trustees (1961).

**WILLIAM LAURENCE SULLIVAN**  
1916–1922

*We welcome you to join us!*

Christina Bellamy, President; Jim Moskin, Vice President; Mary Dugan, Treasurer  
The All Souls Historical Society ([ASHS@allsoulsnyc.org](mailto:ASHS@allsoulsnyc.org))

# ALL SOULS *200 years*

## BICENTENNIAL EVENTS

*Bill Bechman and Chris Goodwin, Co-Chairs*

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

**Gala Dinners in Homes, 6:00 p.m.**

**(Your dinner tickets help to make our weekend possible. Thank you!)**

**Desserts & Dancing in Reidy Friendship Hall, 8:00 p.m.**

**Champagne Toast to the Church, 8:30 p.m.**

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

**OPEN HOUSE** (Free Admission)

**Potluck Lunch in Reidy Friendship Hall, 12:00-1:30 p.m.**

*Old Family Recipes Welcome; All Souls Trivia Contest;*

*Open-Mic to Express Appreciations for All Souls*

**Games and Activities for All Ages, 1:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Barn Dancing, 2:30 - 3:30 pm**

**WE ARE by Larry Reina, a multi-generational reading, 3:30 p.m.**

**CELEBRATING HEROIC WOMEN of ALL SOULS, 3:45 p.m.**

*an open rehearsal for the tableaux vivants to be held on Sunday*

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

**ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY** (Free Admission)

**Worship Services in Reidy Friendship Hall, 10:00 and 11:15 a.m.**

*Sermon by Susan Frederick-Gray, UUA President*

**Festive Bicentennial Coffee Hour, 12:15-12:45 p.m.**

**CELEBRATING HEROIC WOMEN of ALL SOULS, 12:45 p.m.**

*tableaux vivants with costumes and narration*

**WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT (1794-1878): FIRST CITIZEN, 1:30 p.m.**

*by Laura Pedersen (Narrator) and David Rockefeller Jr.*

*as William Cullen Bryant, Abraham Lincoln and Henry Whitney Bellows*

### THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND:

**Bicentennial Boutique** with Commemorative Items and **Silent Auction** featuring Unique Experiences and Opportunities donated by All Souls Members and Friends

*Honor the Past. Celebrate the Present.  
Shape the Future. 1819-2019*

# *ALL SOULS BICENTENNIAL GALA DINNER CO-CHAIRS*



We are grateful to our Bicentennial Gala Dinner Co-Chairs,

***Cherie Henderson and Tom Blum.***

They helped develop and execute the plan to hold simultaneous dinners in congregant homes with all gathering at the church for dessert and dancing.

*“What a privilege to be part of a congregation that has helped to shape our city, our country and our world for two centuries. We can only imagine where the future will take us. All the best to all of you as we continue on this joyous journey!”*

## *ALL SOULS BICENTENNIAL CO-CHAIRS*



*We were delighted when we were asked four years ago by the All Souls Board of Trustees to be co-chairs of the Bicentennial Committee. And now, finally, here we are, all together, celebrating 200 years. We had a great time planning this event, meeting new friends and remembering cherished people.*

*There are so many talented and dedicated volunteers who helped in countless ways. We are thrilled with all of it. The motto for our Bicentennial - **Honor the past, celebrate the present, shape the future**, carried us through. Now that we are in the middle of construction, we are especially eager to anticipate our future. With abundant gratitude and boundless enthusiasm, we say Happy 200th and many, many more.*

***Chris Goodwin and Bill Bechman***



***From Audette Fulbright,  
Associate Minister***

For 200 years, All Souls has held a special place within our Unitarian and Unitarian Universalist history. It has nurtured celebrated ministers and lay leaders, and it has both fostered and grown from the leadership of thousands of New Yorkers over the long years. As the first woman ever called to this pulpit, I feel blessed to be a part of this history, which is measured not in days but in generations. And while we are learning from and celebrating the past, it is the future to which we are looking. We are building an edifice for the children of tomorrow. What better time to be a member of the great family of All Souls? We dwell in possibility, and are prepared for transformation! I look forward to the power of the work ahead.



***From Eileen Macholl, Executive Director***

Working to help celebrate this outstanding institution and its legacy of two full centuries of nurturing a community open to spiritual possibilities has been one of the true joys of my half decade tenure here at All Souls. It is a true honor to stand in the company of centuries of leading theologians; prominent politicians; outstanding musicians, actors and artists; philosophers; architects; activists for pluralist and social justice causes; compassionate givers of meals and education and medical aid to those most overlooked in our society; and individuals living lives of moral courage in ways boldly public and with private humility. Here's to many future generations of progressive souls that will provide a sanctuary for seekers and a place to build connections as we help each other deepen and grow!



### ***From Galen Guengerich, Senior Minister***

I often say to newcomers to All Souls, if you are completely happy with yourself and your life, and if you think all is well with the world, then you're probably in the wrong place. We're in the transformation business. Each of us is a massive ongoing work in progress. The purpose of spiritual practice — both our daily spiritual practice as individuals and our collective spiritual practice in worship each week — is to enable us to look beyond what's present and imagine what's possible. We're definitively unfinished.

The same is true of the world around us. Yes, it's in many ways a mess. But it's also a place of stunning beauty, exemplary humanity, and staggering possibility. You might not know this by skimming the headlines. But you can certainly find it if you read deeply the book of nature and of human nature. In the ways that matter most, today and every day, we've mostly just begun.

As we mark our 200th anniversary as a congregation, I feel the same about All Souls: we've mostly just begun. To paraphrase a line by the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Mark Strand, All Souls is "a place of constant beginning." This occasion is a splendid time to celebrate how we have begun and envision the possibilities that lie ahead.



### ***From Jule Brannan, President***

I am tremendously proud to serve as President of the congregation of All Souls during this Bicentennial year. All Souls has served as a beacon of liberal religion within New York City - and beyond the city - for 200 years now, and we have shown by our successful Capital Campaign and building restoration project that we plan to be here for generations to come. While we love our current building, having put a lot of care into ensuring that it will remain standing, the important essence of All Souls lies in its people. Our community, the connections we make with each other, the good works we are able to accomplish together, and the respite from the stresses of the world that we all find in the company of each other are what have sustained All Souls for the past two centuries, and what will propel us into the next two. I look back on our history with pride - and look forward to our future with great hope.

## *ALL SOULS STAFF*

**CYNTHIA D. BROWN**, B.A., M.S. – Finance and Human Resource Manager

**BARBARA DE BELLIS**, B.S., M.S. Math Ed. – Music Department Librarian

**AUDETTE FULBRIGHT**, M.Div. – Associate Minister

**GALEN GUENGERICH**, M.Div., Ph.D. – Senior Minister

**ALEJANDRO HERNANDEZ-VALDEZ**, D.M.A. – Director of Music

**TRENT JOHNSON**, B.M., G.P.D., A.C.T. – Asst. Director of Music and Organist

**EILEEN MACHOLL**, M.A., M.B.A. – Executive Director

**CRISTIAN MARTINEZ**, I.R.S. E.A. – Assistant, Accounts Receivable

**BRYAN MCNAMARA**, M.M., M.A. – Manager of Artistic Operations

**CECILY MILLEN**, B.A. – Director of Growth

**PAMELA PATTON**, M.A., M.Div. – Director of Pastoral Ministries

**RACHEL ROSENTHAL**, M.S.W. – Communications Director

**MAURICE SPIVEY** – Facilities Manager

**TRACY SPROWLS**, M.Div., D.Min. – Asst. Min. of Lifespan Faith Formation

**ROBERT WOHNER** – Membership and Administrative Assistant

**SHERAY WRIGHT**, M.B.A. – Scheduling Coordinator

**MARY-ELLA HOLST** – Director of Religious Education Emerita

**RICHARD D. LEONARD**, M.Div. – Minister Emeritus

**DAVID ROBB**, M.Div., S.T.M. – Retired Assistant Minister

**BETH-ELLEN KEYES**, B.A. – Special Advisor to the Bicentennial Committee

## *2019-2020 BOARD OF TRUSTEES*

**JULIE BRANNAN**, President

**CAROL KIRKMAN**, First Vice-President

**HEIDI DUBOIS**, Second Vice-President

**ELIZABETH HUTCHINSON, CORY LABANOW, BETTY McCOLLUM,**

**DAVID POPPE, DAVID ROCKEFELLER, JR., RAMSEY SHEHADEH**

## *PAST SENIOR MINISTERS*

**WILLIAM WARE**, 1821-1836

**CHARLES THEODORE CHRISTIAN FOLLEN**, 1836-1838

**HENRY WHITNEY BELLOWS**, 1839-1882

**THEODORE CHICKERING WILLIAMS**, 1883-1896

**THOMAS ROBERTS SLICER**, 1897-1916

**WILLIAM LAURENCE SULLIVAN**, 1916-1922

**MINOT OSGOOD SIMONS**, 1923-1941

**LAURANCE IRVING NEALE**, 1942-1955

**WALTER DONALD KRING**, 1955-1978

**F. FORRESTER CHURCH**, 1978-2007



# *All Souls at 200*

Honor the Past \* Celebrate the Present \* Shape the Future

READ ABOUT OUR JOURNEY IN THIS 400-PAGE FULL-COLOR  
COFFEE TABLE BOOK INCLUDING:

- \* A detailed history of our church's first 200 years in words and pictures \*
- \* A special focus on the women who led quietly--and not so quietly--behind the scenes \*
- \* Profiles of key members--from Catharine Sedgwick to Christina Bellamy \*
- \* A year-by-year list of All Souls congregation members \*
- \* A selection of memorable Opening Words \*
- \* Profiles of current All Souls organizations and activities \*
- \* Essays on the church's future, including inside looks at the Capital Campaign, \*
- the sanctuary renovation and social-justice concerns

LIMITED FIRST EDITION \$35

AVAILABLE AT THE BICENTENNIAL BOUTIQUE

SEE REV. DICK LEONARD TO ORDER IN ADVANCE

*Additional copies will be available later on Amazon for \$60*

- Until the 1970s, our church was legally called the **First Congregational Church in the City of New York** — which was what it had been named when it was founded in 1819.

- **The First Building**, dedicated in 1821, was at Broadway and Chambers Street and had a circular skylight in the roof.

- Rev. William Ware was just 24 years old when he became **the church's first minister in 1821**. So was Rev. Henry Whitney Bellows when he was called as **the church's second minister** in 1838.

- **The term "Unitarian"** was often used in derision by critics in conservative Christian churches in the early 1800s. The American Unitarian Association officially embraced the term in 1825.

- Rev. Charles Follen, the church's interim minister from 1836 to 1837, left Germany to escape arrest as a revolutionary and is credited with popularizing the **Christmas tree** in the United States.

- The church abandoned its first building in 1843 after **a 50-pound chunk of the ceiling** crashed down moments after Rev. Bellows finished delivering a Sunday sermon, narrowly missing him.

- **The second building**, on Broadway between Prince and Spring Streets, had to be vacated after only 12 years because its hollow-brick construction was unable to support its roof.

- Plans for the **third building**, on 20th Street and what is now Park Ave. called for a great campanile holding a library, an organ gallery and a carillon. But Rev. Henry Bellows persuaded the congregation to use the money to aid the Civil War wounded instead.

- Besides creating the U.S. Sanitary Commission, which cared for wounded soldiers in the Civil War, Rev. Henry Bellows was one of the founders of **New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art**.

- Two prominent All Souls members—industrial Peter Cooper and Evening Post editor William Cullen Bryant--helped launch **Abraham Lincoln's candidacy for presidency** when they invited him to speak at Cooper Union in 1860.

FOR MORE INTRIGUING FACTS  
ABOUT ALL SOULS CHURCH,  
READ **ALL SOULS AT 200:  
1819-2019**, ON SALE AT THE  
BICENTENNIAL BOUTIQUE!

A L L

S O U L S

F U N

F A C T S



CHURCH OF ALL SOULS  
IN MEMORY OF  
MARY ADELAIDE NEALE  
1843-1927



First Congregational Church/  
New York/  
In Loving Memory of Alice --nt  
Neale/  
Presented by her Sister in Law/  
Loretta Neale/  
1957



MDCCCXXI/ First Congregational Church/  
New York Presented by the/ Ladies of the  
Society.



From Jacob Crowninshield  
to his Estimable Pastor  
Rev'd William Ware  
New York  
July 23<sup>d</sup>, 1833





### KRING WORLD RELIGIONS STAINED GLASS LIGHTBOX KEY

1. Christian Cross [✝]
2. Judaism Star of David [✡]
3. Islamic Crescent Moon and Star [☾☼]
4. Japanese Shinto Tōrii Gate [鳥居門] *tōrii-mon*
5. Taoist Yin and Yang [☯]
6. Taoist Bagua Trigrams (☶☵☲☳☴☱☴☷)]  

mountain
lake
fire
thunder
wind
heaven
water
earth
7. Hindu Chakra 'wheel' Symbol [चक्र ✪]
8. Buddhist Lotus [🪷]
9. Sikh Saber (*Khaṇḍā* [ਖੰਡਾ] )
10. Chinese Kǒng Fū-zǐ [孔夫子]  
 'Master Kǒng' = 'Confucius' representing Confucianism
11. Chinese Dào 'the way' Character [道]  
 representing Taoism

# THE ALL SOULS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## *Celebrating Our Bicentennial*

The past matters because the future matters—history is as much about the future as it is about the past! We acknowledge our past... New York State outlawed slavery in 1827. However, New York City's wealth was firmly founded on profits from slavery. Bankers, ship owners, and others who financed the slave economy were members of All Souls. On the subject of abolition of slavery and the mixed reception of that movement in NYC including in All Souls, in 1834 there was a frightening 4-day riot by workingmen targeting abolitionists and Blacks.

In 1836, All Souls hired an “acting” pastor Charles Theodore Christian Follen, an abolitionist, who was instructed not to preach abolition. However, on Thanksgiving Day he “delivered an impassioned anti-slavery sermon. Several prominent congregation members walked out.”\* Follen was told he could not stay beyond another six months. In contrast, Bostonian William Ellery Channing, the preeminent Unitarian preacher and leading liberal theologian, came out against slavery by 1835 and continued his advocacy, helping legitimate the movement in the eyes of many Unitarians and others. In 1845, abolitionist and Unitarian minister Samuel Joseph May, a friend of Channing and of our minister Henry Whitney Bellows, published in William Lloyd Garrison's *Liberator* newspaper a list of leading Unitarians who did not sign on to an antislavery circular and Bellows' name was on it.\*\*

By 1850, even in a city that was so divided on the subject, there was increasing dismay about the Fugitive Slave Act. On Sunday, March 3, 1850, Bellows announced he would preach on slavery that evening. The Trustees and a wealthy ship owner begged Bellows not to do so. But Bellows stuck to his plan, the first time he dared speak publicly on the subject. In 1854, George Lee Schuyler quietly left the church because of “politics in the pulpit.” When the Civil War started, Bellows and All Souls members went all out for the Union forces. Recruits were dying quickly in fetid Army camps through lack of food, care and hygiene, even before arriving on the battlefield. Thinking people saw that the Civil War would not be won if these conditions continued unabated.

Frantic about the horrible death rate among recruits, our women members, among them Louisa Lee Schuyler, organized 4,000 New York women into the Women's Central Relief Association, and implored corrective action from Washington, choosing Bellows to go to Washington and make it happen. Meeting repeatedly with the Army brass, the Secretary of War and the President, Bellows secured an order establishing the U.S. Sanitary Commission (which later became the American Red Cross).

For four long years, Bellows spent much of his time in Washington and traveling the country to visit camps and battlefields including Gettysburg, preaching in cities and raising large sums for the Sanitary Commission while playing a visible role in binding together the nation. We shape our future... We acknowledge our full truth as best we know it, that we prospered as Blacks suffered and died...and yet, we gave our minister, Bellows, the freedom and time to organize nationally for support and care of all soldiers, White and Black, helping win the Civil War that ended slavery. After the Civil War, we know that Reconstruction was limited, and new forms of oppression took the place of old ones.

Now, how best to serve justice? What history are we going to make today? “They [slaves] have stabbed themselves for freedom—jumped into the waves for freedom—starved for freedom—fought like very tigers for freedom! But they have been hung, and burned, and shot—and their tyrants have been their historians!” —Lydia Maria Child, Unitarian, 1833. \* Walter Kring, All Souls minister, Henry Whitney Bellows, 1979.

*\*\* Courtesy of Christopher Cameron, associate professor of history at University of North Carolina Charlotte. By the All Souls Historical Society Officers—September 2019 Christina Bellamy, President; James Moskin, Vice President; and Mary Dugan, Treasurer Email: ASHS@allsoulsnyc.org*

# The All Souls Past Presidents

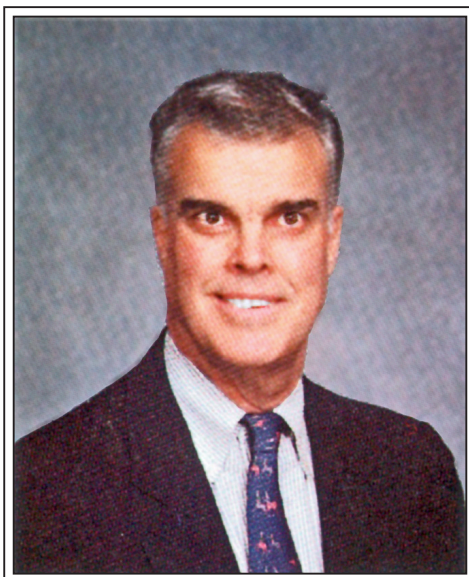


Some of the past presidents posing on the temporary chancel in Reidy-Friendship Hall  
September 22, 2019

## Thank and Celebrate

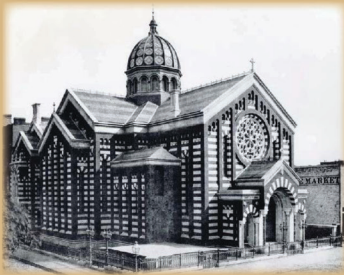
**JOHN REIDY**

**(President 1992)**



**With John's leadership and generosity,  
Fellowship Hall, with its old stage and adjacent 1950s kitchen,  
became a multipurpose room in 1999, becoming  
Reidy-Friendship Hall.**

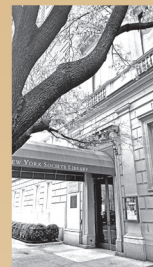
# ALL SOULS *200 years*



*All Souls' Third Building  
1855–1929  
20th St. and Fourth Ave.*



*All Souls Today  
1932–Present  
80 St. & Lexington Ave.*



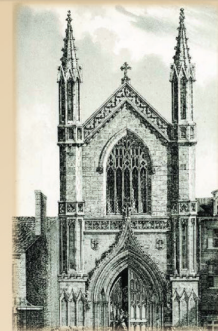
*Society Library Today  
1937–Present  
53 E. 79 St. at Madison Ave.*



*Society Library  
Fourth Building  
1856–1937  
109 University Place at 12 St.*



*All Souls'  
Second Building  
1845–1852  
Prince St.*



*Society Library  
Third Building  
1840–1856  
Broadway at Leonard St.*

*All Souls'  
First Building  
1821–1843  
Chambers St.*



*Society Library  
First Building  
1754–1795  
26 Wall St.*



*Society Library  
Second Building  
1795–1840  
16 Nassau St.*

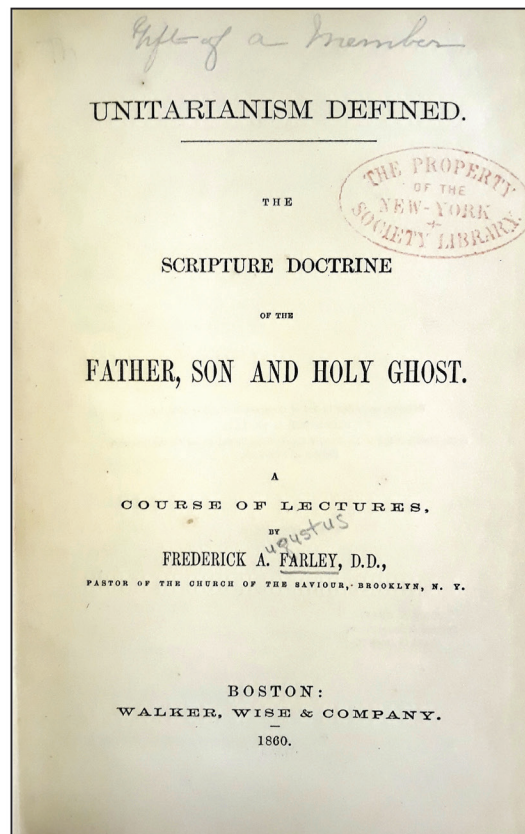


*The  
New York  
Society  
Library  
  
265 years*

# *The New York Society Library*

**congratulates our neighbor  
All Souls on their bicentennial!**

We've shared patrons including  
Herman Melville and Catharine Sedgwick  
neighborhoods from Lower Manhattan to the Upper East Side  
and books such as William Pitt Smith's *The Universalist* (1787)  
and Frederick A. Farley's *Unitarianism Defined* (1860)



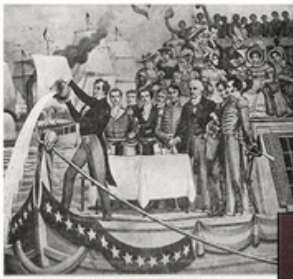
**A very happy anniversary from  
one grand old New York City institution to another!**



founded 1754

open to all for reading, reference, and many events  
circulation and other services by subscription

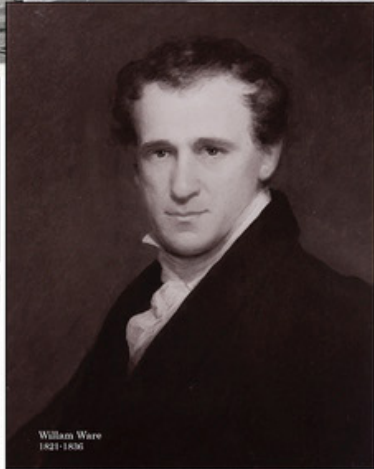
[nysoclib.org](http://nysoclib.org)



Opening of the Erie Canal



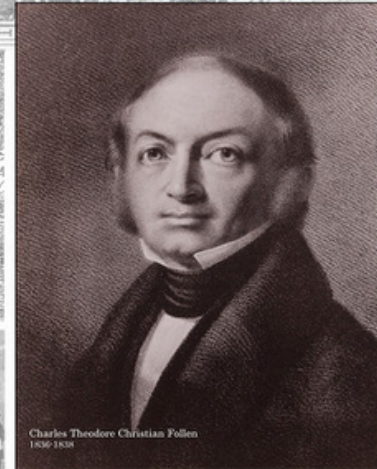
Andrew Jackson  
1829-1837



William Ware  
1821-1836



Slave Auction



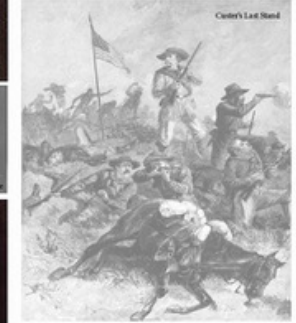
Charles Theodore Christian Follen  
1836-1838



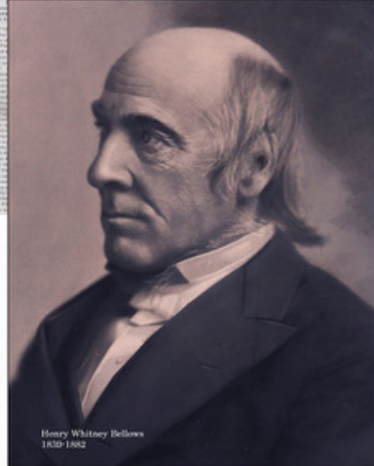
Black Hawk War



Trial of Davis



Center's Last Stand



Henry Whitney Bellows  
1830-1882



Frederick Douglass



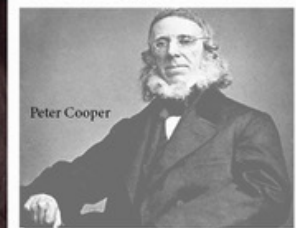
Abel Scott

Clara Barton

Herman Miller



Theodore Chickering Williams  
1883-1896



Peter Cooper



Vicksburg 1863



Battle of Williamsburg 1862



The First Black Congressmen



TA The Rough Riders



The Sinking of the Lusitania



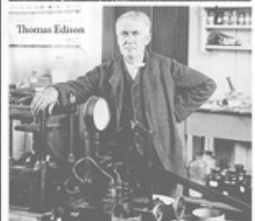
France 1908



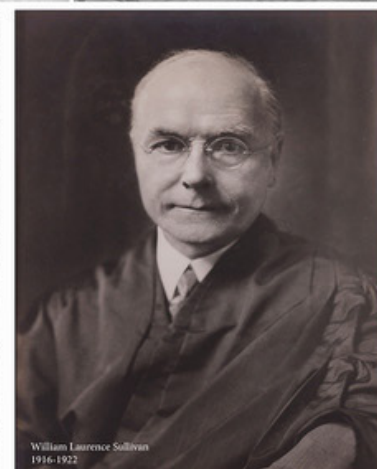
Thomas Robert Slicer  
1897-1916



Alexander Graham Bell



Thomas Edison



William Laurence Sullivan  
1916-1922



Ellis Island



Arriving at Ellis Island



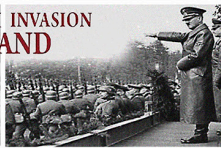
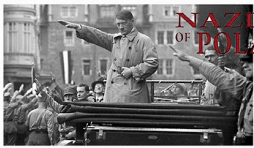
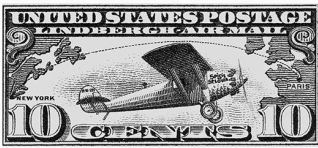
Suffragist Parade down 5th Avenue



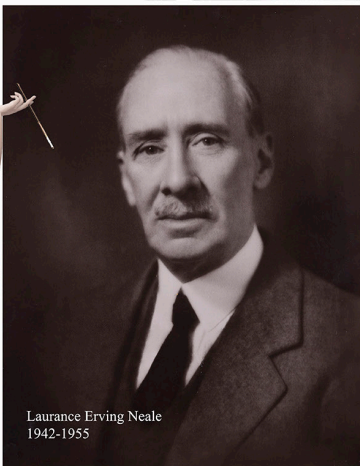
HEADQUARTERS PROPOSED TO WOMAN SUFFRAGE



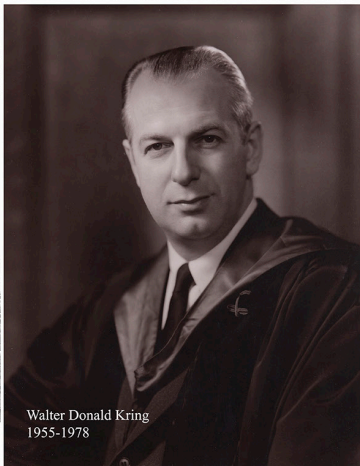
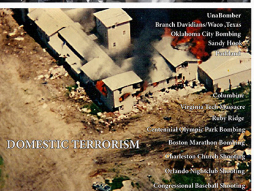
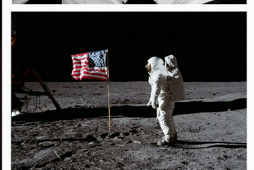
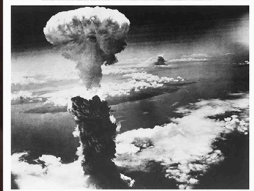
1914 Assembly Line



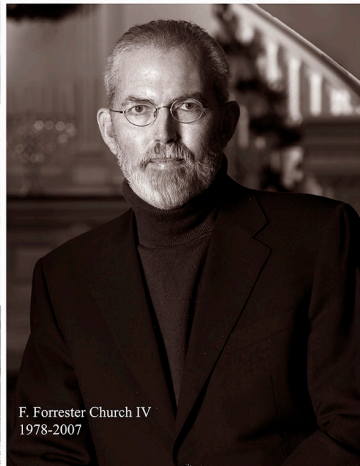
Minot Osgood Simons  
1923-1941



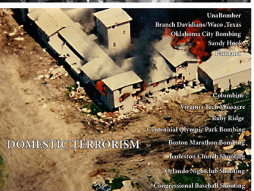
Laurance Erving Neale  
1942-1955



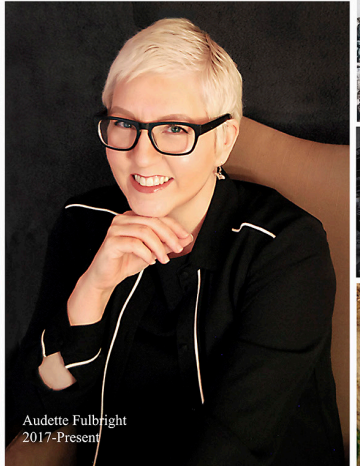
Walter Donald Kring  
1955-1978



F. Forrester Church IV  
1978-2007



Galen Jay Guengerich  
2007-Present



Audette Fulbright  
2017-Present



# THE BICENTENNIAL SIGNATURE PROJECT

To celebrate the Bicentennial, artist Barbara Hosein chose to portray the church's history through its members' names in three art installations displayed over the course of three years.



## 1819 - 1903 "Where the Stars Meet the Sea"

*A sky map of New York City on the evening the charter was signed, November 15, 1819. The founders would have been able to look south toward New York harbor and clearly see the constellations.*



## 1975 - 2019 "Fire of Commitment"

*This installation was inspired by the symbol of our denomination, the flaming chalice. Its warm vibrant colors represent the resurgent power and reach of the congregation over the past 45 years.*



## 1904 - 1974 "Between Air and Earth"

*This installation links the 19th century members (Air) with the contemporary era (Earth). There are 3233 member names, printed on gray silk in alphabetical order along with the year of their signatures.*

# THE ART OF PAMELA HEALEY

Pamela's efforts on behalf of the Bicentennial were motivated by her strong belief that we shouldn't let our current "home" suffer the fate of its predecessors, none of which still stand.



## "Leaving a Legacy"

*Using a photograph of the steeple as inspiration, the idea was to create something that the children of All Souls could help build by adding colorful paper leaves they could sign or decorate as they wished.*



## "The Principles Tree"

*The "Principals Tree" is a way to present the Unitarian Universalist Seven Principles in an engaging way to children coming through the Wiggin House hallway.*



## "All Souls' Architectual History"

*By painting the architectural history of All Souls, right to left, on the wall of the Forrest Church Gallery, Pamela hoped to show what is at stake now.*



**Julie Brannan**  
**President**



**Carol Kirkman**  
**First Vice President**



**Heidi DuBois**  
**Second Vice President**



**Elizabeth Hutchinson**



**Corey Labanow**



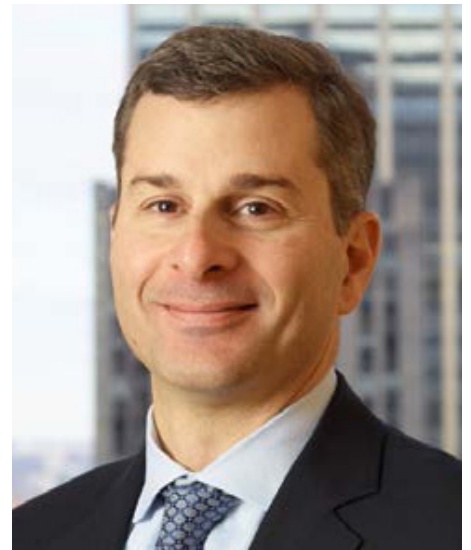
**Betty McCollum**



**David Poppe**



**David Rockefeller, Jr.**



**Ramsey Shehadeh**

**The Board of Trustees  
is deeply grateful to everyone  
who made our bicentennial weekend  
a wonderful occasion. We especially thank  
our volunteer leaders and staff:**

**Bicentennial Weekend Team:** Bill Bechman & Chris Goodwin,  
Co-Chairs, Tom Blum, Jane Furse Friedman,  
Cherie Henderson, Mary-Ella Holst, Beth-Ellen Keyes,  
Eileen Macholl, James Moskin, Neil Osborne, Kate Phillips,  
Rachel Rosenthal, Robert Wohner, Rachel Ziemba

***All Souls at 200:*** Melinda Beck, Lois Coleman,  
Carolyn Jackson, Dick Leonard, Eileen Macholl,  
Peggy Montgomery, Rachel Rosenthal

**Artists:** Theresa Bartol, Melinda Beck, Lotus Do,  
Mitchel Gray, Pamela Healey, Barbara Hosein,  
Gail Rodney, Enrico Miguel Thomas

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Miles Chapin, Audette Fulbright, Galen Guengerich, Ed Harsh,  
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CREATED BY  
BICENTENNIAL ARTIST  
PAMELA HEALEY

27

**Fabulous**  
**ONE-OF-A-KIND**  
**HATS**  
&  
**Fascinators**  
*For Sale During*  
**BICENTENNIAL**  
**WEEKEND**

The hats will be worn  
during the bicentennial skits  
and will be available for reserve  
purchase during bicentennial  
weekend events.  
(Pick-up after events)



# *Tuesdays with Forrest*

## by Dan Cryer

In January of 2008, I lied to Rev. Forrest Church. Well, sort of. I told him that I wanted to talk about a private matter. In any case, he agreed to meet with me at his apartment on 80th Street. When I arrived, I startled him by revealing my real intentions: I hoped to write his biography.

He was surprised and pleased—he did have a big ego, after all—and agreed to cooperate with me. He thought the experience would be “a fine valedictory thing,” to look back over his life, to examine who he was and what had made him that way.



It was less than a week later that he learned that his esophageal cancer, which a few years earlier had gone into remission, was back. Forrest being Forrest, he decided to proceed with our plan anyway.

This disease would ultimately take his life, but for as long as possible, he refused to let it tyrannize him. And so I conducted 17 lengthy interviews, the first one in his All Souls office as he sat behind the desk that had served his father in the U.S. Senate, the rest at his apartment, where he stretched out on a living-room couch, often accompanied by one of his cats.

We discussed the entire ark of his life, from boyhood through the struggle with cancer. He described a Church family drenched in politics, an undisciplined, “free-range” upbringing, youthful rebellion against his parents, a search for meaning in religion, the eventual discovery of a spiritual home in Unitarian Universalism and the writing of many books that would enlarge that tradition and explain it to the larger world.

Yes, he loved to talk about himself, but he was breathtakingly candid about his weaknesses and failures. Yes, he had opposed the war in Vietnam, but, no, he had never marched against it. He disliked being part of a crowd, any crowd.

Yes, he had initially enrolled in seminary to evade the draft, but once there began to find his true calling. Forrest held nothing back. When I asked him about his past drinking, he answered in full, admitting to an addiction that took years to shake.

When I probed into his affair with the church member who later became his wife, he came clean. For the first time in his life, he felt, he had encountered genuine love, genuine love. It had claimed him with irresistible force. This was not his proudest moment, and he made no attempt to sugarcoat the pain it had caused the congregation, his first wife and his children.

The greatness of Forrest’s sermons lay in their intertwining of intellectual rigor with emotional resonance. He not only made us think, but he made us laugh and cry. He told stories on himself, suggesting that our foibles, our weaknesses, were his as well.

Continually, he reminded us of life’s fragility and, therefore, of its preciousness. He had preached this message for



decades, but in those final years its truth arrived with a sharp, bittersweet bite. Forrest’s big smile emerged from a natural *joie de vivre*. Focused on you, it wrapped your heart in a warm embrace.

He remembered your name and knew a thing or two about you. In private, for sure, he could be arrogant or dismissive of certain people, but in public, all of that was diplomatically tucked away. He called himself a “serial enthusiast.” When he got excited about a topic, he plunged in with abandon. So it was that he transformed himself into an expert in Mahler symphonies, the history of separation of church and state in early America, and the maritime novels of Patrick O’Brian.

Face to face with such luxuriant enthusiasm, you had to ask yourself, “And where do I find my bliss,” and, “Why am I wasting my time on insignificant things?”

Every time I entered his apartment, he greeted me with a firm handshake and a hearty “How are you, Dan?” And every time he did so, it was my turn to be startled. His health was fading. His time was passing. Yet he wanted to know how the rest of the world was doing.



- Among the charities All Souls supported in the 1920s was the **Working Girls' Vacation Society**, which provided two-weeks respite in Connecticut for young women with health issues to keep them from acquiring tuberculosis.

- After All Souls vacated its third building and before its current building could be built, the congregation held Sunday services at a music society that had a spacious building **at 166 E. 73rd Street**, in a converted stable that once belonged to newspaper publisher Joseph Pulitzer.

- Plans to build **a vault under the Wiggin House** chapel to contain cremated ashes had to be shelved when workers hit an underground wall of granite that was too expensive to move.

- All Souls member **Martha Sharp Cogan** and her husband rescue thousands of children, intellectuals, dissidents and other refugees from the Nazis during World War II.

- The **All Souls Volleyball Team**, which was open to all ages, genders and experience levels, was undefeated in its first two seasons. Then it was discontinued due to injuries.

- Singer Wayne Newton auditioned for a musical production by the **All Souls Players**. He didn't get the part.

- **The All Souls Opera Company** recruited professional opera singers who needed production experience and performed La Boheme, Madame Butterfly and Cosi Fan Tutti in its two years of existence.

- **The Friday Soup Kitchen** at All Souls began in 1977 and hasn't missed a Friday since.

- Several All Souls ministers complained about hearing a troubling echo when they preached from the **high center pulpit** in the sanctuary. Rev. Walter Kring stopped using it and had a second pulpit built lower and closer to the congregation.

- In 2000, All Souls members and ministers buried **a time capsule** in the garden to be opened on the church's 250th anniversary in 2069.

FOR MORE INTRIGUING FACTS  
ABOUT ALL SOULS CHURCH,  
READ **ALL SOULS AT 200:  
1819-2019**, ON SALE AT THE  
BICENTENNIAL BOUTIQUE!

A L L

S O U L S

F U N

F A C T S



# Heart&Soul

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C H A R I T A B L E F U N D

## **ALL SOULS**

A beacon of faith, freedom and compassion  
for 200 years

## **HEART AND SOUL**

Our bridge to the community, helping us to  
fulfill our faith commitment to deeds not  
creeds, serving meals and providing  
companionship to our homeless and hungry  
neighbors and bringing the gift of music and  
the spirit of adventure to young people

Visit our NEW website and support our Fall Campaign at

**[Heartandsoulfund.org](http://Heartandsoulfund.org)**



# MUSICA VIVA NY

Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez  
Artistic Director



Musica Viva NY gives grateful thanks to All Souls  
for providing its home since 1977.

Walter Klauss and Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez have given us  
inspired musical leadership since 1977.

Past, present and future - integral to the history of Musica Viva NY  
and All Souls Church.



Visit [www.musicaviva.org](http://www.musicaviva.org) for 2019-20 season details



# All Souls Pride!

For over 30 years, All Souls has proudly supported LGBTQIA Pride & inclusion. From our roots as a **UUA Welcoming Congregation**, to our important work in HIV/ Aids justice, through the fight for marriage equality and into the efforts to resist transphobia, All Souls has lived into its commitments to welcome everyone – and to **Side with Love** every step of the way.

*Be sure to join us Thursday, May 14 for our first-ever*

## PRIDE PROM!

*Fun for all our members  
have the Prom you wish you'd had!*

# *All Souls Laymen's League*

**A Men's Social Group**

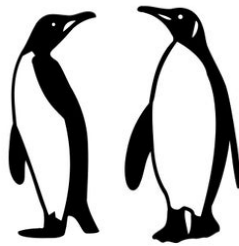
*We Salute All Souls on the Next 200 Years*

*Founded in 1919, the Unitarian Laymen's League was the major fund-raising arm of the American Unitarian Association for its first fifteen years. In addition, it financed preaching missions and recruited ministerial candidates. In May 1962, the Unitarian Laymen's League and the National Association of Universalist Men merged to form the Unitarian Universalist Laymen's League. Its stated objectives were to "stimulate interest in religious and social problems, to encourage friendly relations among men of the Unitarian and Universalist faiths, and to aid in the advancement of liberal religious ideas."*



*Today's Laymen's League aims to carry on this great tradition of service and camaraderie for the men of All Souls Church*

WITH LOVE  
TO THE ONE WHO  
MADE OUR LIVES  
WONDROUSLY  
HAPPY AND EXCITING



## *Circle of Elders*

Enriching and making  
the most of our  
Lives with Friendship  
and Sharing.

*Join Us!*

## *Adventures In Ideas*

Congratulates  
**ALL SOULS**

**200 YEARS OF  
IDEAL  
ADVENTURES**

*Dennis DeForge  
Christopher Galas*

# The Adult Education Committee

sends congratulations to the people of  
All Souls on our 200th Anniversary.

We are grateful for the honor and pleasure of  
having worked with Rev. David Robb  
to shape our Adult Education program.



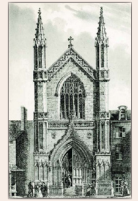
*The* **WOMEN'S ALLIANCE**  
is proud to support the Church's Bicentennial



*The Women's Alliance... supporting values of friendship, equality and  
justice... is a community of dynamic, empathic, dedicated women  
established at All Souls in 1890*



*The First Congregational Church of New York, 1821-1843, Church St.*



*The Church of the Divine Unity, 1845-1856, Prince St.*

# THE ALL SOULS DEACONS



WISH TO CELEBRATE THIS BUILDING, THIS CONGREGATION, THIS CHURCH.



*The Unitarian Church of All Souls, 1821-1843, 20th St. & Fourth Ave.*



*The Unitarian Church of All Souls, 1932-2019, 80th St. & Lexington Ave.*

Recognizing that fellowship and  
a spiritual home can nurture the  
creative spirit, we salute

## THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF ALL SOULS

as it completes its second century.

## ALL SOULS WRITERS' GROUP



*Congratulations to All Souls  
on your 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
and to Bill Bechman  
for his guidance in helping make  
this celebration a success*

*From his Michigan Family*

BILL BECHMAN

Special Events

(212) 288-7452

Riverdale, New York | bill.bechman@gmail.com  
Jupiter, Florida

*Congratulations to  
All Souls Church on  
Your Bicentennial, and to Bill  
For all the dedication, perseverance, positivity,  
Productivity and joy.  
Lucky us. Tom*



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Since 1993, our weekly one-hour short story reading and discussion group every Wednesday 6:45-7:45 p.m. in the Ware Room, now goes 52 weeks a year.

**ALL ARE WELCOME.**



**WE BELIEVE**  
**BLACK LIVES MATTER**  
**NO HUMAN IS ILLEGAL**  
**LOVE IS LOVE**  
**Women's Rights Are Human Rights**  
**SCIENCE IS REAL**

**ALL SOULS  
PEACE AND  
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Best wishes from  
The Allen-Stevenson School



# Congratulations, All Souls NYC

*as you celebrate your bicentennial —  
200 years spreading revolutionary love in NYC!*



**Middle Collegiate Church**

welcoming • artistic • inclusive • bold

REVOLUTIONARY  
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TOWARD A MORE  
PERFECT UNION

**April 24–26, 2020**

**All Souls Unitarian  
Washington DC**

**Details / Register at  
[bit.ly/RevLove2020](https://bit.ly/RevLove2020)**



## Congratulations, All Souls

for 200 years of nurturing souls and advancing social justice.

**Meadville Lombard Theological School**

Home of the All Souls Archives | [meadville.edu](https://meadville.edu)



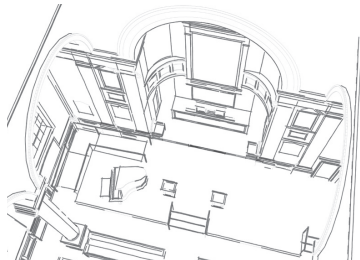
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We believe that architecture affects how individuals relate to themselves, their surroundings and one another. We design spaces that complement the environment, enhance experiences and elevate the human spirit.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF ALL SOULS ON ITS  
200TH ANNIVERSARY



Studio Kraeher Architects is proud to be the lead architect for the restoration project. We are inspired by this magnificent building and consider it a true landmark in New York City.

## Congratulations To Our Friends At All Souls On Their Bicentennial

We stand and applaud the Church's centuries  
long commitment to inclusion, support of  
those most in need, and justice for all.



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## ***Greetings from May Lum***

*I came to know All Souls Church through my friendship with Bill Bechman 30+ years ago, and early on realized the values and mission of All Souls connected to my own values and purpose of helping others. Although I did not live in New York City, my family and I got together several times to prepare the meals for Monday Night Hospitality. I remember fondly going to Chinatown, involving my family, mother, siblings, nieces and friends to buy pounds of bok shoi, bean sprouts, and special sauces. My mother contributed the Chinese noodles as we followed her Lo Mein recipe. We all came to All Souls kitchen on a Sunday afternoon and prepared our special dinner for the Monday Night Guests. We brought boxes of fortune cookies from the fortune cookie factory.*

*As a first generation immigrant, raised to succeed with education and experiences, I have been fortunate to understand how to achieve, even with struggle. Throughout my life, I have come to understand, that at times, all it takes is to offer help at the right time, for the right reason at the right place. This is what All Souls does: help others at critical times. And so, I celebrate the Bicentennial by continuing my commitment to others each day as All Souls does.*



*The families, faculty, and trustees of All Souls School  
congratulate the Unitarian Church of All Souls on their bicentennial.  
We have been proud to call Wiggin House our home since 1965,  
and look forward to many more years together,  
serving young children and their families in New York City.*



All Souls School, an early childhood day school founded in 1965, celebrates and builds upon each child's strengths, interests, and experiences in an intentional, diverse, and nurturing community that fosters experimentation, a love of learning, and respect for others.

[www.allsoulsschoolnyc.org](http://www.allsoulsschoolnyc.org)

# ALL SOULS

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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