

# **Living Waters**Renewal for our Second Century

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS FROM ALL SOULS EPISCOPAL PARISH



#### Upcoming Campaign Events

Projects Tour with Phil Brochard May 15 Narthex at 12:45 pm

All-Parish Celebration, May 21st

5:30 – 8:00pm at Jordan Court and All Souls -Welcome reception at Jordan Court -Celebration of All Souls' community in the church -Catered dinner in the Parish Hall

#### Commitment Sunday,

May 22nd
-Commitment Ingathering
during 9:00 & 11:15 services
-Commitment cards
available at All Souls

## Our Work Beyond Our Walls

Like all churches, All Souls uses its bricks and mortar to create and support its ministry. Our space at the corner of Cedar and Spruce lets us send out roots to nourish and support the broader community. As we look to the Living Waters project to renew our spaces, it is a grace to recall just a few examples of the healing and support All Soulsians have carried forward from here. Here are five stories about the work we have done. The work we do in the future depends on renewing the space from which we do it.

#### **Jordan Court**

#### From Our Home a New Home

Jordan Court opened on the corner of Cedar and Oxford early this year and now provides 32 homes for low-income seniors and office and apartment space for All Souls.

All Souls partnered with SAHA and provided the land under the old Parish House to build Jordan Court. Through thousands of hours of planning, community outreach, and working with our partners, All Souls and dozens of its members pushed to make safe, affordable housing available to those in need. It is already making a difference in people's lives. Read the profile of Bernetta F., Jordan Court's first resident, at www.allsoulsparish.org/capital-campaign/resources/

All Souls uses the buildings we have been given by the generations before us to welcome neighbors and to carry God's love into the broader community. Preparing our buildings for our second century means preparing for members, guests, neighbors and ministries we can't even imagine today. But we trust that as the world's needs evolve, All Souls and its welcoming spaces will be striving to meet them.

### **Open Door Dinner**

#### **Feeding Our Neighbors**

Every second Sunday of the month, for more than 30 years, All Souls has prepared a meal and fed its hungry neighbors at Open Door Dinner. Each month 10 to 12 All Soulsians gather in the Kitchen to cook pounds and pounds of Jambalaya and then serve the 60 – 80 hungry people in the Parish Hall.

Guests come from all over the East Bay seeking a meal. Before the pandemic, meals were served in the Parish Hall with table clothes and flowers. ODD has now shifted to handing out meals to walk up guests and is delivering 50 meals to West Berkeley encampments.

Open Door dinner as adapted over time, but the commitment to use our space to support and feed our community endures.

### **Project Sandwich**

#### Finding a Need and Feeding It

In March 2020, at the height of uncertainty during the pandemic, much of the food delivery system in the Bay Area shut down. Project Sandwich grew from a vision to use the generosity and kitchens of All Soulsians to keep feeding our neighbors.

For six months, more than two dozen All Soulsians volunteered to make sandwiches, every other week, in their homes following strict food-service standards. Coordinated out of the now demolished Parish House, Project Sandwich delivered over 3,000 lunches to three Berkeley encampments.

Over time, All Souls participants evolved from food deliverers to friends with some of the encampment residents. Two years later, those friendships are still deepening. All Souls is, for many in the encampments, a steadying source of emotional and material support.

## Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity

#### Welcoming the Stranger

All Souls' involvement with The Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity is entering its second decade.

Our work with IMHI has taken many forms: monthly prayer vigils at the CCC ICE detention center, accompanying asylum seekers to court hearings, providing food, clothing and temporary housing for individuals and families in our old Parish House, posting bail to secure release before a hearing and much more.

Through this work we have befriended many who have fled their countries. We have listened to their stories and offered understanding and companionship while walking with them as they navigate the immigration process.

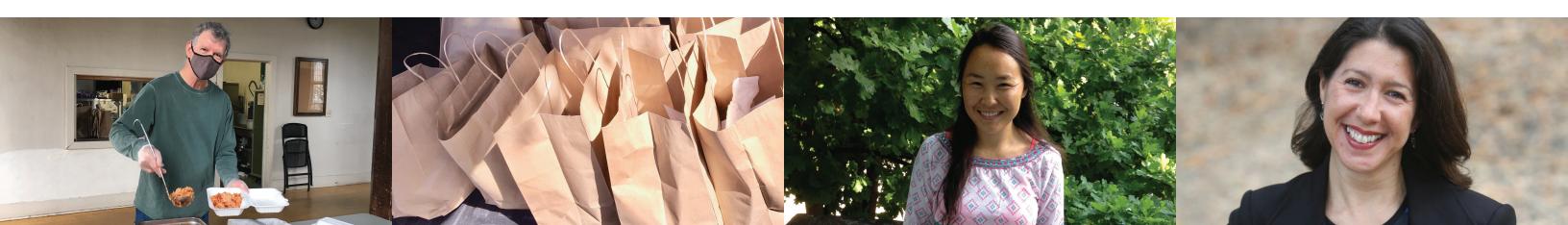
## Breaking Bread and Building Bridges

## Uplifting Through Interfaith Relationships

Three diverse faith communities in the East Bay are working to deepen their spiritual bonds. Usually around a meal, members of All Souls, Saint Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in Oakland and Congregation Beth El from Berkeley have been coming together to share their faith.

At gatherings hosted by each congregation in turn, open and faithful conversations about race, violence, trust and fear have nurtured friendships. Sharing prayers, rituals and sacred objects have fostered greater understanding and connection.

Meal by meal, the bridges are being built between God's people.





# It is Time to Commit to All Souls!

As you discern your gift to the Living Waters capital campaign, we invite you to:

#### Pray

God calls us to make church together. Listen to how God is calling you to support the ministry and community of All Souls.

#### **Embrace**

Consider the values that frame the campaign: Communal Flexibility, Complete Accessibility, Carbon Neutrality, and Continued Vitality.

#### Discern

Measure your financial capacity, income and assets, over the next three years. From that capacity, what gift would bring you joy?

Need more help? Visit www.allsoulsparish.org/discern/

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.