

# Saints Alive

ALL SAINTS CHURCH PASADENA

NOVEMBER 2017



Mike Kinman: God Delights in You  
Spotlight: Edna Trigg

All Saints Day at All Saints Church

All Saints' Climate Change Initiative



# God Delights in You

from Rector Mike Kinman

*All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make  
our song:  
Alleluia  
Alleluia  
Alleluia*

"In the midst of life we are in death" our burial office begins. But the converse is also true – and we must not forget it:

In the midst of death, we are in life.

The past year has been an extraordinarily difficult and destabilizing one. We need not recite the litany here. Suffice it to say that we are possibly as aware of the deep brokenness of the world, the massive inequities that plague us and the unhappy divisions that separate us as we ever have been.

In addition to the screaming pain of our world, there are the struggles we each have in our own lives – some new and some borne of traumas years or even generations old.

And yet ... in the midst of death, we are in life.

Even at the grave we make our song. And our song is this:

Alleluia.  
Alleluia.  
Alleluia.

That's not to deny the pain of trauma, but to put that pain in its proper context – and that is the love of God for us and the deep delight God takes in us. The pain is real. The trauma is real. Feelings need to be felt. AND as we feel all of the pain that life brings, we are enfolded by that "love how deep, how broad, how high, beyond all thought and fantasy" of which Thomas a Kempis wrote.

We are loved beyond measure. There is not a wound that God cannot bind. There is not a trauma that God cannot heal. And because of that, though the pain be real and sometimes even devastating, we need not fear. Because of that, though the struggle is certainly real, we need not despair.

When someone comes to the rail at communion and asks for a blessing, after announcing our blessedness, I always conclude with these words:

"And may you always know how deeply God delights in you."

At All Saints Church, we proclaim regularly that "God dwells in you" ... and perhaps as much as ever, we need to remind one another that God not only dwells in us but God delights in us as well.

God delights in you. God looks on you ... YOU ... and her heart skips beat after beat after beat. YOU make God's socks roll up and down. YOU make God's Jell-O jiggle. YOU make God's palms sweat like an eighth-grader hoping the boy he



PHOTO BY CAM SANDERS

likes will give him a kiss.

God delights in you. Through all brokenness and the pain and the willful and even malicious incompetence from the White House.

God delights in you. Through the cancer diagnosis and the eviction notice and the memories of abuse that are only just surfacing years after the wound.

God delights in you. Through the rejection and the failure. Through the hurricane and the fire. Through the changes and the goodbyes.

God delights in you – and we get to remind each other of this. And so it's so important that we not only take time to protest and vote, to feed those among us who are hungry

**We are loved  
beyond measure.  
There is not a  
wound that God  
cannot bind.  
There is not a  
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cannot heal.**

and fight for those among us who have no shelter. It's important that we take time to dance and to sing. To enjoy one another's company and laugh just for the sake of joy. To make opportunities as a community to come together for no other reason than just to celebrate God's delight in us through delighting in one another.

God delights in you. And so even though in the midst of life we are in death. Even though we all go down to the dust, even at the grave we can see God dance with joy at the mere thought of us, even at the grave we can trust that God adores us with a love that will never go away.

God delights in you. God delights in me. God delights in us. And because of that, even at the grave we can make our song.

Alleluia.  
Alleluia.  
Alleluia.

## Spotlight

by Susan Johnson

# Edna Trigg

Hearing Edna Trigg's life story is not unlike spending an afternoon in Vroman's Bookstore: each turn of a corner reveals a new and intriguing chapter.

In History there is the story of a woman who at age 27 learned that she was adopted. There is the story of a strong and tenacious grandmother, the first female African American doctor in Pasadena, a tremendously positive and strong influence on Edna's life, the person who taught her the value of learning, of travel, and of standing up for what you believe.

There is Edna the little girl who grew up in Pasadena schools populated by students of all hues and heritages. There are her parents who stood strong for this little girl, resisting the racism that was evident on family trips.

There is a Medical chapter in Edna's life: at age 23 her neck was broken in an automobile accident, resulting in paralysis and later, in mobility challenges.



From the Travel section is her year in Europe, and later travel to Australia, Japan and Mexico.

Edna's spiritual journey has been a theological echo, emerging from a Methodist tradition fostered by her grandmother at Scott

Methodist Church in Pasadena. As can happen, she drifted from church attendance and later found the need to return to a place of worship and the responses that



PHOTOS BY KEITH HOLEMAN

echoed from her childhood. She began attending First AME Pasadena where she and her sons became immersed in the life of that congregation.

As a native of the city, Edna knew about All Saints. Her first visit though wasn't until 20 years ago for a memorial service. She soon began attending services off and on.

One summer morning her older son sat up in bed and announced that he wanted to return to church – but not the church of her history. Taking this as a sign from God, Edna suggested they attend All Saints. Her then teenaged son stopped coming by September, but she signed up for new member classes.

Edna is a true asset to the life of All Saints Church. She credits a Lenten group around Bryan Stevenson's book "Just Mercy" for being instrumental in leading her to become involved with the Racial Justice Ministry (COLORS), which is set to celebrate its 25th anniversary. She also co-chairs the new member classes, is part of the Black Women's Affinity Group and is a Lay Counselor.

As is true of Vroman's, Edna's life story is full of treasures that invite staying longer and spending more time discovering.

"All Saints and the All Saints community have been lifelines over the last eight years," she says, "and I've spent a great deal of time on campus and in the company of fellow members, many of whom have become close friends.

"Much like All Saints, I'm on a journey to increase awareness and address issues confronting the church, and to act on both with accountability and the sense of God's grace."

Edna is grateful for the path that led her here.



# Worship

Did you have  
your animals  
blessed?

PHOTOS BY CAM SANDERS, SAMANTHA HARRIS, JACK LEVAN, & KEITH HOLEMAN





# All Saints Day at All Saints Church

All Saints Day is the feast day we celebrate all the saints, known and unknown – a day we gather to offer up both love and loss in the hope-filled container of the Eucharistic celebration that promises us that we belong to love so great that it transcends even death.



Here at All Saints Church it is also our parish feast day – and our celebration includes a choral *Requiem* (this year the Fauré) and a grand procession of the Memorial Book as the we all sing together the great All Saints hymn *Sine Nomine* “For all the saints.” And as we circle the church during that grand procession we recognize that we are a family gathered -- gathered to grieve those we love but see no more and to rejoice in the good news we share as those who embrace together the promise of life eternal.

Many years ago I heard these words at a memorial service: “The only way you can lose a person is if you don’t know where they are.” And I remember those words every time All Saints Day comes back around on the calendar.

Yes, we grieve those we see no more -- but they are not lost. We know where they are. And on All Saints Sunday they will be with us at All Saints Church -- along with the angels and archangels and all that company of heaven as we all sing together “for all the saints.”

~ Susan Russell

All Saints Sunday is one of my most beloved celebrations each year. This special service honors our belief that there is a powerful spiritual bond between those who have died and the living.



For me, it is particularly meaningful because my late mother’s birthday is November 1. Each year I dedicate altar flowers in her memory, remembering her birth, life and her death in 2007. Often, Lewellyn, who was mother’s special caregiver at the end of her life, will come with me to church. We hold hands, we cry together, and we rejoice

that her spirit is still alive within us.

The beautiful *Requiem*, which is always part of the service, allows me to experience, through music, the depth of human emotion I still feel from the loss of my parents and loved ones. It is a time of musical and spiritual remembrance when I can recall stories, visions, and feelings, but most of all the deep love that remains.

~ Gerry Puhara

I love All Saints Sunday, not just because it’s our “Patronal Feast” and it’s a big pull-out-all-the-stops liturgy (I love Big Church – orchestra, requiem, incense – all good!), but because it’s the Sunday where we remember “all the saints”



who have gone before us. And in our tradition, that means Absolutely Everybody that we’ve loved and who we expect that God has given a place with all God’s saints. So, for me personally, that means remembering my late husband, my parents and extended family members, and dear friends that I’ve lost – especially many friends that AIDS took.

But I also appreciate the list of names in the service leaflet – everyone who has died and has been mentioned in the prayers on Sunday mornings since last All Saints Sunday. So that means parishioners, friends of parishioners and people that we all know who had some influence on our culture. I always read through the whole list and at least look at every name – and for those that I know, spend a few seconds recalling an image of a time when they were at their best and remembering a special moment, if we had one together. It’s a great day.

~ Jim White

I have sung in the Coventry Choir for almost 25 years now. It has been, and continues to be, the most stabilizing, joyful, and fulfilling event of my week, every week.

But there are a few times during the church calendar when the cost of singing is more than most of you might



have considered. I’m not talking about time spent in rehearsal or the cost of gas to and from the church. I’m talking about the cost of not being in the congregation to hear the final result of all our hard work. Last Thursday someone in the choir shared with me she didn’t want to sing for All Saints’ Sunday. Her brother had died a few weeks ago

and she just wasn’t ready to stop her grief long enough to sing the Faure *Requiem*. I can identify with her. When my mother died, I could barely manage the Durufle *Requiem*. And in 2001 we all had to pull ourselves together a few weeks after 9/11.

So as you listen to us sing the *Requiem* on November 5th, think about what personal losses some of us might have suffered this year and how we may be struggling to sing in spite of it.

And also acknowledge there is no place we’d rather be, pouring our hearts out in beautiful swirling harmonies for God, grateful to present our gift to you in music.

~ Ann Spier



# Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori to Keynote Climate Change Initiative

by Bob Whitson & Phil Naecker

The Vestry of All Saints Church has declared human-caused climate change to be one of the greatest moral issues of our time ([See the Vestry Resolution](#)). The recent hurricanes and wildfires amply illustrate the power of weather events to unleash human misery, and there is overwhelming consensus among scientists that climate change has exacerbated the frequency and severity of these events. As bad as they are, these recent events are only a foretaste of the devastation we can expect if climate change continues unabated.

But why is this a moral crisis? Scientists have concluded that human activities – those that generate greenhouse gasses like carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels – are the cause of climate change. Ironically, people in the industrialized countries where most of the greenhouse gasses are generated are likely to suffer the least from climate change, while people in developing countries will suffer most. Thus we are stealing their future, perpetrating a clear economic injustice on our brethren.

As with so many other peace and justice issues, the time has come for people of good will to “move beyond the shrug,” and stop contributing to climate change. To help us all make these changes together, All Saints has the audacious goal of making its parishioners carbon neutral in their homes by Easter of 2020.

To help kick off this important campaign, All Saints is hosting an event from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 18th in the Forum. We are delighted to announce that Katharine Jefferts Schori has agreed to deliver the keynote address at this

event. Most Episcopalians will recall that Bishop Schori is the recently-retired Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in America. Time Magazine recently recognized her in its series, “Firsts: Women Who Are Changing the World” for being the first woman prelate in the Anglican Communion. What many people may not know is that Bishop Schori also has a Ph.D. in Oceanography from Oregon State University, so she is well-versed in both the science and the moral implications of human-caused climate change. Reverend Schori speaks passionately and eloquently on this topic, and those who attend the conference are sure to have an inspirational experience.

In addition to the Rev. Schori, the November 18th event will offer the opportunity for attendees to calculate their family carbon footprint. This information will be gathered into an aggregated database, and serve as a baseline so that we can monitor the progress of our Parish as we move toward our goal. The calculation uses a simple online tool, and volunteers will be on hand to help everyone through the process.

This is also a great opportunity for All Saints families to discuss this important peace and justice issue with their children. Childcare will be provided as during the event. Mark your calendars, sign up at the Signup Center on the lawn, and we hope to see you there!





# our stories

## Giving in the Plate vs. Giving Online

The Giving Office at All Saints Church offers many ways to help you support the mission and ministries that benefit our entire community, from donating unwanted vehicles to shopping online to giving gifts of stock or IRA, and much more. Most people, though, give contributions two ways: in the offering basket on Sunday mornings or by using online banking. Why do some folks choose the offering basket and some online banking?

### Why I give in the offering basket – Liz and Rhodes Trussell

Rhodes and I have been members of All Saints for over 42 years and have come to understand the importance of pledging as generously as possible to All Saints to support its commitment to care for God's people. And for most of those years we have paid our pledge by depositing our pledge envelopes in the offering plate every Sunday we were in church and, of course, caught up when we missed a Sunday.

This goes back to our time as students at UC Berkeley, where both of us attended the First Presbyterian Church in Berkeley. During those lean money years we would put at least a penny in the offering basket as a symbol of our commitment to God and Her Work. We still believe it is important to put something in the offering plate, regardless of the amount, every time we are in church.

So now, even if we are caught up with our pledge, we still put an envelope in the basket every time we are in church. It may be a penny or more, but for us the important thing is to participate in the offertory and, thereby, symbolically offer ourselves and our treasure to the Work of God.



### Why I give online – Patricia A. Coulter



Church giving has always been part of my spiritual DNA. I remember my parents preparing their envelopes prior to our leaving each Sunday morning for worship service. I grew up doing the same, however I found my life deviating from regularly scheduled disciplines, like writing checks and mailing bills. Travel schedules or other activities took me away from church on any given Sunday, so I became an early adopter to banking online. It was more efficient for my personal lifestyle.

At first, even though I paid my bills online, I still continued to pay my tithes and offerings in the envelope each Sunday, trying to keep track of the Sundays I missed church, sometimes turning in 3 or 4 envelopes at once. This made me think more deeply about my reason for giving, and about my pledge to God.

As a church trustee in Philadelphia, we oversaw the church finances, and doing that work helped me realize how effective and efficient online giving was for me and for the church financial office. Living in California 3 years now, and finding All Saints as my church home, I have continued my policy of banking online, and right at the top of my "pay bills" list is All Saints Church, Pasadena.

**Calendar of events for the month.** Please check our website at [allsaints-pas.org](http://allsaints-pas.org) and the weekly *This Week At All Saints* for details and contact information.

# November

Click on the blue titles to see more information.

**2** – Thursday, **Senior Saints**, 12:30–2:00 p.m., Seminar Room  
**Día de los Santos y Fieles Difuntos/ Day of Saints and Faithful Departed**, 7:00–8:30 p.m., Chapel  
**3** – Friday, **With Love and a Major Organ**, 8:00 p.m., Theatre @ Boston Court  
**5** – Sunday, **All Saints Sunday, Requiem by Faure**, 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. services, Church  
**Trans and Gender-Nonconforming Persons: Empowerment and Quality of Life**, 2:30 p.m., Sweetland Hall  
**11** – Saturday, **Free Legal Clinic**, 9:00 a.m.–noon., Jackie Robinson Center, 1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave., Pasadena 91103  
**12** – Sunday, **Contemplative Evening Eucharist**, 5:00 p.m., Church

**14** – Tuesday, **Vestry**, 7:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall  
**16** – Thursday, **All Saints' Writers Group Live Reading**, 7:00 p.m., Guild Room  
**17** – Friday, **Fiction Fun!**, 7:30 p.m., Guild Room  
**18** – Saturday, **One Earth, One Sky: Facing the Climate Crisis**, 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Forum, Quad Lawn  
**19** – Sunday, **Racial Justice Ministry (COLORS) Annual Open House**, 1:00–3:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall  
**Jazz Vespers**, 5:00 p.m., Chancel  
**22** – Wednesday, **Thanksgiving Eve Service**, 7:30 p.m., Church  
**23** – Thursday, **Thanksgiving Holiday**, church offices closed  
**30** – Thursday, **Memorial for John Moran**, 2:00 p.m., Church

## Adult Education 10:15 a.m. Sundays

- 5** • **All Saints Sunday**,  
Adult Education will resume on 11/12
- 12** • **Rector's Forum: House of Love vs. The House of Fear**, with Ed Bacon, Forum  
**New Testament: The Gospels**, with TBD, Guild Room
- 19** • **Rector's Forum: From Here to Eternity**, with Bishop John Taylor, Forum  
**New Testament: The Epistles**, with TBD, Sweetland Hall
- 26** • **Rector's Forum: TBD**, with TBD, Forum  
**New Testament: Major Interpretive Issues**, with Jeremy Langill, Sweetland Hall  
(Continued)

Continued:

**TJ Presentation: Homeboy/ Learning Works/Uncommon Ground**, with the TJ Team, Guild Room

## Check Out Our

### Studio ASC Podcast

Check out our awesome Studio ASC podcast featuring a segment on the



Johnson Amendment, an interview with Najeeba Syeed on "Being an Ally," and talks with James Walker and our youth ministers. Find it on iTunes, Stitcher or here: <https://allsaints-pas.org/studio-asc-podcast-episode-2/>



Community. Spirituality. Peace and Justice. These words have been at the center of All Saint Church's story for generations. They represent how we express the love story of God and share it with the world around us.

The story of God's work at All Saints, and every aspect of our mission, is supported by every one of us, through our gifts of time, talent and creativity.

And it's the generosity of our community – both local and far away – that underpins it all. Our giving as a community is an opportunity for us to grow in relationship with one another and with God.

What big step can you take with us in your giving? Maybe you'll pledge for the first time. Maybe you will take a big step toward a 10% tithe. Or maybe you will want to tithe for the first time in your spiritual journey. Whatever you pledge, may it be an expression of joy, knowing that your generosity is woven with the generosity of everyone else in our community.

Here's how you can pledge today:

1. Email: [stewardship@allsaints-pas.org](mailto:stewardship@allsaints-pas.org)
2. Click: [www.allsaints-pas.org/donate/pledge/](http://www.allsaints-pas.org/donate/pledge/)
3. Call: 626.583.2753
4. Scan:

