

Saints Alive

ALL SAINTS CHURCH PASADENA

JANUARY 2018

**Mike Kinman:
Centering the Voices of
Marginalization**

**A Season of Wisdom &
Revelation**

Spotlight: Jack LeVan

**Worship: Community
Reading of Dr. King's Words**

LOOKING BACK ON 2017



All Saints First Annual Community Reading of
Dr. King's Speeches, Sermons & Writings, January 16, 2017

Centering the Voices of Marginalization

from Rector Mike Kinman

Systems are designed to perpetuate themselves. They are ingenious in that respect.

An idea or a person who has the power to change a system will almost always be stripped of enough of that power until it no longer becomes a threat to substantively change anything of consequence.

We've seen it happen with Christianity. The power dynamics of Jesus' Gospel are revolutionary – release to the captives, selling all you have and giving it to the poor, resurrection defeating the power of state violence – and yet within three centuries the state had co-opted Christianity, not only rendering it powerless as a revolutionary agent but using its power actually to reinforce state authority.

We have seen it happen with the civil rights movement. Martin Luther King has been whitewashed into a few choice sound bytes that speak more about hope for an idealized, dreamy future than confronting the sin of white supremacy ... and setting aside one month for black history conveniently tries to erase the fact that the dominant historical narrative is told through white eyes and privileges white experience.

We see it happen in our churches – even at churches like All Saints who have been among the foremost champions of justice and full inclusion of all God's children in the life of the community. Our liturgy, music and iconography still center European images and styles. Our style of governance is entirely western. Even our punctuality in starting our services precisely at 7:30, 9 and 11:15 speaks to a dominant European-ness that is not present at the "1 pm" service, which begins when there is a sense that everyone has arrived.

Without malice, but with great power, we practice a token diversity that helps those of us in the dominant culture get a taste of what other non-dominant races, cultures, generations, and classes experience without yielding the power we have to define our culture as a whole.

The kin-dom of God of which Jesus preaches is not a realm of token diversity or domination of one race, culture, generation or class. It is a truly shared kinship across all these things. It is why we preach not just about diversity but about actively dismantling structures of patriarchy, white supremacy, heteronormity and more.

This Epiphany, we are taking one, small step in that direction – and I want to emphasize how small this is. For the six Sundays in this season we will only be having women of color in our pulpit on Sunday morning. We will be



PHOTO BY ANDREW KENNELLY

centering voices of power and wisdom that our church and society universally marginalize.

We are taking this small act as a sign of our commitment to the larger struggle to dismantle patriarchy and white supremacy. While no one would ever bat an eye to have white men in the pulpit for six consecutive weeks – indeed throughout most Episcopal churches this is the norm – it is instructive that intentionally having women of color in the pulpit for six consecutive weeks is considered an anomaly ... and even prophetic.

Certainly, the voices we will hear will be prophetic. They will be some of the most powerful voices I know – both from within and outside this community. But the whole purpose of this series is to give us in even a small period an experience of not just hearing from a target population but

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of centering those voices. Hearing them over and over and over and over and over and over again – a small taste of what we do for white voices, male voices, heterosexual voices, adult voices all the time.

I encourage you not to miss a Sunday. To lean in deeply to the words of each of these brilliant women – not because they will all be alike but because they will be centering for us an experience we do not allow to be centered any other place in our lives. I encourage you to notice what you hear and

what you feel. I encourage you to listen for God's voice speaking to us through their voices and calling us to real change of who we are and how we are structured and use power in our own community of faith.

I encourage you to come as pilgrims hoping to be changed. I guarantee you if we are open to that, God ... she will show up and get the job done.

A Season of Wisdom and Revelation

All Saints Church Epiphany Preaching Series

Epiphany is a season where the wisdom of sages reveals God to us in new and powerful ways. Throughout history, those sages have been found among those most marginalized and oppressed. In Epiphany, it is particularly important for us to seek out those voices, to invite them to speak their truth, to listen fearlessly and to heed their words.

At All Saints Church, we are committed to dismantling the structures of patriarchy and white supremacy that enslave us all. An important step in that direction is centering the voices of women and people of color and



Lisa Sharon Harper



Traci Blackmon



Kelly Brown Douglas

following their wisdom and leadership. That is why we are declaring Epiphany, 2018 "A Season of Wisdom and Revelation" where we will only have women of color in our pulpit on Sunday mornings and we will be shaped and led by the Gospel they preach.

The lineup includes nationally-renowned preachers and theologians, members of our own congregation, youth, and more. We will also be welcoming other guests, like civil rights icon Dolores Huerta to share their life wisdom with us during this season. Don't miss a Sunday – and please invite everyone you know to be a part of this life-changing season.

Sunday, January 7 – Lisa Sharon Harper – Scholar and theologian. Author, Founder and president of FreedomRoad.us, columnist at Sojourners Magazine, Auburn Theological Seminary Senior Fellow.

Sunday, January 14 – The Rev. Traci Blackmon – Executive Minister of Justice and Witness, United Church of Christ; Member of the Ferguson Commission; 2015 Ebony Magazine Power 100; NAACP Rosa Parks Award.

Sunday, January 21 – The Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas – Scholar and Theologian; Dean, Episcopal Divinity School at Union Theological Seminary; Canon Theologian Washington National Cathedral; Author.

Sunday, January 28 – Annmarete Vera – All Saints Church high school senior; 2017 youth preacher.

Sunday, February 4 – Dr. Brinell Anderson, PsyD. – All Saints Church parishioner, Psychologist

Sunday, February 11 – The Rev. Nancy Frausto – Associate Rector, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Long Beach; Dreamer (DACA recipient).



Annmarete Vera



Brinell Anderson



Nancy Frausto

Spotlight

Jack LeVan

by Chris Delamarter

Anyone who has been at All Saints for even a brief time is aware of the quality of the choirs. For some, it is even what brought them in to the church.

That was the case for Jack LeVan, Coventry Choir's longest serving singer. Jack joined both the choir and the church in 1961 and has been an active singing member for the 57 years since. He said that the decision to join All Saints came easily:

"I first heard the choir sing at a performance of Haydn's Creation on a Tuesday, I came to choir rehearsal on Thursday, and on Sunday I became a pledging member of All Saints."

The church already had a reputation of being active in the community and Jack also wanted to be part of that. He grew up in a small church near USC, and found it lacking in outreach to the community. At the age of 19, he said that "I didn't have much money, so I wanted it to be going toward things I believed in. I have always felt that All Saints put its money to good use."

A retired employee of the Los Angeles Municipal Court and the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Jack's original career plan was to teach history. Though that wasn't where life took him, the love of history has never left. A Daily Journal profile in 1992 called him the courthouse's "unofficial historian," and he served All Saints for many years as the church archivist.

Jack was approached by a staff member in the mid-1990s, who said she was worried that several boxes of photographs and documents were going to be damaged because they were stored in the basement. She asked if Jack could find a way to catalog and organize them and he agreed.

I asked him about important moments in All Saints' history, and Jack singled out the parish hall fire of 1976 as a defining moment. In that fire, everything was destroyed, including irreplaceable photos, documents—and the entire music library. Ever since, Jack has kept a detailed record of every anthem Coventry Choir sings, and on which date it is performed. "The record only goes back to 1976," he said sadly, "because everything before that was lost."

When I asked him what excites him most about All Saints' future, he couldn't pick one thing, though he acknowledges that significant changes are taking place: "It's insulting to say that 'we've always done it that way'—

and it's an easy trap to fall into. Lots of things change when leadership changes—it's true in the courts and it's true in the church." After a pause, though, he smiles, "Those kids' choirs!"

Whatever else may be changing at All Saints, you can still find Jack in the choir room on Thursday nights. Coventry choir is his community, and it is what he is most known for in the church at large. He remembers a time when he was given directions to a room on the campus -- after many years as a member. Laughing, he says, "I'd been here since 1961! She didn't realize I didn't need the directions, she just didn't recognize me without my choir robe!"

PHOTO BY CAM SANDERS

"Let Freedom Ring"

On Martin Luther King, Jr., Day last year a new All Saints Church tradition was born with an all-day community reading of the speeches, sermons and writings of Dr. King. This year MLK Day is Monday, January 15th, and we invite you to balance action with reflection, and join us in the church anytime from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. for the continuous – and inspirational – reading of Dr. King’s words. Anyone can come and take part either as a reader or listener. Texts will be available in English and in Spanish. The entire event will also be streamed live online.



The Women's March in January



Muslim Solidarity in January



Looking Back on 2017

As we enter 2018 we look back at 2017 – a year of both great challenges and joy. We marched and stood in solidarity, said goodbye to James, Zelda and Cathy and installed our new rector. We celebrated our feast days, confirmed a class of new Episcopalians, and honored beloved parishioners. We got one step closer to our goal of carbon neutrality, and constantly recommitted ourselves to strive for peace and justice. The video Annual Report will present a more complete story, but here are some memory joggers!

PHOTOS BY LAURA AGUILAR, CYRUS DAVIS, SAMANTHA HARRIS, ANDY KENNELLY, JACK LEVAN, ISABEL RAMIREZ, CAM SANDERS & KEITH HOLEMAN

Mike's Installation as All Saints' 10th Rector in February



Día de Los Muertos in November



Homeless Memorial Service in December



Christmas



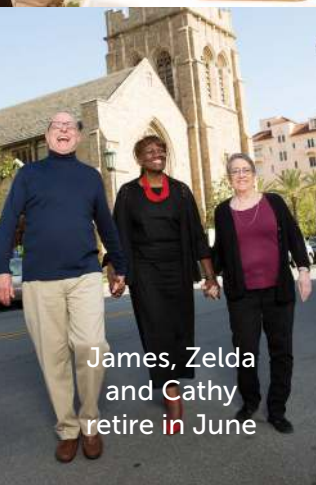
CYF Farewell to Isaac Ruelas in December



POP Immigration March to City Hall in March



James, Zelda and Cathy retire in June



Environmentally friendly LED Lights Installed in April



Easter in April



Confirmation in May



Alma Stokes honored in June

Comings and Goings On

Some things of interest coming in January to All Saints Church!

Candidates for Vestry

The Vestry Nominating Committee has selected this stellar slate of candidates for election at the Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 18, 2018: Samantha Harris (youth member), Christine Hartman (currently serving an unexpired term), Grey Ingrassia (youth member), Terry Knowles, Dave Moreno, Monique Thomas, Derek Wan, and Steve Williams. Biographical information and photos will appear in the February edition of Saints Alive.

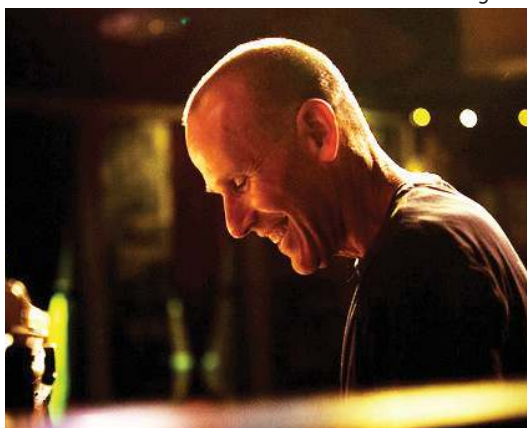
It is possible to nominate additional candidates by petition. Forms are available by contacting Christina Honchell at chonchell@allsaints-pas.org. The deadline for petition submissions is 5:00 p.m., Friday, January 12. Names, photos and statements of those nominated by petition will be printed in the February Saints Alive.

Thank you to the members of the Nominating Committee: Karen Alexander, Lorenzo Bacani, Hannah Berry, Liza Billington, Will Gatlin, Dana Jones, Scott Lardizabal, Lydia Lopez, Andy Malloy, Frank Ramirez, Edna Trigg, Jeff Vanderpool, Trula Worthy-Clayton, Christina Honchell and Mike Kinman – for their prayerful discernment of this next class of parish leaders.

Jazz Vespers in January: Russell Ferrante

Join us Sunday, Jan. 21, at 5:00 p.m. on the Chancel. All Saints Parishioner and founding

member of the YellowJackets, **Russell Ferrante's** first exposure to music came from his church, where his father was the choir director, a frequent vocal soloist, and leader of a



vocal gospel quartet. He began piano lessons at 9 with the expectation that one day he would be the church pianist...but his musical interests took him elsewhere.

Russ has performed with Jimmy

Witherspoon, Jim Pepper, Joe Farrell, Joni Mitchell, Bobby McFerrin, Robben Ford, Al Jarreau, Marilyn Scott, Ernie Watts, Sadao Watanabe, GRP, Big Band, Lee Ritenour, Tom Scott, Take 6, Michael Franks, Eric Marienthal, and Brenda Russell. Russ currently teaches in the Jazz Studies department at USC. Information = Melissa Hayes, 626.583.2725 or mhayes@allsaints-pas.org.

Women's Rally and March on January 20

All Saints Church will once again be supporting the January Women's March on Saturday, January 20 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in downtown Los Angeles.

For more information visit the Women's March website at www.womensmarchla.org. This year the theme is "First, we MARCH, then we VOTE!" – and organizers will again bring together people of all genders, ages, races, cultures, political affiliations, disabilities and backgrounds. The goal is a march to support a collective vision that by using our vote we can create a government that supports

and represents our intersecting identities and the social justice and human rights issues that impact us all. Part of a national movement to unify and empower everyone who stands for women's rights, human rights, civil liberties, and social justice for

all, the Women's March is a non-partisan and peaceful event. More details coming on the ASC presence – but mark your calendars now! #hearourvote #wmla2018 #firstwemarchthenwewote



Reyes Magos

Guiados por una brillante estrella, los Tres Reyes del Oriente, regiamente ataviados y montados en un camello, un caballo y un elefante emprendieron el viaje para adorar al Niño Jesús. La celebración de los Tres Reyes Magos se remonta a los primeros años de la evangelización en el Nuevo Mundo y sigue vigente hasta nuestros días. Según la tradición latinoamericana, son ellos quienes traen regalos a los niños y niñas. Acompañenos el domingo 7 de Enero a la misa de la 1:00 p.m. y después a una celebración en Sweetland Hall para compartir La Rosca y chocolate caliente.

Guided by a shining star, the Three Kings of the Orient regally dressed and mounted on a camel, a horse and an elephant,

undertook the journey to adore the Baby Jesus. The celebration of the

Three Wise Men, or Magi, dates back to the first years of evangelization in the New World and

continues to this day. According to Latin American tradition, it is they who bring gifts to children. Join us on Sunday, January 7, for our 1 p.m. Service in the church and celebrate afterward in Sweetland Hall with La Rosca (King's bread traditionally eaten on January 6) and hot chocolate.



Calendar of events for the month. Please check our website at www.allsaints-pas.org and the weekly *This Week At All Saints* for details and contact information.

January

- 1** – Monday, **New Year's Holiday**, Office Closed.
- 4** – Thursday, **Senior Saints**, 12:30 p.m., Sweetland Hall
- 6** – Saturday, **Theodora Hopper Memorial**, 1:00 p.m., Church
- Zelda Kennedy Memorial**, 1:00 p.m. (EST), St. Philips's Episcopal Church, Durham, NC
- 7** – Sunday, **Reyes Magos**, 2:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall
- 9** – Tuesday, **Vestry meeting**, 7:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall
- 12** – Friday, **Not So Bored Game Night for Youth**, 6:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall
- 13** – Saturday, **Free Legal Clinic**, 9:00 a.m.-noon, Jackie Robinson Center, 1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave., Pasadena 91103
- Zelda Kennedy Memorial**, 2:00 p.m., All Saints Church
- 15** – Monday, **Let Freedom Ring**, Community Reading of MLK Speeches, Sermons and Writings, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Church
- 20** – Saturday, **Sacred Stillness Retreat**, 9:00-11:30 a.m., Church
- Women's March Los Angeles**, Pershing Square, Los Angeles, 9:00 a.m.
- 21** – Sunday, **Dementia Care and Senior Social Services**, 12:45-2:30 p.m., Sweetland Hall
- Jazz Vespers with Russell Ferrante**, 5:00 p.m., Chancel
- 23** – Tuesday, **Vestry Meeting**, 7:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall
- 26** – Friday, **Fiction Fun!**, 7:30 p.m., Guild Room
- 27** – Saturday, **Aljean Ivory Memorial**, 10:30 a.m., Church
- Don McAlpin Memorial**, 10:30 a.m., Church

Adult Ed in January 10:15 a.m. Sundays

- 7** • **Rector's Forum**, with Lisa Sharon Harper, Forum
- **Parent Culture**, Scott Hall 2
- 14** • **Rector's Forum**, with Traci Blackmon, Forum
- **Parent Culture**, Scott Hall 2
- 21** • **Rector's Forum**, with Kelly Brown Douglas, Forum
- **Parent Culture**, Scott Hall 2
- 28** • **TBD**, Rector's Forum, Church
- **Parent Culture**, Scott Hall 2

Adult Confirmation Classes Begin in January

Adult Confirmation is an opportunity to learn more about the Episcopal Church, dig deeper into your faith, and consider whether or not confirmation is right for you. Details coming soon for the class that begins in January, so please visit our website or contact Jeremy Langill at jangill@allsaints-pas.org for additional information and the full schedule.



Over the years, many people have left a legacy gift for All Saints in their will or estate plan. Such generous gifts have renovated our beautiful Tiffany windows, maintained our historic church campus, and provided crucial income from our endowment. The "Heritage Society" has recognized those faithful parishioners, and lists everyone on the large panel in the lobby of Regas House.

During the first quarter of 2018 the Giving Office will be working to update that panel, and wants your help. If you have included All Saints in your will or estate plan, please let us know. You can also stop by the panel to make sure that names are listed accurately. If loved ones have passed away, let us know that, too. Contact Jim Loduha at jloduha@allsaints-pas.org or 626.583.2736.