

Saints Alive

ALL SAINTS CHURCH PASADENA

FEBRUARY 2018

Mike Kinman: Reconciliation

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It's Annual Meeting Time!



LA Women's March, January 20, 2018

Reconciliation

from Rector Mike Kinman

For all our work with mission statements, the mission of the Church can be summed up in one word:

Reconciliation.

Reconciliation is restoring to unity that which is broken. It is the healing of relationships. It is the forming of the Beloved Community. It is our mission. It is our call.

We give this mission special focus during Lent. And yet, I've found often when I talk about reconciliation, the term is met with anxiety, ambivalence and reticence. I've found fear that is based in a misunderstanding of what reconciliation is.

The fear goes like this.

Reconciliation is about sin. After all, the part of the liturgy where we look at reconciliation is the confession.

The logic then goes if there is sin, there has to be a sinner and someone who was sinned against – a good guy and a bad guy. Reconciliation must be about identifying good guy and the bad guy, having the bad guy confess and apologize. After all, the most famous reconciliation process we know of is the "Truth and Reconciliation" process in South Africa and it sure seemed like there were good guys and bad guys there, right?

In that logic, reconciliation becomes a process of demonizing. Of some people being labeled the sinners, the bad guys. It is a process of blame and shame.

I get where that comes from. The world is pretty graceless and unforgiving. If something goes wrong, it seems like we are always looking for something to blame. This is nothing new.

That's why listening to Jesus talk about reconciliation is important. In Matthew 5:23, Jesus says:

"If you bring your gift to the altar and there remember that your sibling has something against you, leave your gift there at the altar. Go to be reconciled to them, and then come and offer your gift."

Yes, there are times where reconciliation is about an individual confessing a sin against another. Confession in that case is something that comes from within. It's not about someone pointing a finger at us, but about us through self-examination coming to realize that we have sinned – that we have broken relationship with another, either intentionally or unintentionally – and then of our own free will unburdening ourselves of that, making reparation, pledging to live differently and having the relationship restored to wholeness. That is not a process of casting out. That is a process of grace and healing.

And often, reconciliation is about what happens in this passage from Matthew. Notice a few things. Jesus doesn't say "if you have something against your sibling." This isn't about pointing a finger at someone else. Jesus says "If you remember that your sibling has something against you."

Reconciliation is about being attentive to the quality of relationships in the community. To be attuned to one another so deeply that we know when someone has something against us – whether we believe we are in the wrong or not. And for us to make the first move – even if we don't think we have done anything wrong – and begin the conversation that is aimed at reconciliation ... at making whole what was broken.

Reconciliation is never about demonizing. It is about being so aware of the community and loving the community so deeply that we are always willing to listen to each other and do that hard work of figuring out where wounds have happened, where relationship has been broken, where whether we meant to or not, we have hurt one another. And then not to blame, but to heal.

And that's where we get to the last part of this Gospel reading. After we are reconciled with each other, then together we go and offer our gift. The point of reconciliation is so we can approach Christ's table together. So we can offer our gift of ourselves together and God can use us together to do and be amazing things.

Reconciliation is a process of doing what Jesus did. Giving up ourselves for one another for the common good. It is the mission of the church. It is never about casting out. It is always about gathering in. It is about healing so we can all give ourselves to God and each other ... together.

This Lent, let us strive to listen deeply to one another. To be so in tune with each other that we know when there is a rupture in our relationship. To be so in tune with each other that we know when someone has something against us. And then to compete to be the first to say to our sibling:

What would it mean for us to be reconciled?

For all our work with mission statements, the mission of the Church can be summed up in one word: Reconciliation.

PHOTO BY CAM SANDERS

Monday Night Meditation

by Betty Cole

"A wonderful space to find grounding and meaning.... I feel released and better able to cope with life's difficulties"
– Anna K.

"In a place with loving and caring people, I am gaining the support to stabilize and improve my [meditation] practice"
– Erin M.

"I travel a lot, and I have this group always to be a safe and welcoming place to return home to..." – David

"I find that meditating in a group really does increase the blessed feeling of calm I experience..." – Burt

For the last sixteen years, every Monday that the church is open, Monday Night Meditation has been a gathering point for people seeking to experience the Spirit in silence and fellowship, usually in the sanctuary chapel. It's a wide open group that includes both long-time, practiced meditators and people just beginning to explore silent contemplation. Some think of what they are doing in Christian terms, "waiting on the Spirit," others come from Buddhist or purely secular perspectives, but the sense of calm and fellowship seems to transcend the labels. Some are there virtually every week, others come when they can, and a few wander in seemingly by accident.

The group grew out of the experience Betty Cole and others in the All Saints congregation had as far back as the 1980's when she was encouraged to offer contemplative opportunities during Advent and Lent, some connecting social activists with their own needs for inner healing, some enlivening the words of scripture through deep silence and sharing, some using the combination of meditation and inquiry to help people discern vocation in their lives. Having



experienced in her youth the many ways Quakers used both group and individual meditation in conflict resolution and group discernment, then developing a Zen meditation practice for many years, Betty was encouraged to see how All Saints people might

respond to a weekly opportunity for group meditation as well.

"It's important to me that the group acts both as a grounding fellowship and training ground for "regulars"

AND as a place-holder of the Silence for people who may just stumble in at a given moment. There have been times when someone has arrived on a Monday night not even knowing we were there as an ongoing group, but the sense of healing and refreshment has been like a life jacket thrown out at the critical moment. I remember a young man who had left home and was lost, literally, having gotten dropped off from hitch-hiking. He came into the church because it was so beautiful, and there we were. He ended up sitting with us for the evening and then I took him to the Metro stop he needed. He just kept saying, "You have no idea what it meant



to me that you were there at that moment." Sometimes we've learned only after the fact that people came to the group because they knew that they were dying, or that they were facing a moment of crisis, but the Silence and the fellowship were the healing they needed.

For people just learning to meditate, the chance to work one-on-one with someone experienced in different forms of meditation over a long period of time can be just what they need to find their way. Monthly talks and sharing can give support, as does just sitting together and having the additional energy. Although some may imagine that meditation is just an inward-looking thing, that inward vs. outward dichotomy doesn't fit real experience. As Eleanor, a long-time practitioner put it, meditation "broadens my perspective on just about everything, deepening compassion and empathy." In a world characteristically frantic and noisy, the value of an oasis of quiet fellowship in beauty and holy expectation can hardly be overstated.

Spotlight

Anna Davalos

by Carolyn Ash

If you come to All Saints—in person or via streaming—you no doubt have seen Anna Davalos. Anna is often front and center as she serves Communion, reads the Lesson, prays at the healing rail, or serves as an usher. And those are just a few of her activities here.

Anna first came to All Saints in 2004, a visitor from a nearby Roman Catholic church. On her first Sunday, she was deeply moved by the music and the sermon and the All Saints invitation, "Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here." Her cheeks were wet with tears as she shook hands with Ed Bacon, and he told her, "tears are healing." With emotion Anna says, "At All Saints I heard the message that God loves me, Anna. I had not heard that before. And now I believe it."

She joined the Covenant I and II classes (now known as New Member Classes) where she met new friends and learned more about the Episcopal church. Soon she volunteered for the Altar Guild and the Food Ministry. That ministry remains close to her heart as she meets the homeless and hungry people who gather each Monday morning on our campus.

Anna feels called to pastoral care. She became part of the All Saints pastoral care team, coming into the office on Saturday mornings to help prepare the Sunday prayer list from requests that come in by phone, email, or pew cards, and she called the people who made the request to offer support or condolence. In time, Zelda encouraged Anna to become a Lay Counselor. Anna felt unprepared to undertake the training and demurred. "Fill out the application," Zelda urged, and Clarke Oler added his persuasive voice. She became Lay Counseling Ministry's first Spanish-speaking counselor.

Anna grew up in East LA, the oldest of five children, in a Roman Catholic family. By the age of 8 she just knew she would become a Sister and a teacher. Something deepened within her at her Confirmation four years later. She says, "It was the Holy Spirit speaking. I felt changed and more focused." After high school, she entered the Immaculate Heart Community in Santa Barbara as a postulant and subsequently became a professed Sister and teacher, just as she envisioned when she was a child. On weekends she prepared meals for up to 62 retreatants at La Casa de Maria. After ten years, however, she realized she needed independence from the Convent and petitioned the Vatican for dispensation from her vows. She later married and had a son, Christopher. She went on to work in pastoral care at

Queen of the Valley Hospital for a decade.

Anna's commitment to pastoral care and concern for those in need is rooted in her early family life. Her father was generous and kind. He owned a market, and would give food to hungry neighbors as their money ran out at the end of the month. Her mother, too, was caring. Anna remembers how she taught the children ways to respond when friends passed away, taking them to the wake and bringing flowers and food to support the bereaved.

All Saints is enriched and enlivened by Anna Davalos' loving presence. Her ready smile and cheerful greeting help make our church a welcoming place. Her gentle demeanor invites conversation. And her enthusiasm for all things All Saints is contagious.

PHOTO BY DENNIS KUBA

A Season of Wisdom & Revelation 2.0

On Ash Wednesday we will hear again the call to observe a holy Lent – a call which includes: self-examination and repentance; prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word. One way we will respond to that call this year is by continuing to explore the voices we heard during our Epiphany Preaching Series: A Season of Wisdom & Revelation. During those seven weeks we heard from eleven prophetic voices – women who invited us to hear God’s holy Word from a variety of contexts and through different lenses. **A Season of Wisdom & Revelation 2.0** is an opportunity to dig a little deeper as we continue to reflect on what we heard and continue to hear from our Epiphany preachers and explore where we are called to action as individuals and as a community of faith.

The program will offer opportunities for both group conversation and individual study and reflection.

On the **First Sunday in Lent, February 11, 2:30-4:00 p.m.**, gather in the Forum for a community conversation and reflection on the entire six weeks of sermons and forums, listening to each other’s answer to the question: “What wisdom was revealed?”

During Lent, we will offer a curriculum of readings, videos and activities (including the videos of the sermons and forums) to dive more deeply into the wisdom revealed during Epiphany. We will offer two opportunities during the season to gather in the Forum for creative, lively conversation about what we are learning and to continue to listen to one another.

Monday, February 26, 7-8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 20, 7-8:30 p.m.

On the **First Sunday after Easter, April 8, 2:30-4:00 p.m.**, gather in the Forum for an action-oriented community conversation on the entire experience, listening to each other’s answer to the question: “What transformation is God calling me and this community into through the wisdom that is being revealed?”

No RSVPs are necessary. Just show up and take part!

We hope as many people as possible will take part in following up our Epiphany of wisdom and revelation with a Lent of study and reflection and an Easter of transformative action.

All Saints Vestry Adopts Alcohol Policy

At our General Convention in 2015 the Episcopal Church adopted a resolution on alcohol use that encouraged “dioceses, congregations, seminaries, schools, young adult ministries, and affiliated institutions to update their policies on the use of alcohol and other substances with the potential for misuse.”

In response, the vestry of All Saints Church appointed a task force to study the need for a policy with guidelines for alcohol use at All Saints sponsored events and, if necessary, to draft such a policy. After much consideration, including a congregational listening session, studies of policies from other congregations and dioceses, and consultation with legal experts and others, a policy was proposed and unanimously adopted by the vestry. Those guidelines include:



- No alcohol may be served at meetings where business is conducted – including the work of vestry, discernment and recruitment committees, and all committees and ministry meetings.
- Approval to serve alcohol must be obtained prior to a social event.
- When alcohol is served, non-alcoholic beverages must be offered in a way that is equally attractive and accessible as alcoholic beverages.
- Hard liquor (anything other than beer or wine) is not permitted.
- All federal, state and local laws regarding alcohol use must be complied with, including the prohibition of serving alcohol to anyone under the age of 21.
- Food must be served when alcohol is present.
- The availability of alcohol must not be advertised or promoted as the attraction of an event.

All committees and ministries are encouraged to discuss ASC’s relationship with alcohol and thoughtfully determine whether alcohol should be included at sponsored events. The policy in its entirety is available on [the Resource page of the website](#).

Lenten Group Offerings

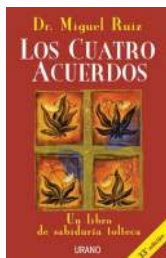
Pick the book, meditation or educational group during Lent that is perfect for you from this diverse variety of offerings. All run for five weeks, beginning February 18, except where noted. Group leaders are in bold.

Sunday Book Groups:

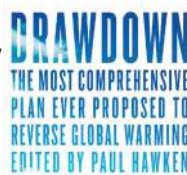
Lenten Book Group - Los Cuatro Acuerdos

Basados en la antigua sabiduría Tolteca, Los Cuatro Acuerdos ofrecen un poderoso código de conducta que puede transformar rápidamente nuestra vida en una nueva experiencia de libertad, verdadera felicidad y amor. Based on ancient Toltec wisdom, The Four Agreements offer a powerful code of conduct that can rapidly transform our lives to a new experience of freedom, true happiness, and love. Sundays, 12:00 ~ 12:45 p.m. Guild Room.

Vivian Varela

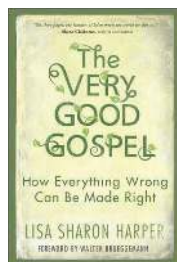


an international coalition of researchers, professionals, and scientists have come together to offer a set of realistic and bold solutions to climate change. If deployed collectively on a global scale over the next thirty years, they represent a credible path forward, not just to slow the earth's warming but to reach drawdown, that point in time when greenhouse gases in the atmosphere peak and begin to decline. These measures give us every reason to see this planetary crisis as an opportunity to create a just and livable world. Mondays, 7:00 ~ 8:30 p.m., Learning Center 1. **Bob Whitson**



Lenten Book Group - The Very Good Gospel: How Everything Wrong Can Be Made Right

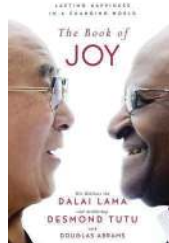
Through careful exploration of the biblical text, particularly the first three chapters of Genesis, Lisa Sharon Harper shows us what "very good" can look like today—in real time. This group, organized for African American women, will engage Lisa Sharon Harper's text *The Very Good Gospel*, where she explores the deep theological concept of Shalom. Sundays, 1:00 ~ 2:30 p.m., OCC Conference Room. **Renatta Cooper**



Tuesday Book Group:

Lenten Book Group - The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World

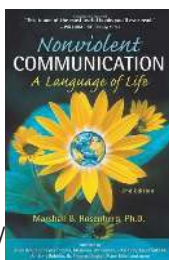
Nobel Peace Prize Laureates the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu have survived more than fifty years of exile and the soul-crushing violence of oppression. Despite their hardships—or, as they would say, because of them—they are two of the most joyful people on the planet. This book offers us a rare opportunity to experience their astonishing and unprecedented week together, from the first embrace to the final good-bye. Tuesdays, 7:00 ~ 9:00 p.m., Scott Hall 4. **Betty Cole**



Monday Book Groups:

Lenten Book Group - Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life

What is Violent Communication? If "violent" means acting in ways that result in hurt or harm, then much of how we communicate could indeed be called "violent communication." Nonviolent Communication shows us a way of being very honest, without any criticism, insults, or put-downs, and without any intellectual diagnosis implying wrongness. Mondays, 7:00 ~ 8:30 p.m., Learning Center 2. **Terry Moore**

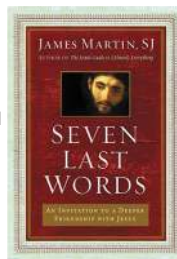


Wednesday Book Group:

Lenten Book Group - Seven Last Words: An Invitation to a Deeper Friendship with Jesus

For all who have "ever felt confused, abandoned or alone" are the words that welcome you to the book, *Seven Last Words – An Invitation to a Deeper Relationship with Jesus*, written by James Martin, SJ. Using this resource, we will be reading and sharing our thoughts and spiritual discoveries in a 7-week Lenten-Easter small discussion group. Wednesdays, 10:00 ~ 11:30 a.m. Scott Hall 3.

Susan Adkins

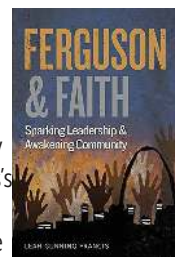


Thursday Book Groups:

Lenten Book Group - Ferguson and Faith: Sparking Leadership and Awakening Community

The shooting death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, reignited a long-smoldering movement for justice. Seminary professor Leah Gunning Francis's interviews with more than two dozen faith leaders and with the new movement's organizers take us behind the scenes of the continuing protests. *Ferguson and Faith* demonstrates that being called to lead a faithful life can take us to places we never expected to go, with people who never expected us to join hands with them. Thursdays, 7:00 ~ 8:30 p.m., Scott Hall 5.

Mary Bucci Bush & Edna Trigg



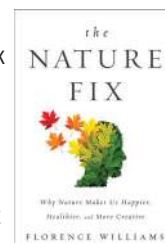
Lenten Book Group - Seven Last Words: An Invitation to a Deeper Friendship with Jesus

For all who have "ever felt confused, abandoned or alone" are the words that welcome you to this book—journey with us as we read and share new spiritual discoveries during Lent. Thursdays, 7:00 ~ 8:30 p.m., Junior High Room. **Susan Adkins**

Thursday Educational Group:

Lenten Educational Group - Divine Encounters in Nature

Using Florence Williams' book *The Nature Fix* as a jumping off point, we will explore evidence of Divine Creativity and Intelligence in the natural world. From trees that communicate to plants that have short term memory and hummingbirds that fly 800 miles without stopping we will seek evidence of the Great Mystery in Nature. Our homework? To get outdoors and let nature be revealed to us. Thursdays, 7:00 ~ 8:30 p.m., Guild Room. **Bud Williams**



Saturday Educational Group:

Lenten Educational Offering - Sacred Collage

Sacred Collage offers you the opportunity to explore the language of imagery, to find a deeper self, and to explore the leading of the Spirit within. No art experience or talent is needed. All supplies are provided. Saturdays, 9:00 ~ 11:00 a.m., Learning Center. **Dorothy Torrey**

Click on the titles to go to the Sign-up Page.

It's Annual Meeting Time!

We divide our parish annual meeting into two parts: **Annual Meeting I on Sunday, February 18, and Annual Meeting II on Sunday, March 11, both at 10:15 a.m. in the Forum. At the February 18 meeting we will elect new members for the Vestry, thank the retiring Vestry and hear the address of retiring Sr. Warden Trula Worthy-Clayton. Here's the slate for 2018 – 2022:**

Christine Hartman is

currently serving an expired term on the vestry and is eligible to be elected for a full term. Christina, her husband Christian and daughter Kaylie, have been attending All Saints Church (ASC) for 6 years. She is presently the owner, with her husband, of a multi-media event planning company, having previously founded a woman-focused theatre company in Chicago and been a trained hospice volunteer. Her involvement at ASC includes Parent Culture, the Children, Youth and Families (CYF) Vestry committee, lay discernment and she has been a Seekers faith partner. Christine faithfully maintains a monthly vigil at the White House to protest injustice. "This community has become an integral aspect of our family life. My daughter has been in the choir program for 5 years, a rich experience that has positively impacted our family. ASC is a life-changing force for so many, and I am so honored to be part of this community. I look forward to our future as we continue to actively manifest God's love, sometimes in ways that are challenging, always in ways that bring us together."



some of the coolest people I've met, I've met because of Sunday School and Youth Group. There are so many things I want for All Saints that I think would be beneficial to youth and their families. This is one of my favorite places on earth and I am very excited to make it even better as a member of the vestry."

Terry Knowles and her husband Marshall Ritter have been members of ASC for more than 25 years. Terry retired two years ago after 15 years as CEO of the LA Master Chorale and is currently a consultant for nonprofits in board development, resource development, and strategic planning. She has brought her considerable board experience to work at ASC, including participation in the Rector Search Committee and the Giving Committee and she is co-chair of the search committee for our next Director of Music. "In all the years I have attended All Saints, it has been for me a place of joy, challenges, surprises and utter, blessed inclusiveness. My participation in the rector search process literally transformed my faith journey into something far deeper and richer. Now I commit to bring to vestry service an open mind, a searching intellect, honesty, candor, and a heart full of love for this remarkable community."



Grey Ingrassia has been nominated as one of our Youth representatives on the vestry – our youth have full voice and vote. He has been at ASC since birth; his parents, Steven and Sara were married here more than 20 years

ago and his sister Allison sings in the youth choir. Grey is a sophomore at La Canada High School, where he is involved with filmmaking, and hopes to pursue further study in the cinematic arts and in religious studies. He is an acolyte

and a member of the ASC youth group. "All Saints has been my home away from home since I was born. Some of my best friends and



Dave Moreno and his wife Jennifer have

been members of ASC for more than 10 years. Dave is retired from a career in the film industry doing post-production sound and also a retired Leading Petty Officer from the U.S. Navy. He has served an earlier term on vestry and has also serviced at the Welcome Table on Sundays, as a Greeter, Usher, host of Giving events and



on the 1 p.m. Service Leadership Team. Dave is newly elected to the Los Angeles Diocesan Council. "I believe that being part of the ASC community makes one part of the tradition of All Saints. Each one of us participates in the past, present and future of ASC. It is not only the vestry that is called to support All Saints; each member of ASC is called to help promote a healthy vestry by supporting each other, our rector and staff in positive ways. My dream is that of All Saints continuing to be a leader in inclusiveness for all."

Samantha Harris is nominated to fill another of the Youth positions on the vestry. She comes by her ASC involvement naturally: her mother Elizabeth Tatum and her grandmother Sarah Tatum are very active here at ASC. Samantha is a junior at Marshall Fundamental School, where she is a member of the National Honor Society and a Reading Partners volunteer. She is an Acolyte Captain, a member of the Trouveres and Chamber choirs, is a faithful and gifted photography volunteer and an active member of youth group. "I really like the inclusiveness of All Saints – there are people here of many different religious, ethnic, cultural, and economic backgrounds. It's not hard for youth and children to find things to be involved with and that will keep them engaged in church life. The 30-hour Fast, a fundraiser for a community in La Mision, Mexico, is a good example of how the church youth are involved in helping people outside the church community. I am happy about the expanding role of all ages of youth in church services activities; I hope that this involvement will be able to grow even more during my time on the vestry."



Monique Thomas has been attending ASC for 10 years. She is a Program Coordinator at the Caltech Center for Diversity, where she coordinates programming, events and trainings for undergraduates and for the campus community and is the advisor for their underrepresented minority student groups. Monique is co-chair of the ASC Racial Justice Ministry and a member of the Racial Justice

(Continued in Annual Meeting Time on page 7)

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.

February

- 1**— Thursday, **Senior Saints**, 12:30 p.m., Sweetland Hall
2— Friday, **Theatre Ministry: Pirates of Penzance**, 8:00 p.m., Pasadena Playhouse
9— Friday, **Not So Bored Game Night**, 6:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall
13— Tuesday, **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**, 5:30 p.m., Sweetland Hall
Vestry Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Forum
14— Wednesday, **Ash Wednesday Services**, 7:00 a.m., 12 noon, 6:00 p.m. (Spanish), 7:30 p.m., Church
Recovery Eucharist, 6:30 p.m., Scott Hall 5
18— Sunday, **Contemplative Eucharist**, 5:00 p.m., Church
23— Friday, **Fiction Fun!**, 7:30 p.m., Guild Room
Theatre Ministry: The Hothouse, 8:00 p.m., Antaeus Theater in Glendale

- 25**— Sunday, **Transformation Journeys Annual Luncheon**, 11:15 a.m., Sweetland Hall
Jazz Vespers with Carol Robbins & Harp, 5:00 p.m., Chancel

Check Out Our New Studio ASC Podcast

Studio ASC, Episode 3, includes Mike Kinman on Christianity's misogynistic roots, Quinn Cummings on sexual harassment in the entertainment industry, Susan Russell on what religious liberty is and isn't, the Blessing of the Animals at All Saints Church, and an excerpt from one of Zelda's last sermons on the transformative power of love. Find it on iTunes, Stitcher or here: <https://allsaints-pas.org/studio-asc-podcast-episode-3/>.



Adult Ed in February, 10:15 a.m. Sundays

- 4** • **Rector's Forum**, Forum
 • **Know the 10 Signs: Early Detection Matters**, with Linda Loera, Sweetland Hall
 • **Parent Culture**, birth-5th grade in Scott Hall 2, 6th-12th grades in OCC Conference Room
- 11** • **Rector's Forum**, with Nancy Frausto, Forum
 • **Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research**, with Linda Loera, Sweetland Hall
 • **The Sacraments**, with Sally Howard, Guild room
 • **Parent Culture**, birth-5th grade in Scott Hall 2, 6th-12th grades in OCC Conference Room
- 18** • **Annual Meeting, Part 1**, Rector's Forum, Forum
Other Adult Education options will resume on February 26.
- 25** • **This Year's Films & the Oscars**, with Kenneth Turan, Rector's Forum, Forum
 • **Jesus and the New Testament**, with Brian Robinson, Guild Room
 • **Parent Culture**, birth-5th grade in Scott Hall 2, 6th-12th grades in OCC Conference Room

Annual Meeting Time!

(Continued from page 6)

Advisory Board, has been a small group leader for the New Member Class, a member of the Black Women's Affinity Group and has been a leader in intersectional relationships between ministries here. "When I first came to ASC over 10 years ago, I was looking for a church to feed my spirit and strengthen my faith. All saints is not only my spiritual home and faith community, it is also the spark that lit a lifelong passion for social justice. ASC guided me in finding my social justice voice and inspired me to empower others to do the same. The work of racial justice is not easy and the path can be long, yet every day I am invigorated by this community, our legacy of social justice, and our commitment to peace and justice for all."



Derek Wan and his husband Jim Albarano have been members at ASC for 6 years. They have a 3-year-old son, Levi. Derek is a freelance

television producer and is a board member for the International Radio & Television Society Foundation. He is a faithful leader of Children's Chapel on Sundays, has been a Seekers faith partner, a small group leader for the New Member Class, and has hosted Congregational Dinners. "I believe in the Holy Spirit. When my husband and I stepped foot in ASC, the Spirit guided us to this vibrant action-oriented community. I've been blessed to participate in a range of CYF ministries and they continue to be the main focus for my life here. Last year's Vestry/Staff Conference focused on our CYF programs, and I look forward to building upon the work that has been started. With a 3-year old son, I hope that the initiatives enacted and supported excite all generations to actively participate in our church's mission to embody the inclusive love of God in Christ."



Steve Williams and his wife Clara are new members of ASC. Steve is an entertainment industry executive, music engineer and producer, and sound designer. He has jumped into life at ASC as a member of the Congregational Development committee and Racial Justice ministry. He brings a lifetime of experience and passion for small group leadership to his ministry. "All Saints' commitment to building a spiritual community that is nurturing to everyone, regardless of where they are on their spiritual journey, really spoke to me. I can see that ASC is a community where those who are the most vulnerable in our society are welcomed and loved. I see that at ASC, social justice and the gospel of Jesus Christ are inseparable. I'm honored to have the opportunity to serve on the vestry. It is an incredible responsibility to work alongside the rector and the staff of ASC. I hope to listen and to learn from vestry membership where I can contribute to life at ASC."

