

Mike Kinman: Come Together Spotlight: Clara & Steve Williams

Seeing White

Jazz Vespers: Denise Donatelli Nuńs on the Bus: The Tax Justice Truth Tour

# **Come Together**

### from Rector Mike Kinman

No matter where we are, we are better coming together than living separately.

-Becca Stevens and the women of Thistle Farms, Find Your Way Home

At All Saints we say "Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome to be here, just as you are."

That's about coming together. That's about a circle that has room for everyone.

When the women of Magdalene and Thistle Farms, women who have seen, as Becca says "the underside of bridges, the short side of justice, the back side of anger and the inside of prison walls," wrote this book of the 24 spiritual principles that guide their community, the very first principle was:

Come Together.

They wrote:

"We come on circuitous paths from prisons, from the streets, from churches because we are tired and we want to live in hope.

"We come in every color. We come lonely and afraid and do not want to die.

"We come because our bodies and spirits are sick and our teeth are falling out and we know we need help."

There is truth there for all of us.

We come together from many different places ... and we come together in hope ... we come together looking for life ... we come together knowing we need something more than just ourselves.

We come together not in the place of strength but in the place of vulnerability.

We come together taking off the masks that the world tells us are our only presentable selves. The masks that hide our wounds and imperfections, our addictions and our failings.

We come together trusting that, as our brother Bryan Stephenson says, we are all so much more than the worst thing that we have done.

We come together in celebration and we come together in grieving. We come together to offer our gifts to God, to each other, and to the world. We come together to awaken joy in each other's hearts and to remind ourselves and one another that love is more powerful than anything that would try to tear us apart.

We come together because no matter where we are, we are better coming together than living separately.

This month, we are launching our 2019 giving campaign, and we are calling it Come Together. Because that's who we are and what we are about.

I hope you will give deeply and joyfully of yourself to this community so we can continue to become even more what All Saints Church has always been

We come together taking off the masks that the of reconciliation world tells us are our only presentable selves. The masks that hide our wounds and imperfections, and our failings.

the unique beauty and dignity of every human being. ...a community that invites a

...a community that believes in

world bent on retribution to the joy

...a community that understands that unity doesn't require uniformity and that diving deeply into our own faith does not prevent us from honoring and receiving gifts of deep wisdom and beauty from others.

...a community where everyone who comes into our orbit feels known and loved ... and is challenged to know and love others just as powerfully.

I hope you will give deeply our addictions and joyfully of yourself to this community so we can come together and explore what dreams we have for this next stage of our journey.

The greatest gift God gives us is each other. We come here from circuitous paths. We come here in hope. We come here seeking new life.

This fall, Come together at All Saints Church. Come together so we can listen deeply to one another. Come together so we can become something new and amazing for the life of this church and for the life of the world.

Come together in generosity. Come together in joy. Come together ... and see what happens next.

# Spotlight Clara & Steve Williams

#### by Susan Johnson

The lives of Clara and Steven Williams created two equally remarkable columns in the notepad, each filled with parallel interests and unique experiences, all revolving around faith, music, education, and family.

Steven grew up in San Francisco and was raised in the Catholic Church. Clara grew up in Oakland.

Clara was the daughter of a faithful mother and an inquisitive father, who later became an AME pastor and was awarded his Doctorate in Divinity at age 80.

Clara's mother passed away when Clara was 17. Music became a strong support. Clara sang in the Church Of God In Christ state youth choir, which went on to become known as the renowned Edwin Hawkins Singers who recorded the original "Oh, Happy Day" in 1968. Steven met Clara when Steve's brother started playing bass guitar in another musical group with Clara. Steven became their equipment "roadie" for the group. Within the year Steven & Clara were married.

Clara attended San Jose State University and later received her law degree from the University of San Francisco Law School. Steven started out at as a premed major at UC Berkeley but left Berkeley to pursue a Broadcast Engineering career. Steven worked for CBS radio for three years as a broadcast radio engineer in San Francisco, and then began his music engineering career at Fantasy Records in Berkeley.

They moved to Los Angeles in 1978. Clara became a public defender for Los Angeles County, and later joined the Law Office of Johnnie Cochran. She worked 11 years as an administrative law judge and a staff council for Cal OSHA. She has also spent 25+ years as co-founder of The Foothills Art Collective. Foothill Arts provides enrichment activities for at risk youth.

After a successful career in the music industry, Steven worked for NBCUniversal Studios for 14 years, the last 6 years as Vice President of Post-Production Services. He received an Emmy Award for his sound work on Jim Henson's "Muppet Babies" and more recently a Grammy Award as Producer for the HBO documentary "The Defiant Ones."

They have two daughters, Azizi and Malika, who have successful careers of their own.

PHOTO BY KEITH HOLEMAN

Steven and Clara first attended First AME Church in Los Angeles, where they were better able to blend their Catholic and Protestant faiths. Their faith journey led them to Lake Avenue Church in Pasadena where they were involved in a small group ministry supporting church members in the entertainment industry. At Lake Avenue they devoted generous time mentoring young couples, utilizing their own experiences to guide others.

In the fall of 2016, they felt the need to reach out to a more progressive worship experience. That reach brought them to All Saints. Since joining, they have been actively involved as leaders in Congregational Development and as facilitators in the New Member Class. Steve serves on the Vestry.

Steve and Clara are most passionate about Small Groups. Steve says, "Connecting in a small group is an opportunity to shrink the large church to a gathering of seven to ten people. In small groups we take what we learn on Sunday and talk about how that lesson applies to our daily lives. We listen, hear, learn and pray with each other, becoming closer to each other in the process."

Steve has joined the Small Group Steering Committee that is expanding Small Groups and is providing mentoring and support for Small Group Facilitators.

Steve & Clara's bucket list includes travel to places around the world. Our goal is to see that their travels always bring them back to All Saints!

## **Seeing White**

by Keith Holeman

Edna Trigg was surprised at the turnout for Seeing White: An Anti-racist Education Group, which premiered at All Saints on September 10. "Honestly, I was thinking maybe 5 people would show up -- so to have it be packed and to have to ask Buildings & Grounds folks to bring in more chairs was amazing! I so appreciate that people are willing to do the work."

Seeing White is a group for white-identifying people in which they can listen and learn to better understand the American conversation about race and the stories we tell ourselves. It's presented by the Racial Justice Ministry (RJM), and they decided it needed to be run by white people for white people, so Elizabeth Kibbey took up the mantle. It's based on the Peabody-nominated podcast "Seeing White" hosted by John Biewen, and it meets on Monday evenings from 7-8:30 in the Guild Room. There are 10 sessions based on two podcast episodes per session. It is facilitated by Alexander Richard.

At one of the Racial Justice Ministry's general membership meetings recently they were brainstorming about the need to create a 'white affinity group,' and Claudia Owens Shields suggested they 'be careful of that because language counts' -- since "white affinity groups" could also conjure images in some people's minds of White Nationalists and the Ku Klux Klan. "It was Elizabeth (Kibbey) who came up with 'White Anti-Racist Education Group,'" Edna says. "So we had the will and we had the moniker, we just needed to have the content. Then in one of our Steering Committee meetings, Jenny Watts and Dewana Willis started talking about this podcast they had heard called 'Seeing White.'" The seed was planted and it eventually bore fruit as an anti-racist education group using the podcast as its foundation and primary resource.

"As a member of the ministry," Elizabeth says, "it was a part of our work in aligning ourselves with the Racial Justice Resolution, because the first point of the resolution is education. So this was a great opportunity to accomplish that. Then, of course, it's just the times that we're in right now."

Edna adds, "Another part of our resolution states that we want to create brave spaces for people to be able to talk and explore, but also it's important for us to move people into a place of discomfort. Because without that there isn't really any growth."

But they had to find the right facilitator. "I think we sensed that it might be nice to have somebody who was not only an 'expert,'" Elizabeth says with air quotes, "but also from the outside; someone who has a faith background, but who also has a background in this type of work, to come in and lead the group."

They consulted with friends at Fuller, and a man who was doing a podcast with one of those friends, Alexander Richard, was suggested. "We sat down with



Edna Trigg & Elizabeth Kibbey

him," Edna says, "and we knew immediately that he was the one." Alexander is a white male, he's queer, and he's from a lifelong evangelical faith background. "That's what's beautiful about Alexander as a facilitator -- he is a person deeply of faith and that's what the grounding is."

Elizabeth nods enthusiastically. "Edna and I both felt right away just that immediate sense that Alexander feels like one of us even though he's not from our church community. He feels like someone who belongs at All Saints."

"Our tribe," Edna agrees.

"He's very involved in political causes that are really led and pioneered by Black Lives Matter in Los Angeles," says Elizabeth.

They're hoping to follow up in the Spring with another project that will anchor the study of how we're talking about anti-racism and whiteness together. "You don't want to crack people open then just leave them out there," Edna says. "Sometimes people need some guidance like 'I'm here now, what do I do next?'"

Everyone is welcome, and there is something to be gained no matter what, whether you go to one session or all of them. While each session focuses on specific episodes, you will be able to participate even if you haven't listened to them, though Edna and Elizabeth suggest listening to episode #1 because it's not very long and it will enable a global understanding of the project.

"We also really encourage people, even if they are unable to come to these sessions, to take the time to listen to the podcasts," Edna says, "because they're brilliant. Eye-opening. For everybody, not just whiteidentifying people."

Elizabeth nods. "We recognize this work is never done. It's never finished for us globally, nationally or individually. I think that we as people of faith need to continually invest in creating justice. Please come."

"Yes, come," Edna says. "Everyone should come."

" And...," Elizabeth smiles, "there were really good snacks the first time!

Seeing White meets every other Monday at 7 p.m. in Sweetland Hall. You can hear Scene On Radio's "Seeing White" podcast here: http://www.sceneonradio.org/ seeing-white/ and Alexander Richard's podcast "Why We Friends" here: http://www.onlevelground.org/why-werefriends-about/ ... or wherever you get your podcasts.

## The Table: The Bible Gather | Engage | Grow

You are warmly invited to attend the new spiritual formation series starting this Fall called The Table. At The Table, we gather together as a parish body to engage both new ideas and each other in order to grow in understanding of our community, ourselves, and our faith. The Fall session of The Table will focus on understanding the basic shape of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. The Table starts on October



7 and will go for five Sundays, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Sweetland Hall and the Guild Room.

The goals of this new kind of formation program are: to provide common language to the parish for talking about the Bible; to become a scripturally literate congregation; to provide a basic understanding of the themes and stories in Scripture; and to provide support for each other in the process!

Class starts with opening remarks from Mike Kinman. Lecture and discussion continues from 4:10-5:00 p.m., break out into small groups from 5:00-5:30, and enjoy a potluck meal together while continuing small group discussion from 5:30-6:00. The schedule for the first five sessions will be:

• **Session 1** - Where's the Power: In One Book, With Thousands of Interpretations (Scripture, Structure, Context); Leader: Brian Robinson

• **Session 2** - Where's the Power: Who Speaks for God? (The Lectionary) Leaders: Jeremy Langill

• Session 3 - Where's the Power: Made in Whose Image? (Image of God, Pronouns) Leaders: Antonio Gallardo/Terry Moore

• **Session 4** - Where's the Power: Do I Have Any? (Theologies on the margins, Womanist, Liberation, Queer) Leader: Kelly O'Phelan

• Session 5 - Where's the Power: In Love (Grace/unconditional love/how does this drive our work and community forward) Leader: Daniella Baker

Resources for the class will include some of the most up-to-date and insightful podcasts, books, articles, and videos of the day.

Sign ups can be found under the "Sign Up" button on the ASC website. For more information contact Amanda Perez at aperez@allsaints-pas.org or 626.583.5732.

## Small Groups: A Place to Connect, Grow and Serve

"I've learned there's a big difference between 'going to church' and 'being the church' - and I learned it when the members of my small group were there for me. —ASC Small Group Member

All Saints' new and expanded program of small groups will enhance the energy and passion of our larger church by enabling us to get to know each other on a more intimate level.

### Why Small Groups?...

At All Saints, small groups — whether short-term sessions such as a Lenten book groups or on-going gatherings of people with a common interest -- are essential to the life of the church in that they foster and maintain relationships that are personally and spiritually nurturing.

### What Small Groups Mean To Me...

Small groups have become like family for me. They have provided me an opportunity to know others and really see them, to share my story and to be seen. Through our time together, the small groups I have experienced have provided opportunity to celebrate and share in joy as well as to support and be supported. Through them I have been blessed to sustain over time a conversation with others about the important questions and ideas in life. —*Terry Moore, All Saints Parishioner* 

In a small group I can be known and I can know others. We come together for a common purpose and with that focus can be ourselves and interact with others. There is safety there that allows for growth.

—Jenny Berman, New Members Class Small Group Facilitator

Small groups provide a connection with others: a shared experience and opportunity for personal and spiritual growth—the meaning or impact of which may only be revealed over time.

-Nancy Reynolds, Lenten Small Group Facilitator

### How Do I Join?

Sign ups for this new program of small groups will begin on 10/10 online and at the Sign up center on Sundays thereafter.

For more information contact Amanda Perez at aperez@ allsaints-pas.org or 626.583.5732.

### The 2019 Pledge Campaign: Come Together!

# COME FOGETHER

2019

The Giving Office is excited to announce the launch of the 2019 pledge campaign! On Friday, October 5, at the Rectory Reception, and in church on Sunday, October 7, All Saints Church will introduce the campaign theme "Come Together."

As you consider what to pledge in 2019, please know how grateful we all are for your generosity. The Giving Office and church staff can help you decide what to pledge. As we continue preparing our 2019 budget, it is important that everyone sends in their pledges by December 31. This will allow the Vestry to adopt a balanced budget in January, the start of the fiscal year, and help all of our ministries and programs thrive and achieve new and visionary things in the coming year.

The 2019 pledge brochures are now available in the pew racks throughout the church.

You can pledge online here: https://allsaints-pas. org/donate/pledge/.

Contact the Giving Office with questions about pledging and giving to All Saints Church: **Marianne Ryan**, Interim Director of Development and Giving: 626.583.2736 or mryan@allsaints-pas. org or **Roxie Bates**, Assistant for Development and Giving: 626.583.2753 or rbates@allsaints-pas.org.

### First Jazz Vespers of the Season: Denise Donatelli



Sunday, Oct. 14, at 5:00 p.m. in the Chancel. Denise Donatelli is one of today's premiere vocalists, alternating between jazz and adult contemporary with ease. Her last two consecutive albums have received three Grammy® nominations. She has been voted into the Downbeat Critics Poll as Female Vocalist Rising Star for the past three consecutive years, and was named Female Jazz Vocalist of the Year by the Los Angeles Jazz Society. Denise will be joined by Bill Cunliffe, piano; Larry Koonse, guitar; Alex Boneham, bass; and Christian Euman, on drums. Christina Honchell offers a meditation. If you would like to use the elevator for accessibility, please arrive five minutes early. Child care provided for children under 4. Validated parking available in Plaza las Fuentes.

Upcoming Jazz Vespers include the Bill Cunliffe Trio on November 18, the Russell Ferrante

Trio on February 10, and on March 17, The Mahalia Jazz Project - A Tribute to Mahalia Jackson, with Tammy McCann and John Clayton.

Jazz Vespers Information = www.denisedonatelli.com or Melissa Hayes, 626.583.2725 or mhayes@allsaintspas.org.

### Nuns on the Bus: The Tax Justice Truth Tour

The Nuns on the Bus are on the road again — for the first time in two years - to hold members of Congress accountable for their votes on the 2017 Tax Law and the many attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Who we elect matters. The Nuns on the Bus: the Tax Justice Truth Tour is traveling from California to Mar-a-Lago ahead of the 2018 midterms to focus on reasonable revenue for responsible programs. The tour will include 54 events in 21 states over the course of 27 days, traveling to congressional districts where the incumbent chose to support the deceitfully named the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017." The tour kicks off on Monday, October 8, at 6:00 p.m. with a Town Hall for Justice at All Saints Church, Pasadena.

We are honored to be the venue for the launch of this tour! A centerpiece of the event will be the signing of the bus by all attendees following the town hall in the Church - so we can all accompany them and whoeveris at Mar-a-Lago when they arrive will see that you have stood in solidarity with them!

"Last year, Nuns on the Bus stayed in Washington to keep relentless congressional attacks on the common good at bay, but this year we're going on the road to hold members accountable for their votes," said Sister Simone Campbell, SSS, Executive Director of NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice and Leader of Nuns on the Bus. "When Congress passed this hyper-partisan tax plan into law last fall, we knew it was rooted in the fallacy of trickledown economics Now we've seen the results of structuring



tax policy to favor the biggest corporations and the wealthiest individuals in our nation. That's why Nuns on the Bus are going on the road to Mar-a-Lago to expose the lies of this devastating tax law."

"As we travel from coast to coast, we will focus on the cuts to essential services that are consequences of the tax law, which promotes the perpetuation of an unequal, exclusionary distribution of economic benefit," said NETWORK Grassroots Mobilization Specialist Sister Mary Ellen Lacy, DC. "Our nation was founded not in policies that benefit the few, but on the principle of the common good. This is the vision that we need to recover, to reaffirm that our lawmakers must enact policies that invest in our shared future, not ones that threaten our communities and our families. Educating the American people about this law is the way we can move forward in these turbulent times."

For more information on the tour, visit https:// networklobby.org/bus2018/events. For more information on the All Saints event, contact info@allsaints-pas.org or call 626.796.1172. And mark your calendars for Monday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m. and be part of the change we want to see!

### The Sunday Food Ministry

#### by Gail Gunther

Have you ever noticed the cookie table under the oak tree almost every Sunday of the year?

The Sunday Food Table offers a radical and inclusive welcome to all who come to All Saints. Established more than 25 years ago by All Saints Parishioner Nancy Beckham, the food table provides Sunday morning greetings, snacks and sustenance each week to kids and adults looking for a sweet treat and to our less fortunate brothers-and-sisters who depend on the table for a meal with friends. At the same time, it raises money for food projects. As tastes evolve, we are also working to include more varied offerings at the table, including fruit, cheese, vegan and gluten-free items.

The Hunger Ministry consists of five teams—one for each Sunday of the month. In addition, we have a list of substitute members willing to spring forth, as needed. The ministry operates on a donation-only basis. We welcome all donations, from those who are able to give, but are delighted to offer food to everyone who approaches. All net proceeds are directed to food pantries and food

projects. In the past several years, our grantees have included All Saints Monday Morning Hunger Ministry,

Friends InDeed Food pantry, the Pasadena Community Foundation, Foothill Unity Foundation and Rose City Coffee. Interested



in joining us?

PHOTO BY KEITH HOLEMAN

Christine Ersig-Marcus & Jan Cowell at the Food Table We would love to welcome you to this caring, generous, and good-humored ministry on either a regular, or on-call basis. If you bake, please share your talent with our table! Stop by the table on any Sunday to introduce yourself and let us share the Cookie Table story! Questions? Please contact Gail Gunther at tngunther@aol.com, 626.441.3511, or stop by the table.

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

2 – Tuesday, Vestry Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall 4 – Thursday, Senior Saints, 12:30 p.m., Sweetland Hall 5 – Friday, "Come Together" **Pledge Campaign Rectory** Reception, 5:30 p.m., Rectory **Theatre Ministry: Everything** that Never Happened, 8:00 p.m., Theater @ Boston Court 6 – Saturday, Memorial Service for Jim W. White, 1:00 p.m., Church 7 – Sunday, New Member Class Begins, 7:00 p.m., Learning Center 8 – Monday, Nuns on the Bus **Tax Justice Truth Tour**, 6:00 p.m., Church Seeing White (Racial Justice Ministry), 7:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall **12** – Friday, **Not So Bored Game** Night, 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

Memorial Service for Niles Duncan, 1:00 p.m., Church **14** — Sunday, Jazz Vespers: Denise Donatelli, 5:00 p.m., Chancel

Interfaith Study Group, 5:00 p.m., Pasadena Jewish Temple 16 – Tuesday, Vroman's Presents

Anne Lamott, 7:00 p.m., Church 19 – Friday, Theatre Ministry: A

Picture of Dorian Gray, 8:00 p.m., A Noise Within

**20** — Saturday, **Sacred Stillness Retreat**, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m., Church

21 — Sunday, Women's Community Lunch of Compassion,

1:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall **22** — Monday, **Seeing White**,

7:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall

**26** – Friday, **Fiction Fun!**, 7:30 p.m., Guild Room

**26-28** – Friday-Sunday, **Healing of Memories Workshop** with Michael Lapsley, 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Learning Center

### Adult Ed in October, 10:15 a.m. Sundays

- 7 Greg Boyle & Mikala Rahn, Rector's Forum, Forum
  - Parent Culture, Scott Hall 2
  - (4:00 p.m.) The Table: Where's the Power: In One Book, With Thousands of Interpretations, with Brian Robinson, Sweetland Hall

14• Brittany Ferrell, Rector's Forum Forum

- Parent Culture, Scott Hall 2 • (4:00 p.m.) The Table: Where's
- the Power: Who Speaks for God?, with Jeremy Langill, Sweetland Hall

21• *Tena Clark*, Rector's Forum, Forum

- Parent Culture, Scott Hall 2
- (4:00 p.m.) The Table: Where's

the Power: Made in Whose Image?, with Antonio Gallardo and Terry Moore, Sweetland Hall



- Parent Culture, Scott Hall 2
- (4:00 p.m.) The Table: Where's the Power: Do I Have Any?, with Kelly O'Phelan, Sweetland Hall

### **Come Together at the Rectory Reception!**

You are invited to come together with friends and family on Friday, October 5th for our Rectory Reception at the home of Mike and Robin Kinman to launch the 2019 pledge campaign! A delightful evening of community, there will scrumptious hors d'oeuvres, friends old and new, activities and games for children and youth, and an opportunity to join together as we support All Saints with a pledge in 2019.

On the back patio and lawn, children and youth will have a host of activities such as crafts, board games, movies, and maybe even a special dance party and much more!

Don't miss this fun and festive evening for the whole family – RSVP today! So join us on Friday, October 5th, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., at 540 Woodland Road, Pasadena 91106. Valet parking will be provided. All ages are welcome! RSVP to Amanda Perez by Tuesday, October 2nd, at aperez@allsaints-pas.org or call 626.583.2766. See you there!



### Women's Community: Lunch of Empowerment

This year the Women's Community is departing from their annual Lunch of Compassion to offer a Lunch of Empowerment – on Sunday, October 21st, at 1:00 p.m. in Sweetland Hall. Join a panel from The League of Women Voters to: Understand the Propositions. Learn who is putting up the \$\$, and who is backing the candidates. Form an Action Plan – What can you do? The Election is November 6th. Voting is the food of democracy! Get Informed! Get Involved! Cost is \$20. Event proceeds will benefit the League of Women Voters. Scholarships are available. For more information, contact Dorothy Keane at dorothy.keane@gmail.com; Jan Sanders at janinpasadena@gmail.com; or Amanda Perez at aperez@allsaints-pas.org.

