



## **THE ALLIANCE ALERT**

### **March-April 2024**

**The Women's Alliance of the  
Unitarian Church of All Souls, Inc.**



### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**By Christine Goodwin**

January used to seem like the longest month to me, but recently, as I get older, January flies by as fast as other months. And here we are at the beginning of March on the cusp of Spring!

The Women's Alliance will be busy with our usual monthly meetings with interesting speakers. Be aware of varying times of our meetings as we work with FastBreak Sports to determine time in Reidy Friendship Hall. Take note of the Outings coming up, and if you have ideas, please send them to Sandra Fisher, Chair of Program-Outings.

Last summer we started Pop Ups, which are impromptu gatherings for various events in NYC and opportunities for members to meet and share some fun. We are looking forward to doing Pop Ups again over the summer, but meanwhile if anyone has an idea, please let me know and we'll send out an email with details.

The Women's Alliance is forming two Task Forces to plan for the future. One will be about our fundraising activities and planning for another Raffle and some sort of Holiday Sale event. The second will be to formulate ways in which WA members can help with some of the many needs in our community, such as helping immigrants, tutoring, etc. I will be sending out emails with details and asking members to sign onto these committees.

Please note the details further on in The Alert about Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> when my son, All Souls RE Graduate Alex Goodwin, will be talking about his experience in designing the new All Souls website. It turned out to be much more work than he bargained for when he offered to get involved after I asked his opinion last year on what could be done to improve the website. What he discovered when he started to dig will curl your hair! He worked with Anne Bradley, Pamela Patton and Lois Coleman to refine the website. Don't miss this! Of course, I'm prejudiced :-)

At our February Annual Meeting, our new officers were installed — Anne Bradley, Vice President; Sally Turner, Assistant Treasurer; Barbara Reed, Recording Secretary (monthly meetings); and Mary Dugan, Recording Secretary (Executive meetings).

Many thanks to retiring officers Karen Steele for her years as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, Winnie Olsen as Vice President, and Jane Colvin as Chair of the Finance Committee.

I encourage all of you to get involved with a committee — Luncheons, Outings, Finance, Investment, Hospitality, Audit and Tax, The Alert, Membership, Communications, Fundraising, Advocacy, and Special Interest Groups (SIGs) including Music, Films, Theater, and the Women's Reading Group.



## WOMEN'S ALLIANCE UPCOMING EVENTS

*NOTE ON EVENT PARTICIPATION: The Executive Board encourages all members to participate in Women's Alliance activities. However, as some outings require the use of staircases, walking long distances or crossing uneven terrains, any member with physical limitations should use good judgment before registering. The Board asks that such members speak with the outing leader and consult the visit site to determine how able they will be to get around; further, it is strongly recommended that they bring a companion to help them. Because outing leaders are responsible to a group of attendees, they cannot assist an individual on an outing, unless, of course, an emergency arises. By participating in WA outings, attendees agree they have read this statement and will follow its recommendations.*

**Thursday, March 7th, 11 a.m.**

### **WA Monthly Outing at Museum of Arts and Design (MAD)**

"Taylor Swift: Storyteller" is a career-spanning look at the artistic reinventions of the 34-year-old, 14-time Grammy Award-winning musician, self-made billionaire, and powerful activist. Concert attire by couture fashion houses are featured along with props, jewelry, ephemera, and projections of music videos. Lunch afterwards. Meet at 11 a.m. at MAD, Columbus & 59th. You must purchase timed tickets, \$20 (normally \$25): [madmuseum.org/exhibition/taylor-swift-storyteller](http://madmuseum.org/exhibition/taylor-swift-storyteller). Outing leader: Sandra Fisher, [sfisher535@aol.com](mailto:sfisher535@aol.com), 646-675-3608. Let her know to expect you.

**Wednesday, March 20th, 12:45-3 p.m.**

### **WA Membership Meeting in Reidy Friendship Hall**

Lunch (BYO), socializing, a business meeting, and a speaker. We'll provide coffee, tea, and a sweet. Diane Burrows, immediate past president and current change agent with the League of Women Voters of the City of New York, will speak about the three pillars of civic engagement: voting, lobbying and advocacy, and community involvement.



**Wednesdays, March 27th-April 24th, 12:45 p.m.**

### **Music Special Interest Group (SIG) at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center**

Juilliard's Wednesdays at One concerts are free with open seating. No ticket is required. WA member Mary Geissman plans to attend all the concerts listed below. If you wish to join her, meet in the lobby of Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall (Broadway & 65th Street) at 12:45 p.m. Lunch following the one-hour concert at a nearby restaurant, if you wish. For more information, contact Mary at 646-238-7280, [mjgeissman@gmail.com](mailto:mjgeissman@gmail.com).

March 27th — Percussion Ensemble

April 10th — Lab Orchestra (Stravinsky, Webern, Bartók)

April 3rd — Vocal Arts

April 24th — Pre-College Chamber Music

**Monday, April 8th, 3:45-6 p.m.**

### **WA Monthly Outing at the Salmagundi Club**

The American Watercolor Society will host the AWA International Exhibition, one of the longest-running annual art exhibitions in the U.S. It features work on paper by artists from around the world in a variety of water soluble media, including watercolor, gouache, and acrylic. Free. Meet at 3:45 p.m. at the historic Salmagundi Club, 27 Fifth Ave., to see the exhibit from 4-6 p.m. The Salmagundi's permanent collection can be viewed beforehand. Dinner at a near-by restaurant afterwards if there is interest. Outing leader: Carol Magai, [carol.magai@liu.edu](mailto:carol.magai@liu.edu). Please let her know you are coming.

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**Friday & Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 8 p.m.**

**"The Vagina Monologues" at Fourth Universalist Society**

WA member Mary Geissman sends word that the 4thUArtivists ([4thuartivists.com](http://4thuartivists.com)) — long promoted by our beloved late WA member Betty McCollum — will be ending their 15-year run. But they will go out with a bang in a production of V's (formerly Eve Ensler's) brilliant, iconic, and updated "The Vagina Monologues" to benefit Women Deliver ([womendeliver.org](http://womendeliver.org)) and VDay's City of Joy ([vday.org/city-of-joy/about-city-of-joy](http://vday.org/city-of-joy/about-city-of-joy)). 160 Central Park West @ 76<sup>th</sup> Street. 929-266-8420. More information to come.



**Sunday, April 14th, 1-2 p.m.**

**The Story of the All Souls Website: Adventures in web development in Reidy Friendship Hall**

Professional website designer and All Souls R.E. Alumnus Alex Goodwin (Christine Goodwin's son!) will talk about the true and sometimes strange encounters he has made in the process of creating All Souls' new website ([allsoulsnyc.org](http://allsoulsnyc.org)). These include analytics, the process by which you the website user help determine the ongoing development of the site. There will be a Q&A.

**Wednesday, April 17th, 12-2 p.m**

**WA Membership Meeting in Reidy Friendship Hall**

Lunch (BYO), socializing, a business meeting, and a speaker. We'll provide coffee, tea, and a sweet. Anthony V. Nuccio, Detective Specialist at Crime Prevention & Digital Communication Officer of the NYPD's 19th Precinct, will talk about how we can keep ourselves safe and secure. Detective Nuccio has served the Upper East Side through the 19th Precinct since 2014.



**Sunday, April 28th, 1-3 p.m.**

**WA Spring Event in Reidy Friendship Hall**

Diane Taraz, a noted singer, songwriter, author and researcher of early New England history, will lead us in an exploration of women's history through folk songs. Even when women left few written records, we can learn much about them through the music that they used to speed their work, sing a child to sleep, or ease an aching heart.

**Women's Reading Group (SIG)**

**First Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**

For more information, contact: [christina.black50@gmail.com](mailto:christina.black50@gmail.com)

March 5: *The Transit of Venus* by Shirley Hazzard

April 2: *Waking Lions* by Ayelet Gundar

May 7: *Birds of America* by Lorrie Moore

June 4: *Joan: A Novel of Joan of Arc*, by Katherine Chen

## MEMBER PROFILE: VICTORIA KIMBROUGH

By Sally Turner

Victoria Kimbrough recently spoke on the phone from her home in Mexico. She was waiting for the septic tank locator/cleaner to arrive. For some reason I found this amusing — such a grounding (pardon the pun!) activity for what I imagine to be an exotic life living several months a year in a foreign country.

We talked for about an hour and barely scratched the surface of her very interesting life filled with turning points. What struck me about her story is her sense of adventure and openness to seizing opportunities.



When I mentioned her soft, slightly Southern accent she chuckled and said, “Oh is it still noticeable? I grew up in the Appalachian Mountains of Eastern Tennessee.” Born in the middle of WWII, Victoria was 11 when life as she had known it in Knoxville, Tenn. took a dramatic turn. Her father, a physician, had come home from the war and needed treatment, and the best psychiatric care at the time was at the Menninger Clinic in Topeka, Kan. While her mother, also trained as a physician, completed her residency so she could support the family while Victoria’s father tried to recover, Victoria and her three siblings went back to her mother’s hometown in rural Tennessee to live with her grandparents. For Victoria, it was a wonderful experience.

In their town of about 2,000 (many of whom were relatives), everybody knew everybody, kids went to school with kids they played with, and they rambled outside all day on their own while adults kept a collective eye on them. The small community was very religious and Victoria jokes that she’s been blessed as a Methodist, a Baptist, and a Presbyterian. Her grandparents were kind and caring, and her grandfather was THE country doctor who took care of everything from croup to childbirth, and even, sometimes, animals.

After her mother completed her residency, the whole family moved to Lawrence, Kan. to be closer to her father. Suddenly Victoria was entering a high school that was larger than the entire town in Tennessee. Although the school was racially integrated, she rarely encountered Black students; they were all in their own classes with their own teachers. This was what integration meant in those days. Victoria was well-accepted and made lots of new friends, some of whom she still sees to this day. Sometimes, though, people made fun of her accent and referred to her as a hillbilly.

During her junior year at the University of Kansas, she was able to study in France. Once again, everything changed! She loved French and France, so after graduation she moved there for two years to study French and indulge her travel bug with friends, making her way all over Europe and Asia. (Picture a VW bus full of young women going down the winding roads of the Himalayas!)

Back in Kansas to get a graduate degree in French, she made money by teaching ESL — another Con’t . . .

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turning point. New degree in hand, she did get a job teaching French, but an opportunity to teach ESL in Mexico with USAI defined her adult career. She entered a competition to design a curriculum for the entire network of USAI schools and won! To implement the new curriculum, she was asked to travel all over Central and South America, and eventually throughout Europe and Japan.

By now she had a publisher in New York who asked her to come and work on another series of books about teaching ESL. She also worked with the New School to create a curriculum for students intending to become ESL teachers.

By 1989, Victoria felt a need for more spirituality in her life and found it at All Souls — another turning point. On her first Sunday she went downstairs to Reidy Friendship Hall and found a volunteer fair. She signed up to lead a Brownie Troop of girls in need who lived in the Hotel St. George, the very same place her mother had lived while completing her residency. She stuck with the troop for 10 years and reconnected with Lew (Louis Mitchell), an English teacher and artist, who became her life partner in 1991. They had been professional colleagues back in the 1970s in Mexico, and they discovered they still shared a love of the country. Upon her retirement in 2006 they bought a home there, where they spend the winters. What a wonderful life!



## BEYOND THE WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

Joined the ushering team? Working on a church project? Serving on a UUA committee? WA members have always been involved in important roles at All Souls and in the larger Unitarian community. Please let WA President Christine Goodwin know if you have a new designation or service activity at the church or the UUA or if you know of another WA member who does. Here is a partial list of WA members with new roles and honors at All Souls:

- **Christina Bellamy** joined the UUWF's Clara Barton Sisterhood. (See Pages 8-9)
- **Marjory Friedlander** and **Rachel Ziemba** have been elected to serve as Deacons.
- **Christine Goodwin** and **Dixie Goss** will serve on the five-person Interim Search Committee that will help place our new interim minister.
- **Dixie Goss** has been named first vice president of the Board of Trustees.
- **Sumi Kubota** was honored with this year's Deacons' Award. (See Page 7)
- **Judith Moldover** has been reelected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees.
- **Pamela Patton** will soon be ordained and assume the title of Assistant Minister at All Souls. (See Page 10)
- **Karen Steele** will co-lead two upcoming open meetings on the UUA's General Assembly 2024. The first, on March 3rd, will be an overview of GA and the role of delegates, and the second will be devoted to the proposed revision of Article II. The meetings are sponsored by veteran All Souls GA delegates, the Deacons, and the Women's Alliance.



## THE 2024 WOMEN'S ALLIANCE AWARD

**Holly Atkinson is honored for achievements in human rights and social justice.**

*Note: The Women's Alliance Award, which honors achievement in social justice, human rights, and Unitarian Universalist activism, was presented for the second time on February 4th. For the first time, it was presented to a member of the Women's Alliance.*

*Speaking from the chancel at All Souls' 2024 Annual Meeting in February, Carol Kirkman, chair of the WA's Award Committee, explained why the committee had chosen to honor Dr. Holly Atkinson, MD, FACP. Here are Carol's words:*

I am honored to present Dr. Holly Atkinson with the 2024 Women's Alliance Award. Among Holly's many achievements:

- She helped launch the Physicians Against Human Trafficking initiative of the American Medical Women's Association.
- She founded and directed the Mount Sinai Human Rights Program, where asylum seekers who have suffered from human trafficking receive forensic medical evaluations.
- She was a director and chair of Physicians for Human Rights, a Nobel Peace Prize-winning organization.
- She mentors medical students and young physicians, encouraging them to become change agents who address health disparities and social injustice.
- She is now working with students at the CUNY School of Medicine to launch a second Asylum Clinic.
- Among her many contributions to All Souls, she established a medical partnership with Monday Night Hospitality to facilitate participants' health screenings.

On behalf of the WA, I am honored to present Holly with this Award to recognize her lifelong achievements in human rights and social justice. Please join me in congratulating Holly and wishing her continued success in all her endeavors.

*Carol Kirkman (left)  
and Holly Atkinson at  
the 2024 WA Award  
presentation.  
(Judy Staples)*



## THE 2024 DEACONS' AWARD

### Sumi Kubota cited for 'numerous contributions' to All Souls

*Note: Everyone who attends Women's Alliance and All Souls events in person knows that WA member Sumi Kubota works tirelessly and quietly to help make things run smoothly. She also gives community events an extra touch of grace — not only helping to set up, continuously refresh, and clean up, but also adding artistic and cheerful decorations. So it is no surprise that when President of the Deacons Miles Chapin presented the 2024 Deacons' Award to Sumi, he went off script, adding "as everyone knows ..." and other truisms. ("I couldn't help myself!" he admitted afterwards.) Sumi bowed deeply to a standing and cheering crowd as she accepted the award at February's All Souls Annual Meeting. Here is Miles' reading text for the 2024 Deacons' Award:*

The Deacons' Award is presented to an All Souls member who has done volunteer service for five or more years and whose service in one or more areas of church life or church programs has been exemplary — service that may be relatively unnoticed by the general congregation. The Deacons founded this award to honor persons who have not received sufficient recognition for their dedication and the time and effort they have expended.

This year's recipient of the Deacons' Award is Sumi Ashley Kubota.

- A member since 2021, Sumi has been volunteering [at All Souls] in a wide range of capacities for nearly 20 years. She has been involved with Monday Night Hospitality, ushering, and served as translator for the Rev. Richard Leonard's numerous Japanese weddings. She has worked extensively on the Garden project. More recently, she has served as the Welcome Table coordinator, and has been the floral arranger for many events at All Souls and provided general decoration around the building. She has also been assisting with Coffee Hour.

For her very numerous contributions to the life of our congregation and our outreach programs, the Deacons gratefully present the 2024 Deacons' Award to Sumi Ashley Kubota.

*Miles Chapin and  
Sumi Kubota at the  
Deacons' Award  
presentation.  
(Judy Staples)*



## THE CLARA BARTON SISTERHOOD

### Christina Bellamy is inducted into the exclusive UUWF group

*Note: Christina Bellamy was inducted into the Clara Barton Sisterhood of the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation at the WA Annual Meeting in February. Fewer than 800 women around the world have been honored by the Sisterhood since it began in 1979, and the WA Executive Board approved Christina's nomination in May 2023. Many WA members contacted the Alert to make sure her citation would be published here, and it appears below, slightly abridged for space. Christina has been involved with the life of our church for over 40 years, and her contributions to All Souls and to our community are legion; the citation includes only a partial list:*

The Clara Barton Sisterhood was created by the UUWF to honor UU women aged 80 or over and to recognize their contributions to the life of our religious association and women's organizations. The members of the Women's Alliance voted to nominate Christina Bellamy to receive the Clara Barton Sisterhood award in 2024 in grateful recognition of her years of strong support and leadership of All Souls in so many ways.

- She was elected by the All Souls congregation to serve on the Board of Trustees for two consecutive three-year terms, and during her tenure, Board members elected her to serve as Board President. Christina has also been a member of the All Souls Board of Deacons, where she was president, for two years. She coordinated Anniversary Sunday events for longtime members of All Souls, served on the Nominating Committee, and chaired the committee that commissioned a large bronze bas relief memorial plaque honoring the former and much-loved minister of All Souls, F. Forrester Church. The plaque now hangs on a wall of the sanctuary.
- Christina is a founding member and first president of the Heart and Soul Charitable Fund, and she has been a longtime member of the Board of Managers of the Annie Eaton Society (AES), which supports indigent women.
- For 18 years, Christina taught Sunday School with the All Souls Religious Education Program, and was also a member of the Adult Education Committee with the Rev. David Robb. She field-tested "Blacks in a White Denomination" from the Unitarian Universalist Association adult curriculum.
- Christina's services to All Souls have extended far beyond its walls: she represented All Souls at meetings of the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Organization NYC, and as a six-time delegate at the UU General Assembly (twice as leader of the All Souls delegation).
- As a member of the Church's Social Concerns Committee, she volunteered (sometimes as host) at Monday Night Hospitality, a weekly dinner at All Souls welcoming all hungry people who wish to attend. She was also an evening chaperone at the Yorkville Women's Homeless Shelter.
- Christina tutored children at an NYC welfare hotel and later, when the hotel closed, was a co-leader of the Brownie/Girl Scout troops supported by the Children's Task Force of All Souls.
- In the late 1980s, as chair and co-chair of All Souls' AIDS Task Force, she participated in the March on Washington.
- Christina has occasionally played a prominent role at All Souls Sunday-morning worship services, delivering welcoming remarks, serving as an usher, and serving coffee at the post-service coffee hour. She is also a lifetime member of the All Souls Historical Society and served as its president for two terms.
- Christina's interests extend to music. She has been a valued patron of Musica Viva NY (the

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Nonprofit 501C3 arts organization formed by the acclaimed All Souls choir for its concert series-with orchestra). And she enjoys singing with the All Souls Community Choir.

*WA President Christine Goodwin and Christina Bellamy (right) at the Clara Barton Sisterhood award presentation. (Susan Hoehn)*



### Christina's acceptance speech

*Note: Christina spoke after receiving the award and thanked the WA for recommending her for this recognition. Most of her words were devoted to other All Souls women who have inspired her over her 40+ years at the church. Here is a slightly abridged version of her speech:*

I am truly honored to receive this award for my contribution to the All Souls UU church community, and, by extension, volunteering, learning, and sharing information about external communities and programs initiated by All Souls women. Their involvement in the church inspired and piqued my conviction that communities are healthiest when their hat and heart spills out the doors and attracts others' attention.

Interaction with several WA members and feeling welcome to participate helped solidify my belief in what makes a church a community — volunteering, learning, sharing information, becoming a stakeholder, and engaging in multiple things that made this church a community.

AND — with great appreciation — it is Important to name a few women (among many others) of All Souls who inspired and influenced me to be at this point in my life a member of All Souls and the Women's Alliance.

- **Mary-Ella Holst**, Director, Religious Education Program for children
- **Marietta Moskin**, All Souls representative to the Yorkville Common Pantry, which reduces hunger and promotes dignity, health and self-sufficiency for homeless people. It has grown into New York City's most innovative emergency food provider, offering meals and support services to more than 500,000 visitors annually. [nycommonpantry.org/home/history](https://nycommonpantry.org/home/history)
- **Yorkville Women's Shelter** (precursor to Project Dignity). [nycommonpantry.org/project-dignity](https://nycommonpantry.org/project-dignity)
- **Angie Utt and Lorraine Allen**, who served as President and Archivists (All Souls Historical Society), preserving Unitarian Church of All Souls history. [allsoulsuunyc.wixsite.com/history](https://allsoulsuunyc.wixsite.com/history)
- **Anne Gronningsater**, social justice advocate, e.g., the "Crossing 96 Street" project to engage with "other" communities beyond
- **Inez Miller**, feeding program volunteer, Friday Soup, precursor to Monday Night Hospitality
- **Sandra Mitchell Caron** (UUA/Denominational involvement) — Served on UUA's Metropolitan New York District Board and later was elected to the UUA Board of Trustees. First Woman Moderator of General Assembly, and when her term expired, represented the UUA at the United Nations Conference on Women in Kenya in 1985. She also presided over the reorganization of the Clara Barton Camp into the Barton Center for Diabetes Education, Inc. [bartoncenter.org](https://bartoncenter.org)

## **WA MEMBER SOON TO BE ORDAINED**

### **Pamela Patton will become All Souls' Assistant Minister.**

*Note: At the 2024 All Souls Annual Meeting, which was held in February in the sanctuary and online, the congregation voted to ordain WA Member Pamela Patton as a minister. The ordination ceremony is likely to occur in the fall. While she currently serves as All Souls' Director of Congregational Ministries, Pamela will, upon ordination, assume the job title of Assistant Minister and the lifetime title of Reverend. In her Closing Benediction at the Annual Meeting, she spoke from the chancel about seeing well, delivering a lesson through the story of her journey towards ministry, and focusing on her years at All Souls. At times she spoke directly to several individuals, including All Souls' Senior Minister Galen Guengerich. Here are her words:*

In closing I'd like to say thank you to all of you, especially Cherie Henderson and Miles Chapin for their generosity in serving as co-chairs of my ordination study group. You are extraordinarily wise and industrious comrades.

I thank you all for inviting me into the profession of ministry with your trust and your love.

David Brooks writes in *How to Know a Person*, "Seeing someone well is a powerfully creative act. There is something in being seen that brings forth growth ... If you see great potential in me, I will probably see great potential in myself." You as a congregation have done that for me, you've seen potential in me.

I want to thank one person in particular for bringing forth growth in me, for helping me see potential in myself. Galen, thank you. Before I ever thought of pursuing ministry, Galen helped me prepare to officiate at my best friend's memorial service. She was in her mid-40s. A large and motley group of friends and family wanted to participate in the service, some of whom my friend would not have wanted to take part, and others who were unlikely to show up sober. I was overwhelmed and bereft, and Galen plodded through the chaos with me. Thanks to Galen's guidance, this experience catalyzed my turn towards ministry.

Years later when I was considering seminary, I asked for Galen's help again with this decision. While in seminary I did my internship at All Souls, where I was responsible for pastoral care, and Galen suggested I try out the role of Worship Associate on a Sunday. Oh no no, I explained I was interested in chaplaincy, and I wanted nothing to do with worship on this side of the sanctuary. Galen encouraged me to try, and though I didn't sleep for a minute the night before my first service, that Sunday afternoon I had grown into an expanded view of myself as a minister.

A few summers later Galen suggested I lead a Sunday service. Deliver a sermon for this erudite community? That was surely beyond my ability. Again, he saw potential I could not see in myself. I spent weeks drafting about 40 pages of material, mostly references and quotes. Galen and I sat down to take a look at my first attempt at a sermon, and he circled a paragraph which was a throwaway reflection in my own words. He said, "This is the heart of your sermon." In that moment I discovered I had a voice I hadn't heard before.

In the spring of 2020, at the height of our fear about the pandemic, an All Souls member was dying of Covid in the hospital and we couldn't visit her. We arranged for a nurse to hold a phone next to the

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patient so Galen and I could join her large family online to say goodbye and offer prayers. It was a delicate situation that called for expert leadership. We both knew her well, but I assumed Galen would take the lead. It would have been easier and safer for him to handle it, but instead he recommended I take the lead. Again, he helped me see my potential.

Galen, thank you for calling me into a ministry beyond what I could see for myself. You have transformed my life among so many others.

May we all help each other see potential beyond what we can see for ourselves, as individuals and as a community. May we offer each other trust and love. May we grow together.

Peace be with you.

*Pamela Patton delivers  
the Closing Benediction  
at the 2024 All Souls  
Annual Meeting.  
(Alliance Alert staff)*



## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Greta Andrews  
Nina Bernstein  
Odette Janavel  
Suzy Lawrence  
Robin Moulds  
Corinne Standish

Also:

- The new WA website is up! [allsoulsnyc-womensalliance.org](https://allsoulsnyc-womensalliance.org)
- Please let us know if you would like to contribute to the Alert, at [alynnewesson@gmail.com](mailto:alynnewesson@gmail.com). The deadline for the May-June issue is April 1.

## PHOTO GALLERY OF RECENT ACTIVITIES

WA Member Marilyn Reagan spoke at our January membership meeting in Reidy Friendship Hall. Her topic, a horrific murder within her own family, was the subject of the New York Times-bestselling book "At Mother's Request" that was displayed on a table behind her. Marilyn talked about the profound effects the killing had on surviving members of her family, and we found out that two All Souls congregants were involved in solving the crime.  
(Susan Hoehn)



Sandra Fisher reports: We had a great turnout to hear Ingrid Krinke, WA member and docent par excellence, take us through an exquisite exhibition of the Meiji Modern period at the Asia Society on January 4th. The photo is taken in front of the stunning "The Morning Sea" (1915), an embroidered silk on silk which left us in awe of this handcraft art.

L to r: Mami Nonoguchi (friend of Corrine Standish), Mary Geissman, Holly Drew, Sally Turner, Colette Mackey, Barbara Reed, Gail Rodney, Corrine, Victoria Kimbrough, Martina Leonard, Ingrid Krinke (Leader/Docent), MaryAnn Van Osdol, Susan Hoehn, Susan Schwarz, Sandra Fisher.



Susan Schwarz led a WA Monthly Outing to the New-York Historical Society on February 22.

L to r: Susan Schwarz, Anne Bradley, Lois Coleman, Carol Magai, Ingrid Krinke, Chris Goodwin, Sandra Fisher. Alice Clark attended the outing and took the photo.

Roberta Renard arranged for Broadway and screen actress Jessica Hecht (“Breaking Bad,” “Friends”) to deliver the WA’s annual Angie Utt Lecture on Women in America Culture.

Jessica addressed a large, rapt audience on February 25<sup>th</sup> in Reidy Friendship Hall, focusing on the inspiring work of The Campfire Project ([campfire-project.org](https://campfire-project.org)), the nonprofit she co-founded that promotes arts- based wellness in refugee spaces around the world. The WA’s Angie Utt Fund made a \$500 donation to the nonprofit.  
(Susan Hoehn)



## 2024 WOMEN’S ALLIANCE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Beginning February 15, 2024

*Note — the slate is presented to membership in October, voted on in November, and it takes office in February. Officers are elected to two-year terms and may serve for two terms. Per the bylaws, officers must be members of The Unitarian Church of All Souls.*

**President** — Christine Goodwin, second year of second term

**Vice President** — Anne Bradley, first year of first term

**Recording Secretary (for monthly meetings)** — Barbara Reed, first year of first term

**Recording Secretary (for Executive Board meetings)** — Mary Dugan, first year of first term

**Corresponding Secretary** — Carol Schneider, second year of first term

**Treasurer** — Mary Geissman, second year of first term

**Assistant Treasurer (and Chair of the Investment Committee)** — Sally Turner, first year of first term

**Chair of the Finance Committee** — *Needs new Chair.*

**Chair of the Membership Committee** — Linda Floyd

**Co-Chair of the Program Committee — Outings** — Sandra Fisher

**Co-Chair of the Program Committee — Luncheons** — Heli Blum

**Chair of the Communications Committee** — Lois Coleman

**Executive Board Members Emerita** — Sandra Ekberg, Mary-Ella Holst, Maureen Marwick



## Women's Alliance Committees

**Auditor and Tax Preparation** — Gerda Artes

**The Alliance Alert** — Alynne Wesson, Editor; Peggy Montgomery, Copy Editor; Christina Black, Managing Editor, Production

**Finance Committee** — *Needs New Chair*; Carol Kirkman and Peggy Montgomery, members. Chris Goodwin (*ex officio*) and Mary Geissman (*ex officio*)

**Investment Committee** — Sally Turner, Chair; Marsha Wineburgh, Jane Colvin and Anne Bradley, members. Chris Goodwin (*ex officio*) and Mary Geissman (*ex officio*)

**Membership Committee** — Linda Floyd, Chair; Linda Becker and Anne Brewer, members

**Outings Committee** — Sandra Lotz Fisher, Chair; Alix-Marie Hall, Susan Hoehn, Carol Magai, Susan Schwarz, Victoria Kimbrough, and Maureen Marwick members.

**Luncheons Program Committee** — Heli Blum, Chair; Anne Brewer, Jane Colvin, Holly Drew, Sandra Ekberg, Joan Flesch, Orin Kotula, Barbara Reed

**Communications Committee** — Lois Coleman, Chair; Linda Floyd, Sandra Lotz Fisher, Alynne Wesson, members.

**Fundraising ad hoc Committee** — Chris Goodwin, Sandra Fisher, Sandra Ekberg, Joan Flesch, Anne Brewer, Michelle Boston, Rita Frank members.

**WA Award Committee** (formed December 2021) — *Needs new members.*

**Hospitality Committee** — Joyce Elderfield, Chair; Sumi Kubota, Anne Brewer

**Nominating Committee 2024** — TBD

### Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Cinema — Joyce Elderfield, Alix-Marie Hall

Play Readings — Sandra Ekberg

Music — Mary Geissman

Women's Reading Group — Christina Black

### Annual WA Events

Welcome Back Party — September 26, 2023

Holiday Party (members only) — December 13, 2023

Angie Utt Lecture — February 25, 2024

Spring Event — April 28, 2024

#### *Alliance Alert Staff*

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