



All Souls staff members have been asked repeatedly how they see the decision to move or stay affecting their programs. The following statement is based on close-up day-to-day knowledge and experience of the functions and the internal workings of a program.

Kate Starr

YOUTH DIRECTOR

When talking with the youth and young adults who have returned in the 8 years I've been at All Souls about the proposed move to downtown, our discussion sounds like the title of a good country-western song – “All My Exes.”

First, we're EXcited! It's the nature of the younger generation to like new EXperiences and to be courageous about moving into the unknown.

We look forward to EXpanding our community. More room means more friends and more opportunities to EXamine our assumptions and EXplore our interior worlds in comparison and contrast with others. We like to EXperiment with the boundaries of our comfort zones and stretch them beyond previously perceived limitations.

Finally, we want to EXpress our faith in a wider community. Taking our place among the large downtown churches and becoming a part of the Tulsa skyline is appealing to us. While we are humble and feel little need to impose our views on others, we believe ours is a welcoming, inclusive, open, and encouraging faith that would be appealing to more young people if they only knew more about it.

(Personally, as a middle-aged adult who has found a great amount of contentment in my current phase of life, I find the proposition a bit EXhausting. But this decision is not about me. It is about future generations and the longevity of this life-changing, life-saving faith in Tulsa, in Oklahoma, in America, in the global community.)

So for all of these reasons, I'm putting my X in the box marked YES. AND I love All Souls and the people that fill it up, and I will support with all my heart the will of the people as it is determined on November 20.

