

January 19, 2021
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PHILIP-EYE

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GET READY FOR MISSION DAY 2021!



No matter what else is happening in the world, the gospel calls us to feed the hungry, care for the hurting, and welcome the stranger. Our annual Mission Day helps us focus on this call. This year, the pandemic means we can't do things quite the same as usual, but we will have a variety of activities that connect us with mission partners and with each other in safe ways. On **Saturday, February 13**, Mission Day will offer an opportunity to come together in a drive-through event for

donations to fill the boxes for women at The Women's Home of Houston, which will be given out at Easter.

The Women's Home in a long-time mission partner of St. Philip that builds communities that strengthen women and support families as they reclaim their stability. They have four unique programs: a residential treatment and transitional housing program, two permanent supportive housing programs, and a collaborative service center that helps to prevent and end homelessness in our community.

The Easter boxes are filled with useful items such as toiletries, notebooks, and socks. A full list of items being collected for the **February 13** event will be available soon. Much like our fall drive-through events, St. Philipians will be able to drive through and hand off donations in a safe, contactless way.

While we cannot gather in groups to do hands-on projects this year, we can use the opportunity to learn more about mission projects and mission partners. The Mission Committee will be providing a list of resources—websites, videos, and the like—that highlight the good things various mission partners are doing, and that provide insight into issues like homelessness and hunger in our community. Links to these resources will be coming soon to the Mission page on the St. Philip website, and they can be accessed on **February 13** or whenever you choose.

Another mission education opportunity will be in the Church and Society class on Sundays in February. On **February 14**, David Fox will talk about his experiences with Living Waters for the World, which helps provide clean water systems to communities in places like the Yucatan. On **February 21**, Rev. Dr. Rose Niles and Rev. Kallie Pitcock will share what is going on at Austin Seminary, and on **February 28**, Rev. Linda McCarty, President and CEO of Faith in Practice, will talk about the organization's medical mission.

Through education and through doing, we can open ourselves to following Christ's call to do his work in the world. We hope to see you on Mission Day!

February Birthdays

Day	First Name	Last Name
1	Nan	Schissler
1	Brandon	Steele
1	Alex	Semler
1	Caryn	Bahruth
2	Walter	Baker
2	Dorothy	Murphey
2	Karen	Winship
2	Allison	Hooker
4	John	Lindsay
4	Claudia	Wilkinson
4	Mark	Young
4	Steven	Lawson
5	Beverly	Baker
5	Gay	Van Osdall
5	Gary	Willis
5	Susan	Lange
6	Victoria	Lewis

Day	First Name	Last Name
7	Ava	Arlinghaus
8	Susan	Leonard
9	Jonathan	Martin
10	George	White
11	Oak	Kim
11	William	Holden
11	Jamie	Benard
11	Adam	Garner
15	Randall	Swanson
15	Molly	Vestal
16	Martha	Red
16	Elizabeth	Hadaway
18	Velma	Guy Tolbert
18	Jonathan	Davis
18	Julia	Fox
18	Grace	Nenna

Day	First Name	Last Name
19	David	Durham
19	Justin	Pitcock
19	Joseph	Webster
21	James	Manley
22	Winfield	Williams
22	Wallace	Pepi
23	Barbara	Gibert
24	Mary Ann	Thomas
25	Tom	Demary
25	Shirley Ann	Frautschi
26	Laura	Perez-Boston
27	Miles	Frey
27	Renee	Wright
28	Suzanne	Kerr

WELCOME NEW MEMBER



The Welcoming & Membership Committee would like to introduce you to our newest member, Liz Williams. Liz had the unique experience of joining our church via Zoom on Sunday, January 17, 2021. She is transferring her membership from First Presbyterian Church, Houston, where she was a lifetime member. Liz comes from a long line of Presbyterians. She is a native Houston and a graduate of St. John's school. Her undergraduate degree is from Vanderbilt University. She then earned an MBA degree from The Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business, Rice University. She has retired from a full-time career in investment management and is now a part-time consultant for a former company.

Liz has been married to Harold Helm for thirty-five years. She has been familiar with St. Philip all of her life and made the decision to follow her sister, Julie Itz, and her husband, David, who joined St. Philip in 2018.

Liz enjoys the St. Philip worship services and appreciates the unique talents of our Music Program. She is a lover of early music and enjoys *Ars Lyrica* which Dr. Matthew Dirst conducts and directs. She also loves gardening and traveling. She is looking forward to the end of COVID-19 so she and Harold can resume taking trips. Liz is also eager to meet St. Philipians in person and attend our worship services.

WELCOME, LIZ!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

December 2020

Stated Session Meeting via Zoom Teleconferencing – December 15, 2020

- Letter of transfer was approved for Brian Webster to St. Peter's United Methodist Church, 20775 Kingsland Blvd., Katy, TX 77450.
- Session approved the following first-Sunday Communion Offerings:
January 2021—Mo Ranch
February 2021—Interfaith Ministries Meals on Wheels
- Session approved the motion which had been referred from the November 17, 2020 Stated Session Meeting to endorse the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763) Act, a bipartisan climate legislation that has been the focus of the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) for several years.

Committee and Council Actions:

- Mission Committee has approved spending up to \$250 from discretionary funds toward Alternative Market, if needed.
- Property Committee has approved spending \$500 for renovation of the rose garden.

John A. Lemen, Clerk of Session

WHO'S ZOOMING WHOM?

A few of the groups at St. Philip continue to meet during this time via Zoom and other video conference services—the session has had meetings, book club, church committees and Church and Society. We even have Sunday Coffee Hour. If you would like to participate in future meetings, please contact the appropriate group's leader.

SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR—Gather with fellow St. Philipians to talk about the sermons, hear about their week and what helped them get through the week. The Coffee Hour begins after the closing voluntary. Email Lorrie Castle at lorrie@saintphilip.net to be added to the list.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. Our next meeting is **February 11** at 7 p.m.; and will be discussing *Catfishing on CatNet* by Naomi Kritzer. Contact Sarah O'Dell for Zoom link – sarah.odell6@gmail.com.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY WITH JOHN WURSTER—A look at the Bible readings for the coming Sunday meets on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. Email John for details and to get on the list – john@saintphilip.net

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP
Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday **via Zoom** at noon. Please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com if you would like to join or know the current material they are discussing.

CHURCH & SOCIETY - St. Philip Church & Society class meets **9:30 a.m. via Zoom - January 24 - Immigration Update: It's Still a Mess ... But is There Hope??** - A discussion about the current status of those seeking asylum to the United States, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, Trans-Pacific Partnership, and other immigration issues. Presented by Nancy Kral - Team Brownsville, Sidewalk School for Asylum Children and Texas Civil Rights Project. **January 31 - Worried About Your Memory? It May Not Be Dementia** - How to tell the difference between normal age-related memory lapses and dementia-related memory lapses and how to maintain good cognitive health. Presented by Jill Thompson, PT - Care Connections Manager, Amazing Place - a faith-based organization, governed and guided by churches. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes—mmcgm63@gmail.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE MEETINGS

All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. The meetings are virtual, and a Zoom link is sent to all P.W. members of each circle. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate, so please email Lorrie to request the link: welcome@saintphilip.net.

Monday Morning Saints

Second Monday of each month—10:00 a.m.

Sunday Circle

3rd Sunday of each month—12:30 p.m.

Thursday Evening Circle

1st Thursday of each month—7:00 p.m.

FAITH OF A CHILD

Join with fellow St. Philipians in a season of discipleship: Kallie Pitcock is facilitating a twice weekly zoom group Sunday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. You can attend the Sunday or the Wednesday session as your schedule permits. Lessons are stand alone, so you can join at any point. Email Kallie to receive more information and updates: kallie@saintphilip.net. The theme of the series is **FAITH OF A CHILD: approaching God with wonder, curiosity, and imagination**. Each week is built around a question submitted by participants or gathered by Kallie. Let us draw together and closer to God asking: how, why, who, when, so what?!



WORSHIP IN PERSON

The Going Forward task force will continue to review on a regular basis the coronavirus data and the recommendations of local health leaders, filtering that information through our particular context at St. Philip.

DAILY PRAYER SERVICE

We invite a limited number of people to attend in-person our 11:00 a.m. daily prayer service (Monday-Saturday). Currently, we have a limit of five persons per day. Please enter the Sanctuary through the large wooden front doors by 10:50 a.m. You may bring your own face-mask or one will be provided. You may sit anywhere in the sanctuary, appropriately distanced from others. The service will conclude by 11:15.

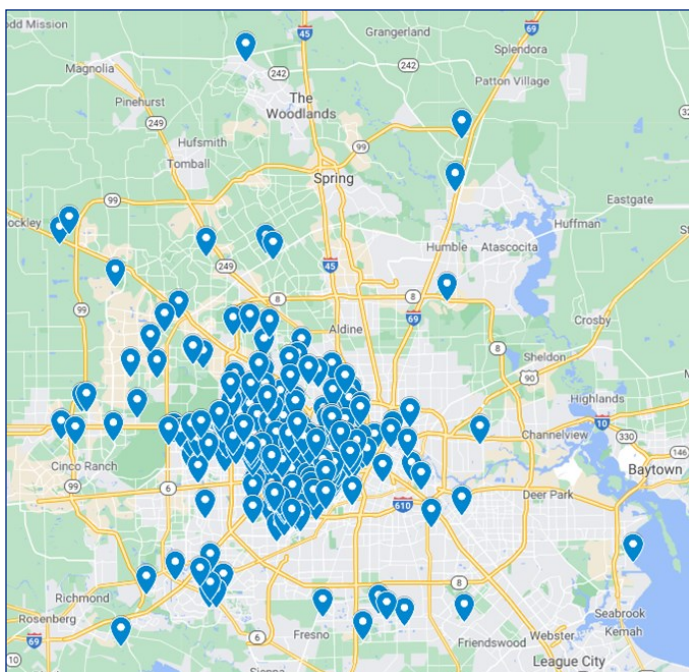
NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERINGS – COMING SOON!



With better weather, the Fellowship Committee is organizing a new initiative for the St. Philip community to gather in small groups. Volunteer facilitators will coordinate neighborhood-based groups to meet monthly or more frequently in outdoor locations where people can meet safely. The Pastoral Resident Kallie Pitcock will train the facilitators with support from the Fellowship Committee. They will ask the facilitators to serve in this role through May 2021.

The Fellowship Committee has prayerfully worked to create groups of members. Each member will be invited to join a pre-determined group which will vary by location and age range and involve around ten households. Groups will meet outdoors wearing masks at safe distances for about an hour or so. The groups can determine for themselves how frequently they want to gather.

As Christians we are called to convene, gather, bear one another's burdens, and walk alongside one another. We hope the Neighborhood Gatherings will be an opportunity to pray for each other and to share our gifts. Experiencing the belonging offered by Christ occurs most often when we can meet in person. We look forward to this next season of fellowship within the St. Philip community!



Each pin on the map above represents a St. Philip household. As you can see, our congregation comes from near and far to worship together.

COMMUNION OFFERINGS: A TRADITION OF GENEROSITY

St. Philip Presbyterian has long celebrated the tradition of receiving a special offering, often mission-focused, on the first Sunday of each month in conjunction with communion. The Mission Committee thanks all who contributed in 2020; these offerings totaled over \$17,000! Many organizations and individuals will be blessed by this generosity, as we seek to follow Christ in reaching out to meet the needs of neighbors near and far.

<i>January:</i> Seafarers Ministry	\$1,736
<i>February:</i> Interfaith Ministries Meals on Wheels,	\$2,114
<i>March:</i> Plant it Forward	\$1,682
<i>April:</i> PCUSA One Great Hour of Sharing	\$2,115
<i>May:</i> NewSpring,	\$1,140
<i>June:</i> PCUSA Pentecost Offering,	\$3,025
(40% to CCSC Back-to-School program)	
<i>July:</i> Amazing Place,	\$1,130
<i>August:</i> Hope and Healing Center,	\$465
<i>September:</i> Austin Presby. Theological Seminary	\$375
<i>October:</i> PCUSA Peacemaking & Global Witness	\$545
<i>November:</i> Living Waters for the World,	\$520
<i>December:</i> PCUSA Christmas Joy Offering,	\$2,395

FEBRUARY COMMUNION OFFERING

Our February communion offering traditionally goes to a hunger-focused organization. This year, donations to the communion offering will support the Meals on Wheels Program of Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston, a long-time mission partner of St. Philip. This program provides home-delivered meals to approximately 4,900 homebound seniors and disabled adults in Houston as well as surrounding counties in our metro area. Meals on Wheels also provides additional food to about a quarter of their most frail and isolated clients. The nutritional support provided by Meals on Wheels helps people stay independent and in their own homes, something that has been especially important in this pandemic year. You can find more information on the Meals on Wheels Program at IMGH at <https://www.imgh.org/meals-wheels-greater-houston/>

You can give securely to the February 2021 Communion Offering through the [MyStPhilip](#) link, or send a check to the church office, with "February Communion Offering" in the memo line.

CHOCOLATES FOR YOUR VALENTINE

Equal Exchange Sale is live at saintphilip.net. Order your chocolates, coffee, teas, fruits and olive oil by **February 1**.



MAIL-IN ORDER FORM—Must Be Received at Church Office by February 1

Coffee	Cost per Unit	Quantity	Total
French Roast	\$7		
Mind Body and Soul	\$7		
Organic Decaf	\$8		
Love Buzz Drip	\$7		
Whole Bean Coffee— French Roast	\$7		
Whole Bean Coffee— Mind Body Soul	\$7		
Whole Bean Coffee—Decaf	\$8		
Organic Baking			
Virgin Olive Oil	\$13		
Semisweet Chocolate Chips	\$4		
Baking Cocoa	\$6		
Organic Tea			
Chai	\$3		
Mint Green	\$3		
Chamomile	\$3		
Jasmine Green Tea	\$3		
Ginger	\$3		
Vanilla Rooibos	\$3		
Tea—Earl Grey, Black or Peppermint	\$3		
Organic Nuts & Fruits			
Tamari Almonds	\$7		
R/S Cashews	\$6		
Chocolates — D/C = Dark Chocolate; M/C = Milk Chocolate			
Hot Chocolate	\$6		
Spicy Hot Chocolate	\$6		
Very—D/C	\$3		
Almond—D/C	\$3		
Orange —D/C	\$3		
Chocolate w/ Coconut Milk	\$3		
Mint Chocolate Crunch—D/C	\$3		
Total Eclipse—D/C	\$3		
Caramel Crunch w/ Sea Salt—D/C	\$3		
Lemon Ginger w/Black Pepper—D/C	\$3		
Panama Extra—D/C	\$3		
Minis—Dark	\$32		
Minis—Milk	\$32		
	Total Due		

Name _____ Cell or Home Phone _____ Email _____



Check No. _____



Cash

If not ordering online, mail order form with check to: St. Philip, 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056 by February 1.

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families—Michael Alexander; Kay Cash; Connie Mayfield and son Robert Mayfield; Pat Lindsay; Mary Margaret Hansen; Doris Cantrell; Mary Benson; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Jan Ostendorf; Laney Miller; Vicki McKay; Marion Takehara; Emily Estill; Travis Calhoun; Mezgebe Gebray; Laramie Becker—cousin of Curt Webb; Brad Davis—nephew of Sam Fisher; Kenneth Allan Henick—father of Anne Marie Benard; Douglas Everhart—brother of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Carol Paine Kendrick—sister of Stephen Paine; Betty Grant—sister-in-law of Eleanor Grant; John Anderson—brother of Tom Anderson; Janet Fisher—sister-in-law of Dan Cleveland; Bessie Johnson—mother of Pat Lindsay; Mac & Beverly Wilson—parents of Butch Wilson; Vera Moore—mother of Chuck Johnson; Kelsey Higgs Gallegos & family—daughter of Nancy Higgs; Dottie Laas and family—cousin of Sam Fisher; Alice Barron—sister-in-law to Beth Atkinson; Nikolaus Malczewskyj—father-in-law of Jane Malczewskyj; John Beck—brother of Nancy Young; Margie Foster—mother of Mark Young; Miriam Kalmbach—aunt of Nancy Higgs; Shirley Boggus—grandmother of Omi Ford; Jimmy Reagan—father of Sarah O'Dell; Dona Rowe—mother of William Rowe; Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers; and Ann Morgan—sister of Dorothy Blackwell.

Homebound—Sue Baier; Walter Baker; Joe Anne Berwick; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolph; Van Rathgeber; Mary Sinderson; Jody Tomforde; and Penny Vieau.

Friends of St. Philippians—Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; Vickie Dunlevy—friend of Nancy Higgs; Paul Ratliff—friend of Jo Helland; Ruth Duncan and Melerie Langford—friends of Curt and Sharon Webb; Cecil Trent—friend of Jane Cooper; Craig Slein—friend of Denise Ferrell and Steve Carmichael; Melinda Penny—friend of Denise Ferrell; David Shebay—friend of Greg Han; Clayton Amacker—friends of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; and Walter "Buddy" Hamman III friend of Robin and Gary Willis.

We also pray for health care workers, first responders, and caregivers; for those who are sick; and for those watch and wait.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email deacons@saintphilip.net.

Pledge payments, communion gifts and other gifts to support the Church can be made anytime through our website (<http://saintphilip.net/>) or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

Next edition: February 2; Deadline January 28—3:00 p.m.

Stay connected with regular emails from the pastors until then.

If you have any comments or suggestions for the Philip-Eye, please send them to: philipeye@saintphilip.net or call 713-622-4807 and ask for Lorrie.



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



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