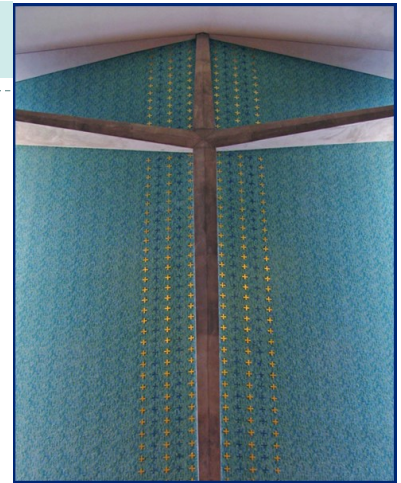




PHILIP-EYE

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. PHILIP
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 15, 2019
Volume 63, Issue 18



Dear Friends,

This week begins our journey through the stewardship season. Our committees have put together their proposed “challenge budget,” a budget that reflects our hope in God’s promise and our joyful belief that God is working in us at St. Philip, and now the Session asks us to prayerfully consider how we can participate in their proposal, not only in terms of financial support but also with our gifts of time, effort, and passion.

As we look through these proposed committee budgets and aims and take stock of our own budgets and commitments, we continue to explore the theme of Living Generously. This is our third year to explore this theme. In 2017, we considered what it means to live generously in different areas of our lives: relationships, money, and worship, among others. Last year, we listened to congregants’ different perspectives about living generously, stewardship, and giving in awe and expectation. This year, we focus in particular on some of the committees of St. Philip, in part because it is their budgets, calendars, and aims that form a substantial portion of the church’s activities and expenses and our participation in these activities reflects our commitment to live generously.

What to Expect:

- ♦ Look for your stewardship packet in the mail this week. Each packet contains a letter, booklet, and pledge card. Read through the booklet for details from each committee about their activities and aims for 2020.
- ♦ Listen to speakers at our 11:00 a.m. service talk about what Living Generously looks like in the context of the work of various committees.
- ♦ Watch the video (link to the website) with interviews and conversations with the congregants about stewardship at St. Philip.
- ♦ Come to our luncheon on October 27, after the 11:00 a.m. service, to learn more and ask questions about the 2020 challenge budget. RSVP to Lorrie if you know you’ll be attending.
- ♦ Bring your pledge cards to church on November 10 as we make our commitments to support the work and worship of the church.

Thank you for your prayers, participation, and passion. God is working at St. Philip – let us all join in the life of St. Philip with hope and enthusiasm for the year ahead.

Sincerely,
Kate Dickinson-Varner
Stewardship Committee, chair

RSVP for lunch by calling the Church Office—
713-622-4807 or emailing welcome@saintphilip.net



Rev. Dr. John W. Wurster
Pastor, Head of Staff

Rev. Keatan King
Associate Pastor

Rev. Omar Rouchon
Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Samuel Lanham III
Pastor Emeritus

Dr. Randall Swanson
Director of Music

Dr. Matthew Dirst
Organist

Cecy Duarte
Children’s Music Associate

Micah Meyers
Art Director

Denise Ferrell
Bookkeeper

Wilbert Parada
Facilities Supervisor

Dimas Parada
Custodian

Lorrie Castle
Office Manager
Newsletter Editor

Susan Estill
Editor Emerita

Purpose. The purpose of the Worship and Music Committee, working with the Pastor(s) and Director of Music, is to develop, implement, coordinate, and oversee all aspects of worship that strengthen both public and private worship of God.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

CHANCEL GUILD

You are invited to participate in preparing our worship space for services. Our primary duties include checking the flowers before worship and emptying the water in the baptismal basin after the service. Currently we are seeking volunteers for April through September 2019. Please join us! Look for the signup sheet in the Gathering Area. Contact Jane Larkin at 713-621-1222 or l.larkin6561@att.net for more information.

WORSHIP LIVE

Worship with us, whenever, wherever. Our Communications & Technology Committee has made it possible for you to see St. Philip Sunday services from your home -- or wherever you have a computer, phone, or tablet. You can watch the service live at 11:00 on Sundays or view it - and other archived services - when convenient. Look for the Worship icon on our website, saintphilip.net. Click on **SUNDAY SERVICE** ► — you will be led to the current service and the list of archived services including the Sunday bulletin to follow along.



FREE DEMENTIA CAREGIVER EDUCATION

St. Philip is excited to host The Savvy Caregiver Program with Amazing Place this fall. The Savvy Caregiver Program is a two-hour, six-week class offering facts about dementia/Alzheimer's stages and reasons for behavior changes. With new knowledge and skills, you develop positive and powerful ways to manage a better quality daily life with your loved one.

When: through October 27, Sundays 12:30-2:30pm

If you are interested in the class at St. Philip Presbyterian Church, please contact Sharon Cantrell, Caregiver Educator for Amazing Place, at 713.440.8177 or: SCantrell@amazingplacehouston.org.

HEALTH YOUR WAY

St. Philip welcomes the return of a program sponsored in part by AARP which meets **Wednesdays** in Room 16 from 1:00 p.m. till 2:00 p.m. **(NEW TIME)** This class includes topics like Balance and Stability, Everyday Movement, Stretch and Release, Memory Fun and Games, Heart Health Discussions, Strong Muscles, Healthy Bones for seniors. St. Philip members and friends are welcome to attend this free program. A complete schedule is available at: www.healthyourway.com.

MISSION

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MISSION OF ST. PHILIP STITCHERS

On Sunday, October 13 over 150 hand-crafted quilts were visible throughout the Sanctuary, from chancel to choir loft. Each was lovingly made by the St. Philip Stitchers and will be given to a student attending House of Tiny Treasures, a nationally accredited pre-school for homeless children.

This mission of St. Philip began when two talented women, Beverly Baker and Hope Wilmarth, came together to sew nap quilts for children in need. Over time, others joined, willingly sharing their time and talents. Now, one Saturday a month, two dozen folk gather to use donated sewing machines to transform donated bits of fabric into quilts for those in need. Participants range in age from 18 to 80, some with basic skills, others with years of sewing experience. Some are longtime members of St. Philip, some come from other churches, and some are without a church home. The fellowship shared and friendships formed as we laugh, cry, and pray together are as wonderful as the quilts we make.

Your support through prayer for this ministry is coveted. We also welcome working sewing machines, quilt fabric, or thread. Occasionally, we need to purchase batting and other specialized supplies, so monetary donations will also be put to good use.



SEAFARERS

Please join the Mission committee for lunch and packing of the Seafarer Christmas boxes on November 10, in the craft room. Our goal is to pack at least 100 boxes, but we still need:

- 30 large shoeboxes
- 50 pairs of socks
- 83 decks of playing cards
- 68 large deodorant soaps
- 30 knitted caps

SEPTEMBER'S COMMUNION OFFERING

Campus Ministries, whose mission is to demonstrate the love of God as expressed through Jesus Christ through programs initiated within the local college and university communities, was established in 1968 as an ecumenical partnership between the Presbyterian Church (USA), The Disciples of Christ (Christian Church), and the United Church of Christ. Many students are far from home, and find comfort in their faith, new friends, and community mission projects. UCMGH has served the UT School of Medicine, U of H, HCC locations, Texas Southern University and Rice University. Thanks to your generosity their gift totaled \$1,199.92.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School

Classes begin at 9:45.

Mission of Christian Education Committee: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, to guide us as we engage and inspire to build faith and discipleship within the children of God.



NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE MORNING

8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Infants and children through 4 years old are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery in Room 106 of the Education Building along the Sunday School Classroom hallway on the first floor. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 8

All classes begin at 9:45.

Godly Play (Age 3 to K)

Room 104

Children's Music

Room 105

Cecy Duarte

Grades 1—5 - Room 105

Grades 6—8 - Room 206

Grades 9—12 - Room 205

Godly Play (Age 3 to K)—Room 104 - *Omi Ford, Joyce Fox, and Ruthie Waldrop*

Grades 1—2 - Room 200 for the first four weeks - *Kara D'Agostino and Paul D'Agostino*

Grades 3—5 - Room 103 - *Paul Arlinghaus and Linda Beville*

Grades 6—8 - Room 206 - *Charles Swan*

Grades 9-12 - Room 205 - *Keatan King and John Lemen*

CHURCH & SOCIETY - Room 201 - Leaders Mickey Meyers & C J Miller—**October 20** - A viewing of the documentary *Luther and the Reformation* by Rick Steves - Along with the Renaissance, the Protestant Reformation represented the growing pains of a Europe evolving from the Middle Ages into the modern age. In 2017, the 500th anniversary of this pivotal event in European history, Rick Steves travels the footsteps of Martin Luther - distilling the story of the bold monk, the chaos of the Reformation, and the larger political, economic, and theological context into an engaging, inspiring, and enlightening hour.

October 27 - Reformation Sunday - *The Scots Confession - A.D. 1560* - The Scots Confession is the first Reformed confession, and the first confession written after a nearly 1,000-year gap after the writing of the more ecumenical Nicene and Apostles Creeds. It has been called the charter of the Church of Scotland and of world Presbyterianism, and was written in only four days. Learn more about how this Confession, written 459 years ago, speaks to our world today. Presented by the Rev. Greg Han, Director of Interfaith Relations & Education at Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston.

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SPa

Room 200 - On hiatus and participating in **7 Marks** (see page 5) resuming **October 27** - The Saint Philip Adults class is a fellowship of adults from all walks of life who gather for learning and community. It is a conversation/dialogue-based/interactive class. Sharing leadership is easy and fun and asking questions is what it is all about. Contact: Omar@saintphilip.net.

BIBLE STUDY

Room 204 - Al Waldrop, leader. We are studying the Psalms, primarily from the NRSV and Dr. Robert Alter's *The Book of Psalms: A Translation with Commentary*.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

October 27—children in pre-K through first grade are invited to attend Children's Chapel with Rev. Omar Rouchon and a parent helper following the conversation with children during the 11 o'clock service on the second and fourth Sundays. In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship, while praying, singing and hearing God's word at an age-appropriate level. Children return to join the congregation in the first few pews on the lectern side of the church for the last hymn.

Weekday Classes

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. We have begun using the book, *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* by Cynthia M. Campbell. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday in the Conference Room at noon. Men who wish to participate should bring a bag lunch; refreshments will be provided. The group wraps up promptly at 1:00 p.m. Please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com if you have any questions and would like to join them.

PUB CLUB

Pub Club is a group for men in the church who like to enjoy fellowship, stories, and spirited discussion once a month at a local pub. Pub Club meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Our next gathering is Tuesday, **October 22**, Axelrad Beer Garden, 1517 Alabama St., 77004. Men interested in attending may eat beforehand or order food from the pub. For more information or questions, please contact Tim Burgess at: TimRB1987@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK GROUP

A monthly interest group for women who like to read books, socialize, and have a night out meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Our

next meeting is **November 14** we will discuss *The Wright Brothers* by David McCullough. The location is to be determined. This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. For more information contact Sarah O'Dell at:

sarah.odell6@gmail.com.

MONDAY EVENING STUDY GROUP

Monday, **October 28**, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., is the next meeting of the Monday evening study group, as we continue our study of *The Heart of*

Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith, by Marcus Borg, with chapter 4. The overall topic is "Seeing the Christian tradition again," and the chapter topic is "God: The heart of reality." Haven't read it? No problem! Consider joining us anyway to hear what your fellow St. Philipians think. We meet the second and fourth Mondays, in the Dining Room (in the Administration Building, at the south end of campus), and refreshments are provided.

THE 7 MARKS OF A VITAL CONGREGATION, INSPIRATION FOR CONTEMPLATION, AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR CONVERSATION

Time: 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Place: Dining Room

The Strategic Planning Task Force is using resources from the PC(USA) Vital Congregations Initiative to help shape our vision for the future. We believe this program offers some important challenges and inspirations for how St. Philip might enhance, change, and/or redirect how we live our life together. This Sunday concludes this Bible study and focused prayer time around each of the 7 Marks of Vital Congregations. This week Rev. Dr. Nate Carlin, Associate Professor of UT Health will discuss "Ecclesial Health". Centered on a scripture passage and reflection by the leader, a time of discussion and questions will follow in small and large groups. The class will conclude with a focused time of prayer. As we study the word of God around these 7 Marks, the hope is that the Spirit of God will lead us to wonder that which transforms and courage to faithfully change and follow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The PW Circles have begun meeting, and it is never too late to join a circle. Currently, the 2019-2020 Horizons Bible Study Guide *Love Carved in Stone* by Eugenia Anne Gamble will be available for purchase in circle meetings. The cost is \$12, and \$17 for the large print edition. See Circle Meeting schedule to the right.

Save the following dates:

- ☼ Sunday, December 15—Christmas Luncheon following 11:00 Worship
- ☼ Friday, January 24—Sunday, January 26—PW Retreat

SMILE!

Beginning October 13th, we invite all members, new and existing, to have their pictures taken for the 2020 Church Directory. For a refreshing change, we are taking photos in the Fall this time. Also, if you would like to do so, please feel free to choose a theme for yourselves or your families. Show support for your favorite team or sport. Or choose a tartan, a color or a pattern. Or even break out the Easter finery, beautiful hats and all! No matter what you choose, please come by the Library anytime, starting October 13th, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and let Dan Cleveland capture you in your best pose!

Even if you're not being photographed, it's helpful for us if you can stop at the registration table to confirm your directory information. You can always use MyStPhilip or ChurchLife to look up other members' contact info. Go to www.saintphilip.net to learn more.

The new directories will be available after the first of the year, exact dates to be announced. Now start practicing your smiles and we will see you soon!

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women (PW) offers a variety of ways for women to live out their faith in an inclusive, caring community beginning with Bible study at St. Philip. Please join any one of the circles for their monthly meetings beginning in September.

Circles

Sunday Circle

3rd Sunday of the month after

11:00 a.m. service

in the Dining Room

Monday Morning Saints

2nd Monday of the month

at 10:00 a.m.

in the Dining Room

Wednesday Morning Circle

4th Wednesday of the month at

10:00 a.m.

at Brazos Towers

at Bayou Manor

Wednesday Evening Circle

1st Wednesday of the month at

6:00 p.m. in the Dining Room



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.

4807 San Felipe
Houston, TX 77056

Phone: 713.622.4807

Fax: 713.622.5405

Philipeye@saintphilip.net

www.saintphilip.net

@StPhilipHouston



IN OUR PRAYERS

In Our Prayers

Hope Wilmarth and family upon the death of her husband Lance Wilmarth on October 11. Memorial service will be November 15 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Philip.

Please welcome Pamela Helen Ewing born on October 2 to Jared Ewing and Amanda Kirtley.

St. Philippians and their families—Marion Takehara; Mezgebe Gebray; John Bobbitt; Virginia Lemen; Arlette Keene; Betty Golemon; Sue Castle—mother of David Castle; Jimmy Reagan—father of Sarah O'Dell; Dona Rowe—mother of William Rowe; Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers; Ralph Arlinghaus—father of Paul Arlinghaus; Ann Morgan—sister of Dorothy Blackwell; Yvonne Hayes—mother of Lorrie Castle; and Hollie Bailey—niece of Peg Palisin.

Homebound: Sue Baier, Walter Baker; Joe Anne Berwick; Kitty Curry; Jane English; Barbara German; Rita Hannah; George Helland; Donna Host; T.E. "Joe" Keever; Toto McGehee; Phillip McDaniel; Paul & Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolph; Van Rathgeber; Bob Stanley; Virginia McFarland; Jean Nelson; Penny Vieau; and Ruth Weber.

Friends of St. Philippians—Jerry—son-in-law of Karen Morris; Willie Jo Schaefer—friend of Pam Rush; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; and Walter "Buddy" Hammann III—friend of Robin & Gary Willis.

Reformation Sunday

E Y H F H T N P O L I T I C A L B
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Ambitious	Beliefs	Calvin	Charter
Church	Confession	Economic	Knox
Luther	Political	Protestant	Reformed
Religious	Revolution	Salvation	Scots
Social	Triduum	Turmoil	Written