



December 6, 2022

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PHILIP-EYE

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ST. PHILIP ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

By Hope Wilmarth

The Mission Committee would like to express heartfelt appreciation to everyone who helped to make the 2022 Alternative Gift Market the resounding success that it was. Generous St. Philipians supported mission partners and mission projects, not just with their holiday shopping but with monetary donations.

Some partners attended for the first time: Ars Lyrica, Mo-Ranch, Mission of Yahweh, Houston Hope of the Nations, United Campus Ministries of Houston, Schreiner University, The Beacon. For some partners, it was their second year at the Alternative Gift Market: Have Shears will Travel, Hope and Healing Center, Faith in Practice, Bridges to Life. And many were old friends: Liberty High School Angel Fund, Living Waters, Project Cure, PCHAS, CCSC, Amazing Place, Lord of the Streets, Kids Meals, Haiti Nutrition Program, Interfaith Ministries and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Medical Benevolence Foundation. House of Tiny Treasures was represented by the St. Philip Stitchers. Fair Trade Coffee is an ongoing mission at St. Philip and Trisha Young represented the St. Philip Youth with her beautiful poetry.

The Market raised \$16,132, all of which will help fund the over 25 St. Philip mission partners represented this year and additional mission activities at St. Philip.

The story of generosity and fellowship is unending at St. Philip. Many of the mission representatives attended church during the break in shopping sessions including the Stitchers and youth.

St. Philipians had a chance to put a face to a mission supported by our church and to learn of the city wide and global influence made in our name.

Importantly, mission partners had an opportunity to get to know us. In this season of giving, may we all pause to reflect on our shared purpose at St. Philip...to love and serve one another.

Save the date for the 2023 *Alternative Gift Market* which will be **November 12**.

91 shoppers which does not include those you came to learn more about our partners. The seventeen donated auction items raised \$2,185.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Over the past several weeks we have tried to inform you about a shortfall in our 2022 operating budget. We have received considerable response, both in terms of pledge payments and additional gifts. We should know soon how we've done in November, and how much more we still have to make up to bring us into balance by year's end. Thank you for all your gifts to support and sustain the ministry of St. Philip.

SECOND SUNDAY

Join us on **Dec. 11** at 9:45 a.m. for a festive morning at the Education Committee's monthly intergenerational Second Sundays. We will wrap Seafarers' Christmas boxes, decorate a tree with our prayers, and make ornaments to take home. You are invited to bring your favorite recipe - with samples! - to share. All ages welcome, in the Gathering Area.

ADVENT AT ST. PHILIP

Everyone is invited to attend **midweek Advent services**, continuing on **December 7, 14, and 21**. The service begins at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Lunch is available in the Gathering Area at 11:30. These services of scripture and song are grounded in the Advent themes of hope and expectation. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will also be celebrated. Prepare the way of the Lord!

THURSDAYS IN ADVENT—LECTIO DIVINA ON ZOOM

December 8, 15, 22 at 9:00-9:20 a.m.—*What is Lectio Divina?* The ancient desert fathers and mothers believed that scripture was like a love letter written to us by God. Thus, the meditative, guided scriptural reflection known as *Lectio Divina* ("divine reading") assumes that God speaks to us intimately, God is already praying in us, and we'll experience a profound encounter with the heart of God, rather than an intellectual study of scripture. Keatan King will guide the group through the four cycles of Lectio (read, reflect, respond, rest) for 20 minutes every Thursday morning at 9:00am for the season of Advent. To prepare, you are encouraged to choose a comfortable place to sit wherever you are (at home, work, in the car) and all participants will have video off and sound off during the Zoom. If you would like to participate email Keatan at keatan@saintphilip.net.

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS) has long been a mission partner of St. Philip. While one of their services is Foster Care and Adoption, other programs within PCHAS include the Single Parent Family program and the Child and Family Program. Paramount is the expanding licensed counseling service PCHAS offers in its quest to prevent the causes of child abuse. PCHAS has an urgent and ongoing need for diapers (any size, but right now 4-5 and pull ups) as well as baby wipes. In this season of giving I hope you will consider ordering a box of diapers or baby wipes for PCHAS. Online orders can be sent to PCHAS, 7880 San Felipe, Houston 77063. Or if more convenient, bring your donations to the church office and I will deliver to PCHAS.

I am grateful for the continuing generosity of St. Philip.
Hope Wilmarth, PCHAS Ambassador

PW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Sunday, **Dec. 18**, after the 11:00 worship service, all women (members and visitors) are invited to the annual Presbyterian Women's Christmas Luncheon. Rev. Lynn Hargrove, General Presbyter and Stated Clerk for Administrative Process for Presbytery of New Covenant will be the bible Study Leader for Lesson 4: *Sabbath and Surrender* from *Celebrating Sabbath*. The cost will be \$15. RSVP to the church office (713-622-4807) or email welcome@saintphilip.net. Pay in advance by going to the saintphilip.net homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting *Presbyterian Women* as the fund and putting *luncheon* in the memo. Members can also make contributions in the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). You may also pay the day of with cash or by writing a check with *PW Luncheon* in the memo line. We will be accepting contributions for the PW Thank Offering.

Spouses are welcome to join us for the luncheon.

Gluten-free alternatives will be available.

O COME ALL YE HOPEFUL SEEKERS

for gentle yoga & silent prayer



SATURDAY - DEC. 10, 2022 10 A.M. - 12 P.M.
AT ST. PHILIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4807 SAN FELIPE | HOUSTON, TX 77056

COME. STEP AWAY FROM THE HOLIDAY HUSTLE. GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF TIME.

Join us for a morning of gentle yoga and silent prayer during this busy season. We will enjoy the stretching, grounding and centering that comes with yoga, using chairs or your mats in the **Gathering Area**. In the sanctuary, instruction will be offered on centering prayer/lectio divina. Then we will open our hearts and minds to God's presence with us in the quiet.

All are welcome. No experience required. Babysitting available. COME. SEEK. FIND.

For more information, contact Betsy Boston or call (713) 622-4807.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 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

GODLY PLAY (Age 3-Kindergarten) – Room 104—Our preschool class uses a curriculum called “Godly Play,” developed by Jerome Berryman in Houston, and utilized in reformed churches all over the world. Godly Play encourages children to use the language of Christians and multiple senses to express what they innately know about God.

ELEMENTARY (Grades 1-5) — Room 105

YOUTH (Grades 6-12) — Room 205

Both the Elementary and Youth classes will use the PCUSA’s new *Follow Me* curriculum. These lessons are based on 36 practices that Jesus engaged in and taught his followers about. Learners will locate these practices in scripture, while engaging in conversation about the practices in their daily lives. With a wide variety of developmentally-aligned activities, conversation starters, and questions to ponder outside of class, this curriculum calls us all to follow Jesus and live out his example every day.

SPa (St. Philip Adults) – Room 200—This year, SPa returns to its same place and time. We will use the adult resources from the new Follow Me curriculum to guide our informal weekly discussion about biblical practices such as hospitality, forgiveness and honoring sabbath. All adults of any age are welcomed to participate - grab some coffee and join us. There is no need to prepare or purchase materials for class, so come as you are able!

CHURCH & SOCIETY – Room 201—Church and Society regularly features speakers and presentations on a variety of contemporary and historical matters of faith and practice. This class meets from 9:40 a.m.-10:45 a.m. with presentations in person and some by Zoom, projected in the classroom. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes: churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

December 11 - Our Lady of Guadalupe - For millions of Mexicans and Mexican-Americans, **December 12** holds special significance. It marks the date in 1531 when the Virgin Mary purportedly appeared to an indigenous Mexican, Juan Diego, in the last of several apparitions. To the present day, Our Lady of Guadalupe remains a powerful symbol of Mexican identity and faith, and her image is associated with everything from motherhood to feminism to social justice. Presented by Rev. Keatan King. **December**

18 Film study - *Encanto*. The Madrigal family lives in an enchanted town in the mountains of Colombia. Even their home is magical. And though every member of Mirabel Madrigal’s family has a special power – like healing, or extra strength – Mirabel appears to have been skipped. Yet she becomes the only one who can save her family from losing its magic. The Academy Award winning film *Encanto* has several meanings, not least of which is “charm.” Director Byron Howard’s love of the legacy of Disney animation shines through in the film’s beautiful and vibrant images, and *Encanto*’s magical and emotional moments show us that making your family proud, and serving them to the best of your abilities, is the real magic. Presented by St. Philip Media Guru - Kate Burkart. Church & Society will not meet Christmas Day, **December 25**.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Room 204—We have resumed our study of the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah in 1-2 Kings with the story of Elijah’s confrontation with Ahab and Jezebel in Dr. Robert Alter’s *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets* (2013). Join us from 9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. to deepen our understanding of God’s faithfulness to God’s people from Dr. Alter’s translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster **meets weekly**. The morning class, meets at 9:30 a.m., and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. The afternoon class, meets at 3:30 p.m., is Zoom only. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to john@saintphilip.net. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome!

WOMEN’S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **December 8** and it will be a social. Watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

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 **in person in the office conference room and via Zoom at 11:45 a.m.** Please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com if you would like to join them.



Happy Belated birthday to a few,
I forgot list in November.
Happy Birthday to all!

Name			Date		
Julia	Irick	1	Joe Anne	Berwick	9
Julie	Itz	1	Doris	Cantrell	9
Tyler	Lippincott	3	Margaret	Culp	12
Brenda	Thompson	3	Pam	Keever	12
Evelyn	Varner	3	Stewart	Coffman	13
Toni	Helland	5	Douglas	Hannah	13
Edith	Hess	5	Margaret	King	13
Virginia	McMaster	5	Susan	Strong	13
Jared	Ewing	6	John	Van Osdall	13
Jean	Stanley	6	Orlean	Anderson	14
Jim	Lomax	7	Nicholas	Arlinghaus	14
Larry	Wright	8	Paloma	Frautschi	14
Bill	Taylor	16			
Edith	Patterson	17			
William	Baker	18			
Judy	Hill	18			
Ellis	Newport	19			
Jesus		25			
Katherine	Boone	27			
Dan	Cleveland	28			
David	Lindsay	29			
Vicki	McKay	29			
Donald	Padgett	30			
Judye	Hartman	31			
James	Waggoner	31			

The St. Philip Stewardship Committee is grateful for your faithful financial support of our church. We recognize these past few years have been especially challenging for our members as well as for the church. If you have not yet made a pledge for 2023, but would like to do so, we encourage you to pledge before the end of the year when the Session finalizes the budget. We appreciate your help in making St. Philip a "giving church" to so many worthy organizations as an expression of love, gratitude and support for the amazing work they do in the community. We wish you a love-filled Christmas as we celebrate God, the Greatest Giver, for our greatest gift, Jesus Christ. With grateful hearts,
The St. Philip Stewardship Committee



CHRISTMAS AT ST. PHILIP

DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Services

5:30 p.m. – A Whimsical Telling
of the Birth of Jesus

8:00 p.m. – Communion Service
with the St. Philip Choir

DECEMBER 25

11:00 a.m. Christmas Day
worship

JANUARY 1, 2023

11:00 a.m. worship for the First
Sunday of Christmas and the
First Communion of 2023

Christmas Poinsettias

Donations of any amount accepted

(circle one) **I / we** would like to make a donation to purchase poinsettias to
adorn our chancel during this Christmas season

(circle one) **in honor of / memory of** _____

Donor - Your Name(s) (Please print legibly) _____

*Please place envelope in the offering plate or return it with your **payment** to the
church office by Monday, **December 12**. Use additional space below if needed.*

I have included a _____ check, _____ cash or _____ will pay online.

Pay online by going to the saintphilip.net homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting *Flowers/Holiday* as the fund and putting **POINT** in the memo. Members can also access this page on the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). *Email if you wish to honor/remember to lorrie@saintphilip.net*

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families—Barbara Runge; Beverly Hudson; Susan Huffman; Mary Sinderson; Eleanor Grant; Sondra Sullivan; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Lane Fletcher; Renee Wright; Austin Lippincott; Richard Johnson; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Betsy Johnson – mother of Pat Lindsay; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Jann Everhart – sister-in-law of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Warren Cash—brother of Kay Cash; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; Donna Harris—sister of Joyce Fugit; Alma Fonseca- mother of Angelina Fonseca; Darryl Cazes—brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine; Carol Paine Kendrick—sister of Stephen Paine; John Anderson—brother of Tom Anderson; Mac Wilson—father of Butch Wilson; Shirley Boggus—grandmother of Omi Ford; Alan Rowe—father of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound—John Bobbitt; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Marion Takehara; and Jody Tomforde.

Friends of St. Philippians—Jackie Childers – friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Sharla Hotchkiss, Delores Wheeler, and Kevin Andress – friends of Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; Clayton Amacker—friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner.

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/>), text “SPPC” to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056. Pledge cards are being accepted in the Church Office or you can make your pledge in MyStPhilip.

PLEDGE CARDS

Pledge cards can be put in the offering plate or mailed to the Church Office. Or you can make your pledge in MyStPhilip.

ATTENTION STOCK DONORS!

St. Philip’s broker services are with Frost Bank. We ask you to call:

Yvette Webb at Frost Bank – 713-388-1231 for transaction information. Our account number is #037-293183.

Please let the bookkeeper know you are making a stock donation. You may email bookkeeper@saintphilip.net

If you have any questions, you may always contact Ada Fuller, treasurer at amariapoet@gmail.com or by phone at 713-306-8267.

Next edition: December 20; Deadline December 15—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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