



March 19, 2019
Volume 63, Issue 6

PHILIP-EYE

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. PHILIP
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FAMILY CONNECT SERIES

St. Philip will be hosting a new program in late March into early April. On **t h r e e** consecutive **S u n d a y** evenings, we will gather at the church to learn about **s p i r i t u a l**



practices for faith formation as a family. Each evening's program will begin with a time of fellowship, when a child-friendly meal will be served, followed by story time, before children are led to the childcare part of the building. Afterwards, parents will gather to learn, discuss and share.

A primary goal of this series is connecting - connecting families at St. Philip with young children, and connecting faith practices and child development. For the learning and sharing portion, topics will include:

- ♦ faith practices for families at home
- ♦ daily rituals
- ♦ spiritual development milestones

We will also share books and other resources that have been successful with these practices and disciplines.

There is much more to come, but for now we invite you to save the dates of **March 31, April 7 and April 14**. We will gather from 5-7 p.m.; dinner and child care will be provided. Details to follow. Please let Omar Rouchon, Associate Pastor know if you have any questions. He can be reached at the church office—713-622-4807 or by email at omar@saintphilip.net. We look forward to seeing you soon!

MIDWEEK LENT SERVICES

As in past years, we will have worship each Wednesday at noon through April 10 with guest preachers joining us to offer sermons on the Passion of Jesus. The upcoming preachers include Becky Downs from John Knox Presbyterian Church; Linda McCarty from Faith and Practice; Rose Niles from Austin Seminary; and Nathan Carlin from McGovern Medical School. Each week lunch will be available in the Gathering Area at 12:30.



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

Session

John Wurster
Moderator

John Lemen
Clerk

Pastors
Keatan King
Omar Rouchon

Class of 2019

Kate Dickinson-Varner
Janet Hess
William Rowe
Chuck Seidel
Sandy Truxillo
Anne Wilson
Nancy Beck Young

Class of 2020

Selena Brinegar
Tim Burgess
Scott Easterly
Jack Lippincott
Bonnie Moore
Peg Palisin
Amye Webster

Class of 2021

Lee Ardell
John Boone
Kate Burkart
Bill Connolly
Dave Durham
Vanessa Nenna
Cathy Patterson

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

January 2019

STATED SESSION MEETING – JANUARY 29, 2019

- ♦ Minutes of the December 23, 2018 Congregational Meeting were approved on behalf of the Congregation.
- ♦ Session approved the 2018 St. Philip Annual Statistical Report for submission to the Presbytery of New Covenant and to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of the General Assembly.
- ♦ Session approved the 2019 calendar year budget of \$1,607,953.
- ♦ Session acted to inform the congregation of the differences in the budget from last year to this year and to make the congregation aware of opportunities to prayerfully provide additional funds to address the differences.
- ♦ Session approved the use of Marcus Borg, *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*, for a Young Adult book group study.
- ♦ Session approved the adoption and purchase of "The Last Supper," a *We Believe* rotation workshop from the PC(USA) for Lent Vacation Bible Sunday (VBS).
- ♦ Session approved the recipient of the March Communion Offering to be Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services.
- ♦ Session approved inviting the Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick to preach at both worship services on Sunday, February 24, 2019.
- ♦ Session approved in substance the Memorandum of Understanding between St. Philip and the Presbytery of New Covenant and authorize the Moderator to sign the agreement, with resolution of any final details to be reviewed by the Moderator and the Property Committee.

Committee and Council Actions:

- ♦ Property Committee has approved terminating the lease with ADC Kitchen caterer for failure to comply with terms.
- ♦ Property Committee has approved transferring \$62,137.11 from Reserve for Replacement for expense items from the period of October – December 2018.
- ♦ Welcoming and Membership Committee has arranged rotation attendance for the welcome table to greet visitors before and after Sunday services.
- ♦ Welcoming and Membership Committee has added two more groups to the door greeter rotation schedule.

CALLED SESSION MEETING – JANUARY 20, 2019

- ♦ Session received by letter of transfer Judy and Dick Nunn from Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church.
- ♦ Session received by reaffirmation of faith Mike Ayers.

February 2019

STATED SESSION MEETING – FEBRUARY 19, 2019

- ♦ Session approved inviting Hallie Williams Spence to preach on Sunday, June 9, 2019.
- ♦ Session elected Kate Burkart, Tim Burgess, Lee Ardell, Scott Easterly, Amye Webster, and Anne Wilson, to serve as Ruling Elder Commissioners to the March 16, 2019 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant at St. Thomas Presbyterian Church, Houston, and elected Vanessa Nenna and Kate Dickinson as alternates.
- ♦ Session elected Chuck Seidel, Bill Connolly, Bonnie Moore, Janet Hess, Selena Brinegar, and Jack Lippincott to serve as Ruling Elder Commissioners to the July 20, 2019 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant at Brenham Presbyterian Church,

with two alternates to be elected in time for the meeting.

- ♦ Session elected Bonnie Moore, Cathy Patterson, Nancy Young, John Boone, and Vanessa Nenna to serve as Ruling Elder Commissioners to the November 16, 2019 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant at Webster Presbyterian Church, with a sixth commissioner, plus two alternates are to be elected in time for the meeting.

Committee and Council Actions:

- ♦ Personnel Committee has prepared, and submitted to the congregation for approval, the 2019 Terms of Call for all pastors.
- ♦ Property Committee has renewed the Groundskeepers Landscaping contract.

CALLED SESSION MEETING – FEBRUARY 17, 2019

- ♦ Session received into membership Jacqueline (Jacquie) Colton by reaffirmation of faith.

John A. Lemen, Clerk of Session

The Session is charged with spiritual oversight of the life of the congregation. The membership of the Session consists of ordained and installed Ruling Elders, the Pastor(s), and the Associate Pastor(s). In addition to possessing the necessary gifts and abilities for leading the congregation, those who undertake the ministry of Ruling Elder should be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP 2018-2019 SEASON

Get ready to be dazzled — next Sunday!

Child Piano Prodigies

SUNDAY | MARCH 24, 2019 | 3:00 p.m.



Truly not-to-be missed, we are excited to present the winners of **Houston Tuesday Musical Club's 2019 Rochelle Liebling Kahan Memorial Fund Competition for Child Piano Prodigies**, open to Houston area children between the ages of six and nine. You simply won't believe how amazing these kids are! Be prepared to be wowed. Featuring our fabulous **Steinway D**. Join us for free ice cream afterwards too.

FREE (contributions welcome)



FOLLOW US ONLINE
Music at St Philip

SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS

The next service of healing and wholeness is **March 31** at 5:00 p.m. In this service, we claim God's promise of well-being and seek God's healing touch in body, mind, and spirit. In gathering for this service, we acknowledge that all healing is from God and we affirm that in the midst of illness, pain, and suffering, our relationship with God in Christ sustains us.

Mission of Christian Education Committee: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, to guide us as we engage and inspire as 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

All classes begin at 9:30.

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

Children's Music
Room 105
Cecy Duarte

Grades 1—5
Room 105
*Paul Arlinghaus, Linda Bevell,
Kara D'Agostino,
and Paul D'Agostino*

Grades 6—8
Room 206
Judith Hiott and Jack Lippincott

Grades 9—12
Room 205
Keatan King and John Lemen

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

NEW DISCOVERY CLASS FOR LENT

Resting in God – Keeping the Sabbath is a Lenten learning experience for all ages, 1st grade through adult. Each week we will creatively explore different parts of the spiritual life, including time, worship, nature, prayer, and mission. Led by the pastors, the class meets at 9:30 Sunday in Rooms 205-206. Everyone is welcome!

CHURCH & SOCIETY

Room 201 – *Mickey Meyers* and *C.J. Miller*, leaders. **March 24** - *Refugee Resettlement* - *Local Solutions to a Global Crisis* - A discussion of the refugee resettlement process and the services of Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston, the impact of administration policies on the IMGH program and ways the agency continues to serve the needs of refugees, well beyond the initial resettlement services. How our community can support refugee families building new lives in Houston. Presented by *Elena Korbut*, Community Engagement Manager, Refugee Services at Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston. **March 31** - *Children of Incarcerated Parents: The Unintended Victims* - Parental incarceration negatively impacts the health and well-being of incarcerated parents' children, yet there are very few services or programs to support these children and their families. Over the past year, the presenters have been working with Harris County Sheriff's Office to better understand the needs of children of incarcerated parents. The needs assessment has included interviews with inmates, local and national experts, caregivers, and adding questions to the jail intake form on the inmates' children. They will share their findings along with recommendations on how our community can improve services for parents in jail or

prison. Presented by *Christopher S. Greeley*, MD, MS and *Nancy Correa*, MPH, Texas Children's Hospital

BIBLE STUDY

Room 204 – *Al Waldrop*, leader. We will continue our study of The Psalms, primarily from the NRSV and Dr. Robert Alter's *The Book of Psalms: A Translation with Commentary*.

SPa

Room 200 - We are studying *What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?* by *Martin Thielen*. A contemporary look at essential - and non-essential Christian belief, this introductory book takes a look at common assumptions and important questions of faith. The St. 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.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

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

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

John Wurster's Wednesday morning bible study meets at 10:30 a.m. in the Dining Room.

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 the Conference Room at noon. We are reviewing *The Answer to Bad Religion is Not No Religion* by Martin Thielen. 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.

MONDAY EVENING STUDY GROUP

Join the discussion in the Dining Room (in the Administration Building, at the south end of campus) **March 25** with St. Philip's Monday evening study group! Besides conversation, our meetings include fellowship, refreshments, and a brief devotional, as we continue our study of *Holding Faith* by Cynthia Rigby. We will be discussing part 5 (God sends us), chapter 9 (Where are we headed? The doctrine of Christian hope). We meet each second and fourth Monday, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Come even if you haven't done the reading; the discussion is always timely and thought-provoking.

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, **March 26**, The West End 5320 Westheimer Rd., 77056. 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.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Join a community of people in their 20s and 30s for compassionate conversation regarding all matters of the life of faith. We meet monthly at different restaurants in Houston and pose questions for group reflection and discussion. Bring a friend or your partner, your questions and ideas, and your thirst for knowledge! Next meeting is **April 9** at 6:30 p.m. The location to be determined.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK GROUP

A monthly interest group for women who like to read books, socialize, and have a night out meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Our next meeting is on **April 11** at the home of Barbara Cavanaugh, and we will discuss *Educated* by Tara Westover. This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. For more information contact Sarah O'Dell at:

sarah.odell6@gmail.com.

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 sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area. Contact Jane Larkin at 713-621-1222 or j.larkin6561@att.net for more information.

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.

Circles

Sunday Circle

3rd Sunday of the month after 11

a.m. service

in the Dining Room

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Monday Morning Saints

2nd Monday of the month

at 10 a.m.

in the Dining Room

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Wednesday Morning Circle

4th Wednesday of the month at 10

a.m.

at Brazos Towers

at Bayou Manor

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Wednesday Evening Circle

1st Wednesday of the month at 6

p.m. in the Dining Room

Keep watch over yourselves and
over all the flock, of which the
Holy Spirit has made you
overseers, to shepherd the church
of God, which he obtained with
the blood of his own Son.

—Acts 20:28

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Our Nominating Committee is seeking servant leaders to serve in the offices of Ruling Elder, Deacon, and Trustee. We will also nominate to the Session people to serve on the Central Mission Endowment Council. Your suggestions, with comments, are helpful to the committee in its work.

RULING ELDER

In addition to possessing the necessary gifts and abilities for leading the congregation, those who undertake the ministry of Ruling Elder should be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world. As members of the Session, they are responsible for the spiritual oversight of the congregation and for oversight of all the programs and ministries of St. Philip.

DEACON

The ministry of Deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.

Currently serving as Deacons are *Beth Atkinson, Jane Cooper, David Fox, Joyce Fox, Ann Frautschi, Governor Frazier, Judith Hiott, Donna Host, Sue Shirley Howard, Mary McGuire, Gary Whitney.*

TRUSTEE

The duties of the trustees are to receive, hold, encumber, manage, and transfer property on behalf of the congregation; and to manage any permanent special funds for the furtherance of the purposes of the congregation.

Currently serving as Trustees are *Beth Atkinson, Al Waldrop, and Butch Wilson.*

CENTRAL MISSION ENDOWMENT COUNCIL

Members of the council decide the disbursements of the Central Mission Endowment Fund (CMEF). Persons servicing on the council should be interested in mission outreach with available time for site visits.

Currently serving on the council are *Steve Carmichael, Sara Jean Jackson, Pat Lindsay, Sarah O'Dell, Chuck Seidel (Session Rep), Anne Wilson (Mission Rep) and Jennifer Wilson.*

2019 Nominating Committee: *Tim Burgess, Kate Burkart, Joyce Fox, Julia Fox, Walker Fair, William Howard, and Nina Lambright.*

In order to submit a candidate, it is requested that you provide the candidate's name and your name in case we have questions. Self-nominations are welcome. In making recommendations, please elaborate on personal qualities, involvement in our church, and why you consider this person a good candidate for church leadership. Forms can be found in the Sunday Bulletin or Church Office.

If you are recommending a Ruling Elder, please indicate the ministry area (s) they would best serve: Communication & Technology; Education; Finance; Mission; Peacemaking & Social Justice; Personnel; Property; Stewardship; Welcome & Membership; or Worship & Music.

Completed forms may be placed in the offering plate or the Church Office. The deadline: April 5, 2019.

MISSION

THANK YOU

The February 2019 communion offering benefitting Interfaith Ministries raised \$1,897.04. Thank you for your generous giving. Interfaith Ministries' focus is to unite people of all faiths and to provide services to citizens of the greater Houston area.

COMMUNION OFFERING

The April Communion Offering will go to One Great Hour of Sharing. One Great Hour of Sharing is an offering that makes the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship, and for those who serve them through gifts of money and time. As Houston has suffered the effects of hurricanes in the past, we are very aware of the needs arising from disaster. Please consider returning the aid to others through this offering. Please use the envelopes in the pews and denote communion offering.

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

SMILE!

Beginning **March 31** we invite all members new and old to have your picture taken for the 2019 Church Directory. Please take your family anytime from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to the Library. Dan Cleveland will 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. Directories should be available in May. You can always use MyStPhilip or ChurchLife to look up other members contact info. Go to www.saintphilip.net to learn more.

Easter Lilies

We will be taking donations of any amount for lilies to adorn the sanctuary on Easter. Easter lilies are symbolic of purity and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. They adorn Christian houses of worship on the holy day that shares their name.

You can go online and make a donation of any amount. Please include: *in honor of* or *in memory of* and the name(s) you wish to recognize, as well as how you would like your name to appear.

(circle one) **I / we** would like to make a donation to purchase Easter Lilies to adorn the sanctuary this Easter Season, to be given:

(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, April 8.

Purpose. The purpose of the Mission Committee is to develop and nurture the congregation as it reaches out to support Christ's mission locally and around the world as well as through the PCUSA. The Committee works to make mission an integral part of the life of the congregation.

Purpose. The purpose of the Congregational Communication Committee is to oversee communications both within the congregation and to the community. The Committee coordinates its work with all other committees, ensuring that the church's publicity reflects the overall mission of the church and accurately portrays its ministries and emphases.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Patrick Conner (son) and Sondra Sullivan (sister) upon the death of Jan Conner on March 17. Memorial Service arrangements TBD.

St. Philippians and their families—T.E. “Joe” Keever; Jim Bratton; Arlette Keene; Betty Knepper; Betty Golemon; Joyce Fox; Russell Bahruth; Bill Taylor; Jean Miksch—daughter of Mary Benson, sister of Amye Webster; Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers; Ralph Arlinghaus—father of Paul Arlinghaus; Ian Pearce; Rusty Howard; Phillip McDaniel; Carol Paine Kendrick; John Paser—brother of Mary Ann Thomas; and Hollie Bailey—niece of Peg Palisin.

Always in our prayers are the homebound members of St. Philip.

Friends of St. Philippians—Bennett Williams—friend of Curt and Sharon Webb; Grady Reed—friend of Stephen Paine.

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.

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Houston, TX 77056

Phone: 713.622.4807
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Passion

H G K S T R L S K J W P D E L I Q S F R G J G Q
U D W F M F N S U P A Y D H P V U P E D K U Q J
E F E X W T W H R C P T M W Z N V I J E U A Q D
A J T S N Z H V F L U J W Z I X J R Z Q H P S D
B C U W A L K V M F E S T T P S Y I S L A P D B
P L F N K S A R P Q H D E U Q Z B T M F V E Q N
X I P K K O Y B A N O H C H F J G U L K K N I E
N H H O W O W H O C R A U J N Z R A A D B S B L
T C L S W P O C T L C W E D S N X L S D U K W E
M J M J R Q I R W V G S I G O I T D P C B K L I
E L Q B O O I O H I U L H I P U C N N A Q L A H
F T S K B N W M Q S I J T J N U D M J G Z S X T
T E X W E U A K N T H A N N G C U C G B O Z U Z
K W I K W V S D A F M I N N O X I F T I Y P E K
B Q V L G Z Y H U R Y R G N S I F L U Q O F J E
G G U C E H N Z I R C K N N T L S F H I S A N G
R Z H K L B W F Z D P E P G I L F S A O M F P D
M C O K R T F Q M X C N N S K T I D A R L C H M
L Z N C H A C K U T V N A P J L I X L P D B Y R
E Q L G E Z B C Q C G M S D X U J F D N C C L V
A L I R M D E V O T I O N A L K N Z E Y N L Z F
Y A Q K D I K A V J U I Q X F O D Y L N N E K A
N O M Z T V M X X B E C Y B D Z G Y D V E W U Z
E B Y H O B P U D W A G H A Z O O A F C W B X E

Belief	Benefiting	Connect	Devotional
Doctrine	Global	Jesus	Passion
Psalms	Reaffirmation	Spiritual	Thielen
Unite	Worship		

