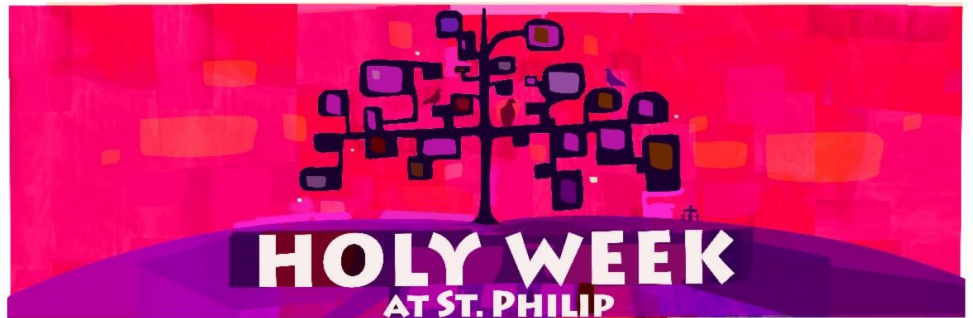




April 4, 2023

Volume 67, Issue 7

PHILIP-EYE



Holy Week is filled with significance for the life of faith and for our community at St. Philip. I invite you - and encourage you - to join us as you are able.

Maundy Thursday service is at 7:00 p.m. The St. Philip Choir will sing. My sermon, "Love Wins," is based on Matthew 26:17-29. The service includes communion and concludes with the symbolic stripping of the church.

On **Good Friday** we have two services. At 12:00 p.m., we solemnly gather to remember the death of Jesus in word and song. At 8:00 p.m., we have a tenebrae service with music from the St. Philip Choir. In this dramatic service, darkness steadily envelops the Sanctuary as we recall Jesus' final moments.

On **Holy Saturday** at 5:00 p.m., we have a musical meditation offered by Matthew Dirst, Cecilia Duarte, and Thomas O'Neill.

With great joy, we gather to celebrate the resurrection on **Easter** morning. We have identical services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. with music at both from the St. Philip Choir. My sermon, "An Easy Easter?" is based on Matthew 28:1-10. Communion will be celebrated at both services. If your schedule permits, consider joining us for the 9:00 a.m. service to give an extra bit of space for those who will come to the later service. Easter activities at 10:00 a.m. include breakfast and an egg hunt for children. You are welcome to bring flowers to decorate the outdoor cross.

The [complete schedule for Holy Week and Easter](#) is available on our website.

On Easter Sunday while you are dressed up, stop in the library for a new directory photo.

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

Rev. Keatan King
Associate Pastor

Rev. Omar Rouchon
Associate Pastor

Dr. Randall Swanson
Director of Music

Dr. Matthew Dirst
Organist

Micah Meyers
Art Director

Wilbert Parada
Facilities Supervisor

Dimas Parada
Custodian

Denise Ferrell
Bookkeeper

Lorrie Castle
Office Manager
Newsletter Editor

Susan Estill
Editor Emerita

GUIDED TOUR OF ST. PHILIP ON SUNDAY, APRIL 23

We probably all know where the Sanctuary is, but do you know where the Choir Room is? Or the Children's Chapel Room? Or the Pastors' Offices? The Welcoming and Membership Committee invites anyone interested—and especially those who may be newer to the St. Philip community—to join us in a short walking tour of the St. Philip campus, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on **April 23**. We'll visit the key spaces where we worship, serve, learn, and share fellowship. You'll also hear a bit about some of the activities of our congregation, like our community gardening, Arts & Crafts Studio, or where the Presbyterian Women meet? Everyone is welcome, whether you are new to St. Philip or not. You'll get to know your church home better, and there will be yummy treats to enjoy!

When: 9:30 a.m., Sunday, **April 23**

Where: Meet in the Gathering Area, the open space with tables near the Sanctuary.

CCSC
Christian
Community
Service
Center

Family
Service Saturday



Sign up for one of six
1-hour service shifts
open to families
serving together
(kids age range
K - 8th Grade)

Each family member
planning to participate
should sign up

Service Project
Packing hygiene kits
for CCSC clients

Price
One bag of
nonperishable food
per family

Sign up today at
ccschouston.org/familyserviceday

3434 BRANARD STREET

Saturday, April 15

12:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Shifts Start Each Half Hour



CHURCH PHOTOS

**GET YOUR PICTURE TAKEN
FOR THE NEW ST. PHILIP
CHURCH DIRECTORY!**

**STOP IN THE LIBRARY
ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING DAYS:**

**SUNDAYS
APRIL 9 & 16**

9:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.



**YOU CAN UPDATE YOUR
CONTACT INFORMATION ON**

"MY ST. PHILIP"

VISIT: SAINTPHILIP.NET

MY ST. PHILIP



A Day at Austin Seminary

April 18, 2023

ITINERARY

- 8:00 a.m. Meet at parking lot of New Hope Presbyterian Church
1350 N. Mason Rd., Katy, Texas 77449
- 10:30 Arrive on campus
- 11:10 Worship in Shelton Chapel with Dr. David White,
The C. Ellis and Nancy Gribble Nelson Professor of
Christian Education, preaching
- Noon Lunch with students in Stotts Dining Hall
- 1:30 p.m. Faculty Lecture: Dr. Ángel Gallardo, Assistant Professor
of Church History, in McCord 204
- 2:15 Campus Tour
- 3:00 Meet with Austin Seminary President José R. Irizarry
- 3:30 Depart for Houston

To sign up or receive more information about the trip, contact
Omar Rouchon at omar@saintphilip.net. [REDACTED]

A Day at Austin Seminary

April 18, 2023

Join us for an up-close and personal experience of this beloved community which for more than a century has educated and formed leaders for Christ's church. We will depart from New Hope Presbyterian Church in Katy at 8:00 a.m. and depart for Houston at 3:30 p.m. Highlights of the trip include:

- Worship with the Seminary community, including the debut of a new hymn by Dr. Mary Louise Bringle who will be present in worship
- Lunch with Austin Seminary students
- Faculty lecture with Professor Ángel Gallardo
- Conversation with President Irizarry



To sign up or receive more information about the trip, contact Omar Rouchon at omar@saintphilip.net [REDACTED]

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster **meets weekly**. The 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. 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!

LAMBETH STUDY—Keatan King leads young adults in study every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan King at: keatan@saintphilip.net.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **April 13** at 7:00 p.m. and we will discuss *The Maid* by Nita Prose. 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. If you would like to join them, please contact Gary Gardner at: ggardne148@aol.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY—All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate; to be directed to a group leader please email welcome@saintphilip.net. All circles meet in the Dining Room in the Administration Building.

Monday Morning Saints—Second Monday of each month @10:00 a.m. (excluding April 10 we will meet on **April 17**)

Sunday Circle—Third Sunday of each month @ 12:30 p.m.

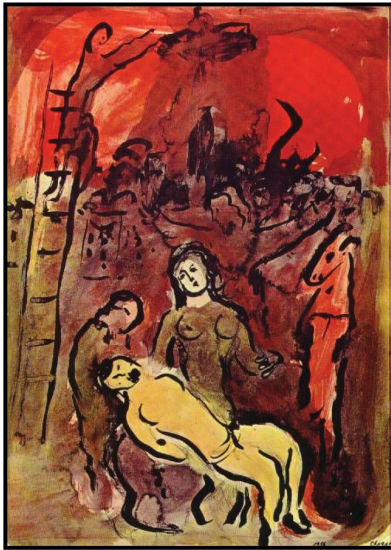
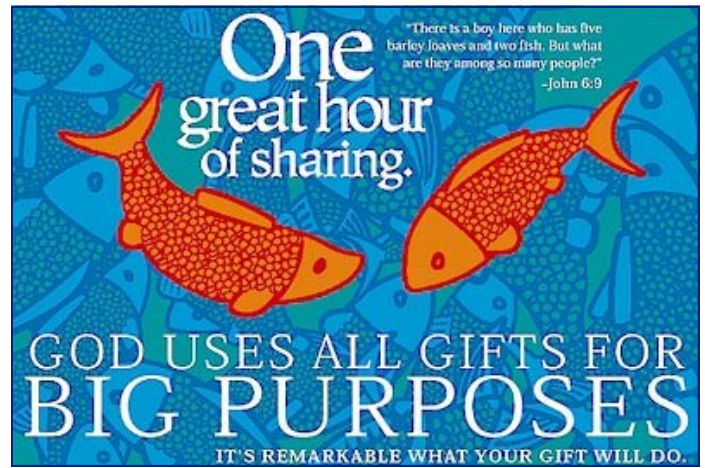
Thursday Evening Circle—First Thursday of each month @ 7:00 p.m.

TALKING ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

The 225th PC(USA) General Assembly passed six important environmental overtures. The Presbyterian for Carbon Dividends Team has created a resource to learn about these significant policies.

- What exactly do the overtures encourage/advocate for?
- What direction do the overtures suggest for Presbyterians as individuals, groups, or congregations as they determine their path forward?

The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church, 4881 W Panther Creek, The Woodlands, 77381 will host a discussion on **April 8** from 10 a.m. – 12 Noon, it will be In-person or Zoom. Please contact Cinda Hitchcock to receive further information and the Zoom link. cchtx@att.net



MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP PRESENTS

PILGRIMAGE AND SACRIFICE

A Musical Meditation for Holy Saturday

SATURDAY | **APRIL 8, 2023** | 5:00 p.m.

Gather with us in the stillness of Holy Saturday as **Matthew Dirst**, mezzo-soprano **Cecilia Duarte** and tenor **Thomas O'Neill** present music of meditation on the mysteries of the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Christ for voice and

piano: **Benjamin Britten** – *Canticle II: Abraham and Isaac* (1952) • **Samuel Barber** – selections from *Hermit Songs* (1954) • Canadian composer **Robert Fleming** – *The Confession Stone: Songs of Mary* (1968) with texts by African American poet **Owen Dodson** • plus keyboard works by **Bach** and **Brahms**.

FREE

Program duration about one hour



FOLLOW US ONLINE

Music at St Philip

ST. PHILIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 4807 SAN FELIPE STREET | HOUSTON, TEXAS

THE **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE** & **EARTH CARE TEAM**
INVITES YOU TO...

THE ST. PHILIP

BBOQ PICNIC



&
**EARTH DAY
CELEBRATION**



ON THE LAWN

SUNDAY - APRIL 23

{ starts at noon }

**BEEF BRISKET, RIBS & SAUSAGE
WILL BE PROVIDED.**

PLEASE BRING A POTLUCK DISH TO SHARE FOR 8 PEOPLE

*Last names
that begin with...*

A-M: SIDE DISH OR SALAD N-Z: DESSERT

QUESTIONS? CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (713-622-4807)
OR SEND AN EMAIL TO: welcome@saintphilip.net

INTERGENERATIONAL

FEEL FREE TO WEAR CASUAL OUTDOOR ATTIRE.

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

9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

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 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.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Room 204—We are continuing our study of the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah in 2 Kings with the story of Elisha and the fate of 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.

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.

Church & Society will **not** meet Easter Sunday, **April 9**, so that we can attend the Easter morning breakfast. **April 16** - The St. Philip Peace & Social Justice Committee presents a series of classes pertaining to the climate crisis as a part of St. Philip’s designation as an Earth Care Congregation. Beginning with Climate Confidential: A Life of Climate Advocacy - Hear the story of Mark Wenzler’s work as an environmental prosecutor, public interest trial attorney, grassroots organizer, federal lobbyist, and Green Group

executive to confront powerful interests aligned against a healthy environment, from polluting industries to politicians to organized crime bosses. Mark Wenzler is the Director of Chautauqua Climate Change Initiative.

SPa (St. Philip Adults) – Room 200—This year, SPa returns to its same place and time. We 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!

SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 5 - 2023 SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

Please plan to join us on Saturday, **August 5** for St. Philip’s annual Summer Lecture Series. This year’s speaker will be the Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap, Vice President of the Evangelical Environmental Network and author of the recently-published book, *Following Jesus in a Warming World - a Christian Call to Climate Action*. More details to come. Please contact Omar Rouchon with any questions.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP CONCLUDES 2ND YEAR OF ANTI-RACISM STUDY

This year’s book and discussion group, sponsored by the Peacemaking/Social Justice Committee, has completed a 2nd year of exploration of racism in America. *Good White Racist*, by Kerry Connelly, was our most recent review. The group met by zoom, 1st Tuesday nights of the month, 7-8 p.m. This recent study afforded us the opportunity to learn a lot – about our country’s often racist policies and laws, about social customs past and present, about ourselves. The role of the church in social and racial injustices was not overlooked.

What’s next? We will take a brief break, but future studies are not ruled out. We fifteen or so participants agreed that we want to continue to learn, to remain informed about racial and other injustices, and to highlight those issues to our church community. St. Philip has been beacon over the years in areas of social justice and advocacy. This current study gave us reason to hope that individually and as a community we will continue to seek repentance and experience hope.

Stay tuned. More information later about a future book study. All St. Philippians and others will be welcome to join us!

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families— Robin & Gary Willis; CJ Miller; Jennifer Wilson; Jane Malczewsky; Jan Fox; Beverly Baker; Peg Palisin; Beverly Hudson; Susan Huffman; Mary Sinderson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Lane Fletcher; Austin Lippincott; Richard Johnson; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Willow Polk – niece of Sharon Webb; Truxillo family – Wayne and Sandra Truxillo; John Murphy, Sr. – cousin of Gary Gardner; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Susan Everhart – niece 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; Alan Rowe—father of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound—Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Ellen MacDonald; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Sondra Sullivan; and Jody Tomforde.

Friends of St. Philippians— Rosebud Wiese Kirby – friend of Tina Bryan; Jacqueline Boyd – friend of Kate Burkart; Carol Gilliland - friend of Orlean Anderson; 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.

CONTRIBUTIONS

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.

Next edition: April 18; Deadline [April 13—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.



MATTHEW 25



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056

Phone: 713.622.4807 Fax: 713.622.5405 www.saintphilip.net