

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

Rev. Keatan King
Associate Pastor

Rev. Omar Rouchon
Associate Pastor

Dr. Randall SwansonDirector of Music

Dr. Matthew DirstOrganist

Micah Meyers
Art Director

Wilbert Parada Facilities Supervisor

Dimas Parada
Custodian

Denise Ferrell

Bookkeeper

Lorrie Castle
Office Manager
Newsletter Editor

Susan Estill

Editor Emerita



Volume 67, Issue 13

PHILIP-EYE

2023 SUMMER LECTURE SERIES CLIMATE CHANGE THE GOSPEL & THE CHURCH

Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap

Vice President of the Evangelical Environmental Network and author, Following Jesus in a Warming World

Have you ever looked at the effects of climate change and the apathy of so many Christians around you and wondered, "What are we missing here?" Why has the U.S church struggled so mightily to understand the climate crisis as a moral and gospel issue, and instead so often abandoned it to the domain of the culture wars? In these lectures, we will trace some of the historical reasons for the U.S. church's lukewarm engagement with climate change, explore how Scripture might be able to guide us toward a more faithful way forward, and plot out an active and hopeful path for the church as we all strive to follow Jesus more closely in a warming world.

Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap serves as the Vice President of the Evangelical Environmental Network. He holds an undergraduate degree in religious studies from Calvin University (B.A. '12), a Master of Divinity degree from Western Theological Seminary (M.Div. '16), and is ordained in the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA). For the last eleven years, he has educated and mobilized Christians around the world to address the climate crisis as an act of discipleship and neighbor-love.

The St. Philip Education Committee invites you to join us for our annual Summer Lecture Series on Saturday, **August 5** when Rev. Meyaard-Schaap will present three lectures. This event is free and open to the public, and lunch will be on your own. Contact Omar Rouchon (omar@saintphilip.net) or David Castro (dmc.davidcastro@gmail.com) with any questions. Visit saintphilip.net for further details. It will be live-streamed at: http://saintphilip.net/Summer_LectureSeries.html.

Saturday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Breakfast Fellowship

9:15-10:15 a.m. Lecture #1 10:30-11:30 a.m. Lecture #2

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own

1:00- 2:00 p.m. Lecture #3

All lectures will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

A Message from the Director of Music

Dear St. Philip members and friends,

Many of you by now may be aware that I have been planning to retire from St. Philip around this time next year — in 2024 — leaving a good span of time for church leadership to form a search committee and perhaps even hire your next Director of Music before my departure. That timeline has been my own roadmap these last many months, and I have been looking very much forward to a great eighth and final year of music making with all of you.

In thinking about what might lie beyond St. Philip as I ease toward retirement (musicians rarely fully retire!), one of the things that has become clear is that I would like to do more organ playing, as well as have more time for fitness, reading, traveling, and family. Though I shouldn't be, I am always amazed when prospects that align with one's heart seem to appear at just the right time — "God moving in a mysterious way," as the English poet William Cowper wrote — or the "synchronicity of the universe," as posited by the Swiss psychologist Carl Jung. Just such an unexpected grace has now opened in my life, an opportunity that will take me home to Chicago about nine months sooner than originally planned. After much, much thought, a lot of prayer, consultation with friends and colleagues, and with the support of our own wonderful John Wurster, I have accepted a position in Winnetka, Illinois as Organist at Winnetka Congregational Church, beginning this December, 2023. My last Sunday at St. Philip will be for the celebration of All Saints on November 5.

The decision to accept this new life opportunity did not come quickly or easily. While we will still have time to say our formal goodbyes in the months to come, the prospect of leaving all of you weighs heavily on my heart. You all have made a welcome home for me here at St. Philip, and we have done many great things over these last 7+ years. There are so many things I will miss about St. Philip and Houston — mostly I will miss all of you! In spite of a huge pandemic disruption, all the music we have made — and the music still to come this fall — all the concerts and special programs we have produced at St. Philip since my arrival in 2016 (nearly 60 of them! — including Matthew Dirst's brilliant organ

recital just three weeks ago, and Marie Rubis Bauer's upcoming recital mentioned below), all the beautiful services of worship and witness we have sung and prayed together (the number of which is well into the mid-hundreds at least!), and most especially all the friendships forged with so many of you — all of these have filled and nourished my heart with love and memories that I will carry and cherish forever.

Thank you so very much for all,

Randall Swanson
Director of Music



PROGRAM NO. 2

MARIE RUBIS BAUER

Director of Music and Organist of St Cecilia Cathedral • Omaha

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20 | 5 PM





Blessed Is She Among Women

MUSIC BY Fanny Mendelssohn • Florence Price Cecilia McDowall • Rachel Laurin • Nicolas de Grigny and Dan Locklair

FREE ADMISSION (contributions welcome)

Fritts Organ, Op. 29 (2010) 3 manuals/48 stops
ST PHILIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • HOUSTON, TX

LIVING WATERS FOR THE WORLD

Houston Group of Churches / Bellaire SW Rotary Club / Faith Presbyterian Huntsville, Ala. Mission Update – August 2023

We have heard a lot this year about water shortages and in March the UN Clean Water Conference took place, the first UN conference on water in almost 50 years and it has come at a time when there is an urgent need for water action. Safe drinking water is still in scarce supply, a quarter of the world is in extreme high-water stress, with floods and droughts occurring all around us.

Sadly, there are pages of statistics that support a need for accelerated action, but as one might imagine, much like Climate Change issues are so complex that global forums can only do so much. We selected one quote that we carried away from the recent UN Clean Water Conference in March and that is: "While hundreds of commitments deserve praise for their scope, rigor, and ambition, many lack the proper finance, quantifiable targets and cross-border action needed to truly overcome water challenges. Still others failed to consider climate change or address industry and agriculture, some of the biggest water consumers". (WRI 3/30/23)

For this reason, the Living Waters for the World (LWW) Team, with your assistance and dedication, are doing all we can, as urgently as we can, to make a significant difference, in those few Communities, that we can reach. That is all God can ask of us.

SPPC's leadership and their generosity to Living Waters for the World projects goes back 15 years, initially with members from Rotary, St. John's, Christ Church, and St. Philip, working in Haiti and Cuba, to follow the Living Waters for the World model, for building and implementing inexpensive but reliable Clean Water Plants in many needy communities. Recently, the LWW Houston Group has refocused efforts in the very poor rural areas of Tabasco, Mexico. Last year we installed a new Plant in Jaramillo, Mexico, just 40km south of the coast, directly across the Gulf of Mexico. The area is very rural and poor, with farming (sugar cane, cocoa, fruit, vegetable and fishing are the main employers). Income is low and seasonal, and highly impacted by rain and flooding. Water is plentiful but undrinkable due to high levels of hardness, contaminants, and total dissolved solids. All of these Living Waters for the World installations can fully eliminate.

This November 6-10, we are scheduled to install a new water plant in Huimanguillo, Tabasco, 25 km south of Jaramillo. Attached are recent photos, from our trips in February and June and current progress on the Water Plant construction, being undertaken in partnership with our incountry partners, the Iglesia Presbiteriana "Principe de Paz". The Houston Team finished up assessments on 6

additional sites, this June, and we will be selecting a new project for 2024. We also stand committed, with Bellaire/SW Rotary and are looking to Kenya for another possible equipment installation, next year.

Thank you for your continued support of Living Waters for the World and the World's Clean Water mission. Blessings

Ed and Janet Hess, David and Joyce Fox, Kip Frautschi

Huimanguillo Water Plant Construction. Installation planned for November 2023.





Future installation sites for 2024.



Jaramillo plant installation in 2022.



New and larger bottling vehicle for partners in Chankom. July 2023.





CHURCH & SOCIETY FALL 2023 PRESENTATIONS

September 10—*Rally Day* - Church & Society class reunion and preview of the fall term.

September 17—"Race and Ethnicity" Dr. Justin Reed is Assistant Professor of Old Testament/Hebrew Bible at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

September 24— "Filmmaking With the Harris County Juvenile Justice Residency Program" Dan Gordon is Creator/ Executive Producer for Take the Stage Educational Media. October 1—"Update on Juvenile Justice in Texas from The Texas Center for Justice & Equity" Jay Jenkins, J.D. is the Harris

County Project Attorney.

October 8,15, 22, and 29 focus on themes of the history of the denomination in relation to Reformation Sunday, on October 29 including a look at the ways in which the Presbyterian Church exemplifies the motto "Ecclesia Reformata, Semper Reformanda" or how the church always is evolving.

October 8—"Children at the Lord's Table - Local Church Educators' response to the 1983 reunion policy regarding children taking Communion" Mickey Meyers is Co-author of Get Ready! Get Set! Worship!—A Resource for Including Children in Worship.

October 15—Priesthood of Believers" The priesthood of all believers is a cornerstone of Reformed Theology, which should change how we live our lives each and every day, including how we pursue our daily vocations. Rev. Omar Rouchon is an Associate Pastor at St. Philip.

October 22—"Mothers, Martyrs, Mystics, Maryology, Early Desert Mothers" - the collection of wisdom of Christian Women across centuries and how we are nourished and how our theological thinking is influenced by discovering their writings Rev. Keatan King an Associate Pastor at St. Philip

October 29 - Reformation Sunday - "What's Happening With the Presbyterians?" -Rev. Dr. Terri Ott - Editor & publisher of Presbyterian Outlook - author of "Necessary Risks: Challenges Privileged People Need to Face" and the blog "Something to Say: Honest words about religion, Scripture and life."

November 5, 12, 19, and 24 focus on Interfaith Communities

November 5 - "The Virgin Mary on Compassion: A Muslim Perspective" - Mary, the humble mother of Jesus, is a model of faith, humility, and virtue - both in the Bible, and in the Quran, the holy book of Muslims.- Dr. Zahra Jamal - Founder and CEO of The Inclusion Expert, a diversity consultancy on leadership strategy, workplace diversity and Muslim cultures

November 12 - "The Asia Society Explore Asia: Culture Camp for Kids: Documentary Filmmaking" - A two-week filmmaking camp - Dan Gordon is the Kids TV producer who led campers in scripting, filming, and acting in an original movie that explores the themes of memory and world religions.

November 19—"My Great Grandfather's Story - Emir Abdel-kader al-Jazairi" Algerian resistance leader and religious reformer - Suna Umari a retired archivist/historian for the Rothko Chapel.

November 26—"A Rabbi Looks at the New Testament" Rabbi Steven Morgen—Associate Rabbi at Beth Yeshurun.

December Advent Season focus on fine arts and media.

December 3— "St. Philip Quilts for God's Precious Children" Hope Wilmarth—Fiber Artist & St. Philip Stitchers.

December 10— "Guillermo del Toro's film **Pinocchio**" Kate Burkart - St. Philip media guru.

December 17—"Our Summer Spiritual Pilgrimage to Montreat and Historical Sites of the Civil Rights Movement" Rev. Keatan King, Rev. Omar Rouchon and St. Philip High School students.

December 31—Sunday Morning New Years Eve Church & Society Celebration and Preview of the Spring 2024 Term.

SUNDAY OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

(Are on recess until September 10)

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.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

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@saintphlip.net. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome!

LAMBETH STUDY–Keatan King leads young adults in bible 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 **August 10** at 7:00 p.m. which will be a social gathering. 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

Class is on a break until **September 15.** 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. Circles are on recess until Sunday, September 17 for the Joint Circle Luncheon.

CALLING ALL WORSHIP LEADERS!

Whether you love any opportunity to lead liturgy or you're a first-timer we need you. If you would to be the Liturgist at the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service this year; there are only a few Sundays left! They are: **October 8**; and **December 3**.

If you would like to be Liturgist on any of these days please contact Roderick James via text at 713-503-0785 or by email at immesry@me.com.

Blessings, Roderick

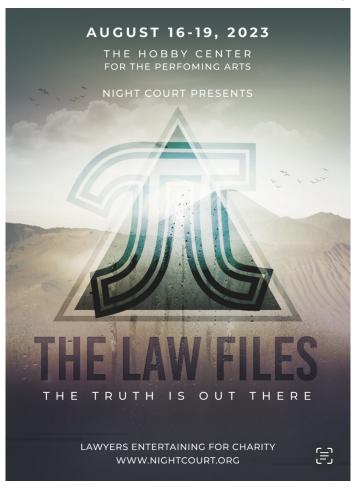
ATTENTION STOCK DONORS!

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 Rhonda Sands, treasurer at <u>Rsands2701@aol.com</u> or by phone at 713-315-0096 (cell).



Night Court in August: A fun way to support one of our mission partners!

Tickets are on sale for @nightcourt at the Hobby Center! Watch as Houston's all-lawyer theater company puts on an original musical comedy! Part of the ticket proceeds benefit The Beacon's civil legal aid program known as Beacon Law if you use this link:

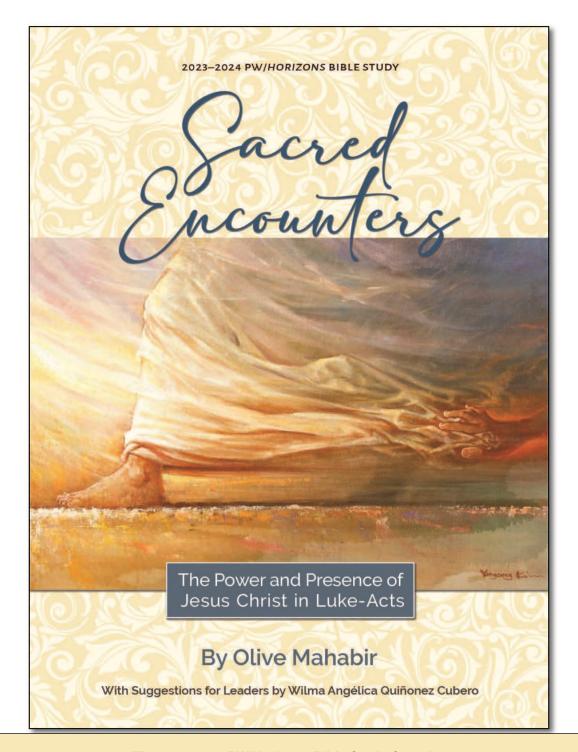
https://my.thehobbycenter.org/overview/6206?promoApplied=true

Show dates are **August 16-19** and attorneys can receive 2 hours of Ethics CLE credits for attending the show! It's great fun and for a good cause!!



VISIT ISRAEL IN 2024

We are putting together a St. Philip trip to Israel for **April 1-12**, **2024**. If you are interested in seeing the trip brochure or need other information, please contact John Wurster (john@saintphilip.net). Spots still available.



The 2023-2024 PW/Horizons Bible Study Overview SACRED ENCOUNTERS—The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts

By Olive Mahabir

Books can be purchased before and after worship on August 6 or contact the office—713-622-4807.

There will be one in-person overview on Saturday, August 12, at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 2525 N. Gessner Rd, Houston TX 77080. Registration and refreshments at 9:30am, followed by overview from 10:00 am to 12 noon Register with Debbi Englade at 713-398-2299 (call or text) or email dmenglade@yahoo.com.

If you would rather attend a virtual overview, there will be an overview via Zoom on Saturday, August 19, at 10:00 am to 12 noon. You may email Patti Nanney at pananney@sbcglobal.net, and she will email you the Zoom link.

All overviews will be presented by Patti Nanney, R.E., Spring Branch Presbyterian Church. It will be helpful if you bring your copy of the Bible study to the overview.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Larraine Lyter-Reed (grandmother), Nate Lee and Clara Reed-Lee (parents) welcomed Edward Lloyd on July 11. The family of Ellen MacDonald upon her death on June 13. A memorial service will be August 26 at 11:00 a.m.

St. Philippians and their families—Susan Estill; Nancy Johnson; Bill Camfield; Sandra Truxillo; Cynthia Shoupe; Deb Burks; Sharon Webb; Shirley Coffman; Kathryn Harwood; Robin & Gary Willis; Beverly Baker; Beverly Hudson; Mary Sinderson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Austin Lippincott; Richard Johnson; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson & John Bonica; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Paige Everhart, sister of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Leonardo Knowles Richard "Leo" - grandson of Beth & Fort Flowers; Halley Delany – sister of Nina Lambright; 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; Darryl Cazes—brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine; John Anderson—brother of Tom Anderson; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound—Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philippians— Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach—friends of Stephen Paine; Jacqueline Boyd—friend of Kate Burkart; Carol Gilliland—friend of Orlean Anderson; Betsy Shear Lewis—friend of Laney Miller; and Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge.

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.

For the month of July there will only be one edition of the Philip-Eye.

Next edition: Tuesday, August 15; Deadline <u>August 10—3:00 p.m.</u>
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.

























4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056 Phone: 713.622.4807 Fax: 713.622.5405 www.saintphilip.net