

PHILIP-EYE

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. PHILIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U.S.A.

Volume 62, Number 4

Houston, Texas

February 20, 2018

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
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Custodian

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STAY CONNECTED!

**INTRODUCING
THE NEW APP
My ST. PHILIP**

THANK YOU, DIMAS!

By Suzanne Kerr, Personnel Committee and Ed Hess, Property Committee

We are celebrating Dimas Parada, our Custodian, for his faithful service to St. Philip for over ten years. Dimas was born in El Salvador in 1982, but his parents brought him to Texas when he was just 3-1/2 years old. Happily, Dimas became a citizen of the United States in 2002!

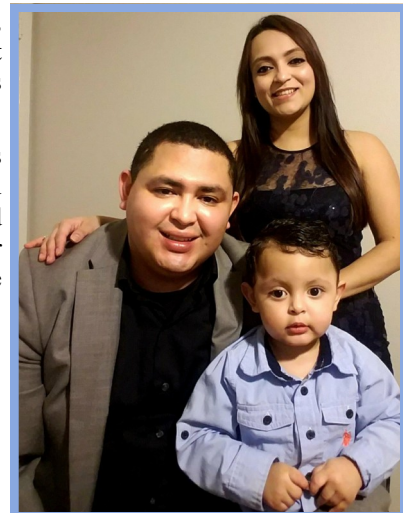
Dimas graduated from Hastings High School and attended the University of Houston for a time before joining the workforce. One of his first full-time jobs was with Sheraton Hotels where he learned how to stage large events. This included learning how to properly space chairs for various seating arrangements, set up tables for banquets, and decorate the tables. Dimas enjoyed the complexity and precision required for each unique event. In 2007, Dimas started working for St. Philip full-time. In his spare time, he also worked part-time for Burger King in service and management. There was method in his madness as Dimas wanted to obtain a food service manager certification—which he did. Dimas recently renewed that certification with St. Philip's full support. The certification has proved valuable to St. Philip because Dimas can help Chuck Johnson run our upgraded kitchen. Dimas' new goal is to obtain an Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) certification so that he can take on a bigger role in managing St. Philip's HVAC system. Once again, St. Philip is supporting Dimas all the way. Currently, Dimas handles HVAC scheduling which Ed Hess says is a complex and also challenging job since people's comfort levels vary (oh my)!

The maintenance of our church requires a serious awareness of safety protocol. In 2010, Dimas was asked to help remove the old electric organ and 20 speakers from the choir loft to make way for the new Fritts pipe organ. Dimas took it upon himself to steady the ladder they were using. The crew started sliding the last and heaviest speaker (some say 500 lbs.) down the ladder when something went wrong. The speaker fell against the ladder—which bent from the weight—and then landed on Dimas' right shoulder. Miraculously, Dimas was able to steady the speaker until others could get it safely to the ground. And just as miraculously, Dimas was not hurt! Many St. Philip projects require safe working practices such as putting the Christmas stars up in the chancel and removing pews from the sanctuary when the floors need polishing. St. Philip is fortunate to have Dimas and his experience to continue our good safety record.

As many of you know, Dimas is an accomplished musician. For years, he has helped lead our Sunday services at Mo Ranch, and helped with the music for our children's plays—Joseph's Coat of Many Colors and Moses and the 10 Plagues. Dimas is knowledgeable about St. Philip's performance sound systems, and he credits Ken Meyers for some early mentoring in that area. Dimas also supports Oasis de Amor Church (led by his brother) with his vocal and bass guitar talents.

Dimas is very happy at St. Philip and grateful for the church's faith in him. Dimas is also grateful to have a wonderful and loving family—first and foremost his wife, AnnBeth, and adorable son, Daniel (20 months). Thank you, Dimas, for your quiet and thoughtful presence among us, and for the positive ways you contribute to the ministry of St. Philip.

We will celebrate this anniversary with Dimas and his family on March 4, following the 11:00 service in the Gathering Area.



Dear Friends,

Over the past year, I've enjoyed learning more about Newspring (www.newspringcenter.org), a ministry seeking to make positive social and economic impact in the Spring Branch area. Newspring Visual Arts programs support academic achievement and career opportunities for high school and college students from Spring Branch. Newspring's Business Plan Competition supports social entrepreneurship and economic development in Spring Branch. St. Philip members old and new have been involved in Newspring in various ways. Impressed with the impact of this ministry in our community, our Central Mission Endowment Fund supported Newspring with a grant last fall. After a recent decision by the Session, we are also participating in Newspring's butterfly festival this spring. Super-sized aluminum butterflies will be created and placed across the area to raise awareness and support for Newspring. We will have a butterfly at St. Philip that should arrive for Easter. Designed by Micah Meyers, our butterfly will incorporate many of the artistic themes from our print and digital media. You can help make our butterfly possible by contributing to the church this Lent and marking your gift "Newspring."

We are bringing a prayer tree into our worship again this Lent. Keeping with the butterfly theme, butterfly shaped paper will be available for us to record the names of those for whom we pray. These butterflies will be added to the tree as a visual demonstration of the prayers of our hearts. Over the weeks, as our prayers grow and as we move closer to Easter, more and more butterflies will find a place on the tree.

Worship on Wednesdays is part of our common life that enriches our Lenten journey. This year's preachers are preparing sermons based on selections from the Hebrew prophets. We look forward to having two new pastors in the presbytery with us: Chad Lawson, pastor at First Church in Crockett, will be here **February 21**. Andy Gans, pastor at Pines Church in Houston, will be here **February 28**. In March, we welcome Rose Niles, Laureen Suba, and Kristin Huffman. Worship is at 12 noon with lunch available in the Gathering Area at 12:30.

With the words of the prophets and the hopeful signs of butterflies, Lent at St. Philip has much promise. I'm grateful for the journey we share together.

Faithfully yours,



SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS

The next service of healing and wholeness will be **February 25**. In this service, we claim God's promise of well-being and seek God's healing touch in body, mind, and spirit. The service includes individual prayers with the laying-on of hands and anointing with oil, along with scripture readings and hymns. Those seeking healing in their own lives or in the lives of others are encouraged to attend, as well as those who feel called to pray with those who suffer. 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

WORSHIP & MUSIC

"Children of a Greater God: Our Place in Creation"

Speaker for the 21st annual Duerr Lecture Series, **February 25, 26, and 27**, D. Cameron (Cam) Murchison, is a native of Louisiana and is steeped in the ways of Cajun cooking and Cajun humor. His lectures, "Children of a Greater God: Our Place in Creation" seek a recovered awareness of the Bible's summons to humanity that recognizes that all creation is intended for praise. Our place in this greater arc of God's purpose is to participate in the preservation and protection of not only humanity, but of all that God has made. This will involve remembering creation's chief end, exploration of its current crisis, consideration of how fundamental aspects of our lives are implicated; and investigation of what other animals have to teach us. Dr. Murchison will preach at both services on Sunday morning, "All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir," Psalm 148; Romans 8:18-21.

Dr. Murchison will be preaching at the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services on Sunday morning. All lectures begin at 7:00 p.m. Sunday night's lecture will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Lectures on Monday and Tuesday evenings will take place in Room 209, the choir rehearsal room. The sermon and all lectures will be recorded and available in sets of four CDs or by downloadable file. Child care is available for each lecture by calling the church office, 713-622-4807.

The lecture series was established in 1998 in memory of Chris Duerr, with the purpose of bringing the best Reformed scholars and preachers to St. Philip and the wider community each year. Duerr was born and raised in Germany, growing up during the years of World War II. He came to the U.S. in 1950 in the first class of Fulbright Scholars from Germany, studying at Michigan State University. He also studied at the University of Hamburg, Germany, where he received the equivalent of a Master's Degree in political economics. He moved permanently to the States in 1968, becoming a naturalized citizen in 1973. He joined St. Philip in 1979 and later served as a ruling elder.

The Lecture Series was established through generous contributions made in Duerr's memory. While the lectures are free and open to everyone, your gift to ensure the continuation of the series on an annual basis is greatly appreciated. Gifts may be made to the series in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one. Checks should be made payable to St. Philip, marked "Duerr Lecture Series" and sent to the church office. Contributions may also be made on the St. Philip website, www.saintphilip.net, or by credit card during the lecture series.

Come and take part in the lectures for a time of challenging study and spiritual renewal.

*Duerr
Lecture
Series*

MO-RANCH RETREAT WEEKEND

JUNE 7-10, 2018

Deadline: March 5

Each June, members of St Philip Presbyterian Church travel to the Texas Hill Country for a long weekend of Christian fellowship. In the beautiful surroundings of Mo-Ranch, we study, play, and relax as a church family. Our program begins after supper on Thursday and continues through worship on Sunday morning. Many families arrive earlier on Thursday to enjoy the ranch and time in the river. Most of us find it difficult to leave on Sunday.

This year our keynote presenter will be Rev. John Williams, Chaplain and Director of Church Relations at Austin College in Sherman. He is founder and director of the ACTivators—a program through which, since 1995, 566 Austin College students have traveled over 172,000 miles to help plan and lead 675 ministry events in thirteen states involving over 52,000 Presbyterian children, youth, college students, young adults, formerly-young adults, and senior citizens.

Our group will be housed in Mo-Ranch's hotel-style accommodations. **Prices are for the full weekend and include all meals from Friday breakfast.** (Thursday dinner is an option you may add if you choose.) We regret that we cannot prorate the fee: Mo-Ranch requires that we book for the full retreat. Please register early to avoid disappointment.

REGISTRATION will continue until **March 5**. This year registration has been digitized and there are two ways to complete the process: (i) online via the St Philip website (saintphilip.net); (ii) with Lorrie Castle's help in the church office. **All registrations must be completed by March 5.**

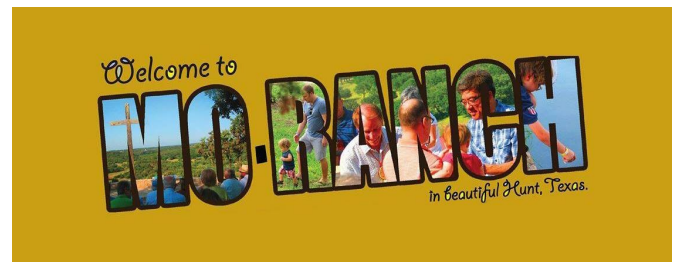
WE REGRET WE CANNOT HOLD SPACE ON THE RETREAT FOR ANYONE WITHOUT A COMPLETED REGISTRATION.

ACCOMMODATIONS

(Prices cover **room and meals*** for the weekend)

WYNNE LODGE/FLATO LODGE (each room has two queen beds)

Adult (single accommodation): \$468*
 Adult (room shared by 2 adults): \$274.50* each
 Adult (room shared by 3 adults): \$217* each
 Adult (room shared by 4 adults): \$183* each
 Youth 12-18 in same room: \$81* per child
 Child 4-11: \$58.25* per child



PHEASANT RUN (rooms have one or two queen beds)

Adult (single accommodation): \$438*
 Adult (room shared by 2 adults): \$259.50* each
 Adult (room shared by 3 adults): \$207* each
 Adult (room shared by 4 adults): \$180.75* each
 Youth 12-18 in same room: \$81* per child
 Child 4-11: \$58.25* per child

MANOR HOUSE - This lodging is reserved for families. All rooms share a common living room. If you would like to stay here please notify a committee member or send an email to moranch@saintphilip.net. There are large rooms with multiple beds (some twins, some queens in varying combinations).

Room Cost: \$544 plus meals for each adult, youth, or child sharing the room

Meals Friday Breakfast to Sunday Breakfast: Youth/Adult: \$81*; Child 4-11: \$58.25*

* **Optional Add-on: Thursday Dinner--Adults and Youth \$14.25; Children (ages 4-11) \$10**

Mo-Ranch Blog (January 31, 2018) an excerpt from an interview with Jane and Lee Larkin. "We are so grateful that a place like Mo-Ranch exists with a worshipping and learning community that welcomes all. It's a place of peace, comfort and rejuvenation to anyone that finds themselves here," said Jane. "Whether you are visiting the ranch for just the day, or attending one of the many retreats their programming offers, you are going to have an incredible and transformational experience." If you would like to read the article in full go to: <https://www.moranch.org/supporter-spotlight-jane-lee-larkin/>

Join Lee, Jane and their family at Mo-Ranch in June—sign up now!

Child Piano Prodigies

SUNDAY | MARCH 18, 2018 | 4:00 p.m.

MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP 
 — Concert Series —



In conjunction with Houston Tuesday Music Club, we present the winners of the **2018 Rochelle Liebling Kahan Memorial Fund Competition for Child Piano Prodigies**. Established in 2005 by the Liebling Kahan family under the auspices of HTMC, the contest is open to Houston area children between the ages of six and nine, and the level of talent shown by participants is astonishingly high.

FREE concert | **Concert Series** donations welcome

FELLOWSHIP FUN

CO-ED PICK-UP BASKETBALL

Join us for friendly competition and exercise through pick-up basketball in the gym at Bellaire United Methodist Church (4417 Bellaire Blvd, Bellaire, TX 77401). We meet weekly on **Wednesdays** at 7 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. No broken ankles allowed. For more info or questions contact Henry Owen r.henry.owen@gmail.com or 704-975-4005.



PW CIRCLES

- Sunday Circle—3rd Sunday of the month after 11 a.m. service in the Dining Room
- Monday Morning Saints—2nd Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Dining Room
- Wednesday Morning Circle—4th Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Parlor
- Wednesday Evening Circle—1st Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. in the Dining Room

THROWBACK ST. PHILIP

See page 6 for information about these pictures. If you have any pictures from activities, including Central Presbyterian Church, please contact Lorrie Castle at lorrie@saintphilip.net or 713-622-4807.

LET US PRAY FOR...

Family of Sarah Elizabeth (Beth) Hendrickson—who died on February 5, 2018.

St. Philippians and their families— Arlette Keene, Napoleon Parada—Wilbert and Dimas Parada’s father, Bessie Johnson, mother of Pat Lindsay, Dick Howard, John Hannah, Ian Pearce, Rusty Howard, Phillip McDaniel, Mickey Meyers, Wanda McHone, Ruth Weber, Carol Paine Kendrick, Erica Stokes, Elizabeth Carlton Lithio, Diane Boddington Nahajzer, Joe Ann Berwick, George Helland, T.E. “Joe” Keever, Alice Pennington, Joyce Randolph, Van Rathgeber, Greg Scalpino, and Penny Vieau

Friends of St. Philippians—Kimmie Hatfield-of Stephen Paine; Barry McCarthy-of Wayne and Sandra Truxillo; and Grady Reed-of Stephen Paine



UPDATES FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

NURSERY AND PRESCHOOL

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 A.M.

Godly Play (Age 3 to K)—Room 104
Grades 1 & 2—Room 105 Grades 3,4 & 5—Room 103
Grades 6-8—Room 206 Grades 9-12—Room 205

LISTENING FOR GOD—Room 202—Beginning **February 25** and continuing for five weeks during the Sunday School hour, John Wurster and Deb Burks lead a Lenten class based on the anthology *Listening for God, volume 2*. Room 202.

BIBLE STUDY—Room 204—The class is engaged in a study of the book of 2 Samuel which tells of the rise and survival of David as their leader, revealing throughout the very human traits of the people involved in the narrative. The Bible study class utilizes the insights of a variety of scholars to expand our understanding of God's message of faithfulness to His people. Nancy Cook and Al Waldrop lead the discussions. All are welcome.

CHURCH & SOCIETY—Room 201— **February 25** - *Helping the Vulnerable: Legal Assistance for Immigrant Victims of Crime*—The Immigration Clinic at University of Houston Law Center specializes in handling applications for asylum on behalf of victims of torture and persecution, immigrants who have been victims of domestic violence, human trafficking and crime, and children of those fleeing civil war, genocide or political repression. Presented by Prof. Josephine Sorgwe, Clinical Supervising Attorney, Immigration Clinic. **March 4** - *Refugee Council USA*—Dedicated to Refugee Protection, Welcome and Excellence in the Refugee Resettlement Program Presented by Gislaine Williams, Refugee Council USA Texas Grassroots Organizer.

SPa—Room 200— We will continue a Lenten Bible study using the hot-off-the-press (and accordingly, a little challenging to obtain) book *Interrupting Silence -God's Command to Speak Out* by Walter Brueggemann, a UCC minister, theological scholar, seminary professor, prolific author, and pillar in the Church writ large. Brueggemann was a regular contributor to the Saving Jesus series we just wrapped up. ***You are encouraged to purchase a copy of the book.** It is not yet in stock at Amazon, but the [PCUSA Store](#) and [Christian Books](#) have it now.* If you are not able to obtain a copy as we begin, please join us still! Let me know if you have any questions. Please contact Omar Rouchon if you have any questions omar@saintphilip.net.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL—Room 203—**February 25** - On the second and fourth Sunday of each month, children in Pre-K through first grade are invited to attend Children's Chapel with

Omar Rouchon and a parent-helper following the conversation with children during the 11 o'clock service. 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. Please contact Omar Rouchon if you have any questions.

WEEKDAY CLASSES

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

John Wurster leads this study Wednesday mornings at 10:30 in the Dining Room. Everyone is welcome.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Men of all ages are welcome to participate in the self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday in the Conference Room at noon. The book they are studying is *Amazing Grace*, by Kathleen Norris. The 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

On Monday, **February 26**, at 5:30 p.m., we continue our discussion of Jonathan Haidt's book *The Righteous Mind* with chapter 4, "Vote for me (Here's why)." We meet for fellowship, a brief devotional, and study each second and fourth Monday, in the dining room (in the administration building, at the south end of campus). Note: Though our meetings provide plenty of food for thought, brown-bag meals are welcome if you would like to join us for the Duerr lecture following our gathering, at 7:00 p.m. Beverages will be provided.

PUB CLUB

Pub Club is a new 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. Our next gathering is Tuesday, **February 27** at 7 p.m. Muldoon's Patio, 2611 Augusta Dr., 77057. 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 the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Our next meeting on **March 8** we will discuss *Out of the Easy* by Ruta Sepetys. The location will be at the home of Barbara Cavanaugh. This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. For more information contact Sarah O'Dell at: sarah.odell6@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 **March 13** at 6:30 p.m. Under the Volcano, 2349 Bissonnet St. 77005.

MARCH COMMUNION OFFERING

For 60 years, The Women’s Home has been helping women build whole lives. They offer women a home and a model of care called Whole Life. Many of the women are homeless and lack job skills and education due to substance abuse and mental illness. Whole Life integrates emotional and mental wellness, physical wellness, spiritual wellness, and fiscal wellness. Last year, The Women’s House launched an 84-unit apartment complex with two and three bedroom units that will provide affordable housing and support services to women and their families. It will also provide after-school care for children, behavioral health services for families and workforce development training for adults.

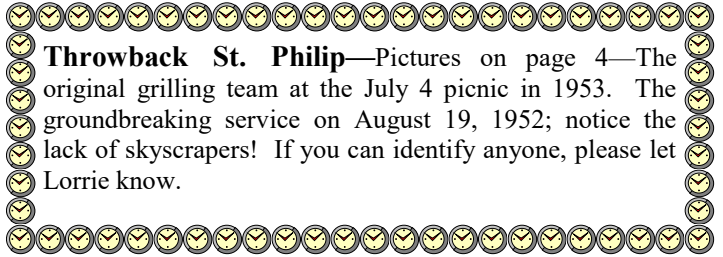
THE WOMEN’S HOME

Annually, St. Philip gathers items for Easter boxes to give to women at The Women’s Home. The boxes include personal items and accessories. If you would like to contribute one or more of these goods, please bring to worship or the office and put in the box marked The Women’s Home beginning next week. We will collect items until Sunday, **March 18** and the goal is to donate at least 55 boxes. If you would prefer to have someone else do the shopping, donations are taken. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Webb at sharonwebb0@gmail.com (please note that is a zero after Webb, not an "O") or at 713-304-4814. Items needed include toiletries, personal items, and note cards, cosmetics, pantyhose, knee highs, toothpaste, tissues, combs, hairspray, shampoo (10-12 oz) hotel samples, postage stamps, jewelry, small Easter novelties, hand lotion, scarves, washcloths, deodorant, razors, memo pads, greeting cards, pens/pencils and photo boxes. Join us in packing on March 25 at 12:00 p.m. in the Arts & Crafts Studio.

MY DONATION OF VOLUNTEER TIME

During this season of Lent, the Mission Committee is inviting everyone to focus on reaching out to others rather than personally giving something up. We want to raise the awareness of how members of the St. Philip community give of their time and gifts to others. Each week please complete the lavender

card that is in the pews and place it into the offering plate as part of your gift. Some may volunteer at the church (office volunteer, choir member, committee member, etc.) while others volunteer at various organizations around town. As a Mission Committee, we hope to focus our financial commitments where our members are focusing their gifts of time and talent. Watch for a weekly report!



Throwback St. Philip—Pictures on page 4—The original grilling team at the July 4 picnic in 1953. The groundbreaking service on August 19, 1952; notice the lack of skyscrapers! If you can identify anyone, please let Lorrie know.

BLUE OUT WITH PDA

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance designates the first Sunday in Lent (February 18, 2018) as “Wear your blue t-shirt to church Sunday” as a testament of one of the ways *One Great Hour of Sharing* makes a difference. Below are St. Philipians wearing their new mission t-shirts. If you have decided you would like one, Anne Wilson will place another print run if she receives orders for at least 30 shirts. Contact her at nosliwa@comcast.net.



St. Philip Presbyterian Women One-Day Retreat

A LAUNCH INTO CRITICAL WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS ISSUES

- ♥ **SATURDAY, MARCH 24**
- ♥ Cost: \$20 for the retreat
- ♥ \$40 for the retreat and dinner at Berryhill
- ♥ Childcare by Denise and Janet will be provided 9:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.
- ♥ Reservations Required—email welcome@saintphilip.net or call the church office at 713-622-4807.

SCHEDULE

- 9:00 a.m.—Light breakfast and Coffee
- 9:45 a.m.—Welcome and Opening Prayer
- 10:00 a.m.—Light stretching with Julia Fox
- 10:15 a.m.—Personal Health: “*What is Cancer?*” presented by Dr. Janet Macheledt
- 12:00 p.m.—Lunch by Chuck
- 1:00 p.m.—Reconvening Hymn
- 1:15 p.m.—Public Health: “*Women’s Health Care in Texas*”
- 3:00 p.m.—Worship and Communion with Rev. Candice Richey Womack
- 4:00 p.m.—Happy Hour, dinner, and fellowship at Berryhill

Check your mail for more details.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

January 2018

Called Session Meeting – January 21st

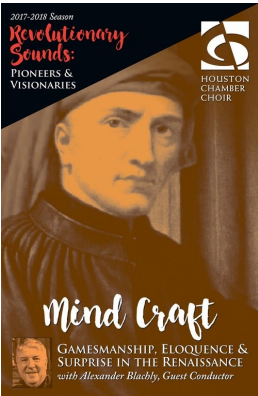
- ✦ Session received into membership: Frank Luongo, David Itz and Juliana Itz, and Mary Itz, by reaffirmation of faith.
- ✦ Session received into membership Susan Lange by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth, Texas

Stated Session Meeting – January 30th

- ✦ Session endorsed the Newspring Butterfly Project at St. Philip to help enable deserving Spring Branch students to complete college.
- ✦ Session approved Budget Council’s proposed \$1,627,350 Operating Budget for 2018.
- ✦ Session approved the adoption of *Listening for God, Vol. 1: Contemporary Literature and the Life of Faith* for use in the Senior High Sunday School class.
- ✦ Session approved that the February recipient of the Communion Offering be designated as the “Souper Bowl of Caring” offering, with the funds collected given to Christian Community Services Center to benefit their food pantry.
- ✦ Session approved transfers of October – December 2017 property expenses to Reserve for Replacement totaling \$91,968.87.
- ✦ Session approved the 2018 communion schedule.

Committee Actions:

- ✦ Fellowship Committee has approved the 2017 Fellowship Report to be included in the St. Presbyterian Church Annual Report.
- ✦ Mission Committee has approved allocating any remaining funds in 2017 budget to Presbytery of New Covenant.
- ✦ Personnel Committee has approved a revised Personnel budget for 2018 of \$851,510.
- ✦ Property Committee has approved replacement of two air conditioning units in Administration building.
- ✦ Property Committee has approved proceeding with replacement of the Trane BCU, contingent on new bid being acceptable.
- ✦ Stewardship Committee has decided to continue the Living Generously theme into the 2019 campaign.



Saturday, **February 24** at 7:30 p.m. enjoy the sounds of the Houston Chamber Choir* for *Mind Craft*. The concert will be in the St. Philip Sanctuary. Tickets may be purchased online or at the door.

Of the hundreds of works performed by Alexander Blachly’s ensemble Pomerium over the course of 43 years, this program contains a selection of his favorites by some of the leading composers of the Renaissance, from

Josquin Desprez, the great master of imitative polyphony and musical canons, and Henricus Isaac, famed wizard of counterpoint, to Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, and the uncannily modern, tortured genius Carlo Gesualdo. Following faculty appointments to Columbia and the University of Pennsylvania among others, Mr. Blachly became Director of Choral Music at the University of Notre Dame in 1993.

Tickets for this performance can be purchased at: <https://houstonchamberchoir.org/2017-2018-season/2018/2/24/mind-craft>

*This is not part of the Music at St. Philip Concert Series.

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, March 26.

SAVE THE DATE! The Annual St. Philip Chili Cook-Off will take place on Saturday, **March 3** at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All ages welcome! Categories for competition include Best Overall Chili, Best Vegetarian Chili, Hottest Chili, Most Unique Chili and Best Corn Bread. Potluck items complete our meal so last names ending in A-D bring desserts, E-N salads/veggie sides and O-Z starchy sides. You may sign up to attend at the table in the Gathering Area or by calling the church office 713-622-4807 - or just show up!