

PHILIP-EYE

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

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Houston, Texas

October 2, 2018

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Kids Against Hunger®



Excerpt from Philip-Eye, Volume 53, Number 21—October 19, 2009

The program begins on November 7, 2009, with packaging the mix of soy, rice, dried vegetables and 21 vitamins and minerals for distribution to hunger and/or starving children at home and abroad. We start at 11:30 a.m. that day, with some training from a representative of the Kids Against Hunger Foundation.



Excerpt from Philip-Eye, Volume 53, Number 22—November 2, 2009

This Saturday is it! Food components, equipment and packing supplies are arriving this week at St. Philip in preparation for our first Kids Against Hunger - Houston packing event. We are honored that the founder of the program, Richard Proudfit, is personally coming to Houston to welcome us as a satellite of this world-wide hunger program. Mr. Proudfit and the director of satellites for the Foundation will be training a team of volunteer leaders on Friday so that we can be efficient and knowledgeable about the program and the details of the operation when we start up on Saturday.

The Property Commission has prepared an area for the packing operation that utilizes space behind the kitchen next to the dining room. The Mission Commission wants to thank the Session and individual Elders and Staff members for their support, and the Property Commission for its contributions and assistance in the planning for this venture. We also want to thank the Staff Commission, the Education Commission, the Fellowship Commission and the Belonging Commission for their financial support of the venture. However, this venture could never have gotten off the ground had it not been for the vision and hard work of Elder Sandra Cooper in presenting and organizing this project. So we send a special thanks to Sandra for her efforts in promoting a mission/outreach program that involves the whole congregation.

Our initial output from this first packing operation will be supplied to the Houston Food Pantry, which intends to use it in their Buddy-Backpack program for hungry children. Another portion of our output will go to Kids' Meals, a program to which St. Philip contributes volunteer as well as financial support. Both of these programs provide food during the weekdays to children who would not otherwise get a breakfast or lunch (and sometimes both). Those children in need will be discretely provided packages of food from our operation for weekend consumption when the regular programs do not operate. Future output will go to overseas hunger sites. If you or you and your family want to volunteer to participate in the Kids Against Hunger, (continued on next page)



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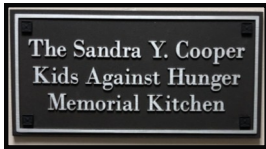
Houston satellite program, please contact the Rev. Dr. George Pope, Mission Coordinator.

WHO: **Persons between the ages of 9 to 100**

WHEN: **Saturday, November 7, 2009**

TIME: **11:30 am to 1:30 pm; lunch will be served by the Fellowship Commission**

WHERE: **St. Philip P.C. - the dining room in the Administration Building**



On Saturday, September 30, 2018, Comerica brought 23 volunteers to the Sandra Y Cooper Kids Against Hunger Kitchen and packed 15,984 meals under the guidance of Butch Wilson and St. Philip members.

After last Saturday, KAH has packed 1,245,516 meals since the Coopers' first packing event. That's about 196,000 pounds of food. Since the first meal, we have switched to a Latin Rice mix which you can learn more about at: <https://kidsagainsthunger.org/> During that time we have distributed food to various places but in the last couple of years, it has mainly gone to Kid's Meals and Christian Community Service Center. In the past we also distributed to East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry and several smaller churches based on one-time requests—mostly due to Harvey. In the past month we took 2,160 meals to Pilgrim Lutheran Church for distribution at another Lutheran Church in South Carolina for Hurricane Florence victims. During Hurricane Harvey, we were able to supply over 33,000 meals to various places in Houston.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS

The next service of healing and wholeness will be **October 28**. 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, our relationship with God in Christ sustains us.

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 October 2018 through March 2019. Please join us! Look for the signup sheet in the Gathering Area. Contact Jane Larkin at 713-621-1222 or l.larkin6561@att.net for more information.

MISSION

SEAFARERS ~ 2018



SEAFARERS' CHRISTMAS BOXES

Save the date! Sunday, **November 11**, following 11:00 am worship. Join the Mission Committee in the Arts & Crafts Studio for fellowship and a soup & salad lunch. Following lunch, join in the fun of packing the Christmas boxes for the Seafarers. Your family will want to take advantage of this opportunity for hands-on mission work, extending warm, Houston, Texas hospitality to Seafarers who are far from home.

We are still collecting items for Seafarers' Christmas Boxes. Please visit saintphilip.net for the complete list of items.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER

Since 2003, the Louise J. Moran Foundation has underwritten the Vision Care Program to assist underserved school children with their vision assessment and supplies. Vision Care Program operates in two phases: 1) state-certified CCSC volunteers provide on-site vision screening to students at their campuses, working collaboratively with school nurses to identify children in need; 2) follow up "field trips" are made to the University of Houston's University Eye Institute (School of Optometry) for advanced, professional examinations and eyeglass dispensary services. This year, students will get a cleaning kit and a head strap with their pair of glasses. You can be a volunteer in the vision screening process four times in the fall semester during the day. Contact CCSC at 713.961.3993 ext. 215 to sign up for a volunteer orientation or email seasonal@ccschouston.org.

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!

The Alternative Market is looking for anyone who likes to sew, craft, build or arrange works of crafted art. Sell your items to benefit the mission partner of your choice, or you can ask the Mission Committee to choose one for you. We encourage crafts of all scales, from small to large, including single or multiple items. The Alternative Market will be **November 18**. For more information, please contact Lori Murphy via email at lmurphette@gmail.com or 713-447-5320.

PEACEMAKING & SOCIAL JUSTICE

ST. PHILIP GARDEN UPDATE

Did you know that St. Philip has a vegetable garden? Tucked away on the back side of Fellowship Hall are two large raised beds, built and tended by St. Philip volunteers. All of the produce grown in the garden is raised organically, with no chemicals or pesticides, and everything we grow is donated to local food pantries, principally those at CCSC-Southwest and CCSC-Central. Through the garden, our congregation takes action to help feed hungry neighbors and also to show care for God's earth.

This spring and summer, we had a bumper crop of tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, beans, peppers, and greens. We harvested and donated nearly 250 pounds of produce! In late August, garden volunteers pulled out all of the spent plants and covered one of the beds with plastic, a non-chemical way to fight off weeds (of which we also had a bumper crop this year). Sweet potato vines continue to grow, and the potatoes will be harvested in November.

Saturday, October 13, at 9:00 a.m., a group will gather to get the beds ready and plant seeds for the fall/winter garden. We welcome anyone who is interested to join in the planting. We will be done no later than 10:30. Questions? Contact Cathy Patterson.



THROWBACK ST. PHILIP

See page 5 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.



COMMUNION OFFERING

Sometimes it feels like the world is coming at us so quickly that we don't know which way to turn, where to look, what to do next. In a chaotic world, we find strength in knowing that God is always near. It is good to remember that, with all the discord, pain, and conflict in our communities and in the world, we serve a God who promises harmony and responds to violence with reconciliation and peace.

As the Body of Christ called Presbyterians, we are making a difference together through our serving and our giving. Together, in the Spirit of God, we are working to break the power of hate and heal the wounds of violence and division.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering encourages the church of our time to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace God's reconciling mission with those around the corner and around the world, as active peacemakers – at all times, in all ways (2 Thessalonians 3:16). We give to this offering because we know that every level of society is in need of Christ's peace. A gift to the offering enables the entire church to collaborate in our proclamation of Christ's peace.

Congregations keep 25% and presbyteries keep 25% to engage in peacemaking and build ministries of reconciliation in their own context or around the world. The Presbyterian Mission Agency uses the remaining 50% to join the peacemaking efforts of church partners all over the globe. This year Session has voted to donate St. Philip's 25% to the refugee services of Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston. We join these monetary gifts with our prayers for peace and our work for justice.

As Presbyterians, we claim Jesus Christ as Prince of Peace and pattern our lives on the compassion, kindness, and grace that he shows us. We all know that the need is great. Please give generously to the Peace and Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, **October 7.**

EDUCATION

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

Below are the classes that are offered on Sunday.

Godly Play (Age 3 to K) - Room 104

Children's Music—Room 105

Grades 1—5 - Room 105

Grades 6—8 - Room 206

Grades 9-12 - Room 205

CHURCH & SOCIETY—Room 201 – Continuing the series The Class of 2036 - Children born in 2018 who will be 18 years old when Houston celebrates its 200th birthday. **October 7** - The Class of 2036 at St. Philip Presbyterian Church - What were significant milestones in your faith development as a child? What are your earliest memories of the sacraments of communion and baptism? What do you hope for your children or grandchildren as they grow up “in” the church? presented by Rev. Omar Rouchon Associate Pastor at St. Philip for ministry with children and families - education and spiritual formation. **October 14** - The Class of 2036 - Doctors for Change Addressing Children at Risk - Immigrant and Refugee Health - Doctors for Change focuses on making Houston and Texas healthier by ensuring that all persons have access to high quality health care and that all communities have the resources they need to promote mental and physical wellbeing. Health care should be universally affordable, accessible, accountable, comprehensive, and just. This class will address the experiences and barriers that immigrant and refugee families encounter when seeking care, the laws that are precipitating these barriers, and possible policies and procedures that could make a difference. Presented by Dr. Padma Swamy, MD, MS Co-President and Mehdi Vasigh Program and Website Coordinator for Doctors for Change.

BIBLE STUDY—Room 204 – We are studying The Psalms, primarily from the NRSV and Dr. Robert Alter's *The Book of Psalms: A Translation with Commentary*. All are welcome.

SPa—Room 200 - We are studying *Holding Faith: A Practical Introduction to Christian Doctrine* by Cynthia L. Rigby. The Saint 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

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. The book we are using is *Preaching The Women of the Old Testament; Who They Were and Why They Matter* written by Lynn Japinga. 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

Join the discussion in the Dining Room (in the Administration Building, at the south end of campus) **October 8** 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 (in part one, “Speaking of God”) chapter 1, “How can we speak of God? (The Doctrine of Revelation).” 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. Our next gathering is Tuesday, **October 23** at 7 p.m., at Jake's Sports Bar, 2944 Chimney Rock 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 **October 9** at 6:30 p.m. Gus's World Famous Hot & Spicy Fried Chicken, at 1815 Washington Ave., 77007.

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 **October 11**, will be at the home of Laura Burgess, and we will discuss *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. For more information contact Sarah O'Dell at sarah.odell6@gmail.com.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

John Wurster's Wednesday morning bible study will resume on **Oct. 3** at 10:30 a.m. The class meets in the Dining Room.

LET US PRAY FOR...

St. Philippians and their families—Stan Brandenberger; Gary Willis; Lane Fletcher; Steve Carmichael; Tyler Keever; Scott Easterly's father; Joyce Ann Fugit's husband; Toto McGehee; Alan Coufal; Carolyn Vestal; Dorothy McMillan—mother of Nancy Higss; Ann Morgan—Dorothy Blackwell's sister; Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers; Ralph Arlinghaus—father of Paul Arlinghaus; Arlette Keene; T.E. "Joe" Keever; Ian Pearce; Rusty Howard; Phillip McDaniel; Ruth Weber; Carol Paine Kendrick; Joe Ann Berwick; George Helland; Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolph; Van Rathgeber; Penny Vieau; and Darnall Burks—father of Deb Burks.

Friends of St. Philippians—Betty Reilly—friend of Scott Easterly; Bennett Williams—friend of Curt and Sharon Webb; Derek Nusbaum & family – friends of Cameron & Heather Highsmith; refugee family from Iraq—Hassan, Enas, Dima and Ahmed; Trudy Smith Alexander-of Robin & Gary Willis; and Grady Reed-of Stephen Paine.

To our dear friends at St. Philip:

We are so grateful for all that you have done for us. Many thanks to each and every one of you for your prayers, cards, visits and caring concern.

In addition, many of you have donated blood or platelets at the MD Anderson Blood Donor Center. Our words cannot adequately express our gratitude.

Please know that all of you are in our prayers as well. God bless each of you!

Fondly,



Rusty and Barbara

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. This year PW/ *Horizons* Bible study, *God's Promise: I Am with You*, takes readers on a journey through scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God's promise of presence. This study does not delve deeply into manifestations of God's presence but rather on God's actual articulation of God's promise. We will see anew that God offered these words of profound comfort and commitment to individuals and communities from the time of the patriarchs to that of the prophets; from the judges to the kings; before, during, and after the exile; into the New Testament and beyond, to the end of the age.

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

MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP 2018-2019 SEASON



Join us this fall for these programs —

Concert for Peace

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 6, 2018 | 7:30 p.m.



In times of turmoil and crisis, musicians and poets illumine pathways toward unity and peace through the shared arts of music and the spoken word. Our eleventh annual **Concert for Peace** features soprano **Julia Fox**, mezzo-soprano **Cecilia Duarte**, pianist **Keith Weber**, and poets **Rosemary Catacalos** and **Sandi Stromberg** in a moving "cross-cultural" program.

Gabriel Fauré: Requiem

SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 4, 2018 | 11:00 a.m.



In celebration of **All Saints Sunday** and the commemoration of all the faithful departed, we present the sublime **Requiem** by **Gabriel Fauré**, featuring the **St. Philip Choir**, soloists, organ and instruments. Fauré composed his *Requiem* between 1887 and 1890, and he said the work "is dominated from beginning to end by a very human feeling of faith in eternal rest."

Greenbriar Consortium, Chamber Orchestra

SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 11, 2018 | 4:00 p.m.



In November we present **Mysteries of the Macabre** by **György Ligeti** with soprano **Julia Fox**, **Song of Songs** by **Lukas Foss** with mezzo-soprano **Sonja Bruzauskas**, and the glorious **Octet in F major** by **Schubert** — all featuring the **Greenbriar Consortium**, comprised of Houston Symphony players dedicated to presenting classical and modern chamber music.

All programs are **FREE** and open to the public. Donations are welcome at any time by cash, check, or credit card.

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Music at St Philip



CLERK OF SESSION

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS


September 2018

Called Session Meeting – September 16

- ◆ Session received into membership:
 - ◆ Daniel (Dan) Ward Boston and Elizabeth (Betsy) Hedrick Boston by letters of transfer from Wayne Presbyterian Church, 125 E Lancaster Avenue, Wayne, PA 19087.
 - ◆ Diana Weiss by letter of transfer from Presbytery of New Covenant.

Stated Session Meeting – September 18

- ◆ Session approved removing Carolyn McGinnis from the membership roll at her request since she has gone to another church.
- ◆ Session received the report of the Disaster Task Force with thanks and approved incorporating it into the Session Manual of Operations.
- ◆ Session approved Motion giving \$445 to Seafarer's International, which was the amount of donations received at the 2017 Alternative Gift Market.
- ◆ Session approved giving St. Philip's 25% of the Peace and Global Witness Offering to Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston Refugee Services.
- ◆ Session approved the wedding of member Julia Fox and Alex Brewer to be held in the church Sanctuary on Saturday, **November 17**.
- ◆ Session approved Jack Lippincott and Judith Hiott as Junior High teachers and John Lemen as a Senior High teacher.
- ◆ Session approved the use of "Echo the Story Curriculum" by Spark House for the Junior High class.
- ◆ Session approved Tim Burgess, Laura Burgess, and Eric Schroeder as youth sponsors.
- ◆ Session approved the PC(USA) Multi-Age Grace and Gratitude curriculum for the Elementary Sunday School Class.
- ◆ Session approved Paul Arlinghaus as the new, fourth Elementary teacher along with Linda Bevill, Kara D'Agostino, and Paul D'Agostino.

 Clerk of Session

FELLOWSHIP FUN

BRIDGE

The bridge group at St. Philip is looking for new regular or substitute players. If you like to play bridge, we would welcome having you play with us on the third Wednesday of the month. For more information or to sign up, call or email Mary Waggoner (713-461-1311 jim.mary.wagg@oplink.net).

HEALTH YOUR WAY

St. Philip welcomes the return of a program sponsored in part by AARP which meets **Wednesdays** in Room 16 from 2:00 p.m. till 3:00 p.m. This class includes topics like Balance and Stability, Everyday Movement, Stretch and Release, Memory Fun and Games, Heart Health Discussions, Strong Muscles, Healthy Bones for seniors. St. Philip members and friends are welcome to attend. A complete schedule is available at: www.healthyourway.com.

STEWARDSHIP

Join us
October 28
 for lunch
 in Fellowship Hall
 as we discuss
 our ministry plans
 for 2019.

We ask for a donation of \$8 for lunch.



Throwback St. Philip—Pics on page 3 are from the archives. The top picture is from the community garden, Jo Helland, Pat & John Lindsay, Ruthie Waldrop, David Wood, and Joyce Fox. The bottom picture is Governor Frazier tolling of the hour for the 11:00 worship.