

# PHILIP-EYE

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

Volume 61, Number 7

Houston, Texas

April 4, 2017

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Pastor, Head of Staff

**Rev. Keatan King**  
Associate Pastor

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Pastor Emeritus

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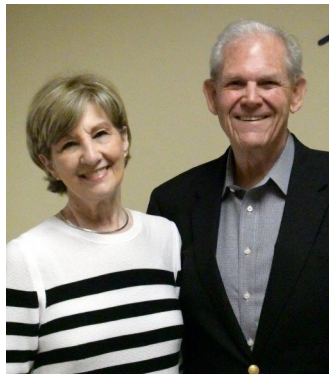
**Susan Estill**  
Editor Emerita

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INTRODUCING  
THE NEW APP  
My ST. PHILIP

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

On March 19 the Session welcomed four new members to the congregation. Please take the time to say hello and welcome them to our church.



### **Karen Howard Winship**

Karen comes to us by letter of transfer from Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church in Houston, Texas where she was ordained as a Deacon. She was born in Houston and grew up in Livingston, where her family attended the Baptist church. Karen and her husband David married in 1968. Karen graduated from Stephen F. Austin University. She is a Human Resource Director with a local firm. Her favorite activities are reading, walking and knitting. Karen was aware of the various Presbyterian churches in the Houston metro area and was drawn to St. Philip by our welcome-all attitude. Her major interest is in the worship area and she would like to explore other areas as well.

### **David Charles Winship**

David also joins St. Philip by letter of transfer from Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church in Houston, Texas where he was ordained as an Elder. David was baptized as a child in the Presbyterian Church. He was born in Gatesville and grew up in Houston. David graduated from Austin College and obtained his Masters degree in Education from the University of Houston. Semi-retired, he is currently with the Harris County Appraisal Review Board. His hobbies are reading, walking (which he shares with wife Karen), and sports. David and Karen have two grown children and five grandchildren! David was aware of Presbyterian churches in the area and was drawn to St. Philip because we are a church that welcomes everyone. He is interested in being involved with worship and is considering other activities as well.



### **Barbara "Charlene" Gibert**

Charlene comes to us by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Houston, Texas. She grew up in Rankin (which she tells us is in West Texas) and graduated from Texas Tech. She is a teacher in the Spring Branch ISD. Charlene and husband Wayne married in 1975. Her hobbies include travel and reading. She discovered St. Philip through a friend and was drawn to us by our worship, friendly congregation, ministerial staff and our music program. Her major interest at St. Philip is with our choir, music and bell program.

### **W. Wayne Gibert**

Wayne joins St. Philip via letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Houston, Texas. He grew up in Atlanta, California, and Lubbock Texas, spending most of his teenage years in Lubbock. Wayne graduated from Texas Tech with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He is now retired and pursues his hobbies of tennis and bridge. A friend told Wayne about St. Philip, and he was attracted by the worship, friendly congregation, and our music program. His interests at the church include worship and fellowship.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING APRIL 9

The Session has called a congregational meeting for **April 9**, immediately following the 11:00 worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to hear and act upon a report from the Designated Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. The Committee will present Omar Rouchon as its nominee for Designated Associate Pastor. Read full details at [Omar](#).

## Dear Friends,

I am looking forward to my sixth Holy Week and Easter at St. Philip. **Palm Sunday is April 9.** We will worship as usual at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service includes a children's procession of palms. At the center of both services is a choral reading of the Passion story as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew. We will have a variety of readers, and the congregation will take on the part of "the crowd." On **Maundy Thursday, April 13,** we worship at 7:00. We remember Jesus' final night with his disciples and his last meal with them. I am preaching that evening, and the St. Philip Choir will sing. After communion, the chancel is stripped of decoration, symbolizing the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and friends. We leave the sanctuary that night in silence.

On **Good Friday** we have two worship services. At 12:00 noon we commemorate the death of Jesus with scripture and song and in the presence of the veiled cross. At 8:00 we are holding a Service of Tenebrae. In this dramatic service, shadows slowly gather in the room as we encounter the betrayal, denial, and abandonment that marked Jesus' final days. With each reading, a candle is extinguished. The service concludes in darkness. We are also offering a worship opportunity on Holy Saturday at 5:00 p.m. Matthew Dirst and friends lead us in a musical meditation for Holy Week, exploring the depth and power of the Passion through music.

**Easter Sunday is April 16.** Our first service of Easter at 8:30 has us gather in the narthex and then proceed by candlelight into the dark sanctuary, which is then bathed in the light of the proclamation of resurrection. We then attend to key passages of the Bible, remembering God's saving acts, from the beginning of creation to the promise of a new creation. After the service of readings, we have a reaffirmation of baptism, and all are invited to come forward to the font. There we mark our foreheads with water, hearing again the promise that in Jesus Christ we belong to God forever. In between services, there is breakfast in Fellowship Hall along with Easter crafts and activities for all. We ask you to bring flowers to decorate the cross in celebration of the resurrection. Our 11:00 festival service of Easter includes music from the St. Philip Choir, a sermon from Keatan, confirmation and communion. We celebrate with joy as we take the bread and share the cup and bear witness to God's love, a love stronger than death.

In a variety of styles and through a range of emotions, Holy Week invites us to experience the fullness of the gospel. I urge you to seek the spiritual benefits of these days and these services through your participation in all that is before us.

Faithfully yours,



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO EASTER BREAKFAST

Breakfast will be served at 9:30, and with it a variety of Easter activities. At 10:30, group photos will be taken around the flowered cross. Enrich your experience of Easter and join us for the entire morning!

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. One Great Hour of Sharing, received during the season of Lent (March 1 - April 15), makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. Envelopes can be found in the pews.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

- ✦ Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters
- ✦ Receives 32% of funds raised

Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)

- ✦ Takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed
- ✦ Receives 36% of funds raised

Self-Development of People (SDOP)

- ✦ Invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills
- ✦ Receives 32% of funds raised

## FISH BANK OFFERING IN WORSHIP

As part of the One Great Hour of Sharing, the children of St. Philip have been collecting change to help support the Self Development of People, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Presbyterian Hunger Programs, offering assistance to communities around the globe. At the beginning of Lent we read a story about "Gracie the Fish," learning of the ways in which we are called to care for all of God's creation, feeding the hungry and offering care to the sick and those affected by disaster. **Children are invited to offer their gifts by bringing forth their fish banks during worship on April 23 – Jazz Communion Sunday.** Thank you all for participating!



## St. Philip is collecting items for 55 boxes for women living at **the women's HOME**

*The mission of The Women's Home is to help women in crisis regain their self-esteem and dignity, empowering them to return to society as productive, self-sufficient individuals.*



### SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR WOMEN'S HOME EASTER BOXES

Bar Soap	Combs	Jewelry	Deodorant
Cosmetics	Hairspray	Small Easter Novelties	Razors
Pantyhose/Knee highs	Shampoo (10-12 oz.)	Hand Lotion	Memo Pads
Toothpaste	Hotel Samples	Scarves	Greeting Cards
Tissues	Postage Stamps	Washcloths	Pens/Pencils

Photo Boxes from craft stores

Please bring donations to St. Philip by **Palm Sunday - April 9th** and place in designated boxes. *Thank you.*



### IN OUR PRAYERS

- Family of Bette Shumake, who died on March 31; memorial service will be Friday, April 7 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Philip
- George Helland—rehab at Brookdale Post Oak
- Carey Murphey—recuperating
- Barbara Rathgeber—receiving dialysis
- Marian Murphree—moved to hospice care
- Margaretta Bolding—at The Treemont
- Barbara Cloninger—at Home Sweet Home Hospice Care in Katy
- Anné Keever—recovering from leg surgery
- Diane Boddington Nahajzer—Laura Burgess' aunt receiving cancer treatments
- Steve Smith—Shelley Smith's brother experiencing serious health issues
- Dienna Cleveland—Dan Cleveland's niece, cancer in Kissimmee, FL
- Jack Wetmore—friend of Wayne and Sandra Truxillo is receiving treatment
- Tyler and Candace Womack—on the birth of their son Charles "Charlie" Hamilton Womack on March 20

### Recuperating at Home

- Joe Ann Berwick, Jan Conner, Larry Dean, John Hannah, Helen Harris, Malcolm Host, T.E. "Joe" Keever, Phil McDaniel, Alice Pennington, Cynthia Shoup, Carolyn Vestal, Penny Vieau, Ruth Weber, Paxton Williams



### 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.

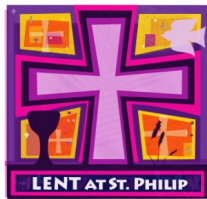
You can go online and make a donation of any amount. Please include: *in honor of* or *in memory of* and the name(s) you wish to recognize, as well as how you would like your name to appear.

**(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 10.**



### WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

The Wednesday Lent series concludes this week. The preacher for **April 5** is Duane Larson, Interim Pastor at Christ the King Lutheran Church. Lunch is available at 12:30 for \$5.

### SPRING CLEANING

Are your closets, garage, file cabinets or attic overflowing with paper documents that you can't decide if you should keep? If you are ready to purge, check out the business website of member David Castle—[www.cpacastle.com](http://www.cpacastle.com) for a recommended list of what to keep.

On **April 6**, the church office will have a shredding company on site. If you would like to shred any documents, please bring them to the church office by Wednesday, **April 5**. They will be kept in a locked room at the church. There should be no no metal in the boxes. If you have any questions contact Lorrie Castle in the office, 713-622-4807 or [lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net)

### ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Join us for the Annual Church Picnic! The fun begins following the 11 a.m. Jazz Communion service on Sunday, **April 23**. We will provide fried chicken and drinks. Please bring folding chairs and a pot-luck dish to share: A-H side dishes, I-N desserts, O-Z salads/veggies. Weather permitting, this event will be held outside on the front lawn; otherwise, join us in the Fellowship Hall. All ages are welcome. We will have fun games and activities, so please dress comfortably for this active outdoor event. Please RSVP to the church office so that we will provide enough chicken.

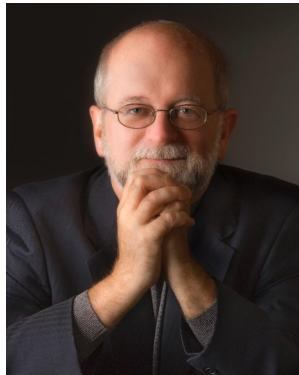
### HANDY MAN

Member Governor Frazier is at your service if you need someone to weed, plant, mulch your flower beds, hang pictures, haul trash away (he has access to a truck), or can help you identify contractors on many home projects. Please contact Governor to discuss rates and jobs at: 832-512-3648 or [governorfrazier1955@gmail.com](mailto:governorfrazier1955@gmail.com)



### JAZZ COMMUNION SERVICE

Houston composer and jazz pianist, Paul English has prepared a unique program for St. Philip's Jazz Communion Service on **April 23** which includes specific selections from his original compositions of sacred music: "Come to the Fountain", "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God", "Sanctus", and "Come Ye Disconsolate". His blend of musical arrangements for additional hymns and well-known songs, will warm your heart and inspire your soul. For "Moonlight Serenade" and "Dear Lord", Paul offers his heart-felt original lyrics as well. The service will be performed by an array of leading jazz and classical musicians including Elisha Jordan, vocals; Cecilia Duarte, vocals; Ingrid Gerling, violin/vocals; David Caceres, sax/vocals; Paul English, piano; Brennen Nase, guitar/bass; and Tim Solook, drums.



Paul's jazz quartet will entertain everyone during the picnic lunch after the service. All are invited to attend.



# WE CHOOSE WELCOME



As an extension of St. Philip's "We Choose Welcome" campaign, the Peacemaking Committee is preparing to host a *Salaam Supper* at St. Philip on Thursday, **April 27**, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. A *Salaam Supper* is a gathering of friends, family, colleagues, and members of the community for a meal and to learn about refugees and to raise awareness and funding to support their welcome. Funds raised at the supper will go to support Refugee Services of Texas. Look for more information about this event in the coming weeks.

### SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS

The next service of healing and wholeness will be **April 30**. 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

invites you to participate in preparing our worship space for services. Every six months we solicit volunteers to take one Sunday to oversee that preparation. 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**. Please join us! Look for the signup sheet in the Gathering Area. Contact Jane Larkin at 713-621-1222 or [j.larkin6561@att.net](mailto:j.larkin6561@att.net) for more information.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL

### ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN AT 9:30 A.M.

#### 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

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

Youth Choir/Youth Group—next meeting will be on **April 9**  
 Youth Choir (Grades 6-12) - 3:30—Choir Room  
 Youth Group (Grades 6-12) - 4:30—6:30 Youth Room

**CHURCH & SOCIETY**—Room 201— **April 9** - *Let Them Be Heard - Human Trafficking is Modern Day Slavery* - Victims of human trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labor. Victims are young children, teenagers, men and women. Human trafficking needs to be addressed from a human rights perspective that centers on efforts to restore the most basic human rights of a trafficked person ... their human freedom. Presented by Mary Mac Johnson as a project for the Gold Award, the highest achievement in the Girl Scout program, also by Dr. Alexandra Okolie - Attorney for United Against Human Trafficking, and Lorraine Lyter-Reed from the St. Philip Peace and Social Justice Committee promoting the Equal Exchange Fair Trade products, available Sunday, **April 9**, in the Gathering Area before and after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Less than 1% of Easter chocolate comes from Fair Trade sources that are free from human trafficking and exploitation. Church and Society will not meet April 16, Easter Sunday, so that the class can join in St. Philip Easter activities.

**BIBLE STUDY** – Room 204 – The class is engaged in a study of the book of 2 Samuel which tells of the rise of the kingdom of Israel and the eventual rise 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.

**SPa**—Room 200 - The SPa (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, as you probably can tell, we’re not a group that is shy about asking questions! We are currently reviewing the revised common lectionary through *Feasting on the Word*. Contact Greg Han at [greg@hanmail.me](mailto:greg@hanmail.me)

#### CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

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. Children return to join the congregation in the first few pews on the lectern side of the church for the last hymn. Please contact Omar Rouchon if you have any questions. The next service is **April 9**.

### WEEKDAY CLASSES

#### MONDAY EVENING STUDY GROUP

Join the discussion in the Dining Room (in the Administration Building, at the south end of campus) **April 10** with St. Philip’s Monday evening study group! Besides conversation, our meetings include fellowship, refreshments, and a brief prayer, as we continue our study of *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving. We will be discussing chapters 6, “From confusion to shock,” through 11, “Headwind and tailwinds.” 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.

#### MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

John Wurster is leading a study of the Book of Revelation. This final book of the Bible has long puzzled readers with its vivid imagery and apocalyptic themes. Over the coming months, we will read the entire book and piece together its meaning and significance. The class meets at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday in the Dining Room.

#### PRESBYTERIAN MEN’S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Join the Men’s Weekly Fellowship each Friday. They meet on Fridays in the Conference Room at noon. The book that they are discussing is *A Vocabulary of Faith—Amazing Grace* by Kathleen Norris. Books are available at the meeting. Please contact Robert Estill if you have any questions. The men who wish to participate should bring a bag lunch; refreshments will be provided. Men of all ages are welcome to participate in the self-led group. The group wraps up promptly at 1:00 p.m.

#### CHANGE IN 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. at a member’s home. Our next meeting on **April 6** has been moved to the home of Barbara Cavanaugh. The book we will be discussing is *Unaccustomed Earth* by Jhumpa Lahiri. This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. For more information go to: <http://saintphilip.net/BookGroup.html> or Sarah O’Dell at [sarah.odell6@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.odell6@gmail.com)

#### THEOLOGY ON TAP

Join persons in their 20s and 30s who engage heart and mind in exploring the mystery of faith through worship, theological conversation, and mission within an inclusive, supportive community that is committed to serving our neighbors with compassion and humility. Next meeting is **April 11** at 6:30 p.m. Bollo Woodfired Pizza—2202 W Alabama St. A, Houston, TX 77098

**AND THE WINNERS ARE...**

The Fellowship Committee thanks everyone who came out on March 25 for the Chili Cook-off. They are proud to announce the following chefs for their recipes.

- 🍷 Best Overall Chili: Brisket BBQ Bomb Chili by Tim Burgess
- 🍷 Most Unique Chili: Together Since 1966 by Anne Wilson
- 🍷 Best Vegetarian Chili: Vegetarian Chili by Jim Crain
- 🍷 Hottest Chili: Chili by Joyce Fox
- 🍷 Best Cornbread (two winners):
  - 🍷 Corn and Jalepeno Cornbread" by Lane Fletcher
  - 🍷 Buttermilk Cornbread" by Hope Wilmarth



Pictured above: Lane Fletcher, Jim Crain, Joyce Fox, Butch & Anne Wilson, Tim Burgess, and Hope Wilmarth



Prayers Of the People (POP) wants to invite each and every one of you to be involved in our prayerful ministry! We have exciting opportunities in which you can come together and provide tangible, loving care for people in Houston who need to see God's Love!

Every Second Saturday of the month, POP will be partnering with RSVP Clinic of Houston as they distribute medical equipment to their patients at a distribution warehouse. RSVP's services allow these low-income, non-insured patients to receive the care they so desperately need. We invite you to read more about it on RSVP's "Get Involved" page on their website: <http://rsvptexas.org/get-involved/> under the section, "RSVP-MED."

With this ministry opportunity, we would like to encourage you to sign up to volunteer for a date below. A POP Staff member will be on-hand to introduce you to the RSVP Clinic Staff and help guide you through the process of what needs to be done. The only requirement for your volunteer shift is for you to show up!

Volunteers can work any of the following days – for a minimum of 2 hours – from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.: **April 8, May 13, June 10, and July 8.** To register for any of these shifts, please fill out the form in the following link here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/ZiAOlaCedgzW6sv82>

Along with helping to distribute the medical equipment, we will also be giving out POP Prayer Bears to patients, their families, and caregivers!

In closing, we want to thank you all again for being involved in POP's Community! If you have not already, please like our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Prayers.of.the.People.Chaplaincy/> and be sure to check out our newly-redesigned website: <http://popministry.org/>!

**PW SPRING GATHERING**

Presbytery of New Covenant PW and the Mission Committee of Webster Presbyterian Church invite ALL WOMEN to the Spring Gathering, "Walk With Me," on Saturday, **April 29** at 9:30 a.m. at Webster Presbyterian Church. Details about mission opportunities, schedule, registration, meals, and child care can be found on the presbytery website at the end of February: [www.pbyofnewcovenant.org](http://www.pbyofnewcovenant.org) - click on Ministries and follow the link to Presbyterian Women. Registrations will be taken until **April 22.**

**FREEMAN SCHOLARSHIP**

The Mark and Velma Freeman Scholarship Fund annually provides scholarship assistance to St. Philip students attending college or graduate school. The application form is now available on the church website or by contacting the church office. All application materials need to be returned to the church by **May 1.** <http://saintphilip.net/SubmitForms.html>

**CHOCOLATE**

After Halloween, Easter is the second most important occasion for chocolate sales, and each year Americans consume over 70 million pounds of chocolate the week leading up to Easter. However, much less than 1% of that chocolate is fairly traded, which Equal Exchange seeks to change.

[Equal Exchange](http://EqualExchange.org)'s products are 100% Fair Trade traded, benefiting more than 40 small farmer co-operatives in 25 countries around the world.

The Coffee Team will be offering Chocolate Minis in Easter packets of 10, and chocolate bars, along with coffee, tea and olive oil, on Palm Sunday, **April 9**, in the Gathering Area before and after the 11 a.m. worship service.

All chocolate is made with cacao from small-scale farmers in the Dominican Republic and Peru, organic sugar from a co-op in Paraguay, and fairly traded vanilla from a farmers' association in Madagascar.

Please consider this opportunity to support our brothers and sisters farming sustainably around the globe.

# Duerr Lecture Series

The 20th annual **Duerr Lecture Series** with speaker Dr. Margaret Aymer, Associate Professor of New Testament at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, was enjoyed by an enthusiastic crowd at each lecture. Dr. Aymer's lectures were rich in content and well-

delivered, and she was personally accessible for questions both during and after each lecture. The Young Adults had a special dinner and discussion with her on Sunday before the first lecture, and a large group gathered on Monday at noon for the Brown Bag lunch. The Lecture Series Advisory Board provided a very special sheet cake to commemorate the 20th year.

Next year's speaker was announced after the final lecture: Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison, now retired, but formerly pastor of three churches and professor at Union Presbyterian Seminary and Columbia Theological Seminary, will preach and lecture **February 25, 26, and 27, 2018**. His current interest is in pursuing the Reformed Tradition's sense of importance and urgency in being good stewards of all God has made. We look forward to meeting and hearing Dr. Murchison.



*With sincere appreciation, St. Philip Presbyterian Women thank the congregation of St. Philip for their generous contribution to the PW Birthday Offering. Your contribution allows us to continue the long-standing PW tradition of ministering to those in need through*

*much-needed financial assistance to many worthwhile programs. "God Provides" (inspired by Hebrews 4:16) is the theme for the 2017 Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women.*

**WILL YOU?**

**#SalaamSupper**  
You're invited  
**St. Philip Presbyterian Church**  
**Thursday, April 27, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**  
Hosted by The Peacemaking & Social Justice Committee.

**WE CHOOSE WELCOME**



ST. PHILIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Reservations can be made by calling the church office at 713.622.4807 or sending an email to [welcome@saintphilip.net](mailto:welcome@saintphilip.net)

## Holly Hall Spring Bazaar and White Elephant

Friday, April 7, 9:00 am—4:00 pm  
Saturday, April 8, 9:00 am—2:00 pm

**Join Us For Lunch**  
*Tea Room*  
**11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

2000 Holly Hall Street at Fannin

Proceeds support Holly Hall Residents' Life Enrichment Activities

### Donations Needed:

*Household Items, Furniture, Appliances, Costume Jewelry, Accessories: scarves, ties, purses, etc.*

### Contact

Diann Lewter for more info about donations  
(713) 459-2267 or [diann.lewter@me.com](mailto:diann.lewter@me.com)

For more information about event, call (713) 799-9031.  
[www.hollyhall.org](http://www.hollyhall.org)

*Save the Date for the 2017 Azalea Dinner on April 27th*

Reservation available at [www.ccschouston.org](http://www.ccschouston.org)

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven*  
ECCLESIASTES 3

### 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

## CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE

The church nurtures those baptized as children and calls them to make public their personal profession of faith and their acceptance of responsibility in the life of the church. Currently we have a group of students who have been partnered with an adult mentor and who have been participating in classes each Sunday, learning about Presbyterian faith and their place in the church. On Easter, **April 16**, after interviews with our session, these students will be confirmed and received into membership of the church. For this newsletter we would like to introduce you to George and Zack White.



**George** is in the ninth grade at Lamar H.S. His extra-curricular activities include debate and Krav Maga. If he isn't studying he is reading. This summer George will travel to Montreat with the St. Philip Youth Group. Through school and church he has volunteered with mission programs; he really enjoys

helping delivering Christmas presents.

Filippo Nenna, George's mentor, says, "We've covered a lot of ground during the confirmation classes, and George takes a very thoughtful and confident approach. I'm glad to witness this part of his journey and it has been great getting to know him."



**Zack**, an eighth grader at Lanier Middle School, plays soccer year round with West U Express. His favorite pastimes include reading and spending time with his friends. He too will be traveling with the Youth Group to Montreat. From his community involvement that he has done with the church and school, he finds visiting with the residents at Brookwood the most rewarding. "The questions Zack lifts up in Confirmation Class reveal the depth of

insight and thoughtful learning. One great gift Zack contributes to the life of St. Philip is serving as a liturgist. Zack's confidence in public speaking and careful attention to the text make him an engaging worship leader that brings the stories of Scripture to life," says Rev. Keatan King.

## Session Highlights March 2017

### Called Session Meeting – March 19<sup>th</sup>

Session received into membership:

- ✦ David Charles Winship and Karen Howard Winship by letter of transfer from Presbytery of New Covenant (previously at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, Houston)
- ✦ W. Wayne Gibert and Barbara "Charlene" Gibert by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Houston

### Stated Session Meeting – March 21<sup>st</sup>

- ✦ Session approved giving each confirmand a leather-bound New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) Bible on confirmation Sunday, **April 16**.
- ✦ Session approved the 2017 Communion Offering recipients for May through December.
- ✦ Session approved the allocation of 2017 Mission Committee budget.
- ✦ Session endorsed the Salaam Supper to be hosted on **April 27** by the Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee, and approved the inclusion of a fundraiser to benefit Refugee Services of Texas.
- ✦ Session called a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, **April 9** following the 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship, for the purpose to hear and act on a report of the Designated Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

### Committee and Council Actions:

- ✦ Central Mission Endowment Council has granted up to \$13,000.00 to fund the Youth Spiritual Pilgrimage to Montreat.
- ✦ Education Committee has approved a request from Ruthie Waldrop to host the Gulf Coast Godly Play Network at St. Philip on Saturday, March 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- ✦ Education Committee has decided to send out an electronic survey to church families concerning updating our playground to determine interest, usage and hopes for that space in the years to come; a task force with members from Education Committee and the congregation at large will be created to look into ways to best use our time and money to make this space functional and appealing to church and community members.
- ✦ Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee has approved the goal of adopting of a refugee family by the St. Philip's congregation by the end of 2018.
- ✦ Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee has agreed to host a Salaam Supper at St. Philip on Thursday, **April 27**; the purpose of which is both to educate about refugees and raise funds for the efforts of Refugee Services of Texas.
- ✦ Property Committee has approved a request for \$2,200 – \$2,500 to purchase mulch and seasonal flowers.
- ✦ Property Committee has authorized up to \$750 for the project to make cushions for the short pews.