

PHILIP-EYE

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

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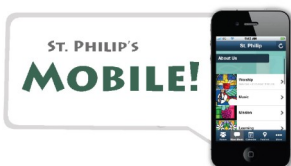
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STAY CONNECTED!

Houston, Texas

May 18, 2016

SUMMER TIME WITH ST. PHILIP

There are multiple activities going on throughout the summer months for youth, young adults and families. We hope you will find time to join us between vacations and enjoying the pool so that you have the best summer yet. Some of these activities are brought to you by the Fellowship Committee, whose purpose is to plan and arrange social activities and celebrations for the congregation throughout the year for the congregation's enjoyment and to welcome new members and visitors. The Fellowship Committee welcomes all as part of God's family. In recognition of our common faith, the committee brings together its immediate and extended family in joy and thanksgiving to build bonds in Christ.



- **FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**—Saturday, **May 21** from 5:30 until 8:00 P.M. Please join us as we celebrate the end of the school year with a St. Philip Family Movie Night. The Fairs have graciously invited us to watch a family-friendly film at their home. All ages are welcome! There will be snacks and drinks provided, and an opportunity for parents to enjoy a time of fellowship as well. Please contact Omar Rouchon for further information. We hope to see you there!

- **MO RANCH**—This year's retreat is approaching! From **June 9-12**, St. Philipians will gather in the Hill Country to worship and play, learn and rest. Led by Fran Shelton, our keynote speaker, we will be exploring our *Senses of Wonder* while we enjoy the water and trails, sun and stars, fun and fellowship. Participants may pick up an informational packet in the Gathering Area before/after worship on **May 22, 29, or June 5** (or in the church office after 5/22). Registration for a Pin-Hole Photography class will be taken at the same time.



- **SKEETERS GAME**—Join us for a Skeeters baseball game on Saturday, **June 25** at 6:05pm. Tickets include the game and a hot dog, chips, and drink. (\$19 per ticket) Tickets will be sold before and after 11 a.m. worship in the gathering area on a first come, first serve basis. All ages welcome on this fellowship event.
- **WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM**—Ice cream novelties after church for Independence Day on Sunday, **July 3rd**



Dear St. Philip Family,
Your cards, visits calls, and prayers have given me great support and the feeling of being loved. Thank you for your caring concern...Our bond in Christ is strong. We belong to each other because we belong to God. My love to each of you, *Toto McGehee*

YOUTH

The youth are taking action in recognition of Earth Day and collecting used batteries which they will recycle.

YOUTH BEACH RETREAT

A Weekend of Play, Mission, and Worship August 12-14. We'll head to Galveston to reconnect and catch up on everyone's travels, camps, and other adventures. Entering 6th graders will be invited to join us for the first time! Details regarding cost, the schedule, packing list, and transportation will come your way soon from Keatan King.

YOUNG ADULT SUMMER SERIES: BIBLE STUDY

The Treasure of Torah: Summer Study and Supper

Christians often admit that reading the Torah (the first 5 books of the Old Testament) proves difficult for all the genealogies, purity codes, and foreign imagery (most of us don't consult wizards or deal with our neighbors' donkey). Yet, by reading a few key sections from these books (which rarely, if ever, appear in the lectionary), Christians can be surprised by the kind of life torah proscribes—one of gentleness, integrity, and justice. These texts reveal a very tender God who is decidedly for the weak, the oppressed, and the poor. We will study these texts together over dinner. After all, "one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God!" (If you remember Jesus saying this while being tempted in the wilderness, you might also remember he was quoting Scripture. Which text, you might wonder? Torah! Deuteronomy 8:3, to be precise.)

SCHEDULE: Tuesdays at 7:00pm

- June 14:** Lasagna and Leviticus
- July 19:** Noodles and Numbers
- August 9:** Deep Dish and Deuteronomy

For each gathering, please RSVP to Keatan by the deadline in order to secure your supper.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

This summer we will take time to visit the local breweries of Houston. Our first site will be *8th Wonder Brewery* on **May 28** at noon. The address is 2202 Dallas St, Houston, TX 77003. Check your inbox for more details soon.



GREETERS

Have you noticed on Sundays there are individuals at every door that say good morning, hold the door open or welcome you to St. Philip? This is a very important part of our ministry. The greeters embody the fellowship and welcoming community that are among the special gifts St. Philip offers. The committees of the session take turns each week filling these positions. Additionally, there is a visitor's table near the front left sanctuary door. Usually a committee member from Welcoming and Membership is here. They have prepared small welcome bags for adults and children upon their first visit you St. Philip. The next time you meet a visitor as we pass The Peace, let them know to stop by that table before or after church.

To the greeters: **WE APPRECIATE YOU! THANK YOU!**

BETHESDA CLINIC IN XOCENPICH, YUCATAN

Bethesda Clinic, located in the Yucatan village of Xocenpich, has been a long time mission partner with St. Philip Church. Dr. Jose Estrella, a long-time friend of Ruth and Dick Weber, and his son Dr. Federico Estrella, manage the *clinica*. Another son, Rev. Pablo Estrella is a Presbyterian minister in Merida. They serve the greater community without regard for those who can pay or those who are unable to pay. They truly are our brothers in Christ, serving the poor and needy. This organization will be the recipient of the June 5th communion offering.



Are you Presby Pro (Presbyterian Proficient)?

Test your knowledge about Presbyterian history, symbols, practices, and more.

1. The Apostles' Creed evolved from which Bible verse?
2. What are the liturgical colors of the Christian seasons of Advent and Lent?

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Financial Update as of 4/30/2016

Total Revenue	\$394,240
Total Expenses	\$430,413
Pledges collected	\$270,860
Budget YTD	\$329,000

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL

Nursery and Preschool

Infants and children through three years old

8:30 am to 12:30pm - Room 106

Staffed by professional childcare providers

Age 3 through Kindergarten

Godly Play Class - Room 104

Elementary

Grades 1,2, and 3 meet in Room 105

Grades 4 and 5 meet in Room 103

Middle School

Grades 6-8 meet in Room 206

High School

Grades 9-12 meet in Room 205

Jubilate with Children's Music Associate

1st through 5th grades 9:30 am – 10:00 am
in Room 105 with Alicia Chew

ADULT CLASSES

CHURCH & SOCIETY - Room 201

May 22 - *The Institute for Civility in Government* - Civility is about more than just politeness, although politeness is a necessary first step. It is about disagreeing without disrespect, seeking common ground as a starting point for dialogue about differences, listening past one's preconceptions, and teaching others to do the same. Presented by Rev. Cassandra Dahnke, pastor at Woodforest Presbyterian Church and co-founder of the Institute for Civility in Government and co-author of *Reclaiming Civility in the Public Square*. **May 29** - *Film Study: Birdman* Washed-up superhero-movie star Riggan Thomson is counting on the Broadway play he is mounting to redeem his career. But the stress of the production might be getting to him. Through Alejandro Iñárritu's inventive direction, and the film's distinctive camerawork and soundtrack, we journey through Riggan's world in this 2015 Best Picture Oscar winner that asks (among other things) who and what make us who we are, and where our value lies. A study guide is available at http://www.saintphilip.net/Church_andSociety.html. Please watch the film before class. Presented by Kate Burkart, film/media studies leader at St. Philip since 2002. **June 5** - *Allowing Everyone to Vote - The Fifteenth Amendment and the Voting Rights Act*. Presented by Prof. Peter Linzer, professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Houston Law Center.

BIBLE STUDY - Room 204

The class is engaged in a study of the book of **1 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. The class will not meet on May 29th but will have the final class session on June 5th before breaking for the summer.

SPa CLASS - Room 200

The SPa (Saint Philip Adults) class is a fellowship of adults from all walks of life who gather for learning and community.

Our discussion-based class meets each Sunday morning; we use the material from the well-regarded "Thoughtful Christian" series. Topics are timely and relevant. Please visit www.thethoughtfulchristian.com for more details.

WEEKDAY STUDIES

MONDAY EVENING STUDY GROUP

Everyone is welcome to the continuing meetings of the Monday evening study group! Our next meeting is **May 23**, from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Join your fellow St. Philippians for refreshments and a brief prayer as we continue our discussion of *How to Read the Bible* (by Harvey Cox). We gather in the dining room (in the administration building, at the south end of campus), and will be covering chapter 2, "Following the footsteps of Moses: The Book of Exodus," and 3, "Battles and burlesques in the conquest of Canaan: The Book of Joshua."

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets every Friday in the Conference Room at 12:00 p.m. They have selected *Words Made Flesh* by J. Pittman McGehee. Robert Estill has copies of the book available for \$15. Men who wish to participate should bring a bag lunch; refreshments will be provided. All men are welcome. The group wraps up promptly at 1:00 pm.

MONTHLY BOOK GROUP

A monthly interest group for women who like to read books, socialize, and have a night out meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at a member's home. Our next meeting, is **June 9**, we will discuss *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd at the home of Laura Burgess. Additionally, for those ladies going to Mo-Ranch, we will discuss the book there. Saturday night at Ramada following the 9:00 p.m. worship. This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. For more information go to: <http://saintphilip.net/BookGroup.html>

ARTS & CRAFT STUDIO

The next scheduled Saturday craft is **June 4** from 12 p.m. till 6 p.m. RSVP to Lorrie. Bring a snack to share with everyone. Have any type of craft project that you would like to work on and just need the company? Come join us! Contact lorrie@saintphilip.net or 832-262-1244.

Introducing—
Daniel Alexander,
born May 9
to parents—
Dimas and Annbeth
Parada



MO-RANCH

The committee coordinating our retreat is in need of glass jars for a project. They should be the size of a spaghetti sauce jar or smaller and made of clear glass. There will be collection boxes in the sanctuary and the office.

We also need clear plastic clam shells for a craft project; this is the type packaging strawberries come in. Thank you.

POP MINISTRY

The POP Ministry has a Lay Ministers' Training coming up soon. We provide Lay Ministers to serve those that are sick in hospitals, in the Medical Center and beyond. We also serve the caregivers and their family members. Through the ministry of Prayers Of the People, last year over 14,000 persons were visited and cared for.



There is no cost for this training, and all interested parties can easily register at our website www.popministry.org on the training tab.

Date: Saturday, **May 21** *Time:* 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: First Presbyterian Church of Houston, 5300 Main Street Houston, TX 77004

Registration Deadline: **May 19** - Lunch is provided.

FRIDAY PHIL-UP AT ZOËS KITCHEN

Join us for Friday Phil-Up! We'll meet at Zoës Kitchen (3838 Westheimer Rd, between Drexel and Willowick/Wesleyan) on Friday, **May 20th** at 6:30 p.m. for food, fun, and fellowship. A great way to unwind at the end of your work week! All ages are welcome. We hope that you will join us!



LORD OF THE STREETS

The next date for us to serve breakfast to the homeless is **Sunday, May 22**. We gather in the St. Philip parking lot at 6:30 a.m. to carpool to Trinity Episcopal Church and are back at the church by 9:00 a.m. in time for Sunday school. We need 15 volunteers. If this date is good for you, please call Janet Davis at 713-464-2385 to take part in this gratifying project.

WELCOMING & MEMBERSHIP CAMPUS TOUR

New members, visitors, and others are welcome to learn more about St. Philip through a walking tour. On Sunday, **May 22** at 9:30 a.m. meet the Welcoming & Membership Committee in the Gathering Area (coffee is served here after service) beginning with coffee and donuts before our jaunt starts. You are welcome to leave small children in Sunday School or the nursery. Did you know that we have pagers if the little ones need you? Find out what is behind the door.

NEW INSIGHTS INTO THE TEACHING OF JESUS

We are very excited to have **Dr. Mark Allan Powell**, Professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, with us this year on **August 13th and 14th**. Jesus taught for only a short span of years in Palestine, but his teaching and his presence have continued to enlighten, challenge, and invigorate the church and the world. As we continue to discern the guiding principles we should follow in struggling to be faithful to Jesus' vision of the reign of God, the Summer Lectures in 2016 will offer the opportunity for us to reflect on five driving concerns that shaped Jesus' faith; an often overlooked interpretation of the Beatitudes in Matthew, how the widespread practice of slavery may have impacted Jesus' moral vision and priorities, and the provision Jesus may have made to allow his followers to reflect on biblical commandments in light of changed circumstances. The week-end will include three daytime sessions on Saturday with lunch, a Saturday evening gathering for Young Adults (20's and 30's), and a gathering at the Sunday School hour for the Youth (Jr. and Sr. High's). Mark will also preach at both worship services on Sunday.

MO-RANCH SHOWER

Each year our congregation offers a gift to support the work of Mo-Ranch's Housekeeping department. Our Mo Shower allows Housekeeping to purchase needed equipment and materials not provided for in the regular operating budget. Over the years, we've made significant contributions to the upkeep of the Ranch in this way. Please consider making a contribution even if you are unable to join us on the retreat.

This year, our contributions will go towards the purchase of a "Vertical Valet" unit to help the staff move equipment between floors in Wynne/Flato. Contributions may be made at the table in the Gathering Area, in the church office during the week, or via saintphilip.net (specify Mo Shower).

IN OUR PRAYERS

Nancy Young's mother—hospitalized for congestive heart failure

Kappy Pratt—hospice care at home

Helen Harris—recuperating at Brookdale Galleria

Candace Demary's parents, Wayne & Peggy Bourque, coping with health issues in Lake Charles; Wayne has been moved to hospice care

Karen & Bill Morris's nephew Jason in Virginia, diagnosed with Stage IV colorectal cancer

T.E. Keever – Hallmark Healthcare Center

Jan Conner - coping with many health issues

Lorraine Lyter-Reed's brothers: Martin is recovering from amputation; Leland – ongoing cancer treatment

Joe Anne Berwick—residing at Belmont

Pat Clark—treatment at MD Anderson

Mike Tomforde, Jr.—Hallmark HC

Larry Dean—Seven Acres

Recuperating at Home

Sue Baier Jan Conner Gary Gardner

Malcolm Host Dick Howard Rusty Howard

Sue Howard Jo Jones Toto McGehee

Paul Pennington Sondra Sullivan Penny Vieau

Ruth Weber



1. Matthew 28:19
2. Purple