

PHILIP-EYE

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

Volume 60, Number 8

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Houston, Texas

April 19, 2016

CCSC's BACK-TO-SCHOOL PROGRAM RECIPIENT OF MAY 1ST COMMUNION OFFERING

Since 1986, the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) has offered a Back-to-School program to meet the basic needs of school-aged children. Students who participate in this program lack academic supplies and clothing/uniforms needed to start the year on equal footing with their more advantaged peers. In 2015, 6,642 students (pre-kindergarten through eighth grade) were assisted at Back-to-School. The goal in 2016 is to equip at least 6,500 underprivileged children. Each child receives a complete package of grade-appropriate supplies and a voucher for a new school uniform and/or shoes. Hundreds of volunteers help make this program a success.

Save the following dates to volunteer to help the Back-to-School program:

- Saturday, **July 30**, 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. - Help sort and set up
- Friday, **August 5** and/or Saturday, **August 6**, 7:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. - Help distribute the supplies

All of these events will be held at Faith Lutheran Church, 4600 Bellaire Blvd., (just inside Loop 610 at Avenue B).

The Mission Committee



MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP CONCERT SERIES

MASP will host **Bach Society Houston** for *BACH VESPERS FOR EASTER*, on Sunday, **April 24**, at 6:00 p.m. Hear the Bach Choir and Mercury, with soloists and organist, Christopher Holman, celebrate the Resurrection in this service centered around J. S. Bach's *Easter Oratorio*, BWV 249. Also included on the program will be *Psalm 141*, composed by Rick Erickson, Director and Conductor of Bach Society Houston. A pre-concert lecture with musicologist Dr. Jason Oby will take place at 5:15. Admission to the program is free. An offering will be received.

On Sunday, **May 1**, 6:00 p.m., Music at St. Philip Concert Series hosts **Houston Baroque** in *Buxtehude: Cantatas and Solo Organ Works*, with sopranos Julia Fox and Megan Stapleton, instrumentalists, and Patrick Zelezik, harpsichord and organ. Admission is free; an offering will be received. This program is the final concert in the Music at St. Philip Concert Series 2015-2016 season.

ST. PHILIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR INTERFAITH MINISTRIES (IM) OPERATION IMPACT

In preparation of hurricane season, Interfaith Ministries (IM) Meals-On-Wheels program needs volunteer groups to deliver shelf-stable meals and bottled water to all of their 4,000 homebound seniors in our community. These seniors are unable to prepare for disasters due to mobility issues. IM wants to make sure their homebound seniors are prepared with a week's worth of food and clean water.

About 20+ volunteers are needed for a St. Philip team which will be assigned 50 seniors. Three or four volunteers who drive large SUV or trucks are needed to pick up the meals and bottled water for 50 seniors on Saturday, **May 21** and bring the supplies back to St. Philip. Other volunteers will be assigned the names, addresses, and route schedules of their assigned seniors. The volunteer can deliver the food and water on **May 21**; however, the volunteers have until **May 24** to make their deliveries. The more people who volunteer, the fewer deliveries each has to make.

Greg Han is in charge of getting people to sign up. You can sign up on Sunday mornings, **April 24**, **May 1**, **May 8** and **May 15** in the Gathering Area. This is a one-time volunteer opportunity that the Mission Committee hopes you will respond to.





CHURCH DIRECTORY

Last time to update your Church Directory picture. Please take a few minutes **on April 24** to stop by the Library between 10:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., then again from noon until everyone in line has been photographed. Please come and verify your contact information and have your photo taken for the annual refreshing of beloved St. Philip faces. Your picture will most definitely paint a thousand words!

P.S. If you like last year’s picture, it is very important to stop in and verify the information we will publish. *Thank you!*

IN OUR PRAYERS

- Bedford Vestal—hospitalized at Methodist—Medical Center
- Sondra Sullivan—recovering at Brookdale Galleria
- Dick Howard— hip replacement surgery on Wed., April 20
- Virginia McFarland—hospitalized at Methodist—Medical Center with flu
- Martha Doolittle—Interface-Samaritan staff, recovering from stroke
- Helen Harris—recuperating at Brookdale Galleria
- Toto McGehee—recovering from broken elbow
- Mark Fowler, son of Jeanne Fowler, is recovering from surgery to remove a brain tumor on April 12
- 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
- Shirley Smith – friend of Mary Ann Thomas coping with debilitating health issues
- Jan Conner - coping with many health issues
- Lorraine Lyter-Reed’s brothers: Martin is recovering from below-the-knee 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 | Rusty Howard | Jo Jones |
| Penny Vieau | Paul Pennington | Ruth Weber |

DEDICATION SERVICE

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER

The Session has authorized naming the kitchen behind the dining room in memory of Sandra Cooper. This kitchen is the site of our Kids Against Hunger food-packing ministry, which Sandra founded several years ago. A brief dedication service in the kitchen is scheduled for **April 24**, immediately following the 11:00 worship service. Everyone is welcome!

AMAZING PLACE YOUTH

Amazing Place is a day center for adults with mild to moderate memory loss that provides respite to participants’ families and support to the community; it is also one of the many organizations that St. Philip supports. They are currently looking for students age 16 or older to assist program staff and participants in programs such as exercise, arts and crafts, board games, trivia and technology based activities on the Smart Board. This is called Student Training in Alzheimer’s & Respite in the Summer (STARS) in which students begin in June with training and volunteer through early August. Applications are available at <http://amazingplacehouston.org> under volunteer and are due **May 15**.



PIECEMAKER QUILTERS

Can you sew a straight line? Are you interested in learning how to make a quilt? Do you want to take an active part in one of St. Philip's mission outreach programs? If your answer is "yes", please join us on Saturday morning **April 23** in the Arts & Crafts Studio from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. to learn more. All are welcome. Hope Wilmarth will begin the meeting with a demonstration on appliques and fusible materials and how to use them for the quilts we make for House of Tiny Treasures. The demonstration will be from 10:30-11:30. We will break for lunch, then sew the rest of the meeting. Supplies you need to bring if you wish to fuse an applique to a quilt top: freezer paper or large piece of butcher paper to copy the appliques, Wonder Under®, quilt top you are working on, scissors. We will use material on hand for the appliques. Bring your lunch if you plan to stay. Bring your machine if you plan to sew. You are welcome to observe if you just want to learn this technique and see what the St. Philip Piecemaker Quilters do each month for the children who attend the pre-school at House of Tiny Treasures. Any questions? Call Hope 281-376-7878 or email: hlwilmarth@hotmail.com

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

PRESBYTERIAN 101—Room 202

Presbyterian 101 is a series of classes about the distinctive marks of Presbyterian faith and practice. Led by John Wurster, these sessions explore the history, theological emphases, worship features, and governing characteristics that define this part of the Christian family. New members, prospective members, seekers, wonderers, and everyone else is welcome. The class continues through **May 8** at 9:30 a.m.

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.

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.

CHURCH & SOCIETY - Room 201

April 24 - *Peace Beyond Understanding* envisions the Jasper, Texas area as a beacon of true racial peace that goes far beyond absence of conflict, which includes relations between individuals and families with mutual concern and without regard for the racial makeup of the members. People of all ages are fully informed, clear about the socially corrosive aspects of prejudice, and committed to rid Jasper of all vestiges. Presented by Hill Kemp, Ruling Elder at First Presbyterian Church, Jasper, TX. **May 1** - *Observance of Yom Hashoah-Holocaust Remembrance Day* presented by Dr. Hyman Penn will tell the story of his father Morris Penn, who was hidden by righteous Gentiles in Lithuania, his mother Linda Penn, and grandmother

Riva Kremer, both from Poland, who survived eight concentration camps. **May 8** - *How We Came Together-The Story of Central Presbyterian Church Joining With St. Philip Presbyterian Church* presented by C.J. Miller and a report on the Central Mission Endowment Fund presented by Cathy Patterson.

WEEKDAY STUDIES

MONDAY EVENING STUDY GROUP

Everyone is welcome to the continuing meetings of the Monday evening study group! Our next meeting is **April 25**, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Join your fellow St. Philippians for refreshments and a brief prayer as we close our discussion of *The Historical David* (by Joel Baden). We gather in the dining room (in the administration building, at the south end of campus), and will be covering chapter 6, "David in decline: What goes around comes around," and the conclusion.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster continues with a focus on the Gospel of John. While containing some of the most familiar passages in the whole Bible, John also offers a distinctive, often complex, presentation of Jesus. The class, which meets weekly in the dining room, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., will conclude at the end of April and resume in September.

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. Those men who wish to participate should bring a bag lunch; refreshments will be provided. All men 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. At our next meeting, **May 12**, we will discuss *Why Not Me?* by Mindy Kaling. This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. For more information go to:

<http://saintphilip.net/BookGroup.html>



Are you Presby Pro (Presbyterian Proficient)?

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

1. What are the two other names for the sacrament of the Lord's Supper?
2. Why do Presbyterians recognize seven Sundays of Easter?



Excerpts from Pablo Estrella’s Annual Report of Bethesda Clinic and Sutherland School Yucatan Region of Mexico

Pablo reports that Dr. Jose Estrella had a blockage in the veins in his foot, had surgery in Merida, and has recovered. He has to be careful because he only has 30% of circulation to his toes.

He also reported that the Project C.U.R.E. container containing medical equipment, disposable supplies, new beds and mattresses, an electric generator and other medical equipment arrived. Monies from the Central Mission Endowment Fund (CMEF) paid for the shipment of the container. The supplies were donated by Project C.U.R.E. The generator is needed during rain storms when the electricity goes out.

Bethesda Clinic is also a Mission Partner in St. Philip’s mission budget. With this financial help, the Clinic was able to replace the wooden windows with metal windows and wire screens to prevent insects in the recovery room.

The health department requires that medical specialists do surgeries for their specialty and the specialists are happy to cooperate with us. An ophthalmology team from Indiana came to the clinic and did 60 surgeries. Pablo stated that because of St. Philip’s financial help, the clinic is able to keep their costs low.

He also sent a greeting to the Weber family mentioning “the death of our good friend, Dick, and our feeling of pain for Mrs. Weber.”



Above: general maintenance and updates to the clinic made possible with contributions.
Below: The mid-way point of loading.



Top: Dr. Jose Estrella founder of clinic and Pablo’s dad. *Middle:* Surgery light packaged. *Bottom:* John Murphy & David Fox standing by packed 40-foot container with \$437,000 (US dollars) worth of supplies.



Above: students studying to be nurse’s aids stand with Dr. Estrella
Below: Loading generator



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>

ARTS & CRAFT STUDIO

The next scheduled Saturday craft is **May 7** 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.



Come to the “table of sustainable farming” on Sunday, **April 24**, where we will have fairly traded coffees, teas, chocolate, almonds and olive oil on offer before and after the 11 a.m. worship service.

Our “Equal Exchange- Presbyterian Coffee Project” is an aspect of our call to peacemaking and working for social justice as Christians. We strive to live a life integrating the gospel teachings into the actions and decisions of our lives.

As a congregation of believers we have made the conscious decision to support Equal Exchange Fair Trade through our purchases as a congregation and as individuals. We advocate for fairer trade as a model for a global economy rooted in people-to-people connections, justice and sustainability, a system of exchange that promotes economic justice, reduces global poverty, and honors and protects the environment. Join us on Earth Day in the Gathering Area to make your commitment to this ministry thru your purchases **and pick up a packet of seeds to grow in your own garden!**

SPECIAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY with CCSC

CCSC is gearing up for our 2016 Back-to-School (BTS) program and we're looking for terrific volunteers like you! In the first week of May, we will register students for the BTS program so they can be fully equipped for school next year.

COMMUNITY REGISTRATION: **(NEW LOCATION!)**

May 2-5, 2016 (Monday – Thursday shifts available)

8:30 am – 1:30 pm

**Bellaire United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall
(4417 Bellaire Blvd, Bellaire 77401)**

Assist clients in open registration process. Volunteers needed for computer data entry, manual data collection, general client screening and guiding traffic flow. Spanish speaking volunteers helpful but not required. Most volunteers will be seated in air-conditioned room. Some volunteers will be moving from indoor/outdoor to guide client traffic flow. 20 volunteers needed per day.

If you can assist, please RSVP to Cathy Brown: 713-961-3993 x215 or seasonal@ccschouston.org with your preferred shift(s). Also, if you have helped in a specific role in the past, and want to request that role, simply let me know (i.e. Database input). Thank you for all you do to support CCSC.

Cathy Brown
Youth Services Manager
Seasonal@ccschouston.org



Dear Friends at St. Philip,

Paulette and I wanted to take a moment in this Easter season to thank all of you for our precious years at St. Philip. We shall always remember fondly our time with you, and especially the gracious farewell recognition given on our last Sunday, and the generous cash gifts from the congregation and choirs. The beautiful choir photograph from James Cooper, beautifully framed by Micah Meyers, has a prominent place in our foyer, and the photograph of the Paul Fritts organ hangs in my church office. We are grateful for these mementos of our shared life. We also treasure dearly the lovely marble bell ornament from Bell Canto and the St. Philip Choir. It will always have a special place on our Christmas tree, and in our hearts.



As a former staff member, I am extremely grateful for the collegiality and ministry of all the staff, and particularly that of John Wurster and Matthew Dirst, with whom I had the privilege to serve for the full three and a half years. It is always a joy to read the church news in the Philip-Eye. While this note of gratitude is much later than we had hoped, it is no less heartfelt or sincere. Paulette and I look forward to the time when we can visit St. Philip, and pray for God's blessings on the church's ministry.

Sincerely,

Tom Goetz
Tom Goetz

goetzmusic1@gmail.com

6674 Huntley Lane North
Naples, FL 34104



One Great Hour of Sharing was the recipient of the March Lenten communion services and received \$5,580. Thank you for supporting this PCUSA Special Offering which was divided among Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Fund, and Self-Development of People.

The Mission Committee

MENTAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

Creating Communities of Grace and Hope



In every congregation there are people and families who struggle with mental health issues – some chronic, some more acute. In every case the community of faith is called upon to respond with compassion, understanding, and hope. At this symposium, experts in the area of mental health will present information on causes, treatment, research, and resources, how to reach beyond the stigma, and how to minister to people with mental health issues. The keynote speaker will be Elizabeth McIngvale-Cegelski, Ph.D., who is the founder of the Peace of Mind Foundation. Panelists include James Lomax, M.D., Matt Stanford, Ph.D., Sylvia Muzquiz-Drummond, M.D. and Rev. Dr. Peter Holmes.

All members and clergy of New Covenant Presbytery and any faith organization or church are invited to attend. This free symposium will be on Saturday, **April 23** from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (5308 Buffalo Speedway, Houston, TX 77005). The Committee of Congregational Resources of the Presbytery of New Covenant is sponsoring this event and more information is available from Charlotte Kibler at 281-744-0171 orcharwk@juno.com

The event is free: we ask that you register at: www.pbyofnewcovenant.org



1. The Eucharist and communion.
2. Easter is not just one day, but a whole season which begins on Easter Sunday and lasts for 50 days (including Sundays). The Day of Pentecost falls on the 50th day of the season (*Pentecost means 50th*).

ST. PHILIP'S
MOBILE!



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STAY CONNECTED!