

PHILIP-EYE

GOING GREEN WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Rev. Dr. John W. Wurster
Pastor, Head of Staff

Rev. Keatan King
Associate Pastor

Rev. Omar Rouchon
Associate Pastor

Dr. Randall Swanson
Director of Music

Dr. Matthew Dirst
Organist

Cecy Duarte
Children's Music Associate

Micah Meyers
Art Director

Wilbert Parada
Facilities Supervisor

Dimas Parada
Custodian

Kenya Goodwine
Bookkeeper

Lorrie Castle
Office Manager
Newsletter Editor

Susan Estill
Editor Emerita

By now we know that CO₂ is a significant contributor to climate change. Fortunately, native plants are particularly effective at removing CO₂ from the air. They have significantly deeper roots than non-native plants, which increases their carbon storage capacity for use in photosynthesis – giving us cleaner air to breathe! With their deeper roots, native plants also require far less water and are much more effective at absorbing rainwater, thus preventing runoff and soil erosion. But did you know that they also do not require the fertilization and pesticides that non-natives need? This results in a great benefit to our environment, since so much of those fertilizers and pesticides flow into our sewers when it rains, ultimately polluting our bays, rivers, and oceans.



Bluntleaf Milkweed

How do you start landscaping with native plants? Consider changing out areas of lawn grass with natives. By reducing the amount of mowing required, we also reduce the number of pollutants going into the air. Using a gas-powered lawn mower for an hour generates roughly the same number of emissions as driving 270 miles! (That's one way from Houston to McKinney, or round-trip from Houston to Gonzales.)

Finally (and most delightful!), native plants can serve as al fresco dining for birds, bees, butterflies, and so much more. So please consider going green with native plants. They are the necessary heart of healthy ecosystems and a great way to care for God's creation.

Here are a few links with more information on native plants to help get you started:

- ☼ Native Plants of North America - Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Comprehensive Database - <https://www.wildflower.org/plants-main>
- ☼ Native Plant Society of Houston - whose purpose is for the promotion of research, conservation and utilization of native plants and plant habitats of Texas. <https://npsot.org/wp/houston/native-plant-info/>
- ☼ Joshua's Native Plants - specializes in plants indigenous to the Gulf Coast. <https://www.joshuasnativeplants.net/>



Fun Stuff

Amazing facts, dumb jokes, crazy ads, brain stuff, and quizzes regarding the Bible. Stuff you probably know, that which you didn't know you knew, and secret stuff. I hope you enjoy my Fun Stuff corner.

—Lorrie Castle

Crazy Ads

Book—*What I Have Written*, by Pontius Pilate

Memoirs of a not-so-innocent man

Milk Carton—Missing

Prodigious Child,

Jesus of Nazareth,

DOB: 12/25/4 B.C.

Last Seen: In temple complex, Jerusalem



**in
February**

1	Caryn Bahruth
1	Nan Schissler
1	Alex Semler
1	Eleanor Lee
2	Walter Baker
2	Dorothy Murphey
2	Allison Hooker
3	Claire Duerr
4	John Lindsay
4	Claudia Wilkinson
4	Mark Young
4	Steven Lawson
5	Beverly Baker
5	Gay Van Osdall
5	Gary Willis
5	Susan Lange
6	Victoria Lewis
7	Ava Arlinghaus
8	Susan Leonard
9	Jon Martin
10	Liz Williams
10	George White
11	Oak Kim
11	Bill Holden
11	Helen Moore
11	Jamie Benard
11	Adam Garner
12	Karen Winship
14	Mary McKelvey
15	Molly Vestal
16	Martha Red
16	Elizabeth Hadaway
18	Velma Guy Tolbert
18	Jonathan Davis
18	Julia Fox
18	Grace Nenna
19	David Durham
19	Joseph Webster
22	Wallace Pepi
23	Charlene Gibert
24	Mary Ann Thomas
25	Tom Demary
25	Shirley Ann Frautschi
26	Laura Boston-Perez
27	Miles Frey
27	Renee Wright
28	Suzanne Kerr

TUESDAY TALK SERIES

Spend the afternoon with us for lectures, musical entertainment, and more.

FREE!

Our Tuesday Talk Series is back in person!

Held the third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 pm or virtually on Zoom.

For more information about each event or to request a Zoom invitation, please visit hollyhall.org/tuesday-talk or call 281.936.2805.



JANUARY 18

ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS FOR ESTATE PLANNING

Do you have the documents you should have for disability or death? Does your will or trust protect your assets in the event of your beneficiaries' death or possible divorce? Presented by Theresa A. Clarke, Attorney, Wright Abshire, Attorneys.



FEBRUARY 15

CHOCOLATE: A WORLD UNTO ITSELF

After Columbus brought cacao beans back to Europe from the New World, chocolate spread from being a fashionable drink and a sign of wealth to an important commodity in developing countries. Learn about chocolate's significant influence on the arts.



MARCH 15

HEALTHY AGING WITH LILIANA BURNETT

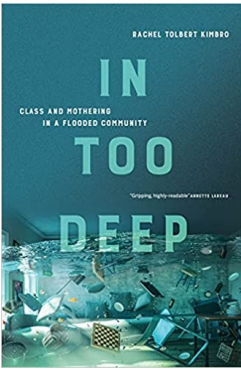
Aging is unavoidable. Join us as we discuss why aging occurs and provide tips to reduce age-related ailments and energy decline through proper nutrition and other lifestyle choices. Learn how you can feel good for years to come!



INDEPENDENT LIVING | ASSISTED LIVING | SKILLED NURSING

In Too Deep: Class and Mothering in a Flooded Community

Review by Sue Howard



What is not to like about a book on class and mothering in a flooded community when it's all about Houston and it is written by our very own Rachel Tolbert Kimbro - mother of Eleanor and Thomas, wife of Rob and oh yes she is Dean of the School of Social Sciences and Professor of Sociology at Rice University. Released in January 2022, the book is available locally

and even from Amazon.

The book includes information about the Memorial Day Flood of 2015, the Tax Day Flood of 2016 and Hurricane Harvey of 2017. "The book illustrates how mothers carefully choose where they live and the school their children attend, and the lengths they will go to maintain their family lives even after experiencing repeated disaster. While the findings may not be generalizable to the entire neighborhood, to Houston, or to another state, they do illuminate the inner workings of families after a disaster, including how hard mothers work to sustain their high parenting standards even in difficult circumstances."

It is a page turner. It's gripping and very readable. I read it in two days while at the beach and loved it. Then I spent hours telling Dick about it and asking questions that triggered lots of conversation. The SPPC book club is planning on reading it and I hope you consider it also.



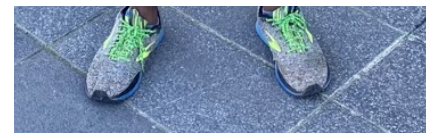
Omar Rouchon

Chevron Houston Marathon #5717 M-37 Houston, TX
Avg. Pace: 08:30 min/mile

🕒 Finish Time

3:42:40

08:30 min/mile



CHRISTMAS AT ST. PHILIP

What makes the season so great at St. Philip?

The artwork of our members—banner by Hope Wilmarth.

The children who bring joy—Advent VBS.

The pastors—John Wurster leading the flock on Christmas Eve.

The members—Dan Cleveland assembling the manger.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. At our next meeting on **February 10** at 7:00 p.m., we will discuss *Chaos on Catnet* by Naomi Kritzer; watch your email for details of where we will be meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at nnl@lambrightlaw.com

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY WITH JOHN WURSTER—A look via Zoom at the Bible readings for the coming Sunday continues with Zoom sessions Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Email John for details and to get on the list - john@saintphilip.net.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP—Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets in person each Friday in the Dining Room from 11:45 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. We are currently studying the book *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr. Also, while there is an in person meeting, that meeting is carried live via Zoom for those who want to join the meeting but are either out of town or prefer to meet from a distance. Please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com if you would like to be a part of this interesting group.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP will have its next meeting Tuesday, **February 1**, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The study book is *Race in America; Christians respond to the crisis*, edited by David Maxwell and Laura Cheifetz. Persons interested in joining the group can send an email to welcom@saintphilip.net and type PSJ Study Group in the subject line.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS is meeting again each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. in Room 204 of the Education Building. We will resume our study of the last ten Psalms with Dr. Robert Alter's *The Book of Psalms* (2007) and then return to the Kingdom of Israel at I Kings 2.13 with Dr. Alter's *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets* (2013). Join us for more discoveries in Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

LENT CLASSES—The Education Committee will offer a five-week class during Lent called "Experiencing God," an opportunity to see how the Holy Spirit connects with people in unique and personal ways in their daily life. Two or three church members will informally share one of their spiritual practices for 10-15 minutes. There will be also time for individuals to try these different ways to encounter God. The goal is to encourage and learn from one another on our journeys of faith.

If you feel God might be calling you to share in this way, please contact Betsy Boston at ehbluzerne@aol.com or Omar Rouchon at omar@saintphilip.net.

CHURCH & SOCIETY—9:40 a.m. - 10:40 a.m. by Zoom - **January 23** - International Holocaust Remembrance Day: "*How We Continue to Honor Those Who Perished & Those Who Survived*". What happens to the stories Holocaust Survivors have shared when they die? How will the lessons of their experiences continue on? Especially during Covid, how do we create ways for our aging Survivors to be in touch, to avoid the loneliness of isolation? Some Survivors who never spoke of their painful experiences are coming forth late in life to speak up. Why? Please join us. Sandy Breisacher Lessig is the daughter of a Survivor, has been a docent at Holocaust Museum Houston for over 25 years, served on their board & numerous committees as well as the Texas Holocaust & Genocide Commission. Together with HMMH, she developed "Through Their Eyes", an interactive video presentation that uses a Survivor's video testimony to present their stories to audiences. **January 30** - St. Philip Mission Partner: *New Spring - Elevating Lives, Lifting Communities*. Presented by Robert Westheimer, founder and chairman of New Spring. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

PW CIRCLE MEETINGS

All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate, so please email Lorrie to request the link: welcom@saintphilip.net.

Monday Morning Saints

Second Monday of each month—10:00 a.m.

Sunday Circle

3rd Sunday of each month—12:30 p.m.

Thursday Evening Circle

1st Thursday of each month—7:00 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT

Due to the latest Covid surge, the Presbyterian Women's retreat at Journey Retreat Center has been rescheduled for March 25-27. Keatan and Anne Wilson will be leading "Gifts of Wise Women". Women who are already registered will be automatically registered for the new date. If you are registered and unable to attend the new date, contact Lorrie at the church office to get a refund. Registration has been reopened and you can register on [MyStPhilip](http://MyStPhilip.com). The cost for the entire weekend is \$170.00. Saturday only is \$40.00. Scholarships are available — please contact Judith (judith.hiott@outlook.com) or Jan (jsmeyer9990@gmail.com).



The Duerr Lecture Series will return for its 25th anniversary with a full program of preaching and lectures, **February 20, 21, and 22, 2022**. We are excited to offer all lectures both in person or by live-streaming. All lectures are free and open to everyone.

“Discovering the Pastoral Christology of Luke”

Speaker for the series is Rev. Dr. Christopher Edmonston, Pastor of White Memorial Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, NC, leading us through a deep exploration of Luke 7. In Luke 7 Jesus expands our understanding of inclusion, attends to deep grief, uses his authority to offer new teachings about long-held beliefs, and gives an example of how we might engage with enemies. In a time rife with division and conflict, the pastoral nature of Jesus gives the gift of a fresh alternative for engagement in the church and the world.

Dr. Edmonston will be preaching at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and presenting lectures each evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Put the dates on your calendar and join us in person or online for this time of spiritual renewal.

Schedule of Events

Sunday, February 20

11:00 a.m. Worship

“Q & A with Jesus”

Psalm 96, Luke 7:18-23

7:00 p.m.

“The Biblical Underpinnings of Christology”

Fellowship Hall & Live-streamed

Monday, February 21

7:00 p.m.

“Christological Confessions and Jesus in the Reformed Tradition”

Fellowship Hall & Live-streamed

Tuesday, February 22

7:00 p.m.

“A Case for a Pastoral Christology for the 21st Century”

Fellowship Hall & Live-streamed



Child labor and desperate poverty among farmers in the cocoa industry are still in the news as we approach Valentine's Day, one of the largest days for chocolate sales. Most major corporations

don't advertise where their chocolate comes from and if the cacao farmers were paid fairly.

Equal Exchange works directly with small-scale farmer cooperatives in Peru, Panama, the Dominican Republic and Togo as part of long-term, fair trading partnerships. Equal Exchange's products meet the strict standards established by the Fair Trade Federation. This includes no child labor or slavery.

Show your support for these farmers, their sustainable farming methods and fair workers policies by visiting our Equal Exchange table on **February 6** for all your Valentine candy needs. We will also have the usual coffee, tea, mangos, olive oil and cashews on offer, in the Gathering Area before and after the 11 a.m. worship service.

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

Celebrate your wedding anniversary, family birthdays, or memorialize your mother and father by sponsoring the chancel flowers on Sunday morning. The Flower Calendar for 2022 has gone digital; please sign up to sponsor the flowers on the date which you prefer. If you have any questions, contact Lorrie Castle at 713-622-4807 or lorrie@saintphilip.net. Sandra Truxillo, Flower Coordinator will call you the week you have chosen to sponsor flowers to discuss the type of flowers and the message you would like in the bulletin. The standard arrangement is \$100, and you will be billed at the end of the month.

Click here to pick your date: [Flower Sign Up](#)

Thank you.

ST. PHILIP MISSION PARTNER: PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S HOMES AND SERVICES

Hope Wilmarth, St. Philip liaison

St. Philip has had a long and productive relationship with Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS) as a Mission Partner. I would encourage everyone to learn more about the foster care services PCHAS offers on their website, www.pchas.org. One way St Philipians can get involved is to write a personal note to a foster child in the program. Valentine's Day is approaching and this would be such a great way to get started. If you are interested, please contact Hope Wilmarth by phone: 281-744-8540 or by email: hlwilmarth@hotmail.com.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Family and Friends of Doris Hogle, former member of St. Philip, who died on December 20 in North Carolina

St. Philippians and their families—Roderick James; Lee Larkin; Dorothy Murphey; Bill Slick; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Alma Fonseca—mother of Angelina Fonseca; Bill Polk—brother-in-law of Sharon Webb; Darryl Cazes—brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine; Douglas Everhart—brother of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Gretchen Everhart—niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Carol Paine Kendrick—sister of Stephen Paine; John Anderson—brother of Tom Anderson; Mac & Beverly Wilson—parents of Butch Wilson; Vera Moore—mother of Chuck Johnson; Dottie Laas and family—cousin of Sam Fisher; Shirley Boggus—grandmother of Omi Ford; Dona Rowe—mother of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound—Walter Baker; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Marion Takehara; and Jody Tomforde.

Friends of St. Philippians—Lynda Shepherd—friend of Nancy Higgs; Bruce Witte—friend of Denis and Janet Martin; Janet Arnold—friend of Eleanor Grant; Auden McCarty—friend of Mary McGuire; Ted & Susan Hirtz—friends of Jacqueline and Bill Taylor; Paul English; Matt Scalapino and Laura Chilton—friends of Stephen Paine; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; Rob Bond—friend of Curt and Sharon Webb; Clayton Amacker—friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; and Walter "Buddy" Hammann III—friend of Robin and Gary Willis.

We also pray for health care workers, first responders, and caregivers; for those who are sick; and for those who watch and wait.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email deacons@saintphilip.net.

Pledge payments, communion gifts and other gifts to support the Church can be made anytime through our website (<http://saintphilip.net/>), text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056. Pledge cards are being accepted in the Church Office or you can make your pledge in MyStPhilip.

Next edition: February 1; Deadline January 27—3:00 p.m.

Stay connected with regular emails from the pastors until then.

If you have any comments or suggestions for the Philip-Eye, please send them to:
philipeye@saintphilip.net or call 713-622-4807 and ask for Lorrie.



4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056

Phone: 713.622.4807 Fax: 713.622.5405 www.saintphilip.net