

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

Micah Meyers Art Director

Wilbert Parada Facilities Supervisor

Dimas Parada Custodian

Denise Ferrell Bookkeeper

Lorrie Castle Office Manager Newsletter Editor

Susan Estill

Editor Emerita

ST. PHILP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 17, 2023 Volume 67, Issue 18

PHILIP-EYE



SUNDAY - Oct. 22: The Fellowship & Stewardship Committees invite you to the St. Philip Fall Picnic after worship at noon. Fried chicken & drinks provided; donations appreciated. Please bring a covered dish that feeds eight people. Seating available under tents. Dress casuall See more info by visiting our website: <u>saintphilip.net</u>. Also, lookout for the "Dinners for 8" Sign Up Table that day.

The Mission Committee is once again hosting the Christmas Market and Mission Forum benefitting our St. Philip Mission Partners

November 12

9:45 - 10:50 a.m. and 12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Credit cards, personal checks & cash accepted. Over 25 mission partners will be in attendance.

This is a great way to give a gift that represents a cause that's close to your heart. Or make a gift in someone's honor and choose a mission partner they'd love. Your gift provides help, hope and relief to people, families and communities in need.

Besides monetary gifts to a mission partner you will have the opportunity to purchase items that help continue their work. The Stitchers will have various items including homemade jams and jellies. The wonderful wood products that benefit Haiti Childrens Nutrition Program will be available. The coffee team will have coffees, teas, olive oil and other products from Equal Exchange. St. Philip Youth will have 4X6 prints of St. Philip from Fil Nenna. Visit with all the mission partners and check out just once.

Additionally, there will be a live auction. Some items already collected include Houston Dash tickets for 2024 season and homemade cookies by Anne Wilson. If you would like to donate to the auction we are still accepting items. Contact Hope Wilmarth: 281-744-8540 or Lorrie Castle in the church office.





1	Omi	Ford
2	Judy	Crane
2	Rachel	Kimbro
3	Denise	Sanchez
4	Sharon	Webb
4	David	Wintersgill
5	Robert	Ford
6	Terri	Clemmons
6	Cathy	Patterson
7	Scott	Baker
8	Sondra	Sullivan
8	Nancy	Young
9	Elizabeth	Arp
9	Molly	Boren-Whitney
9	Mary	McDaniel
9	Judy	Nunn
9	Esme	Stevenson
9	Julia	Wangler
10	John	Bobbitt
11	Anne	Johnson
12	Carlton	Currie
12	Keatan	King
15	Robert	Boone
15	Fiona	Murphy
16	Nadene	Crain
16	Mike	Lawson
16	William	Waldrop
17	Barbara	Cavanaugh
17	Elsie	Dees
17	Pam	Lewis
18	Jo	Helland
18	Alexa	Stevenson
19	Bebe	Burns
19	Eleanor	Carter
19	Jack	Carter
19	Ava	Keever
19	Ruthie	Waldrop
20	James	Cooper
20	Juliana	Vahora
20	Jennifer	Wilson
		•

November	Birthdays
----------	-----------

Robert	Estill
Caroline	Flowers
Amelia	Larkin
Paul	Arlinghaus
Hank	Semler
Evan	Fulcher
Karen	Morris
Mary	McGuire
Jay	Lippincott
Curt	Webb
Bennett	Johnson
Jim	Leonard
Charlotte	Kibler
Kara	D'Agostino
Joyce	Fugit
Doug	Lewis
Phillip	McDaniel
	Caroline Amelia Paul Hank Evan Karen Mary Jay Curt Bennett Jim Charlotte Kara Joyce Doug



GHOST RANCH MOVIE TOUR

We are now able to share a best-kept secret about Ghost Ranch. If you've seen the movie *Oppenheimer*, you might have thought that much of



the scenery looked familiar. That's because much of *Oppenheimer* was filmed at Ghost Ranch! Due to our contract with the filmmaker, we were not able to share that news until August 22, 30 days after the movie was released. All the tour guides at Ghost Ranch became well practiced at blank looks, poker faces, and double talk when asked whether it was true that Ghost Ranch was the film site.

Up on Tennessee Ridge, the filmmakers built a standing set with the security gate for the lab and two intersecting streets representing Los Alamos in the 1940s during the Manhattan Project. Though some of the movie structures were removed Ghost Ranch now has a standing set footprint that can be "skinned" (in movie language) to look like a western town or a historic downtown in another time period for other films that might be shot at Ghost Ranch. This raises our appeal to filmmakers, as the state of New Mexico recognizes us as a film site and offers a significant tax incentive.

If you haven't seen the movie, it's a compelling story and the scenery is all you know and love about Ghost Ranch. For a limited time, the *Oppenheimer* standing set will be a stop on our Ghost Ranch Movie Tour.

THERE'S HARDLY A BETTER WAY TO GET TO KNOW FELLOW ST. PHILIPPIANS THAN TO **SHARE A MEAL TOGETHER**!

- + THE HOST PLANS AN ENTRÉE FOR THE GROUP
- (YOURS OR FROM YOUR FAVORITE CARRY-OUT SPOT)
- + GUESTS CHOOSE TO BRING APPETIZER, SALAD/BREAD, OR DESSERT
- + THE **GROUP MEETS** JUST FOUR TIMES BETWEEN DECEMBER AND MAY
- + YOU MAY INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCE FOR A RESTAURANT VENUE INSTEAD
- + CHOOSE A GROUP WITH ALL AGES (WITH CHILDREN)

OR WITH ADULTS ONLY



SIGN UP IN THE **GATHERING AREA** AFTER WORSHIP OR SIGN UP **ONLINE**.

AMAZING PLACE

Our photo shows St. Philip volunteers (left to right), Marcia James, Maggie Dement, Carla Burns and Ruthie Waldrop, as they crossed paths on Wednesday, October 11th. Ruthie and Marcia assist Chef Michael in the kitchen, and Maggie and Carla join the participants in game-playing.

Amazing Place offers day care for those with mild to moderate dementia. It also offers workshops for family and friends. Currently, 2024 classes for Aging Solo, Memory Enhancement Training and Savvy Caregiver are being scheduled. Stay tuned.



for volunteers. Learn more about Amazing Place at amazingplacehouston.org.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

October 17—Watch your mailbox stewardship packets will be going out this week. Read what your fellow St. Philippians consider treasures of our church.



OCTOBER 29—at 9:00 a.m.— Worship on the Lawn with the

bagpipers of the Houston Highlanders. 11:00 a.m. service will be in the Sanctuary as usual.



General Election November 7 – More Than Mayor And City Council

The Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee encourages St. Philippians to vote in the election coming up on November 7. Not only will the ballot include the election of a mayor and city council, but there are 14 proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution. Our committee's Earth Care Team wants to draw your attention to one specific proposed amendment -- Proposition 7. We invite you to vote <u>against</u> **Proposition 7**.

Prop 7 calls for the creation of the Texas Energy Fund (TEF) which will be administered by the Public Utilities Commission and will authorize the state legislature to allocate funds through TEF to modernize electric generating facilities. That sounds good, but when you drill down you find out that the specific purpose is to provide loans at below market interest rates to upgrade existing and build new dispatchable electricity generators. Dispatchable refers to generators that will normally be on standby and can respond rapidly in times of potential electricity shortage in the Texas grid. It also refers to electricity generated from fossil fuels (most likely natural gas) and excludes investments in wind and solar as well as energy storage facilities (i.e. batteries). The plan is to make up to \$10 billion available in low interest loans for such facilities. Taxpayers are being asked to fund this expensive layer of protection which, when turned on, will produce more planet-warming greenhouse gas.

We believe this is a step back in time --a nostalgia trip with an expensive price tag. There are less expensive alternatives that are more compatible with the direction our country and the globe must go to prevent the worst climate outcomes for future generations. Alternatives include building more wind and solar capacity and potentially nuclear and geothermal sources, investing in battery capacity, strengthening the distribution system and providing incentives to consumers to trim electricity consumption during periods of peak demand. These are clearly the way of the future, and we believe the citizens of Texas should demand that our government agencies like the Public Utility Commission focus on this future rather than relying on expensive, outdated solutions to provide reliable electric power to our state.

St. Philip Earth Care Team



NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 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

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT 9:45 A.M. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

GODLY PLAY—Ages 3—Kindergarten—Room 104 ELEMENTARY—Grades 1-5—Room 105 YOUTH—Grades 6-12—Room 205

CHURCH & SOCIETY -Room 201-Join us from 9:30 a.m.-10:40 a.m. with presentations in person and by Zoom. October series focusing on the Presbyterian denomination. October 22 - "Mothers, Martyrs, Mystics, Maryology, Early Desert Mothers" the collection of wisdom of Christian Women across centuries and how we are nourished and how our theological thinking is influenced by discovering their writings, presented by Rev. Keatan King. October 29 - Reformation Sunday - What's Happening With the Presbyterians? "I'll be discussing Presbyterian Church (USA) trends and what I've learned about our national church in my two years as editor of the Presbyterian Outlook." Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott is editor and publisher of Presbyterian Outlook - author of "Necessary Risks: Challenges Privileged People Need to Face." November 5 - "The Virgin Mary on Compassion: A Muslim Perspective," In both the Bible and the Quran, Mary, the modest mother of Jesus, stands as an example of faith, humility, and virtue. This talk delves into the Quran's portrayal of Lady Maryam, exploring why she's referred to as "chosen among all women of the worlds," a "sign for humanity," and a "model" to emulate. We'll also cover how Muslims over time and space express their love for Mary, Mother of Jesus. Presented by Dr. Zahra Jamal-founder and CEO of The Inclusion Expert, a social impact consultancy to advance diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice by coaching individuals and institutions to identify and live their purpose. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes: churchsociety stphilip@comcast.net.

FAITH & LIFE – Room 200—New Class—An adult class exploring how what we believe informs how we live. Using the short stories in *The Gift of Hard Things: Finding Grace in Unexpected Places* by Mark Yaconelli, participants will read a short text in class and then engage in conversation as a group. There are no materials required and no preparation is needed.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Room 204—We will resume our study of the Kingdom of Judah at 2 Kings 18 with the story of King Hezekiah in Dr. Robert Alter's *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets* (2013). Join us from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to God's people from Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL—In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship in the chapel, while also praying, seeing 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. The Children's Chapel is held every 2nd and 4th Sunday. Children will be able to participate in this during the worship service.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster meets weekly at 9:30 a.m., and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to john@saintphilip.net. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome!

LAMBETH STUDY–Keatan King leads young adults in study every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan King at: keatan@saintphilip.net.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This selfled, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **November 9** at 7:00 p.m. and we will discuss *A Death in Tokyo* by Keigo Higashino. Watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: <u>nnl@lambrightlaw.com</u>.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOW-SHIP—Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday in person in the office Conference Room and via Zoom at 11:45 a.m. We are studying *They Walked With God* by Max Lucado. The book talks about 40 people in the Bible and how God used them. It lets us know that He has a place for us too. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at <u>ggardne148@aol.com</u>.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP—This reading and discussion group meets on the first Monday, 7-8 p.m., by zoom. As an activity of the Peacemaking/Social Justice Committee, the group provides a forum for the study and discussion of social justice topics (racism, immigration, globalism, climate change, current events, etc.) within the framework of the church and guided by our faith. The current study book is *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man, by* Emmanuel Acho. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson at sjj10223@gmail.com.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Tyler, Anne, Ava & Evelyn Keever welcomed Liam R Keever on October 12.

- St. Philippians and their families—Denise Ferrell; Pat Lindsay; Mark Takayama; Stewart Coffman; Ben Dees; Shirley Coffman; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy Johnson; Beverly Baker; Beverly Hudson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Sheila Kinsky and her children – sister of Bill Connolly; Sonia Laureano – sister of Ruena Wood; Lindsay Aldrich – daughter of Melissa & Guy Aldrich; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and her partner John Bonica; John Palisin – brother of Peg Palisin; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Halley Delany – sister of Nina Lambright; Truxillo family – Wayne and Sandra Truxillo; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Susan Everhart – niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; Darryl Cazes—brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine; John Anderson—brother of Tom Anderson.
- Homebound—Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.
- Friends of St. Philippians— Lilliana Carballo friend of Jaqueline Hamilton Taylor; Caitlan Prescott friend of Mary McGuire; Mary Watters – friend of Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Tom Barnett - friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach– friends of Stephen Paine; Jacqueline Boyd – friend of Kate Burkart; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; and Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge.

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

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Next edition: Tuesday, November 7; Deadline <u>November 2—3:00 p.m.</u> 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: <u>philipeye@saintphilip.net</u> 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