

PHILIP-EYE

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

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

Lorrie Castle
Office Manager
Newsletter Editor

Susan Estill
Editor Emerita

October is Clergy Appreciation month, when we take time to thank and appreciate those whom God has called to shepherd our congregation.

Our church leaders (John, Keatan, and Omar) work hard for us. So take a few minutes this month to show your appreciation for all they are doing! Here are just a few ideas to help you on your way:

- ✦ Write a thank-you note!
- ✦ Have the children draw him a chalk mural, pictures, or write notes.
- ✦ Fill a new mug with their favorite candy.
- ✦ Make funny signs and post outside their office window.
- ✦ Give them a gift card to a local coffee/dessert shop.
- ✦ Thank them on social media (and have your congregants post too).
- ✦ Buy them an online news or magazine subscription.
- ✦ Wash and wax their car.
- ✦ Buy them a book or bookstore gift card.
- ✦ Leave them a treat every day in October.
- ✦ Buy them a nice bottle of communion wine.

What you may or may not know about our pastors:

John Wurster attended Trinity University, Princeton Seminary, and Austin Seminary where he received a Doctor of Ministry. He has served at seven churches from Pennsylvania to Texas. He is a published author—*Ordinary Words, Extraordinary Deeds: Preaching the Miracles of Jesus* and *What If What They Say Is True?* He was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament by Palo Duro Presbytery (Texas), June 13, 1991. He began serving St. Philip on March 15, 2012.

He loves apple pie, Common Bond croissants, and the members of St. Philip.

Keatan King attended Austin College and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She currently serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Ordained September 29, 2013 by Presbytery of New Covenant, Keatan's first day at St. Philip was August 1, 2013. Keatan enjoys mint chocolate chip, coffee, and time spent with the youth and young adults here.

Omar Rouchon attended Yale University, University of Houston, and Harvard Divinity School. He became a member at St. Philip on October 28, 2007 before going to get his Master of Divinity. He joined the staff on June 16, 2015 as Ministry Associate. Ordained May 28, 2017. Omar can make a great cheesecake, enjoys local restaurants, and loves working with the children and families of our community.





Sunday was a beautiful day for a picnic as **more than** a hundred St. Philipians would attest. Fellowship is **such** an important part of **our individual faith journeys** and how wonderful it was to be outdoors at tables with each other sharing food, laughter, and stories. It was a celebration of picnics past and those still to come. Hopefully you have received your stewardship packet with stories that remind us that we are on this journey in the company of one another. Pledge dedication Sunday is **November 14**.

Many thanks to all the members of the Fellowship and Stewardship committees who partnered to put together this picnic and thanks to all of you who came and made it a joyous occasion.



Members enjoying St. Philip's new tents that provide us more space to move around.

Thank you to everyone that visited the Mission drive-through on Saturday contributing to House of Tiny Treasures and Cents-ability. Here are the volunteers with a pile of goods.



OUTDOOR WORSHIP ON OCTOBER 31

Our 9:00 a.m. service on **October 31** will be on the lawn with the Houston Highlanders providing the music. Celebrate Reformation Day outdoors with bagpipes and drums and in the presence of the statues of the Reformers! The 11:00 a.m. service that day will be in the Sanctuary and live-streamed as usual.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. At our next meeting on **November 11** at 7:00 p.m., we will discuss *The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern. Watch your email for details of where will be meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright or Sarah O'Dell at sarah.odell6@gmail.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 on Tuesday, **November 2**, 7 p.m. via Zoom. The study book is *Race in America; Christians respond to the crisis*, edited by David Maxwell and Laura Cheifetz. It is available from Amazon or from the PC(USA) bookstore. Persons interested in joining the group can send an email to welcome@saintphilip.net and type PSJ Study Group in the subject line.

Our pastors at Mo-Ranch on bench honoring John Wurster.



CHURCH & SOCIETY—9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. by Zoom—**October 24** - "*From Barmen (1934 - Nazi Germany) to Belhar (1982 - Apartheid - South Africa): Confessions in Conversation*" - In teaching both confessions over the past two years, we have noticed the similarities even as both confessions arose out of distinctly different contexts. What can we learn when we take two confessions and create a conversation between them? In this class, we will explore how these confessions inform each other and build upon each other while also appreciating their distinctive qualities. Presented by Rev. Greg Han - Director of Interfaith Relations & Education - Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston. **October 31** - Reformation Sunday - "*Anne Lock: Reformation Poet*" - Anne Vaughan Lock was a Londoner born in the early 1530s and her family were "early adopters" of English Protestantism during the reign of Henry VIII, when being of "the new religion" was still a risky proposition. She grew up to be a poet and a translator of works by Reformation theologians, including John Calvin. In this presentation, we will look at Lock's poetic translation of Psalm 51, written as a series of sonnets. The work is not only an example of a peculiarly Protestant religious practice (the translation of scripture into the vernacular), but, insofar as the historic record will allow us to say, Anne Lock's "*A Meditation of a Penitent Sinner*" also carries the distinction of having been the very first sonnet sequence in English. Presented by Dr. Deborah Burks, retired professor from Ohio State University with teaching and research specialties in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century drama, poetry, Reformation literature, and women's writing. Author of *Horrid Spectacle*, a study of theater and religious propaganda in the period. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE MEETINGS

All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. The meetings are virtual, and a Zoom link is sent to all PW members of each circle. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate, so please email Lorrie to request the link: welcome@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.

TEACHERS

In the October 5 email lead for the Philip-eye, I pointed out it was World Teacher Day and asked that any of our members who are or were teachers to share that with me and I would recognize them in this edition, the following individuals are to be honored for the commitment to our future citizens.

- 🎓 Kay Cash—4th/5th grade, then grades 9-12 ESL Reading
- 🎓 Nancy Lomax—High School English
- 🎓 Bonnie Moore—Grades 6-8, University—Choral Music, Mathematics, Science, Educational Strategies, Educational Leadership
- 🎓 Jane Cooper—High school English
- 🎓 Jacqueline Taylor—1st/2nd grade - creative dramatics
- 🎓 Lane Fletcher—College—writing and literature
- 🎓 Omi Ford—4th/6th grade
- 🎓 Jo Helland—Middle School English
- 🎓 Jeanette Wennenwaser—Elementary
- 🎓 Omar Rouchon—fifth grade



Continuing
October 24 and 31

The Christian Education Committee invites you to Fresh Air Fellowship: a time for us to reconnect on Sunday mornings in October between worship

services. St. Philipians of all ages gather on the lawn from 9:45-10:30am for conversation, prayer, crafts, music and games in response to a different big question posed in the gospel of Mark. Breakfast and coffee will be available.

October 24: *What do you want me to do for you?* - including the creation prayer collages

October 31: *Which commandment is the first of all?* - featuring Bagpipes for Reformation Sunday

Last Sunday's gathering, making a joyful noise with boomwackers, and afterwards wrapped 79 Seafarer

Christmas Boxes.



ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET

November 14

9:45-11:00 a.m. and 12:00-12:45 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Christmas is just around the corner, and the Mission Committee is providing an opportunity to shop for meaningful gifts for friends and family and support our Mission Partners at the same time.

Equal Exchange will be there with coffee, tea, chocolate, olive oils and more. CCSC will have a Wish List where you can donate toward items for their Jingle Bell Express event for kids in need. Long-time mission partners, like Project CURE, will be there, but so will some new ones. Have Shears Will Travel will give you the opportunity to donate a shampoo or haircut for someone in need.

The St. Philip Crafters will have a table, as will the St. Philip Stitchers. And by popular demand, Lynn Quinn's pickled green tomatoes will be back...they go quickly!

The market will be open before and after the 11:00 service on **November 14**. Cash, checks and credit cards accepted for payment. We invite you to come and be mission-minded as you shop!

Here's another way you can be part of the Market: Consider donating an auction item. This might be a gift basket, tickets to a cultural or athletic event, art or photography. If you are interested, please contact the church office (713-622-4807) or Hope Wilmarth by November 7: hlwilmarth@hotmail.com. Indicate the price and Mission Partner you would like to support.



IN OUR PRAYERS

Jenilee Simmons and family upon the death of her husband Douglass Simmons on October 18. Memorial service to be determined.

St. Philipians and their families—Toms Sands; Joyce Fugit; Sondra Sullivan; Orlean Anderson; Dorothy Murphey; Bill Slick; Deb Burks; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Matthew Hill—son of Craig & Judy Hill; Dan Hayes—father of Lorrie Castle; Dave Berry—husband of Sam Fisher; Dale McAllen—brother of Orlean Anderson; 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; Kelsey Higgs Gallegos & family—daughter of Nancy Higgs; Dottie Laas and family—cousin of Sam Fisher; Alice Barron—sister-in-law to Beth Atkinson; 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 Larraine Scott; Marion Takehara; and Jody Tomforde.

Friends of St. Philipians—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; Paul Ratliff—friend of Jo Helland; Rob Bond, Lavon Thomas, and Jackson Tavel—friends 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 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.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE—The 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services are open for in-person attendance in the Sanctuary. Masks are required. The Sunday 11:00 a.m. will continue to be live-streamed.

MIDWEEK PRAYER SERVICE—Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. This service is live-streamed from the Sanctuary and also available for later viewing on our website. If you'd like to attend the midweek service in-person contact the church office.

Next edition: November 2; Deadline October 28—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.



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



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