

# PHILIP-EYE

## WHAT'S YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT?

A carbon footprint is the total amount of greenhouse gases (including carbon dioxide and methane) that are generated by our actions. Everything we do or consume that uses oil, gas, or coal contributes to that footprint. The average footprint for a person in the United States is 16 metric tons (1000 kg = 1 MT), one of the highest rates in the world. Globally, the average is closer to 4 metric tons. To have the best chance of avoiding a 2°C rise above pre-industrial global temperatures, the average global carbon footprint per year needs to drop under 2 MTs by 2050. Calculating your carbon footprint is complex, and lowering individual carbon footprints from 16 MTs to 2 MTs doesn't happen overnight! By making gradual changes to your actions, you will make significant progress over time.

Over the next few months, we will suggest small and large actions that create big differences over time and/or combined with others taking the same action. When possible, we will give you numbers to assist in calculating the carbon footprints for the major emitting activities of our [lives](#).

It's easy to become discouraged as you make these changes. Here are some things you can do that will make it easier:



**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

Track your progress. Write down your accomplishments and watch them add up. Share your progress with your friends who are taking the same journey with you. Be forgiving to yourself and others when you fail. From an early age, our culture has encouraged us to be "good consumers," and going against our cultural norms requires strength and perseverance.

Remind yourself that you are creating a better world for children today and in the future.

Pick one or two easy actions and one difficult action. Often, difficult actions can be accomplished incrementally, so break what seems like a big task down into easier steps.

Pray a scripture or prayer of your choice or use this one: O God, thank you for the earth that feeds and sustains us with its fruit and splendid beauty. Help me to live in harmony with all life. Help me discover the best ways to be a steward of your creation at home, at St. Philip, in my community, and in the world. Amen.

## Airplanes and Offsets

If you are a frequent flier, you can dramatically lower your carbon footprint by flying less.

Using calculators provided by the EPA and myclimate.org is an easy way to discover the carbon footprint of air travel. The chart below uses these calculators to compare the carbon footprints of driving a 27-mpg car and flying economy for 1, 2, and 3 people. For longer trips, flying has lower emissions only if one person is traveling, but for short trips and trips with more than one traveler, driving has a lower carbon footprint. Increasing the fuel efficiency of your car to a hybrid or EV will halve or eliminate your emissions and make driving preferable in all cases

Plane vs. Car from Houston	CO <sub>2</sub> in Tons	CO <sub>2</sub> in Tons	CO <sub>2</sub> in Tons	
	1 Person	2 People	3 People	
Round-trip miles to LA by car (3118 miles at 27	1.15	1.15	1.15	
Round-trip to LA by plane (economy class)	0.81	1.61	2.42	
Round-trip to Atlanta by car (1592 miles at 27mpg)	0.59	0.59	0.59	
Round-trip to Atlanta by plane (economy class)	0.46	0.92	1.38	
Round-trip to San Antonio by car (376 miles at	0.14	0.14	0.14	
Round-trip to San Antonio by plane (economy class)	0.24	0.49	0.73	
Source: <a href="https://www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator/">https://www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator/</a> <a href="https://co2.myclimate.org/en/">https://co2.myclimate.org/en/</a>				

Eliminating flying altogether isn't possible for many of us, but as we plan our vacations and work trips, consider the following options with lower carbon footprints:

- Eliminate work trips by using meeting technology
- Drive instead of fly on short trips
- Take longer but fewer family vacations so driving is possible
- Consider living in another country for several months instead of flying overseas multiple times

## Offsets

A carbon offset is a reduction of emissions in one area to compensate for emissions in another area. A growing number of businesses and organizations trying to reach net zero emissions buy offsets or "carbon credits" to compensate for emissions they make.

Because plane trips are carbon-intensive and many of us love any excuse to get on a plane, travelers are increasingly making voluntary payments of carbon offsets for airplane flights, the manufacture of consumer goods, and entire individual footprints.

Offsets typically support projects that reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases immediately or over time. The price of offsets averages about \$20 per ton of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. If you want to purchase voluntary offsets for plane flights or any of your emissions, choose local organizations with whom you are comfortable. St. Philip's Earth Care Team recommends the following organizations:

- Texas Coastal Exchange: <https://donate.texascoastalexchange.org/>
- Trees for Houston: <https://www.treesforhouston.org/>
- EarthShareTexas: <https://earthshare-texas.org/>
- My Climate: <https://co2.myclimate.org/en/>

Offsets can be controversial in both commercial and individual contexts. Many people believe that the regular use of offsets reduces emissions. One sign that offsets are being used in an appropriate way is that fewer of them need to be purchased in each successive year, as an organization or individual works toward zero emissions. The Earth Care Team continues to plan for additional emissions reductions so that St. Philip can become carbon neutral. We would welcome additional team members as we work toward a creation that is healthier for our planet and those of us who call it home.

*By Judith Hiott*

## LIVING WATERS FOR THE WORLD MISSION UPDATE

November 2021

Thank you for all the prayers during our recent mission trip to Tabasco, Mexico. Kip, Janet, David, and I had a wonderful and productive trip. With the outpouring of support and generosity from St. Philip, and the other Houston Group of Churches/Bellaire Rotary, our Living Waters for the World team are excited to announce that we have successfully signed a Covenant partnership with the Iglesia Manantial de Vida (Jaramillo, Tabasco, Mexico) to help fund a share of a new building and upgrade current aging water filtration equipment (see pictures below). Faith Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, Alabama has also expressed the desire to collaborate with St. Philip and the Houston Group, on this and a future project 30 km south of Jaramillo, outside the village of Huimanguillo. Our other collaboration with the Newark N.Y. Team, where they are the lead, is in the middle of construction in Tabi, Yucatan is still targeting sending a large equipment installation team down in February 2022.

This Jaramillo Water System has been in operation for over ten years, out of a classroom in the church and their water system is still going strong. However, the equipment is aging out, and space is needed for education and community support, now more than ever. Their Water Committee proposes to build a new separate water building. Pictures included below.

*By Ed Hess*



## INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The 36th Annual Houston Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, to be held Thursday, **November 18** at 7:00 p.m., will take place at St. Philip Presbyterian Church.



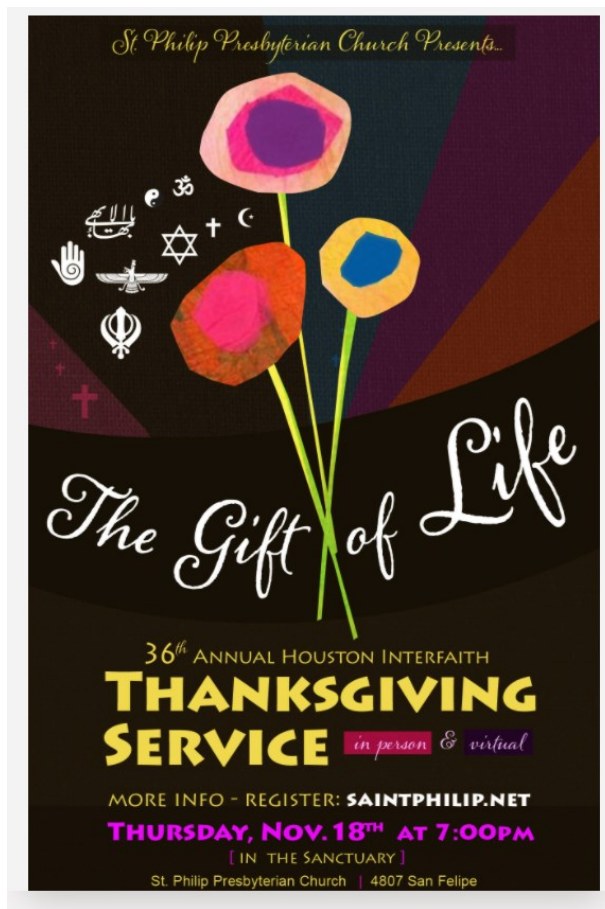
The theme for this year's service is "The Gift of Life."

Representatives from nine religious faiths, including Bahai, Buddhism, Christian, Hinduism, Islam, Jain, Judaism, Sikhism, and Zoroastrian, will read a passage from their sacred text and then share a brief interpretation of the text, as it relates to the theme of the service.

The first Interfaith Thanksgiving Service was a response from the Ecumenism Commission of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston when a mosque was firebombed in Houston 39 years ago. The purpose of this event is for faith communities to come together at a special time that is shared by all people, Thanksgiving, to see how various faiths express themselves in worship.

The service will be live-streamed and recorded and available at the [www.saintphilip.net](http://www.saintphilip.net). Registration is **required** if you wish to attend in person. Go to [www.saintphilip.net](http://www.saintphilip.net) and look for the graphic pictured below. Covid protocols for wearing masks and social distancing will be observed.

*Photo above from 2014 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service*





## OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

**WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB**—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. At our next meeting on **December 9** at 7:00 p.m., which will be a social event, watch your email for details of where we will be meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright or Sarah O'Dell at [sarah.odell6@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ggardne148@aol.com) if you would like to be a part of this interesting group.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP** will have its next meeting tonight, Tuesday, **December 7**, 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. It is available from Amazon or from the PC (USA) bookstore. Persons interested in joining the group can send an email to [welcomes@saintphilip.net](mailto:welcomes@saintphilip.net) and type PSJ Study Group in the subject line.

**LENT CLASSES**—The Education Committee will offer a 5 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](mailto:ehbluzerne@aol.com) or Omar Rouchon at [omar@saintphilip.net](mailto:omar@saintphilip.net).

**CHURCH & SOCIETY**—9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. by Zoom—**November 21** - *A Beautiful Legacy: The Relationship of Pope John Paul II and Jerzy Kluger* Please join us to celebrate two incredible human beings, Jerzy Kluger and Karol Wojtyla, who became close friends in first grade. Jerzy was a Polish Jew. Karol is better known as Pope John Paul II. Their lifelong friendship helped Pope John Paul II in the pontiff's efforts to repair Catholic-Jewish relations after centuries of antisemitism. Enter this amazing story of the way friendship and kindnesses toward another can shape history and create legacy. Presented by Dr. Mary Lee Webeck - Holocaust and Genocide Education Endowed Chair - Holocaust Museum Houston. **November 28** - *Dabru Emet, 'Speak Truth' A Jewish Statement About Christianity* - Consisting of eight claims, Dabru Emet is a Jewish statement on Christianity. The statement was signed by more than 170 rabbis and Jewish intellectuals (signatories grew to more than 200 over the following months), and generated both praise and criticism. In some ways, *Dabru Emet* served as a capstone to Jewish-Christian relations in the 20th century, and is a significant, as well as contested, moment in the fields of modern Jewish Thought, Jewish-Christian relations, and Interfaith / Interreligious Studies. Presented by Rabbi Steven Morgen - Associate Rabbi, Congregation Beth Yeshurun - December 5 - History of the Rothko Chapel on the Rothko's Fiftieth Anniversary - Presented by Suna Umari - Archivist for the Rothko Chapel. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

[churchsociety\\_stphilip@comcast.net](mailto:churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net)

## PW CIRCLE MEETINGS

All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. The meetings are beginning to meet in person. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate, so please email Lorrie to request the link: [welcomes@saintphilip.net](mailto:welcomes@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.

## ATTENTION STOCK DONORS!

St. Philip changed broker services to Frost Bank in the beginning of 2021. We ask you to call:

Yvette Webb at Frost Bank – 713-388-1231 for transaction information. Our new account number is #037-293183.

Please let the bookkeeper, know you are making a stock donation. You may email [bookkeeper@saintphilip.net](mailto:bookkeeper@saintphilip.net)

If you have any questions, you may always contact me at 713-306-8267 or [amariypoet@gmail.com](mailto:amariypoet@gmail.com).

# December



## ST. PHILIP STITCHERS

On Oct 25, 75 quilts were delivered to The House of Tiny Treasures. This pre-K through Kindergarten school has a book program for borrowing books. They are always in need of pre-K and Kindergarten age science and nature picture books.

51 quilts were delivered to Interfaith Ministries refugee program.

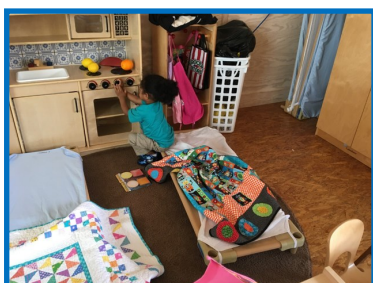
Michael Alexander's beautifully crocheted crib blankets and matching caps, plus small crib quilts were given to Laura Joy of PCHAS. She was so pleased to be the recipient again this year for families with foster babies.

PCHAS has special needs right now for their Angel Tree Christmas wish list. Children in their program, age newborn to 18 years, receive gifts that are on their particular wish list filled out by both child and parent. Often sheets, not toys, are on that list. Laura Fleming says that gift cards from Target, Amazon, Walmart, etc. are so appreciated. They have 200 children whose wishes they hope to fulfill this Christmas. Additional Presbyterian Children's Homes and Service's Needs include:

- **Gift cards:** The social workers can use these to purchase Christmas gifts. Gift cards from places like Kohl's, Target, or Walmart are appreciated.
- **Diapers:** Any size, they have newborns and infants. Right now, their biggest need in diapers is for size 3 to 5 (Toddler)
- **Baby Supplies:** Wipes, bottles, crib sheets
- **Shoes:** New shoes for kids (all ages, all sizes!)

If you would like to assist contact Laura Fleming at [laura.fleming@pchas.org](mailto:laura.fleming@pchas.org).

Day	Name
1	Julie Itz
1	Julia Irick
3	Brenda Thompson
3	Tyler Lippincott
3	Evie Varner
5	Toni Helland
5	Virginia McMaster
5	Ed Hess
6	Jean Stanley
6	Jared Ewing
7	Jim Lomax
8	Larry Wright
9	Joe Anne Berwick
9	Doris Cantrell
12	Pam Keever
13	Stewart Coffman
13	John Van Osdall
13	Douglas Hannah
13	Margaret King
14	Orlean Anderson
14	Paloma Frautschi
14	Nicholas Arlinghaus
16	Bill Taylor
17	Edith Patterson
18	Judy Hill
18	William Baker
19	Ellis Newport
27	Katherine Boone
28	Dan Cleveland
29	Vicki McKay
29	Jay Attar
29	David Lindsay
30	Don Padgett
31	Jim Waggoner
31	Judye Hartman



## IN OUR PRAYERS

*St. Philippians and their families*—Richard Johnson; Lee Larkin; Janet Davis; Susan Huffman; Joyce Fugit; Dorothy Murphey; Bill Slick; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Bellamy—great nephew of Pat Lindsay; James Graham McGall - cousin of Mickey McGall Meyers; 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; 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*—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; Lavon Thomas—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 watch and wait.*

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

**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: December 7; Deadline December 2—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](mailto:philipeye@saintphilip.net) or call 713-622-4807 and ask for Lorrie.



**MORE LIGHT**  
PRESBYTERIANS



4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056

Phone: 713.622.4807 Fax: 713.622.5405 [www.saintphilip.net](http://www.saintphilip.net)