



April 5, 2022  
Volume 66, Issue 7

# PHILIP-EYE



## **Palm Sunday Worship – April 10 at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.**

A Service for the Lord's Day marking the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the beginning of Holy Week. John Wurster preaching.

## **Maundy Thursday Worship - April 14 at 7 p.m.**

A Service of Word and Sacrament with John Wurster preaching and music from the St. Philip Choir. The service concludes with the symbolic stripping of the church.

## **Good Friday Worship – April 15 at 12 noon**

A brief service remembering the death of Jesus in scripture and song.

## **Good Friday Worship – April 15 at 8 p.m.**

A dramatic Tenebrae service of light and shadows with music from the St. Philip Staff Singers. The gathering darkness represents the Passion of Jesus.

## **A Musical Meditation for Holy Saturday – April 16 at 5 p.m.**

Presented by Matthew Dirst and Julia Fox.

## **Easter Sunday Worship – April 17 at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.**

Identical Festival Services of Word and Sacrament with John Wurster preaching. Breakfast available between services.

**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

## EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans — 10% of the U.S. population at the time — took to streets and college campuses in hundreds of cities to protest environmental ignorance and demand a new way forward for our planet. That first Earth Day launched the modern environmental movement and is now recognized as the planet's largest civic event.

That same year the United Presbyterian Council on Church and Society undertook a study on threats facing human survival on an increasingly crowded and polluted planet. The study culminated in the 1971 United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. General Assembly adopting the council's report, *Christian Responsibility for Environmental Renewal*.

While Earth Day is not a faith-based occasion, it is fair to argue that it should be a natural observance for Christians. In the first pages of Scripture, God calls us to care for creation.

Being stewards of God's creation challenges us to care for planet Earth and all its inhabitants. This is an [awe-inspiring responsibility and an extraordinary](#) opportunity. Among the concerns facing our planet, climate change and its effect on the most vulnerable is surely at the top of the list. Related concerns include privatization of the Earth's precious resources, threats to the safety of our world's water supply, and the effects of toxic emissions.

Please join St. Philip's Earth Care Team in observing Earth Day on Sunday, April 24, as we enjoy our annual picnic on the grounds. What better way to celebrate than to share fellowship together outside in God's creation! To add to the festivities, we will be hosting a table with native plant seedlings for the taking, and a car display in the parking lot showcasing sustainable vehicles driven by St. Philippians and friends!

### You can contribute to the day by:

- 🌍 Bringing extra seedlings, veggies, or plants to share with others
- 🌍 Driving your hybrid or electric vehicle to church and taking part in our car show
- 🌍 Traveling to church that day in another sustainable way:
 

carpooling	taking public transportation
walking	bicycling

And yes, if you are part of a couple and you each have your own vehicle and you ride together in one vehicle, guess what? That counts as carpooling!

Finally, remember to place your used picnic-ware in the proper recycle/wash bin at the recycle station after you've eaten your fill.

We can all care for God's earth in these and a multitude of other ways!

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO...

# THE ST. PHILIP BBQ PICNIC



ON THE LAWN

## SUNDAY - APRIL 24

{ starts at noon }

**BEEF BRISKET, RIBS, SAUSAGE & TURKEY  
WILL BE PROVIDED.**

Please bring a pot-luck dish to share:

**A-I DESSERTS J-R SALADS/VEGIES S-Z SIDE DISHES**

PLEASE RSVP BY CALLING THE CHURCH OFFICE  
(713-622-4807) OR SEND AN EMAIL TO:  
[welcomest@saintphilip.net](mailto:welcomest@saintphilip.net)

**INTERGENERATIONAL**

FEEL FREE TO WEAR CASUAL OUTDOOR ATTIRE.

### SPACE COWBOYS— THE BRAND

The Space Cowboys unite two worlds that resonate with the Greater Houston area -- the largest city in Texas and home to the NASA Johnson Space Center.

In the early 1900s, the cowboy aura and Western expansion ruled the day, as the likes of John Wayne, Calamity Jane and Butch Cassidy embodied the ideals of a protector and hard worker. As the century continued and technology advanced, so did the admiration for astronauts as space travel took center stage. Buzz Aldrin, Neil Armstrong and Sally Ride embodied a new kind of hero, risking their lives to go places no person had ever gone before.

We're incredibly thrilled to begin this journey and we hope you'll follow along as we usher in a new era of baseball in Sugar Land, Texas.

St. Philippians can be a part of that new era on **June 12**. Fellowship Committee will have more information soon.



## HELP FEED HUNGRY CHILDREN IN HOUSTON

Saturday, April 30, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Join the fun volunteering at Kids Meals, an SPPC mission partner that delivers meals year-round to homes of preschoolers. Harris County has the second highest rate of child food-insecurity in the nation. Every day, one out of four preschool aged children (88,740 children) may not know where their next meal is coming from. YOU can make a difference.

SPPC members, friends, and children eight years and older are invited to come with an adult. We will be assigned to make sandwiches and prepare snacks, or pack meal items into bags to be delivered.

Meet at Kids Meals in Garden Oaks (330 Garden Oaks, Houston, TX 77018) at 9:00 a.m. on **April 30**, or carpool from SPPC. Closed-toe shoes and baseball cap or hair wrap required. Masks optional. Pre-Registration is required; contact Jacquie Colton at [jacquiec1@yahoo.com](mailto:jacquiec1@yahoo.com) or 713-816-5354. Sponsored by the Christian Ed committee.



### EASTER LILIES

In order to continue our longstanding support of the Brookwood Community, we have kept in place our customary order for Easter lilies. They will be delivered to St. Philip to adorn our Sanctuary for our Easter services.

We invite you to contribute to our flower fund and dedicate a lily to someone this Easter. Donations may be made for any amount either through our website—[saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net), choosing the Flowers/Holiday fund option from the menu; or by sending a check to the Church Office. If donating online where the memo line is limited in the number of characters, please e-mail Lorrie Castle ([lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net)) with the details of your dedication, including your name and the person(s) being honored and/or remembered. Similar information should be included with mailed checks. Mailed dedications should arrive by **April 12**. Thanks for your help in continuing this holiday tradition!

The list of donors and memorials/honors will appear in the bulletin and the Philip-Eye following Easter.

### FREEMAN SCHOLARSHIPS

The Mark and Velma Freeman Scholarship Fund provides college scholarship assistance for child members of St. Philip. Application materials for 2022 scholarship are now available on the church [website](http://saintphilip.net) (saintphilip.net). The deadline for submission is **May 15**.

Pictures to the right: *top row*—Peacemaking & Social Justice volunteers collecting items for the Refugee Family; *bottom row*—PW having fun at their March retreat.

## DRIVE-THROUGH BENEFITTING THE HOUSE OF TINY TREASURES

Saturday, May 21, 10-11:30 a.m.

Items needed for outside summer fun:  
Sand buckets and shovels  
Beach balls, water balls and any other sports balls  
Jump ropes  
Bubbles  
Sidewalk chalk  
Shaving cream  
Window markers  
Small pots for planting seeds  
Colored painters tape/washi tape for art

**\*Items may also be brought to the Gathering Area on Sunday or the Church Office during the week\*  
May 22 before and after church**

### APRIL COMMUNION OFFERING

Our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, through the April communion offering, connect us with people finding their voice and accessing their God-given power. It is the single largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of justice, resilience and sustainability. During Lent we celebrate that God connects with us through Jesus' resurrection and connects us with those "who have the least" — that's how Matthew 25 puts it — and that's what One Great Hour of Sharing is all about.

Contributions may be made online at [www.saintphilip.net](http://www.saintphilip.net) or by mailing a check to the church office. Thank you for your generosity! As we always say ... when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

**WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB**—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. Watch your email for details of our next gathering. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at [nnl@lambrightlaw.com](mailto: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 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 meet tonight, Tuesday, **April 5**, 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 [welcome@saintphilip.net](mailto:welcome@saintphilip.net) and type PSJ Study Group in the subject line.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS**—Room 204—9:30 a.m. We have completed the "David Story" in 1 Kings 1-2 and have begun our study of Solomon and the subsequent Kingdoms of Israel and Judah in 1-2 Kings, with Dr. Robert 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.

**CHURCH & SOCIETY**—Palm Sunday - **April 10**, 9:30 a.m. - 9:40 a.m. for time to visit. 9:40 a.m. - 10:40 a.m. for the Hybrid presentation, by Zoom and present in Room 201 - Music for Holy Week - A preview of music for Holy Week leading to Holy Saturday, **April 16**, music of meditation on the mysteries of the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Christ presented by Dr. Mathew Dirst - St. Philip organist, professor of music at the Moores School of Music at University of Houston, and director of Ars Lyrica Houston. **April 17** - Easter Sunday - Church & Society will not meet Easter Sunday so that everyone can attend the Easter Sunday breakfast on the St. Philip grounds at 9:30 a.m. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

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

### NURSERY CARE

**IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE MORNING** 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.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

**All classes begin at 9:45.**

Godly Play (Age 3 to K)—Room 104

Grades 1—2 - Room 105

Grades 3—5 - Room 103

### 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 information: [welcome@saintphilip.net](mailto:welcome@saintphilip.net).

*Monday Morning Saints*-Second Mon. of each month 10 a.m.

*Sunday Circle* - third Sun. of each month—12:30 p.m.

*Thursday Evening Circle* -first Thurs. of each month-7 p.m.



PW at March Retreat

## HOW BIG IS YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT?

The world is experiencing unprecedented climate change that manifests itself in major weather events such as massive forest fires in the Western USA and Australia, droughts in some areas and flooding others, record high temperatures in Greenland and Siberia, and growing threats to coral reefs that sustain 25% of the species in our oceans. A statistic that caught my attention was this one: the ice loss in Greenland in 2019 was enough to cover our state of Texas in 2.5 feet of water.

We can choose to feel powerless to do anything about this steady drumbeat of bad news or we can say “enough” and commit ourselves to joining the global effort to preserve God’s gift of this planet. A great way to start is to take personal responsibility for our own carbon footprint. The first step is to calculate your footprint. Then you can pledge to become carbon neutral and take the specific actions required to achieve that.

### Calculating Your Footprint

Our approach to doing this turned out to be quite simple. We used the EPA Carbon Footprint Calculator: <https://www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator/>. Using this tool, you can enter your consumption of electricity and natural gas for heating, cooling, and all other in-home applications. Then you can enter your vehicle and mileage information, and, finally, you determine the carbon production from the waste you generate. In our case, the footprint looked like this (MT is metric tons):

CO2 Generated	MT/yr. Before	MT/yr. After
Electricity	11.8	0
Gas	5.1	5.1
Transportation	5.6	2.3
Waste	0.7	0.4
Total	23.2	7.8

The table shows our carbon production “before” and “after” we took three steps to bring about a 2/3 reduction in our household footprint. The first and largest step was to purchase all our electricity from a green energy provider. Several providers offer plans based 100% on sustainable sourcing. A good reference for checking out options is Power to Choose: <http://powertochoose.org/en-us/>. When you pull up this website it will invite you to enter your zip code. When that page comes up, find the box that allows you to choose Renewable; then select 100%.

Our second step was to trade in one of our two cars for an electric vehicle which should be delivered next month. We’ve installed a 240V outlet in the garage and will do 60% of our driving in that car. The final step was to recycle all the waste that contains the triangle symbol which designates it is approved for this disposition.

I was surprised by one **BIG** factor that is not included in household consumption. It is air travel. Before Covid-19, I traveled to India twice per year. In addition, Judy and I enjoy travelling for pleasure. Our carbon footprint for air travel exceeded all other sources combined. We love to travel, so we are not ready to cut deeply into that carbon generator.

So, what can be done to become carbon neutral? A great step is rooftop solar. Doing this frees up the “green” energy you would have otherwise purchased so it can be used by another consumer. Thus, you can become a sustainable energy provider. A real limitation to sustainable energy generation is available land. Rooftop solar is an alternative that consumes no otherwise useable space. Unfortunately, that does not work for us because we have a north facing, shaded roof.

The solution that worked for us but is not as “pure” as cutting your own footprint, is to purchase carbon offsets from a non-profit conservation organization. We chose Texas Coastal Exchange: <https://www.texascoastalexchange.org>. This organization incentivizes landowners to resist the pressures of urbanization and to maintain their property in a natural state to provide ecosystem benefits like carbon storage, flood mitigation, and wildlife habitat. A contribution of \$20 to TCE will offset one metric ton of CO2 generation.

Defining and implementing a strategy for becoming “carbon neutral” is great fun and gives you a sense of accomplishment. The Earth Care Committee will conduct a carbon footprint seminar at the Church and Society Sunday School class beginning at 9:40 on Sunday, **May 1**. Please join us if this subject intrigues you.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

*Family of Dorothy Murphey upon her death on April 2. Memorial service to be determined.*

*St. Philippians and their families*—Don Weinmann; Mary Sinderson; Susan Huffman; Jan Ostendorf; Pat Lindsay; Roderick James; Lee Larkin; Bill Slick; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Napoleon Parada—father of Wilbert & Dimas Parada; Alma Fonseca—mother of Angelina Fonseca; Lynn Boddington – mother of Laura Burgess; Hunter—grandson of Michael Alexander; Ryan Willis—son of Robin and Gary Willis; Trip Merklein—nephew of Elizabeth Duerr; Darryl Cazes—brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine; 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; Sarah—cousin of Sam Fisher; Shirley Boggus—grandmother of Omi Ford; Dona & Alan Rowe—mother and his father - William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

*Homebound*—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*—Bill Dixon – friend of Tina Bryan; Matt Scalapino and Laura Chilton—friends of Stephen Paine; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; Faye Miller—friend of Curt and Sharon Webb; Clayton Amacker—friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner.

*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.

## 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 Ada Fuller at 713-306-8267 or [amariepoet@gmail.com](mailto:amariepoet@gmail.com).

The Session has decided to ease our masking requirements. It is possible that conditions could change, and at some point we may be advised to return to asking everyone to mask; but for now we can be "mask-optional" for our gatherings at St. Philip. We expect that some of us will opt to continue masking for any number of reasons, including our own health status or our proximity to vulnerable people. While we are no longer requiring masks, we support those who choose to wear them.

**Next edition: April 19; Deadline April 14—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)