

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 21, 2024 Volume 68, Issue 10

PHILIP-EYE

Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership

On May 12, the Presbyterian Women of St. Philip presented Jeanie Flowers with the Honorary Life Membership in Presbyterian Women. During worship we gave Jeanie the pin which symbolizes the values of PW: the caring, supportive hands represent the work of building an inclusive community. The leaf represents growth in following Jesus Christ as faith is nurtured. The dove indicates striving for peace and social justice. At the center of the design is the cross, by which our sins are forgiven and we are freed to live in Christ who is at the center of



our lives. The overall design is of a butterfly, a symbol of newness in Christ.

Jeanie has truly exemplified these values in her life and in her service to the church.



As you witnessed on Sunday, May 12, Jeanie is a member of the St. Philip Choir and Bell Canto. In fact, she met her husband, Dan, in choir and they were married in our current Fellowship Hall in August 1958—the sanctuary was not yet built! Jeanie has served as deacon, elder and clerk of session at St. Philip and in many roles with PW as a faithful member of the Monday Morning Saints.

On a Presbytery level, Jeanie is a former moderator of New Covenant Presbytery, served multiple terms on the Examinations committee of

the Committee on Ministry, served on the presbytery's General Council and several administrative commissions assisting other churches.

For many years Jeanie coordinated the St. Philip's annual retreat to her beloved Mo-Ranch. She served on the Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly board from 1997-2009, and chaired the board from 2004-2007. She also led the Finance Committee and served on the Membership and Nominating Committee and the Development Committee.

Jeanie's commitment to St. Philip and the life of the greater church is an inspiration and we thank God for the gift of Jeanie Flowers! (Photo credit: Chuck Johnson)



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

Rev. Dr. Keatan King Associate Pastor

Rev. Omar Rouchon Associate Pastor

Dr. Justin Langham Director of Music

Dr. Matthew Dirst Organist

Diana Weiss Art Director

Wilbert Parada Facilities Supervisor

Dimas Parada Custodian

Denise Ferrell Bookkeeper

Lorrie Castle Office Manager Newsletter Editor

Susan Estill

Editor Emerita

A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS & A CALL TO PRAY

The congregation is being asked to submit recommendations for persons to serve as Ruling Elders (Session), Trustees, and on the Central Mission Endowment Council.

We ask that the congregation wrap this process in prayer. Take some time to pray over the names in the church directory. Who do you believe exhibits spiritual leadership to take St. Philip to the next step? Who has a contagious passion for God? Who might enlarge our vision, empower our members, and embrace a bit of risk? How about you?

Thank you for your help! Your 2024 Nominating Committee:

Laura Burgess (chair), Selena Brinegar, Jane Lee, Mickey Meyers, Dick Nunn, and Gay Van Osdall.

To suggest a candidate, please provide the candidate's name and your name in case we have questions. **Self-nominations are welcome.** In making recommendations, please elaborate on personal qualities, involvement in our church, and why you consider this person a good candidate for church leadership. Please use a separate form for each recommendation. If you are recommending a Ruling Elder, please indicate the ministry area(s) you think they would best serve: Education; Finance; Mission;



[LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Peacemaking & Social Justice; Personnel; Property; Stewardship; Welcome & Membership; or Worship & Music. You may email Laura Burgess at <u>laura.e.burgess@gmail.com</u>

The digital form is available at: <u>https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/cb0FTE0I8JuCY5z</u> or by scanning the QR code.

RULING ELDER

In addition to possessing the necessary gifts and abilities for leading the congregation, those who undertake the ministry of Ruling Elder should be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world. As members of the Session, they are responsible for the spiritual oversight of the congregation and for oversight of all the programs and ministries of St. Philip.

Currently serving as Elders:

Class of 2024 - Melissa Aldrich, Beth Atkinson, Walker Fair, Angelina Fonseca, Nancy Higgs, Susan Leonard, Jon Martin.
Class of 2025 - Dan Boston, Laura Burgess, Maggie Dement, William Howard, Mary Thornton McGuire, Gary Whitney, Nancy Beck Young.
Class of 2026 - Selena Brinegar, Kate Burkart, David Castro, Ada Fuller, Kurt Grether, John Hartman, and Mickey Meyers.

TRUSTEE

The duties of the trustees are to receive, hold, encumber, manage, and transfer property on behalf of the congregation; and to manage any permanent special funds for the furtherance of the purposes of the congregation.

Currently serving as Trustees are David Castle, John Van Osdall, and Casey Lambright.

CENTRAL MISSION ENDOWMENT COUNCIL

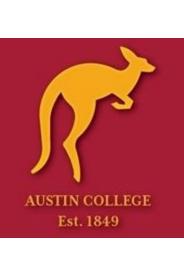
Members of the council decide the disbursements of the Central Mission Endowment Fund (CMEF). Persons serving on the council should be interested in mission outreach with available time for site visits.

Currently serving on the council are Bob Ardell, David Castro (Mission Committee Rep), Maggie Dement (Session Rep), Dick Howard, Roderick James, Cathy Patterson, Peg Palisin, Jeanette Wennenweser, and Jennifer Wilson.

MO-RANCH SHOWER

It is a St. Philip tradition to gather funds to assist the housekeeping staff at Mo-Ranch with their work. Each year during the retreat, we present this "Mo Shower" gift as a tangible sign of the congregation's care and support for the ranch. This year's "Mo-Shower" will help Mo-Ranch build a new laundry services facility. The new building will provide space for additional machines to make caring for the ranch's laundry needs more efficient and more manageable for the staff. The new building will have closer proximity to the hotel-style rooms; more storage for fresh linens; and in-door staff break room. Please consider donating to this gift in support of Mo-Ranch. Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the saintphilip.net homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting *MO SHOWER / Gifts* as the fund. Members can also access this page on the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). You may also contribute by writing a check with *MO Shower* in the memo line and placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the Church Office.







CONGRATULATIONS REV. DR. KEATAN KING

Keatan King was the preacher for the baccalaureate service Friday, May 3 at Austin College, her alma mater, in Sherman, Texas. Keatan received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.





Rev. Dr. John Williams, Rev. Dr. Keatan King, Senior Trustee Lee Ardell and St. Philip member.





Keatan took Nate, Cohen and Zoe around campus showing them where she use to hang out.

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 WILL GO ON RECESS **BEGINNING JUNE 2 UNTIL SEPTEMBER 8**

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

& SOCIETY-Room 201-Join us CHURCH from 9:30 a.m.-10:40 a.m. with presentations in person and by Zoom. May 26 - The final presentation for the Church & Society spring term is a media presentation by Kate Burkart for the movie Barbie. From Kate, "This liveaction movie, directed by Greta Gerwig and starring Margot Robbie as 'Stereotypical Barbie,' will turn on their head any expectations you might have going in and win you over with its slightly unhinged blend of sheer humor, creativity, and social commentary. (Wait, did I mention the occasionally transcendent song and dance numbers?) Barbie is both a whimsical comedy and an examination of gender, beauty, and empowerment." Church & Society will take a summer vacation from June until Sept. 8, when we'll have our Rally Day Class Reunion and preview of the fall 2024 C & S presentations. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like join via zoom any of the classes:

churchsociety stphilip@comcast.net.

FAITH & LIFE - Room 200-An adult class exploring how what we believe informs how we live. There are no materials required and no preparation is needed.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Room 204—We are studying Job in Dr. Robert Alter's The Wisdom Books: Job, Prophets and Ecclesiastes (2010). 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-(SUMMER RECESS BEGINS JUNE 5) 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.

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 June 13 at 7:00 p.m. We will discuss Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

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 ggardne148@aol.com.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP-This group meets on first Monday nights 7-8 p.m., by zoom, to discuss social justice issues of the day. Of current interest is the growing awareness of the effect of Christian Nationalism on our country's social policies. This "ism" has been defined as a concept that is exploiting Christian principles for political purposes. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson to be added to our mailing list.

(sjj10223@gmail.com)

ST. PHILIP MUSIC

S1. PHILIP MOSIC Everyone is invited to contribute towards the music ministry at St. Phil-ip! If you have ever con-sidered participating in the choir or playing handbells, playing an instrument, or want to learn more about music in general, our di-rector of music Justin Langham would be glad to speak with you. You can contact Justin through his church email address justin@saintphilip.net, or DEveryone is invited to **c**ontribute towards the 7 choir or playing handbells, japlaying an instrument, or 7



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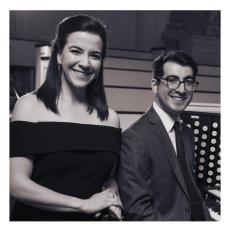
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MUSIC AT 👖 ST. PHILIP

2024 SUMMER ORGAN SERIES



Sunday June 9 | 3:00 pm Grant Smith, organist



Sunday July 21 | 3:00 pm Grace Roman, soprano Jim Roman, organist



Sunday June 30 | 3:00 pm Ben Kerswell, organist



Sunday August 25 | 3:00 pm Deux Voix | Justin Langham, trumpet Stephen Distad, organ



Free Admission | **St. Philip Presbyterian Church** 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056 | saintphilip.net

MISSION COMMITTEE

LIBERTY HS GRADUATION GIFT/SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATION DRIVE—Liberty High School was selected by the Mission committee as the May communion offering recipient. To supplement the May communion offering, we will hold a donation drive through June 2. The graduation gifts of school supplies will be delivered Monday, June 3 in time for graduation. Gently used supplies or new supplies can be dropped off at the Gathering Area on Sundays or dropped off at the Church Office. Liberty HS students will be blessed to receive tangible support in this way, helping future college students feel prepared to start the next educational chapter of their lives. Shopping lists are available for pick up at the Mission table in the Gathering Area. A registry of graduation school supplies if you wish to contribute by purchasing the supplies online and they will be shipped directly to the high school graduation coordinator. https:// www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guestview/3OR6AXNQ6AKCK

St. Philip's May Pentecost offering will benefit our mission partner Liberty HS. The Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also addresses the needs of at-risk children. Forty percent of the offering collected will be retained for Liberty HS graduating senior activities to make an impact in the lives of young people within our own Houston community. The remaining sixty percent is used to support childrenat-risk, youth, a and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency PC(USA).

SAVE THE DATE: CCSC NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DRIVE DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE—During the month of June, the Mission Committee will be collecting non-perishable food donations for drop off at the Gathering Area mission table or at the Church Office. Examples of the different kinds of foods you can drop off include dry beans (1 or 2 pound bags), hearty soups, dry rice (1 or 2 pound bags), canned tuna or chicken, peanut butter, boxed dry cereal, pasta sauce, baby food or formula, toilet paper, canned fruit (all types), canned vegetables (all types), dry pasta and mac and cheese. Food donations will be collected from June 2 to 30. The food is especially needed in the summer months because children are out of school and their families must provide their breakfast and lunch, which are usually provided by the school.

SAVE THE DATE: KIDS MEALS' ST. PHILIP VOLUNTEER DAY MONDAY, JULY 8—St. Philip mission partner Kids' Meals will host a group from St. Philip on Monday, July 8, from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m., to help prepare sack lunches for children at home during summer vacation. The mission of Kids' Meals is to end childhood hunger by delivering free, healthy meals, year-round to the doorsteps of the greater Houston area's hungriest preschool-aged children and through collaboration provide their families with resources to help end the cycle of poverty. Over the past 17 years, Kids' Meals has provided more than 14 million free, healthy meals to Houston's hungriest children. In 2024, Kids' Meals will make and deliver at least 2.77 million healthy meals, provide healthy produce and groceries at least three times per week, and leverage their daily access to connect children and families with wrap-around services from more than 70 partner service organizations. Kids' Meals cannot reach these goals without volunteers. St. Philip grants support the Healthy Meal Delivery Program. Please save the date to volunteer at Kids' Meals on **July 8**. Sign up will begin **May 26** through **July 7**. Every individual, including children, attending must register:

http://stphilip.kidsmealsinc.volunteerhub.com/

Kids Meals' goal is to make things as smooth as possible for you. They recommend volunteers wear comfortable clothing, closed toed-shoes, and a hat. In case someone prefers not to wear a hat, hair nets are distributed as an option. Limited parking, carpool if possible. Please arrive at our offices by 12:30 p.m. Upon arrival, you will enter the Welcome Center, sign-in on the computers, and have a brief orientation. Come ready to have a good time!

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER PLANNING COMMIT-TEE—This year, many St. Philip members have asked if the Kids Against Hunger meal packing activity will resume. Our church can be a host again for the Kids Against Hunger packing program. There are 5 categories of tasks for a successful Kids Against Hunger program to resume in our church:

- 1. A good accounting/bookkeeping system for orders.
- 2. A good transportation & delivery system of the packing supplies to St. Philip.
- 3. Marketing of the packing program at our church & scheduling volunteer groups.
- 4. Event teams & hosts. A successful church needs 6-8 teams of 4 to 5 people. One team would host about once every six weeks.

Meal deliveries. A delivery team loads up the packed meals on Sunday and delivers Monday mornings to Kids' Meals or another mission partner.

St. Philip needs to form a Kids Against Hunger committee to start this mission program again. The committee members can be any church member; you do not have to already be on the Mission Committee. If you are interested in volunteering or want to be part of that leadership team, please contact Angelina Fonseca-Grewal at <u>mission@saintphilip.net</u> or contact Keatan King at <u>keatan@saintphilip.net</u>. Also, if you know a farmer or rancher that will take the expired rice, soy, grain, and lentils to feed pigs or goats, please contact Keatan King. These old supplies must be removed first from the church dining room kitchen before the program can commence again.

SEARCH WEBINAR DISCUSSES OUTREACH-

On Thursday, May 16, Mary McGuire and Angelina Fonseca-Grewal attended the SEARCH Zoom presentation. In 2011, various different homeless providers came together to form The Way Home. Before 2011, each organization was working independently, and it was a competitive environment which led to gaps and confusion. Now, the efforts are coordinated working toward housing and stability. SEARCH reviewed the case management umbrella which includes education, engagement and stability, housing, employment, and health services. Focusing on Outreach during the presentation, SEARCH staff explained that homelessness is not a choice, but an experience due to life challenges including job loss or an abusive environment where clients used to live. People experiencing homelessness want to work, but it is hard for them to maintain a job if they don't have a place to wash clothes, have limited minutes on their phones and do not have transportation to arrive to work. Clients also have learning, mental, and physical disabilities that prevent them from maintaining a

job. SEARCH helps clients apply for Social Security Disability benefits and other services to address the clients' disabilities. Mental health and substance use are risk factors not causes of homelessness.



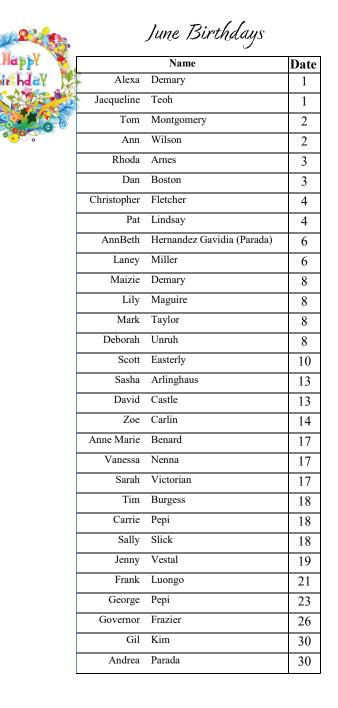
There are five outreach teams that focus on finding mental health services for clients, geographic areas, decommissioning camps, and youth homelessness. Progress engagement is what the teams utilize in the field; it means establishing a trusting relationship with the new clients and understand their unique story. In downtown and midtown, there are hot spots, meaning a number of people are gathering in the same place around the same time. SEARCH frequently visits these hotspots to offer their services. As well, teams visit the encampments around Lord of the Streets and work for weeks with the encampment residents to get them ready for housing. Once the clients are housed, SEARCH clears the area and closes the camp. The large encampments are a newer phenomenon occurring in Houston, and the homeless are becoming more concentrated, so that is why the encampments are featured more in the media. SEARCH will continue to increase outreach on the Houston streets, parks, and bridges. SEARCH is having an open house on June 6 at 10:00 a.m. at the House of Tiny Treasures if you would like to attend, please contact SEARCH at info@searchhomeless.org.

LOTS Luncheon Raises support for homeless

On Wednesday, May 15, Angelina Fonseca-Grewal attended the spring fundraising luncheon for Lord of the Streets at the Junior League. This year, the donations collected will go toward hiring a Case Manager to add to the staff. Rev. Brad Sullivan who is now the rector at the Lord of the Streets organizes the volunteer groups to serve at Lord of the Streets as well as performs the case management at this time. Volunteer opportunities for St. Philip members include:

- 1. Serving meals (5 days of the week) Breakfast 8-10 a.m.
- 2. Sorting and handing out mail. 8a.m -12 p.m.
- 3. Sorting donated clothing Monday, Tuesday and Friday.
- Helping in the clothing room passing out clothes on Wednesday and Thursday.
- 5. Providing supplies for bible study.
- 6. Monetary donations.

Lord of the Streets did re-instate the Sunday morning hot breakfast served after homeless clients attend an early morning church service.



IN OUR PRAYERS

- St. Philippians and their families—Bill Morris; Diane Clark; CJ Miller; Russell Bahruth; Ralph Cherillo; Susan Mitchell; Karen Morris; Susan Huffman; Emily Estill; Barbara Cavanaugh; Peg Palisin; Mary Herlitz; Jan Ostendorf; Dick Nunn; Mark Takayama; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy Johnson; Beverly Baker; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Jerry Isbell son-in-law of Bill & Karen Morris; Terese Murphy- cousin of Gary Gardner and Peg Palisin; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Alice Woodall-Chisholm cousin of Mary McGuire; Sheila Kinsky and her children sister of Bill Connolly; Vera Moore mother of Chuck Johnson; Susan Everhart niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Ann Perenyi mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine.
- Homebound—Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Edith Patterson; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.
- Friends of St. Philippians Annette Covey—friend of Guy & Melissa Aldrich; Stephen Wedemeyer and Mary Watters friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Claude Bowden friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton friends of William Rowe; Tom Barnett friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach– friends of Stephen Paine; Jacqueline Hazrum, Erin McDougal, and Eric Alberto Marquez friends 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: deacons@saintphilip.net

Prayer List is a powerful tool for bringing comfort, healing, and peace to those in need. So, let's keep it up to date and continue to lift up our brothers and sisters in prayer.

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

You can still turn in your pledge card via mail, dropping in the offering plate, the church office or going online :> My St. Philip (icon at top of webpage) > Sign In > enter email & password > Sign In > My Giving Summary > Pledge Now > Add Pledge > fill in the appropriate information > Save. Thank you!

> Next edition: Tuesday, June 4; Deadline <u>May 30—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