

October 6, 2020  
Volume 64, Issue 19

# PHILIP-EYE

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

Via a called meeting on Zoom, the Session welcomed backed Velma Guy Tolbert on September 29. Velma Guy Tolbert has recently returned to the Houston area from South Lake, Texas and joins us by letter of transfer from Trinity Presbyterian. She was formerly a member of Central Presbyterian and joined St. Philip when the two churches united. She is ordained as both an Elder and Deacon in the Presbyterian Church.



Velma grew up in Kinnear's Mills, Quebec, Canada whose population is only 350 today (editor's note—Google it). She came to the U.S. as an airline stewardess in 1955 and eventually decided to attend the Bernard Beruch School of Business [City University of New York]. Velma went on to work in human resources for the New York Stock Exchange and then as a medical recruiter for Saudi Aramco in Houston until she retired in 1996.

Velma fills her time reading and visiting with friends. She looks forward to renewing friendships and making new friends once we are all together again. Velma's contact info is in the online directory if you would like to reach out to her or contact Lorrie Castle at the church office.



**On Saturday, October 10, at 2:30 p.m.,** we will conduct an ordination service for Kallie Pitcock. A commission from the presbytery will be here, along with members of Kallie's family and guest preacher Cindy Rigby from Austin Seminary. You are invited to view the service online through our website. As we celebrate Kallie's ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, we invite you to send cards and other tokens of support to the church office by **October 9**. Or you may bring these items to the mission drive-thru happening at the church from 10 a.m.-12 noon on **October 10**.

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

**Rev. Keatan King**  
Associate Pastor

**Rev. Omar Rouchon**  
Associate Pastor

**Kallie Pitcock**  
Pastoral Resident

**Rev. Dr. Samuel Lanham III**  
Pastor Emeritus

**Dr. Randall Swanson**  
Director of Music

**Dr. Matthew Dirst**  
Organist

**Cecy Duarte**  
Children's Music Associate

**Micah Meyers**  
Art Director

**Denise Ferrell**  
Bookkeeper

**Wilbert Parada**  
Facilities Supervisor

**Dimas Parada**  
Custodian

**Lorrie Castle**  
Office Manager  
Newsletter Editor

**Susan Estill**  
Editor Emerita

# October Birthdays

Belated 1	Matt Lindsay
Belated 2	Pamela Ewing
Belated 3	Joy Maguire
Belated 4	David Barrish
Belated 4	Lindsey Hogan
Belated 4	Julie MacLemore Wells
Belated 4	Florence McKelvey
Belated 5	Connor Arnes
Belated 5	Jim Barrish
Belated 5	Shirley Coffman
6	Al Waldrop
7	Jane Larkin
9	David Chess
9	Kole D'Agostino
9	Elizabeth Duerr
9	Lisa Wellington
10	Jeromy Murphy
10	Todd Murphy
11	Anne Dallmeyer Keever
13	Arlene Holford
13	Mickey Meyers
15	Sally DeMent
15	Barbara Hairston
15	Elizabeth Junkin
16	Samantha Benard
16	Jonathan Eagleson
16	Weldon Lucas
16	Fil Nenna
16	Charles Johnson-Kelly

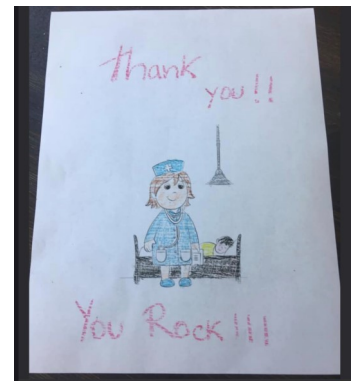
17	Roderick James
18	Barbara Chapman
18	Jere Douglas
19	Speight Anderson
19	Joyce Fox
19	Miles Smith
20	Elizabeth Crowell
20	Gianna D'Agostino
20	Mary Linda Williams
21	Lad Perenyi
22	Sara Jean Jackson
22	Chuck Johnson
22	Lori Murphy
23	Sue Howard
23	Tom Lewis
25	Laura Burgess
25	Jane Cooper
26	Jane Malczewskij
26	Dale Miller
26	Omar Rouchon
28	Daniel Barrish
28	Kate Crary
29	Trent Atkinson
29	Bill Camfield
29	Robert Ford
29	Wayne Truxillo
30	Larraine Lyter-Reed
31	Laureen Suba



## ENCOURAGE OTHERS IN THIS SEASON OF THANKSGIVING

Children through adults are invited by the SPPC Education Committee to create artwork or brief messages that will encourage patients or healthcare workers at Houston Methodist Hospital. This will help to spread hope and joy to those tired or struggling. Please direct your work to either a healthcare worker or a patient. They will be made into slide shows to display all the messages across the hospital in patient rooms (for messages directed to the patients) or in breakrooms, nurses stations, and hall ways (for messages directed to the hospital staff).

Submissions should be sent in a JPEG to [omar@saintphilip.net](mailto:omar@saintphilip.net) by Monday, **November 16**. Thank you for sharing your gifts to love and build up others as Christ taught us.





"I would like to take this opportunity to express my most sincere appreciation to my St. Philip family for your many cards, text messages and voicemails received with expressions of sympathy and compassion over the recent passing of my father, in South Carolina, from

COVID-19. I found comfort in each of your correspondence. He battled the virus for approximately three weeks. We lost my stepmother just fifteen days prior to his death from the virus. They were married just over forty years. The strife is over, the battle won and I believe it can now be said all is well with his soul. My father, at eighty-eight years old, was a great dad, grandfather, great grandfather, uncle and indeed the patriarch of the larger extended family as well as a retired AME pastor. Thanks to all of you."

—William Howard



OCTOBER IS

## PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Our church leaders (John, Keatan, Omar and Kallie) are often overworked, sometimes isolated, and underappreciated. 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 them 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.



The recipient of the communion offering in September was Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and thanks to your generosity they received \$375 from St. Philipians. Founded in 1902, Austin Seminary educates and equips people for

Christian ministry, service, and leadership, and serves the church by promoting and engaging in critical theological thought and research. The Seminary also aims (as its mission statement says) "to be a winsome and exemplary community of God's people." St. Philip has had a long and valued connection with Austin Seminary; several St. Philip members, including Rev. Keatan King, currently serve on the Seminary's Board. We are also blessed to have Kallie Pitcock, a recent Austin Seminary graduate, as our Pastoral Resident for the next two years.

## BEST KEPT SECRET

*God so loved the world that God gave . . .* God gave His only son. God created us in God's image, so we are created to give, too. I think that's why we feel so good when we give. When we give, we experience the *abundant life* that Christ died to give us. To me, that's 'the best kept secret' in the Bible. We people often think, "If I had more money, a better job, a bigger house, more "stuff", then I'd be happy". But often, the more we get, the more we want. John and I have come to believe that God's *abundant life* is not one that is filled with worldly treasures, but one that is free of worry, fear, and anxiety and filled with peace of mind and joy, knowing God will provide if we'll put God in charge. Now, there's the catch. It's hard to let God run our lives. So, God makes us a deal. In Malachi 3:10, God says, "*Bring me the full tithe; test me in this. And see if I won't throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing there won't be room enough for it.*"

I can't explain how this works, but I will tell you when we took this leap of faith, the "things" we thought we needed or would make us happy, lost their appeal. Our priorities changed and we found we had enough money for our real needs and enough to give generously as well. Stewardship is really about faith-raising, not fund-raising.

John and I feel richly blessed to be members of St. Philip, a church of good stewards that welcomes all people, cares about social justice in the world and works to protect our earth.



—Judge Hartman





## DRIVE-THRU

**Saturday, October 10—10 a.m. to Noon**

The purpose of World Homeless Day, an annual event on **October 10**, is to draw attention to homeless people's needs locally and provide opportunities for the community to get involved in responding to homelessness, while taking advantage of the stage an 'international day' provides. The Mission Committee will be hosting another drive on Saturday, **October 10** to support SEARCH and The Beacon, two of our mission partners that assist homeless people.

The Beacon provides essential and next-step services to restore hope and help end homelessness in Houston through civil legal aid, counseling and mentoring, access to housing, and meeting daily nutritional, hygienic, and wellness needs for hundreds of homeless men and women.  
[www.beaconhomeless.org](http://www.beaconhomeless.org)

We are collecting **new or "gently used" bath towels** (not hand or wash towels) to support their day program. Contact is Dan Boston if you have any questions:  
[dan52boston@gmail.com](mailto:dan52boston@gmail.com)

SEARCH pursues a mission of *providing hope, creating opportunity, and transforming* lives for thousands of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness in our community. SEARCH brings this mission to life every day by helping our clients obtain permanent housing, increase their income, improve their health, build community, and regain stable, self-sufficient lives.

We will be collecting notes of encouragement and snack packs for SEARCH.

**Encouragement notes:** Families can create encouragement notes to uplift those facing loneliness and isolation, or to congratulate those who have just moved into housing. Notes can include words of wisdom, quotes, artwork, and positive thoughts. The cards can be decorated with drawings and will be handed out by SEARCH staff to clients who need some uplifting.

**Snack Packs:** Please see the list below and choose three or more of the items to package in Ziploc bags to create snack packs. Clients often find it most helpful when snack packs contain a mix of no-chew (e.g. applesauce, pudding) and

chewy items to accommodate all levels of dental health. We truly appreciate when individuals, groups, students, and children who want to give back prepare these packs. Thank you for thinking of SEARCH and our neighbors' basic needs!

- **Bumble Bee Snacks on the Run** (tuna, chicken salad, ham, etc.)
- **Canned Vienna sausages**
- **GoGo Squeeze fruit pouches**
- **Pudding packs**
- **Planters mixed snack pouches/trail mix**
- **Fruit cups or applesauce cups**
- **Peanut butter or cheese cracker packs**
- **Dried fruit crisps packets**
- **Raisin snack boxes**
- **Granola bars** (crunchier varieties rather than chewy, please!)
- **Jif to Go/Nutella to Go snacks**
- **Sunflower seeds**
- **Non-chocolate protein bars** (chocolate melts!)

If you have questions about items for Search please contact Karen and David Winship - [kaddiew3613@gmail.com](mailto:kaddiew3613@gmail.com) - 281-788-4021; [dwins66@gmail.com](mailto:dwins66@gmail.com) - 832-236-2805.



Open to everyone!  
Cost per meal is \$10.  
Delivery cost is \$10.  
A new menu is posted each week, all menu items are fully cooked, and can be stored in a freezer for up to four months. These meals are made from fresh, locally sourced and

processed ingredients, including chicken that is antibiotic and steroid free. Even the baked goods are made using organic coconut sugar and 100% whole wheat grown in Texas. Memory Preservation Nutrition Meals incorporate the findings of over 700 brain-health related research studies and is based on 6 core principles: increase Omega-3s, reduce inflammation, increase amount and variety of anti-oxidants reduce insulin resistance, increase B, D and E vitamins and reduce amounts of oxidation of LDL cholesterol. The same tasty meals that have been available to participants in the Amazing Place day program can now be ordered to enjoy at home. <https://www.amazingplacehouston.org/updated-services/memory-preservation-nutrition-meals>



## WORLD HOMELESS DAY

### DRIVE-THRU

Please enter from San Felipe driveways, not the traffic light and driving west to the Administration Building.

## WORSHIP IN PERSON

As we continue to assess and monitor coronavirus data and the recommendations of local health leaders and then filter that information through our particular context at St. Philip, we have decided we will offer outdoor worship service on Sunday as described below and in-person daily prayer service. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** The Going Forward task force will continue to review on a weekly basis.

### DAILY PRAYER SERVICE

We invite a limited number of people to attend in-person our 11:00 a.m. daily prayer service (Monday-Saturday). Currently, we have a limit of five persons per day, beginning with Monday's service. For more information on conditions and to register click [here](#).

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

We will offer outdoor worship opportunities on the church campus on a week-to-week basis. Worship for this Sunday, **October 11**, at 9:00 am. registration is now available. Attendance at this service is being limited to 40 people. Worshipers are asked to bring their own chairs or blankets. We will also have chairs available at the church for those who need them. Worshipers will be spaced on the lawn at appropriate distances. The lawn service will last about thirty minutes. We will also have the usual 11:00 service that day, which will continue to be on-line only. [Click here to register.](#)

If you have trouble with the registration or are not online, please call Lorrie Castle (832-262-1244).

## WHO'S ZOOMING WHOM?

A few of the groups at St. Philip continue to meet during this time via Zoom and other video conference services—the session has had meetings, book club, church committees and Church and Society. We even have Sunday Coffee Hour. If you would like to participate in future meetings, please contact the appropriate group's leader.

**SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR**—Gather with fellow St. Philipians to talk about the sermons, hear about their week and what helped them get through the week. The Coffee Hour begins after the closing voluntary. Once we have a majority in the meeting, participants are sent to smaller breakout rooms so you have a more intimate group. The groups will randomly be assigned each week. Email Lorrie Castle at [lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net) to be added to the list.

**WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB**—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. Our next meeting is **October 8** at 7 p.m. to discuss *Olive Again* by Elizabeth Strout. Contact Sarah O'Dell for Zoom link – [sarah.odell6@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.odell6@gmail.com).

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY WITH JOHN WURSTER**—A look at the Bible readings for the coming Sunday. Email John for details and to get on the list - [john@saintphilip.net](mailto:john@saintphilip.net)

**ANTIRACISM BOOK STUDY**—Many people in our church participated in the 21-day race equity challenge and engaged in discussions led by John Wurster. Out of those discussions came a desire to continue wrestling with this important topic of justice and racial equity. Selena Brinegar is leading a discussion of the book *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. We will be meeting via Zoom on Monday evenings 7-8 p.m., excluding the first Monday of the month. Please email Selena if you are interested in participating at:

[selena.brinegar@gmail.com](mailto:selena.brinegar@gmail.com).

**CHURCH & SOCIETY** - St. Philip Church & Society class meets 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m. - October 11—*Anne Lock, John Calvin, and the English Reformation* - 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. Though Presbyterians are proud of our Calvinist heritage, we rarely engage Calvin's writings directly, and it's rarer still we have a chance to experience his preaching. In this session, we'll explore Lock and Calvin together, learning what became of Calvinism during the age of Elizabeth. 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. Deb is the

author of *Horrid Spectacle* - a study of theater and religious propaganda in the period. **October 18** - *The Nicene Creed - Fourth Century A.D.* presented by Rev. Greg Han. **October 25** - *The Catholic Church's Ongoing Response to the Protestant Reformation: An Attempt to Better Understand the Issues that Both Separate and Unite Catholics and Protestants* presented by Rev. Msg. James Barlow. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes—[mmcgm63@aol.com](mailto:mmcgm63@aol.com).

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE MEETINGS

All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. The meeting will be virtual, and a Zoom link will be sent to all P.W. members. 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](mailto:welcome@saintphilip.net).

*Monday Morning Saints*

2nd Monday of each month—10 a.m.

*Sunday Circle*

3rd Sunday of each month—12:15 p.m.

*Thursday Evening Circle*

1st Thursday of each month—7:00 p.m.

**Give blood at St. Philip!**  
**Tuesday, October 20**  
**1:30—5:00 p.m.**  
**Details in upcoming email.**



## *These Days*

We currently have copies of *These Days—Daily Devotions for Living by Faith* for both the third and fourth quarters of the year. If you would like a copy of either, email [Lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto:Lorrie@saintphilip.net). We can drop your copies in the mail or you can swing by and pick up. Please indicate if you would like large print.



*St. Philippians and their families*— Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Jan Ostendorf; Laney Miller; Susan Huffman; Joyce Fugit; Vicki McKay; Mary Sinderson; Marion Takehara; Emily Estill; Travis Calhoun; Jeanne West; Greg Moore; Lonnie Fugit; Mezgebe Gebray; Gene Lindley—father of Janet Hess; Betty Grant—sister of Eleanor Grant; John Anderson—brother of Tom Anderson; Janet Fisher—sister-in-law of Dan Cleveland; Liam Hunter—cousin of Mary Ann Thomas; Bessie Johnson—mother of Pat Lindsay; 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; Nikolaus Malczewskyj—father-in-law of Jane Malczewskyj; John Beck—brother of Nancy Young; Margie Foster—mother of Mark Young; Miriam Kalmbach— aunt of Nancy Higgs; Shirley and Weldon Boggus, Sr.—grandparents of Omi Ford; Jimmy Reagan—father of Sarah O'Dell; Dona Rowe—mother of William Rowe; Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers; and Ann Morgan—sister of Dorothy Blackwell.

*Homebound:* Sue Baier; Walter Baker; Joe Anne Berwick; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; Barbara German; George Helland; Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolph; Van Rathgeber; Jean Nelson; Jody Tomforde; and Penny Vieau.

*Friends of St. Philippians:* Karrington Templeton—friend of Barbara Runge; Charlie McCarthy—friend of Bonnie Moore; Cecil Trent—friend of Jane Cooper; Craig Slein—friend of Denise Ferrell and Steve Carmichael; Diane Morish and Melinda Penny—friends of Denise Ferrell; David Shebay—friend of Greg Han; Clayton Amacker—friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; and Walter "Buddy" Hamman III friend of Robin and Gary Willis.

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/>) or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

**Next edition: October 20 Deadline October 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



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