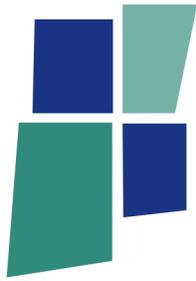


August 20, 2019
Volume 63, Issue 15



PHILIP-EYE

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. PHILIP
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PEACEMAKING AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IS ON THE MOVE!

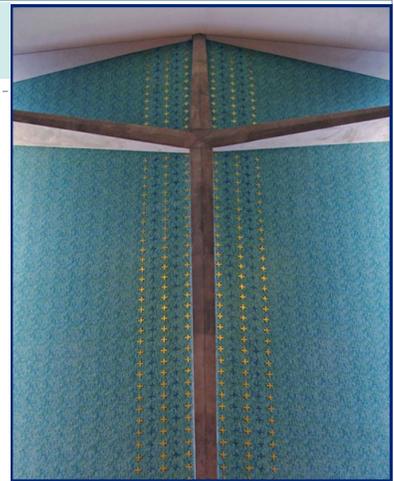
The next time you leave the Gathering Area, make a point of heading down the carpeted hallway with the benches along the way and stopping for a moment at the small alcove on your right at the end. There you will see a special display of documents demonstrating St. Philip's commitments to peacemaking and earth care.



The **Commitment to Peacemaking**, introduced to the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 1983, is a tool to help Presbyterians engage individually and collectively in peacemaking ministries. Since then, more than 4,300 congregations and other groups have affirmed the Commitment and used it to shape faithful and creative ministries of peace and justice. National and global circumstances have led St. Philip to affirm the Commitment to Peacemaking in 1984, 1992, and 2003, and all of these Commitments (previously in the welcome table alcove), signed by Session representatives of the time, are worth a moment to examine.

The **Earth Care Congregation certificate**, earned this past February (and signed by many St. Philippians at this year's picnic as a way of saying "I was there!"), celebrates our certification as an Earth Care Congregation. To become certified, churches take the Earth Care Pledge (stop by the bulletin board outside Room 206 in the education building to see it), and complete activities and projects in the areas of worship, education, facilities, and outreach. Annual recertification occurs each January–February as we provide evidence of our continued commitment in these areas.

The new Peacemaking and Social Justice alcove is a visible reminder to St. Philip, and a sign to those who visit us, of our longstanding commitment to God's *shalom* and to the care of God's good earth entrusted to us.



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

Rev. Keatan King
Associate Pastor

Rev. Omar Rouchon
Associate Pastor

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



PASTOR'S CORNER

Sabbatical Update



Deb and I have had a full and enjoyable two weeks in England. Our first week in London had us moving at a brisk pace. We were in several museums, saw a couple of plays, and had a few extensive tours in parts of the city that were unfamiliar to us. One side trip took us to Portsmouth to see the Mary Rose, the recovered warship of Henry VIII. The photo of the two of us is from that day. The picture of me on the bench is from the park near our residence hall that we walked through every day. While the bench was more than adequate, it did lack some of the features of "my" bench at Mo-Ranch!

We arrived in York last Monday. We've settled nicely into the flat we've rented, which is conveniently located next to the City Center and is just a couple of minutes walk to the cathedral, York Minster. Walking and worship have been the defining marks of our time in York thus far. The city is very pedestrian friendly and the temperatures have been delightfully cool, so we've spent lots of time walking the winding streets and along the river. Worship at York Minster happens throughout the day, and we've found ourselves there for a couple of services each day, usually the 7:30 morning prayer service and the 5:15 evensong. We actually went to three services Sunday, though Deb decided that three sermons in one day might be a bit much, no matter how good the choir is! This photo shows me in front of the south face of the Minster.

It has already been a rich and rewarding time, and we are all the more grateful for this extraordinary opportunity. As we join here in worship with people and pilgrims from all over the world, we keep the community of St. Philip in the center of our prayers.

Peace to all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John".



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Purpose. The purpose of the Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee is to highlight and support the denomination's Peacemaking Program; and, as described more fully in St. Philip's Commitment to Peacemaking (2003), to do peacemaking through:

encouraging worship that expresses the reality of God's peace-giving,

encouraging prayer and Bible study,

creating opportunities for peacemaking in families and community living,

working with and supporting community ministries,

supporting study and response to global issues,

studying global security concerns,

making peace with the Earth, and

receiving the Peace and Global Witness Offering.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

This Sunday during the **11 o'clock service**, all are invited to participate in the Blessing of the Backpacks. Bring your backpacks or briefcases as we join in prayer! As school begins and we return to our Fall schedules and routines, we will pray for a year full of learning, new opportunities, discovery, and growth. We hope to see you there!

TREASURER

As we wrap up the third quarter, I invite you to review your pledge statement. Thanks to all of you who have been so generous with St. Philip during the year with your pledged funds and for gifts over and above your pledge. This has helped us minister to our congregation, assist local missions, educate our children, fellowship together and still have air conditioning in August.

I would like to remind you that it's very convenient to donate to St. Philip. Many of us are habituated to put a check in the offering plate – great! We at St. Philip are also able to accept a secure donation on our web site: saintphilip.net, through MyStphilip or on your Church Life app. Gifts of publicly traded stock are also appreciated and may be made by having your broker contact Ms. Debbie Gregori at Wells Fargo Brokerage, 713-468-6552. If you prefer to make an electronic transfer (ACH, wire) to St. Philip, please contact Lorrie Castle for instructions.

Ada Fuller - Treasurer

MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP  SUMMER SEASON

◆ 2019 SUMMER KEYBOARD CONCERTS ◆

PROGRAM ③ SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 | 2:00 p.m.



Paul Fritts Organ
◆ 2010



Organ Fireworks Aaron Tan ORGAN



Brilliant Canadian organist, scientist, and pianist **Aaron Tan** was Winner of the First Prize and Audience Prize at the prestigious American Guild of Organists (AGO) 2018 National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP).

FREE one-hour program. Contributions welcome. Followed by FREE ice cream!

ST. PHILIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4807 San Felipe Street | Houston, Texas



FOLLOW US ONLINE
Music at St Philip

MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP 2019-2020 SEASON

Announcing our new music season! Join us for these exciting programs!

◆ CONCERT SERIES ◆

Concert for Peace

MUSIC & POETRY

Saturday | **OCTOBER 5** | 7:30 p.m.
with guitarist Marc Garvin and poetry reading

Semper Fantasticus

BAROQUE CHAMBER MUSIC

Sunday | **NOVEMBER 10** | 5:00 p.m.
*with Elizabeth Blumenstock violin
Mary Springfels viola da gamba
and Matthew Dirst harpsichord*

Greenbriar Consortium

CLASSICAL AND MODERN CHAMBER MUSIC

Sunday | **DECEMBER 1** | 6:00 p.m.
and

Sunday | **JANUARY 19** | 6:00 p.m.
*with Houston Symphony Chamber Musicians
in two different programs*

Night Jazz for Leap Day

PIANO • INSTRUMENTS • VOCALS

Saturday | **FEBRUARY 29** | 7:30 p.m.
with Paul English piano and Cecy Duarte vocals

Child Piano Prodigies

PIANO

Sunday | **MARCH 29** | 3:00 p.m.
*with 2020 and past winners of the
Rochelle Liebling Kahan Competition
for Child Piano Prodigies Age 6-9*

◆ WORSHIP SERIES ◆

Music of Commemoration

RUTTER *REQUIEM*

Sunday | **NOVEMBER 3** | 11:00 a.m.
Music for All Saints Sunday

Music of Expectation

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday | **DECEMBER 8** | 11:00 a.m.
Music for the Season of Advent

Music of Meditation

MATTHEW DIRST & FRIENDS

Saturday | **APRIL 11** | 5:00 p.m.
Music for the Stillness of Holy Saturday

Music of Resurrection

ST. PHILIP CHOIR • ORGAN • BELLS

Sunday | **APRIL 12** | 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Music for Easter Sunday

◆ FRITTS ORGAN TENTH ANNIVERSARY ◆

Vernet-Meckler Organ Duet

ORGAN

Sunday | **APRIL 19** | 2:00 p.m.
Olivier Vernet and Cédric Meckler
*transcriptions of incidental and ballet music by
Rameau • Mendelssohn • Stravinsky • Ravel
celebrating the 10th anniversary of the St. Philip Fritts Organ*

All events are free. Contributions welcome. We hope to see you here!



FOLLOW US ONLINE

Music at St Philip

MISSION

LORD OF THE STREETS

The next date for St. Philip to serve the homeless is September 15. We gather in the church parking lot at 6:30 a.m. to carpool to Trinity Episcopal Church and are back at the church in time for Sunday school. If you are available to volunteer, please call Janet Davis at 713-464-2385 to take part in this gratifying project.



SEPTEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING

We were fortunate enough to send \$1,520.81 through the July communion offering to Bethesda Clinic. Located in Yucatan, the clinic provides 24/7 medical services and spiritual assistance to people who are in low economic situations. The founder, Dr. Jose Estrella, received his education through the generosity of Presbyterian missionaries in the

Yucatan. That generosity has been extended to many of his Mayan patients & students through the years. Currently his sons, Dr. Federico Estrella and Rev. Pablo Estrella continue his work. Mission Partners with St. Philip since 2001, the clinic and school are also partners with Living Waters and Project Cure.

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES

September's Communion Offering will go to United Campus Ministries, whose mission is to demonstrate the love of God as expressed through Jesus Christ through programs initiated within the local college and university communities. UCMGH was established in 1968 as an ecumenical partnership between the Presbyterian Church (USA), The Disciples of Christ (Christian Church), and the United Church of Christ. Many students are far from home, and find comfort in their faith, new friends, and community mission projects. UCMGH has served the UT School of Medicine, U of H, HCC locations, Texas Southern University and Rice University.

SEAFARERS

Help give a sailor a special Christmas gift this year! The Mission committee is accepting donations of personal items, such as those listed below, to fill the 2019 Seafarer's Christmas Boxes, through **November 10**. Each year congregations from the Houston area pack personal items that sailors use every day in empty shoeboxes and wrap them with Christmas paper. The boxes will be delivered to the Seafarer's Center, and then personally taken to the ships by the Port chaplains. Annually, over 10,000 wrapped boxes have been delivered to over 500 ships, from over 65 different countries. St. Philip will be packing boxes on **November 10**. The seafarers greatly cherish these gifts. On board the ships for many months at a time, away from their families, a personal touch of a gift is so important to these sailors.

Collection boxes are in the Gathering Area and in the Church Office for donations. See below for the items we are looking for.

Empty Shoe Boxes	Address Book	Baseball Caps	Body Powder
Combs	Cotton Swabs	Dental Floss	Deodorant
Deodorant Soap	Disposable Razor	Foot Powder	Gum
Hard Candy	Hot Chocolate Packets	Hotel Samples	Key Chains
Lip Balm	Nail Clippers	Mechanical Pencils	Paper Clips
Pens	Playing Cards	Pocket Notebooks	Popcorn (Microwave Packets)
Rubber Bands	Sewing Kits	Shampoo	Shaving Cream
Small Tissue Packs	Socks	Sudoku	Texas Souvenirs
Toothbrush	Toothpaste	USB Flash Drives	Wash Cloths
Word Searches	Antiseptic Cream		

Purpose. The purpose of the Mission Committee is to develop and nurture the congregation as it reaches out to support Christ's mission locally and around the world as well as through the PCUSA. The Committee works to make mission an integral part of the life of the congregation.

Mission of Christian Education Committee: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, to guide us as we engage and inspire to build faith and discipleship within the children of God.



**NURSERY CARE
IS AVAILABLE
THROUGHOUT THE
MORNING**

8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Infants and children through 4 years old 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 BEGINNING
SEPTEMBER 8**

All classes begin at 9:30.

Godly Play (Age 3 to K)

Room 104

Children's Music

Room 105

Cecy Duarte

Grades 1—5 - Room 105

Grades 6—8 - Room 206

Grades 9—12 - Room 205

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Weekday Classes

MONDAY EVENING STUDY GROUP

St. Philip's Monday Evening Study Group is on break for the rest of August and will resume our meetings **Sept. 9**, our next regular meeting date (the second Monday), with a new book to start off the new program year! Join the discussion in the Dining Room (in the Administration Building, at the south end of campus) where, besides conversation, our meetings include fellowship, refreshments, and a brief devotional. We will begin our study of *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith*, by Marcus Borg, discussing the preface ("What does it mean to be Christian today?") and chapter 1 ("The heart of Christianity in a time of change"). Borg is a world-renowned Jesus scholar and author of the bestseller *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*, the Monday evening study group's previous selection. *The Heart of Christianity* argues that the essential ingredients of a Christian life—faith, being born again, the kingdom of God, the gospel of love—are as vitally important today as they have always been, even during this time of conflict and change in the Church. We meet each second and fourth Monday, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Come even if you haven't done the reading; the discussion is always timely and thought provoking.

PUB CLUB

Pub Club is a group for men in the church who like to enjoy fellowship, stories, and spirited discussion once a month at a local pub. Pub Club meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Our next gathering is Tuesday, **August 27**, at Neil's Bahr, 2006 Walker St. 77003. Men interested in attending may eat beforehand or order food from the pub. For more information or questions, please contact Tim Burgess at: TimRB1987@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK GROUP

A monthly interest group for women who like to read books, socialize, and have a night out meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Our next meeting on **September 12** will be at the home of Jessie Fair and we will discuss *Be Gone in the Dark* by Michelle McNamara. This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. For more information contact Sarah O'Dell at sarah.odell6@gmail.com.

Sunday School

**Sunday School Classes return
on Rally Day, September 8!
Below are the classes you can
look forward to.**

CHURCH & SOCIETY - Room 201 - Leaders Mickey Meyers & C J Miller Church & Society class reunion and previews of coming presentations with Aunt Jane Larkins coffee cake. **September 15** - Protecting the Unprotected - How churches can be involved to help protect the unprotected children to keep them safe. Presented by Ashley Smalls - Faith-based specialist with Texas Dept. of Family and Protective Services - The Jail and Torches that Never Were: Debunking the Scopes-trial Myth - **September 22** - Background to the Trial - **September 29** - *The Trial and its Aftermath* presented by Bruce Yaeger, author of *Wrestling Brothers: Rethinking Religion-Science Relationships*. **October 6** - *Calvin, the Valois Dynasty, and the French Wars of Religion* presented by Prof. John Zammito Baker College Chair for the History of Science, Technology and Innovation at Rice University. **October 13** - *The Second Vatican Council and Ecumenical Efforts Toward Dialogue* presented by Garland Pohl, Catholic Ecumenist. **October 20** - A Viewing of the film *Luther and the Reformation* by Rick Steves - Distilling the story of Martin Luther in the context of the chaos of the Protestant Reformation and its effect on political, economic, and theological thinking in post- Middle Ages Europe. **October 27** - Reformation Sunday - The Scots Confession - A.D. 1560 - Presented by Rev. Greg Han - Director of Interfaith Relations & Education at

Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston.

SPa

Room 200 - This Fall, the SPa class will be invited to participate in an exciting book study about the vitality of the church. Be on the lookout for more information soon. The St. Philip Adults class is a fellowship of adults from all walks of life who gather for learning and community. It is a conversation/interactive class. Sharing leadership is easy and fun and asking questions is what it is all about. Contact:

Omar@saintphilip.net.

BIBLE STUDY

Room 204 - Al Waldrop, leader. We will resume our study of the Psalms, primarily from the NRSV and Dr. Robert Alter's *The Book of Psalms: A Translation with Commentary*, on **September 8**.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children in pre-K through first grade are invited to attend Children's Chapel with Rev. Omar Rouchon and a parent helper following the conversation with children during the 11 o'clock service on the second and fourth Sundays. In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship, while praying, singing 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.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women (PW) offers a variety of ways for women to live out their faith in an inclusive, caring community beginning with Bible study at St. Philip. The PW Circles will begin meeting in September; details to follow. Currently, the 2019-2020 Horizons Bible Study Guide *Love Carved in Stone* by Eugenia Anne Gamble will be available for purchase in circle meetings in September. The cost is \$12 and \$17 for the large print edition. See Circle Meeting schedule to the right.

FREE DEMENTIA CAREGIVER EDUCATION

St. Philip is excited to host The Savvy Caregiver Program with Amazing Place this fall. The Savvy Caregiver Program is a two hour, six week class offering facts about dementia/Alzheimer's stages and reasons for behavior changes. With new knowledge and skills, you develop positive and powerful ways to manage a better quality daily life with your loved one.

When: September 22 – October 27, Sundays 12:30-2:30pm

If you are interested in the class at St. Philip Presbyterian Church, please contact Sharon Cantrell, Caregiver Educator for Amazing Place, at 713.440.8177 or: SCantrell@amazingplacehouston.org.

HEALTH YOUR WAY

St. Philip welcomes the return of a program sponsored in part by AARP which meets **Wednesdays** in Room 16 from 2:00 p.m. till 3:00 p.m. This class includes topics like Balance and Stability, Everyday Movement, Stretch and Release, Memory Fun and Games, Heart Health Discussions, Strong Muscles, Healthy Bones for seniors. St. Philip members and friends are welcome to attend this free program. A complete schedule is available at: www.healthyourway.com.

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women (PW) offers a variety of ways for women to live out their faith in an inclusive, caring community beginning with Bible study at St. Philip. Please join any one of the circles for their monthly meetings beginning in September.

Circles

Sunday Circle

3rd Sunday of the month after 11 a.m. service

in the Dining Room

ä

Monday Morning Saints

2nd Monday of the month at 10 a.m.

in the Dining Room

ä

Wednesday Morning Circle

4th Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m.

at Brazos Towers

at Bayou Manor

ä

Wednesday Evening Circle

1st Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. in the Dining Room



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.

4807 San Felipe
Houston, TX 77056

Phone: 713.622.4807

Fax: 713.622.5405

Philipeye@saintphilip.net

www.saintphilip.net

@StPhilipHouston



IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families—Jane English, Lance Wilmarth; John Bobbitt; Virginia Lemen; Nita Davis; Bonnie Moore; Jim Bratton; Walter Baker; T.E. “Joe” Keever; Arlette Keene; Dorothy Blackwell; Betty Golemon; Joyce Fox; Yvonne Hayes—mother of Lorrie Castle; Dona Rowe—mother of William Rowe; Carolyn Jones—sister of Cynthia Shoup; Bessie Johnson—mother of Pat Lindsay; Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers; Ralph Arlinghaus—father of Paul Arlinghaus; Rusty Howard; Phillip McDaniel; Carol Paine Kendrick; Ann Morgan—sister of Dorothy Blackwell; and Hollie Bailey—niece of Peg Palisin.

Always in our prayers are the homebound members of St. Philip.

Friends of St. Philippians—Jerry—son-in-law of Karen Morris; Willie Jo Schaefer—friend of Pam Rush; Wes Mayo—friend of Vicki McKay; Shirley Stubblefield—caregiver to Rusty Howard; and Grady Reed—friend of Stephen Paine.

Unto Others

Y R O T C U D O R T N I G Z G K Q
 R E S I D E N C E G D E L P Z L D
 R O U T R E A C H I N J K I P N E
 Y E T U E D E U C E S Z F J I D M
 C W L R A N T Q R H I U X R H S O
 Z O U E I N P O B T L V P N S J N
 E W M M A N U E N V O Q H M R N S
 F S A M N S I F D K N X Y Q A W T
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 J P L J O H O O I E T T U W R P T
 B O N E S B R R F T A S R Y M B I
 M P Y R B C E Q A H N O Q I I E N
 F J W Y I T Y O T T D E Q S A H G
 C O W H K O O J H D I M M T Z N X
 J K F Z T E H T F S N O G E N D C
 S J I J N F P C S H G T N G D H U

Bones	Campus	Choir	Commemoration
Dementia	Demonstrating	Examine	Generous
Introductory	Longstanding	Outreach	Pedestrian
Pledge	Release	Residence	Shoeboxes
Trinity	Warship		