

# PHILIP-EYE

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THE NEWSLETTER of Saint Philip Presbyterian Church  
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## Farewell to Carrie, Shawn and Ben Coons

Rev. Dr. William C. Poe  
Pastor

Rev. Dr. Samuel Lanham III  
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Dr. Jack Boelens  
Parish Associate

Keith B. Weber  
Director of Music  
Dr. Matthew Dirst  
Organist  
Margaret Dement  
Director of Youth Bells

Judy Gunn  
Director, Children's Ministries

Karen St. Laurent  
Office Manager  
Nancy Craig  
Administrative Assistant

Wilbert Parada  
Facilities Supervisor  
Dimas Parada  
Custodian

Susan Estill  
Newsletter Editor  
philip-eye@saintphilip.net

Farewell and all God's blessings to Carrie, Shawn and Ben Coons as they leave us to answer a new call as Co-Pastors of South Lake Presbyterian Church in Clermont, FL.

A number of people have wanted to know a little bit about Carrie and Shawn's new call, and the church they will be serving. South Lake Presbyterian Church is in Clermont, FL, a bedroom community of Orlando (just north of Disney World). The church has just over 200 members, and on a typical Sunday can have that many people in one of three worship services. On Sunday morning there are contemporary and traditional services, and on Sunday evenings there is an emerging, creative service called "Song in the Night" that uses alternative music, multimedia and various artistic expressions. During the week the church has an active food ministry that runs a food pantry and serves a weekly meal in the fellowship hall to people in need in the community. Shawn and Carrie will be serving as co-pastors at South Lake. They invite you to come visit if you're in the area! Their address is 1352 Laurel Hill Dr., Clermont, FL 34711.

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### Officers Ordained and Installed

During the 11:00 am worship service on January 11, 2009, the following were ordained/and or installed to service as Elders, Class Of 2011: **Mike Alexander, Bebe Burns, Mary Grace Carter, Bob Coyle, Elizabeth Duerr, Judith Hiott, Florence McKelvey, Karen McKibben Morris, and Brian Webster.** **Amy Frautchi** was ordained and installed as Youth Elder for a one-year term. **James Cooper** was installed as Trustee for a three-year term. Please hold these people in your prayers as they serve our church.

Thank you to those who are rotating off the Session following three years of service: **Linda Bevill, Jo Helland, Chuck Johnson, McNair Johnson, Carolyn Keeble, and Kay Vick;** and to **Carolyn Flowers** for her service as Youth Elder.

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### Duerr Lecture Series, 2009

Speaker for the twelfth annual Duerr Lecture Series, February 22, 23 and 24, 2009, will be Rev. Vernon S. Broyles, III. His lectures, "**Confessions of a Presbyterian Fundamentalist: Reflections on 50 years of wrestling with God's call to faith and action, guided by a Presbyterian understanding of the Church,**" will focus on the foundational convictions that make us Presbyterian and will also contain personal recollections and insights gained over a life of ministry under the Presbyterian banner, including the struggle to hear God's voice and to try to give it visibility in the troubled world in which we live.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the lectures to hear this engaging speaker help us understand how we can live out our faith in today's world. Broyles will preach at the Sunday morning worship services and present lectures each evening at 7:00. On Sunday evening a dinner will be served in the Fellowship Hall at 6:15, cost is \$7.00.

All lectures are free and open to everyone. Child care is available for all ages for each lecture by calling the church office, 713 622-4807.

Visit our website @  
[www.saintphilip.net](http://www.saintphilip.net)

## Congregational Concerns:

In hospital/healthcare: **Chuck Fortney** at St. Luke's, **Nancy Johnson** at St. Luke's, **Herb Scott** at The Hampton

Recuperating: **Carol Junkin, Dick Weber**

At home: **Bill Boren, Karl Dick, Penny Vieau**

In Iraq: **Ken Evans**, Tamara Arlinghaus' father

The love and sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Julie Alexander and family** on the death of her brother, **John Winford Baucum** on December 22, 2008.

A note from Dick Weber: *Thank you for all your heart-warming calls and cards and the delicious food. With medication, my vascular system is recovering well.*

## Check These Announcements

**The Men's Fellowship** offers to all men of the church a more intimate, informal opportunity for study, fellowship and service. We meet in the office Conference Room each Friday at noon for a BYO lunch followed with a presentation and discussion. Currently, we are reading *The Apostles Creed for Today*, by Justo L. Gonzales. Get your copy from Dan Flowers. Grab a sandwich and join us!

**Last call for Mo-Ranch:** This is your final opportunity to sign up to join your St. Philip family in the Texas Hill Country for a weekend (June 11–14) of study, fellowship and fun. Final date for registration is February 9th. Call Jeannie Flowers TODAY at 713 527-8696.

**Fourteen people from St. Philip served breakfast to the homeless** on January 11 as part of the Lord of the Streets (LOTS) program at Trinity Episcopal Church. Many thanks to **Robin Angly, Miles Smith, Skip Britton, Ralph Cherrillo, Janet Davis, Ruth Ewing, Katie Ewing, Cordie Ewing, Carol Johnston, Jennifer Kirk, Tom Lewis, Bill Morris, Roger Pewick, and Kappy Pratt**. If you would like to make a short term commitment, please call Janet Davis at 713 464-2385 to take part in this gratifying service project. Our next date is Sunday, March 15.

**Join us for Sunday Evening Youth Programs!** Youth Music at 5:00, and dinner and Youth Group from 5:45-7:30. On January 18th we explore fighting race and culture from a Christian perspective. And on January 25th we take a look at what is most important in your life.

The *Philip-Eye* will be published on January 26, February 9 and 23. E-mail information to philip-eye@saintphilip.net or leave in the PE box in the mail room.

## From Your Director of Music:

### NOTES from KEITH

Hello, everyone!

And HAPPY NEW YEAR...

What a great year it's going to be! I'd like to highlight for you those things which are the cause of so much joy in your Music Department:

#### 1. THE RESPONSIVENESS OF THE CONGREGATION

Our first job in Music Ministry is to facilitate and enliven the worship experience at St. Philip. We are immensely gratified that just about everything we put effort into [clear singing, interesting literature, wide involvement, input from the "outside" music world, etc....] is noticed and valued.

There is no greater satisfaction.

THANK YOU!

#### 2. PARTICIPATION

Our choirs continue to grow and improve, thanks to the energizing Spirit that one finds here at St. Philip... The kids program benefits from DIRECT cooperation with parents and the Christian Education Department... The Youth Program will head in exciting new [and old] directions this Spring... We are considering hosting area-wide musical festivals for kids and youth...

#### 3. SPECIAL MUSICAL EVENTS

We just had a hugely successful concert and there's more to come: Please make note of these "Big Three"

March 14th: 7:30 pm "The Triumph of Life" Music of Redemption

This VERY special program is highlighted elsewhere in this issue, and you'll be hearing more about it in the coming weeks... This will be a Lenten observance like no other. Please save the date; you won't want to miss this...

DATE TBA: "Improvisations" Keith at the Piano

Yes, I've decided to "step out" and do a program of mostly improvisations... Mine and those of others - things that managed to get written down... I'll give you the date when it settles...

May 16th: 7:30 pm "Julia Fox in Recital"

As many of you know, Julia is doing intensive vocal study and coaching with me and with other truly fine people in Houston, teachers and mentors... This recital will offer the results of the past years' work... Many of you have heard already the way she's developing, and are as tickled and proud as I am...

#### 4. THE WEEKLY RHYTHM

But mostly, we are excited about the weekly rhythm of variety and quality that we have all come to love....

Please know that it is **YOUR** awareness and support that makes this possible....!

THANK YOU!

*Keith*

## Explore Space Center Houston With the Prime Timers

The Prime Timers will travel to Space Center Houston on Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.

After experiencing a simulated Blast Off, we will be updated on NASA space exploration in the Blast Off Theatre. The Starship Gallery has an incredible cross section of historical items from NASA space missions. Examine the cockpit of the space shuttle and walk through the giant Skylab Trainer. Touch a rock from the moon.

After lunch, we will relax and enjoy a presentation on the five story tall screen at Space Center Theatre.

Don't miss out. Sign up soon at the church office.

## Wednesday Night LIVE!

Wednesday Night Live has started again and you are invited! Join us from 6:00-6:45 each Wednesday for dinner (\$7 per adult, \$3 per child), followed by worship and then a workshop at 7:00.

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>, features Rev. Steve Spidell leading a series entitled, "Fifteen Ways for Busy People to Improve Their Spiritual Lives." Finding the time to improve the quality of our spiritual lives is a challenge. We know it's important; we just don't know when. Let's help each other make time for God.

Please call the church office if you plan to come for dinner so Chuck will know how many to prepare for.

## Upcoming Events at Mo-Ranch!

**Faith On Tap ~ February 6-8, 2009**

**"Exploring Faith, Music & Culture"**

Join us for a multimedia journey of faith, music and contemporary culture based on the monthly "Faith On Tap" sessions led by Brent Barry and Shane Whisler, two Presbyterian ministers from Dallas.

**Family Fun Retreat ~ March 13-15, 2009**

**"Side By Side"**

This year's Family Fun Retreat has been structured as a special time for you and your family to renew and refresh the unique and special role of family.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**John Bell Retreat ~ September 18-20, 2009**

**"Music & more with a leader  
of the Iona Community"**

Topics of the retreat will include:  
 ~~ Why do God's people sing?  
 ~~ Theology and the Church's Song  
 ~~ Music from the Iona Community

*For more information on these and other Mo-Ranch events, please contact us at 1-800-460-4401 ext. 239, or visit us on the web at [www.moranch.com](http://www.moranch.com), or email us at [program@moranch.com](mailto:program@moranch.com).*

## Hallelujah!

CORNER

The Hunger Offering received on Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, benefiting Christian Community Service Center totaled \$1603.00. Thank you for your continued generosity.

### Sunday School Classes

#### The SPa (St. Philip Adults)

Meets in Room 200

#### Church & Society

Meets in Room 201

"Living the Questions 2.0" curriculum

Led by Bill Poe

LTQ 2.0 is a DVD-based

interdenominational and progressive approach to the most basic questions that arise out of the Christian faith.

The main idea behind the curriculum is that the questions we bring to faith are not problems to be dealt with or swept under the rug, but may be avenues to deeper engagement with the God who encounters us in Jesus Christ.

Even if we find no satisfactory answers to all our questions, we will learn that living with the questions may deepen our faith and enrich our life together.

The lessons in this 2nd installment are as follows:

Jan. 18 "The Prophetic Jesus"

Jan. 25 "Evil, Suffering, and a God of Love"

Feb. 1 "The Myth of Redemptive Violence"

Feb. 8 "Practicing Resurrection"

Feb. 15 "Debunking the Rapture"

Feb. 22 "Reclaiming the World"

#### Bible Study

Meets in Room 204

#### A study of Genesis

led by Dr. Nancy Cook and Al Waldrop.

#### Youth Sunday School

All Junior High (6th-8th grades) and Senior High youth (9th-12th grades) are invited to join us

Sunday mornings in the youth rooms for a study called "Claim the Life" .

### Lectionary Readings

January 18, 2009

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

January 25, 2009

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

Don't miss the next *exciting* evening offered by:

## Grace Song, Inc.

Keith Weber, *Artistic Director*

# “The Triumph of Life...”

Music of Redemption

Including

- Benjamin Britten's Canticle III, **'Still Falls the Rain'**
- A set of songs about Life and Death sung by **Jamie Barton**
- A new, fully-staged production of Gustav Holsts' one-act opera:

## **'SAVITRI'**

Directed by Tara Faircloth  
Costumes by Rooth Varland  
Conducted by Keith Weber

with

The trebles of the **St. Philip Choir**

Natalie Arduino as **Savitri**

Dann Coakwell as her husband, **Satyavan**

and

Gabriel Preisser as **DEATH...**

Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

7:30 pm

St. Philip Presbyterian Church - Sanctuary  
4807 San Felipe, Houston

Dated Material

St. Philip Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
4807 San Felipe  
Houston, Texas 77056  
713.622.4807  
www.saintphilip.net

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