

PHILIP-EYE

THE NEWSLETTER of Saint Philip Presbyterian Church
Volume 53, Number 6

Houston, Texas
23 March 2009

Actions of Your Staff Commission

Rev. Dr. William C. Poe
Pastor

Rev. Dr. Samuel Lanham III
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Dr. Jack Boelens
Parish Associate

Rev. Gregory Crisp Han
Parish Associate

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

Judy Gunn
Director, Children's Ministries

Cindy Pope
Interim Director of Youth
Ministries

Karen St. Laurent
Office Manager
Nancy Craig
Administrative Assistant

Wilbert Parada
Facilities Supervisor
Dimas Parada
Custodian

Susan Estill
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Visit our website @
www.saintphilip.net

Lectionary Readings

March 29, 2009

5th Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms 51:1-2 or Psalm 119:9-16

Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

April 5, 2009

Passion/Palm Sunday

Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

April 9, 2009

Maundy Thursday

Service in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm

Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10) 11-14

Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 10, 2009

Good Friday

Service in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12; Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16-25 or

Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9

John 18:1 – 19:42

April 12, 2009

Easter/Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43

John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

The Staff Commission is responsible for proposing, implementing and administering the policies of the church with respect to personnel. They are subject to the approval of the session. A specific duty of the Commission is to write position descriptions for the staff in consultation with the Pastor. Rev. Poe, as Head of Staff and liaison to the Staff Commission, has asked our commission to work carefully and deliberately in addressing the recent pastoral vacancies that have occurred at St. Philip.

We are aware that the youth of St. Philip are an important part of our congregation. With that thought in mind we authorized the hiring of Cindy Pope, a Christian Educator with 15 years experience. She has already begun working with the middle school and senior high youth during Sunday School and Youth Fellowship. The youth have enjoyed an ice cream blind taste test, various other activities and are planning a special trip to Montreat this summer.

We are also aware that our Senior Pastor is working alone these days in the absence of an associate pastor. In order to establish a clear understanding of the needs of St. Philip, we on the Staff Commission are carefully reexamining and revising the position description for an associate pastor. While this is happening we authorized an additional parish associate, The Rev. Greg Han. We are also recommending the hiring of either a seminary extern or an interim associate pastor during this transitional period. An extern is a seminary graduate who has not fully completed his/her requirements for ordination and is interested in gaining additional practical experience. An interim associate would be an ordained pastor. Either of these individuals would be employed for 6 months to one year depending upon our needs or until a full-time associate pastor could be called. The interim employment

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Congregational Concerns:

Hospitalized/Healthcare: none known

Recuperating: **Paula Vuyk**

At home: **Louise Bradley, Karl Dick, Chuck Fortney, Ellen Red, Herb Scott, Penny Vieau**

In Iraq: **Ken Evans**, Tamara Arlinghaus' father; **Chris Echols**, Warren Wallingford's step son.

The love and sympathy of the congregation is extended to **the family of Rosemary Schwartzel** on her death on March 13; and to **Ginny Camfield and family** on the death of sister-in-law.

Former Austin college President and Presbyterian leader, **Dr. John D. Moseley** died at his home in Sherman, TX on March 11th at the age of 93.

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!

Sixteen members of St. Philip served breakfast to the homeless on March 15 as part of the Lord of the Streets (LOTS) program at Trinity Episcopal Church. Thanks to Robin Angly, Skip Britton, Ralph Cherrillo, Sarah Cherrillo, Janet Davis, Susan and Robert Estill, Joyce Fox, Rita and John Hannah, Carol Johnston, Steven Kirk, Sue Mitchell, Miles Smith, Roger Pewick, and Joyce Randolph. If you would like to make this short term commitment, please call Janet Davis at 713 464-2385 to take part in this gratifying project. Our next date is May 17.

Easter boxes for The Women's Home: Please bring your items to the containers in the church office or the Sanctuary Gathering Area. Due date is March 30 and all are invited to help pack boxes at Wednesday Night Live on April 1st.

Mark Your Calendars! CanCare's 15th Annual Cancer Survivors Day Luncheon will be May 28, featuring keynote speaker, Lyn Redgrave, breast cancer survivor and legendary actress of stage and screen.

The Philip-Eye will be published on April 6 and 20. Please submit information and articles in a timely manner. 10:00 am on the day of publication is the deadline. E-mail to philip-eye@saintphilip.net or leave in the PE box in the mail room.

2010 Duerr Lecture Series Speaker Announced

The recent Duerr Lecture Series was well attended as church members and friends from the community came to hear Rev. Vernon Broyles speak about the foundational convictions that make us Presbyterian. Broyles' themes included the significance of the church in a secular world, the vows we make as members, officers and minister, and the call to action for us as a church and as individuals. His talk included personal recollections from his life of ministry under the Presbyterian banner. Sets of 4 CDs including his sermon and three lectures are being prepared and will be ready for those who ordered them by March 29.

Next year's Duerr Lecture Series will be February 21, 22 and 23, 2010, and the speaker will be Rev. Dr. George W. Stroup, J.B. Green Professor of Theology at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. Dr. Stroup has degrees from Rice University, Yale University Divinity School and Vanderbilt University. He has taught at the University of the South, Princeton Theological Seminary, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and since 1986 at Columbia Seminary.

The lecture series Advisory Board enthusiastically encourages attendance at the lectures each year as we explore our faith and how we can live it out in today's world. We are especially grateful to those who have been able to make contributions that help ensure the continuation of the series on an annual basis.

Wednesday Night LIVE!

Note New Start Time!

You are invited to Wednesday Night Live. Join us from 5:45-6:15 each Wednesday for dinner (\$7 per adult, \$3 per child), followed by a workshop from 6:15 to 7:00.

March 25

The Rev. Greg Han concludes his presentation "From Purim to Passover": studying Jewish holidays that fall in the season of Lent.

April 1

We will be packing boxes for the Women's Home.

April 8

"Interface-Samaritan Counseling Centers and St. Philip - A Proud History."

Ana Schick, Executive Director and Susan Lang, Clinical Director of Interface will speak about their organization and St. Philip's long history of involvement.

April 15

Mike Alexander will give a presentation on the Pinemont Apartments

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

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will give Rev. Poe added pastoral support. After the Staff Commission has finalized the associate pastor position description, we will consult with other commissions regarding their requests and desires. We trust that this procedure will enable the nominating committee to find the best possible associate pastor for our church.

Florence McKelvey,
Moderator, Staff Commission

Sunday School Classes

The SPa (St. Philip Adults)

Meets in Room 200

Church & Society

Meets in Room 201

March 29 and April 5

Great Themes of the Bible

Part of "The Thoughtful Christian" curriculum

Teacher: Mike Gabel

Questions: If we view the Bible as one whole document, what is it saying?

What are the big messages by which interior messages are to be interpreted?

April 19, 26, May 31, June 7 and 21

"Perspectives on Immigration"

These classes have been conceived with two basic goals in mind: a comprehensive view of immigration with emphasis on information and a thoughtful dialogue within a Christian context. Outstanding spokespersons will address the topic from five perspectives: legal, economic, security, humanitarian and personal experience.

(More details to follow.)

Bible Study

Meets in Room 204

A study of Genesis

led by Dr. Nancy Cook and Al Waldrop.

March 29th at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Bill Poe will conduct a one-Sunday class entitled "What Is A Presbyterian?"

It will be held on the second floor of the education building in room 203.

New members, visitors and any others interested are encouraged to attend.

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".

Hallelujah!

CORNER

Welcome new member, **Christine Scott Gensch** who rejoined St. Philip on March 15. Christine grew up at St. Philip and is delighted to return with her husband and children.

Mrs. Leah McRoberts has moved from The Hallmark to Colorado where she is living close to her son Reid and his family. Her new address is 5090 North 109th St., Longmont, CO 80504; phone 303 581-9650.

Our Campus is in Bloom!

Saturday, March 21 was a day with busy gardeners from St. Philip and Oasis of Love, Wilbert Parada's church family that is worshipping in St. Philip's Fellowship Hall on Sunday afternoons. It was exciting to see the two congregations working side by side. Many thanks to all who participated.

Each project was quickly completed with the many volunteers pulling out old plants, reworking the soil, placing plants, digging holes, and planting new plants. Following a busy morning we were treated to a grilled hotdog lunch outside on a beautiful spring day.

Easter Sunday Activities

The Education Commission is hosting a time for intergenerational fellowship on Easter Sunday. Beginning at 9:30 with a light breakfast, there will be craft activities for the children and an egg hunt at 10:20 on the playground. Bring flowers to "Flower the Cross" which will be located just outside the Sanctuary.

Easter eggs may be donated for the hunt. Bring plastic eggs stuffed with stickers, small treats or candy to Judy Gunn's office by April 10th

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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| April | 17 Bob Skaggs |
| 2 Dillon Junkin | 17 Will Peavy |
| 3 Harold Dement | 18 Ethan Lambright |
| 7 Cliff Peavy | 19 Jack Lippincott |
| 7 Richard Lee | 19 Douglas Duerr |
| 7 Hayden Cook | 22 Richard Johnson |
| 8 Alan Johnson | 23 Adrian Vuyk |
| 8 Jeff English | 23 Paula Vuyk |
| 8 David Cook | 24 Jim Braswell |
| 10 Bill Burns | 24 Patrick Conner |
| 11 Stephen Paine | 25 Mary Sinderson |
| 13 Caroline Vestal | 25 Jim Larkin |
| 13 Lucy Vestal | 27 Gabriel Han |
| 14 Nancy Palm | 28 Kris Kelly |
| 14 Bob Burns | 29 Dick Weber |
| 15 Pam Taylor | 29 Neely Atkinson |
| 15 Robert Bevill | 30 Cameron Steele |