

PHILIP-EYE

THE NEWSLETTER of Saint Philip Presbyterian Church
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4 May 2009

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Pastor Emeritus

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Parish Associate

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Parish Associate

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Nominees to CNC

When new Elders are chosen in the Presbyterian Church, much thought and overall planning are part of the nominating process afforded to members. All St. Philip members can recommend members for the office of Elder. A special committee, the Congregational Nominating Committee, assists in this process. A Congregational Nominating Committee is made up of ten members representing various segments of the total congregation.

Currently four members will continue serving on the committee in the 2nd year of their two year term, providing committee continuity. They are: **David Fox** representing St. Philip's board of Trustees, **Jane Lee** representing the Choir, **Marian Murphree**, an At-large member representing older members of the congregation, and **Charles Lucas**, serving as Chairperson and representing the Session.

There are six additional Nominating Committee members who are needed to fill new 2-year terms. (Youth Elders serve a one year term.) The nominees are listed below. Later in May, there will be a congregational meeting for you, the congregation, to formally consider these nominations or if you choose, you can make nominations from the floor for members who are active in the appropriate representational groups and whose consent you have requested and received. Please carefully and prayerfully consider the following members who have given their consent to be considered as your representatives on the Congregational Nominating Committee:

Ruthie Waldrop - At-large member, representing the concerns of St. Philip's middle aged members. Ruthie has been a member of St. Philip for 26 years. She has served as Elder, moderator of the Education Commission; moderator and circle chair of Presbyterian Women, member of the Planning and Construction

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Youth Sunday May 17, 2009

Featuring
The Flowers' cello duo
The Youth Choir
Sermon by Graduating Seniors

All are encouraged to come and support our fabulous youth!

Lectionary Readings

May 10, 2009
5th Sunday of Easter
Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

May 17, 2009
6th Sunday of Easter
Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

May 24, 2009
7th Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

May 31, 2009
Pentecost
Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21
John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

Congregational Concerns:

Hospitalized/Healthcare:

Recuperating: **Jane English, Barbara Eudey**

At home: **Bill Boren, Chuck Fortney, Ellen Red, Herb Scott, Penny Vieau.**

In Iraq: **Ken Evans**, Tamara Arlinghaus' father;
Chris Echols, Warren Wallingford's stepson;
Travis Keever, Pam and Frank's son, will be deployed to the Middle East in June.

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 *Parables for Today*, by Alyce M. McKenzie Get your copy from Dan Flowers. Grab a sandwich and join us!

Name tags: If you haven't yet ordered your name tag, please do so as soon as possible. The sign-up list will again be available in the gathering area before and after the 11:00 am service on Sunday, May 10. A number of name tags remain to be picked up. Again, we ask that you contribute \$5.00 toward the cost of each tag. Finally, we are pleased to see so many of you wearing your tags and hope that wearing them becomes a habit.

Volunteer Opportunity with Lord of the Streets (LOTS): The next date for us to serve breakfast to the homeless is Sunday, May 17. We gather in the St. Philip parking lot at 6:30 am to carpool to Trinity Episcopal Church and are back at the church by 9:00 in time for Sunday school. 12 to 15 volunteers are needed. If May 17 is good for you, please call Janet Davis at 713 464-2385 to take part in this gratifying project.

Wednesday Night LIVE! Come for dinner at 5:45 (\$7 per adult, \$3 per child; reservations, please), followed by a workshop from 6:15 to 7:00.

The Philip-Eye will be published on May 18, June 1, 15, and 29. 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.

From Your DCM:

St. Philip has a special educational opportunity for adults during the Summer Lecture Series. On August 2nd and 3rd we will have the opportunity to learn with Rev. Cynthia Rigby, W.C. Brown Professor of Theology at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Rev. Rigby has become a well sought after lecturer having spoken at General Assembly, various conferences throughout the United States, and is the author of many articles in Presbyterian publications. The topic of the lectures series will be "Grace." We will have an opportunity to be led in worship by Rev. Rigby on Sunday morning, and attend her lectures on Sunday and Monday evenings.

Grace is a Christian term that is often used in naming churches and schools, and in music ; a word often used in the New Testament. If you would like to spend some time doing your homework for the series try a word search on the Internet for *Grace of God*. One could spend hours reading the numerous articles that have been written based most often on letters to the Romans, Galatians, and Ephesians.

Several years ago I had the opportunity to take a week long class at Austin Seminary taught by Rev. Rigby. It was one of my most inspiring study weeks at the seminary. Rev. Rigby was filled with passion and excitement. I remember her as a true "cheerleader for Christianity."

Mark your calendar for this exciting event at St. Philip.

PrimeTimers To Visit Affordable Housing in June

On Thursday June 4th, Mike Alexander will lead the PrimeTimers on a tour of several affordable housing venues in Houston. We will begin with Goldberg B'nai B'rith Towers, a high rise in Southwest Houston. After touring the facility and meeting with the staff, we will travel to Jewish Family Services on Braseswood (next door to Bayou Manor). The Jewish Family Services Staff will show us their facility and discuss senior's issues. In Northwest Houston we will see garden style affordable housing at the Pinemont Apartments. At Pinemont, a lunch will be prepared for us. As a very special treat, we will be entertained by the Houston Senior's Choir directed by Mike.

We should return to the church by 2:00 pm. To sign up stop by or call the church office at 713 622-4807.

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Committees for the recent renovation and expansion of the St. Philip campus, member of Staff Commission, co-Chair of "Fulfill the Vision, Together" Capital Campaign in 2008. Ruthie has taught Preschool/Elementary church school for over 15 years and is an accredited Godly Play church school teacher. She is a current member of the Interiors Committee.

Randy Steward - At-large member, representing the concerns of St. Philip's younger members. Randy joined St. Philip in 1996, has served on past CNC's, and looks forward to serving again. Randy has also served as an Elder, Deacon, Associate Pastor Nominating committee member, youth advisor, and teacher for all ages.

Sarah Cherrillo - representing the Youth of St. Philip. Sarah has attended St. Philip her entire life. She has been an active member of St. Philip's Youth Programs. She attended Triennium as a representative of St. Philip two years ago, and has served on the Presbyterian Youth Connection Council for two years, helping to plan youth Conclaves.

William Morris, representing the concerns of St. Philip's Education Commission. Bill has been a member of St. Philip since 2006 and has served on the Education Commission for the past two years. While at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church he was a member of the Vestry (the equivalent of the Session) for three years and member of the Finance Committee for 14 years. Bill has participated in St. Philip's Lord of the Streets program and is a regular blood donor.

Sandra Cooper, an active Elder, representing the Session of St. Philip and, if elected, will serve as committee Vice Chairperson her first year and Chairperson her second year: Sandra joined St. Philip seven years ago. She has been active in several Presbyterian churches in other parts of the country where she taught Sunday school, served as youth advisor, Bible leader, and as a member of a care committee. At St. Philip, Sandra served on the Mission Commission for four years. She and husband James assist in planning activities for St. Philip's PrimeTimers group. Sandra currently serves as an usher and as co-chair of the Fellowship Commission. She is a member of the Advisory Board for the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary's Extension Program.

Sondra Sullivan, representing the concerns of the Women of St. Philip. Sondra joined St. Philip in 1987. She has served as a St. Philip administrative office volunteer, a Deacon, Elder, a Stephen's Minister, a Women's Circle leader, and is currently Moderator of Presbyterian Women of St. Philip.

Outgoing members of the Congregational Nominating Committee are: **Cathy Hunt**-Elder, **Mary Bratton**-Presbyterian Women, **David Chess**-At Large middle-aged members, **Judith Hiott**-Education Commission, **Tyler Keever**-Youth, and **Wesley Vestal**-At Large younger members. They earned our thanks for the hours they gave to assist the congregation in officer nominations.

Hallelujah!

CORNER

Welcome **The Rev. Helen Bailey** who the Session has approved to assist in visiting our homebound. More information about Rev. Bailey will be included in a coming newsletter.

The Birthday Offering for Presbyterian Women, received on April 26 totaled \$1,274.00. Thank you for your support.

The Hunger Offering received on May 3 benefiting Bering Omega Community Services totaled \$1,026.00. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Church School Classes for All Ages

Sunday Mornings 9:30 am

Classes for Children

Nursery

Rooms 11/12 in the Nursery Wing

18 Months -Two Years

Room 7 in the Nursery Wing

Three and Four Year Olds

Room 5 in the Nursery Wing

Elementary K - Fifth Grade

Room 310 in the Education Building

Youth Classes

Junior High and Senior High

"Claim the Life" Series

Rooms 205/206 in the Education Building

Adult Classes

The SPa (St. Philip Adults)

Room 200 in the Education Building

Bible Study

Room 204 in the Education Building

A Study in "Genesis"

Led by Dr. Nancy Cook and Al Wadrop

Church and Society

Room 201 in the Education Building

May 10

"Arab-Israeli Peace".

guest speaker, Josephine Wells Rodgers

Mrs Rodgers was formerly head of the Language Programs for Continuing Studies at Rice.

Her interests are wide, particularly in current affairs, both national and international.

Presently, she commutes between the family ranch in south Texas and The Hallmark.

May 17

"Responding to Differences"

Susan Lange, Ph.D., clinical director and a therapist at Interface-Samaritan Counseling Centers.

Managing our responses to differences is an ongoing challenge and opportunity for all of us.

Developing our skills in containing and exploring and discovering information.

May 31, June 7 and 21

Continuing "Perspectives on Immigration"

Welcome New Members...

Wendy Stewart joined St. Philip by reaffirmation of faith on April 12, 2009. She is the daughter of Director of Children's Ministry, Judy Gunn.

Wendy and her husband, J, grew up in Baytown. She attended First Presbyterian Church there and J, her high school sweetheart, attended the Methodist church. Both did their undergraduate work at UT Austin and received master's degrees at UH Clear Lake.

Wendy and J lived in Houston and attended St. Philip for about three years, then spent two years in Ohio for J's work and, less than a year ago, moved back to Texas. Wendy says living in Ohio was an interesting experience, but both she and J are very glad to be back in Texas.

An auditor for Weinstein Spira & Company, Wendy has worked there for almost three and a half years (she was employed there prior to moving to Ohio). J is an analyst for National City Mortgage and has been with the company for almost eight years.

The Stewarts welcomed baby Colby in January of this year. Their dog, Rudy (acquired in Ohio and named after the Texas BBQ company) is learning to share his space with Colby. Currently, their "spare" time has been consumed with renovating the home they purchased last year and finding their way as new parents.

Please welcome the Stewarts back to St. Philip!

Connie Mayfield is a lifelong Presbyterian who joined St. Philip on March 29, 2009, transferring her membership from Grace Presbyterian.

She was born and grew up in Memphis, TN and was a member of Idlewild Presbyterian all those years. She attended Stephens College in Columbia, MO and received an AA degree in Early Childhood Education. She returned to Memphis where she received a B.S. in Education at Memphis State (now University of Memphis). After graduation, she taught school for 10 years (kindergarten through high school).

Connie married and moved to Houston in 1978. Her husband, Ralph, was an engineer for a number of firms including Kellogg and Brown and Root. They have two sons, Wilson and Robert, who attended St. Francis, Episcopal High and Ole Miss. Both live in Houston, and both are single.

Connie spent most of her time while her boys were growing up volunteering at their schools and for The Junior League of Houston. Currently, she enjoys playing bridge and traveling. She is a member of P.E.O. Chapter E and knows a number of St. Philip's members through that organization.

She looks forward to becoming an active member of St. Philip. Her winning smile and upbeat personality make her a delightful person to know. If you haven't already done so, introduce yourself and let Connie know how welcome she is.

Jessie and Walker Fair joined St. Philip on Sunday, March 29, transferring their memberships from Highland Presbyterian Church in Louisville, KY.

Walker is a lifelong Presbyterian and an ordained elder. He was born in Houston but has lived in several cities throughout the south. He was a youth in this church when his mother, the Rev. Dr. Fairfax Fair, was associate pastor from June 1993 to September 1998.

Jessie grew up in a UCC congregation in Andover, MA. Both Jessie and Walker attended Tulane University in New Orleans and received their undergraduate degrees there. They met and began dating at the beginning of their college careers.

They left New Orleans after graduation in 2005 (just a couple of months before Katrina) and moved to Louisville, KY where Walker worked in Information Technology (I.T.) for a large law firm and Jessie worked in Human Resources for a benefits and consulting firm. Married in 2007, the couple moved to Houston in August 2008 for Walker to begin a teaching job in Technical Theatre at St. John's School. Jessie is a human resources administrator for Star Pipe Products. They and their dog, Piper, are excited to be living in the Heights area of Houston.

Jessie and Walker both listed the friendly congregation at St. Philip as one of the reasons they joined. Let's keep that tradition and continue to let them know how glad we are that they're here!

Dated Material

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