

PHILIP-EYE

THE NEWSLETTER of Saint Philip Presbyterian Church
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Pastor

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Interim Associate Pastor

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Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Dr. Jack Boelens
Parish Associate

Rev. Gregory Crisp Han
Parish Associate

Rev. Helen Bailey
Parish Associate

Dr. Matthew Dirst
Organist

Dr. Justin Smith
Interim Director of Music
Margaret Dement
Director of Youth Bells

Judy Gunn
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World Communion Sunday Peacemaking Sunday October 4, 2009

Third Annual Concert for Peace

"This peace is offered wherever there is brokenness..." Commitment to Peacemaking 2003, St. Philip Presbyterian Church

The Third Annual Concert for Peace will be held in the Church Sanctuary on Saturday October 3, 2009. The concert will start at 7:30 pm and will feature the music of Schubert, Brahms, Britten, Mozart and Strauss, interspersed with poetry and periods of meditative silence. The musical selections will feature **Stacey Weber**, Soprano; **Faith Sherman**, Mezzo-soprano; **Michael Kelly**, Tenor; **David Grogan**, Baritone and **Keith Weber**, Pianist. The poetry selections will feature original and translated works of **Mahmoud Darwesh** being read by **Fady Joudah** an award winning translator and poet. Also we will feature original poetry works by **Rich Levy** another Houston based poet who is Executive Director of Inprint, Houston's leading literary arts organization. Inprint was founded in 1983 by a group of community leaders who sought to address a need in Houston for greater support and appreciation of the literary arts.

As the Concert for Peace branches out to our community, the evident focus on the St. Philip Commitment to Peacemaking reflects the larger commitment of St. Philip as a congregation of active peacemakers. The intention of the Concert is to highlight our individual and collective focus and intention on the action of peacemaking and to seek out the peacemakers from our community in an evening of unity. Each year we pick

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"And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations."

Revelation 22:2

On the first Sunday in October, St. Philip will join with churches everywhere in the celebration of World Communion Sunday. Many years ago the Presbyterian Church (USA) elected to commemorate this Sunday with a Peacekeeping Offering to promote the work of healing among peoples and nations. Fifty percent of this offering will go to the General Assembly to support the International Peacemakers Program, programs in conflict resolution, and participation in the antiracism and cultural proficiency efforts of the PC (USA). Twenty-five percent of the offering will go the Synod of the Sun and the New Covenant Presbytery to support numerous programs that provide education and support for non-violence, conflict management, and spiritual healing.

Twenty-five percent of this offering is given to an agency or program designated by the local church. This year the Mission Commission selected and the Session approved the mission of Les and Cindy Morgan, long-time friends of St. Philip, as the recipient of our portion of the Peacemaking Offering. The Morgans serve as advisors to the health programs of the Church of Bangladesh, which are supported by the PC (USA). Their far reaching ministry includes preaching, leading bible studies and directing retreats but is primarily dedicated to rural community health programs where they can see as many as 90 patients a day. Here they regularly confront the results of a severe lack of medical care for the poor in Bangladesh. Our contribution will assist them in meeting their goal of developing programs to assist impoverished Bangladeshis as they navigate the health system in their country.

Congregational Concerns:

Hospitalized/Healthcare: **Carl Wischmeyer** in Hallmark Healthcare

Recuperating: **Bill Camfield, Sue Shirley Howard, Barbara Rathgeber**

At home: **Grayson Anderson, Bill Boren, Penny Vieau, Tom Williams**

In Iraq/Afgahanistan: **Ken Evans**, father of Tamara Arlinghaus; **John Bruyere**, Jane English's grandson; Warren Wallingford's stepson, **Chris Echols**; **Travis Keever**, Pam and Frank Keever's son; **Robert Phillips**, Martha & Jim Braswell's nephew.

The love and sympathy of the congregation is extended to former members and charter members **Patsy and Bud Evans** on the death of their son, **Tom Evans**; to **Bill Morris and family** on the death of his brother, **Jim Morris** who died earlier this month; and to **Liz Howard and family** on the death of her brother, **Andy** who died August 31.

Check These Announcements

The Men's Fellowship meets each Friday at noon for a BYO lunch followed with a presentation and discussion. Currently we are reading *The Life of Jesus for Today*, by Ronald J. Allen. Get your copy from Dan Flowers and join us!!

Attention parents: We are cleaning up the Sunday school rolls and need your help! Please let us know your child's full name (first, middle, last), birthday (month, day, year), and current grade in school. You can email the information to: kristy@saintphilip.net. Thank you!!

Attention Chancel Guild members and prospective members: On Sunday, September 27th there will be a table in the new gathering area for you to sign-up to become a Chancel Guild member. We are looking to fill Sundays from October to March. We welcome new members and encourage those who have served so faithfully on the Guild, to sign-up again. Jane Larkin will be available to answer your questions.

Holly Hall Book Review: First of the season—Tuesday, September 29 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 10:30 am. *Thomas Jefferson: An Intimate History*, by Fawn Brodie and *The Hemingses of Monticello*, by Annette Gordon-Reed, will be reviewed by Rose-Mary Rumbley.

The Philip-Eye will be published on October 5 and 19. 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 Interim Associate Pastor:

The weekend of September 12-13, 2009 was a great one for the Educational ministries of St. Philip. We kicked off Rally weekend with an amazing barbecue on Saturday and finished with an incredible production of "Oh, Jonah!" by our children and the Annual Jazz Communion service on Sunday. During the Sunday School hour, information was presented about groups and classes offered for adults and children. We are grateful for everyone who was involved in the weekend, but we want to offer a special thank you first to those people who shared their time and talents in the production of "Oh, Jonah!"

Michael Alexander, thank you for having the vision and for the wonderful sets and properties that were used.

Rob and Rachael Kimbro did a fantastic job with the music and acting.

Martha Braswell was our pianist who accompanied the singers during the summer of rehearsals.

The children made a big commitment to attend church school throughout the summer to practice the music.

Our parents were very much involved in the production. They all knew the music since they had had the CD for the show playing in their cars and homes. Those catchy tunes are still stuck in our heads!

This was a great experience for our church. We will be looking for other opportunities to involve groups in other musical presentations.

Second, we want to offer a huge thank you to all of our 2009-2010 teachers. We cannot offer classes without your guidance and leadership!

Ariel Washington, Judith Hiott, Ruthie and Al Waldrop, Marian Murphree, Jennifer Kirk, Joyce Fox, Holly and Greg Han, Mary Grace Carter, Jenny and Wes Vestal, Betty Anne Poe, Jack Fox, Tamara and Paul Arlinghaus, Omi Ford, McNair Johnson, Cathy and Randy Steward, Beth Atkinson, Cathy Herrera, Casey Lambright, Edward Herrera, Nancy Cook, Lori and Jeromy Murphy, Rachel and Rob Kimbro, Laura and Jeff Bream, Juliana Nichols, Mike Lawson, Mary Ann Thomas, Logan Vits, Mary and Gene McKelvey, Amye and Brian Webster, Carol Junkin, Kathryn Harwood.

Finally, we thank those people serving on our Education Commission: **Mike Alexander**, Moderator, **Jim Braswell, Toto McGehee, Bill Morris, Judith Hiott, Roger Rodiek, Cindy Pope**, Interim Youth Director. There are so many people involved in Christian Education at St. Philip! This is a very, very good thing! If you feel called to share your gifts with our children and adults please let us know. We are open to your suggestions and committed to serving you.

Grace and Peace,

Kristy Vits, Interim Associate Pastor

Judy Gunn, Director of Children's Ministries

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a thematic sentence or phrase from the St. Philip Commitment to Peacemaking and spend an evening searching and experiencing the common ground of our human experience.

The focus of this concert embraces all forms of Peacemaking and reconciliation, i.e. with God, ourselves, our families, our community, our earth and our world. Looking into the faces of those who are similar and those who are different, we seek the common bond of humanity. It is in the space of peace that we can feel the embrace of God and see that the light of the spirit is working through us. This peace allows us to transcend man made boundaries and become change agents of peace in a complex world. We invite you to be inspired, to find the peacemaker inside of you.

New Banner to be Dedicated on Peacemaking Sunday

On Peacemaking Sunday, October 4, a new addition to St. Philip's collection of artistic banners will be unveiled and dedicated. This banner has been designed and created by **Hope Wilmarth**, fabric artist and St. Philip member, in recognition of the church's commitment to the concepts of peacemaking and social justice.

Highlighting this occasion as guest preacher will be the **Rev. Emily Wilmarth**, child of this church and daughter of **Hope** and **Lance Wilmarth**. Emily is a recent graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary now serving in a pastoral capacity at Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. She will preach at both the 8:30 and 11:00 am services and assist with the dedication of her mother's banner. We welcome Emily home and invite her family and friends to this special service of dedication and commitment.

Following the 11:00 service all are invited to the Gathering Area for refreshments and the opportunity to meet and greet Emily.

Wednesday Night Live

Our mid-week gathering this Fall begins with dinner at 5:45 pm and "First class period" ends at 6:50 pm. What happens in between is a study of The Gospel according to Luke led by Bill Poe. How about that! Call the church office if you want your "name in the pot for dinner" or just come for the study.

Soooo, you always wanted to sing in the choir? Now's your chance! A little dinner, a little lesson, and time enough to get to choir by 7:00 pm. Do it. Justin Smith, our interim director of music, is good at what he does. You'll love him.

What happens at 7:00 pm? Well, this week a few games, knitting, and fellowship and discussion/planning of other projects (some mission related) for your enjoyment! That's what it's all about. See you in church.

Hallelujah!

CORNER

The Sacrament of Baptism was administered to **Nicholas Rowan**, son of **Sue** and **Tom Rowan** on Sunday, September 20, 2009.

Outreach at St. Philip

Do you know where your Mission dollars go? Do you know of all the opportunities available to you to carry the Christian message into the community through your volunteer work? Do you know of a new program being launched in November here at St. Philip to counter starvation and malnutrition in children? Come and explore discipleship through service to others in need.

Come to Church & Society Class on Sunday, September 27, 2009 to hear the Rev. Dr. George Pope, Mission Coordinator and Sandra Cooper, Elder, speak about our outreach programs and benevolences, such as Kids' Meals and Christian Community Service Center and others. They will also preview for you Kids Against Hunger a major national program to pack and send specially formulated meals to children in desperate need of help because of more than just hunger; children who are at risk of death because of the lack of any nutrition at all. On November 7, 2009 St. Philip will become a satellite of the Kids Against Hunger program, and will need the participation of children, youth and adults in this congregation to succeed. Come learn about St. Philip's benevolences and ways to spread the message of the Gospel outside of worship.

Thank You Volunteers

Many, many thanks to **Judith Hiott** and **Kelley Fair** for doing the Presbyterian weekend meals delivery on Saturday, August 29. One of the many outreach programs of St. Philip, we are responsible for delivering meals to shut-ins in central Houston on the fifth Saturday of every month that has one. If you would like to make a short term commitment, please call Janet Davis at 713 464-2385. October 31 is our next delivery date.

Eleven members of St. Philip served breakfast to the homeless on September 20 as part of the Lord of the Streets (LOTS) program at Trinity Episcopal Church. Many thanks to **Skip Britton**, **Janet** and **Don Davis**, **Ric Davis**, **Tom Lewis**, **Pat Lindsay**, **Cindy** and **George {Pope}**, and **Super Youth Barclay Davis**, **Bennett Johnson** and **David Lindsay**. 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 Nov. 15.

Masquerade Theatre Presents *Oliver* and Sponsors "Food Glorious Food" Drive for CCSC

Bring non-perishable food items for the "Food Glorious Food" drive when you come to see the classical musical *Oliver* presented by Masquerade Theatre.

Performances, in The Hobby Center's Zilka Hall, are September 25, 26, 27 and October 2, 3, and 4, 2009. Information and tickets online at www.masqueradetheatre.com

Bring your donations of non-perishable foods to support the food ministries of Christian Community Service Center and enjoy a great show.

"Seasons of Caring" 10th Annual Luncheon Jane Larkin to be Honored

Interface Samaritan Counseling Center will celebrate it's 10th annual "Seasons of Caring" luncheon on Thursday, October 29 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at River Oaks Country Club.

Mark Wallace, President and CEO of Texas Children's Hospital and **Jane Larkin**, St. Philip Elder and tireless volunteer and champion of ISCC will be the honorees and **Susan O'Donnell**, Assistant Program Director and Co-Host of KSBj's Morning Show will be the guest speaker.

Tickets and additional information are available by contacting ISCC at 713 626-7990 ext. 103 or by speaking to Susan Estill, Sara Jean Jackson or Charles Lucas, ISCC Board members. All are invited and we would love to see several tables full of St. Philippians in honor of Jane.

PrimeTimers to Visit the New San Jacinto Monument

Well... actually it is not new, but newly refurbished and enlarged. Witness revolution in the Jesse Jones Theatre presentation of "Texas Forever". The museum has been enlarged also and features new exhibits such as "Developing Houston". The observation deck offers great views and the Battleship Texas is still afloat for touring. The battleground tour will be on the bus with a guide to explain the marked areas of the battle.

Lunch will be at the Monument Inn Restaurant. The bus will leave Thursday, October 8th for this fun filled day. How long has it been since you went to San Jacinto? Well, that's too long!

Thoughts from Bill Forbes

A brief commentary in the September 7, 2009 issue of *The Presbyterian Outlook* will be of interest to all St. Philippians who knew and loved Bill Forbes. This article is itself excerpted from words written at last summer's 218th General Assembly. See some highlights here:

"Pancreatic cancer has assisted me, indeed it has endowed me, with a mandate to re-order my priorities. Prayer shapes and guides my life more than it did pre-diagnosis, and I take uncommon joy in praying through and for an extensive and growing intercessory prayer list. ...

Each of us has suffered or will suffer at some time in our lives. The greatest gift we can offer to one another is encouragement – through spoken or written word, through deeds however small or gracious, through intercessory prayer and through the kindness of recognition.....

Smile more and frown less! Tell those you love how much you love them..... Share yourself abundantly with those who need encouragement, hope, and care... Give thanks that with Christ all things are possible!"

Cancer Survivors and Caregivers Needed to Help Others Find Hope after a Cancer Diagnosis

CanCare, Inc., a Houston-based nonprofit organization that offers emotional support to cancer patients and their families through a network of more than 500 volunteers announces volunteer training classes to be held in October.

To become a CanCare volunteer, you must be a cancer survivor who has been finished with treatments for at least six months, or the caregiver of a cancer survivor. Cancer patients are matched with a volunteer who has survived their same type of cancer to receive one-on-one positive encouragement and hope from someone who knows first hand what they are going through. Opportunities are also available for volunteers to make visits to cancer patients and their families through CanCare's visitation program in Houston-area hospitals.

Classes will be held October 23-25, 2009 with a graduation celebration the evening of October 27. Applicants must go through an interview process prior to attending the training session. Classes are led by medical experts, experienced CanCare volunteers and professional leaders in our community. To fill out an application and for more information about becoming a CanCare volunteer, call the CanCare office at 713-461-0028 or visit www.cancare.org.

Church School Classes for All Ages

Sunday Mornings 9:30 am

Classes for Children**Nursery through two year olds**

Room 7-8.

Godly Play class for ages 3-4

Room 6.

Elementary Rotation classes K-5th grades

Room 105.

Youth Classes**Junior High and Senior High**

Café SPY

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

Led by Dr. Nancy Cook and Al Wadrop

Church and Society

Room 201 in the Education Building

September 27

The Mission Commission presents a class on the outreach programs of St. Philip.

(See "Outreach at St. Philip" on page 3)

The Rev. Dr. George Pope and Sandra Cooper will lead the class.

October 4-25

A Call for Social Justice

A Four Part Series sponsored by the

Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee with classes led by Kate Burkart, Mary Sinderson, Bill Morris and Warren Wallingford.

Lectionary Readings

September 27, 2009

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124

James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

October 4, 2009

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Psalm 26

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

October 11, 2009

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 23:1-9, 16,17; Psalm 22:1-15

Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

October 18, 2009

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 38:1-7 (34-41); Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c

Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

Youth News

T-shirts are on the way!

More than 30 St. Philip families contributed to the SPY t-shirt fundraiser. You may pick up your t-shirt on September 27th.

It's here: The beginning of Fall SPY activities. Join us each Sunday morning with Café SPY in the youth room from 9:30 to 10:30 am. Around the Café food and beverage we will explore the connection of faith and life with a new curriculum, "Faith Questions." SPY Bistro will be open each Sunday night from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the youth room. Join Cindy and Justin for fun activities, music, and a look at what's to come.

Calling all Junior and Senior High students
(and their parents)

We are starting an a capella singing group at St. Philip! This will be a fun, relaxed way to join together in song and sing some really fun music! No prior experience necessary! We will meet in the evening during the regular youth programs - 6:00-7:30 p.m. Contact Justin Smith, Interim Director of Music, at eroica999@gmail.com with questions.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October	15 Elizabeth Junkin
1 Ric Davis	16 Jo Jones
1 Matthew Lindsay	16 Chris Eagleson
4 Kay Vick	16 Weldon Lucas
4 Florence McKelvey	19 Speight Anderson
4 Alan Coufal	19 Joyce Fox
5 John Seligman	19 Miles Smith
6 Al Waldrop	20 Mary Linda Williams
7 Ruth Porter	20 Liz Howard
7 Bob Coyle	22 Sara Jean Jackson
7 Jane Larkin	22 Chuck Johnson
8 Glenn Hendrickson	22 Lori Murphry
8 Malcolm McKay	23 Tom Lewis
8 Paul Ajak	23 Sue Howard
9 Elizabeth Duerr	24 Mary Ruth Williams
9 David Chess	25 Wanda McHone
10 Jeromy Murphy	26 Omar Rouchon
11 Garry Eudey	26 Dale Miller
12 Beth Hendrickson	28 Ricky Kirk
12 Julie Alexander	29 Gene Maxwell
15 Ramona Heard	29 Bill Camfield
15 Barbara Hairston	29 Wayne Truxillo
15 Patton Caldwell	29 Trent Atkinson
	31 Jeff Fox