

PHILIP-EYE

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT ALL ARE WELCOME! BRING A FRIEND!

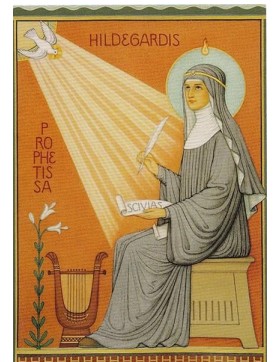
February 16-18, 2024

Fairfield Inn & Suites, 11080 Katy Freeway

Led by Keatan King

The Greening Power of God and Hildegard of Bingen

Hildegard of Bingen was a visionary leader of extraordinary creative power. German Benedictine Abbess, healer, artist, musician, writer, spiritual director, botanist, poet, and more, Hildegard is one of the most significant women of Christian history. One of her great gifts was insight into *viriditas*, or the greening power of God, the life force at the heart of everything alive in all of creation. This central creative principle was key for Hildegard in sustaining her soul and her work.



As we begin the season of Lent and recall Jesus' time in the desert, we tend to think of the wilderness as a sparse, barren place. Join women of St. Philip in remembering that the desert has another side and, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, "the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing." This abundant blossoming is *viriditas*. We will contemplate Hildegard's wisdom for living a life that is fruitful and green and overflowing with verdancy as we trust that God is indeed making all things new, or rather, "greening" all things new.

**Get more information or Register by
scanning the QR code,
online at saintphilip.net,
or in the Gathering Area January 21 or 28.
Deadline to register is FEBRUARY 1**



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

Rev. Keatan King
Associate Pastor

Rev. Omar Rouchon
Associate Pastor

Dr. Matthew Dirst
Organist & Interim Choir
Director

Diana Weiss
Interim Art Director

Wilbert Parada
Facilities Supervisor

Dimas Parada
Custodian

Denise Ferrell
Bookkeeper

Lorrie Castle
Office Manager
Newsletter Editor

Susan Estill
Editor Emerita



SEARCH SPEAKER SERIES
 JOIN US:
 January 18, 2024
 12:00pm - 1:00pm
 Virtual via Zoom

Current Challenges and Solutions in Addressing Homelessness Today

St. Philipians are invited to join SEARCH for a one-hour informative webinar next Thursday, January 18, via Zoom. SEARCH and the Houston community have made progress over the past decade to reduce homelessness by

60%. SEARCH's House of Tiny Treasures has also provided high-quality early-childhood education to children that have experienced homelessness to break the cycle of poverty. But the need still remains, with over 20,000 people seeking assistance through Houston's homeless services over the course of the year. St. Philip has supported SEARCH and House of Tiny Treasure with grants over the years to move homeless individuals and families from the streets into safe, stable homes of their own. Register for the SEARCH Speaker Series: The Current Challenges and Solutions in Addressing Homelessness Today by clicking on the [Register Here](#) or email Hannah Mannion at hmannon@searchhomeless.org or call 832-232-8715.

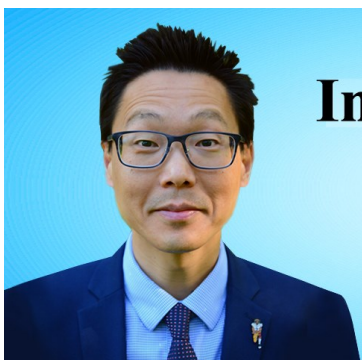


February Birthdays

Date	First	Last
1	Caryn	Bahruth
1	Nan	Schissler
1	Alex	Semler
1	Brandon	Steele
2	Allison	Hooker
2	Maggie	Seeliger
3	Bill	Morris
4	Steven	Lawson
4	John	Lindsay
4	Mark	Young
5	Beverly	Baker
5	Diane	Clarke
5	Susan	Lange
5	Gay	Van Osdall
5	Gary	Willis
7	Ava	Arlinghaus
8	Susan	Leonard
9	Jon	Martin
10	Liz	Williams
11	Jamie	Benard
11	Adam	Garner
11	Bill	Holden
11	Oak	Kim
11	Helen	Moore
12	Karen	Winship
14	Mary	McKelvey
15	Marilyn	Johnson
15	Molly	Vestal
16	Elizabeth	Hadaway
18	Jonathan	Davis
18	Julia	Fox
18	Velma	Guy Tolbert
19	David	Durham
19	Joseph	Webster
20	Cindy	Judson
21	Pete	Bunch
22	Wallace	Pepi
22	Winfield	Williams
24	Nancy	Castro
25	Tom	Demary
25	Shirley Ann	Frautschi
26	Laura	Perez-Boston
27	Miles	Frey
27	Renee	Wright
28	Suzanne	Kerr

Save the Date

Duerr Lecture Series



When the Fullness of History Inspires & Infuriates Us:
 Settler Colonialism, Slavery & Christianity in the United States

February 25, 26 & 27 | 2024

Dr. William Yoo
 Associate Professor of American Religious and Cultural History at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA.

Pledges as of 1/12/2024			
2024		2023	
Pledge Cards	141	Pledge Cards	141
Dollars short	\$1,086,552.00 (\$51,290.00)	Dollars	\$1,137,842.00

NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 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

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT 9:45 A.M. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

GODLY PLAY—Ages 3—Kindergarten—Room 104

ELEMENTARY—Grades 1-5—Room 105

YOUTH—Grades 6-12—Room 205

CHURCH & SOCIETY -Room 201—Join us from **9:30 a.m.—10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom. **January 21** - International Holocaust Remembrance Day - “The Boy on the Left - Norbert Schmidek... a postscript” - Mark Schmidek told the story of his father, Norbert Schmidek, to the Church & Society class last spring. Much of the presentation came from a 1977 memoir written by Norbert Schmidek. However, additional information came from letters, postcards, and documents written in German by Norbert’s grandmother, mother, uncle and cousins, between 1938 - 1942. For more than 70 years these letters and documents were kept safely stored away. As a postscript however, seemingly unrelated events between 2012 and 2022 became singular threads that were woven together to become an integral part of the story of “The Boy on the Left.” Through hearing Norbert Schmidek’s story, we learn how the Holocaust affected the life of one precious individual, their family, and their community. And we learn what happens when we are silent bystanders in the face of prejudice, hatred, and injustice. Presented by Mark Schmidek - Norbert Schmidek’s son and Judy Schnitzer Myers - Holocaust Museum Houston Docent and Mark Schmidek’s cousin. **January 28** - Current Issues of Concern for Children’s Health in Texas - Presented by Dr. Julieana Nichols - Associate Director, Academic General Pediatrics Fellowship Program Baylor College of Medicine, Associate Professor Pediatrics-Academic General, Baylor College of Medicine. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes: churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

FAITH & LIFE - Room 200—An adult class exploring how what we believe informs how we live. There are no materials required and no preparation is needed.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Room 204—We resumed our study of the Kingdom of Judah at 2 Kings 18 with the story of King Hezekiah in Dr. Robert Alter’s *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets* (2013). Join us from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** to deepen our understanding of God’s faithfulness to

God’s people from Dr. Alter’s translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL—In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship in the chapel, while also praying, seeing 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. The Children’s Chapel is held every 2nd and 4th Sunday. Children will be able to participate in this during the worship service.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster meets weekly at 9:30 a.m., and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to john@saintphilip.net. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome!

LAMBETH STUDY—Keatan King leads young adults in study every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan King at: keatan@saintphilip.net.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **February 8** at 7:00 p.m. and we will discuss *Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved* by Kate Bowler. So watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP—Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men’s Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday in person in the office Conference Room and via Zoom at 11:45 a.m. We are studying *They Walked With God* by Max Lucado. The book talks about 40 people in the Bible and how God used them. It lets us know that He has a place for us too. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP—This group meets on first Monday nights, 7-8 p.m., by zoom to discuss social justice issues of our day. The next meeting on Monday, Feb. 5 will begin a study/discussion of "Christian nationalism." Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson (sjj10223@gmail.com) to be added to our zoom mailing list.

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families—Stephen Paine; Mary Herlitz; Helen Deleon; Jan Ostendorf; Dick Nunn; Mark Takayama; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy Johnson; Beverly Baker; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Kelley, Grant, Christine, Samantha and Keith Taylor – family of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Alice Woodall-Chisholm – cousin of Mary McGuire; Sheila Kinsky and her children – sister of Bill Connolly; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Susan Everhart – niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound—Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Edith Patterson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philippians—Stephen Wedemeyer and Ron Landers – friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor, Claude Bowden – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton – friends of William Rower; Magdalena Rustomji - friend of Mickey & Ken Meyers; Caitlan Prescott – friend of Mary McGuire; Mary Watters – friend of Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Tom Barnett - friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach– friends of Stephen Paine; Jacqueline Boyd – friend of Kate Burkart; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; and Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email deacons@saintphilip.net.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Pledge payments, communion gifts and other gifts to support the Church can be made anytime through our website (<http://saintphilip.net/>), text “SPPC” to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

You can still turn in your pledge card via mail, dropping in the offering plate, the church office or going online :> **My St. Philip** (icon at top of webpage) > **Sign In** > enter email & password > **Sign In** > **My Giving Summary** > **Pledge Now** > **Add Pledge** > fill in the appropriate information > **Save**. Thank you!

Next edition: **Tuesday, February 6; Deadline February 1—3:00 p.m.**

Stay connected with regular emails from the pastors until then.

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.



MATTHEW 25



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



foursquare
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Instagram
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