

PHILIP-EYE

WARM UP WITH EQUAL EXCHANGE HOT CHOCOLATE AND COCOAS

Baby, it's cold outside! Wouldn't a nice hot cup of chocolate hit the spot? Well, Equal Exchange is here for you! Stop by the Gathering Area before or after worship Sunday, **January 26**, for a one-day only pop-up sale of hot chocolate and cocoas. Available for your wintertime warm-up, at \$7 for a 12-ounce canister, are

- o Dark hot chocolate (add milk)
- o Dark hot cocoa (add water)
- o Hot cocoa (add water)
- o Maple cocoa (add milk)
- o Spicy cocoa (add milk)



As with all other Equal Exchange products, these drinking chocolates are made with fairly traded and organically grown ingredients -- good for small farmers, the planet, and you.

If you miss the pop-up sale, no worries! Just mark your calendar for our Valentine's Day sale **February 9**, when we will have all of your favorite Equal Exchange goodies for yourself or your Valentine.

HOSTS NEEDED! - SOMERVILLE COLLEGE CHOIR (OXFORD) RESIDENCY

Music at St. Philip is excited to host the Somerville College Choir from Oxford, England as our choir-in-residence the weekend of **March 22-24**, when they will be performing a concert on Sunday, **March 23** at 3 PM, and will act as our guest choir for the 11 AM worship service that morning. We are thrilled to host this wonderful ensemble, directed by William Dawes, on the first stop of their U.S. tour where they will also sing in Tyler, TX followed by several venues in New York City.

To offset the choir's cost, we are in need of hosts for about 15-20 of these student musicians while they are in town. Responsibilities would include hosting them for two nights (Saturday, **March 22** and Sunday, **March 23**) and transportation to and from St. Philip each day. They will also need a ride to St. Philip once more on Monday, **March 24** morning to catch their bus, which departs at 9 AM.

If you are willing to help out, know someone who is, or have any questions whatsoever, please reach out to Justin (justin@saintphilip.net) at your earliest convenience!"

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

Rev. Dr. Keatan King
Associate Pastor

Rev. Omar Rouchon
Associate Pastor

Dr. Justin Langham
Director of Music

Dr. Matthew Dirst
Organist

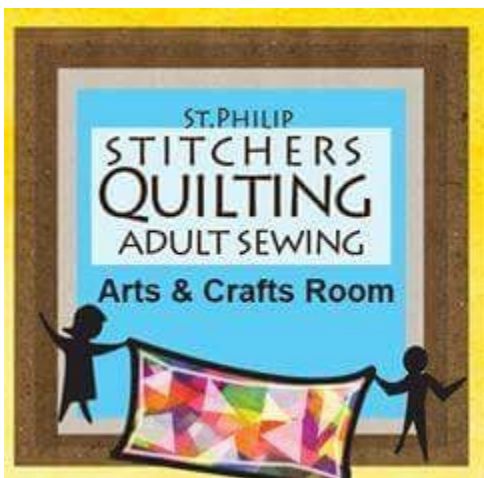
Diana Weiss
Art Director

Wilbert Parada
Facilities Supervisor

Dimas Parada
Custodian

Denise Ferrell
Bookkeeper

Lorrie Castle
Office Manager
Newsletter Editor



BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ST. PHILIP STITCHERS

Hope Wilmarth

The St. Philip Stitches were formed in October 2014 with the dedicated focus of creating quilts for the homeless children who attend SEARCH Houston's preschool at House of Tiny Treasures. Currently our mission partners include House of Tiny Treasures, Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services and Interfaith Ministries Immigrant program. For the past 8 years, at the conclusion a Sunday service blessing the quilts, 150 quilts have been donated to these mission partners.

The St. Philip community supports the mission work of the St. Philip Stitches in a variety of ways. The Arts and Crafts Studio offers a generous work space for our monthly work days. Needed fabric, thread, notions and sewing machines have been donated. The mission Committee budgeted funds for the St. Philip

Stitches in the beginning years, but currently donations have sustained the financial needs for the group. Money is used to purchase batting, backing fabrics and other supplies.

We meet on a Saturday, once a month, 10 AM-2 PM, at St. Philip Presbyterian Church in the designated work space mentioned above. Most of the stitichers create tops for Hope to quilt from kits she has prepared. Some stitichers cut blocks for others to piece together. Some stitichers hand sew down bindings. Most of the stitichers come with sewing knowledge.

The meetings have been a source of fellowship for attendees, most of whom are members of St. Philip. Much work is done between meetings at home, which allows for stitichers who cannot stay to pick up materials, kits of cut fabric, etc. We have storage for most of our supplies, donated machines and finished quilts in our work space.

The St. Philip Stitches function under the leadership of Hope Wilmarth, 281-744-8540 or email hlwilmarth@hotmail.com. Please text or email if you are interested in joining. The Saturday's we meet are posted on the calendar which can be found on the saintphilip.org website.

NEGRO SPIRITUAL FUND

The Black composers of Negro spiritual music are unknown to history and therefore unable to receive royalties directed to their estates for the use of their songs. To remedy this inequity, a fund was created in 2022 and approved by the St. Philip Session where we collect voluntary "royalties" for using this music during worship services throughout the year. The Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee chose Community Music Center of Houston to benefit from these funds for the last three years. On January 9 Maurice Roberts, Director and Dr. Anne Lundy, Music Director stopped by and met with Rev. Omar Rouchon, Denise Wilborn (2025 Chairwoman) and Judith Hiott, both members of the Peacemaking and Social Justice committee to receive a check in the total of \$2,073 for funds collected in 2024.



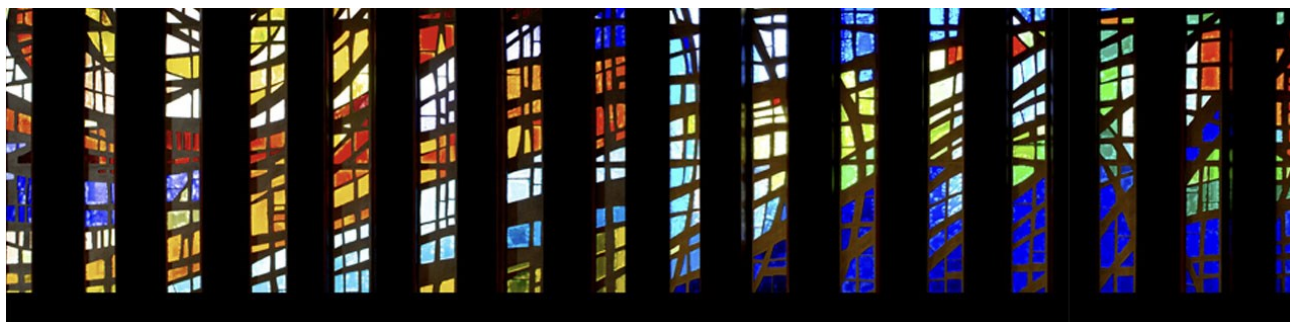
*Dear Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee and Members of St. Philip Church,
Thank you for your generous donation and your faith in our mission. A special thanks to the Social Justice Committee for championing our work—your dedication to justice and community uplift inspires us. Your support will make a meaningful impact, helping us to continue to preserve Black music traditions and further our music education through scholarships to under resourced youth in our neighborhood. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and we look forward to collaborating with you on future programming and initiatives.*

With gratitude,

Maurice Roberts, Director

Community Music Center of Houston

Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the saintphilip.net homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting Negro Spirituals as the fund. Members can also access this page on the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). You may also contribute by writing a check with *Negro Spirituals* in the memo line and placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the Church Office. This small gesture of reparation seeks to help heal the long history of injury to Black persons. Contributions received over the course of the year will be donated annually to a local organization supporting Black musical traditions.



Duerr Lecture Series 2025

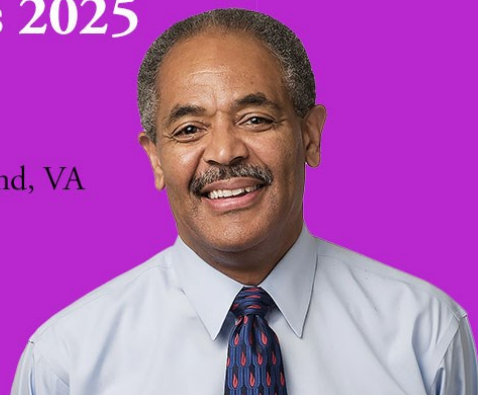
Mark your calendars for this year's event!

Dr. Brian K. Blount

President Emeritus, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA
Scholar, Author, Pastor

Series Title: **"The Kingdom of God"**

Speaker for the 28th Annual Duerr Lecture Series,
February 23, 24, and 25, 2025



SANCTUARY FLOWERS FOR 2025

Celebrate your wedding anniversary, family birthdays, or memorialize your mother and father by sponsoring the chancel flowers on Sunday morning. Please sign up to sponsor the flowers on the date which you prefer by contacting Lorrie Castle at 713-622-4807 or lorrie@saintphilip.net or you may go to saintphilip.net the calendar page and click on the chancel flower picture. Sandra Truxillo, Flower Coordinator, will call you the week you chose to sponsor flowers to discuss the type of flowers and the message you would like in the bulletin. The standard arrangement for chancel flowers is \$130, special requests or exotic flowers may cost more.

THE MISSION COMMITTEE IS NOW TAKING ORDERS FOR ST. PHILIP T-SHIRTS!



SALES WILL BE HELD IN THE GATHERING AREA
& WEBSITE THROUGH **SUNDAY, JANUARY 26**

**ALL PROCEEDS FROM SALES SUPPORT
OUR ST. PHILIP DAY SCHOOL.**

VISIT SAINTPHILIP.NET TO ORDER ONLINE

PHILIP-EYE UPDATE

As we expand our use of social media platforms and e-mail updates to promote church events and activities, the Philip-Eye newsletter will transition to a once-a-month publication schedule beginning in February. This change will also allow for a more efficient allocation of staff resources. Remember Sunday worship bulletins, including the announcements and the prayer list, are always available on the church website.

MUSIC AT  ST. PHILIP



Sunday, February 9 | 5 pm
A recital featuring the St. Philip music staff

Free Admission | St. Philip Presbyterian Church
4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056 | saintphilip.net

FOLLOW US ONLINE
Music at St Philip    

Kids Against Hunger

On Martin Luther King Day Rev. Keatan and Rev. Omar hosted children, families, and members to a Day of Service and Learning for Children. The youth were on hand to show all how to pack the new breakfast meals they prepare. The children decorated the boxes that will hold the meals that are delivered to Kids' Meal. They exceeded their record for breakfast meals producing 564 bags which equal 3,384 meals. If you would like to pack meals in the future see the schedule below. Pictures by John Judson.



Kids Against Hunger® **PACKING SESSIONS**



All are invited to join us.

SPOTS ARE LIMITED!
EMAIL KEATAN@SAINTPHILIP.NET
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE.

UPCOMING PACKING SESSIONS:
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 AT 9:30-10:30 AM
SUNDAY, MARCH 23 AT 9:30-10:30 AM
SUNDAY, APRIL 13 AT 9:30-10:30 AM

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 that our Nursery has temporarily been moved to Room 100 off the Gathering Area. 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 103

ELEMENTARY—Grades 1-4—Room 205—God's Family At Worship - **through February 2**—The Education Committee is offering an intergenerational workshop for our elementary Sunday School students, their families, and the entire congregation. The workshop, “God's Family at Worship,” is a series of five classes. The classes will be co-led by pastors, staff, and highlight the practices, rituals, and routines of worship in our community.

YOUTH—Grades 5-12—Dining Room—Kids Against Hunger Youth families will turn the Sunday School hour into a time to revive the Kids Against Hunger program as leaders in our congregation.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY—ROOM 204—We are studying Proverbs in Dr. Robert Alter's *The Wisdom Books: Job, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes* (2010). Join us from 9:30 to 10:40 AM 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.

CHURCH & SOCIETY—ROOM 201—Join us from **9:30 AM—10:40 AM** with presentations in person and by Zoom. **January 26** - When Achievement Culture Becomes Toxic - And What We (the Church) Can Do About it - Can the church be an antidote to the mental health crisis for adolescents affected by a high pressure achievement culture that invites them to jump into a perfect storm of meaningless, joyless, mostly-hopeless striving towards unobtainable goals that are unlikely to be fulfilling even if obtained? Can the church provide a supportive nurturing community that offers a sense of “mattering” - a sense of meaning and purpose? - Presented by Dr. Laura Lomax-Bream, Director of Center for Wellbeing and Success - Psychologist at The Kinkaid School and Rev. Keatan King - Associate Pastor at St. Philip, with focus on ministry with youth and young adults - **February 2 - Innovation is Renovation: The Lord's Prayer as a Site of Transformation in the Occult Revival** - In partnership with Rice University's “Humanities and Communities” Project, upper-level Ph.D. students in the School of the Humanities are taking their research “beyond the hedges” in an effort to make their work available and accessible beyond the academic community. - At the turn of the 20th century, many Christians reconsidered their faith in light of the de-

velopment of scientific materialism and encounter with religious texts from India. Departing from their home traditions into a sea of strange and fascinating movements (now referred to under the banner of the “Occult Revival”), these seekers created personal religions through the fusion of new and old ideas. In this presentation we'll consider how the transformation of the Lord's Prayer allowed for three religious seekers to re-approach their relationship with Christianity. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes: churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

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 when we have Sunday School classes. Children are able to participate in this during the worship service.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP—This group meets on first Monday nights, 7-8 p.m., by zoom to read and discuss social justice issues of our day. Interested persons who want to be added to our zoom mailing list can contact Sara Jean Jackson (sjj10223@gmail.com).

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

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

john@saintphilip.net.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **February 13** at 7:00 PM. It will be a social, watch your email for details of location. 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 AM. We are learning from *Too Busy Not to Pray* by Bill Hybels. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at: ggardne148@aol.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women.

Thursday Evening Circle—February 6

meets 1st Thursday of each month at 7 PM in the Dining Room.

Sarah Victorian sarah.m.0617@gmail.com

Monday Morning Saints—February 10

meets 2nd Monday of each month at 10 AM in the Dining Room -

Tricia Tolbert phtolbert@gmail.com

The Hallmark Circle

meets 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:30 PM - contact Sue Shirley-Howard

sue@fluencyhouston.com for location

Sunday Circle—February 23 (temporary change)

meets 3rd Sunday of each month after worship in the Dining Room.

Jan Meyer jsmeyer9990@gmail.com

One More Chance Study for Everyone—Jan. 26

Meets 4th Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Library. We'll be talking about

Air Quality - God's breath of life to creation (Lesson 4 from "Let Justice Roll

Down"). Everyone is welcome.

Lee Ardell lecardell@gmail.com

LIMITED NUMBER OF SPOTS AVAILABLE

ST. PHILIP PRESBYTERIAN

Women's Retreat

FEBRUARY 14-16, 2025

The Inner Landscape
of Beauty

JEANNIE DUBOSE, SPEAKER
CAMP ALLEN IN NAVASOTA, TX

Watch your email details to register
coming soon.



ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the congregation will be on Sunday, **February 9**, immediately following the 11 am worship service. The meeting will include consideration of changes to the pastors' terms of call and the election of an elder to serve on the Session in the class of 2027. The congregational nominating committee will nominate Lee Ardell for that position. Additional nominations may be made at the meeting with prior consent of those being nominated.



February Birthdays		
Caryn	Bahruth	1
Nan	Schissler	1
Bill	Morris	3
Grayson	Bratton	4
Steven	Lawson	4
John	Lindsay	4
Claudia	Wilkinson	4
Mark	Young	4
Beverly	Baker	5
Diane	Clarke	5
Susan	Lange	5
Gay	Van Osdall	5
Gary	Willis	5
Ava	Arlinghaus	7
Susan	Leonard	8
Jon	Martin	9
Liz	Williams	10
Jamie	Benard	11
Scott	Holden	11
Oak	Kim	11
Karen	Winship	12
Lucia	Queen	15
Molly	Vestal	15
Elizabeth	Hadaway	16
Martha	Red	16
Jonathan	Davis	18
Julia	Fox	18
Jennifer	Miller	18
David	Durham	19
Joseph	Webster	19
John	Bratton	20
Cindy	Judson	20
Pete	Bunch	21
Nancy	Castro	24
Shirley Ann	Frautschi	25
Laura	Perez-Boston	26
Miles	Frey	27
Renee	Wright	27
Suzanne	Kerr	28

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sue Shirley Howard upon the death of her husband Dick Howard on January 17. A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

St. Philippians and their families—Vada Woodall; Russel Bahruth; Jeremy Mattern; Nidhal Aldarraj; Scott Easterly; Bill Holden; Roderick James; David Winship; Bob Ardell; Richard Johnson; Philip McDaniel; Charlotte Kibler; Carolyn Vestal; Diane Clarke; Susan Huffman; Emily Estill; Barbara Cavanaugh; Mary Herlitz; Jan Ostendorf; Dick Nunn; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy E. Johnson; Beverly Baker; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Jacqui – cousin of Angelina Fonseca-Grewal; John & Raquel Calhoun – brother and sister-in-law of Pam Keever; Terese Murphy- cousin of Gary Gardner and Peg Palisin; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine.

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

Friends of St. Philippians – - Erin McDougal, Jacqueline Hazrum, Matias Hazrum—friends of Kate Burkart; Brenda Paulk – friend of Bonnie Moore; Janet Rowlands – friend of Mary Mcguire; Audrey Eubank Harris, Pete & Gloria Benevides, Jay Stokes & Anna Domonte, friends of Curt & Sharon Webb; Marianne Hash – friend of Jane Cooper; Mary Watters and Mindy Cooper-Smith – friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Claude Bowden – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton – friends of William Rowe; Tom Barnett - friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Jackie Janacek, Bill Ward, Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach– friends of Stephen Paine; 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

Prayer List is a powerful tool for bringing comfort, healing, and peace to those in need. So, let's keep it up to date and continue to lift up our brothers and sisters in prayer.

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.

To make stock contributions contact Denise Ferrell at denise@saintphilip.net or Lorrie Castle at lorrie@saintphilip.net.

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!

The next edition of the Philip-Eye will be available:
Tuesday, February 4 - Deadline ~~January 30~~—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



Instagram



4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056

Phone: 713.622.4807 Fax: 713.622.5405 www.saintphilip.net