



January 3, 2024
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PHILIP-EYE

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SAVE THE PLANET!

On **January 13** the St. Philip Earth Care team will host a seminar entitled "Becoming Carbon Neutral in Your Church and in Your Life". This will take place from 10:00 a.m. until Noon with a light lunch offered (financial contribution welcomed). Several other churches in Presbytery of New Covenant will join us and participate in this seminar. Please put this on your calendar and join us in the Education Bldg. Room 201. Please RSVP via text or email to John Hartman at 832-563-8024 or jshartman01@gmail.com. A zoom link will be available by contacting John.



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.*

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP UPDATE

What is this group? And what are we trying to do? Here is a bit of explanation. We are a group of about 20 or so St. Philipians who meet by zoom once a month to read and discuss social justice issues of our day. We have just concluded a three-year study on systemic racism and we will begin in early spring a study of Christian Nationalism.

About racism. We learned a lot. We read from mostly Black authors about embedded racism in our laws, in our criminal justice system, in health care, banking, public schools, housing, etc. We discussed “white privilege” as has been described as “being on the home team everywhere you go.” We discussed voter suppression, the Black Lives Matter movement and the contrasting All Lives Matter phrase, agreeing that white lives have never been in danger from black lives to the extent that black lives have been endangered by whites.

We learned a bit more about Martin Luther King, Jr. and his commitment to civil disobedience, about Rep. John Lewis and his provocations on “getting into good trouble.” Final understandings convince us to continue to educate ourselves and others about the injustices of systemic racism and to involve ourselves in causes and actions that support such efforts.

What’s next for our group? As we conclude our readings on racism, we are already turning to an upcoming study of “Christian Nationalism.” You never heard of it? For a start, you can google it..... and see that it is a type of religious nationalism that supports the preservation of a Christian state through legislation at all levels of society.

The Social Justice Study Group will conclude the current study of racism at our January meeting. Beginning in February the focus will be on Christian Nationalism. We meet by zoom on the 1st Monday of the month, 7-8 p.m. Interested folks can contact Sara Jean Jackson to be added to the group zoom list. (sjj10223@gmail.com)



January Birthdays

Date	First	Last
1	Kelley	Fair
1	Charles	Swan
3	Lou	Allen
3	Jacquie	Colton
3	Amy	Irick
3	Rollie	McGinnis
4	Mason	Arnes
5	Nina	Lambright
5	Idalia	Stevenson
6	Richard	Alt
6	Celia	Morgan
6	Carmen	Stevenson
11	CJ	Miller
12	Elias	Han
12	Dee	Manley
12	Janet	Martin
13	Edward	Atkinson
13	Gentry	Atkinson
13	Jennifer	Brown
13	Melinda	Brunger
13	Peter	Lippincott
14	Bonnie	Moore
15	Margaret	Fair
16	William	Howard
17	Lane	Fletcher
17	Casey	Lambright
17	Wendy	Stewart
18	Carol	Junkin
19	Ada	Fuller
21	Colby	Stewart
22	Thomas	Kimbrow
23	Eleanor	Grant
23	Janet	Hess
23	Lauren	Waldrop
24	Denise	Wilborn
26	John	Wurster
28	Lorrie	Castle
28	Caleb	Han
29	Tom	Cavanaugh
29	Holly	Crisp-Han
29	Amanda	Kirtley
29	Carolyn	Vestal
30	Angelina	Fonseca
30	Joel	Irick
31	Frank	Keever



Join CCSC (Christian Community Service Center) for their second Family Service Day on Saturday, **January 13**. They will again be working with families to package hygiene kits for distribution to those in need accessing Emergency Services at our

CCSC facilities. Sign up every family member who is planning to participate. Sixty-minute shifts start each half hour from 12:00 p.m. through 2:30 p.m. Each shift will include a tour of areas of the CCSC facility at 3434 Branard St. and time working on the service project. The price for participating is one bag of nonperishable food per family. Visit <https://ccshouston.org/get-involved/events/family-service-day/> to register

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 7** - “The State of St. Philip Presbyterian Church - Looking back at 2023, looking forward to 2024.” Presented by Rev. Dr. John Wurster. **January 14** - “State of the Denomination and the Presbytery” - From June 25 - July 4 the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA will meet in Salt Lake City, Idaho. Rev. Lynn Hargrove will tell us about the issues and topics that will be presented to the assembly. Also, Lynn will give us a report on the state of our Presbytery of the New Covenant. Presented by Rev. Lynn Hargrove - General Presbyter + Stated Clerk for Administrative Process “As we seek to live into our new mission and vision statements, we will be looking at who we are and what we do as a presbytery. We are here to offer support to our pastors and congregations as we navigate a society that seems to be in rapid change.” **January 21** - International Holocaust Remembrance Day - "The Boy on the Left - Norbert Schmidek...a postscript." 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. Wednesday Bible study resumes (re-zooms) next Wednesday, **January 10**, at 9:30 am. 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 **January 11** at 7:00 p.m. and we will discuss *Exiles* by Jane Harper. 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 reading and discussion group meets on the first Monday, 7-8 p.m., by zoom. As an activity of the Peacemaking/Social Justice Committee, the group provides a forum for the study and discussion of social justice topics (racism, immigration, globalism, climate change, current events, etc.) within the framework of the church and guided by our faith. The current study book is *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*, by Emmanuel Acho. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson at sjj10223@gmail.com.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Stew Coffman, Ann Frautschi and family upon the death of wife and mother Shirley Coffman who died December 29. A memorial service is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. this Saturday, January 6, in the Sanctuary.

St. Philipians and their families—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; 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. Philipians— Claude Bowden – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton – friends of William Rowe; Magdalena Rustomji - friend of Mickey & Ken Meyers; Aleksandra Y. Skochilenko – Nancy Higgs; 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, January 16; Deadline January 11—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



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