

PHILIP-EYE

PW HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

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

Rev. Keatan King
Associate Pastor

Rev. Omar Rouchon
Associate Pastor

Dr. Randall Swanson
Director of Music

Dr. Matthew Dirst
Organist

Micah Meyers
Art Director

Wilbert Parada
Facilities Supervisor

Dimas Parada
Custodian

Denise Ferrell
Bookkeeper

Lorrie Castle
Office Manager
Newsletter Editor

Susan Estill
Editor Emerita



Ruthie Waldrop & Jane Cooper

The Honorary Life Membership in Presbyterian Women honors an individual's faithfulness to the ministry of the church. During the September 17 11:00 a.m. worship service, Rev. Keatan King presented Jane Cooper and Ruthie Waldrop this award. This honor is bestowed upon women and men whose gifts, leadership, commitment, and service are considered exceptional by the consensus of the PW Coordinating Team. Along with a certificate, a Lifetime Membership pin was given to them.

Thank you and congratulations to Jane and Ruthie.

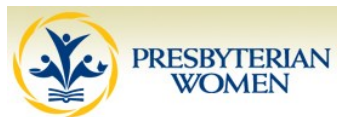
Honorary Life Memberships are rooted in a tradition that began in 1912. It is a select group who has been so honored over several generations. The contribution made in their honor will support training women for future leadership in the church.

The Honorary Life Membership pin's design was adopted in celebration of the coming together of Presbyterian Women from the former United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.).



- ✦ The caring, supportive hands represent women who seek to build an inclusive community of Presbyterian Women.
- ✦ The leaf represents growth of our personal and corporate response to Jesus Christ as we nurture our faith.
- ✦ The dove indicates our work for peace in our own lives and throughout the world, shown in the globe.
- ✦ At the center of the design is the cross, by which our sins are forgiven and we are freed to live in Christ who is at the center of our lives.
- ✦ The overall design is of the butterfly, a symbol of newness in Christ and emergence of new creation, Presbyterian Women.

Learn more about Jane and Ruthie on the next page.



Jane Cooper was raised by her Presbyterian mother to be a church lady and Jane has not been a disappointment. She has done just about everything except preach! She has been active in Presbyterian Women as Coordinator of the Sunday Circle, study leader and willing volunteer to plan and execute luncheons, retreats and memorial service receptions. She has knitted hundreds of caps for the Seafarers and planned, packed and delivered the boxes. She volunteers with the St. Philip Stitches. During the pandemic when services were on the lawn, she led the singing with her ukulele. She helps with vacation bible school and with the Sunday morning children's Godly Play class. As a deacon, she writes notes to those on the prayer list. She also has served on the CMEF Committee, occasionally volunteers as liturgist and has been a greeter whenever asked. Jane joined SPPC when Central PC merged with St. Philip in May of 2010. She always has a smile and helping hand.

Ruthie Waldrop is active in Monday Morning Saints circle and pitches in to help for memorial receptions whether is serving or bringing food in. She has served on session several times, has been a teacher for Godly Play for many years, she recruits others and mentors teachers at other churches through the Godly Play Network. Ruthie continues her passion for children at Mo Ranch each year planning activities with the other volunteers for the children. Sort of like the loaves and fishes, there's always something wonderful that Ruthie brings when the children get restless. She volunteers for all Vacation Bible School programs.

Ruthie has served on Fellowship Committee helping at all church picnics and meals. Prior to the pandemic Ruthie led an exercise class weekly in the Dining Room but switched to a virtual format once the campus was shut down. According to Carla Burns, Ruthie has fostered a feeling of community within the class and they have grown close and helped each other when needed throughout the pandemic and beyond. She helps other members in a quiet way, not seeking attention, with errands, rides to church, and other activities. She finds time to join the St Philip Stitches and volunteers at Amazing Place in the kitchen.

Ruthie and her husband Al joined St. Philip in November 1982 raising their three children here.

On the right is a list of individuals recognized at Central and St. Philip as PW Life Members.

Central PC

Honored before 1959

Melissa Bartine
Val Chernosky
Margaret Crate
Edith Dewitt
Carrie Dreyer
Gertrude Gordon
Elma Hendrickson
Lillian Jewett
Ruth Litchfield
Sue Newman
Jo Ellen Reed
Kay Richards
Peg Stevenson
Louise Ware
Mildred Wood

Honored in the 1960s

Frieda Alexander
Margaretta Bolding
Lucile Brunson
Naomie Craig
Lena Daughtery
Eva Mae Buxton
Estell Fenoglio
Nora Tom Ferguson
Margaret Martin
Linnie Mower
Alfreda Peterson
Ida Lee Porter
Gwen Redding
Margaret Woestemeyer
Leila Green
Eva Mae Herridge
Elizabeth Ince
Ann Kennedy
Betty Knepper
Rilla Krause
Rosemary McBride
Nin McSkimming
Alma Smith
Diane Webster
May Wilkins
Lena Williams
Winnie Ruth
Mary Louise Yaeger

Honored in the 1970s

Reba Anderson
Mildred Bingham
Flo Burghdorf
Dorothy Cameron
Mary Colaco
Catherine Davis
Carrie Dreyer
Verna Jones
Doris Levine
Evelyn MacIntyre
C.J. Miller
Elizabeth Monroe
Wilma Powers
Frances Ramsey
Elsie Skeen

Joyce Stillman
Alma Stoltje
Pat Thompson
Irene Turner
Ruth Weber
Ruth White

Honored in the 1980s

Helen Muenchow
Fay Pearce
Betty Ratliff
Sandy Heuckroth
Kitty Arnold
Kathy Galloway
Alice Harris
Lallie Grant
Pearl Mitchell
Florence Berwick
Sara Dupuy
Joanne Hook
Earline Willcott

Honored in the 1990s

Nita Davis
Marge Deming

Honored in 2003

Lois Baker
Skip Britton

Honored in 2005

Jenilee Simmons

Honored in 2010

Jan Meyer
Caryn Bahryuth

St. Philip PC

Jane Larkin
Nan Schissler
Janet Davis
Sandra Truxillo
Elizabeth Duerr
Anne Wilson
Sara Jean Jackson
Jo Helland
Jane Lee
Joyce Fox
Janette Wennenweser
Mickey Meyers
Cathy Patterson
Mary Ann Thomas
Lorraine Lyter-Reed
Jane Cooper
Ruthie Waldrop

First PC (Houston)

Dorothy Blackwell
Arlette Keene
Julie Itz

Grace PC

Mary Jane McDaniel

Presbyterian Church

Sally Dement
Carol Davis

WELCOME TO ST. PHILIP

The Session welcomed three members on June 25. Learn more about them and take the time to say hello when you see them.



FLORENCE MCKELVEY BUNCH

Florence and her husband Pete, come to St. Philip by Letter of transfer from Christ Church Presbyterian in Bellaire. She is a former member of St. Philip and daughter of Florence McKelvey and sister of Gene McKelvey. Florence attended Bellaire High School and grew up at First Presbyterian in Houston. She and Pete were married there in 2002. She has been ordained as both an Elder and a Deacon. She was drawn back to St Philip by our friendliness, the ministerial staff, LGBT inclusivity, and variety of programs. She is very excited to be back as a member of the St. Philip family.

Florence has a PhD and studied at Southern Methodist University, Texas Woman's University, and UT School of Public Health. She is the Hospital Administrator/ Executive Director, Philanthropy for the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. She is also a CPA and Associate Professor at the University of Texas School of Public Health-Healthcare. She teaches accounting for PhDs (spring) and Masters (summer).

PETER A. BUNCH

Pete joins his wife Florence Bunch in membership after several weeks of visiting our church and joined through a Letter of Transfer from Christ Church Presbyterian in Bellaire. Currently they reside in the West University district of Houston and thoroughly enjoy the fun and conveniences of their chosen location. Pete was attracted to our congregation especially because of our open and welcoming atmosphere and our inclusivity of the LGBTQ+ community. He also enjoys the exceptional music program and Pastor John Wurster's ability to speak directly to the congregation from the pulpit instead of reading his sermon out loud, while giving inspirational and thought-provoking sermons.

Pete was born in the Pacific Northwest small town called Hoquiam, Washington. By the time he was to enter first grade his family had relocated to Duncanville, Texas where he spent several years of his childhood. His family eventu-

ally moved again to Houston where he attended Westbury High School from 1973 to 76. His chosen college after graduation was Texas A&M University where he majored in accounting, becoming a CPA and worked in his chosen profession for many years. He was bitten by the IT bug later in his career and chose to receive extensive training in the implementation of Peoplesoft which required him to travel extensively and act as a Project Manager under contract to various clients. After several years of being an Implementor of Peoplesoft, he elected to stop travelling professionally and retired.

Peter is always open to new adventures and learning opportunities. He considers himself an orchardist and grows peaches and various kinds of citrus trees. He finds gardening and basic landscaping satisfying and rather therapeutic in fact. He has taken up cooking as a hobby now that he has the time to pursue it and has gotten quite good at it. He travels to many of the national parks and finds it to be exciting and fun. He has in fact traveled to the British Isles several times on holiday and has a fondness for Scotland. As for animal friends, he is the proud owner of a very friendly and active Dalmatian who keeps him well occupied. Peter wishes everyone to know that coming to St. Philip Presbyterian was very much like coming home to him. We welcome Peter with open arms and hearts and are very glad to have him as part of our congregation.

COLLEEN BLACKWELL NELSON

Colleen is originally from Houston and is the daughter of Dorothy Blackwell and sister of Rev. Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson. She grew up at First Presbyterian Church and has been ordained as both an Elder and Deacon. Colleen comes by transfer of membership from First Presbyterian in Arlington, Tx. Colleen was drawn by the worship and friendliness of the congregation and the ministerial staff. She is highly attracted to our music program and has already joined the choir!



She attended Memorial High School then studied at the University of North Texas and Sam Houston State University. She is a retired teacher and holds a master's degree. Her primary field was elementary music but has taught several subjects in Houston and Arlington.

She has two sons Benjamin (27) and Daniel (22). Her hobbies include reading, cooking, and playing games with her guys. She and her mother Dorothy have traveled extensively together who she is glad to be her caregiver.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a congregational meeting for **September 24** immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Participation is limited to those attending in person. The purpose of the meeting is to act on a report from the congregational nominating committee. The committee will present the following nominees for ruling elders to serve on the Session in the class of 2026: Selena Brinegar, Kate Burkart, David Castro, John Hartman, Kurt Grether, Ada Fuller, and Mickey Meyers. Secondly, the committee will present Casey Lambright as its nominee for trustee in the class of 2026. Finally, the committee will present the following nominees to serve two-year terms on the congregational nominating committee: Jane Lee, Dick Nunn, and Gay Van Osdall. The terms for all of these positions begin in January, 2024. Additional nominations may be made at the meeting with prior consent of those being nominated.

SAVE THE DATE: NOV 12, 2023

The Mission Committee is once again hosting the **ALTER-NATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET** for St. Philip Mission Partners. We invite participation in the market from the congregation as well, and look forward to hearing from you. Wendy Stewart, the St. Philip Youth, the St. Philip Stitchers, and many donations for our live auction have all enhanced the marketing experience that Sunday. Participants can select the mission partner the proceeds of any sales should go to.

Please let us know by **October 15** if you plan to participate and need a table or have an auction item by calling Hope Wilmarth: 281-744-8540 or the church office.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

If you aren't using MyStPhilip to stay up to date on changes in the directory and would like a paper copy of the current directory, stop by the welcoming table next to the choir elevator on any given Sunday or call the Church Office at 713-622-4807 or email Lorrie Castle:

lorrie@saintphilip.net

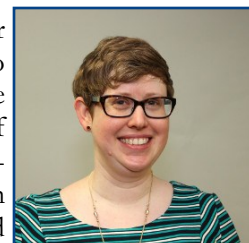
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The purpose of the meeting is the election of elders, congregational nominating committee and trustees to serve St. Philip. Please review their bios below.

NOMINEES FOR SESSION CLASS OF 2026

SELENA BRINEGAR

Selena Brinegar has been a member of St. Philip since she moved back to Houston in the spring of 2016. She was drawn to St. Philip because of the welcoming community, the music, and the commitment to mission and social justice. Selena first served on Session in the class of 2020. She currently serves as an usher, is an active member of the Young Adult Group, and is a member of the Mission Committee. Selena has also enjoyed participating in Presbyterian Women, as a Confirmation Partner, and on the Peacemaking and Social Justice committee. She is a massage therapist and recently started working at a spa in Cypress after several years of being a nanny for a friend's daughter. Selena has a black cat named Freddy Mercury who faithfully attends all the livestreamed church services and Zoom meetings. Her parents, Janet and Denis Martin, are also members of the church, and they often worship together on the pulpit side of the Sanctuary toward the back. In her free time, Selena enjoys watching British murder mysteries, painting, and spending time lounging with Freddy, the aforementioned cat.



KATE BURKART



Kate Burkart has been a member of St. Philip since 1998 and has served a few terms on Session already! She serves on the Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee and heads up its quarterly sales of fair-trade products through Equal Exchange, the denomination's small-farmer co-op partner. Kate is also an active member of St. Philip's Women's Book Group (including coordinating its annual book nomination and voting process), and the national Presbyterian Women's justice and peace book discussion group. Twice a year she leads film/media studies for the Church and Society class (and she would love to talk with you about *Barbie* in the meantime!). Kate is a senior technical writer and project lead for Shea Writing and Training Solutions, currently on a long-term project, managing and mentoring a team of four writers in developing policies, standards, and procedures for one of Shea's clients. In her spare time, she enjoys reading mysteries and discussing them at the monthly Zoom meetings of the "Murder by the Month" group, for which she also serves as administra-

tive coordinator; and sparing a moment for her often-neglected DVR recordings. Kate enjoys the collegiality of service on Session and the opportunity to help St. Philip to grow into the faithful body of Christ that God intends it to be.

DAVID CASTRO

David Castro and his wife, Nancy, have both been lifelong Presbyterians. They were members of The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church (WCPC) for almost 25 years before moving to West University Place to be nearer 2 of their children and their families. David's dad was a Presbyterian minister, and his parents were missionaries in Colombia. He grew up on the mission field from infancy to age 13, when his family returned to the United States. David and Nancy have lived in San Antonio, Tulsa, Oklahoma, The Woodlands, and now Houston. He retired from Hess Corporation at the end of 2016 as the company's chief litigation counsel and head of corporate records. David has served as a ruling elder and a deacon at WCPC and at First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa, and has served on two pastor nominating committees. He was active in the Institute for Energy Law and served as its chair from 2018 to 2020. David worked as a volunteer with Citizens Climate Lobby and, while in The Woodlands, was the local chapter's liaison to Congressman Kevin Brady and his office. He served as a pro-bono mediator for the Conroe Dispute Resolution Center. David and Nancy were attracted to St. Philip's friendly members, its warm, inclusive environment, its commitment to mission, its excellent music program, and its outstanding pastors. He says that he and Nancy were "embraced immediately by St. Philip and have been encouraged and invited to participate in its vibrant life and outreach."



ADA FULLER

Ada Fuller is a Houston native who lived for 20 years in Central Texas before moving back to Houston in 2000. She was first elected as an elder at Grace Presbyterian Church in Temple, Texas. There Ada was also a children's Sunday school teacher, treasurer for three years, and headed the committee to finance a building addition. In Houston, she was a member of First Presbyterian, moving to St. Philip when First Presbyterian left the PC(USA). At St. Philip, Ada has served as an elder, chair of the Welcoming and Membership Committee, and also served as Treasurer. At the Presbytery level, she has served on the Finance Committee and the Committee on Ministry. Ada is a retired CPA, and has two children, Rebecca and Stephen, and three grandchildren. In her spare time, she is an active member of the YMCA (where she enjoys seeing other St. Philippians), writes poetry, waits on her cat, is in the Bayou Bend docent class, and tries to squeeze in some travel.

KURT GREETHER

Kurt Grether was introduced to St. Philip by his now-husband, St. Philipian Bill Stubbs. They started attending together in 2018. Kurt has served on the Mission Committee, which provided him the opportunity to learn more about St. Philip. He and Bill became members last year as the pandemic waned and in-person services started again. Kurt graduated from Texas A&M with a finance degree and later earned a master's in computer science. Currently, he manages large system-implementation projects specializing in manufacturing, supply chain, and logistics. Kurt moved from Katy to inside the Loop in 2017 and has enjoyed all that "Inner Loop" living has to offer. He has a son and daughter, who both live inside the Loop since graduating from college in 2018. Kurt enjoys the St. Philip community and is grateful for the many friends he has made here. In his free time, he enjoys cooking, Broadway shows, traveling with Bill, and spending time with their merged family.



JOHN HARTMAN

John and Judy transferred their memberships to St. Philip in 2017 after spending 45 years as members of Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church (MDPC). At MDPC, he served one term on the board of deacons and four terms on Session, so he has had lots of experience with Presbyterian polity and process! John and Judy came to St. Philip after MDPC chose to leave the PC(USA) and have been very pleased with their choice of this church family. He has particularly enjoyed being involved in the Church and Society Class and serving on the Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee. John has become passionate about our responsibility as followers of Jesus Christ to do all we can to pass along to future generations a world with a sustainable climate and natural beauty. He has been encouraged by how much enthusiasm he finds at St. Philip for this priority. This church helped Judy and John start a small solar energy business by being, in 2020, their first client for a rooftop solar system. John grew up in the Methodist church, first in northern Ontario and then in east Texas. His formal education consists of bachelor's and master's degrees in chemical engineering and a master's in business administration. Professionally, John spent 20 years in various positions at Exxon Chemical and then was an owner of a manufacturing and engineering business and an industrial fluids testing laboratory for another 25 years. Those years gave him lots of international business experience. After selling those businesses, he has enjoyed serving as an investor in a Christian private investment fund that supports Christian-owned companies in Asia and Africa. This has given John the pleasure of mentoring business owners

in India and Nepal. He has served as a trustee at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and is currently chair of the Brazos Presbyterian Homes board. Most importantly, Jude and John are blessed with two great sons and daughters-in-law and two grandchildren. John is so thankful for the many blessings he has received.

MICKEY MEYERS

Mickey grew up at Harlandale Presbyterian Church, southside San Antonio, and is a graduate of Trinity University. She currently is the coordinator for St. Philip's Church and Society. Mickey's husband, Ken, is a retired systems analyst and project manager for the Houston Police Department, and now serves as the technical expert for the Church and Society Class. Mickey is the co-author of *Get Ready! Get Set! Worship! A Resource for Including Children in Worship*, and the author of curriculum for the Presbyterian Publishing House and Geneva Press, and a Bible study for Loma Linda campers at Mo-Ranch. She served as a docent at Holocaust Museum Houston for 20 years and wrote the curriculum pieces *History, Humanity, Responsibility: You Can Make a Difference, A resource for churches to study issues of social justice, peacemaking, and tolerance in the context of the Holocaust*, and also wrote *Dietrich Bonhoeffer: The Role of the Church in the Holocaust*. The Meyers' daughter, Micah, is the Art Director at St. Philip. For Mickey, it is a joy to be a part of the adventure of being a member of the St. Philip congregation.



CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE CLASS OF 2025

JANE LEE

Jane Lee is an elder who has served two terms on the St. Philip Session and one term as trustee. She has chaired St. Philip's Worship and Music, Personnel, and Finance Committees. Jane also co-chaired the capital campaign for the Education Building and the Sanctuary renovation, and has taught pre-school and elementary church school classes and Vacation Bible School. She has also been a member of the St. Philip choir. Outside of St. Philip, Jane has volunteered at the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) and was president of the CCSC board of directors. She also chaired the Brazos Presbyterian Homes board for two terms. Jane is a retired hospital executive and registered nurse. She and her husband, Bill, have been members of St. Philip for 51 years.



DICK NUNN

Dick is a native Houstonian and a lifelong Presbyterian. He was baptized at First Presbyterian Church in Houston



and grew up at Bellaire Presbyterian Church. As a college student, Dick served at Bellaire Presbyterian on a pastor nominating committee and as a deacon. He met his future wife, Judy, at senior high fellowship there, and they married at Bellaire Presbyterian in 1969, after graduating from college. While at

Bellaire Presbyterian, Dick and Judy sponsored the junior high and senior high fellowship groups. When their two daughters were young, Dick and Judy transferred their membership to Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church (MDPC). There, they served as adult sponsors for the college-age fellowship and taught various preschool Sunday School classes. Dick was ordained as an elder at MDPC and served twice on the Session there, chairing the personnel and music committees and serving two terms as Clerk of Session. When MDPC decided to leave the PC(USA), Dick and Judy transferred their membership to St. Philip where Dick has served on the Session and the Finance and Personnel Committees. He is a graduate of Rice University with bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, and master's degrees in accounting. Dick has served on various committees and the board of directors of the Association of Rice Alumni, San Jacinto Girl Scouts, and Brazos Presbyterian Homes. Dick is "semi-retired" and works from his home at Brazos Towers at Bayou Manor. Dick and Judy are enjoying their two daughters and their son-in-law and particularly enjoy watching their two grandsons become young men.

GAY VAN OSDALL

Gay is a lifelong Presbyterian from Bryan, Texas. After attending the University of Texas and graduating from Texas A&M with a bachelor's of business administration, she and her husband, John, moved to Houston, where she alternated between volunteering opportunities and part-time work. At Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church (MDPC), Gay was a deacon, elder, and senior administrative Officer of the Session. While at MDPC, she also participated in mission trips to Guatemala and Mexico, outreach activities, Presbyterian Women, Sunday school teaching, and serving on a pastor nominating committee. Gay and John joined St. Philip in 2017, drawn by the inclusiveness of the congregation, the excellent pastoral staff, and friends already in the congregation. They are active members of the Church and Society Class. Gay and John's main focus is a faith-based restorative justice program, Bridges to Life. It is now in every prison in Texas, as well as 17 states and 7 foreign countries. She has been on the Bridges to Life board for ten years and volunteers in units in Texas and North Carolina. Gay and John introduced the program in North Carolina and coordinated it in four prison units there. Their son and his wife, who live on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State, are both pas-



tors in the PC(USA) . All three of Gay and John's children are happily employed on the West Coast. Gay considers it a privilege to be asked to serve on the Congregational Nominating Committee, appreciating the diversity St. Philip welcomes.

TRUSTEE CLASS OF 2026

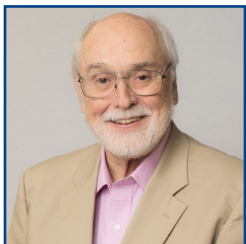
CASEY LAMBRIGHT

Casey and his wife, Nina, graduated from Austin College in 1991, were married in 1993 at Grace Presbyterian Church in Plano, and joined St. Philip shortly thereafter. Both of their children, Paxton and Ethan, were baptized at St. Philip. Casey is managing attorney at Lambright McKee, a boutique law firm in the Memorial Villages, and one of the founding partners of Frontier Title Company, among other businesses. Having raised Paxton and Ethan as part of the St. Philip family, Casey has served on the Session multiple times, as well as on the Property Committee, as legal liaison for several church projects, and as a Trustee. He has also taught Sunday school for toddlers and youth, served as a confirmation sponsor, chaperoned the youth mission trip to Peru, and worked with the Kids Against Hunger ministry. In addition, Casey provided professional expertise in the union of St. Philip and Central Presbyterian Church in 2010 and developed documentation for the Central Mission Endowment Fund, established at that time. Casey and Nina actively support (among numerous other worthy charitable organizations) the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC), where Nina currently serves on the board, and the Houston Junior Women's Club, where Nina is always on the board! Casey is the proud dad of Paxton and Ethan: Paxton is program officer for IREX, a global development and education nonprofit working in the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa, and is in transition from Washington, DC, to New York City; and Ethan just completed his master's degree in medieval literature and is considering pursuing his doctorate in Bangor, Wales.



APPOINTEES FOR CENTRAL MISSION ENDOWMENT COUNCIL CLASS OF 2026

BOB ARDELL



Bob grew up in Illinois and attended a Presbyterian school, Monmouth College, majoring in geology and economics. After earning his master's degree at Kansas State University, he moved to Houston to start a career in the oil industry, and was soon transferred to New Orleans.

He was ordained as a ruling elder at John Calvin Presbyter-

ian Church in Metairie, Louisiana in 1969. After coming back to Houston, he served as an elder and trustee at Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church in Spring and also served on the Presbytery's New Church Development committee during the 1980s. He was a trustee of Monmouth College and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists Foundation. Bob and his wife, Lee, joined St. Philip in 2015 after many years at First Presbyterian of Houston. He has volunteered with Kids Against Hunger, participated in the Church & Society Class, and recently finished a term as Trustee. Their daughter, Becky Downs, is pastor of John Knox Presbyterian in Spring Branch and another daughter, Annie, works at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston. Bob enjoys spending time with his four grandchildren, reading, and traveling.

RODERICK JAMES

Roderick is a lifelong Presbyterian. He was baptized at St. Ann Presbyterian Church in Port of Spain, Trinidad. Roderick joined Central Presbyterian Church in 1984 and became a member of St. Philip when the two churches united in 2010. He was a member of the group that formed the Central Mission Endowment Fund and served on the CME Council for two terms. Roderick has been an active member at St. Philip, serving on the Session, the Worship Committee, and the board of the Duerr Lecture Series, and is happy to serve on the Council for another term.



JENNIFER WILSON



Jennifer was born in Eagle Lake, Texas in 1952 to Bill and Helen Wilson. She was raised in the Methodist church and was a faithful churchgoer until her college years. Jennifer is a retired attorney and is enjoying life without Sunday evening angst! Her path to St. Philip began at MDPC where Rhonda Sands taught her

children confirmation and they became friends and Sunday school classmates. When Rhonda's long-time friend, Molly Boren, told them about St. Philip, a church committed to outreach and inclusion, they visited and became members. In September of 2015, Rhonda and Jennifer were married at St. Philip, fulfilling a promise to themselves to get married in THEIR church in THEIR state. They are part of the most loving church family one could ever imagine and have so many church friends with whom they enjoy dinners, travel, and laughter. Jennifer has served on the Peacemaking & Social Justice Committee, the CME Council, and the Mission Committee. She looks forward to serving St. Philip and its congregation in whatever capacity God has chosen for her.

George	Lindsay	1
Pamela	Ewing	2
Joy	Maguire	3
David	Barrish	4
Lindsey	Hogan	4
Michael	Huffman	4
Julie	MacLemore Wells	4
Florence	McKelvey	4
Connor	Arnes	5
James	Barrish	5
Shirley	Coffman	5
Al	Waldrop	6
David	Chess	9
Elizabeth	Duerr	9
Lisa	Wellington	9
Jeromy	Murphy	10
Todd	Murphy	10
Anne	Dallmeyer Keever	11
Kristin	Huffman	12
Mickey	Meyers	13
Sally	DeMent	15
Samantha	Benard	16
Charles	Johnson-Kelly	16
Fil	Nenna	16
Roderick	James	17
Barbara	Chapman	18
Speight	Anderson	19
Joyce	Fox	19
Miles	Smith	19
Liz	Crowell	20
Norma	Tucker	20
Mary Linda	Williams	20
Lad	Perenyi	21
Abby	Tieken	21
Sara Jean	Jackson	22
Chuck	Johnson	22
Lori	Murphy	22
Sue Ann	Howard	23
Tom	Lewis	23
Laura	Burgess	25
Jane	Cooper	25
Jane	Malczewskyj	26
Dale	Miller	26
Omar	Rouchon	26
Daniel	Barrish	28
Trent	Atkinson	29
Bill	Camfield	29
Trey	Ford	29
Kurt	Grether	29
Wayne	Truxillo	29
Lorraine	Lyter-Reed	30
Laureen	Suba	31



October Birthdays

INTERNATIONAL SEAFARERS

The Mission Committee is making plans to collect items for Seafarer's Christmas Boxes. Bins will be available in the Gathering Area each Sunday during the month of October for your donations.

Ship crew sizes average 22 Seafarers to gift per ship. In 2022, the Seafarer's Christmas Gift program received and distributed 9,173 gifts on-board 403 ships which represented Seafarers from more than 61 different countries! These gifts had been donated to the Seafarers by over 179 churches, organizations and individuals! The Christmas shoeboxes are personally carried to each ship by Houston International Seafarer Center Staff, Port Chaplains, and Ship Visitors – *Your* Staff of Chaplains and Ship Visitors, as the ecumenical ministry is funded by all denominations. They begin delivering boxes after Thanksgiving and continue gifting Seafarers until all the gifts have been distributed! Chaplains are gratefully prepared to receive the gift boxes that we pack and wrap.

News of these boxes reaches far and wide with great anticipation. Sailors from all over the world hope to be in port in Houston during the Christmas season to receive the famed Christmas Boxes. One such Captain was so excited with his box, that he video taped himself opening his box while talking to his family online. His daughter was so moved by the gift, that she started a campaign to give Christmas Boxes to underprivileged people in their hometown in Ukraine.

Thank you for participating in this meaningful mission project.

Toothbrush/Toothpaste	Ballpoint Pens
Band-Aids	Pocket-sized Notebooks
Cotton Swabs	2024 Pocket Calendar
Lip Balm	Gum & Hard Candy
Nail Grooming Kit	USB Flash Drive
Hairbrush/Comb	Word Search/Sudoku/Fill-in books
Mini-First-Aid Kit	Texas Magnets
Multi-Vitamins / Fish Oil	Texas Key Chains
Sewing Kit	Earbuds/Headphones
Socks	Playing Cards
T-shirts (NEW)	Stress Ball / Games
Cold Weather Caps and Balaclavas	Small Flashlight w/ batteries
Baseball Caps/Beanie's (NEW)	Texas Souvenirs
Light Weight Work Gloves (M, L and XL)	Small Whistle
Small Bibles (NIV, RSV)	Signed Personal note
Bible/Devotional materials – Daily Bread, Open Door, etc.	Popcorn / Snacks
	NESCAFE Instant Coffee

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

On **September 24** we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of Keatan King's ordination.

October 8 at 9 a.m., there will be service outside. The service will include a "blessing of the animals." Here's your opportunity to bring your dog or cat or other pets to worship with you and to have them included in a special prayer of blessing. Animals should be appropriately leashed or otherwise contained! The 11:00 a.m. service will be in the sanctuary as usual.

October 22 will be our Fall Picnic following worship service.



◀ Keatan's 2013 First Church Directory photo at St. Philip

▼ Keatan's 2023 Church Directory photo



OCTOBER 1ST WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

On World Communion Sunday (**October 1** this year), a gift to the PC-USA's annual Peace and Global Witness Offering promotes the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

Because the impacts of climate change disproportionately affect low income communities and communities of color in Texas and around the world, St. Philip's Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee has recommended that the Texas Coastal Exchange receive the 25% of the offering retained by our congregation to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace.

Texas Coastal Exchange (TCX) is a nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to supporting the long-term resilience of the Texas coast by working with coastal landowners to conserve and protect coastal marshes, prairies, and bottomland hardwood forests.

Donations to TCX will be used to provide grant support to landowners whose properties are providing ecosystem benefits like carbon storage, flood mitigation, and wildlife habitat. To learn more about Texas Coastal Exchange, visit their Web site at <https://www.texascoastalexchange.org/>

The Presbytery of New Covenant receives an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation, and the remaining 50% goes to the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, COMMITMENT TO PEACEMAKING!

Did you know that the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Commitment to Peacemaking turns 40 years old this year? The Commitment, which was introduced in 1983, is a means to help churches focus their peacemaking efforts in eight areas:

- ✔ Worship
- ✔ Prayer and Bible study
- ✔ Peacemaking in families and in community living
- ✔ Community ministries
- ✔ Study of and response to global issues
- ✔ Global security
- ✔ Making peace with the Earth
- ✔ Receiving the Peace and Global Witness Offering

St. Philip signed the Commitment in 1984, just one year later. If you visit the Peacemaking and Social Justice alcove, at the end of the carpeted hallway leading from the Gathering Area, you can see the original framed Commitment at the upper right of the display (with its signatures and dates reflecting Session approval in now very faded ink). (You might also notice that St. Philip has since signed the Commitment on two subsequent occasions!)

To celebrate this milestone birthday, please join in and enjoy a piece of birthday cake after worship on **October 1**, the day we will also receive the denomination's Peace and Global Witness Offering. See you then!

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

CHURCH & SOCIETY -Room 201—Join us from **9:30 a.m.—10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom. Rally Day - **September 24** - *Filmmaking With the Harris County Juvenile Justice Residency Program* - Over the course of 7 weeks, students at the Juvenile Probation Department wrote a fictional narrative film entitled “Border Life” based on their personal family experiences crossing the border from Mexico into the US. In the film, a young man mentally struggles with being separated from his family by immigration officers 15 years prior. While working at a taqueria in Texas, he is offered the opportunity to become a border agent for a better salary. Feeling conflicted in his new role as a border agent, he makes a personal discovery that uncovers the most important moment of his past. The film depicts the dire struggles of crossing the border and the incredible family sacrifices that are made. Presented by Dan Gordon - Executive director of Gordon Education Initiatives for the Performing Arts presents The Second Residency (Feb-May 2023). The project is the recipient of a grant from the Central Endowment. **October 1** - *Update on Juvenile Justice in Texas* -Presented by Jay Jenkins, J.D. Harris County Project Attorney and attorney for The Texas Center for Justice & Equity. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

FAITH & LIFE – Room 200—*New Class*—An adult class exploring how what we believe informs how we live. Using the short stories in *The Gift of Hard Things: Finding Grace in Unexpected Places* by Mark Yaconelli, participants will read a short text in class and then engage in conversation as a group. There are no materials required and no preparation is needed.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Room 204—We will resume 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 **October 12** at 7:00 p.m. and we will discuss *American Cartel: Inside the Battle to Bring Down the Opioid Industry* by Scott Higham and Sari Horwitz. 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 of each month, 7:00-8:00 p.m., via 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 first meeting of the new study year will be on Monday, **October 2**, 7:00 p.m. The study book will be *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*, by Emmanuel Acho. Interested persons and sign-up information can be obtained from Sara Jean Jackson at sjj10223@gmail.com.

IN OUR PRAYERS

The Flowers family upon the death of Elizabeth Carlton Lithio, granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers on September 17.

St. Philippians and their families—Susan Estill; Mark Takayama; Stewart Coffman; Ben Dees; Shirley Coffman; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy Johnson; Beverly Baker; Beverly Hudson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; John Palisin – brother of Peg Palisin; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Halley Delany – sister of Nina Lambright; Truxillo family – Wayne and Sandra Truxillo; 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; Darryl Cazes— brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine; John Anderson—brother of Tom Anderson.

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

Friends of St. Philippians—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.

Next edition: Tuesday, October 3; Deadline September 28—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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