



# The Crucifer

September 27, 2011

Vol. XII, No. 20



## From the Rector:

*Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.* Psalm 37.5

In classical Greece, the word most closely associated with what we call “stewardship” was *oekonomia*, the job of the person charged with care of a household. “Household” in this instance meant real property, including the land and all the improvements on it, and it meant the protection of a family as well.

The word “Steward” appeared for the first time in English about a thousand years ago. According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, in this early use a steward was “an official who controls the domestic affairs of a household, supervising the service of his master's table, directing the domestics, and regulating household expenditures....”

The original written form of steward is *stigward*. *Stig* meant a domestic building; *ward* meant guard—the word from which “warden” is derived. The earliest use of the word makes it clear that the property over which the steward has responsibility is not the steward's property, but the master's.

We often associate stewardship with congregational financial giving. But the real meaning of the word, and the concept, is something far greater. Christian stewardship is a worldview. It is a lifestyle. One in which we understand that our great privilege and responsibility in this life is tending to God's property.

And ‘God's property’ is an exhaustive term. It includes everything. All that we possess materially. And all living things. The trees, the rivers, the people, the pets, the mountains – all of these things belong to God. Our job is to take care of them. And to put them to uses which honor God. We are the stewards of the household of God.

At Christ Church, this means that we have a particular responsibility to nurture the faith of the people who participate in the life of our church, and people with whom we make an impact. To a meaningful degree, we are stewards of their faith.

Consider all the people and things which God has placed in your care. Spouses and children, colleagues and pets, property and possessions, time and money. Commit your way to the Lord, and tend them with love and great care.

Faithfully,

**I have said these things to you that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.**

**John 15:11**

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## Clergy and Staff



The Rt. Rev. Andrew Doyle  
*Bishop of the Diocese of Texas*

The Rt. Rev. Dena Harrison *Bishop Suffragan*

The Rev. David Luckenbach *Rector*  
The Rev. Matt Boulter *Assistant Rector*  
The Rev. Brandon Peete *Curate*  
The Rev. Stephen Stine *Deacon*

Mr. Jeffrey Ford *Organist/Choirmaster*  
Mrs. Andrea Thomas *Assistant Organist*  
Mr. Vance Garvey *Director of Sr. High Ministries*  
Mrs. Denise Jarrett *Director of Middle School Ministries*  
Ms. Tina Ridley *Director of Children's Ministries*  
Mrs. Diana Keesey *Parish Administrator*  
Mrs. Carolyn Velleca *Parish Secretary*  
Mrs. Lee Hensarling *Publications/Membership*  
Mr. Zion Spencer *Epiphany Music Leader*  
Mr. Ledell Reed *Sexton*  
Mr. Kendrick Milton *Assistant Sexton*  
Ms. Jennifer Ducote *Office Assistant & Housekeeper*  
Ms. Mary Manson, Ms. Vanessa Molina,  
Ms. Ashley Bracken, Mrs. Nicole Garvey,  
Mr. Todd Hague, Ms. Mary Sue Carter *Nursery*

## The Vestry

Mr. Francis Kay *Sr. Warden*  
Mr. Bryan Rossman *Jr. Warden*  
Mrs. Mary John Spence *Pro Vita*  
Mr. Peter Boyd *Treasurer*

Mrs. Cynthia Patty *Mr. Bret Berry*  
Mr. Tom Ridley *Mrs. Dee Dee Bufe*  
Mr. George Roberts *Mr. Clyde Davis*  
Mr. Day Shel mire *Mrs. Mary Ruth Greenwell*  
Mrs. Laurel Beaty *Mrs. Mardi Byrd*  
Mr. Steve Hardy *Mrs. Frances "Poosie" Swann*  
*Mr. Trey Yarbrough*

## Pastoral Emergency Contacts

In the event of a pastoral emergency, you may reach The Rev. David Luckenbach, Rector, at 903-279-8777, The Rev. Matt Boulter, at 903-944-8494, or The Rev. Stephen Stine at 903-530-8168. You may also call the church office, 903-597-9854, during normal business hours.

## Scripture Readings for Sunday

### 16 Pentecost, October 2, Proper 22

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7  
Psalm 80 or 80:7-14  
Second Reading: Philippians 3:14-21  
Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

### 17 Pentecost, October 9, Proper 23

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9  
Psalm: 23  
Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-13  
Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

### 18 Pentecost, October 16, Proper 24

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7  
Psalm: 96 or 96:1-9  
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

### *In Memoriam*

Our sympathies to the family and friends of  
Marian Brittingham Lynn, mother of Clark Lynn.  
*May the souls of the departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

### *In Our Prayers*

*Please consider including the prayer list  
in your daily devotions.*

Joan & Glenn, Amy, Alan, Wanda, Lindsey, Scott, S.J., Jake, J.C., Shirley, Mike, Dick, Sonja, Pam, Jennifer, Meredith, Joshua, Wayne, Bess, Gipsy, David, Terry, David, Sheila, Christian, Cameron, Chris, Gregg, Nicole, Tanya, Mary and family, Lula Sue, Kathy Rose, Mike, Ray, Albert & Jean, Murray, Hal, Richard, Shirley, Brian, Ben, Sally, Bill, Yvonne, Brooke, Todd, Jan, Marian, Jamie, Sean, Morgan, Alan, Anne, Jim, Lominta, Israel Jr., Charlotte, Rosie, Dot, Linda, Jana, Kolbe, Leigh, Linda, Carolyn, Chuck, Ben, Sarah, Betty, Makenzie, Martha, Peggy, Brett, Doreen, Myra, Susan, Syler, Matt, Nanci, Julian, Steve, John, Angela, Andi.

### Prayer List Requests

If you would like to add, or remove a name on the prayer list, please call The Rev. Stephen Stine, at 903-530-8168, or the church office at 903-597-9854. To protect the confidentiality of those in the prayer list, we will use first names or initials only.

## Additional Contact Information

The Rev. David Luckenbach	dluckenbach@christchurchtyler.org	Tina Ridley	tridley@christchurchtyler.org
The Rev. Matt Boulter	mboulter@christchurchtyler.org	Denise Jarrett	djarrett@christchurchtyler.org
The Rev. Stephen Stine	ssti@tjc.edu	Vance Garvey	vgarvey@christchurchtyler.org
Jeffrey Ford	jford@christchurchtyler.org	Lee Hensarling	lhensarling@christchurchtyler.org
Diana Keesey	dkeesey@christchurchtyler.org	Carolyn Velleca	office@christchurchtyler.org

Church Web Site: [www.christchurchtyler.org](http://www.christchurchtyler.org)

Lay Ministry Schedule: [www.christchurchtyler.org/worship](http://www.christchurchtyler.org/worship)

# Experiencing Epiphany



## The Four Stages of Contemplative Prayer

In his *Christian Meditation*, James Finley outlines the four stages of contemplative prayer: spiritual reading (or *lectio divina*), discursive meditation, prayer, and contemplation.

*Spiritual reading*, itself an act of faith, is a prayerful reading of Scripture or some other spiritual text which inspires us or guides us in our search for God.

This, then, leads to *discursive meditation*, in which we are prayerfully thinking about the things of God and filling our imagination with images that inspire and guide us in our spiritual journey.

Spiritual reading and discursive meditation awaken our desire for God, which we express in *prayer*. Here we simply express to God that we long to be one with him.

In *contemplation* our heart receives the gift of divine awareness. Finley writes:

“In this mystical realization of oneness with God we are liberated from our tendencies to derive our security and identity from anything less than God. In specifically Christian terms, we enter the mind of Christ, who realized oneness with God to be the reality of himself and of everyone and everything around him.” James Finley, *Christian Meditation*, p. 17

How does this strike you? For some, it sounds “new agey.” Not only do folks who react this way usually forget that, since the original “New Age” movement is in fact the Christian movement (cf 2 Cor 5:17; Eph 1:21; Rev 21:5), but they also fail to realize how deeply this kind of contemplative approach is ingrained in the Christian tradition of the last 2000 years.

For some, this emphasis on meditation seems beyond their reach, as if only the “super spiritual” can attain it. But “the still, small voice” of which Scripture speaks is to be found deep within the self, and this is true for all people, es-

pecially those who have received God’s spirit in baptism and through faith. When Jesus tells his followers to enter the secret chambers of the heart when they pray (Matt 6:6) or to pray without ceasing (1 Thess 5:17), he is not speaking to a select few. The holy advice of the psalmist to “be still and know that I am God” (Ps 46:10) is not intended only for those who have entered the sacred realm of the monastery or the ordained priesthood.

If this seems out of reach, take heed of Thomas Merton’s encouragement that “prayer is the desire to pray.” For those who cannot seem to “hear” God’s voice, help is to be found in Tim Keller’s statement that “a sense of God’s absence is a sign of his presence.”

We have seen in my Christian Formation class this fall that a mystic is one who holds the deep conviction that God wants us to *experience* him, and I do agree with Catholic theologian Karl Rahner who said that in post-Christendom, virtually all Christians will be mystics.

Do you desire to experience God more and more deeply? Such grace would be and is pure divine gift, and yet, as James Finley teaches, we can “stack the deck” in favor of intimacy with God. Learning to stack the deck, and learning it from twenty centuries of Christ-following mystics, is precisely what we are doing in this class this semester. Come join us!

**The Rev. Matt Boulter, Assistant Rector**



**New to Christ Church?**

**Come to “Christ Church 101” this fall!**

***Did you know ...***

- *Over the last three months many families have visited Christ Church ... for the first time?*
  - *We have teams of Christ Church parishioners who work week in and week out to follow up & welcome these folks?*
  - *We think our Church has amazing resources to offer the greater Tyler community!*
- » **what:** four classes on “all things Anglican:” history, theology, worship, Bible.
- » **when:** four Sundays in a row: October 30, November 6, 13 and 20, 10:00 am.
- Dinner with the Rector** Sunday, November 13, 5-7 pm
- » **where:** in the 3rd floor Epiphany Room.

Interested? Please call Father Matt, 903-944-8494.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES 10:00-10:50 am

### Adult Christian Education-3rd floor

The Gospel of Luke, is taught by The Rev. Luckenbach in the Ascension Room.

Prayer: How to Have a Lifelong Conversation with God. The Rev. Matt Boulter teaches this course in the Epiphany Room.

C.S. Lewis In this seven-week course, we are exploring some of the major works of the Anglican writer C.S. Lewis. Among the books that we will review are Surprised by Joy, Miracles, Mere Christianity, and A Grief Observed. The Rev. Stephen Stine teaches the course in the Trinity Room.

### Children and Youth

Nursery: 8:30 till end of 11/11:05 services, infant-1st grade,

Godly Play: Children from 2 years to 2nd grade grow their faith through *Godly Play*, a Montessori-based curriculum using a careful telling of scripture stories, engaging story figures, and a variety of creative activities to encourage children to seek and find their own answers to their faith questions.

3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> AKALOO: A curriculum for 3rd through 6th grade that brings a "stage-specific" approach to faith formation for our children and youth by focusing on five areas of discipleship: Bible, God, Disciple, Church, and World.

7 – 12<sup>th</sup> Character: A study designed for 7th through 12th grade students that reveals how people of the Old Testament encountered God in amazing ways, and their lives were drastically changed. Students see how an encounter with God will change their lives forever.

### Weekday Christian Education

Tuesday AM. (Men's Bible Study) 6:45-7:45 am, 3rd floor, Greling-Spence Bldg., led by The Rev. Luckenbach.

Men's Bible Study, Lectionary-based study, Gospel Reading: Wednesdays, 7:15-8:15 a.m., Undercroft.

Women's Bible Study, Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 am, Trinity Room. *The Gospel of Luke*, led by Poosie Swann, childcare provided.

Women's Bible Study, Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 am, Epiphany Room, *A Word from the Prophets*, led by The Rev. Luckenbach.

### Children & Youth Activities Weekly

Children 4k-4th grade Sunday, October 23, trip to Moore Farms, 1:30-3:00 pm.

EYC Fish (5th-6th grade) & Jr. EYC (7th-8th grade) Come join us for dinner, discussion and games, 6:00-7:30 pm every Wednesday, 4th floor.

Sunday, October 9, Zipline!

Sr. EYC (9th-12th grade) Join us every Wednesday 6:00-7:30 pm for a time of fellowship, food community, and study. This year's study theme is "Discipleship".

Sunday, October 9, Swimming at the Bain's, 1:00-3:30 pm.

## **Sunday, October 2**

7:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
 8:00 am Canterbury Choir Rehearsal  
 8:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II  
 9:45 am Gift Shop Open till 10:50 am  
 10:00 am Christian Education Classes  
 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
 11:05 am Epiphany Eucharist, 4th floor  
 3:30 pm The Blessing of the Animals, Bergfeld Park  
 5:30 pm Holy Eucharist Rite I

## **Monday, October 3**

9:00 am Education for Ministry  
 10:00 am Gift Shop open till 2:00 pm  
 11:45 am ECW Luncheon & Meeting  
 4:00 pm Choir School of East Texas

## **Tuesday, October 4**

6:45 am Tuesday AM with Rector  
 8:30 am Morning Prayer in the Chapel  
 9:00 am Staff Meeting  
 10:00 am Gift Shop open till 2:00 pm  
 11:00 am Hospice Food Delivery Team  
 4:00 pm St. Cecilia's Handbell Ensemble  
 6:30 pm Education for Ministry

## **Wednesday, October 5**

7:15 am Men's Bible Study  
 9:00 am Yoga Class  
 10:00 am Gift Shop Open till 2:00 pm  
 10:30 am Women's Bible Study  
 6:00 pm Book Club  
 6:00 pm Face2Face/Catalyst Youth Groups  
 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## **Thursday, October 6**

10:00 am Gift Shop Open till 2:00 pm  
 10:30 am Women's Bible Study w/Rector  
 12:00 pm Holy Communion, 1928 Prayer Book  
 4:00 pm Choir School of East Texas  
 6:00 pm Loaves & Fishes, Team I

## **Sunday, October 9**

7:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
 8:00 am Canterbury Choir Rehearsal  
 8:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II  
 9:45 am Gift Shop Open till 10:50 am  
 10:00 am Christian Education  
 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
 11:05 am Epiphany Eucharist  
 6:00 pm Choral Evensong, no 5:30 Rite I service

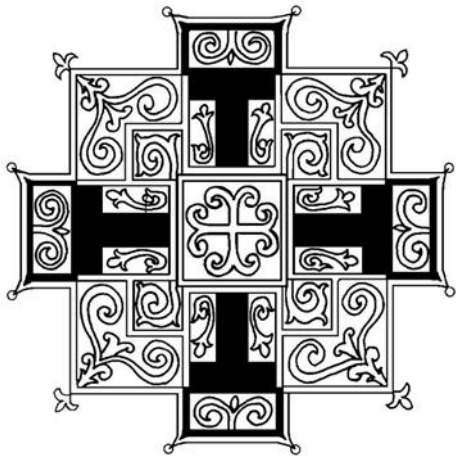
## **Monday, October 10**

4:00 pm Choir School of East Texas

## **Tuesday, October 11**

6:45 am Tuesday AM with Rector  
 8:30 am Morning Prayer in the Chapel  
 9:00 am Staff Meeting  
 4:00 pm St. Cecilia's Handbell Ensemble  
 5:00 pm Daughters of the King  
 6:30 pm Education for Ministry

## Music Ministry



Choral Evensong  
October 9, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

In the Nave  
with  
Chancel Choir in the Choir Stalls

Jeffrey Ford, conducting  
Andrea Thomas, organist

Music will include *Preces and Responses*, Craig Phillips;  
*Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis*, Roland E. Martin; *Dear Lord and Father*, C. Hubert H. Parry  
Reception to follow in the Parish Hall, childcare provided.

## Parish Administrator

In support of fire fighters and families who are victims of the recent fires  
Christ Church 3rd Sunday Alms has been distributed as follows:

Smith County Volunteer Fire Association Wildfire Relief Account \$850  
PATH \$850  
East Texas Food Bank \$850

Lift High the Cross Capital Campaign - Our loan now stands at \$505,000,  
thanks to all of you for your continued support for our beautiful new building.



## Volunteers at Christ Church

We have so many wonderful folks who give their time and effort sharing their talents and skills for the ministries of Christ Church. Many thanks to all of you.

Thank you, Celia Ridley, for sharing your amazing eye behind the lens and capturing moments in our lives as we worship, fellowship, celebrate and study together.

Through your photos we document our legacy.

# Children's Ministry



# Advent Wreath Workshop

Sunday, November 27, 2011

Immediately following the 11:00 & 11:05 services in the Parish Hall

Jerry's Flowers is working with us to provide the materials to make a quality live wreath for your family to enjoy during the Advent season. Materials and greenery will need to be ordered, so please reserve your space by Oct. 16.

All materials and lunch are included in the cost.

\$35/ per wreath. Reservation forms are available at the reception desk. You may send your payment or put it in the plate on Sunday, please put "Advent Wreath" in the memo line.

**Your payment is your reservation.**

# Youth Ministry

It's been a long time since I've learned so much of God in so short a time. Today, Nicole and I have been parents for all of ten days, and our lives are already changed forever. I was once a night owl, now I'm in bed by 10:00 p.m. at the latest. I'm not sure I had ever seen 5:00 a.m. any time other than on a hunting trip, but now it's my favorite time of day. And I never understood my mother when she told me about how, as a parent, she has relied heavily on God every moment of every day as a mother. She always said that she really did not know how things managed to work out so well, on countless occasions, apart from God's divine grace, love, and incredible Spirit at work in her life and ministry as a parent.

And yes, I called parenthood a ministry deliberately. For in my opinion that's what it must be if we are to have any hope of not messing our kids up beyond repair. After just 24 hours of parenthood, Nicole and I finally understood all the reasons why parents always say they are so tired, even though most of those I know never look it. We understood how precious God's word is to those parents who have always sworn by the necessity of an early morning reading and prayer session by yourself. Or how much a radio sermon can hit the nail directly on the head, and leave you feeling a million times better, and in need of a quick wipe of the eyes to dry the mist you didn't know was gathering.

Sunday, a good friend encouraged me by describing parenthood as the most selfless thing he'd ever done, and the most rewarding. It reminded me that there's a bigger picture, and that if we would only allow that idea to abide in our hearts we could see

our children as the gifts they are...God's children who have been entrusted to our care. They are His, and we are His stewards. Whether biological, adopted, or fostered, they are all His. What a comfort that is, and a challenge no less.

Still, it doesn't mean we aren't a little anxious now and then. But I also remember this: that God is a mender of the broken and torn down. As parents, as people, we make mistakes, and when we mess things up beyond repair, we can remember that nothing is beyond God's ability and desire to make them new again, better, and more reflective of His glory. You...parents, students, and children of the Father...are never beyond His grace, never out of the reach of His mercy, never alienated from His love. Respond in humility and thanks as *faithful* stewards.

Needless to say, my ministry as a pastor will also be forever changed...my paradigm shifted. It is not my power (laughable as it were) that drives my ministry to my children or to my students, but God's working in and through me that meets the hearts of those with whom I have been entrusted to shepherd. All I can say, all any of us can say, is "Lord, please use me, and give me all I need to be faithful with what you have entrusted to me." At that, we turn and give thanks for the ever faithful granting of such a request. Romans 8:28 says, "For we know that God works *all* things together for the *good* of those who love Him and are *called* according to *His* purpose." Parents, students, pastors, and children...abide in His promises, and be covered in His sufficient grace.

**Vance Garvey: Director of Senior EYC Ministries**

# Fellowship & Outreach

## FATHER DAVID'S BLOG

To read about Father David and fellow Parishioners on their tour of the Holy Land, September 20-October 2, go to: <http://tyleranglican.wordpress.com>

## PRIMETIMERS

Join us for our first gathering of the fall, Friday, September 30 from 6:00-8:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Bring a *White Elephant*, covered dish and food for PATH.

## EFM

**Education for Ministry (EFM) Fall Session Groups Forming Now.** For more information or to join an EFM group, contact: **Morning Group:** Dolph Miller, 903-534-0385/abm\_395@hotmail.com. Begins October 3: 9:00 am-noon. **Evening Group:** John Carr, 903-571-0306 / john@carrresources.com. Began Aug. 30: 6:30-9:00 pm, call for availability.

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

Our next luncheon meeting will be held on Monday, October 3 at 11:45 am in the Parish Hall. Mrs. Bouquet Boulter, wife of Father Matt Boulter will be our speaker. Childcare provided.

## THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 2, 3:30 pm. Bring your pets for a blessing! Leash and carriers requested. Southwest corner, Bergfeld Park. Look for the banner!

## ALL SAINTS GUILD

All Saints Guild will meet for a salad luncheon on Tuesday, October 18 at 11:30 am in the Parish Hall. Please bring your favorite salad to share. Joanna Reagan will present the video *Washington DC - A Monumental City*. A significant part of the show is about the National Cathedral. We'll learn about stone arches from Mason Foreman, Joe Alonso, and how the stones hold the Cathedral up. It is timely following the recent earthquake in DC resulting in damage to the Cathedral. We will see it in better days and learn about its dedication and setting of the final stone from Billy Cleland, the Master Mason.

## THE TYLER ROSE MARATHON

Sunday, October 9, 6:00-8:30 am. Races begin and end at The Rose Garden Center. In the Azalea District drivers might have to wait while runners pass, but the streets will not be closed. To avoid any delays coming downtown, leave a little early and use Broadway to Front or Elm that morning.

## WELCOME

Welcome to new members, *Lauren Hancock and family*, and *Pamela & Jim Hill*. We are grateful they have chosen to make Christ Church their home.

## HARVESTING A BALANCED LIFE

The Women of St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Houston invite you to join us October 14-15 for the 110th Annual ECW Retreat at Camp Allen. The keynote speaker is Susan G. Baker, author of *Passing it on: An Autobiography with Spirit*. Susan is the co-founder of the National Alliance to End Homelessness and the wife of former Secretary of State James A. Baker, III. Registration forms and an online registration option can be accessed at [www.epicenter.org/ecw](http://www.epicenter.org/ecw).

## ALL SAINTS DAY

Our departed loved ones will be remembered at the services on Sunday, November 6. If you would like to add a name to this list, please call the church office at 903-597-9854. You may also email Carolyn at [office@christchurchtyler.org](mailto:office@christchurchtyler.org) no later than Thursday, November 3.

## SR. EYC SKI TRIP!

When: December 16-21, 2011  
Where: Winter Park, CO  
Costs: \$625  
Non-Skier Cost: \$450  
Deposits of \$250 due ASAP!  
Call Vance for further details. 903-597-9854

## CHRIST CHURCH GIFT SHOP NEW BOOKS HAVE ARRIVED!

New shipments of these books have arrived and are available in the Gift Shop. "The 21 Most Effective Prayers of the Bible" and "Come to the Table, Food, Fellowship, and a Celebration of God's Bounty". Open Monday through Thursday 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Sunday 9:45-10:50 am.

## CRUCIFER DEADLINES

Articles Due: Monday, October 3  
Print Date: Tuesday October 11

## KIDS CORNER—HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

10/11 Collin Brown;

10/15 Emily Berry and Erin Berry.

## Worship Schedule at Christ Church

<i>Sunday</i>	7:30 a.m.	The Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	8:45 a.m.	The Holy Eucharist, Rite II
	10:00 a.m.	Christian Education Classes
	11:00 a.m.	The Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	11:05 a.m.	The Holy Eucharist, Rite III
	5:30 p.m.	The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

*The vision of Christ Episcopal Church is to be recognized as a joyful, spirit-filled community of apostles reaching out and transforming lives for Christ.*

*Tuesday* 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Rite II (in the Chapel)

*Thursday* 12:00 p.m. Holy Communion from BCP 1928

Church Web Site: [www.christchurchtyler.org](http://www.christchurchtyler.org)

**Please Note:** *The Crucifer* is published twice monthly and mailed out on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. If you have something you would like to see published in *The Crucifer*, the deadline for submission is on the first and third Monday of each month.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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