

the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXIII, No.17

October 6, 2021

christchurchtyler.org



From the Rector:

Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you all in your work and in all that you undertake. Deuteronomy 15:10

Years ago on Pentecost Sunday as one congregation in Mississippi filed into church, the ushers handed each person bright red carnations to symbolize the festive spirit of the day. The people listened attentively to the reading from the Book of Acts about how the disciples had heard “what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven.”

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon us,” the preacher began.

“Like the powerful wind from heaven!” interrupted a woman sitting in the first pew. Then she threw one of the red carnations toward the altar.

The preacher began again: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon us.”

The same woman’s voice rang out again, “Like the tongues of fire, the tongues of fire!” Again, she threw a red carnation toward the altar.

The preacher raised his voice, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon us, asking for your tithes!”

To which the woman replied, “Preacher, you have just calmed the wind and put out the fire.”

Throughout this historic, trying season in our lives, Christ Church has remained single-mindedly committed to God’s call for us to love Him, love our neighbor, and equip disciples. Your faithful stewardship of time, talent, and treasure has been remarkable and commendable, enabling our ministries to flourish!

Our theme for Stewardship 2022, drawn from Deuteronomy 15, is A Generous Spirit: Our Response to God’s Favor. We do not presume to predict the public health landscape over the coming year, but we are hopeful that in the coming weeks, the wave will pass. And our ministries, which have never stopped, will expand considerably as we celebrate God’s blessings together.

Please join my family by pledging your resources to the Lord through Christ Church on Commitment Sunday, October 31. Financial stewardship is our grateful response to God’s gracious favor.

Gratefully in Christ Jesus,

David +



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

from the associate rector...

The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter / *Associate Rector*

PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD

If I were to make a list of the greatest joys and privileges of pastoral ministry as a priest in the church, near the top of that list would be weddings. I love to come alongside couples—old and young, Episcopalian and not—and journey with them toward the big day. I'm encouraged that, by my best estimate, I have still performed more weddings as a minister in the church than funerals!

And yet, over the two decades that I've been performing weddings (including all the necessary counseling) the culture in which we find ourselves has shifted drastically.

I'm talking about the dominant assumptions, especially among folks under age 40, pertaining to human sexuality and gender. As recently as fifteen years ago I could safely assume that discussing the sacrament of marriage as pertaining to a man and a woman would be uncontroversial. But that is no longer the case.

You see, the material I've used more over two decades of pastoral, pre-marital counseling is the teaching of the Reverend Timothy Keller, a Presbyterian minister in New York City who planted and developed Redeemer Presbyterian Church, a vibrant Gospel witness in that city, together with scores—perhaps hundreds—of derivative church plants dotting the globe.

Keller's 2013 New York Times bestseller, *The Meaning of Marriage*, is based in a previous set of sermons he originally preached in the mid-1990's, and it is those sermons I use in my counseling for potential couples. If I were to summarize this material, it would be this: marriage is a mysterious picture, or image, of the sacrificial love that exists between Christ and the Church. This is the core message, and its implications and applications to marriage or many and profound.

And yet, in our day and age, this claim is controversial, again, especially to young people. "Between a man and a woman?!" To their ears it sounds so bigoted, so non-inclusive, so oppressive.

As I write this article, I am sitting in the Portland, Oregon airport, having landed literally ten minutes ago. I'm here to perform my third wedding in five weeks. Of the three couples, two are folks who are 40-ish years old or younger.

Before beginning my counseling with these two couples, I made a special YouTube video, viewable only by them and addressed and tailored exclusively to them. In it I introduced myself, assured them of my prayers, and gave them a bit of orientation for the counseling regimen. But then, I acknowledged the elephant in the room. I gently and forthrightly put my cards on the table.

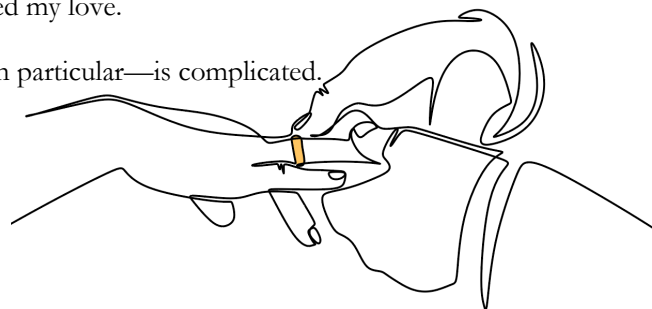
"In our counseling sessions, over the coming weeks," I told them, "I'll be working off the assumption that the sacrament of marriage holds between a man and a woman, since not only is this Tim Keller's view, but it is also, actually, essential to the point of the counseling sessions."

"Do I require that you agree with me on these issues in order for me to perform your wedding? Do I require that you 'sign on the dotted line' in that way? By no means. But I do want you to know where I'm coming from, and I don't want you to be shocked when you eventually realize that traditional nature of the marriage that's being presented here. I hope you end up agreeing with me on this, but even if you don't I want you to know that you are loved, and that it is a great honor and joy for me to be involved in your lives in this way."

Sure enough, in both cases, this preemptive video turned out to be a prudent move on my part, for later on in our discussions, sure enough the couples—one of them in particular—began to feel a bit of discomfort around the traditional character of marriage being presented. But I was able to hearken back to that introductory video I made for them, and to remind them about all this. After this they completely understood, and we moved on. Thankfully, they sensed my love.

Doing ministry in this contemporary world—and doing pre-marital counseling in particular—is complicated.

And yet, it is needed, and thus it is a joy...maybe more now than ever!



*A musical feast is being presented at
Christ Church in the Nave in the weeks to come!*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10 at 9 & 11 services
selections of **Mass in C No. 7** by Charles Gounod

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7 at 6:00pm

Choral Evensong

Music to include:

Anthem: *Light's abode, celestial Salem*, Welsh melody | *Versicles, Responses, and Lord's Prayer*, Sumsion

Psalms 149, C. Villiers Stanford | *Magnificat and Nunc dimittis in A major*, Sumsion

Anthem: *Abide With Me*, Richard Webster | *Hymn No. 24. The day thou gavest*, St. Clement

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14 at 3:00pm

An Afternoon of Music in the Nave

featuring Avinash Chavda (piano)

Sunday afternoon "sing" with Mary Helen Morris and Jeffrey Ford at 2:45 p.m.

Reception of pie and coffee in the Parish Hall following provided by ECW.

music at Christ Church
Jeffrey Ford / Choirmaster & Organist

As Christ Church members, my family has been, and continues to be, blessed beyond measure by God's favor. Through the worship celebrations of the liturgical calendar, the celebration of holy matrimony, holy baptism, and in the seasons of profound sorrow in the loss of cherished family members, the love of our clergy and members of our Christ Church family have served to faithfully represent the body of Christ in each season. Week in and week out, our family's faith journey continues to overflow with God's favor and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit.

Seventeen years ago, Sunday, 10/03/2004, Fr. Harrison McLeod baptized our beautiful precious granddaughter in the nave. As is our liturgical custom, we as the body of believers renew our baptismal covenant each time we celebrate with our new sister or brother in Christ. As part of our prayerful reflection of our stewardship commitment, it seems especially fitting to consider two of the baptismal responses we vow as part of our renewed commitment:

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ? ***I will with God's help***
Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? ***I will with God's help***

Today, I am reminded in a most tangible way that our family's journey continues to be led by the spirit and is blessed beyond measure through God's favor.

Also, that Sunday serves as an historical anniversary for our parish. In 1916, Rev. Snowden began seeking financial support to construct a new church building, during the great war and the Spanish Flu pandemic. Despite the challenges they experienced, our church forefathers and mothers heeded God's call and on October 6, 1918, the first sermon was preached in the new nave in downtown Tyler. They chose to proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ and to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving their neighbors as themselves.

We live in a very different world compared with 1918, but we know that God's words have not changed and his call remains the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. It is our time to heed the call. Let us join together in the generous financial support of Christ Church ministries for this generation and for the grandchildren of generations who follow. Together, with God's help, **we** will proclaim the good news of God in Christ by word and example, and **we** will seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves.



Lou Ann Berman
(pictured above with her granddaughter)
shares her Stewardship thoughts.



A Generous Spirit

Commitment Sunday is October 31st!

Stewardship2022

Our Response to God's Favor





Sunday School for all age groups begins at 10:00 am on both campuses.

Godly Play curriculum for Pre-K—1st grade.

Holy Moly curriculum for 2nd—4th grades.

Children's Chapel is offered during the 9:00am service at CCD and during the 11:05 am service at CCS.

Faithful and fun leaders are needed on both campuses.

Please contact Ms. Tina for more information.

tmcgee@christchurchtyler.org



Fall Festival & Chili Cook-off

Sunday, October 24th
5:30-7:30

\$7/person (age 4+)
\$25/family

Christ Church South | 15747 Old Jacksonville Hwy



Enter the Chili Cook-off!
Categories: HOTTEST, YANKEE, TEXAN
\$25 entry fee

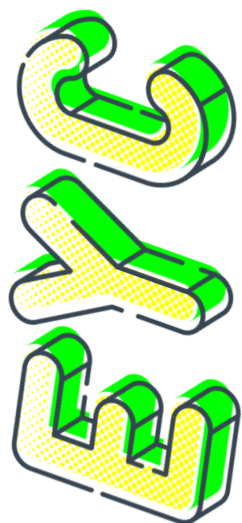
Wear your favorite costume and JuJubilee will complete your look with face painting!
Pumpkin Painting & Carving!

It Takes a Village

When I was an adolescent, my "2nd moms" liberally gifted me with Godly encouragement - something I wasn't given by my peers and that my bio-family could only provide so much. It truly does take a village to grow up with an identity in the knowledge and love of Christ, and our students need a village!

Our ministry's fall-spring program is in full swing, and we are in need of loving adults to volunteer their hospitality, encouragement, and discipleship for our students and their friends. By simply being who you are and seeing what God sees in these young men and women, you will multiply goodness in their lives as well as yours!

If this ministry is something your schedule permits, please consider saying yes to being a village for Christ Church's youth on Wednesday nights (6:00-7:30 pm) or Sunday mornings during the Christian Formation hour.



thanksgivings & supplications

In Our Prayers

Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions:

Jennifer, Lisa, Drew, Virginia, Chad, Lauren, SC, Nita, Stephanie, Christy, Cynthia, Christi, Charles, John, Jim, Dalton, Kirby, Chris, Austin, Lynn, Jeremy, Barbara, Lindsey, Emmi, James, Matthew, Sarah, Betsy, Nina, Steve Cindy, Gregg, Josiah, Marilyn, Julia, Anne, Maxwell, Alexa, Donald, Shelly, Kerry, Patsy, Diedre, Zoe, Gage, Francis, Brittini, Woody-Kaye, Rodgers Family, Paul, Lucy, Vickie, Gina, Betsy, Monalee, Katie, Patrick, Greg, Marie, Tommy, Debby, Sally, Liz, Lloyd, Kristi, Walt, Betty

The Anglican Communion: *The Diocese of Garissa (Kenya)*, **The Episcopal Church:** *Dioceses of Haiti & Hawaii*
Diocese of Texas: *St. Mark's—Houston & Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church—Houston*

Please contact The Rev. Stephen Stine with prayer list changes or additions 903.530.8168

In Memoriam

Our sympathies to the family & friends of
Roger Northwood, and
Jack Brown,
husband of Jeane Brown.

BAPTISMS: October 31, 2021

All Saints Sunday

If interested in being baptized or having an infant or child baptized Downtown or Christ Church South contact the church at office@christchurchtyler.org or call 903.597.9854.

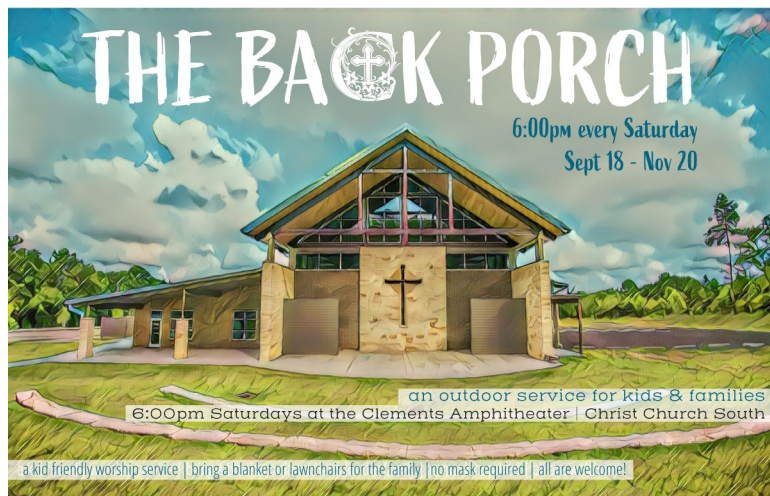
CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

10/8 **Jos Garvey**, 10/9 **Ezra Fierbaugh**,
 10/10 **Claire Godbold**, 10/13 **Maley Bergfeld**,
 10/16 **Mia Henninger**

Congratulations for the marriage of:

Kimber Spinks & Kevin Short

October 2, 2021



THE BACK PORCH 6:00 service & join us afterwards on the 16th for FOOD & FELLOWSHIP!

ECW MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14
 11:45am

ALL WOMEN INVITED
 (bring a friend)
 LUNCH SERVED

RSVP BY Monday 10/11
dkeesey@christchurchtyler.org
 or 903 597 9854

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Guest Speaker:
DR. PAUL WICK, Master Gardener,
 share with us the new
BOTANICAL GARDEN SECTION
 happening at the
TYLER ROSE GARDEN

SCHEDULE:

Sat, October 9

6:00pm | **The Back Porch** CCS Amphitheater

Sun, Oct 10

9 & 11 | **Mass in C, No 7** during services at CCD

Tues, Oct 12

8:00am | **Men's Bible Study with the Rector** CCD Parish Hall

Wed, Oct 13

7:15am | **Wednesday Men's' Bible Study** CCD Undercroft

10:00am | **Wednesday morning small group**

6:00-7:30pm | **EYC**

Thurs, Oct 14

10:30am | **Women's Bible Study with the Rector** CCD Parish Hall

11:45 | **ECW meeting** (lunch served) CCD Parish Hall

RSVP by 10/11 office@christchurchtyler.org

6:00pm | **Loaves & Fishes**

Sat, Oct 16

6:00pm | **The Back Porch** CCS Amphitheater
followed with food & fellowship

Sun, Oct 17

12:15pm | **EYC Family Pavilion Sunday** CCS
EYC families food & fellowship

Fri, Oct 22

6:00pm | **Supper Club** *small groups*

Sun, Oct 24

5:30pm | **Fall Festival** CCS

Sat, Nov 6

6:00pm | **The Back Porch** CCS Amphitheater
followed by Newcomer Dinner with the Rector



Adult Christian Formation classes:

10:00am Sundays

CCD:

Christian Spirituality & Practice

CCS:

Inwardly Digest: The Book of Common Prayer

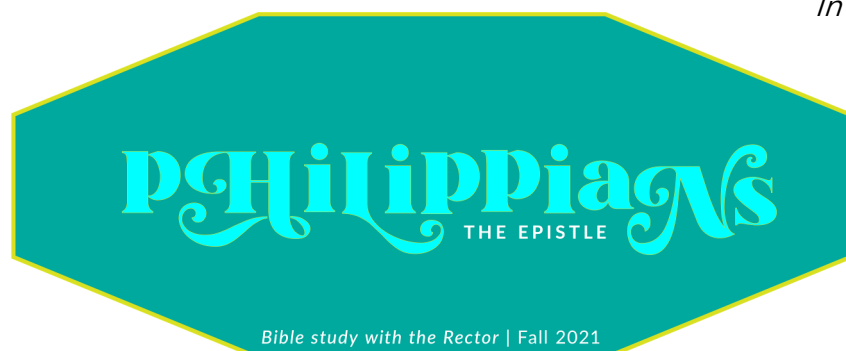
Bible Study with the Rector

Fall 2021

Men: TUESDAYS at 8:00am

Women: THURSDAYS at 10:30am

Join Fr. David in a study of the Epistle to the Philippians, in the Parish Hall, Downtown.



Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Doyle

Bishop of the Diocese of Texas

The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher

Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Kai Ryan

Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Héctor Monterroso

Bishop Assistant

The Rev. David Luckenbach

Rector

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The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter

Associate Rector

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Associate Rector

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The Rev. Stephen Stine

Deacon

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Director of Communications

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epiphanytx@gmail.com

Mr. Ledell Reed

Sexton

Mr. Kendric Milton

Assistant Sexton

Ms. Jennifer Ducote

Office Assistant & Housekeeper

Mr. Anthony Moore

Sexton, Christ Church South

Ms. Laurel Maynard, Ms. Tamarian Britton, Mr. Eric Haan,

Ms. Parker Massey, Ms. Elizabeth Thorn, &

Mr. Austin Green,

Nursery

The Vestry

Mr. Tim Alexander

Treasurer

Mr. Peter Boyd

Asst. Treasurer

Mr. Danny Noteware

Class of 2021

Mr. Clyde Beaty

Class of 2021

Mrs. Susan Bracken

Class of 2021

Mr. Rodney Schroeder

Class of 2021

Mr. Ted Walters, Senior Warden

Class of 2021

Mrs. Lou Ann Berman

Class of 2022

Mr. Steve Hardy

Class of 2022

Mrs. Christi Khalaf, Clerk

Class of 2022

Mr. John Owen, Jr. Warden CCD

Class of 2022

Mr. Tim Quinn, Jr. Warden CCS

Class of 2022

Mr. Stephen Bentley

Class of 2023

Mr. Mark Burton

Class of 2023

Mr. Jerry Sanders

Class of 2023

Mrs. Terri Squyres

Class of 2023

Mr. Bob Westbrook

Class of 2023

Pastoral Emergency Contacts

In the event of a pastoral emergency,
you may reach The Rev. David Luckenbach, Rector,
at 903-279-8777, The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter, 903-944-8494,
The Rev. Ted Welty, 903-714-7052 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 upcoming Sundays Year B BCP 1979 Lectionary

Sunday, October 10

The 20th Sunday after Pentecost | Proper 23

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Psalms 90

Hebrews 3:1-6

Mark 10:17-27 [28-31]

Sunday, October 17

The 21st Sunday after Pentecost | Proper 24

Isaiah 53:4-12

Psalms 91

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:35-45

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship Schedule

Sunday Schedule

7:30 am CCD: The Holy Eucharist *Rite I*
9:00 am CCD: The Holy Eucharist *Rite II*
11:00 am CCD: The Holy Eucharist *Rite I* {live-streamed christchurchtyler.org}
11:05 am CCS: The Holy Eucharist *Rite II* {live-streamed christchurchtyler.org}

CHRIST CHURCH: ONE CHURCH—TWO CAMPUSES

CCD: Christ Church *Downtown*, 118 S. Bois d' Arc, Tyler, TX 75702 (office address)

CCS: Christ Church *South*, 15747 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75703

www.christchurchtyler.org | office@christchurchtyler.org

Please Note: *The Crucifer* is published twice monthly (except July and December).
If you have something you would like to see published in *The Crucifer*, please contact
Samantha Hague at 903-597-9854, shague@christchurchtyler.org.