

# the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXIV, No.19

October 5, 2022

christchurchtyler.org



## From the Rector:

*Jesus said, "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty." Matthew 13:4-8*

While we are individuals, our identity is strongly shaped by people and events beyond ourselves. People who grew up in fourteenth century Europe were formed by the Black Death. A person like my great-grandfather who grew up 120 ago in a German-speaking family in Luckenbach, Texas experienced a different world than a child growing up in Ukraine in 2022.

In the parable of the sower, Jesus reminds us that an essential work of the Christian and the Church is to tend the soil. As the quality of the earth in which a seed is planted is consequential, the health and resources of the Church are vital to the development of strong Christian faith.

For well over a century, Christ Church has been well served by those who tended our soil. Hundreds of clergy and lay leaders have faithfully tended our spiritual soil for generations.

Now it is our turn.

The theme for 2023 Stewardship—**God's Generosity: Our Response**—reminds us that the Lord has abundantly blessed us with the resources to enjoy an amazing life. We demonstrate our response by sharing and investing our time, talent, and treasure in the ministry of Christ Church in the coming year. Especially as we continue to renew our ministries in the wake of the pandemic, robust stewardship in 2023 will ensure that the seeds of faith we scatter in the coming months will fall on good soil, which will prove fruitful for many years to come.

Commitment Sunday is October 30. Please join Silvia and I by making a faithful financial commitment to planting healthy seeds for the vital ministries of Christ Church in 2023.

Gratefully in Christ Jesus,

David +

# from the associate rector...

The Rev. Ted Welty, *Associate Rector*

## St. Francis

October 4 is the Feast Day of St. Francis, however, we celebrated his Day on Sunday, October 2 with a Blessing of the Pets in Bergfeld Park. In my opinion, St. Francis is our most popular saint. If the government census included the concrete statues of St. Francis found in peoples' yards in this country, with the bird sitting atop his shoulder, and the squirrel at his feet, it would probably double our population. There are many stories about the life of St. Francis. Let me share one of them with you.

*Perhaps the most famous story of St. Francis is when he tamed the wolf that was terrorizing the people of Gubbio. While Francis was staying in that town he learned of a wolf so ravenous that it was not only killing and eating animals, but people, as well. The people took up arms and went after it, but those who encountered the wolf perished at its sharp teeth. Villagers became afraid to leave the city walls.*

*Francis had pity on the people and decided to go out and meet the wolf. Francis and his companions approached the wolf. Suddenly the wolf, teeth bared, charged out of the woods at them. Francis made the Sign of the Cross toward it. The power of God caused the wolf to slow down and to close its mouth.*

*Then Francis called out to the creature: "Come to me, Brother Wolf. In the name of Christ, I order you not to hurt anyone." At that moment the wolf lowered its head and lay down at St. Francis' feet, meek as a lamb.*

*St. Francis explained to the wolf that he had been terrorizing the people, killing not only animals, but humans who are made in the image of God. "Brother Wolf," said Francis, "I want to make peace between you and the people of Gubbio. They will harm you no more and you must no longer harm them. All past crimes are to be forgiven."*

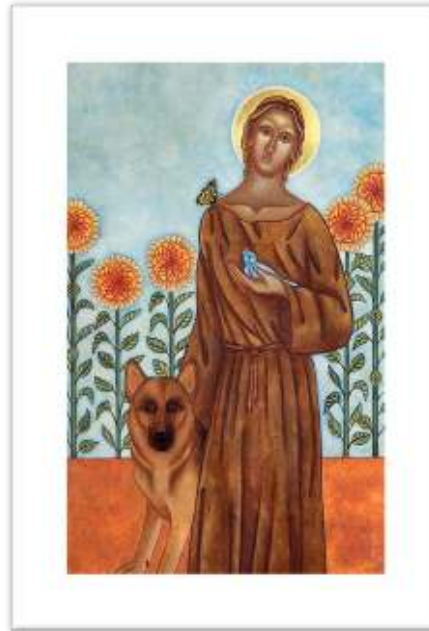
*The wolf showed its assent by moving its body and nodding its head.*

I don't know if there is even a grain of truth in this story, but nevertheless, St. Francis had a huge influence on Christianity and also on the shape of Western culture. The popular image of St. Francis preaching to the birds, blessing wolves, and rambling through nature like a 13<sup>th</sup> century hippie contains some truth, but maybe only a partial truth, because even though Francis loved nature, Jesus Christ was the cornerstone of St. Francis' ministry. After giving up a life of privilege, St. Francis dedicated himself to a life of living the Gospel, imitating the life of Jesus.

Several years ago, Ann and I were in Italy and saw a life-size statue of St. Francis in Assisi. Francis was not physically imposing, just over four feet in height and actually not much taller than one of the garden statues. He was apparently very charismatic, attracting people in droves to his ministry wherever he went. But it was not because of his appearance. The focus of St. Francis ministry was Jesus Christ, and his missionary strategy was to preach the Gospel everywhere and to all who had not heard of Christ. St. Francis believed that people are more influenced by what we do rather than what we say. He wanted his followers to be missionaries of peace and goodness, living lives of simplicity that imitated Christ, and sometimes he told his brothers before entering a town, "Preach the Gospel, and if necessary use words." St. Francis took a vow of poverty, chastity, and obedience, living the life of the Christ of the Gospels as closely and literally as he could. The childlike simplicity of his life serves as an example for us all.

Blessings in Christ, Ted+

*Then to the absolute surprise of the gathering crowd, Francis asked the wolf to make a pledge. As St. Francis extended his hand to receive the pledge, so the wolf extended its front paw and placed it into the saint's hand. Then Francis commanded the wolf to follow him into town to make a peace pact with the townspeople. The wolf meekly followed St. Francis.*



*By the time they got to the town square, everyone was there to witness the miracle. With the wolf at his side, Francis gave the town a sermon on the wondrous and fearful love of God, calling them to repent from all their sins. Then he offered the townspeople peace, on behalf of the wolf. The townspeople promised in a loud voice to feed the wolf. Then Francis asked the wolf if he would live in peace under those terms. He bowed his head and twisted his body in a way that convinced everyone he accepted the pact. Then once again the wolf placed its paw in Francis' hand as a sign of the pact.*

*From that day on the people kept the pact they had made. The wolf lived for two years among the townspeople, going from door to door for food. It hurt no one and no one hurt it. Even the dogs did not bark at it. When the wolf finally died of old age, the people of Gubbio were sad. The wolf's peaceful ways had been a living reminder to them of the wonders, patience, virtues and holiness of St. Francis. It had been a living symbol of the power and providence of the living God.*





[www.christchurchtyler.org/give](http://www.christchurchtyler.org/give)

We have officially kicked off our **God's Generosity: Our Response** 2023 Stewardship Campaign & commitment Sunday is October 30.

**My name is Stan Ward, and I pledge for two reasons. One is easy. The other is harder. First the easy reason - I know this is how the church sets its budget, and I want to support responsible financial planning. I respect that! Now for the hard (and even more important) reason—I pledge as an act of faith. The yearly pledge drive asks me to reflect on God's provision for my family over the last year, a provision that included the money we pledged. Then I'm asked to trust that God can (dare I say "will"? ) do it again. It always makes me a little uncomfortable, and I think that is where spiritual growth happens.**



**NEWCOMERS**  
**LUNCH WITH THE RECTOR**  
 SUNDAY  
**NOVEMBER 6 @ 12:30PM**  
**CHRIST CHURCH DOWNTOWN**  
 118 S. BOIS D'ARC

# children's ministry

Kimber Short / Director of Children's Ministries

My girls and I always loved a good musical; the catchy tunes, the snazzy choreography, the storyline. One of their favorites was Annie, in any of its iterations. The opening lines of the song "Little Girls" brings to mind what the Sunday School classroom wing looks like on Sunday mornings at 10:00. Adding "boys" to the first line of that song would go like this: "Little girls, little boys, everywhere I look I see them". If you know the musical you will know that for Mrs. Hannigan, this was not a good thing! But for Christ Church and for me it is a wonderful thing! We've got awesome kids, we've got great stories in our Godly Play classroom, we've got fun activities in our Holy Moly classroom and we've got all the snacks. The only thing we are missing is YOU!

Our Children's Ministry Program is looking for a few good men and women to join a rotation to lead Children's Chapel, teach a Christian formation class or help out in the nursery. Okay, not just a few. We want as many as we can get to share their love for the Lord with our youngest learners! Lessons, materials, training and a guaranteed good time will be provided. I want to make it as easy as possible for you to just show up and do your thing!



I will soon be sending out a Sign-up Genius for all three categories. I hope you will consider sharing some of your Sunday mornings with our youngest church members. I promise you will be blessed by the experience!

Kimber

## CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

10/5 **Matthew Ford**, 10/8 **Jos Garvey**, 10/9 **Ezra Fierbaugh**,  
10/10 **Claire Godbold**, 10/13 **Maley Bergfeld**,  
10/16 **Everett Mellon**, 10/16 **Mia Heninger**

## PICNIC AT THE PAVILION for children & youth families

October 30th, CCS, after the 11:05AM service

# youth ministry

Laura Albea / Director of Student Ministries

SCAN tickets, cook-off entry & all the info

## FALL FESTIVAL & CHILI COOK-OFF

CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH  
15747 OLD JACKSONVILLE  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23RD  
5PM-7PM

\$10/person (age 4+)  
\$25/family

Chili Cook-Off \Pouncy Pounce Obstacle Course \Face-Painting \KornPop \Hay Rides  
House Band \Pumpkin Painting \Food & treats for kids & adults

ENTER THE CHILI-COOK-OFF {\$25 ENTRY FEE}

TEXAN • YANKEE • HOTTEST • VEGETARIAN

All proceeds go to EYC.



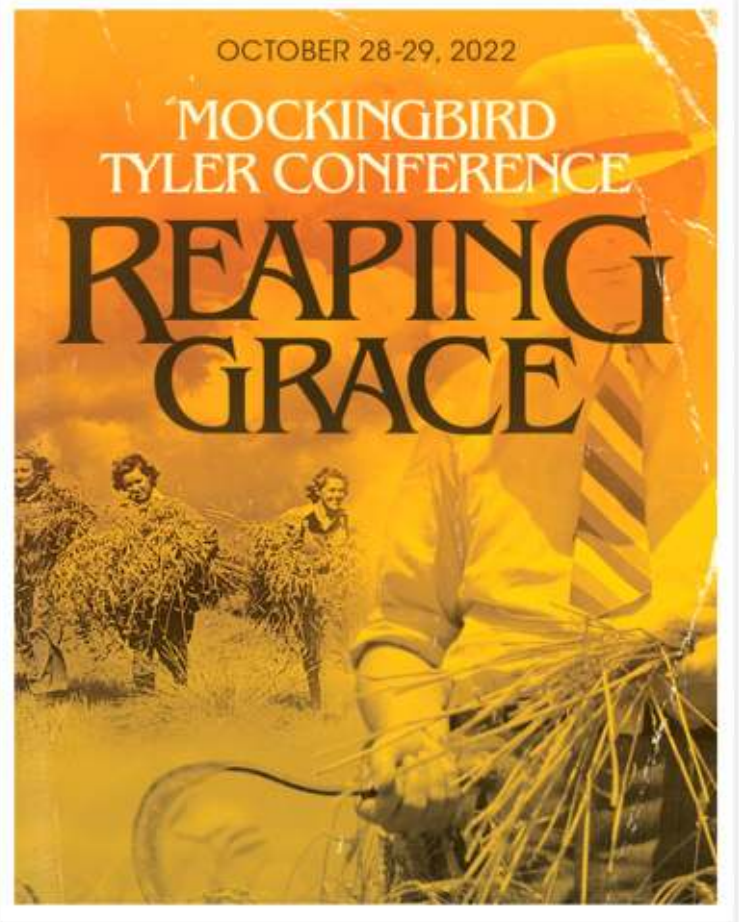
# Supper Club



Join us!

Friday, Oct. 14  
6:00pm  
meet in small groups

For more info & RSVP:  
Kim Meyer (903) 530-6186



## MOCKINGBIRD TYLER CONFERENCE

WHEN:

Friday Oct. 28 4pm - Saturday Oct. 29th 4pm

LOCATION:

The Claremore & True Vine Brewing Co.  
2447 Earl Campbell Parkway Tyler, TX 75701

Register today: [mbirdtyler.com](http://mbirdtyler.com)



*Women's Depth Group*

1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAYS  
6PM- 8 / CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH  
15747 OLD JACKSONVILLE



# Anglicanism 102

**Where:** Christ Church South

**When:** Sundays at 10:00am September 25 - November 13th

**Who:** Anyone who is curious about Anglicanism, those desiring to be confirmed, and/or those that would like a refresher course.

*This will culminate with Confirmation at Christ Church South on Sunday, November 20 at 11:05 a.m. with Bishop Fisher.*

# thanksgivings & supplications

## *In Our Prayers*

*Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions:*

Lisa, Cynthia, Christi, Charles, John, Jim, Diane, Jennifer, Virginia, Dalton, Kirby, Chris, Sally, Rhonda, Isaiah, John, Gregory, Russell, Mike, Mark, Linda, Marian, Larry, Paul, Frieda, Suzanne, Diane, Ian, Frieda, Betsey, Wayne, David, Jerry, Etienne, Marie, Will, Duke, Kim, Paul & Lucy, Edward, Brinley, Yeva, Glenda, Anthony, Ricky, Julie, Carl, Phil, Mimi, Sandy, Greg, Kitty, YK, Dave, Ann, Trinity, Tammy, Sandy, Ivette, Larry, Courtney, Max, Charles, Virginia, Colin, Teresa, Anne, Hal, Jeff, Sue, Cal, Art, Fred, Steve, Victoria, Kristi, Georgene, Iryna, Nora, Yevgney, Claudia, Rob

**The Anglican Communion:** *The Diocese of Nagpur (India)*

**The Episcopal Church:** *Dioceses of Rio Grande (NM) & Rochester (NY)*

**Diocese of Texas:** *Christ Episcopal Church—Matagorda & Christ Episcopal Church—Mexico*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Welcome the newly baptized:

*Elizabeth York Whitney*

daughter of Kali & Stewart Whitney,  
granddaughter of Beth & Clayton Whitney.

September 24, 2022 at Christ Church Downtown.



### *Holy Baptism*

The next scheduled date for baptisms is Sunday, October 16 & November 6. If interested in baptism on this date, please contact the church office, 903-597-9854 or office@christchurchtyler.org.

## UPCOMING

Thursday, October 13th

**CANCELED — Women's Bible Study with the Rector**

Friday, October 14 **Supper Club** in small groups

Sunday, October 16 **Baptisms**

Sunday, October 23

5pm—7 **Fall Fest & Chili Cook-Off** CCS

Friday & Saturday Oct 28 & 29

**Mockingbird Tyler Conference**—mbirdtyler.com

Sunday, November 6 (*Daylight Savings Time ends*)

6pm **Choral Evensong** CCD

Thursday, November 10

11:45am **ECW Luncheon**—CCD Parish Hall

Sunday, November 20

11:05am **Confirmation with Bishop Fisher** CCS



God Willing and the People Consenting

**The Right Reverend Dr. George R. Sumner**

Bishop of Dallas

will ordain

**Gavin Edward McAdam**

to the Sacred Order of Priests

in Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church

on

Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Feast of James Harington and Companions, Martyrs

at ten o'clock in the morning

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

516 South O'Connor Road

Irving, TX 75060

Your prayers and presence are requested.

Clergy: cassock and surplice, red stole

Reception to follow in Parish Hall

**ORDINATIONS:** (*See invitation in the previous Crucifer 9.21.22*)

**David Beadle** 10.22.22 10:00 a.m.

*The Cathedral Church of St. Matthew, Dallas*

**Ian Hyde** 10.26.22 7:00 p.m.

*The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Terrell*





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

[www.christchurchtyler.org](http://www.christchurchtyler.org)

## Worship Schedule

### Sunday

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*  
11:05 am ~ CCS: The Holy Eucharist *Rite II*  
~live-streamed [christchurchtyler.org](http://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](http://www.christchurchtyler.org) | [office@christchurchtyler.org](mailto: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](mailto:shague@christchurchtyler.org).



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