

# the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXV, No.4  
February 8, 2023  
christchurchtyler.org

## From the Rector:

Years ago, folks in the Rockies endured a hard winter. The snow piled deeper and deeper. The temperature dropped below zero and stayed there for weeks. People were suffering. So the Red Cross used helicopters to fly supplies in to help people who lived in the mountains.

Near the end of another hard day, the rescue team spied a cabin nearly covered in snow. A thin wisp of smoke arose from the chimney.

The rescuers figured that the cabin's residents were critically short of food, fuel and medicine. The thick trees meant they had to land the helicopter a mile from the cabin. They placed the heavy supplies on their backs and trudged through the waist deep snow, reaching the cabin cold and exhausted. They pounded on the door until a thin older woman opened it up.

The leader said, "We're from the Red Cross ma'am."

She was silent for a moment. Then she replied, "It's been a long, hard, winter son. I just don't think we can give anything this year."

## Lent is like a hard winter.

Forty days of fasting and self denial. A wilderness season in which we recall the years the Israelites spent in the wilderness and the days Jesus endured in the desert.

Lean seasons serve a purpose. The winter the cold kills the bugs and prepares the earth for new growth.



Likewise, Lent is designed as a season for spiritual pruning. If we observe a holy Lent, this season can be very helpful in nurturing spiritual health.

I invite you to fully commit to the observance of a Holy Lent. Adopt a meaningful spiritual discipline of self-denial. Embrace a practice which enhances your knowledge of God and opens a wider door to His presence in your life. Join us at noon on Tuesdays for the Lenten luncheons.

My hope is that when the forty days are over, and we celebrate anew the resurrection of Christ, you will look in the mirror and behold a wiser, kinder follower of Jesus.

May the Lord bless you and keep you,

*David H*



## The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin, Associate Rector

### “If it’s not one thing, it’s another.”

People like to say this. It also happens to be true.

I had quite a few plans for this past week, things I wanted to accomplish here at the church. I was then supposed to be at Camp Allen for a diocesan event. But the storm on Wednesday kept the church office closed, we lost our internet at home, and a few hours later our power. I couldn’t get out of town either. In the course of the day, my whole week went topsy turvy.

This same morning, one of the lections for morning prayer was from Matthew 6. The first bit reads:

*Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life?*

And this it goes on:

*Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.*

That night I spent the night in sleeping bags piled in a heap in our living room by the fire while tree branches cracked under the weight of ice seemed less like a surprised after this. It also felt like less of a burden. The reality is that we have many needs, and life has a way of throwing curve balls so that the plans we make – though important and wise – often change.

I am prone to rigidity. I like to have a schedule, to have a sense of what to expect in each

coming day and week. This reading came as a timely reminder that God provides, that he knows what we need, and that worrying isn’t all too helpful. Today’s trouble is enough for today and by God’s grace we’ll make it through until the end of today. And if not, well, I suppose that’s a goodly thing too. God gives and God takes away.

I am thinking about all of this especially as we head into the season of Lent. Lent is a time for penitence, for fasting, for reoriented our life toward Christ. It’s a time where we choose for life to get a little leaner. Not because we love feeling sad or enjoy going without God’s gift to us. No, rather, we fast for other reasons, not least because Jesus expects us to. But we also fast because we need to be reminded that God is so much greater than his gifts, and as much joy as steak or wine or coffee might bring to us, the thing we find lovely in each of these things is the God who provides them for us.

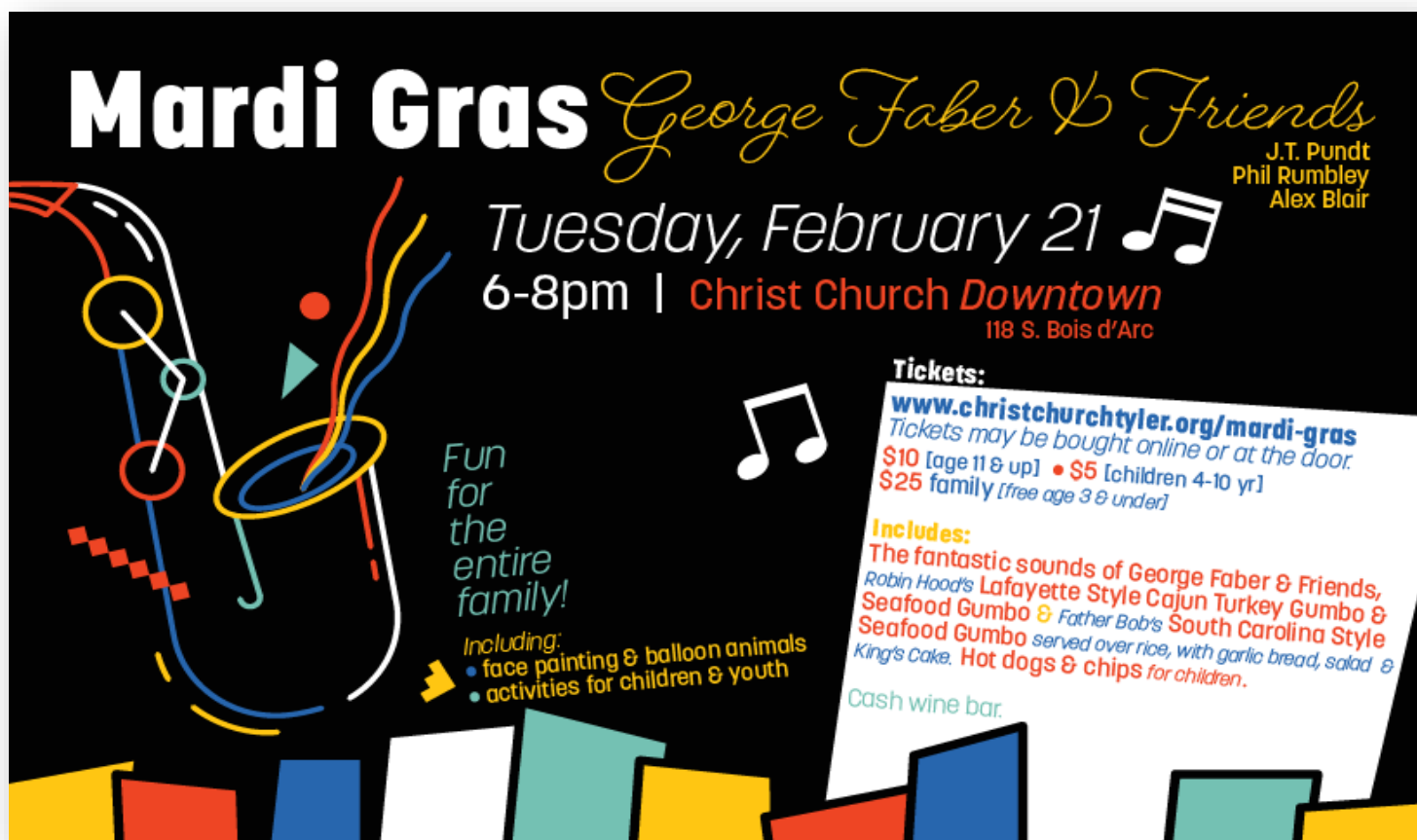
We are going to party on Mardi Gras. And we’ll feast once more with glad hearts, thankful for what God has given. But then we’ll head into the desert of Lent, learning to say no to our guts once in a while in order to be more attentive to the leading of the Spirit.

The two major fast days of Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. I’d encourage to skip a meal these days, if you are able. Take the time you’d spend eating to pray. If you are too hungry, have a small snack, called a collation. Worship with us at one of our services. Be reminded that you are mortal, that you have limits, that you are dust. And then for the rest of Lent (which does not include Sundays – it is impossible to fast on days we celebrate Christ’s resurrection) say no to a good gift from God so that you might stoke your desire for him.

If this is your first Lent, and you have some questions, please let reach out to Fr. David or myself. We’d love to hear from you.



Jeffrey Ford,  
Choirmaster & Organist



# Mardi Gras

*George Faber & Friends*

J.T. Pundt  
Phil Rumbley  
Alex Blair

Tuesday, February 21 🎵  
6-8pm | Christ Church Downtown  
118 S. Bois d'Arc

Fun for the entire family!

Including:

- face painting & balloon animals
- activities for children & youth

**Tickets:**  
[www.christchurchtyler.org/mardi-gras](http://www.christchurchtyler.org/mardi-gras)  
Tickets may be bought online or at the door.  
\$10 [age 11 & up] • \$5 [children 4-10 yr]  
\$25 family [free age 3 & under]

**Includes:**  
The fantastic sounds of George Faber & Friends,  
Robin Hood's Lafayette Style Cajun Turkey Gumbo &  
Seafood Gumbo & Father Bob's South Carolina Style  
Seafood Gumbo served over rice, with garlic bread, salad &  
King's Cake. Hot dogs & chips for children.  
Cash wine bar.

## WHAT IS A RULE OF LIFE?

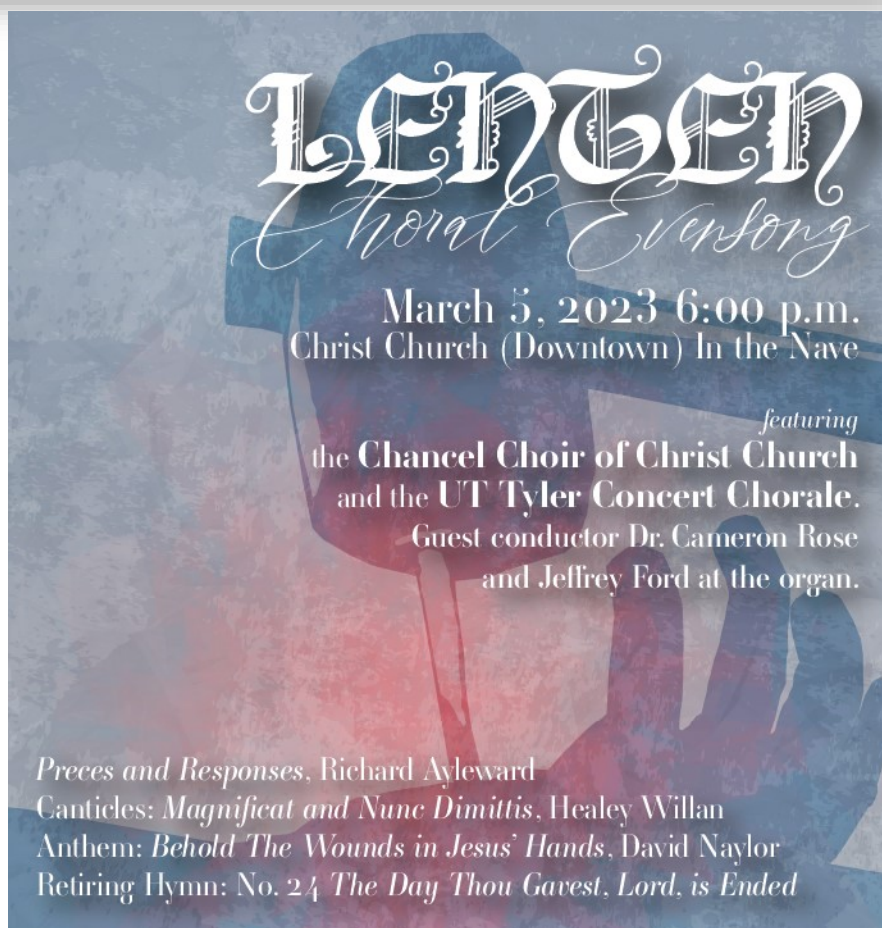
A rule of life is a bit like a healthy living plan for the spiritual life. Just like we make plans for wellness by thinking about how we will eat, exercise, and practice mindfulness, so we can craft a tailored rule of life for our spiritual fitness.

For a Christian, a rule of life should develop and grow out of the Gospel and the faith and order of Christ's Holy Catholic Church. It will include practices that we share in common as Christians, but it can also include practices that nourish us individually. The neat thing about a rule of life is that we can shape it to fit with our current life stage and situation. A rule of life for parents with young children will look different from one for single students, or a retired couple.

A rule of life is never an end in itself, but a means of ordering one's life toward Christ. If kept for its own sake, the a rule of life is just another installation of the Law, rather than solid but flexible scaffolding for a journey toward Jesus and his call for us.

Each week we'll look at a different aspect of rule of life, with the intent that folks would craft their own personal rule of life over the course of the Lenten series. These will include reflections from the clergy of Christ Church on:

public worship . private devotions  
public witness . social action  
stewardship



# LENTEN

*Choral Evensong*

March 5, 2023 6:00 p.m.  
Christ Church (Downtown) In the Nave

featuring  
the Chancel Choir of Christ Church  
and the UT Tyler Concert Chorale.  
Guest conductor Dr. Cameron Rose  
and Jeffrey Ford at the organ.

Preres and Responses, Richard Ayleward  
Canticles: Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, Healey Willan  
Anthem: Behold The Wounds in Jesus' Hands, David Naylor  
Retiring Hymn: No. 24 The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, is Ended



**Kimber Short,**  
Director of Children's Ministry

I fear commitment. And change. But mostly commitment. I have purchased items ranging from clothing and shoes to pillows, décor and furniture (either in person or online) only to, for no other reason than "what-if-I-find-something-I-love-even-more?", suffer terrible buyer's remorse.

This remorse forced me to return said items (again, either in person or online) and hopefully within the particular retailer's return policy guidelines. There is always a timeframe involved to return an item and my tendency towards procrastination generally has me missing that deadline by a lot.

Maybe it's an awkward segue, but as I sit at my desk at CCD looking out at the cold, gray sky, I am thinking about time. (Surely it hasn't been three months since the dress/pillow/chair was delivered! What do you mean I can't return it?) And how it is that time seems to move so much faster the older I get? I still have Christmas lights up on my house for goodness sake! How can it almost be Valentine's Day?

But the truth is, time marches on. It waits for no one. I could leave Christmas lights on my house for eternity and without fail, the subsequent holidays will continue to show up in succession. We are looking February in the face and Christmas lights or not, Valentine's day is right around the corner. But there is something even greater that awaits us in February. **PRETZEL SUNDAY!!!** I haven't participated in a Pretzel Sunday with my girls in years but every now and then my daughter Cameron will ask me to make her some using the same recipe that we used for all those years so many years ago. I still have the same copy that I was given the first time I volunteered to make the dough. So I invite you all to join the kids and me on **February 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 downtown** and after the **11:05 service at CCS** in this wonderful tradition. You might even learn a thing or two about the symbols we find in the humble pretzel. I hope to see you all there! Your noses and tummies will thank you!

Kimber ♥

### PRETZEL SUNDAY

Sunday, February 19

10:00am Downtown Parish Hall | after the 11:05am service Christ Church South



### CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

2/8 Lark Hesskew, 2/13 Reid Herron, 2/14 Jason Chideziri Okwudilichukwu,  
2/18 Ethan Haan, 2/18 Levi Albea, 2/20 Zoe Young

### GRADUATING SENIORS & PARENTS

Annually our local ECW awards a \$1000 scholarship to a graduating senior for higher education tuition.

Packets will be mailed to the address we have on file for each of our seniors.\*

They are also available to pick up from the parish secretary.

*The deadline for applications is April 28th.*

If you have any questions please contact  
Cindy Westbrook, ECW President,  
at 903.521.5509.

Additional scholarships are awarded through  
the Diocese for female graduates. For more information go to  
[epicenter.org/ecw-vera-gang-scott-scholarship](http://epicenter.org/ecw-vera-gang-scott-scholarship)



\*Parents of school age children contact the Parish Secretary to make sure we have your child's grade & address in our database: [office@christchurchtyler.org](mailto:office@christchurchtyler.org).



**ECW SUNDAY SCHOOL [5th-12th grade]**

10:00am Downtown

*"Hearing Jesus in the Gospels & Learning the Contemplative Art of Zentangle."*

If you can doodle, you can Zentangle.



# ASH WEDNESDAY

Imposition of Ashes  
**Christ Church Downtown**  
22 February 2023  
7:00am, Noon & 6:00pm\*

\*childcare available

## The Heart of the Faith: *Essentials of Anglican Christianity*

Join Fr. David & Fr. Cole  
Sunday Morning Christian Formation

10:00am at both campuses

## Genesis

Bible Study with the Rector  
**in beginning**

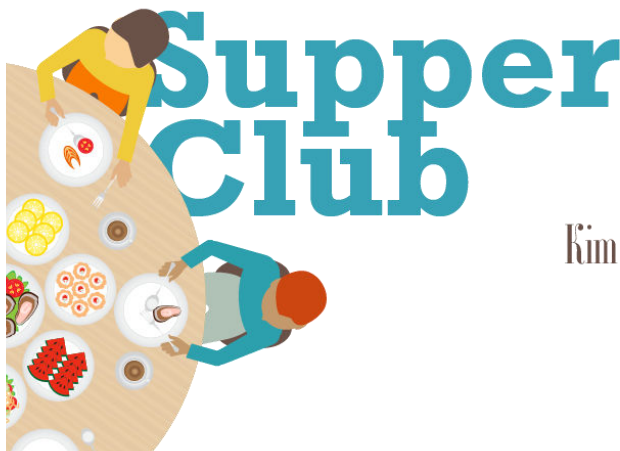
Men Tuesdays  
8:00 a.m.

Women Thursdays  
10:30 a.m.

Christ Church Downtown

## Women's Depth Group

1ST & 3RD WED | 6PM- 8  
CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH



## Supper Club

Friday, 6:00pm  
Feb 10 . March 10  
April 14 . May 19  
meet in small groups

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

thanksgivings , supplications  
& fellowship

*In Our Prayers*

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

Lisa, Cynthia, Paul & Lucy, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny,  
Rob, Victoria, Lynda, Chaley, Stacy, Sophie, Chesley, Link,  
Tom, John, Mike, Mark, Linda, Dalton, Chris, Marian, Ann,  
Carl, Mimi, Phil, Jennifer, MB, Raymond, Jan, Arnold, Tommy,  
George, Pam, Julie, John

**The Anglican Communion:** *The Diocese of Peru*

**The Episcopal Church:** *Dioceses of Tennessee & Texas*

**Diocese of Texas:** *St. Thomas—Rockdale &  
Richard's—Round Rock*

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

upcoming

Friday, February 10 6:00pm **Supper Club**

Sunday, February 19 **Pretzel Sunday** (*Children & Families*)

Tuesday, February 21 **Mardi Gras Party** (see graphic)

Wednesday, February 22 **Ash Wednesday**  
**Imposition of Ashes** *Downtown Campus*  
**7:00am, Noon, 6:00pm**

Tuesdays, February 28-March 28 Noon  
**Lenten Teaching Series** —CCD  
*followed by a light lunch*

Sunday, March 5 6:00pm **Lenten Choral Evensong**

Sunday, April 2 **Palm Sunday**

Sunday, April 9 **Easter**



**GREEN THUMB**  
help wanted!

The Downtown Campus Garden Guild is  
"shaking the bushes" looking for people who  
enjoy planting and have new ideas for the  
gardens. Someone with a truck for seasonal  
hauling, would be fantastic.

Contact Lynne Bordeaux if you are interested  
at 512-608-2171 or lynne0429@aol.com.

*In Memoriam*

Our sympathies to the family & friends of

**Lel Medford,**  
husband of Melba Medford,

**Josie Warchus,**  
wife of Lee Warchus,

**and Judith McConnell.**

**Congratulations on the birth of:**

*George Tolbert Danko*

February 1, 2023

son of Brooks & Nate Danko  
& grandson of Sheri & Chad Hanna



The Gift Shop has a nice selection of lovely  
Caspari **Valentine cards**.

Hours: Sunday 9-11, Tuesday & Thursday 10-1  
[giftshop@christchurchtyler.org](mailto:giftshop@christchurchtyler.org)

Volunteers of the Terra Sancta Guild  
run the shop and proceeds help to support the  
Christ Church ECW projects.



## 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. Hèctor Monterroso  
*Bishop Assistant*

The Rev. David Luckenbach  
*Rector* dluckenbach@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin  
*Associate Rector* chartin@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Ted Welty  
*Associate Rector* twelty@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Stephen Stine  
*Deacon* ssti@tjc.edu

The Rev. Kevin Wittmayer  
*Assisting Priest*

The Rev. Tim Kennedy  
*All Saints Episcopal School Chaplain, Assisting Priest*

Mrs. Diana Keesey  
*Parish Administrator* dkeesey@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Jeffrey Ford  
*Organist/Choirmaster* jford@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. A.J. Meals  
*Assistant Organist*

Mrs. Kimber Short  
*Director of Children's Ministries* kshort@christchurchtyler.org

Ms. Madison Perry  
*Children's Ministries Assistant*

Mr. Uriah Johnson  
*College Missioner* tylertxcanterbury@gmail.com

Mrs. Valerie Huggler  
*Parish Secretary* office@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Samantha Hague  
*Director of Communications* shague@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Robert Finney  
*Music Leader, Christ Church South* 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, Mrs. Blair Zdenek,  
Ms. Mackenzie Eakin, Mrs. Allison Hernandez *Nursery*

## The Vestry

**Mr. Peter Boyd** Treasurer

**Mr. Bill Clawater** Asst. Treasurer

**Mr. Stephen Bentley, Jr.** *Warden CCD* Class of 2023

**Mr. Jerry Sanders** Class of 2023

**Mrs. Terri Squyres, Clerk** Class of 2023

**Mr. Stan Ward** Class of 2023

**Mr. Bob Westbrook, Sr. Warden** Class of 2023

**Mrs. Kim Meyer** Class of 2024

**Mr. Danny Noteware** Class of 2024

**Mrs. Sheryl Richter, Jr. Warden CCS** Class of 2024

**Dr. Mak Saigusa** Class of 2024

**Dr. Dan Toney** Class of 2024

**Mr. Julius Bergfeld** Class of 2025

**Mrs. Catherine Buhrkuhl** Class of 2025

**Mr. Steven Comte** Class of 2025

**Mrs. Karen Hughes** Class of 2025

**Mr. Mark Shuttlesworth** Class of 2025

## Pastoral Emergency Contacts

In the event of a pastoral emergency,  
you may reach

The Rev. David Luckenbach, *Rector*, at 903-279-8777, or

The Rev. Stephen Stine at 903-530-8168.

You may also call the church office, 903-597-9854,  
during normal business hours.

## Lectionary for upcoming Sundays Year A BCP 1979 Lectionary

### Sunday, February 12

6 Epiphany

Sirach 15:11-20

Psalms 119:1-16

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Matthew 5:21-24, 27-30, 33-37

### Sunday, February 19

Last Epiphany

Exodus 24:12 [13-14] 15-18

Psalms 99

Philippians 3:7-14

Matthew 17:1-9



Christ Church | Episcopal  
118 S. Bois d'Arc  
Tyler, TX 75702

903.597.9854  
office@christchurchtyler.org

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.*