

the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXV No. 6

3

9

From the Rector:

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee came to the tomb...They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen." Luke 24

Martin Luther famously said, 'Our Lord has written the promise of Resurrection not in books alone, but in every leaf in Springtime.'

We see evidence of the resurrection of creation throughout Smith County. Azaleas, tulips, and all manner of flowers and leaves are emerging from their winter sleep.

In a few short weeks, all over the world, the Church will do the same. And rejoice anew at the glorious Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord.

There is a journey, though, between Lent and Eastertide—Holy Week. It exists to help us remember the lessons from Christ during His eventful week before Easter Sunday.

I encourage you to walk every step through Holy Week. From Palm Sunday, when crowds lined the streets to greet Jesus as King, through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday—Resurrection Day!

I pray that the annual remembrance of the Passion, the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection of Christ will fill your heart with the unconditional love of the Risen Savior, Christ Jesus our Lord.

Your Servant in Christ,

David H



The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin,



Lent is good time to think about death. It's a good time to think about death because it's the time when we remember our mortality, our limits, and our utter reliance upon God. It's also a good time to think about death because we can frame our dying in light of our

creation through and redemption in Christ. Because we are created by God, we are not immortal. We are creatures. Though we are creatures, death is not our end. In Christ's death, death was defeated once and for all. We will celebrate this on Easter Sunday. We cannot understand our own mortality and life without reference to our Creator, nor can we make sense of our death without reference to the change that Christ's death has wrought in the world.

All of this is especially important in a culture that obscures death. By my lights, here in twenty-first-century America, death is obscured in at least three ways. Death is hidden, or it is trivialized, or it is the cause for despair.

Let me give you some examples of each:

Death is hidden. The whole funeral industrial complex sanitizes and hides death from view. Our loved ones are whisked from hospital rooms to funeral homes to celebrations of life. We are spared from the most mundane and uncomfortable aspects of death.

Oddly enough, culture also trivializes death. How? Look at horror movies or many popular video games, for instance. They are chock-full of death and dying, but instead of presenting death as a liminal moment, it becomes a means of cheap scares and entertainment.

And finally, death becomes the cause for despair. Without God in the picture, death is just the end, full stop. And that means our lives, however bright they shine for the three-

score-and-ten-odd years we live on earth, will ultimately be blotted out forever. There's a songwriter who I love, Phil Elvrum (Mount Erie), who sums this up in an album, *A Crow Looked at Me*, about his wife's early death. In one song, "Emptiness, pt. 2", he writes of losing his wife:

There is nothing to learn

Her absence is a scream

Saying nothing

Conceptual emptiness was cool to talk about

Back before I knew my way around these hospitals

I would like to forget and go back into imagining

That snow shining permanently alone could say something to me true and comforting

As stark as these lyrics are, I think he is right. If there is no God, there is no purpose in death, and there is no possibility of it being redeemed. It is nothing more than a "scream saying nothing."

Now, I am not necessarily lamenting modern obscuring of death. At times it might be appropriate to hide death, or even to trivialize it. In many ways we are blessed to be spared facing death every day. Our lifespans are long and lengthening. But as Christians, before we hide, trivialize, or despair at death, we must turn to Christ to see how he has transformed it.

As we turn to Christ and prepare to remember his death on Good Friday, we remember that in death we are not alone, and more importantly, there is hope beyond the grave. When Mary, Mary and Salome went to bring spices to Jesus' tomb, "they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back" (Mark 16:4a) That air-tight tomb was broken open by the resurrection of Jesus. So too the darkness of our dying is not final. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. It is shining brighter everyday.



ADULT CONFIRMATION

The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Texas, will be at Christ Church Downtown on Sunday, May 7 for adult confirmation at the 11:00 service. If you would like to be confirmed

please contact Valerie Huggler, *parish secretary*, for more information at office@christchurchtyler.org or call 903 597.9854

Jeffrey Ford,
Choirmaster & Organist

Holy Week Music

April 2 **Palm Sunday**

9:00 a.m. Anthem:

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross, Malcolm Archer

11:00 a.m. Anthem:

Hosanna to the Son of David, Arthur Hutchings

April 6 **Maundy Thursday**

7:00 p.m. Anthem: *Panis Angelicus*, Saint-Saëns

Anthem: *Behold The Wounds In Jesus' Hand*, David R. Naylor

April 7 **Good Friday**

12:00 Noon

Holly Marsh, *cantor* & Michelle Hanlon, *violin*

April 8 **Great Vigil**

8:00 p.m. Anthem:

Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem, C.V. Stanford

Anthem: *In Joseph's Lovely Garden*, Clarence Dickinson

Easter Sunday

9:00 & 11:00 Services with Brass Quartet & Organ

Hymns:

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today & *The Day Of Resurrection*

Anthem: *Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem*, C.V. Stanford

Anthem: *In Joseph's Lovely Garden*, Clarence Dickinson

Holy Week

Palm Sunday • April 2, 2023

Downtown 7:30am, 9:00am*+, 11:00am* • South 11:05am*+

Holy Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday • April 3, 4, 5, Noon Downtown

Maundy Thursday Rites • April 6, 7:00pm* Downtown

Good Friday Liturgy • April 7, Noon Downtown

Stations of the Cross 1:15pm Downtown

Holy Saturday • April 8

Easter Egg Hunt 10:00am South

The Great Vigil of Easter 8:00pm Downtown

Easter Sunday • April 9

Downtown 7:30am, 9:00am*+, 11:00am* • South 7:00am (outdoor sunrise service), 11:05am*+



EASTER

Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*Nursery available, * Children's Chapel

EASTER FLOWER & MUSIC FUND



You are invited to participate in the celebration of Easter at Christ Church through the **EASTER FLOWER & MUSIC FUND**.

<<— Scan the QR code to the left or complete the form (find at the reception desk) if you wish to contribute to the placement of lilies in the church or help to underwrite the music presented Easter Sunday. Deadline April 3rd. www.christchurchtyler.org/easter-flowers



Kimber Short,
Director of Children's Ministry

Lent is Like...

Last week during Christian Formation at CCS the metaphor we used was Lent is like an empty cup. We discovered that many times our "cup" gets filled to overflowing by worldly pursuits: hours spent looking at screens whether tv or the handheld variety, sports/music/dance/etc. lessons, school and homework. Before you know it, your week has been scheduled to within an inch of its life! On Sunday we try to find the energy to dress ourselves and the kids and make it to church. But are we really "present" when we get there? This kind of busyness can leave us feeling empty, like something is missing. Which got me thinking...

When I was a kid I wasn't the least bit aware of my "cup" much less the need to fill it but (I'm going to age myself here) life truly was different then. There were three or four tv channels to choose from, all of which quit broadcasting at midnight. We played outside until dark. Often times we walked or biked to school. Looking back, these activities were filling my as-yet-to-be-discovered cup. I was out in nature, playing with friends, going to Sunday School and EYC. Worldly distractions just weren't so readily available.

These days I try to fill my cup with good things but there are times when I lose sight of my path and allow those worldly pursuits to crowd out the things that really feed me. My daughter and I love to read. We will each buy books and then trade them with each other.

On a recent trip to Barnes and Noble a title caught my eye, *There's A Hole In My Love Cup: The Badass Counseling³ Method For Healing The Soul And Unleashing Greatness*. I know nothing about this book other than what the inside cover revealed. But it was proof to me that many others also struggle to fill their cups with what is worthwhile and meaningful. A quick survey of the "self-help" section revealed several other titles offering solutions for similar issues.

So for me, the rest of Lent will be spent being more mindful of what I allow in my cup and I hope you will do the same. Below, I offer a few worthwhile suggestions you might consider adding to you and your child's/children's church and Christian Formation attendance:

Saturday March 25

Common Ground Picnic (bring your own sack lunch & a beverage)
11-1 at CCS

Saturday April 8

Easter Egg Hunt

10:00 at CCS

Sunday April 9

The Flowering of the Cross &

Easter Service

9:00 & 11:00 at CCD

11:05 at CCS

(No Christian Formation on this day due to the Easter Reception)



CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

3/29 **Anna Kate Dickerson**

CHILDREN'S CHOIR TO START UP FOR CHRIST CHURCH!

Director: SUSIE FERGUS

Who: Children 1st - 4th grade

When: REHEARSAL: during the Christian Education hour at 10:00 a.m. Christ Church Downtown
April 16, 23, 30, May 7 (following rehearsal they will be taken on to their Sunday School rooms.)

PERFORM: Mother's Day, May 14 at 9:00 Service.

Where: Choir Room in the Children's hallway (beside the Children's Chapel)

Contact the church office [903.597.9854 office@christchurchtyler.org] to reserve your spot!



Holy Baptism

The next scheduled date for baptisms

is Sunday, April 16.

If interested in baptism on this date, please contact the church office, 903-597-9854

or office@christchurchtyler.org.

VBS Save the Date!

What? VBS June 26-30 Where? All Saints Episcopal School



What? VBS Work Week June 19-23 Where? TBD

Scan the QR code to register or to volunteer >>>
Questions? Call Kimber 903-530-2580



YOU ARE INVITED TO A 🍌

Common Ground Picnic



SATURDAY, MARCH 25

11:00 AM - 1 PM

Christ Church South

Help us kick off this new ministry, under the pavilion at CCS. Bring a sack lunch, kids (if you have them) & let's find our **Common Ground!**

New Ministry

Life looks a little different for each of us...some of us have kids, and some of us don't. We might be married, living life as singles, or single parents. Some of us are grandparents taking care of younger children. **Common Ground** is a place for us to meet old friends, make new friends and deepen relationships within our Christ Church family.

Help us kick off this new ministry...

Saturday, March 25 from 11am-1pm under the pavilion at CCS.

Genesis

Bible Study with the Rector
in beginning

Men Tuesdays
8:00 a.m.

Women Thursdays
10:30 a.m.

Christ Church Downtown

The Bob Rowlett Memorial Open Golf Tournament

www.christchurchtyler.org/golf-tournament



Friday, May 5, 2023

Pine Springs Golf Club

5630 CR 334 | Tyler, TX 75708

Women's Depth Group

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



Friday, 6:00pm
April 14 & May 12

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, Paul & Lucy, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Rob, Victoria, Chaley, Stacy, Sophie, Chesley, Link, Tom, John, Mike, Mark, Linda, Dalton, Chris, Marian, Carl, Mimi, Phil, Jennifer, MB, Raymond, Arnold, Tommy, George, Pam, Julie, John, Ahmet, Randy, Will, Luke, James, Gregg, Hazel, Cynthia, Lynda, Ann, Frank, HB

The Anglican Communion: *The Diocese of Ruaha (Tanzania)*

The Episcopal Church: *Dioceses of Virgin Islands & Virginia*

Diocese of Texas: *Trinity Episcopal Church—Spring & All Saints—Stafford*

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

upcoming

Saturday, March 25 | 11am-1:00

Common Ground Picnic CCS (see graphic p. 5)

Tuesday, March 28

11:30am **Praying the Rosary**—CCD Chapel

Noon **Lenten Teaching Series**—CCD

followed by a light lunch

Sunday, April 2 **Palm Sunday**

regular service times

Mon-Wed, April 3-5

Noon **Holy Eucharist**—CCD

Thursday, April 6

7:00pm **Maundy Thursday Rites**—CCD

Friday, April 7

Noon **Good Friday Liturgy**

1:15pm **Stations of the Cross**

Saturday, April 8

10:00am **Easter Egg Hunt**—CCS

8:00pm **The Great Easter Vigil**—CCD

Sunday, April 9 **Easter**

regular service times plus

7:00am **Sunrise Service**—CCS Amphitheater

Friday, April 14 6:00pm **Supper Club** (see graphic p. 5)

NEWCOMERS

LUNCH WITH THE RECTOR
APRIL 23 @ 12:30PM

CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH

15747 OLD JACKSONVILLE HWY

OFFICE@CHRISTCHURCHTYLER.ORG

In Memoriam

Our sympathies to the family & friends of

Robert Turner,

brother of Laura Brown,

and

Joe Hendrickson,

husband of Marjorie Hendrickson.



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 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 Keeseey
Parish Administrator dkeeseey@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, March 26

Lent 5

Ezekiel 37:1-3 [4-10] 11-14

Psalms 130

Romans 6:16-23

John 11: [1-16] 17-44

Sunday, April 2

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 45:21-25 or Isaiah 52:13--53:12

Psalms 22:1-21

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew [26:36-75] 27:1-54 [55-66]



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

903.597.9854
office@christchurchtyler.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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.



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