

# the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXVI, No.2  
January 10, 2024

## FROM THE RECTOR:

**“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for people, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”**

*Colossians 3.23-24*



Ledell Reed began his service as the sexton of Christ Church in November 1993.

A sexton is a church employee charged with keeping the church property and grounds in good order and preparing the church campus for worship services and other gatherings of people.

For three decades, Ledell has done his work quietly and faithfully, with a warm smile and a helping hand. Over those years, many clergy and employees have come and gone. Ledell has ably served the church with them all. We believe that Ledell Reed is the longest-tenured employee in the history of Christ Church!

A great-grandfather, Ledell is retiring after an exceptional season of service as the sexton at Christ Church. On Thursday, January 25 beginning at 11:45, you are invited to join us at a reception thanking and honoring Ledell for his outstanding work.

We will present Ledell with a financial gift, a tangible way of showing our appreciation for the many blessings he has given to us for the last three decades. If you would like to make a financial contribution, please send your offering payable to Christ Church and marked “Ledell Gift” or go to [christchurchtyler.org/give](http://christchurchtyler.org/give) and select “Farewell Gift” to make your gift electronically.

We thank God for Ledell’s excellent work unto the Lord!

Gratefully in Christ Jesus, *David*



One of the great gifts of the catholic tradition to which we are heirs in The Episcopal Church is the Church calendar or Christian year. This is the name we give to the ordering of time around the narrative of salvation, the good news we celebrate in Jesus. It's not that the natural seasons or cultural festivities are not worth remembering, but we always experience these in the light of the story of God's creating the world, coming to us in Jesus, sending the Holy Spirit to us, and drawing us back to God.

The days on the Christian calendar can be roughly divided into two categories: Festal time and ferial time.

We've just finished one the great festal seasons of the Church. I'm talking about Christmas, and the twelve days set aside for celebratory worship, feasting, and thanksgiving. Epiphany too is a feast, but the time following Epiphany is filled with ferial days.

Ferial days are days where there is nothing much special going on in the Church calendar. They are just ordinary, run-of-the-mill, business-as-usual.

In his book *The Supper of the Lamb*, Robert Farrar Capon talks about the way festal and ferial days shape the way we eat. We feast on festal days and eat sensibly on ferial days. If at Christmas we devour a whole turkey or a sup on a sumptuous prime rib, ferial days are filled with tuna casserole and hamburger soup.

Both festal and ferial days are good in their own way, and the wisdom of the Christian year is to point to the fittingness of each.

As much as I love a good feast with rich food and syrupy desserts, it doesn't take long for my heartburn and waistline to remind me that these meals are special, festal, for a reason. It is good to eat and drink and be merry with family and friends as we celebrate Christmas and Easter and Pentecost. But it is also good to cut back, to sup on bread and soup, to trade wine for water, especially in the many ferial days of the year.

Now ferial days are not fasts. They are not the days to deprive ourselves. But they are just normal days, days or just enough, not more than we need.

January brings us back to ferial time.

There are many reasons these unremarkable days are still good ones. Just one reason is that they are a reminder of the presence of God in the slow growth that take place when nothing flashy is going on. These aren't days to throw away. On the contrary, just as our closest relationships develop and grow in the rhythms of everyday life, so does our faith. Sure, we might remember the highlights, the festivals, because they are special, but that doesn't mean the ferial days are not important.

God does a lot of good work when nobody is watching.

music at Christ Church  
**Jeffrey Ford,**  
*Choirmaster & Organist*

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Did you know** that if one sings in the Chancel Choir that they come every Wednesday evening from 6:30-8:30 to rehearse and prepare for the service. They then also come on Sunday for a 10:00 warm-up for the 11:00 service?

**Did you know that the Children's Choir is accepting new singers ages K-5th grade thru Wednesday, Jan. 31?** Their last Sunday to sing in the service will be Mother's Day.

**Did you know** that the Assistant Organist spends hours preparing for the opening voluntary each week and gives thought as to what piece will best fit the theme of the service?

February 4, 2024 6:00 p.m. *In the Nave*

**Choral Evensong** featuring the Chancel Choir of Christ Church and the UT Tyler Concert Chorale with Dr. Cameron Rose conducting. Reception to follow in the Parish Hall.

February 13, 2024 6-8pm *Downtown*

**Mardi Gras Party!** Mark your calendar now for this great event to be held downtown in the Parish Hall. Gumbo, King's cakes, George Faber and Friends providing the music. There will be something for the whole family. Tickets can be bought at the front desk during the week, online and at the door that night!



# Vestry 2024<sup>NOMINEES</sup>

## Annual

PARISH Meeting SUNDAY, Jan 21, 10:00am



### **Ashley**BRACKEN

I am a lifelong Episcopalian who grew up in Christ Church. After being away from Tyler for many years, I relocated back to our community in 2021 and had the great fortune of purchasing my childhood home and completely renovating it. Currently, I am involved with Historic Tyler and the East Texas Symphony Orchestra. When I lived in Denver, I was actively involved at St. John's Cathedral as an acolyte, member of the vestry, co-chair of the Dean search committee, and a very short tenure as Junior Warden. Professionally, I am a corporate healthcare attorney, and work for a large company based in Dallas.



### **John**BUFO

My wife DeeDee and I relocated to Tyler from Washington DC in 1983. We did so to find a good place to raise our kids. We will be forever grateful to this church for providing a sanctuary for our family since 1983. I have previously served on the Vestry, and I have also served on various other Boards in our community, including All Saints Episcopal School (President), the Smith County Bar Foundation (President), Habitat for Humanity, the Smith County Child Welfare Board, The Potter Minton Law Firm, Bufo and Babin fabric store, the Tyler Rose Museum, the Order of the Rose (President), and Tyler, Tennis and Swim Club (President). I am an attorney and practice employment law at Potter Minton, where I have been associated since 1983. This church is special. Its Episcopal traditions enrich all of us and the greater Tyler community. I also love our music, which is superb. It is a privilege for me to be nominated to the Vestry. If elected, I will do my best to aid and support this special place.



### **Joyce**MCGEE

I was baptized at age 6 by my maternal grandfather and was confirmed into the Episcopal church at age 9. I have been a member of CC for over 20 years. As an adult have been active in several aspects of the church including small group, prayer shawl, lay readers, Bible study, and chalice bearer to name a few. I feel that active support of the programs provided at the church is vital to the community and the individual.



### **Stan**WARD

I currently work as a leadership coach, author, and educator. I first came to Tyler in 1991 when I was on summer staff with Pine Cove Christian Camps. In 2017, we began attending Christ Church South. My wife, Mindy, and I have been married for over 28 years and are the parents of two college-aged daughters.



### **Ann**WEISSMANN

I am a cradle Episcopalian born and raised in the Houston area. I am a graduate of Auburn University with my B.A. and a graduate of Loyola School of Law. I met my husband, Robert Weissmann, III (also a cradle Episcopalian) at Auburn and we have three sweet daughters! I am licensed to practice law in three states (following my husband around) and am currently a partner at Coghlan Crowson in Longview, Texas. Our family moved to Tyler 13 years ago and have loved raising our daughters here. My parents, Suzette and Jerry Hudgins, moved from the Houston area to Tyler and are also members of Christ Episcopal Church. We love seeing them downtown every Sunday morning! When I am not working or hanging out with my favorite people, I love serving with my girls in NCL, reading, needlepointing, sewing, painting or doing anything creative.

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

Happy New Year!

Those words always remind me of the classic "Frosty the Snowman" special where he exclaims that greeting every time he "comes back to life". Even now, I still love the old classic specials, "The Little Drummer Boy", "Santa Claus is Coming to Town", "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer". They take me back to those infamous "good old days" and many sweet memories.

For me, the highlight of 2023 was the Christmas Pageant. When my girls were pageant-aged we were often in Chicago for Christmas. The few times that we were here and they participated hold special memories for this mama. I get that same feeling now seeing your kids participate (Gold Star if you noticed the Wise Men had lines this year!) and watching the sheep baaa-ing down the aisle. Directing the pageant is one of the best parts of this job! But there is no way in you-know-where that I could do it alone!! A **HUGE** thank you to all the parents who got their kids to practice, shepherded angels and sheep and all the others to their places, or broke down (or if you were at CCS, attempted to break down) the stage. You all are the true stars! And to one special little girl who was so flexible and unflappable and took everything in stride when I gave her a role, only to realize that it had already been assigned, then let me change her role twice more, I appreciate you more than you know.

I know it will seem that Christmas Pageant 2024 will be here before I can turn around twice but there will be many more wonderful adventures taking place in Children's Ministries before then. I invite you all (especially those who were in the pageant but haven't yet joined us for Faith Formation!!!) to meet us at CCD & CCS @ 10:00 every Sunday as we dive into the lessons Jesus has for us!

Kimber

CCD >>>



CCS >>>



student ministry  
**Sarah Jones,**  
 Director of Student Ministries

Happy New Year! The spring calendar for the youth group has been mailed out. If you did not get one, please let me know. We have a big event coming up in February. We are putting on a spiritual retreat for the youth. It will be a two-part retreat.

Friday Feb. 16th will be for the high schoolers only. We will meet at the south campus from 6-8 and have dinner, music, and start our spiritual reflections.

Friday Feb. 17th all the youth will meet at Tyler State Park for a morning hike and I am asking the congregation to be involved in a very special way. We will have a cookout waiting for the youth when they return and everyone is invited to come and celebrate them on their journey. Please come and support them so they can see that we as a congregation are dedicated to their growth!



Sarah Jones  
 Director of Student Ministries





ECW would like to thank the following members of the guilds & ministries who prepared and served delicious lunches during the **Advent Tidings of Joy** series, which has been the most attended we have ever had.

**December 5th: LOIS Guild**

Nancy Lamar, Beth Whitney, Sue Deakins, Barbara Gabriel, Sharon Wynne, Sherry Dunn, Debbie Peveto, Betty Caton, George Ann Reed and Kim Meyer

**December 12th: Team 3**

Carol Bergfeld, Kay Quick, Talley Bergfeld, Lezley Bergfeld, Susan Bergfeld, Cecile Barr, Sharon Clark, Carrie Wolf, Marilyn Luckett, Melissa Day, Betty Caton, Nancy Clawater, Laurel Beaty and Bobbie Schroeder

**December 19th: Loaves/Fishes**

Lynne & H.V. Bordeaux, Joel Nolen, Gordon Roberts, Stacey & John McKinley, Silvia Luckenbach, Jeff Parnell, Jonni Sanders, Ronda Darby and Stephen Bentley

**CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!**

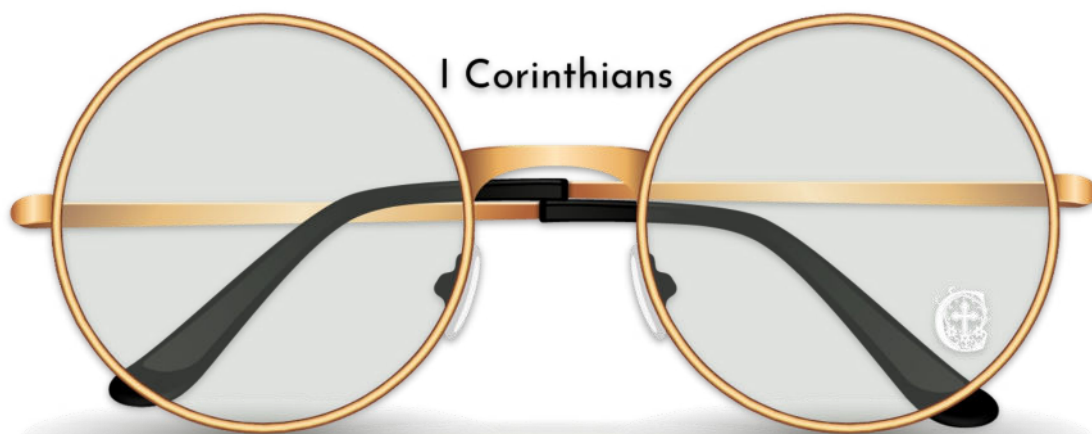
1/16 **Kate Walker**, 1/16 **Jake Godbold**,  
1/16 **Valeria Hernandez**, 1/16 **Louisa Mellon**,  
1/16 **Esin Odle**, 1/17 **Archer Cassity**,  
1/23 **James Meals**



On behalf of the clergy & staff,  
we extend our heartfelt gratitude  
to the parishioners of Christ  
Church for your extraordinary  
generosity to us this season.

NEW ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS | SUNDAY SCHOOL  
10:00 am both Campuses

**I Corinthians**



*A Call to Faithful Living*

**Bible  
Study**  
*WITH* the Rector  
**1 Peter**

Men: Tuesdays 8:00am  
Women: Thursdays 10:30am  
Christ Church *Downtown*



**Spring 2024**

**Adult Confirmation Course.**

Begins: Sunday, February 7 at 10:00 a.m.  
Meets in the Library on the Third Floor.

**1928** *Book of Common Prayer*  
**Holy Eucharist & Healing Service**  
*Noon Thursdays beginning December 7th through Epiphany*  
Downtown in the Nave

## thanksgivings , supplications & fellowship

### In Our Prayers

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

Lisa, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Isabelle, Tommy, Lorelei, Cody, Paul, Lucy, Amber, Lindzey, Dylan, Amber, Briggs, Margaret, Maggie, Jennifer, Linda, Chris, Mike, Mark, Marian, Dalton, Verdie, Stacy, Lily, Susie, Noah

**The Anglican Communion:** *The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia*

**The Episcopal Church:** *Dioceses of Dallas & Delaware*

**Diocese of Texas:** *St. Luke's on the Lake—Austin & St. Alban's—Austin*

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

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

## upcoming

**MONDAY, JANUARY 15**

*offices closed for MLK Day*

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 17**

**Women's Depth Group**

6:00pm | CCS

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 19**

**Supper Club**

6:00pm RSVP

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21**

**Annual Parish Meeting**

10:00am both campuses

*no adult Christian Formation*

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

**Choral Evensong**

6:00pm Downtown in the Nave

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

**Mardi Gras Party** *more info to come*

6:00pm Downtown

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

**Ash Wednesday** *more info to come*

**TUESDAYS, FEB 20—MAR 19**

**Lenten Lectures | CCD**

*Tuesdays of Lent Noontime Teachings*

*followed by a light lunch*

**Praying the Rosary | CCD**

11:30 am in the Chapel

### In Memoriam

Our sympathies to the  
family & friends of

**Shelly Smyth,**  
husband of Jeanne Smyth.

Welcome the newly baptized:

*Ryan, Thomas &  
Charles Bentley,*

sons of Kelly & William Bentley,  
grandsons of Stephen Bentley.

December 30, 2023  
at Christ Church Downtown

~

*Olivia Rosalie Reynolds,*  
daughter of Catherine Reynolds.

January 7, 2024  
at Christ Church South

*Women's  
Depth Group*

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

**Voga**  
Thursdays, starting September 14  
9-10 a.m. on the 4th floor CCD

with Sarah Jones  
Certified Yoga Instructor  
& Director of Student Ministries

**Supper Club** Join us!  
Friday, Jan 19th  
6:00pm  
meet in small groups  
[www.christchurchtyler.org/supper-club](http://www.christchurchtyler.org/supper-club)

## 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. 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. Sarah Jones  
*Director of Student Ministries* sjones@christchurchtyler.org

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*

Mrs. Blair Zdenek, Mrs. Jessi Mayes, Nateale Ammann,  
Julia Morrissey, Trish Gutierrez *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,  
Call the church office during office hours 903.597.9854;  
after hours call The Rev. David Luckenbach 903-279-8777,  
The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin 903-952-3850,  
or The Rev. Stephen Stine, Deacon, 903-530-8168.

### Lectionary for upcoming Sundays Year B BCP 1979 Lectionary

**Sunday, January 14**

**2 Epiphany**

1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]

Psalm 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 6:11b-20

John 1:43-51

**Sunday, January 21**

**3 Epiphany**

Jeremiah 3:21--4:2

Psalm 130

1 Corinthians 7:17-23

Mark 1:14-20

CHRIST  
CHURCH

ONE CHURCH • TWO CAMPUSES

ANNUAL  
PARISH  
MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 / 10:00AM BOTH CAMPUSES



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***

### **Sundays**

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.*