

the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXVI, No.5

February 21, 2024

christchurchtyler.org

FROM THE RECTOR:

Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers... While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

Acts 13:1,3

The Book of Acts describes the role that fasting played in the community's effort to discern God's will. Following ancient Jewish practice described and proscribed in Leviticus 23:27, Zechariah 8:19, Joel 2:15, 2 Chronicles 20:1-4, Ezra 8:21-23, and throughout Scripture, the Church fasted from food in an attempt to draw nearer to the Lord. They understood that fasting which was God-centered, God-initiated, and God-ordained might be used by God to help them know and follow the Lord more faithfully.

For many centuries, the church has continued to fast in an effort to seek after the Lord.

Indeed, in 1756, facing a French invasion, the King of Britain called for a solemn day of prayer and fasting. Commenting on its effect, on February 6, John Wesley wrote in his journal, "The fast day was a glorious day. Humility has turned into national rejoicing, for the threatened invasion by the French has been averted."

Lent is a season in which the Lord invites us to draw nearer to Him. From the birth of the church, we have embraced the discipline of fasting to nurture our relationship with Christ.

I invite you to commit to a solemn fast this Lent. Do not subject yourself to harm, but abstain from something you enjoy for the sake of Christ, in the hopes that "after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you" (1 Peter 5:10).

May the Lord bless you with a Holy Lent.

Yours faithfully in Christ,

David H



One of the practices that I've tried to incorporate into my life (more or less successfully) has been the practice of reading poetry.

The first books of poems I ever purchased were on a trip during spring break when I was in college. I was in my sophomore year, Amy and I were just married, and, along with a few friends, we took a trip down from Abbotsford, British Columbia, to camp at Cape Lookout State Park on the Oregon coast. Along the way, we spent a day in Portland, where we visited Powell's Books, one of the world's largest independent bookstores.

We spent an hour or two sipping coffee from Stumptown (a favourite roastery) while browsing the stacks in the cavernous bookstore. There was a whole wall of poetry, and I ran my hand across the spines of books, shelf after shelf, looking for names I recognized and (more importantly) books I could afford.

Since we were married so young and were keeping afloat on part-time jobs and student loans, I didn't have much to spend. But I found a couple of deals I couldn't refuse. A clearance copy of Robert Frost, whose quality was so poor that some of the pages were left blank, and a thicker, but well-loved collection of poems by Emily Dickinson. I bought these two volumes for a song, and smuggled them across the border back into Canada, where they were added to the meagre collection of books we kept on the Ikea shelf in our mouldy one bedroom apartment.

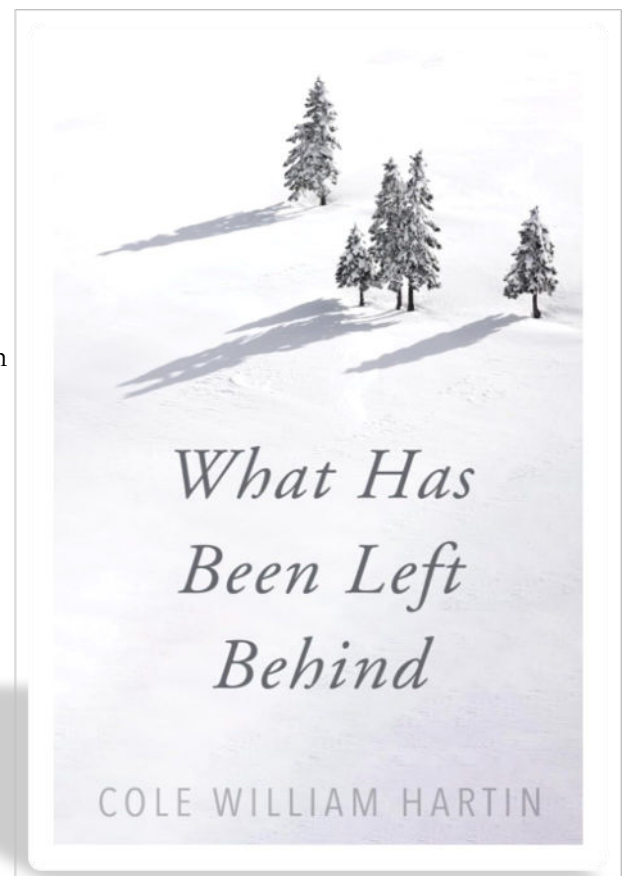
I started to leaf through these poems after reading the Bible each morning, coffee cup in hand.

Reading poetry, I discovered, was far more difficult than reading prose. I could easily skim a textbook or bound from page to page in the novels I was reading, but poetry was more demanding. It forced me to slow down and savor the language, to stop at the end of a line and ask myself if I really knew what was going on, to open my mind to the possibility that some ambiguity in the text was meant to be intriguing, rather than an excuse to flip to the next page. To learn to read poetry was, for me, an attempt to learn to listen, to attend.

I'm still trying to learn to listen to poems. And I have found that listening to poems has helped me be a little bit better at listening to people as well. My hope is that listening to poems helps me better listen to God.

We live in a world where everything is frantic. We are inundated with information constantly, and our lives are oh-so-full. We also live in a world where we are increasingly lonely, in which we feel nobody is listening to us, and many people have nobody to listen to them. I want to be the kind of person who listens, the kind of person who holds space for people, the way I believe Jesus holds space for all of us. Poetry has been one way for me to learn to do this better.

More recently, in the past several years, I have even started writing poetry, which is its own kind of listening. My first collection of poems, *What Has Been Left Behind*, came out recently. You can find it [on amazon](#) or at the Christ Church gift shop.



music at Christ Church
Jeffrey Ford,
Choirmaster & Organist

The Crucifer . February 21

Thank you to the Chancel Choir who helped to host this year's Mardi Gras.

Thank you to Fr. Bob, Robin Hood, and Rodney for the great Gumbo.

Thank you to members of the Loaves & Fishes who helped to serve/assist with the food.

Thank you to the members of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's Guild who chopped and diced.

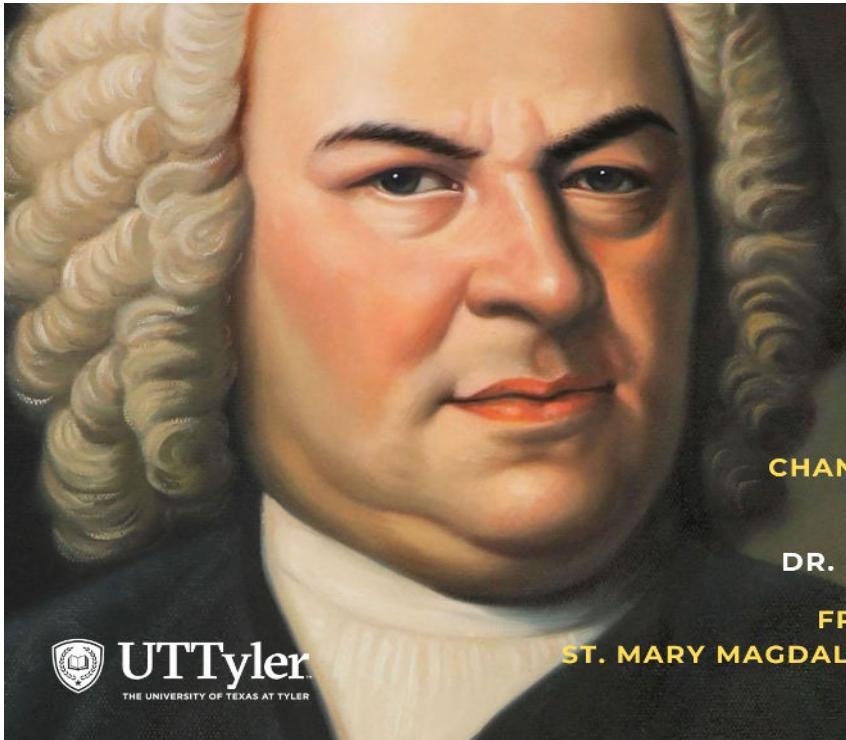
Thank you to Julie Hicks and her team for the decorations.

Thank you to Lysbeth Donmezer for face painting.

Thank you to you the congregation for supporting this event with your presence.

SAVE THE DATE

Bach and Friends featuring the Choirs of UT Tyler and members of the Chancel Choir of Christ Church




**Bach
and
Friends**

The **CHOIRS** of **UT TYLER**
CANTORI of **EAST TEXAS**
CHANCEL CHOIR of **CHRIST CHURCH**
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

DR. CAMERON ROSE, CONDUCTOR

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2024, 7:00 PM
ST. MARY MAGDALENE CATHOLIC CHURCH, FLINT
ADMISSION FREE

 **UT Tyler**
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

LET'S KEEP A HOLY LENT

Saints
of the British Isles

Lenten Lecture & Lunch
Tuesdays at noon
February 20 - March 19

Christ Church Downtown

1928 *Book of Common Prayer*
Holy Eucharist & Healing Service
Noon Thursdays through March 21
Downtown in the Nave



Praying the Rosary

Praying the rosary will be available in the chapel at 11:30am, before each Tuesday Lenten speaking series. Using the rosary (Anglican prayer beads) encourages contemplative prayer. Touching each bead in order helps maintain focus as much as the repetition of the prayers themselves. Prayer beads are available for use. Please come 10 minutes early if you would like instruction.

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

How Are You?

I believe that in our culture the phrase "how are you" is akin to saying "hello". It's used more as a greeting than as a genuine query into someone's wellbeing. To be honest, though, I don't know why this is. Is it an absent-minded but benign question or could it be our desire to appear empathetic or truly interested in someone's current state of being? I wonder how we would react if someone authentically and vulnerably told us how they really were?

We unconsciously make assumptions based on demeanor or body language but in the end, all we can really know about someone is what they choose to share with us. Anything else is just speculation.

Kids choose to have their faces painted in a way that best symbolizes their personalities and interests. And while this is an outward and visible sign, it tells us little about what is going on in their hearts and minds.

While not a sacrament, the imposition of ashes does show an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. Our practice is literally "worn" on our faces, leaving no question as to our religious affiliation. But "how are we" spiritually?

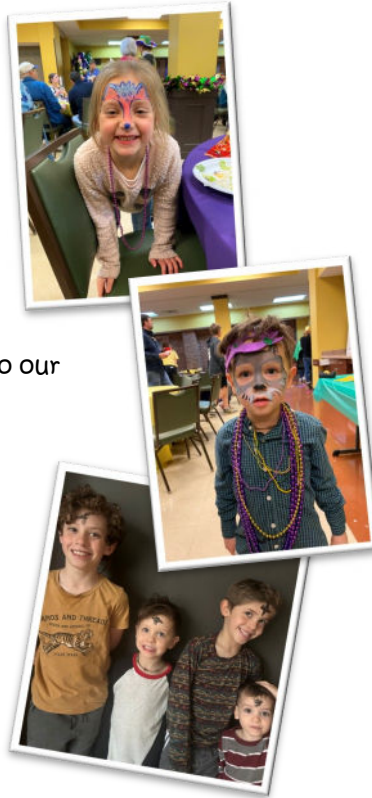
On Ash Wednesday, Fr. Cole reminded us that Lent is a good time to do a little "housekeeping" for the soul. It's one thing to walk around all day with a black cross of ash on our foreheads but it's another thing entirely to wrestle with what the season of Lent is calling us to do. My hope is that this Lent our younger learners will be able to digest the wonderful stories of Jesus's miracles, passion and resurrection using the manipulatives of Godly Play, and our older learners will develop a deeper connection to what the eucharist really means in our lives.

See you Sunday!

Kimber 

CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

2/23 **Jude Yanez**, 2/24 **Vivian Mellon**, 2/24 **Nika Pippin**,
 2/24 **Bennett Richards**, 2/27 **Matthew Ward**,
 2/28 **Evie Noteware**, 2/28 **Michael Peveto**, 3/1 **Walt Eagleton**,
 3/2 **Coralie Bailey**, 3/2 **Henry Bailey**



student ministry
Sarah Jones,
Director of Student Ministries

Wow, thank you so much to everyone who helped with the youth spiritual retreat and I needed A LOT of help. I had amazing and hardworking volunteers who assisted with creating the retreat curriculum, cooking, set up, and chaperoning. I am so grateful. I had an amazing time with the youth as we got to walk through different ways to pray, connect, and deepen their faith overall. We had a great turnout, both Friday night and for the hike on Saturday.

It was wonderful to see the smiling faces of the congregation there to welcome the youth back. When I was young I did not always recognize that there were people outside of my family who were rooting for me. I hope this is a moment they can look back on and feel the love of their church family.

Sarah Jones



Welcome!!

McKINLEY TERRY
 Asst. to the Youth Minister



McKinley serves as the Assistant to the Youth Minister, helping with EYC and Formation activities. Born in Longview, he spent most of his youth throughout East Texas before attending college at Abilene Christian University. During college, McKinley served as the Summer Intern with the Alpine Church of Christ youth group and volunteered with his wife, Sarah, at Highland Church of Christ's Student Ministry in Abilene. They found their way to the Episcopal Church when they moved to Tyler in the summer of 2021, were confirmed in October 2023, and are grateful for the community found here at Christ Church.

Holy Week and Easter

PALM SUNDAY | March 24, 2024
Downtown 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am | South 11:05am

HOLY MON, TUES, WED | March 25, 26, 27
Noon Eucharist Downtown

MAUNDY THURSDAY RITES | March 28
7:00pm Downtown

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY | March 29
Noon Downtown
STATIONS OF THE CROSS 1:15pm Downtown

HOLY SATURDAY | March 30
EASTER EGG HUNT 10:00am South
THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER 8:00pm Downtown

EASTER SUNDAY | March 31
Downtown 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am
South 7:00am (outdoor sunrise service) & 11:05am

Darkness has been vanquished
by our eternal King!



B3 and
CHRIST
MINISTRIES CHURCH • EPISCOPAL
PRESENT

In God's Grip

WHAT GOLF CAN TEACH US ABOUT THE GOSPEL
WITH REV. RUSSELL D. LEVENSON



2 SPECIAL EVENTS!

Space is limited RSVP today!

~~Completely FULL
Friday • March 1st 2024 • 11:30am
Luncheon | Willow Brook Country Club
3205 W. Erwin St. Tyler, TX~~

Saturday • March 2nd 2024 • 9:00am
Prayer Breakfast | Christ Episcopal Church
118 S. Bois d'Arc Tyler, TX



RSVP by Monday the 26th

RSVP: office@christchurchtyler.org or 903.597.9854

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, Mike, Vicki, Josh, Katie, Johnny, Harley, Jennifer, Jasper, Lynne, Scott, Bruce, Kyle, JC, Elizabeth, Becky, Jeremy, Mary Elizabeth, Steve, Brenda, George, Link, Nancy

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

The Episcopal Church: *Dioceses of East Tennessee & Eastern Michigan*

Diocese of Texas: *Trinity—Baytown & St. Mark's—Beaumont*

PRAYER REQUESTS:

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

upcoming

TUESDAYS, through MARCH 19

Lenten Lecture & Lunch | CCD

Tuesdays of Lent at noon

Praying the Rosary | CCD

11:30 am in the Chapel

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

Rev. Levenson Luncheon

11:30am | Willow Brook

RSVP required

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

Rev. Levenson Prayer Breakfast

9:00am | CCD

RSVP required

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Primetimers

6:00pm | CCD

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

Supper Club

6:00pm RSVP by 3/8

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

Palm Sunday

MARCH 25-30

Holy Week

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Easter

In Memoriam

Our sympathies to the family & friends of

Sterling Dowdy,

father of

Darin Dowdy.

Congratulations on the birth of:

Owen Henry Terry

February 10, 2024

son of Sarah & McKinley Terry

and

Liam Jefferson Reed

February 12, 2024

son of Julia & Taylor Reed,
grandson of Louise & Jeff Arnold



Supper Club Join us!

Friday, March 15th
6:00pm
meet in small groups

RSVP by the Friday before
christchurchtyler.org/supper-club



first Communion class
all baptized
2nd - 4th grade

Downtown
Sundays 10:00am
Feb 18, 25 &
March 3 & 10 & 17

South Campus
Sundays 10:00am
April 14, 21, 28 &
May 5

*First Communion is
9:00 Palm Sunday March 25*

*First Communion is
11:05 Pentecost Sunday May 19*

2024 PRIMETIMERS KICKOFF EVENT

primetimers

Bingo with prizes

FRIDAY, MARCH 8
6PM - 9PM
PARISH HALL CCD

COMFORT FOOD POTLUCK - bring your favorite!
wine/beverages/light snacks provided
\$10 EACH ATTENDEE
RSVP: christchurchtyler.org/primetimers

THE VESTRY

Mr. Bill Clawater, *Treasurer*

Mr. Tim Alexander, *Asst. Treasurer*

Class of 2024

Mrs. Kim Meyer, Mr. Danny Noteware,
Ms. Sheryl Richter, Jr. *Warden CCS*, Dr. Mak Saigusa,
Dr. Dan Toney

Class of 2025

Mr. Julius Bergfeld, Mrs. Catherine Buhrkuhl,
Mr. Steven Comte, Mrs. Karen Hughes,
Mr. Mark Shuttlesworth, Jr. *Warden CCD*

Class of 2026

Mr. Ashley Bracken, Mr. John Bufe, Sr. *Warden*,
Ms. Joyce McGee, Mr. Stan Ward,
Mrs. Ann Weissmann, *Clerk*.

Lectionary for upcoming Sundays

Sunday, February 25

Lent 2

Genesis 22:1-14, Psalm 16
Romans 8:31-39, Mark 8:31-38

Sunday, March 3

Lent 3

Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19:7-14
Romans 7:13-25, John 2:13-22

CLERGY & 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. Hector 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

Mr. McKinley Terry
Student Ministries Assistant mterry@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

Ms. Jennifer Ducote
Mr. Anthony Moore
Mr. Kendrick Milton
Sexton
Sexton
Assistant Sexton

Blair Zdenek, Jessi Mayes
Nursery

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.

The Bob Rowlett Memorial Open Golf Tournament

www.christchurchtyler.org/golf-tournament

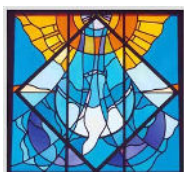


Friday, May 3, 2024

Pine Springs Golf Club
5630 CR 334 | Tyler, TX 75708

Women's Depth Group

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



Holy Baptism

The next scheduled date for baptisms is Sunday, April 7, 2024. If interested in baptism on this date, please contact the church office, 903-597-9854 or office@christchurchtyler.org.



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

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

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.*