

# the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXVI, No. 8

April 10, 2024

## FROM THE RECTOR:

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters. He restores my  
soul.* Psalm 23.1-3a

God consecrated the Sabbath, and commanded us to observe it, because people need rest.

Yes, we need sleep. Every day. But sabbath is a day each week in which we are commended and called to cease our work and embrace a day of rest and worship.

Sabbath is different for priests. Clergy invest their professional lives ministering, discipling and shepherding people. They work to create and lead worship services on the sabbath which will equip, renew, exhort, and spiritually refresh a community of believers.

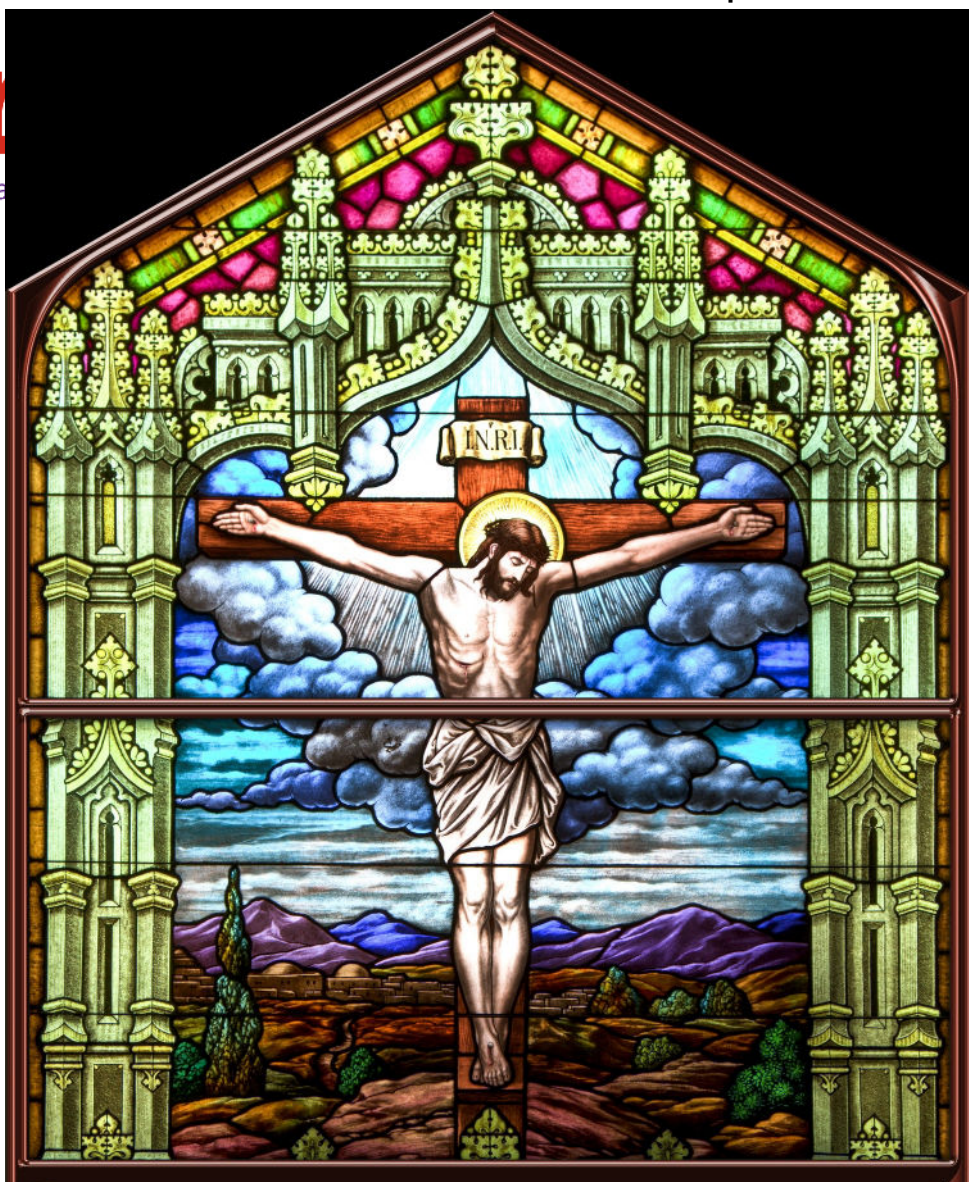
But Sundays are not sabbath for clergy.

Mindful of this, the diocese of Texas requires congregations to provide a month of vacation and two weeks of continuing education for their priests every year. And to provide a sabbatical to full-time priests every seven years. These best practices are observed throughout the diocese and most of the Episcopal Church.

For priests, sabbatical is a prolonged time of rest and refreshment from congregational life and work. It's intent is the refreshment and renewal of the clergy. Bishop Fisher, for example, was on sabbatical in the summer of 2023, Fr. Matt took sabbatical in 2018, and I was grateful for sabbatical in 2017.

This summer of 2024 is my sabbatical summer.

Following Bishop Doyle's episcopal visit to Tyler on Sunday, June 2, the Luckenbach's will board an airplane




and leave town for several months. I look forward to a prolonged time of rest, and intend to invest substantial time beside the still waters with the Lord. I will return to Tyler in September, refreshed and better equipped to lead our congregation in the months and years ahead.

Christ Church continues to be well-served by an exceptional team, and we will surely be in good hands this summer through the ministry of Fr Cole, Fr. Ted, and Deacon Stine.

June is still some weeks away, and we look forward to worship, faith formation, the grand opening of the Children's Ministry Center at Christ Church South, and a myriad of excellent worship services and joy-filled gatherings which await us over the coming days.

May the Lord lead you beside the still waters and restore your soul.

*David +*



I am writing this shortly before the eclipse reaches totality. In a few minutes, I, too, will be outside with the millions of others who will marvel at the darkness, the spectacle of the moon covering over the sun, turning day to night, at least for a few minutes.

And you, you will have probably forgotten about the event by the time you are reading this. It will be days old, stale news.

Life will go on as usual, save for that pair of cardboard glasses sitting on your shelf. The news coverage will turn back to the unrest in the Middle East, in the Ukraine, and pundits will be speculating about the upcoming election, feeling the winds of political change.

But think about the eclipse again for a moment: Everyone was excited about it. People's response to the moon covering over the sun is interesting. The eclipse elicited everything from shrugged shoulders and a "so what?", to scientific curiosity; from joyful ecstasy, to dark end-time prophecies.

Christians have thought a lot about eclipses and other strange natural events for a long time. Peter N. Jordan, in his book *Naturalism in the Christian Imagination: Providence and Causality in Early Modern England* writes of the way Christian thinkers tried to make sense of astronomical events, earthquakes, and other unusual phenomena three and four hundred years ago.

While some folks, like the English priest John Spencer, thought that trying to interpret these unusual occurrences as a sign from God was "an odious stumbling block to genuine Christian religion", many others saw each earthquake and eclipse, flood and hurricane, to have a divine message. Still others saw that God was at work in these events, even if their meaning was obscure to them.


Four hundred years on and we are still fascinated by natural phenomena. We can better predict and explain the science behind many events, but their draw on our hearts and minds remains the same. We've lost the taste for the crude interpretation of natural disasters that we see from televangelists like Pat Robertson, but perhaps all of us feel that somehow, these events must *mean something*.


I think it's safe to say that the eclipse is a reminder that the world in which we live is not in our control. The best we can do is to move with the normal rhythms of the cosmos, marvel at the rare moments when the day is dark instead of light, and trust that the world will keep on spinning.

The world, after all, is God's: "How great are your works, LORD, how profound your thoughts!" (Psalm 92:5). And we too are God's, "the people of his pasture, the sheep of his hand."

What does the eclipse mean? I don't know. Perhaps nothing. Perhaps it conveys some message from God that we cannot fully grasp. But the sun and the moon are both part of God's creation, wonders that he fashioned, realities spoken into existence – like all of creation – by his Word, Jesus Christ.





*Choral Evensong*  
featuring **Inspirata**   
Christ Church Tyler  
118 South Bois d'Arc, Tyler  
Sunday, April 21 | 6:00pm  
followed by a reception

**RESERVATIONS NOT REQUIRED**  
**BUT... it is an option!**

Reserve your pew now for Choral Evensong on  
**April 21, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Nave.

*You don't NEED to reserve a pew but you can!*  
*Invite a few friends to enjoy this service & the reception following.*

One pew can seat 6 adults comfortably. Think about whether you want to sit in the front, middle, or back of the Nave. Then contact Val Huggler, the Parish Secretary, with your reservation at 903.597.9854 or [office@christchurchtyler.org](mailto:office@christchurchtyler.org). *Reserved pews will be marked and saved until 5:55 at which time the seats will be released for anyone to sit.*

**Let's see if we can't fill the Nave.**

*Inspirata* will be the guest choir and they will be conducted by Hunter Burkhead. *Inspirata* is an auditioned ensemble of singers dedicated to promoting a heightened awareness of sacred choral music through the performance of some of the finest works the tradition has to offer. Hunter is the Upper School Choir Director at All Saints' Episcopal School of Ft. Worth.

Music will include:

Intriot: *God Be in My Head*

*Psalm 31*, John Goss

*Preces and Responses*, Joanna Forbes L'Estrange

*Magnificat and Nunc dimittis*, Herbert Sumsion

Offertory Anthem:

*All that Hath Life and Breath, Praise Ye the Lord*, Rene Clausen

*Retiring Hymn No.24 The day that thou gavest*

There will be a reception following the service in the Parish Hall catered by Mary Lynn Powell.

This is the last Choral Evensong of the season so let's make every effort to fill the Nave.

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

### Snowballs in Spring

What a jam packed last few weeks we've had in Children's Ministries!

After a couple of years of forced hiatus, we graduated our first class of First Communion recipients. It was my first time teaching the material so a huge thank you to my Downtowners who were unknowingly Guinea pigs! Now I know what worked, what didn't work, and how to make it better! Sorry guys, I know it was a little dry, but you were great sports!

Our combined children's choirs preformed on Palm Sunday. I'm so impressed at how grown up they all act when in front of the congregation and Fr. David. Would you all mind if I started having Christian Formation during the 9:00 service? We might be able to consistently stay on track if they are under the loving and watchful eyes of their Christ Church Family. ;-)

A HUGE thank you to Sarah Jones and the EYC who helped me stuff 1000 eggs for our annual Easter egg hunt at CCS and to my husband Kevin, Peyton Hernandez and Madison Perry Winkler for helping me "hide" them. Easter Eve morning was beautiful. Golden eggs were found, candy was consumed, crafts were made, coffee was gulped and it was a fabulous event!

While all of this was going on, we were in the middle of outfitting our new space at CCS, packing up classrooms and storage areas and moving into our temporary spaces at CCD! You can see what I mean about the Snowball! It's been hurtling down the mountain towards hard deadlines like Lindsey Vonn in the super-G!

But can a Snowball head back up the hill? Because we are now gearing up for the First Communion Class at CCS and VBS!

I hope to see you Sunday-I'll be the one in the Parka goin' for gold! ☐

Kimber ☐

Save the Dates:

CCS 2nd-4th graders First Communion Classes:

4/14, 21, 28, 5/5, 5/12—Celebration of First Communion: 5/19

VBS

6/24-6/28 Registration open NOW!



### CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

4/12 **Aubrey Henninger**, 4/13 **Lyzabell Yanez**, 4/18 **GiGi Mercer**, 4/22 **Cole Phillips**

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

Hello families,

Summer is fast approaching and I hope you include us in your future plans because we have a **mission trip** coming up! We will be taking the middle schoolers to Galveston to do some ministry work at St. Vincent's House. Total cost for the trip is \$250 per student and a deposit of \$100 is due by May 15th. It is going to be a great experience!

*Other dates be aware of:*

**May 3rd** is the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's golf tournament which helps support youth mission trips. Please contact Jerry Sanders for more information.

**May 12th** is Youth Sunday

**June 17th-21st** is Tyler Mission Week

**June 24th-28th** is Vacation Bible School.

Please contact Kimber if you or your youth would like to volunteer. She has jobs for youth of all ages.

*Sarah Jones*

Director of Student Ministries





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

First Communion is Pentecost Sunday May 19

## 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 26th.

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/cew-vera-gang-scott-scholarship](http://epicenter.org/cew-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).

# CRAWFISH BOIL

Come enjoy tails, corn & taters! No charge | BYOB | House Band

Saturday, April 27th  
3:00pm

The later you come the spicier it gets - last batch out about 6:00pm.

**CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH**  
15747 Old Jacksonville Hwy.

Hot dogs will be available from The Brotherhood of St. Andrew for the non-crawfish eaters :-)

*Hallelujah*  
PRAISE FOR THE PAST  
FAITH FOR THE FUTURE

✝ OPEN HOUSE in the new Children's Wing of CCS

## Middle School MISSION Trip

July 22-26 deposit due May 1

We will be volunteering with St. Vincent's House.

Questions: [sjones@christchurchtyler.org](mailto:sjones@christchurchtyler.org)

## High School Retreat to Dallas

August 2-4, 2024

Great opportunity for the upper school youth to reconnect!  
Deposits due June 1st.

Questions: [sjones@christchurchtyler.org](mailto:sjones@christchurchtyler.org)

# 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, Nancy, Chuck, Jerry, Tony, Bess, Joanna, Rick, Kelsie, Phil, Mimi, Carl, Zac

**The Anglican Communion:** *The Diocese of Dhaka (Bangladesh)*

**The Episcopal Church:** *Episcopal Church in Micronesia & Episcopal News Service*

**Diocese of Texas:** *St. Andrew's—Bryan & Church of the Epiphany—Burnet*

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

Prayer list will be re-set April 14. Please contact The Rev. Stephen Stine if you'd like to keep or add someone to the prayer list 903.530.8168 or [sssti@tjc.edu](mailto:sssti@tjc.edu).

## upcoming

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

**Newcomers Lunch** with the **Rector**  
12:15pm RSVP | CCD

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

**Supper Club**  
6:00pm RSVP by 4/12

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

**Choral Evensong**  
followed by a reception  
6:00pm | CCD

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

**Crawfish Boil**  
3-6pm | CCS

FRIDAY, MAY 3

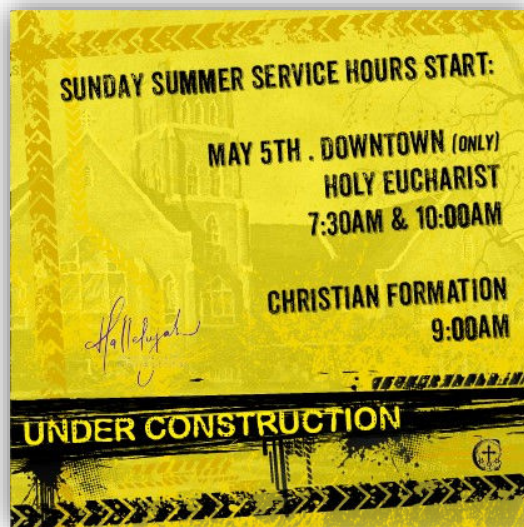
**Golf Tournament**  
[christchurchtyler.org/golf-tournament](http://christchurchtyler.org/golf-tournament)

SUNDAY, MAY 5

**Summer Service Hours**  
begin Downtown  
Holy Eucharist 7:30 & 10  
Christian Formation 9:00am

SUNDAY, MAY 12

**Youth Sunday**



**Welcome the newly baptized:**

*Clifford "Ford"*

*Martin Huschka,*

son of Lauren & Bryce Huschka,  
and

*Wells McKenzie*

*Hensarling,*

daughter of Brock & Lauren

Hensarling

grandchildren of Lee Hensarling.

April 6, 2024

at Christ Church Downtown

~

*Maddox Beckham Mills,*

son of Sarah Holcomb & Matthew  
Mills,

grandson of Karen & Jeffrey Ford.

April 7, 2024

at Christ Church Downtown

~

*Brooke Caroline Ashley,*

daughter of Michala & Brett Ashley.

April 7, 2024

at Christ Church South



## 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, April 14**

The 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12, Micah 4:1-5

Psalm 98, 1 John 1:1--2:2

Luke 24:36b-48

**Sunday, April 21**

The 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4: [23-31] 32-37, Ezekiel 34:1-10,

Psalm 23, 1 John 3:1-8, John 10:11-16

## 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*

sssti@tjc.edu

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. 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

Mrs. Madison Winkler

*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*

epiphanyttx@gmail.com

Ms. Jennifer Ducote

Mr. Anthony Moore

Mr. Kendrick Milton

*Sexton*

*Sexton*

*Assistant Sexton*

Blair Zdenek, Jessi Mayes

*Nursery*

### Pastoral Emergency Contacts

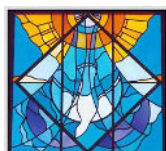
In the event of a pastoral emergency,

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.



### Holy Baptism

The next scheduled date for baptisms is Sunday, May 19, 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](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.*