

the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXVI, No.11

May 22, 2024

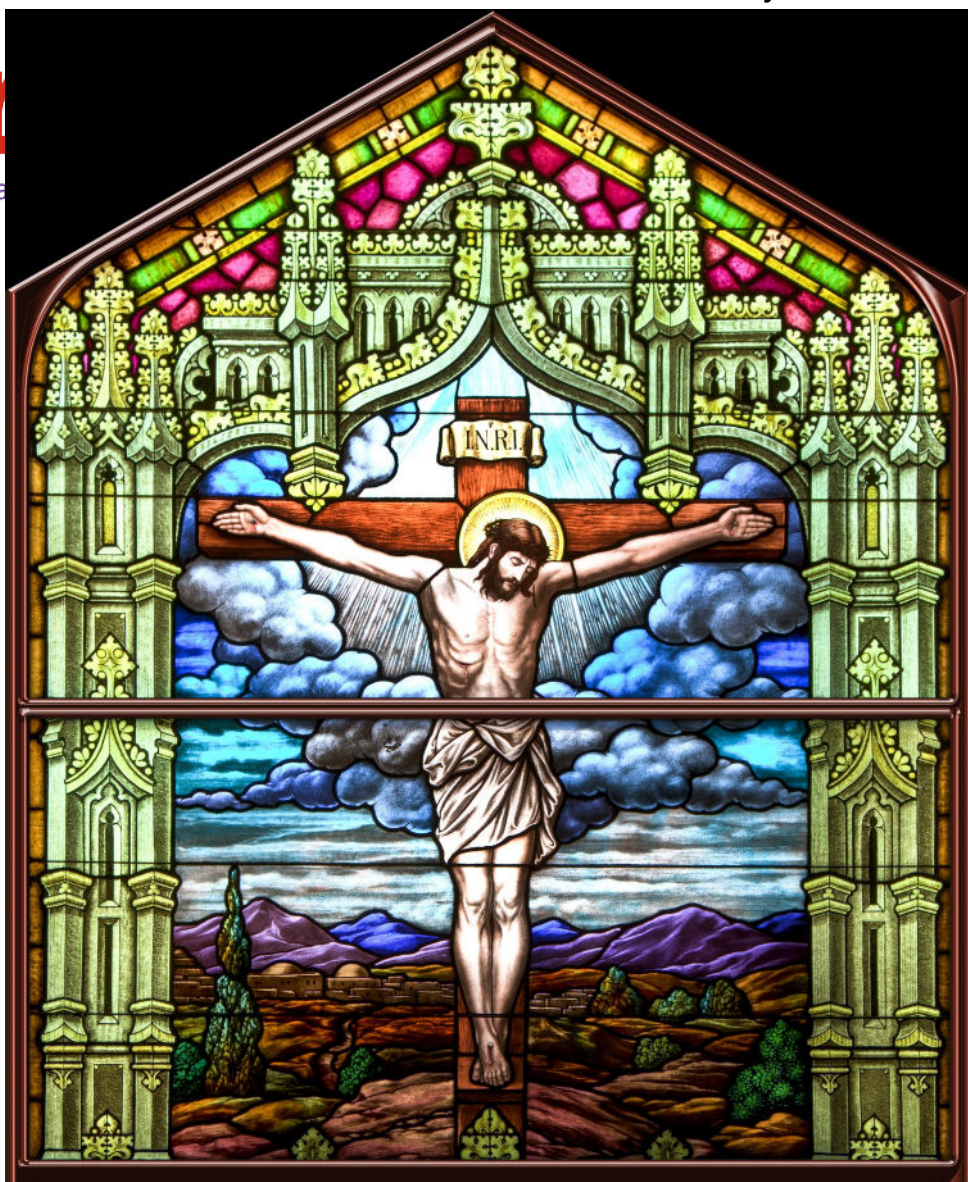
FROM THE RECTOR:

Birthered in the wake of the Civil War, Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Launched on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, people today associate Memorial Day with picnics, bar-b-que, and a three-day holiday. But it serves as an annual reminder that the lives we enjoy in this great country were won through the sacrifice of others.

Likewise, the Church has just crossed into the season after Pentecost. This past Sunday, we celebrated the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on the early Christian fellowship in Jerusalem. We remembered the gifts which accompanied the anointing of the Holy Spirit – tongues, prophecy, healing, and more. And we were reminded of our own family history.

Like Memorial Day, Pentecost serves as an annual reminder that the life we share in Christ exists because of the hard work and sacrifice of others. My forefathers and mothers were not present in Jerusalem in the First Century. Two thousand years ago, my ancestors lived in what is now Germany and the British Isles. They were a pagan people. They worshipped inanimate objects and participated in all manner of heathen religious rituals.

Yet centuries ago, empowered by the Holy Spirit's anointing on that memorable Pentecost, and in response to the charge from Jesus to 'Go and make disciples of all the nations,' Christian missionaries traveled many months over treacherous ground in hostile lands to share the Good News of Christ with my ancestors.



This Memorial Day, in addition to the fun, offer prayers of earnest thanks for the men and women whose sacrifices have secured our liberty. And as we begin the season after Pentecost, honor the sacrifices of those who introduced your ancestors to Christ by praying for your unchurched neighbors and by inviting a friend to join you on Sunday in church.

We do not have to load the cannon. We do not have to face the heathens in pagan Britain and Germania or elsewhere. But we can honor the memory and service of those who did through our own prayers and service unto others.

May the Lord bless you with a joyful Memorial Day!

Gratefully in Christ Jesus,

David H

God Bless Our Children: As many of you know, Ann and I have been serving in Florida for the past six months. We returned on May 1, and I was blessed to be at Christ Church for Youth Sunday. Congratulations to Jack, Oliver, Elizabeth, Brighton, Miles, and Marigny our graduating seniors who were honored last Sunday. I was at the downtown campus and heard a powerful sermon by Elizabeth Huggler, and a great job of reading by Marigny Teagarden, including accurate pronunciation of some difficult biblical words. Youth Sunday has caused me to reflect on our children and the challenges they will face.

College has always presented a challenge for a young adult's faith. First of all, the simple fact of being on one's own for the first time can be challenging - deciding what to eat, what to wear, how to manage money, choosing friends, when to study, when to go to class. Freshman year can be an opportunity to make some very bad choices, choices that can have far-reaching consequences. Additionally, at many colleges and universities students are encouraged to "think for themselves," but think with a worldview that runs counter to Christianity and traditional American values.

Particularly alarming, especially for the parents of children in college, are the anti-Israel protests found on many campuses since October 7. Students encouraged by professional activists and even some faculty members have seriously disrupted campus life at a number of schools engaging in some cases in criminal activity and outrageous anti-Semitism. Graduation celebrations were disrupted all across the country. The protest that really caught my eye was at, of all places, Duke University, a Methodist University.

A number of students at Duke walked out of commencement in protest of graduation and honorary degree recipient Jerry Seinfeld. Jerry Seinfeld! Seinfeld is a comedian whose daughter is a Duke graduate and whose son is a student there. Seinfeld is Jewish and a supporter of Israel. I watched Seinfeld's speech. The speech was entirely apolitical, funny, and insightful.

One young woman ripped up her diploma as she walked across the stage. Fortunately, there was a large number of graduates who chanted, "Jerry, Jerry, Jerry." The point that I want to make here is that to stay faithful to Jesus and to follow him requires a firm foundation. From the old hymn: How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord...Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismayed, For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, Upheld by My gracious, omnipotent hand.

That firm foundation begins in the home, a loving Christian home, a home where being in church on Sunday is the norm. In our culture today, that can be difficult. Youth sports are now often scheduled on Sunday. I love the quiz show, Jeopardy. Last week one of the questions was, "For what was runner Eric Liddell best known?" The answer is that Liddell was favored in the 1924 Olympics in Paris in the 100-meter race, but he refused to compete because the race was to be held on a Sunday. I remember a priest saying that there are only two excuses for not being in church on Sunday - illness and travel. Families need to be in church on Sunday; children need to be in church on Sunday.

Youth & Children's ministry is a key element in building a firm foundation in our children. Christ Church takes this ministry seriously. Under Fr. David's leadership we have an excellent team of youth & children's ministry leaders, and thanks to many of you, we have \$3 million worth of improved facilities. I got a tour of the classrooms and children's chapel at the South Campus last week, and it is spectacular. Work on the new and improved chapel downtown is a work in progress. Our new facilities are a true blessing, and I pray that we will fill them with children. God bless our graduates. God bless our children.

Blessings in Christ,

Ted+

Thank you to the Chancel Choir, the Carol and Cherub Choir for a great year.

Thank you to Susie Fergus and Hannah Rosser for your leadership with the children's choir. *We can't wait until next year.*

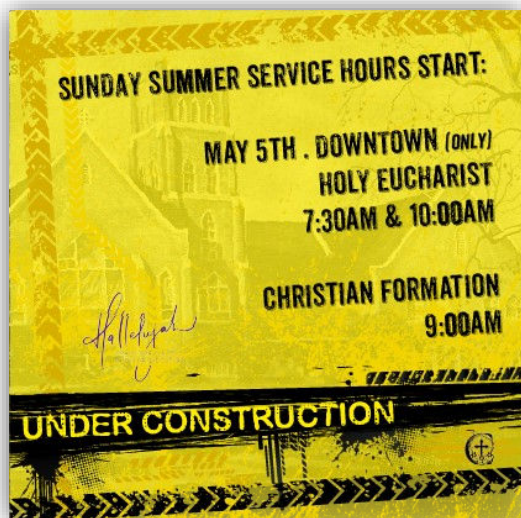
The Chancel Choir will be singing thru July 7, 2024 at the 10:00 Service and then will take their summer break and return in September.

Thank you Tony Rives who acts as music librarian and keeps the chancel choir up to date with anthems, etc. Thank you Tony.

Thank you to Robin Hood Brians, Allen Morris, and David Gower for there expertise and diligence with live-streaming the services.

We are now on the down hill slope as we prepare to ease into summer.

Thank you to you our congregations for your support of the Music Program here at Christ Church.



Special Christian Formation
with Bishop Doyle.

DOWNTOWN June 2 at 9am

You are invited to join Bishop Doyle for a 30 minute Forum with Q&A in the Ascension Room.



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

All Good Things

What a great celebration we had at CCS on the 19th! Isaac Wayne Wallings was Baptized into the Communion of God, nine kids from 2nd-4th grade celebrated their "first" First Communion, and it was Pentecost-the birthday of the church. We celebrated- as one does- with cake and all the trimmings (cookies, fruit, meat and cheese and more cake!) It was a wonderful celebration and reminder that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." (James 1:17)

Another Gift that is offered in Jesus's name is Vacation Bible School. This is a week specifically devoted to bringing our youngest learners closer to God's word by utilizing language and activities specifically tailored to them. The actual week of VBS is the culmination of months of planning, preparing and praying. As I wrote in the last Crucifer, there is an entire Village working behind the scenes to bring VBS to life!

I would dearly love to grow that Village. Maybe you are someone that doesn't have children or perhaps your kids are grown and gone! There is a place for you in this Village. All that is required is a love of children and a desire to have fun!!

If you feel God's call to offer your gifts to the kids during VBS, click the link below and sign up! You won't be sorry!

<https://www.ChristChurchTyler.org/vbs/>

Kimber ❤️

VBS will be held at All Saints Episcopal School,
 9:00 to noon, June 24-28

VBS Work Week is the immediate week prior, June 17-21.

CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

5/27 **August Hanna**, 5/29 **Carter Edwards**,
 6/2 **Madeleine Fennell**, 6/4 **Benjamin Ashley**



student ministry
Sarah Jones,
Director of Student Ministries



We have had an incredible May! There was an amazing turn out for the golf tournament and the crawfish boil. Youth Sunday was May 12th and the kids all did an amazing job!

Some **special congratulations** to the scholarship recipients.
ECW Scholarship: **Marigny Teagarden** and **Elizabeth Huggler**
Clawwater-Shaw Scholarship: **Brighton Lee**


It has been an honor getting to know these seniors. I am grateful for the year I had with them but also wish I could have one more.

Thank you to everyone who helped make these events possible.

COMING UP:


Tyler Mission Week **June 17th-21st**
 Galveston Mission trip: **July 22nd-26th**
 High School Retreat to Dallas: **August 2nd-4th**

you're invited!



CHRIST CHURCH Vacation Bible School
June 24-28 @ All Saints Episcopal School

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER OR GO TO
christchurchtyler.org/vbs



Voga

Thursdays, 8:00-9:00 a.m. on the 4th floor CCD

with Sarah Jones
Certified Yoga Instructor
& Director of Student Ministries




EYC TYLER JUNE 17-21
MISSION WEEK!

Please sign up by emailing Sarah Jones at sjones@christchurchtyler.org by June 10th.

Drop off 8:30am & pick up 3:30pm
Lake Party Friday afternoon at the Beaty's!



**Men's Summer
Depth Group**

Save the date **begins May 29**
Wednesdays 6-8pm South Campus

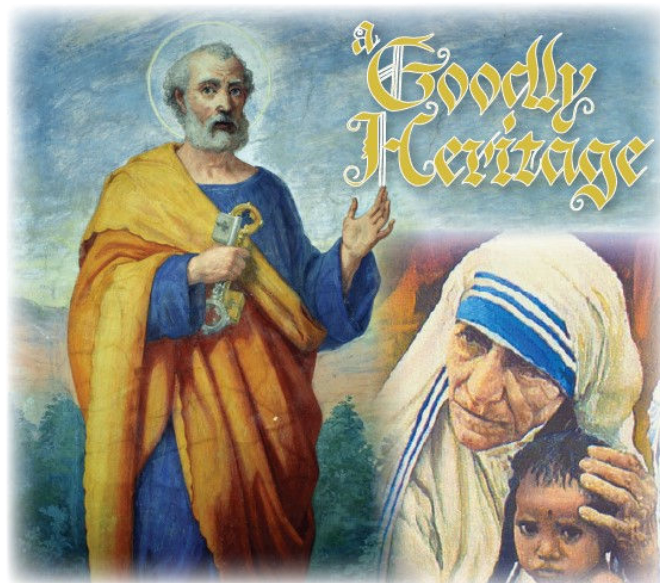
What is Holy Scripture? And how ought Christians to read it?

We are used to reading the Bible and hearing it in Church, but these are questions we seldom ask.

This summer, we'll be exploring what exactly the Bible is and how we are meant to read it. Fourth-century African bishop, St. Augustine, will be our guide as we read together his little book *[On Christian Teaching](#)*.

You are welcome to buy the book to follow along if you like, but we'll be doing a close reading together on Wednesday nights, followed by a time of fellowship on the patio.

Please bring along your favorite non-alcoholic or alcoholic beverages to share.



Adult Christian Formation [Sunday School]

Beginning Sunday, June 9 9:00am CCD | 10:00am CCS

This summer we'll be looking at important theologians in the life of Church, beginning in the first century through to the present. St. Paul, St. Augustine, St. Claire, and Martin Luther (*along with others*) all made important contributions to the Christian faith. We'll get a chance to hear about their lives and look at what they've taught the Church about the Gospel.

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, Zac, Mimi, Phil, Carl, Samuel, Angela, Christian, Dominic, Linda, Marian, Mike, Mark, Dalton, Verdie, Chris, Jimmy, Sherry, LaRose, Curt, Billy, Hardin, Ella, Genaro, Ara, Maggie, Jennifer, Suzanne, Lynn, Lisa, Ginny, Pam

The Anglican Communion: *The Diocese of Egbu (Nigeria);*

The Episcopal Church: *Dioceses of Fort Worth & Georgia*

Diocese of Texas: *St. John's—Carthage & Christ Church—Cedar Park*

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please contact The Rev. Stephen Stine if you'd like to keep or add someone to the prayer list 903.530.8168 or ssti@tjc.edu.

In Memoriam

Our sympathies to the family & friends of

Wilda Willms,
wife of

Richard Willms;

Judy Sparrow,

mother of Brett Harrison; and

Richard Wheelock.

upcoming

MONDAY, MAY 27

offices closed for Memorial Day

Tuesday, MAY 28

Summer office hours begin

8:30-4 Monday—Thursday

8:30-3 Friday

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

6:00 pm **Men's Summer Depth Group** begins | CCS

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

9:00AM **Bishop Doyle Forum** | CCD Ascension Room

10:00AM **Confirmation** with Bishop Doyle | CCD

11:00 am **Reception** for Confirmands | CCD Parish Hall

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

9:00AM New Sunday School begins | CCD

10:00AM New Sunday School begins | CCS

MON—FRI, June 17-21

8:30 am **Tyler Mission Week** sjones@christchurchtyler.org

MON—FRI, June 24-28

9:00 am **Vacation Bible School** | ASES

SUNDAY, July 7

4th of July Celebrations at each campus



THE VESTRY

Mr. Bill Clawwater, *Treasurer*
Mr. Tim Alexander, *Asst. Treasurer*
CLASS OF 2024

Mrs. Kim Meyer, Mr. Danny Noteware,
Ms. Sheryl Richter-Jr. *Warden CCS*,
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 Bufo-Sr. *Warden*,
Ms. Joyce McGee, Mr. Stan Ward,
Mrs. Ann Weissmann-*Clerk*.

Lectionary for upcoming Sundays

Sunday, May 26

Trinity Sunday
Exodus 3:1-6, Psalm 93
Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-16

Sunday, June 2

2 Pentecost | Proper 4
Deuteronomy 5:6-21, Psalm 81
2 Corinthians 4:5-12, Mark 2:23-28



Holy Baptism

The next scheduled date for baptisms is Sunday, August 18, 2024. If interested in baptism on this date, please contact the church office, 903-597-9854 or office@christchurchtyler.org.

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

Mrs. Madison Winkler
Children's Ministries Assistant

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

Mrs. Jennifer Ducote
Mr. Anthony Moore
Mr. Kendric Milton
Sexton
Sexton
Assistant Sexton

Blair Zdenek, Jessi Mayes, Madisyn Bickham,
Pricilla Yeboah
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.



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 starting May 5th

7:30 am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite I*

10:00 am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist

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.*