

the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXVII, No.21

November 5, 2025

christchurchtyler.org

FROM THE RECTOR:

Isaiah 58.10: 'If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday'

Matthew 25.37-40: (Jesus continued), 'Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?' . . . And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

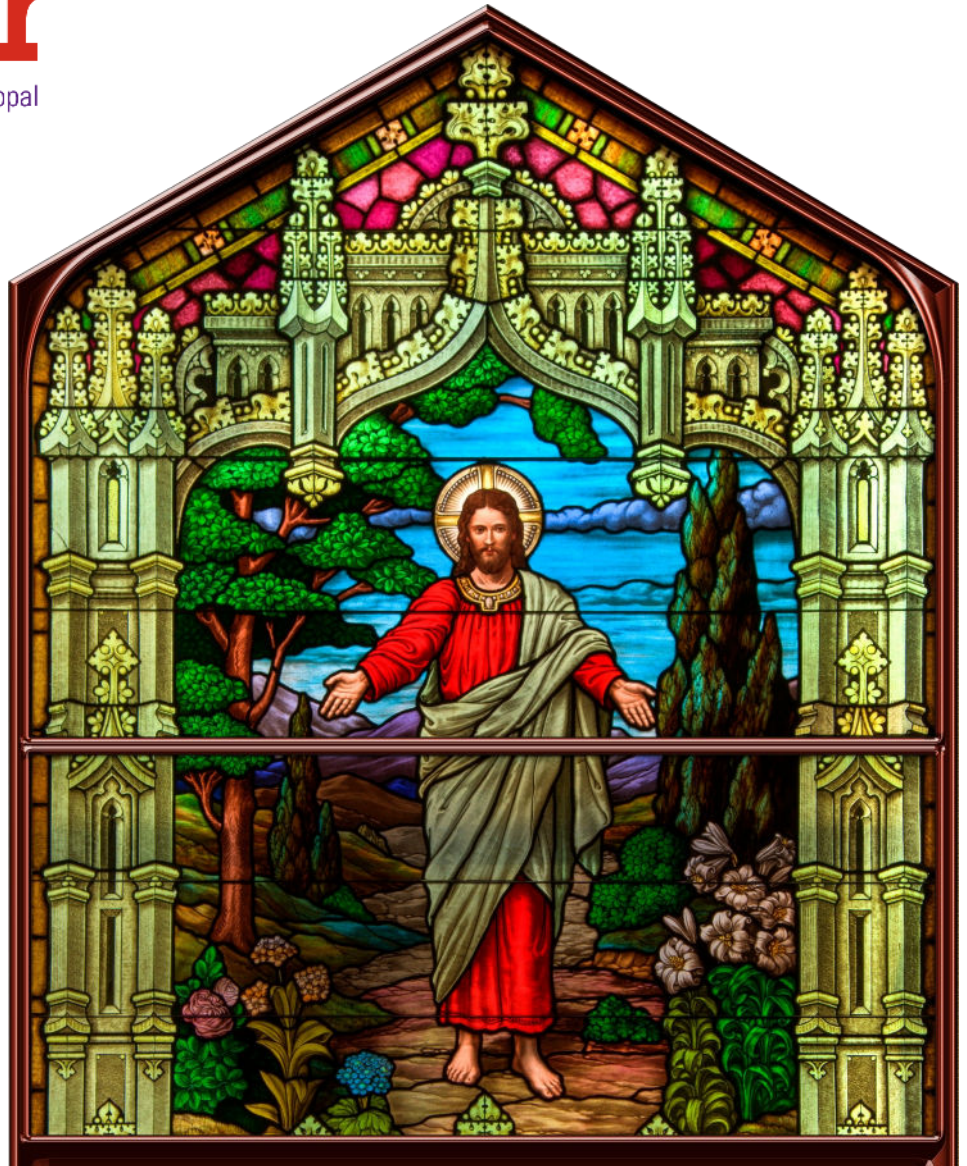
The Bible has a lot to say about feeding the hungry.

I have always been especially convicted by the teaching of *James 2.14-18*. James writes to the Church, 'What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?

Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead . . . I will show you my faith by my works.'

Reasonable and faithful people can debate the role of government programs in feeding the hungry. Yet the obligation for faithful Christians to feed people that are hungry is not debatable.

This past Sunday, many scores of Christ Church families, responding to the urgent need to provide food for East Texas families impacted by the failure of our government leaders to provide expected food through the SNAP or



food stamp program, filled both Christ Church campuses with bags of groceries and made generous donations to the East Texas Food Bank. Thank you for your generosity!

Over the past 48 hours, Christ Church has delivered hundreds of pounds of food to local pantries which are experiencing long lines of hungry people. Thank you for your compassion!

God willing, our elected officials will renew funding for the SNAP program in the coming days. Until they do, Christ Church will continue to collect groceries every Sunday, revealing our love for Jesus and for our neighbors.

Gratefully in Christ Jesus, *David +*



As I've been working through the book of Isaiah in our adult Christian formation, I came across verses 40:6-8 once again. These verses are poignant for me:

All flesh is grass;
 their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers; the flower fades,
 when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
 surely the people are grass.
The grass withers; the flower fades,
 but the word of our God will stand forever.

I think these verses point to a truth of created life that rings especially true in the fall. All of human life is fading away like grass, or flowers... or the leaves falling from our trees. They appear for a while, and then they are gone. If I translated this passage into an East Texan dialect, it might read a little different, but not too much:

All flesh is the leaves from a catalpa tree;
 the leaves yellow, fall, and blow away
when the breath of the Lord blows upon them
 with the autumn wind.
The leaves crumple and scatter
 but the word of the Lord endures.

This is how I would put it, or something like this, anyways. The falling leaves outside my living room window remind me that another season has passed, that the verdant greens of spring and bustling life of summer inevitably lead to the decay and death at fall time.

Our lives are no different. They too start to flag as we head into the autumn time of life.

This truth is cause for some sadness, but it is sweet sadness. There is beauty in the fall season because it is so fleeting, and the transitory nature of our lives is part of what lends to them their meaning.

And behind all of the seasons of the year and of our lives stands the Word of the Lord. God spoke creation into being by his Word, and this

Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We still commune with this Word as we hear him speak to us in Holy Scripture and are nurtured by him in the Eucharist.

Our lives may be fading like the year, but our connection to Jesus is stabilizing, a reminder that God is present through it all. There is a lovely prayer in the service of Compline that asks God for his protection through the night "so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may repose upon [God's] eternal changelessness." May God protect us this autumn, with all the uncertainty and beauty it brings, so that we mind find rest even in our weariness.

**TUESDAYS in
ADVENT NOON-TIME CONCERT SERIES**
followed by a light lunch



CHRIST CHURCH TYLER
Downtown
118 S. BOIS D'ARC | 12:00PM



Tuesday DECEMBER 9
WESTON JENNINGS & FRIENDS
harpsichord & more

Tuesday DECEMBER 2
SUE BUGG & FRIENDS
flute ensemble

**Tidings
of Joy**

Tuesday DECEMBER 16
LORI SMITH & FRIENDS
harp, organ, strings & soprano



CONFIRMATION

October 26, 2025 | Christ Church South
The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher

Brant & Kathy Buchinger
Richard & Heather Kilby
Diana & Eduardo Tenorio
Jamie & Tony Rhorer
Delores Dunkley-Beswick
Heather Peterson
Mallory & George Mozquedo

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Christmas Pageant

Practice during Sunday school
starts November 30

CCD: December 24th at 4 PM CCS: December 21st at 11:05 AM

register here>>>



christchurchtyler.org/christmas-pageant



Sunday, November 16
12:30pm @ CCS

CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

11/14 Isla Hanna, 11/17 Evelyn Meals

Save the Date!



Caroling in the Azalea District
Saturday evening, December 13th



Ushering in Advent ADVENT WREATHS BONFIRE

hosted by
venite
open to all

Friday, November 21
6:00pm | South Campus Pavilion

Join us under the pavilion for an evening of
advent wreath making,
followed by a time of
worship around the fire.
Mulled wine for adults, hot chocolate for kids.

Please RSVP
\$10/wreath



CHRISTIAN FORMATION | FALL 2025

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00AM AT BOTH CAMPUSES


THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

BIBLE STUDY WITH THE RECTOR

ACTS

of the Apostles


Men's | Tuesdays at 8:00am
Women's | Thursdays at 10:30am



WOMEN'S DEPTH GROUP

WDG meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays | 6:00 p.m. at the South Campus

We will study together
Life Lessons from John: When God Became Man by Max Lucado.
For more info & to sign up go to: www.christchurchtyler.org/wdg



Keys of the Kingdom

A Theology Study Group & Book Club

*"And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven,
and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven,
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."*
Matthew 16:19

~NOVEMBER 13 & DECEMBER 11~

3:00 – 4:30pm | resuming 2nd & 4th Thursdays in 2026
Downtown Campus | Guild Hall
Discussion & Tea

All are welcome to participate, there is a place for you!

For further information
& to RSVP contact Valerie Huggler, Parish Secretary
903.597.9851 / office@christchurchtyler.org

Book: *Confessions* by Augustine of Hippo



Christmas Theater Outing

Irime Timers

Saturday, December 13th
2:30pm Irving Berlin's White Christmas
Tyler Civic Theater

Theater Tickets - \$25 each
Due to the Parish Administrator, Michael Osburn
by November 13th.

Questions may be directed to
John & Stacey McKinley at jmckin9596@aol.com.



Our Annual Parish Meeting and Vestry Election will be held in January.

Vestry nominations are being received now!

Nominees should be excellent trustees and lay leaders of Christ Church, at least 18 years of age and enrolled communicants of the church in good standing.

Please commend those names to Dr. Roger Fowler, Senior Warden
rogernfowler@gmail.com by November 16.

In Our Prayers

Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions:

Luba, Maria, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Lisa, Anna Marie, Joshua, Pam, AJ, Jim, Frank, Angela, Ben, Artimus, WF, Christian, SW, Lauren, Maggie, Jennifer, Carmen, Carolyn, Linda, Chris, Dalton, Mike, Mark, Marian, Ann, Naomi, Desiree, Matthew, Frank, Amanda, Daniel, Warren, Graham, Jerry, Clara, FF, Casey, Lamar, Dominic, Carole, David, Hunter, Rhonda, Mark, Max, Joey, Mike, Jeremy, Austin

The Anglican Communion: *The Diocese of Puerto Rico*

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

Diocese of Texas: *St. Christopher's—Katy & St. James—LaGrange*

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 sssti@tjc.edu.

**Congratulations
on the marriages of:**

Hannah Rosser & Jade Allen

October 4, 2025;

Zoe Ward & Noah Montes

October 24, 2025;

and

Elsa Black & Mak Saigusa

November 1, 2025.

upcoming

SUNDAY | November 9

Newcomers Lunch with the Rector

12:30pm | CCD

RSVP at christcutchtyler.org/lwr

FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 14

Supper Club *small groups*

6:00pm | in homes

SUNDAY | November 16

5th Gear [5th Grade Program]

12:30pm | CCS

WEDNESDAY | November 19

Women's Depth Group

6:00pm | CCS

FRIDAY | November 21

Wreath-Making & Bonfire

6:00pm | CCS

RSVP: christchurchtyler.org/venite

WEDNESDAY | November 26

Church offices close at noon for Thanksgiving
reopen Monday December 1st

TUESDAYS IN ADVENT | December 2, 9, 16

Tidings of Joy Concerts

Noon | Downtown in the Nave

followed by light lunch in the Parish Hall

THURSDAYS IN ADVENT | December 4, 11, 18

1928 Eucharist

Noon | CCD

SUNDAY | December 7

Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

6:00pm in the Nave | CCD

SATURDAY | December 13

Primetimers Theater Outing

2:30 Tyler Civic Theater (see graphic below)

Caroling in the Azalea District

more info to come

SUNDAY | December 21st

Children's Christmas Pageant

11:05am Christ Church South

WEDNESDAY | Christmas Eve - December 24th

Church offices close at noon & reopen December 29th

Christ Church Downtown

4:00pm **Children's Christmas Pageant**

7:30pm **Christmas Eve Eucharist**

10:30pm **Candlelight Service**

THURSDAY | Christmas Day - December 25th

10:00am **Holy Eucharist**

Christ Church Downtown

SUNDAY | December 28

7:30am & 10:00am **Holy Eucharist** | CCD

Supper Club

Join us!

6:00pm Friday,
November 14



small groups

RSVP by Nov 7th:

christchurchtyler.org/supper-club

THE VESTRY

Mr. Bill Clawater, *Treasurer*
Mr. Tim Alexander, *Asst. Treasurer*
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
Ms. Joyce McGee, Mrs. Sara McElroy,
Mrs. Ann Weissmann-*Clerk*
CLASS OF 2027

Dr. Roger Fowler-*Sr. Warden*,
Mr. Jim Johnson-*Jr. Warden CCS*, Mr. George Lollis,
Dr. Bob McKinney, Mrs. Shannon Teagarden

Lectionary for upcoming Sundays Year C BCP 1979 Lectionary

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost | Proper 27

Job 19:23-27a, Psalm 17

2 Thessalonians 2:13--3:5, Luke 20:27 [28-33] 34-38

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost | Proper 28

Malachi 3:13--4:2a, 5-6, Psalm 98,

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Luke 21:5-19



STEWARDSHIP 2026

189 pledges as of 11.5.2025

{29% increased their pledge from last year | 21 new pledges}.

Scan the QR code for more info & to make your pledge!

Questions: contact Michael Osburn, Parish Administrator.
903.597.9854 or mardoin@christchurchtyler.org

Christ Church
EPISCOPAL
GIFT SHOP

OPEN HOURS:

Sunday 9am—11am

Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am—1:00pm

giftshop@christchurchtyler.org

{2026 liturgical calendars now for sale}

Come on in! The Gift Shop is decked out for Christmas with Advent wreaths, nativities, scents, ornaments, gifts, etc.

Shop early - limited quantities

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 Senior Chaplain, Assisting Priest

The Rev. Leesa Lewis
All Saints Episcopal School Assistant Chaplain, Assisting Priest

Ms. Michael Osburn
Parish Administrator mardoin@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Jeffrey Ford
Organist/Choirmaster jford@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. A.J. Meals
Assistant Organist mealsa@gladewaterisd.com

Mr. McKinley Terry
Interim Director of Student Ministries mterry@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Zoe Montes
Director of Children's Ministries zward@christchurchtyler.org

Ms. Jessica Creel
Assistant Director of Children's Ministries jcreel@christchurchtyler.org

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 *Sexton*
Mr. Anthony Moore *Sexton*
Mr. Kendrick Milton *Assistant Sexton*

Jessi Mayes *Nursery Coordinator*, Reagan Darling,
Priscilla Yeboah, Kimberly Wanjiru, Jada Akrong *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

Sunday Worship Services

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

9:00am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite II*

11:00am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite I*

11:05am~ **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 (once in July & 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.*