



FROM THE RECTOR:

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. *Proverbs 22.6*

We are always purposeful about our ministry to, with, and among children. Much of the energy and work of the Church is concerned with our kids. Indeed, we are in the midst of a historic effort to create and re-develop exceptional spaces in which we will nurture the Christian faith of children.

At this time of year, we are especially mindful of the wisdom of Proverbs 22.6. And we celebrate the blessing of our kids and honor their accomplishments.

This Sunday, May 12, we will celebrate Youth Sunday and be led in worship by our youth at the 10:00 service at our historic downtown nave and the 11:05 service at Christ Church South. We will honor our graduating seniors at respective receptions in the downtown parish hall at 11:15 and the new conference room at the South Campus at 10:00. And on Sunday June 2, at the 10:00 service, a great group of our youth will confirm their commitment to Christ and receive the blessing of Bishop Doyle in the nave. Then we will celebrate their commitment to our Lord at a reception for both the youth and adult confirmands in the parish hall at 11:15.

There are lots of commands that we obey because we must. Over the coming weeks, we will celebrate and honor our young people because we love them, and we count it all joy to do so.

Faithfully in Christ Jesus,

Davil +



One of the strange realities of our lives, whether we are Christians or not, is the givenness of it all. By this I mean that so much of our lives comes unbidden and is almost totally outside of our control.

Think about this: We are thrust into life without any decision of our own. We are born to a family that will allow us gifts and insights but will also bring with it challenges and griefs. And we are born into this family in a particular a community and neighborhood, which is itself part of country that we did not choose to live in. We all learn to speak a language that was handed down to us without us having any say in the matter.

Not only this, but our first years of life, beginning in utero, and then as an infant and small child, we exist totally and utterly dependent upon other people. We can't care for ourselves. Rather, we are born to a mother, who then will care for us (or perhaps was unable to care for us), and we will be raised in a family with siblings (or none). We will go to school to learn a curriculum we didn't pick out. We will adjust to life in a body that we didn't select for ourselves, with strengths and weaknesses, beauties, and allergies, all of them bound up together.

And the paradox to all of this is that we will be taught (rightly!) as we grow to take responsibility for our actions, to plot a course which we hope our life will follow, with training and education, a career, and perhaps a family of our own.

This is not to diminish our choices: We decide what we will do with our lives, the things we will eat for breakfast, the kind of character we will cultivate, and whether or not to ask this person or that person to marry us.

But this is to say that our choices are a consequence of what we've been given, not something that is in opposition to the givenness. Or, to put this another way, the gifts we've received are the precondition of our choices. Gift (which, by the way, comes to us as an expression of the love of God) frees us to choose. Even then, our choosing is not unhindered and radical, but is shaped by the soil in which we have been growing, including the values of our nation, our communities, our church, our family, and experiences over which we had no control.

What's the upshot of all of this?

So much!

But, for one, a decentering of ourselves, even from our own stories. The story of our life is only possible because God has given us a story (whether we recognize this or not!) and because of the stories of so many others that have coalesced to support our story. In the deepest sense, we exist only because of God and other people. Perhaps that's why our Lord's great commandment to us is to love God with our whole selves and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

There is really no other way!



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

UNCOMMON TIME 8 8 8 vibré in Concert Sunday, May 19, 2024, 3:00 pm **Christ Episcopal Church** 118 S. Bois d'Arc ~ Tyler, Texas Handbells! They're Not Just for Church & Christmas!

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

It Takes a Village

There's a podcast I like called "How I Built This". The host, Guy Raz, interviews founders, developers, inventors and the like of well-known foods (Cliff Bar), businesses (Primal Kitchen), authors (Adam Grant), etc. about how they built what they built. It's interesting to see how an idea or hobby became a thriving business but the one thing that all these people have in common is a village. Maybe it was the village of educators that set them on their path. Or perhaps they had partners acting as a sounding board. Whatever it was, they did not accomplish what they did in a vacuum. The same can be said for any project, event, or experience we have at Christ Church. There may be a figurehead but there is always a village.

Why am I talking about villages you ask? Because it is time to Dive into Friendship with Jesus! "Scuba" is this year's VBS theme (I may or may not already have a Pinterest page devoted to Craft ideas for decorating). And I'm looking for some great people to join my Village! Do you have a 4yr old through 4th grader? Register them to participate! Do you have an older Child who would like to be a Crew Leader or Assistant? Sign them up! Is your inner Creative screaming to get out? Sign up as a volunteer! Secretly wish you were a teacher but don't want to commit to a full year? This could be your dream come true! If this sounds like something you'd like to try, I'd love for you to join my village. Scan the QR code found just about everywhere (website, postcards at both campuses, service leaflets, Crucifer) or give me a buzz! Let's Build This!!!



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 BIRTHDAYSI

5/10 Olivia Crawford, 5/11 Jake Vaughn 5/16 Harper Harrison, 5/19 Fiona Mayes, 5/20 Gatlin Chitty

CHRIST CHURCH VACATION BIDIE SCHOOL (rising 4x-4th grade) JUNG 74-28 9:00am - 12 @ All Saints Episcopal School

Christich Urchtyler.org/VbS

student ministry Sarah Jones, Director of Student Ministries

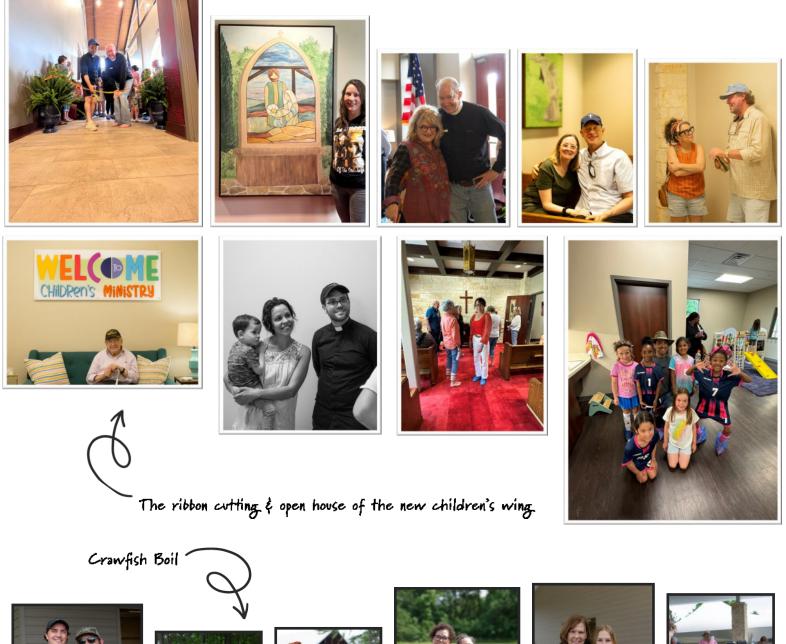
Hello families.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the crawfish boil and ribbon cutting for our new south campus wing. An extra big thank you to Tony Patterson and the Brotherhood of St. Andrews for the food and to Rose Revival for some great music! The crawfish boil felt really special to me as last year's was the first Christ Church event l attended and everyone was so lovely and welcoming toward me I decided I should work here! Youth Sunday is coming up on May 12th and prepping a reception for our seniors has again allowed me to reflect back on this past year. I am so grateful that I was able to experience one year with these amazing kids. They are intelligent, dedicated, and most importantly, beautiful human beings. I have loved getting to know them. I have no doubt that they will spread joy and add goodness to this world where ever God leads them.

Sarah Jones Director of Student Ministries



APRIL 27TH WAS AN AMAZING DAY AT CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH!!





















Jack Graham Bergfeld Tyler Legacy High School

University of Texas-McCombs Business School

Oliver Morrison Finney

Tyler Legacy High School Oliver is working on advancing his career with Project One Roofing and will continue to explore options for further education.

Elizabeth Anne Huggler All Saints Episcopal School

University of Tulsa and major in Media Studies

Brighton Kay Lee

The Brook Hill School Plans to stay local and attend TJC or the University of Texas at Tyler and study art.

Marigny Elizabeth Teagarden

All Saints Episcopal School Will be attending Louisiana State University and pursing a career in the medical field.

Miles Rovton Miller Lindale High School

Tyler Junior College



Come join your Primetimers friends as we close out our 2023/2024 season with dinner.

Manny's Mexican Restaurant (1433 So. Beckham Ave.)

Reservations have been made for May 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Choose your no-host dinner from Manny's menu, with your first drink of choice provided by Primetimers.

Following dinner... John & Stacey McKinley will provide desserts & beverages at their home (7311 Cross Road).

We look forward to seeing you soon! Please RSVP to John & Stacey at jemintex07@gmail.com, so that we can provide Manny's with an accurate count.





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

> with **Sarah Jones** Certified Yoga Instructor & Director of Student Ministries

twenty - forcy y SOMETHINGS

Join us, with your family + friends, at the South Campus for a time of worship + prayer around the fire.

Thursday, May 16th 6:30pm @ South Campus

christchurchtyler.org/venite

worship + prayer marshmallow + hot dog *roasting*



Women's Depth Group

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





thanksgivings , supplications & fellowship

In Our Prayers

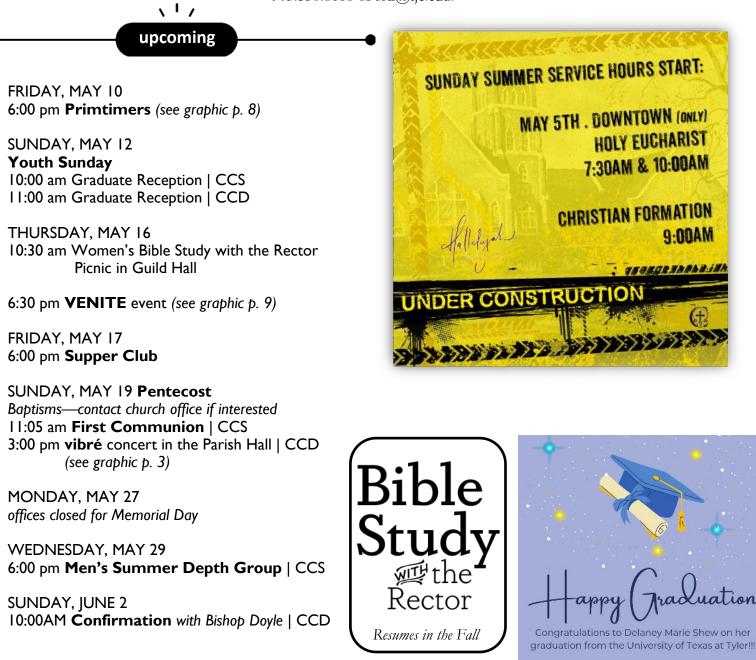
Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions:

Lisa, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Isabelle, Tommy, Lorelei, Cody, Paul, Lucy, Zac, Mimi, Phil, Carl, Samuel, Angela, Christian, Dominic, Linda, Miriam, Mike, Mark, Dalton, Verdie, Chris, Jimmy, Sherry, LaRose, Curt, Billy, Hardin, Ella, Genaro

 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.



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, May 12 The 7th Sunday of Easter Exodus 28:1-4, 9-10, 29-30, Psalm 68:1-20 or Psalm 47 1 John 5:9-15, Acts 1:15-26 (alternate) John 17:11b-19 *Sunday, May 19* Pentecost Sunday Isaiah 44:1-8 Psalm 104:25-37 or Psalm 33:12-15, 18-22 1 Corinthians 12:4-13, Acts 2:1-11, John 20:19-23 or John 14:8-17





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.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Doyle Bishop of the Diocese of Texas

The Rt. Rev. Jeff FisherThe Rt. Rev. Kai RyanBishop SuffraganBishop 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

jford@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Jeffrey Ford Organist/Choirmaster

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 epiphanyttx@gmail.com

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

Blair Zdenek, Jessi Mayes, Madisyn Bickham, Pricilla Yeboah, Caitlin Logsdon

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.