

the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXVI, No.19
October 9, 2024
christchurchtyler.org

FROM THE RECTOR:

The great cathedrals in the United Kingdom are breathtaking.

As an Episcopal Church, Christ Church is rooted in and deeply connected with the Church of England. Our worship service, our theology, our language, and our Book of Common Prayer all find their origins in Britain. The great English cathedrals are a visible reminder that we did not create our church facilities and resources from scratch. We are blessed by the ideas, resources, hard work, and extraordinary faithfulness of those who preceded us.

The great English cathedrals are breathtaking. But St. Martin's church stands apart. Small. Humble. Simple. Compared especially to these striking cathedrals, St. Martin's in Canterbury is not an especially impressive building. But its story stands alone among the others.

We do not know the names of the first Christians in the British Isles. But we know they had established an underground church by 200AD. Between the conversion to Christianity of Emperor Constantine in 312 and the departure of the Roman legions in 405, the first St. Martin's church building was constructed. You can see and touch the original red brick wall built during the Roman era. It is likely that St. Martin's is the oldest church in the English speaking world.

The people who worshipped there did not speak English. The English language itself did not enter the United Kingdom until the Angles and Saxons arrived after the Roman soldiers left. But this was a place where some of the first believers in the United Kingdom worshipped our Lord Jesus Christ. They are our Anglican spiritual forebears. Our Church is built on the blessings of God, the hard work of the saints who preceded us, and our own faithfulness. Now we are all called to faithfully steward our congregation.

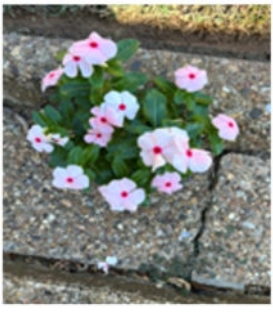
Over the past year, Christ Church has significantly expanded and improved our capacity to minister to children, youth, and adults. We have completed the new Children's Wing at Christ Church South, and we are weeks away from opening the new Children's Ministry Center at our historic downtown campus!

2025 promises to be a year in which we as a congregation minister to more people than ever. October 27 is Commitment Sunday. Please pledge online or bring your commitment card to church or to the church office on or before October 27. Together, standing on the shoulders of the saints and faithful stewards who preceded us, in 2025 we will faithfully equip disciples of Jesus and serve others in His name through the ministry of Christ Church.

Yours Faithfully in Christ,

David





**Rejoice in the Lord always;
 again, I will say, Rejoice...**

this is from St. Paul in his Letter to the Philippians. Rejoice always? Would Paul say that if he were living today? There is a war raging in the Middle East threatening the very existence of the Holy Land. There is a war raging

in the Ukraine with millions being killed and a country being destroyed. We are in the midst of a presidential election that is the ugliest in my lifetime. There is widespread homelessness, drug addiction, mental illness, and church attendance has fallen dramatically. And as I am preparing to depart for my ministry in Florida, there is a Category 5 hurricane headed that way. Rejoicing in the midst of all of this would almost seem to be obscene.

But Philippi in the time of Paul was no paradise. Philippi was a Roman colony, and the Romans did not tolerate anything that they perceived as a threat to their rule. The Christians who did not worship Caesar but worshipped their King, Jesus, were perceived as a threat and experienced persecution. Also, many of the citizens were slaves who were poor, illiterate, and barely able to get the necessities of life. Many of them had serious illnesses that were untreatable at that time. How could Paul ask them to ignore the realities of life? He wasn't. He was pointing to something deeper.

In everyday use, joy is generally understood as a degree of happiness. Merriam-Webster's Dictionary uses words like "delight" and "bliss" as definitions. Popularly understood, joy is a particular type of happiness, an intensified or

long-lasting delight. In this understanding, it is something that everyone would naturally desire. Joy seems to be a relatively clear term in the secular mind.

The spiritual understanding of joy is quite different from the secular definition. In popular terminology joy is happiness. For the religious person joy is happiness in God. Joy is not simply a fleeting feeling; it is a deep-seated result of one's connection to God. Although the more secular definition of joy may sometimes describe one's emotional response to an object or event, wonderful though it may be (a new job, or a hole-in-one for example), religious joy is always about a relationship. Joy has an object and that object is God.

Joy comes from a deep seated faith in God. It is different from happiness in that joy can exist even in the midst of suffering because joy is not based on emotion, but on belief. For Christians, joy goes deeper seeing confidence in God with Jesus Christ being the reason for rejoicing always. We can experience joy knowing that God is with us, even in the most difficult times.

We live in a culture that promotes pleasure more than joy. Technology has succeeded in giving us many opportunities for pleasure, but it is difficult to find joy there. True joy may be found in worship, Bible study, prayer, and Christian fellowship. Joy is all around us. We can find joy in God's creation. The photo I have included is of flowers that I found in my back yard. I didn't plant them. They simply appeared one day in a crack in the gutter behind my house. Joy can be found in some pretty unlikely places. Look around. *Rejoice in the Lord; again I will say rejoice.*

Blessings in Christ, Ted+

Stewardship 2025 is underway! Commitment Sunday is October 27th.
 Make your pledge today www.christchurchtyler.org/give

*His divine power has given us everything needed for life & godliness
 through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory & goodness.*

2 Peter 1:3

Questions: contact Diana Keecey, Parish Administrator.
 903.597.9854 or dkecey@christchurchtyler.org





**All Saints
Choral Evensong**

featuring
the Chancel & Carol Choirs
Jeffrey Ford, Organist/Choirmaster; A. J. Meals, Assistant Organist

November 3
Downtown, In the Nave, 6:00 p.m.

Music will include:

Introit:
Phos hilaron, Richard Proulx (Carol Choir)

Preces, Responses, and the Lord's Prayer,
John Barnard

Canticles:
Thomas Attwood Walmisley

Anthem:
Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem, C.V. Stanford

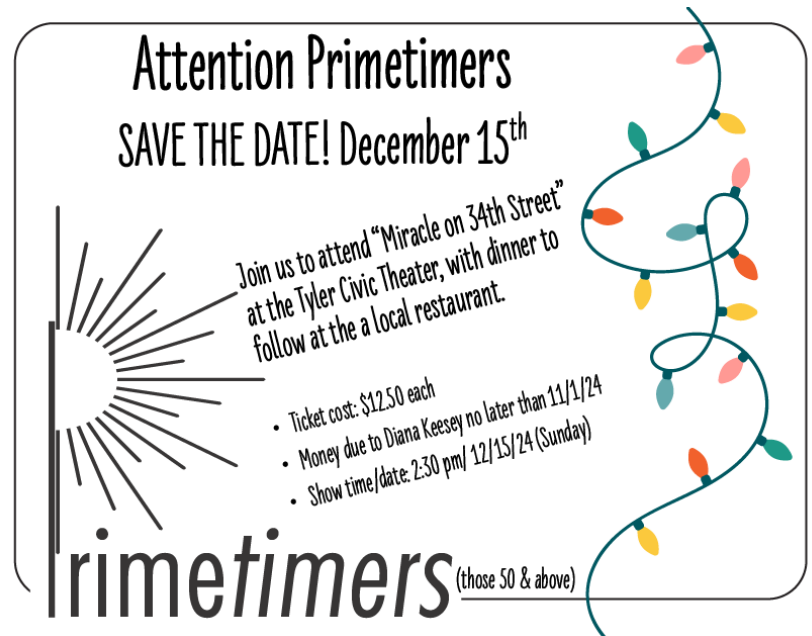
Reception to follow in the Parish Hall

Really, you want me to do what?!

I would like to challenge you to invite someone to the 11:00 Eucharist. You could even offer to sit with them. Let them know that there is singing, praying, scripture, the spoken word, communion and a wonderful choir!

It's not too late to be a greeter for Evensong

There is still time to help **greet** (*the people*), **give** (*out Service Leaflets*) and **take** (*the offering*). John & Stacey McKinley are heading that group and they would be happy to add you. Please contact Jeffrey Ford if you are willing to help.



Attention Primetimers
SAVE THE DATE! December 15th

Join us to attend "Miracle on 34th Street"
at the Tyler Civic Theater, with dinner to
follow at the a local restaurant.

- Ticket cost: \$12.50 each
- Money due to Diana Keeseey no later than 11/1/24
- Show time/date: 2:30 pm/ 12/15/24 (Sunday)

rimetimers (those 50 & above)

STEWARDSHIP 2025 TESTIMONY



If I were to be asked today, *why do you pledge?* I would reply *how can I not?* and explain how God has never, **not once**, failed to carry Rodney and me through. Through lack of income, loss of loved ones, loss of trust in each other to having enough and to abounding love. But 40+ years ago, I was one asking *how will we ever be able to pledge?*

Rodney and I have always had kids, as in 8 months pregnant on our first anniversary. (Surprise!) While our friends were already contributing to their 401k's, we were deep into providing the things required to keep our children alive. Committing to a monthly church pledge seemed impossible. Thankfully, a priest answered my *how* question and offered a strategy. Here's what he said. Decide on a monthly amount you **can** meet; how much is irrelevant but be faithful in meet-

ing it. Each year, raise your pledge *at least* 10%. As the years pass, you will find yourself tithing. Tithing? Who was talking about that? Many years later and surprised again, his strategy worked just as he said.

Having the joy of reaching a *certain age*, Rodney and I reflect on those periods in our life I mentioned earlier and, I cannot overstate this, we feel profound gratitude. We continue to make a financial commitment to the church because not only do we want to honor God by giving from what he has given us, but because we have experienced God's unconditional love in a visible way. We hope you will consider making a financial commitment to our church. Regardless of the size of your donation, making a regular offering will open the door to a level of joy and thanksgiving that will surprise you.

In Christ's love, Bobbie Schroeder

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



Children's Christian Formation 4yrs—1st grade

CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

10/10 **Claire Godbold**, 10/13 **Maley Bergfeld**, 10/16 **Mia Henninger**, 10/16 **Everett Mellon**, 10/22 **Carter Bangco**,
 10/26 **Joseph Peveto**, 10/27 **Conner Whitten**

student ministry
Sarah Jones,
Director of Student Ministries



There is a trend surrounding how we talk about weather in east Texas. I heard such excitement from people this past Sunday as they chatted about the cool mornings. It is a taste of the autumn weather that is hopefully going to settle in soon. I myself have started wearing sweaters and long sleeves in spite of the temperature. I am living in the delusion that the more I unnecessarily sweat in heavy clothing the quicker fall will come to rescue me. This is a stark contrast from the weather talk of May as many of us sit in dread of higher energy bills and sunburns.

Once in a while however, I hear someone say that summer is their favorite season. I am deeply confused by that statement but some people feel that way. I try to remember to ask what it is about the summer that they love so much. When I do I often get stories of adventure, travel, and family time at the lake. I feel a general sense of freedom in their stories whether it is the freedom to leave town or to just lay in the sun and enjoy the rays. I don't think I will ever love summer but hearing it being appreciated by someone else helps me to see it in a more positive light. It is something I can try to hold on to when I think I might pass out while walking one hundred feet to my car in July. I might only be experiencing the heat but there is something else I can find as well.

Just as the seasons of the year shift so do the seasons of our lives. I have some favorites that come to mind and others I did not care for. There are many more coming up that I know nothing about. Perhaps, like my discovery of the potential of summer, there are things to be excited about in my future seasons.. Maybe I can find a joy through someone else's perspective that I could not have on my own. I attended the Women's benediction breakfast on October 5th and it was a wonderful example of learning from others. By connecting different generations we gain new ideas. Those older than us can offer wisdom and comfort. They can show us the paths they walked during difficult times. Those younger than us offer hope and remind us about enjoying life. I hope we continue this journey of connecting across the generations in our church. Everyone has something to teach and everyone has something to learn.

Sarah Jones

Director of Student Ministries



Knitting

Saturday, October 12th
 10-11:30am . Downtown

Club

What started as a one-time summer class, has knit together into a monthly activity!

Benediction Breakfast

Benediction, *noun* | the utterance & bestowing of a blessing



Men *fathers | grandfathers | uncles | brothers | sons*

10.12.24 10:00am Christ Church South Pavilion

Joining together every generation across the two campuses {**benediction**}.

Bring along family & friends.

RSVP to www.christchurchtyler/breakfast

FALL FESTIVAL & CHILI COOK-OFF

CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH
15747 OLD JACKSONVILLE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26TH
4PM-6PM
\$10/person (age 4+) or \$25/family

Chili Cook-Off \ Balloon Animals \ Pumpkin Painting
Inflatable Obstacle Course \ TRUNK or TREAT

ENTER THE CHILI-COOK-OFF {\$25 ENTRY FEE}
• TEXAN • YANKEE • NO-BULL CHILI • SALSA
[CHKN / VEG / ETC]

www.christchurchtyler.org/fall-festival

SCAN for tickets, cook-off entry & all the info

All proceeds go to EYC.

Women's Depth Group

1st & 3rd Wednesdays
6:00pm CCS

We are studying from:
The God Parented Soul, The Psalms and Spiritual Formation
Volume 1 by Iris Pearce

Contact Karen Courville for more information casey@reagan.com

thanksgivings , supplications & fellowship

In Our Prayers

Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions:

Luba, Lisa, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Paul, Sally, Maggie, Jennifer, Laura, Alan, Ginger, Sally, Laura, Ezri, Mark, Analina, Darin, Barbara, Vicky, Amber, Chris, Jerry, Linda, Dalton, Chris, Mike, Mark, Marian, Verdie, Connie, Jeremy, Lauren, Russ, Liam, Heather, Chris, Alinda, Piper, Jimmy, Chester

The Anglican Communion: *The Diocese of Kadugki & Nuba Mountains (Sudan)*

The Episcopal Church: *Dioceses of Maryland & Massachusetts*

Diocese of Texas: *Trinity—Galveston & St. Augustine of Hippo—Galveston*

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.

Congratulations on the baptism of:

Richard Kilby

October 6, 2024 at
Christ Church South

upcoming

SATURDAY, October 12

10:00 Men's Benediction Breakfast | CCS

SUNDAY, October 13

12:30pm Newcomers Lunch with the Rector | CCS

WEDNESDAY, October 16

6:00pm Women's Depth Group | CCS

FRIDAY, October 18

6:00pm Supper Club (small groups)

RSVP by Oct 11 christchurchtyler.org/supper-club

SATURDAY, October 26

4:00pm Fall Festival & Chili Cook-off

get your tickets at christchurchtyler.org/fall-festival

SUNDAY, October 27

Commitment Sunday

SUNDAY, November 3

6:00pm Choral Evensong (reception to follow)

SUNDAY, November 17

11:05am Confirmation with Bishop Fisher | CCS

THURSDAY, November 28

Thanksgiving service available ONLINE

TUESDAY, December 3

Noon Tidings of Joy Concert series begins followed by a light lunch

THURSDAY, December 5

Noon 1928 Holy Eucharist begins for Advent

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Sundays | 10:00am
The Gospel of Mark @ both campuses
Confirmation Prep @ South Campus

Tuesdays | 8:00am | Downtown
Men's Bible Study w/ the Rector | Ephesians

Thursdays | 10:30am | Downtown
Women's Bible Study w/ the Rector | Ephesians



Supper Club Join us!

Friday, Oct 18
6:00pm

RSVP by the Oct 11
christchurchtyler.org/supper-club

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. 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*

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 Senior Chaplain, Assisting Priest

The Rev. Leesa Lewis
All Saints Episcopal School Assistant 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 mealsa@gladewaterisd.com

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. 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,
Priscilla Yeboah, Kimberly Wanjiru
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.

Lectionary for upcoming Sundays Year B BCP 1979 Lectionary

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

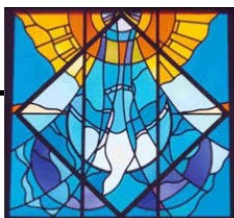
21 Pentecost | Proper 23

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15, Psalm 90, Hebrews 3:1-6,
Mark 10:17-27 [28-31]

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

22 Pentecost | Proper 24

Isaiah 53:4-12, Psalm 91,
Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:35-45



ALL SAINTS DAY
will be celebrated November 3rd.

Prayer List for All Saints Sunday.

If you would like to include a name to the list of the departed during services on November 3, go to christchurchtyler.org/prayers or contact the church office by Tuesday, October 29.

Baptisms

If interested in baptism on this date, please contact the church office, office@christchurchtyler.org or 903-597-9854.



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 October 6

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.*