



St. CHRISTOPHER
Episcopal Church

MINISTRY BROCHURE



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WWW.STCHRISCHURCH.ORG

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



Welcomes
You

We are called to restore all people with God and each other in Christ. Episcopalians are members of the worldwide Anglican Communion and are a branch of the Jesus Movement.

<http://www.episcopalchurch.org>

"Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other." Romans 12:4-5

Welcome to St. Christopher! We are so blessed to worship with you, fellowship with you, and share in the mission of the church with you!

One of the strongest values in our life together at St. Christopher is a sense of community and connectedness. God has blessed this church richly with warm, loving, and inviting people eager to be in relationship with first time visitors, long time members, and everyone in between. St. Christopher is a family, and all are invited to grow with us.

Inside this booklet, you will find a snapshot of the life and ministry that God has called this congregation to live into. Everything you need to know to get connected and serve in ministry is in the pages that follow.

May God, in Christ Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, inspire you to walk with us, as we seek to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

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FRIDAY WORSHIP

10:00 a.m. Weekday Eucharist in Sanctuary

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Contemporary in Buckner Hall

10:10 a.m. Christian Education – All Ages

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II in Sanctuary

OUR MISSION

The mission of St. Christopher is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.



CURRENT CORE VALUES

St. Christopher strives to be a beacon of God's love through:

From 2022 Parish Survey:

- **Outreach:** The Mission of St. Christopher is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ, calling us to look beyond ourselves and share the love of Christ with the world. Whether it is collecting food or diapers for a community agency, supporting our surrounding communities after a natural disaster, or something yet to be imagined, St. Christopher will prioritize loving and serving our neighbors.
- **Online Community:** St. Christopher is blessed with worship services and ministries that serve those who are unable to be physically present, both members and visitors. We will seek to engage this community with the goal of incorporating them fully into life of The Church.
- **Discipleship Formation:** Teaching and equipping Christians to grow in their faith and mature in their relationship with Christ is essential work of The Church. St. Christopher will make disciples through exploring spiritual practices, the study of Holy Scripture, the application of faith in everyday life, and equipping to help others grow in Christ.
- **Attract Families with Children and Youth:** Critical to the growth of The Church and The Kingdom of God is raising up new disciples. St. Christopher will develop, support, grow and maintain ministries that are meaningful and life giving to children, youth, and their families.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

(BIRTH TO 5TH GRADE)



Nursery - Regular staff provides care for infants through Pre-K (7:45am – 12:15pm) and for some special events. Simple lessons and Christian formation videos are available for children PreK-K.

Kids Sunday School, Grades K-5 - This is a Sunday morning (10:10 – 10:50am) elementary curriculum (Feasting of the Word) based upon the scriptures of the day. Each class includes prayer, an opening, a lesson, a chance to reflect and ask questions, and an activity to make the scripture relevant.

Sacramental Children's (and Youth, *see next page*) Education for Sacraments

Holy Baptism – Baptisms are celebrated at Sunday Holy Eucharist, especially on the Feasts of The Lord's Baptism, Easter, Pentecost, and All Saints' Sunday. Baptism class for parents and godparents of infants, children or youths who can answer for themselves, is scheduled accordingly.

Early Eucharist – In the Episcopal Church, all the baptized may partake (immediately) of Holy Communion. However, there may be pastoral, traditional, or family reasons why parents decide to wait. For this reason, the Church offers Early Eucharist instruction, both for children receiving the Holy Eucharist for the first time, or for the first time with fuller knowledge of the Sacrament. Instruction is scheduled periodically or as guardians request. Please contact Alex Hillis at families@stchrishurch.org.

Children's Hospitality and Sermons Periodic Children's or Family Sermons make the Sunday message more accessible for all ages. Prior to worship, every visiting child is treated to a backpack full of fun activities. Crayons and a weekly coloring sheet are available to all as a comfort and educational parallel to worship.

Special Events, Youth, and Family Missions – Offered periodically. For more information, see the church calendar online.

YOUTH MINISTRY

(6TH TO 12TH GRADE)



Youth Sunday School, Youth Grades 6-12 - This is a Sunday morning (10:10 – 10:50am) junior and senior high curriculum based upon the scriptures of the day, and/or subjects ranging from theology and tradition to reflections upon Christian character. Each class includes prayer, readings from scripture and religious teachers, and opportunities for related conversation, occasional activities, and videos (follows CCISD calendar).

Youth Education for Sacraments In addition to Holy Baptism and Eucharistic Instruction (see Children), also available to Youths, the parish offers Confirmation class (or *Reception* class, for those previously Confirmed in another tradition). Utilizing My Faith, My Life Episcopal Confirmation curriculum, Youth ages 12-18 engage in self-paced readings followed by half-day Confirmation retreat. Instruction is scheduled in accordance with a bishop's annual visitation. Please contact Rev. (Mother) Viktoria Gotting.

Diocesan Events and Camp Allen Diocesan youth events include junior high school retreat weekends, *Happening* (a renewal retreat for high school students), *Missionpalooza* (diocesan-wide annual mission trip), and Camp Allen Summer Camp. More information can be found at the Episcopal Diocese of Texas website (epicenter.org) or emailing Alex Hillis at families@stchrischurch.org

The Lighthouse – St. Chris Youth Group

The Lighthouse is new weekly youth group offering. The Lighthouse is time set aside during the week specifically for the youth to come together to eat a meal, play games/hang out, and participate in Compline and worship as a youth community with each other outside Sunday morning. Thursdays from 6:00 – 8:00 pm in the Hospitality Center.

Mother's Day Out



MOTHER'S DAY OUT

We welcome children ages 3 months through 5 years. Our day includes socialization with other children, arts and crafts, singing, story time, chapel, and indoor/outdoor play on a covered, fenced playground or large gym area. All activities are supervised by trained, nurturing and dedicated adults.

September through May
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Program follows the CCISD school calendar.

MDO Director: Tami Martinez
tami@stchrishurch.org
281-554-8602



ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

We offer a variety of in-person and online opportunities that will rotate throughout the year.

Sundays

10:10 a.m. Christian Education— All Ages

Mondays

Noonday Prayer via Zoom

6:30 p.m. Evening Growth Group via Zoom

Tuesdays

6:30 p.m. Evening Growth Group

Wednesdays

7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

9:30 a.m. Men's Fellowship Breakfast

4:00 p.m. Evening Growth Group

7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study

Lenten Series

Thursdays

6:00 p.m. Lighthouse Bible Study- Youths 6-12 grade

6:30 p.m. LIFE Ladies Bible Study

Fridays

Morning Prayer via Zoom

Saturdays

7:30 a.m. Men's Fellowship

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Acolytes Adults and children ages 9 and up assist the priest during worship at all services. They have various roles such as crucifer, torchbearer, banner bearer, book bearer, candle lighter and server.



Altar Guild The guild is made up of parishioners who prepare the altar for services. This includes cleaning and setting up the vessels, altar hangings, linens, and vestments for worship. This group is considered the housekeepers of the Lord.



Children's Ministry Safe Church trained volunteers are needed on Sunday mornings and throughout the year to help teach Christian Education, lead arts and crafts, and coordinate special events.

Greeters The purpose of our Greeters Ministry is to extend a warm, friendly, and personal welcome to everyone as they join us in our worship services. Our greeters are the first people newcomers come in contact with, and it is their pleasure to welcome and direct people who are new to our church campus.

Invitation, Welcome, & Connect This ministry works to welcome newcomers to the church and get them connected in the life of the church.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors Members of teams trained to share Holy Communion with infirmed; commissioned in and proceed out of worship to nursing homes.



Lay Pastoral Associates Trained and certified lay ministers teams who assist with parishioner-to-parishioner pastoral care as deployed by and under the supervision of the clergy.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers Assist the priests by reading the scripture lessons and prayers and administering the wine at communion at all three services.

Media Shout Ministers Technical production of media for contemporary service; rotates weekly; duties include other media, video, background art.

Music Ministry

- ♦ **Choir** Glorifies God through choral music. Open to all persons of varying ability. Practice is held Sunday mornings.
- ♦ **Contemporary Band** Helps lead worship during the 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service; a vibrant group that is open to new vocal and instrumentalists. Practice is held once a week.



Sound/Media Technicians Manage the audio on the sound boards for traditional and contemporary services. Also, help with streaming of services online. Familiarity with liturgy, tech-savvy, and attentiveness are needed.

Tellers Responsible for counting the offering on Sundays and for special worship. Position requires accuracy, and impeccable character.

Ushers Welcome and guide worshipers; distribute worship leaflets; and assist those with special needs.

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES

Threads of Comfort Makes prayer shawls, blankets, pocket prayers, and other comfort items for those in need. Mentors others in learning the art of sewing, crocheting, and knitting.



Office Angels Parishioners are needed to assist the Church Staff in the office. Duties occasional general office work.

Bereavement Committee Provides hospitality following funerals, including setting up food and beverages, and clean-up. Lead coordinates volunteers.

Buildings and Grounds Committee Volunteers assist the Jr. Warden with projects around the campus.

Garden Guild Do you have a green thumb or like being outdoors? The Garden Guild ministers work together to help maintain the landscaping of the church grounds.

Information Technology Helps with office computer/network maintenance; troubleshoots issues with internet connections.

LIFE Ladies (Living in Faith Everyday) These St. Chris Chicks meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday evenings for fellowship and study in the conference room.

Men's Bible Study Meets at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings in Buckner Hall.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast Meets at 9:30 a.m. every other week at Skipper's in Clear Lake Shores.



Wednesday A.M. Women's Bible Study

Meets at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings in the Buckner Hall.

Women of St. Christopher offers a supportive community for women of all ages & stages to grow in their faith, build relationships, and serve the church and community through special events, retreats, and fellowship.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

[Jesus said,] “Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.” (John 14:12)

St. Christopher Outreach Collaborative is a working group and coordinating circle of leadership which drives the many services and missions of the Parish in the community— local, domestic, and international.

OUTREACH THROUGH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Thrift Shop 60 years strong, the thrift shop is a community-oriented, faith-based resale shop which annually grants funds to non- profit agencies in our community and abroad. Volunteers are needed to sort, price and sell items. 419 E. Galveston, League City, TX 77573



Food Pantry A general food pantry ministry enabling the Parish to respond to multiple locations of area food insecurities, including St. Christopher’s Little Food Pantry and ICM Food Pantry.



St. Christopher Art Studio is dedicated to using the power of art in advancing healing and spiritual wellness across cultural and religious borders, offering artful responses to communities in need. Periodic retreats, special events.

St. Christopher Community Health Collaborative
CHCC is a discussion group consisting of parishioners with health care and ancillary medicine experiences. This visionary and long-range planning group meets towards bringing diverse community clinics and referral services on site, working in partnership with health care professionals locally and in the metroplex.

UpWell: Advocates for Community-Wide Health and Wholeness a subgroup of CHCC (above), this roundtable groups meets to identify and respond to unmet needs concerning wholeness and healing within our Parish Family and in educational, practical, and relational events for our neighbors.

OUTREACH THROUGH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Communities in Schools—Bay Area Benefitting League City Elementary, Community in Schools surrounds students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and make achievements in life. The Parish is in partnership agreement with CIS/LCE, and through drives and donations, provides food, school supplies, clothing, Christmas gifts, and other items upon request.

Clear Creek High School (CCISD) Partnership St. Christopher is an invited member of the Clear Creek ISD Interfaith Collaborative, through which the Parish is in partnership with Clear Creek High School's PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Services). The mission of this partnership is to provide health and wellness support to counselors, students, and faculty of the high school.

Little Free Pantry The nation-wide mini pantry movement activates neighborly engagement with food insecurity and is a grassroots crowdsourced solution to immediate and local need. Through a streetside box located on St. Christopher property and constructed by the Boy Scouts, the Parish hosts and stocks a Little Free Pantry and provides a space for neighbors to leave food for others, as able.



Interfaith Caring Ministries (ICM)—Bay Area

ICM provides financial and food assistance that allows people in crisis apply their resources to stabilize their families. The Parish is a supporting House of Worship, and through donations and drives, provides a wide range of items to persons and families in need.

Anchor Point Family Network Anchor Point champions the future of children by educating and empowering parents because no one is beyond hope. Through periodic donation drives, the Parish supports programs assisting newborns, families, and parents in need.

Kairos Prison Ministry The mission of the Kairos Prison Ministry is to share the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and lives of incarcerated men, women, and youth, as well as their families, to become loving and productive citizens of their communities. This ministry is taking root through member interest and involves attendance at training and onsite service with the incarcerated in the Huntsville area, as well as periodic cookie drives and prayer vigils at the Parish.

LOCAL, DOMESTIC, & INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Adult Domestic Missions

St. Christopher Missions Ministry hosts both domestic and local missions. Since 2023, these have generally included a variety of services offered through partnerships with the Navajo Nation (Dine' First People-New Mexico), the Episcopal Diocese of Navajoland-Farmington, New Mexico, and locally through Crossroads at Park Place (crossroadsatparkplace.org), which provides meals, showers, hygiene products and a variety of wellness-related day services to

neighbors without shelter. Other missional events are carried out throughout the year in companionship with multiple Bay Area organizations.

International Missions

St. Christopher Missions has a long history of international service in Africa and Central America. These missions came to a pause during the years of the COVID-19 Pandemic, but in 2025 were reactivated in Guatemala where the success indicates a return to service outside our southern border.

Scope and Character of St. Christopher Missions

Our missions, whether local, domestic, or international, seek first to establish and nurture relationships of compassion, response, and humility in which our teams are guests and students of those whom we regard as our Hosts and Teachers. All missions include these connections in combination with the work that reinstates human dignity, whether through home, technology, or other (re)construction; disaster relief; connection with water, power, and food resources; health and wellness; mitigation of grief and trauma; education, from spiritual formation to art; distributions of donations; and/or general labor, as teams may be invited. Our teams are trained and deployed worshipfully and prayerfully, in the Image of God (Imago Dei), seeking and finding the Image of Christ while evidencing his hands and voice, His Sacred Heart and Holy Spirit.



PARISH STAFF

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The Rev. Viktoria Gotting
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