

# CHRIST CHURCH AMONG THE OAKS

**The Last Sunday after the Epiphany**

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

**February 11, 2024    9:00 a.m.**

A second worship site for Christ Church Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

Worship: Sundays 9:00 a.m.    Vicar: The Rev. Sandy Tull  
NSIA Community Center, 120 Meadow Avenue in Vilano Beach  
[ccpvb.org](http://ccpvb.org)    [info@ccpvb.org](mailto:info@ccpvb.org)

Opening Hymn

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*

Vs. 1 - 3

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the  
 \*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on  
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the  
 \*5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the  
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is  
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the  
 4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of  
 5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the  
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the  
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -  
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -  
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a  
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty  
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,  
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our  
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery  
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his  
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the  
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and  
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.  
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

# Welcome Guests and Newcomers

*Welcome to Christ Church Among the Oaks. This is a multi-denominational congregation, made up of friends, neighbors, people who are new to our area, and those seeking something a little different and a little more meaningful in their spiritual and worship life. We feel called to serve our local community and as you will hear today, we focus on six local outreach agencies that do the hard work that Jesus taught us. A short description of each Outreach Partner is in the back of this bulletin. We welcome the opportunity to meet you and answer any questions you may have about our church and our work in the community! We are incredibly grateful for the support and encouragement we receive from Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra and thank their leadership for the freedom to be a unique, mission-focused worship community.*

**Servant Board:** Paula Allmen, Mike Cleary, Steve Harrison, Claire Heusinger, Deborah Pearsall, Stan Sundermeyer, and Jenny Weeks, warden.

**Presider:** The Rev. Sandy Tull

**Musician:** Boril Ivanov

**Vocalist:** Claire Heusinger

*We encourage our guests to fill out a welcome card today!*

*We are glad you are with us and look forward to worshipping with you often.*

**Prelude** *Medley*

## Welcome and Announcements

**Opening Hymn** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!* Vs. 1 - 3

## Opening Sentences

*Celebrant* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

**People** Glory to God forever and ever.

## The Collect for Purity

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen**

## Kyrie

Lord \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy, \_\_\_\_\_ Christ \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy, \_\_\_\_\_ Lord \_\_\_\_\_ have  
Ky - ri - e E - lei - son, \_\_\_\_\_ Chri - ste E - lei - son, \_\_\_\_\_ Ky - ri - e E -  
Lord \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy, \_\_\_\_\_ Christ \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy, \_\_\_\_\_ Lord \_\_\_\_\_ have

6  
mer - cy, \_\_\_\_\_ Christ \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy, \_\_\_\_\_  
lei - son, \_\_\_\_\_ Chri - ste E - lei - son, \_\_\_\_\_  
mer - cy, \_\_\_\_\_ Christ \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy, \_\_\_\_\_

## The Collect

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## First Reading

*Lector* A reading from the Second Book of Kings

2:1-12

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

**People**        **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 50:1-6**

*Lector*        The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; \*

**People**        **he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \*

**God reveals himself in glory.**

Our God will come and will not keep silence; \*

**before him there is a consuming flame,  
and round about him a raging storm.**

He calls the heavens and the earth from above \*

**to witness the judgment of his people.**

"Gather before me my loyal followers, \*

**those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."**

Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \*

**for God himself is judge.**

## Second Reading

*Lector* A reading from Paul's second Letter to the Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## The Gospel

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 9:2-9

**People** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

**People** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Homily** The Rev. Sandy Tull

## Meditative Interlude

*Please stand.*

## **A Liturgical Creed**

**We believe that where people are gathered together in love  
God is present and good things happen and life is full.  
We believe that we are immersed in mystery,  
that our lives are more than they seem, that we belong to each other  
and to a universe of great creative energies whose source and destiny is God.  
We believe that God is after us  
that God is calling to us from the depth of human life.  
We believe that God has risked Godself and become a human being in Jesus.  
In and with Jesus we believe that each of us is situated in the love of God  
and the pattern of our life will be the pattern of Jesus-through death to  
resurrection.  
We believe that the Spirit of Peace is present with us, the Church,  
when we gather to celebrate our common existence,  
the resurrection of Jesus, and the fidelity of God.  
And most deeply we believe that, in our struggle to love,  
we incarnate God in the world. And so, aware of mystery and wonder,  
caught in friendship and laughter,  
we stand speechless before the joy in our hearts  
and celebrate the sacredness of life in the Eucharist.**

## **The Prayer of the People, Form III**

*Leader* Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

**People** **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

We pray for our ministry partners: St. Gerard's Campus, St. Francis House and Port  
in the Storm, South Woods Elementary, Learn to Read, Pie in the Sky and Council  
on Aging. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen them, and in all things they do.  
**That they may do God's will in the service of the kingdom of his Christ.**



Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

### **Prayers for the Hurting World**

**All** God of peace and justice, we pray this day for all peoples around the world who are suffering from war, famine, floods, fires, and from other devastations. We pray for all those who fear tomorrow: that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power: that they may have wisdom and discernment to aid people in distress and that they be guided by compassion in their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children who are at risk and live in fear: that you would hold and protect them. We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

### **The Confession**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All** Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People** And also with you.

## Birthday Prayer

Watch over your child, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever *he* may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* falls; and in *his* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Holy Communion

*To make an offering online visit [ccpvb.org/give](http://ccpvb.org/give)  
or use the QR code at the back of the bulletin. Thank you for your support.*

### Offertory

#### The Presentation

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

### The Great Thanksgiving

#### Eucharistic Prayer 2 (*Enriching Our Worship*)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us.

He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, With all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, forever and ever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant* As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant continues*

The Gifts of God for the people of God. Whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on the journey of life and faith, you are welcome at God's table to receive the Bread and Wine made Holy. (*Enriching our Worship, Form 1*)

## Distribution of Communion

*All baptized persons, including children, are invited to receive Communion.*

## Communion Music      *Be Thou My Vision*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord  
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and Thou only first in my heart  
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art

High King of heaven, my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall  
Still be my vision, O ruler of all

## Postcommunion Prayer

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

**All      God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **Sending the Eucharistic Visitors**

*When present, Eucharistic Visitors are commissioned to carry the Consecrated Gifts of Holy Communion to those who are unable, due to illness or impairment, to join us for Sunday services.*

*Celebrant* In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood

**People** **We who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

## **The Blessing**

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So... be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever. **Amen**

**Closing Hymn** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!* Vs. 4 & 5

## **Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia. Alleluia.

**People** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Postlude** *Medley*

*Note: Our liturgy at Christ Church Among the Oaks is taken from a variety of sources, including the Book of Common Prayer, 1979, and Enriching Our Worship, a resource composed by the Standing Liturgical Commission of the Episcopal Church.*

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## **Notes about St. Valentine**

"February 14, marks the celebration of Valentinus of Rome, St. Valentine we call him. St. Valentine was a physician and a member of the clergy during the time of the Roman Empire. We know him as the patron saint of love and marriage. He was best known for his ministry to persecuted Christians allowing them to marry in secret after Emperor Claudius banned marriages during wartime to encourage men to battle. But Valentine was also known as a healer and comforter to the sick, those ill from plague, fainting, epilepsy, and other disorders. He was killed, martyred, on February 14 in the year 270 at the age of 44.

One interesting story about Valentinus had to do with the healing of an aristocrat's daughter while he was in his custody after his arrest. Father Valentinus told his jailor Asterius "how Christ leads pagans out of the shadow of darkness and into the light of truth and salvation. So Asterius told him, if he could heal his foster daughter from blindness, he would convert. Father Valentinus covered the girl's eyes with his hands and said, "Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten your handmaid, because you are God, the True Light." At that, the child regained her sight. Asterius and his family were baptized according to their agreement, but when the Emperor heard the news, he ordered them all to be executed." *Taken from e-sermons.com*

# Announcements

## Upcoming Event

### Ash Wednesday

Join us here on **Ash Wednesday, February 14 (Valentines Day!) at 9:00 AM**, for our service and imposition of ashes. Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent and begins the six-week period of penitence, leading us to Easter.

## Resources for Lent:

- Google "Forward Day by Day- online"- sign in and sign up.
- Google "Forward 2024 Lent Madness"
- Hard copy The Rt. Rev. Frank and Victoria Logue's book " Spring in the Desert" copies available at worship
- Hard copy of "Forward Day by Day"

## Christ Church Among the Oaks Lenten outreach:

You are invited to participate in our Lenten outreach.

We will be collecting gently used purses (not too large, as they will go to the homeless and nearly homeless women) and fill them with things women can use- the following are suggestions: (\*\*no money, or gift cards) toothbrush, toothpaste, feminine products, comb/brush, candy bar, sunglasses, change purse, pack of Kleenex, ball point pen, scarf, bottle of nail polish, lip gloss.

Bring the wonderfully filled purse to church on March 17 to be blessed and distributed.

## News from our Outreach Partners

**St. Gerard Campus** Caribbean Carnival will be Thursday, March 21, at 6 PM. Tickets are on sale now at [stgerardcampus.org](http://stgerardcampus.org).

**Learn to Read** is in need of tutors, especially math tutors! The only prerequisite is a desire to help others. If you would like to volunteer or learn more about helping students at the agency, please contact them at 904-826-0011 or visit <https://learntoreadstjohns.org/>.

**St. Francis House and Port in the Storm** are holding a mini-golf tournament to support homeless youth in St. Johns County! There are several times to play during the day and lunch, bar and auction items will be available during the event. Monday March 4 at Fiesta Falls Mini Golf on the waterfront in St. Augustine. Visit <https://www.stfrancisshelter.org/> to register.

## Offerings Online

Forgot to bring cash or write a check??? We now have a QR code in the bulletin for safe, quick, and easy online giving. You will be automatically directed to the Christ Church giving page where you can enter your information one time and it will be saved for future giving.



# Our Outreach Liaisons

## **Learn to Read**

Improving literacy for over 200 individuals each year at no cost to the student. Improved reading skills lead to better paying jobs, higher levels of education, healthier lifestyles, and a better overall community.

Elaine Reagan ereaganpvb@gmail.com

Mary Jane Dillon dillonmj43@gmail.com.

## **St. Gerard's Campus**

A non-profit maternity home and Christian high school for pregnant teenagers, promoting empowerment through education and strong Christian values.

Paula Allmen pallmen@icloud.com

Stan Sundermeyer srsundermeyer@msn.com

## **St. Francis Housing Crisis Center / Port in the Storm**

Engaging those experiencing homelessness to achieve stability, self-sufficiency, and a viable plan for their future by providing a safe, stable environment, access to essential services, and supportive connections.

Al Wallander alwallander@outlook.com

Annette Wallander annettewallander2@gmail.com

Jack Tull tulljs@msn.com

## **Council on Aging**

Provides the opportunity for every person in St. Johns County to enjoy wellness, longevity and quality of life choices within a strong, healthy community.

Sharon Carlson xtraice0922@gmail.com

## **Pie in the Sky Community Alliance of St. John County**

Pie in the Sky is a grassroots, volunteer-based organization providing hope by serving with dignity and respect to alleviate hunger and social isolation through the home delivery of healthy fresh produce to low-income senior citizens.

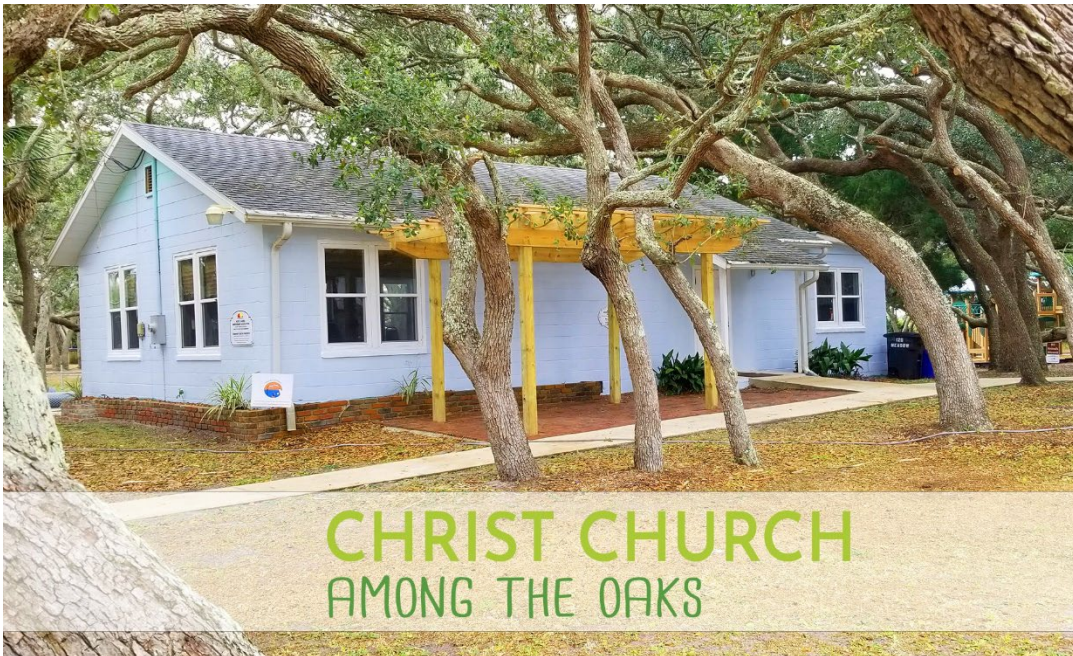
Loretta McMaster lwmcmaster@sbcglobal.net

Steve Harrison jags1995@live.com

## **South Woods Elementary**

Creating a secure community that will instill in all students a desire for academic excellence, fostering the development of caring, productive citizens.

Margo Cleary margcleary@aol.com



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[info@ccpvb.org](mailto:info@ccpvb.org)

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