

# Welcome Dr Christy!



For over 40 years I've been that rare creature who looks forward to each work day with eager anticipation. I'm blessed to have worked with talented and caring teams and am especially fond of the long-lasting relationships I've built with my patients. Thank you for your confidence. I've worked hard to continually improve my skillset and knowledge of dentistry over all those many years, and your loyalty means the world to me. Your care is my life's work.

Over the past years, when asked about when I planned to retire, my typical answer was, "Oh, not right now." "Maybe in a couple years," I'd say. Of course, my wife, Jan, has always said, "No! Not for a long, long time!"

During those years, though I never tried to sell the practice, I was approached by three different parties inquiring about a purchase. I chose not to engage in discussion with any of them because they weren't the "right fit" for you. I knew when I was ready to transition to a slower pace of practice that I had to find someone who was ready and willing to give you the same level of individual personalized care, maintain the most up-to-date technology, and lead the rest of my team of highly-trained professionals. I was going to be demanding.

Last fall I received a unique inquiry from a very well educated and experienced dentist. We didn't know each other at the time; she learned about my team from other dental professionals in WNC. I had a positive opinion of her from the start. After many meetings and correspondence, we both agreed that my practice was a "good fit" for her and a "good fit" for you. It was different with her. It just felt right.

I'm excited to announce that Dr. Jessica Christy, has taken over my practice. Don't worry! I'm not leaving. Just slowing down and letting her take the reins. We're already seeing patients together. She does extremely good work.

She went to dental school in Michigan and served in the Air Force where she completed an advanced residency and a tour of duty in Afghanistan. She and her husband, Marcus, also a veteran, have two young children. They were very intentional in choosing western North Carolina as their new home. It is my sincere pleasure to introduce you to Dr. Christy at your next appointment!



## CORONA VIRUS MESSAGE

Dr Richards and I believe we must all do our part to protect the vulnerable among us. Our office has always focused on disinfection and patient safety. We're taking the following additional precautions to help our patients feel more at peace during their visits.

- ALL patients will be asked to wash their hands for at least 60 sec BEFORE checking in
- All doors will be propped open to reduce touch points
- Patients are asked to reschedule if they show any cold or flu-like symptoms
- Staff members will be screened daily before interacting with patients

Hello! I'm so excited to introduce myself and meet you in person at your next visit! Dr Richards has some big shoes for me to fill. I've been working for the last 17 years to be ready for this opportunity. I can't wait to start, and I thank Dr Richards ahead of time for his mentorship in the months and years to come.



Relationships are so important in healthcare. That's especially true in dentistry where trust is critical. I look forward to becoming your friend and earning your trust, just as Dr Richards has done. To help us get started, I'll share about myself first. That'll allow me to focus on you and your story at your appointment!

I was born and raised in Jackson, Michigan. In high school I was a competitive swimmer. For college I went to Michigan State and received my BS in Zoology. I'm proud to have been on the intercollegiate crew team (rowing) at MSU. After graduation I went straight into dental school at the University of Detroit-Mercy...where I definitely spent more time on studying than on sports!

During dental school I made the big decision to join the Air Force. I commissioned during school and began active service as a Captain after graduation. Fortunately, my first assignment sent me to the intense Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency program at Keesler AFB, in Biloxi, MS. That residency provided me with advanced training in all areas of dentistry, including complex dental surgery and IV-sedation dentistry, both of which I plan to phase into the office this year.

Following my residency, I was stationed in San Antonio, Texas. From there I deployed for seven months to Bagram AFB, Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, during the height of the conflict. I provided care for our troops and allied troops as well as foreign nationals. I'm proud to have served.

After separating, I returned to Mississippi while my husband finished his active duty career. I worked in the civilian sector first as a government contractor and later in private practice. When it was time to move again, I began to look for where "home would be" after the military. I have friends in WNC and it's clearly **the best** place to raise children. It was fortunate my timing worked out with Dr Richards.

I'm happy to be the one he chose to carry on his wonderful legacy. He and I share a strong commitment to continuing education. Currently, I'm mid-way through a master's degree in Orofacial Pain and Oral Medicine from the University of Southern California. There's need for that expertise in our local area. I look forward to combining these new skills with my current knowledge and experience to provide you with first-class dental treatment.

## NAMING CONTEST

I've decided it's time to give the practice a name. Something more catchy than "Lastname Dentistry". I wondered if one of you has a great idea? If you do, please call Debbie and let her know. She'll record your name and your idea.

If the staff chooses your idea, we'll give you a **free hygiene appointment** and a **new Sonicare electric brush!**

### KEY COMPONENTS TO A GOOD NAME

1. No one around the area is already using the name
2. A catchy website address related to the name is still available
3. It's relaxing, not edgy or anything that would cause anxiety
4. We can make a nice logo to go along with it

**Call us with your ideas...(828) 696-3337!**