



this month at Christ Church

March 1

Annual Meeting
Evensong | 5:00 p.m.

March 4

Stations of the Cross | 4:30 p.m.
Dinner Church | 5:45 p.m.
Movie Night | 7:00 p.m.
Stations of the Cross | 7:00 p.m.

March 5

LGBTQ+ Theology & Faith | 7:30p.m.

March 7

Labyrinth | 9:00 a.m.

March 8

Lenten Forum Series | 9:00 a.m.
Meet the Vestry Candidates | 11:30 a.m.

March 15

Lenten Forum Series | 9:00 a.m.
Democracy Circle | 11:30

March 19

LGBTQ+ Theology & Faith | 7:30p.m.

March 22

Visiting Choir
Lenten Forum Series | 9:00 a.m.

March 24

Vestry Meeting | 7:00 p.m.

March 29 | Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist
8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.



Lazarus Food Pantry and Food Insecurity

According to the latest Alexandria Food Insecurity Report, 8% of households in Alexandria are food insecure and 9% of Alexandria residents are living with resources below the federal poverty line. Forty-four percent of those who are food insecure are not eligible for government assistance due to their income.

More than half of the “food insecure” households surveyed included children under the age of eighteen. Federal food benefits (SNAP) are not sufficient to feed a family and do not cover the cost of other essentials such as toiletries and cleaning supplies. So, most SNAP recipients rely on food pantries as well. Every Thursday, at the Lazarus Food Pantry we open our doors to provide vital food to families in need. Guests select

for themselves from a variety of meats, fresh fruits and vegetables, canned and dry goods, bread and dairy products, just as they would at a grocery store.

On average, the Lazarus Food Pantry serves about 40 families each week and provides an average of 30 pounds of healthy, nutritious food for a family of four. Nine-hundred pounds of food is distributed each week, providing families with a healthy and balanced diet as federal programs are cut back. In addition, we offer full-size toiletries and cleaning supplies to all families once a month.

Two-thirds of the food we give away is purchased by the Pantry and Christ Church parishioners, while the other third is donated by

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local vendors. We spend \$2,200 each month purchasing food from low-cost suppliers.

The average guest of the Lazarus Food Pantry is female, a person of color, and over the age of 60. Only 42% of guests receive SNAP benefits. Fifty percent speak a language other than English at home. The pantry community is a rich blend of different cultures, backgrounds and experiences, where people come not just for food but for support and companionship as well.

A vital key to our success is all the wonderful volunteers. From the volunteers who pick up food at Panera, Trader Joe's and MOM's Organic Market each week to those who glean from the Old Town Farmer's Market May through October each year. We have volunteers that shop and stock food throughout the week and we have the incredible team that put the pantry together on Thursday mornings, escort shoppers through and then break it all down.

It is a labor of love and faith every week.

--Melanie Gray, MSW,
Director of Outreach & Mission

Rites of Passage

Deaths

Brewster Taylor
Drue Reynolds Hurd
Gary Wright
Charles Merriam
Stephen A. Modlin
Jack Rattikin III
Kate Coakley Vitt
Barbara Cooley
John Prevar

Holy Week & Easter Sunday Worship Schedule

March 29 – Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist
8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

March 30

Morning Prayer | Chapel | 7:30 a.m.

March 31

Morning Prayer | Chapel | 7:30 a.m.

April 1

Morning Prayer | Chapel | 7:30 a.m. & Noon
Taize Service | Auditorium | 7:30 p.m.

April 2 – Maundy Thursday

Agape Meal | Auditorium | 6:00 p.m.
Holy Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar | 7:30 p.m.
All-Night Prayer Vigil | 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. | Chapel

April 3 – Good Friday

Morning Prayer | Chapel | 7:30 a.m.
Labyrinth | McMurray Commons | Noon - 3:00 p.m.
Good Friday Liturgy | Noon
Family Stations of the Cross in Nature | 4:00 p.m.
Park Location TBD
Good Friday Liturgy | 7:30 p.m.

April 4 – Holy Saturday

Morning Prayer | Chapel | 10:00 a.m.
Great Vigil of Easter & Holy Baptism | 7:30 p.m.

April 5 – Easter Sunday

Holy Eucharist | 7:00 a.m. | Churchyard
9:00 a.m. | Church
9:00 a.m. | Family Holy Eucharist in Auditorium
Holy Eucharist | 11:15 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.



Worship Notes

*Bless the Lord who forgives
all our sins*

In Lent the language of our prayers and liturgies shift. There are reminders of our need for repentance and our reliance on God's grace. Here at Christ Church, we acknowledge that shift by using the Penitential Order at the beginning of our services, including a recitation of the Ten Commandments. In some ways, this is a return to form – for over four hundred years (from the second prayer book of 1552 until the current book of 1979), the Ten Commandments were always repeated at the beginning of the Communion service, either in full or in summary. In fact, you'll still hear the summary of the law at the beginning of our 8:00 a.m. service year round.

Beyond this, the language of the Penitential Order is familiar – it is the same general confession we say every Sunday. Its placement at the start of the service, however, shifts the emphasis. Still. Its placement here isn't all that unusual. Our services of Morning and Evening Prayer and Compline all begin with a general confession. And in other denominations – like the United Church of Christ, Presbyterian Church (USA), and our full-communion partners the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – their Communion services almost always begin with a general

confession. But why is this? There are plenty of reasons, but one seeks to have orders of service mirror stories from scripture, particularly the call of Isaiah in Isaiah 6:1–8. There, the prophet encounters God in the temple and is immediately aware that he cannot compare to the glory of God. And so he confesses: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips . . ." (Is 6:5). God immediately responds by absolving the prophet. Only then can Isaiah hear God's word and proclaim it.]

Ultimately, the placement of the general confession is less important than the why of it. We confess in order to acknowledge the gap between the world as it is and the world as we

know it ought to be, and to remember that we play a role in that gap, "in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone." But the point isn't that we dwell on our shortcomings. Nor is our desire to be forgiven simply so that we can forgive and forget. We ask for forgiveness from God so that we may have a better chance of delighting in and following God's will for us day by day. As a professor of mine at seminary once said, "God doesn't need our repentance for forgiveness – God's already forgiven us. Our repentance is what allows us to experience that forgiveness most fully." Knowing this opens us up to new life and new possibilities. It opens us up to the immensity of God's

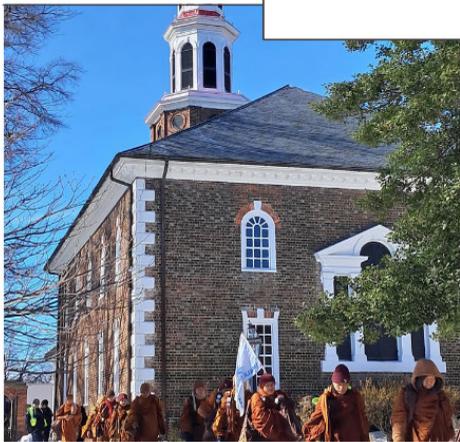
love for us.
God's mercy ensures for
ever.

*--The Rev. Robbie Laughton,
Associate Rector*



Blessings On...

- Our dedicated facilities staff for dealing with the snow and ice (mostly ice) after last week's snowstorm.
- Kevin Metz and the Del Ray Dads for sponsoring tuition for one of the dads in our Refugee Ministry.
- The parishioners who pick up donations from Panera for our Lazarus Food Pantry Cindi & Jay Bartol, Janet & David Beckmann, Ann Spitler and Mary Beth Stein & Bruce Blundell.
- The parishioners who pick up donations from Moms Organic Market for our Lazarus Food Pantry Clare Chow & Jim Beattie, Lisa Coakley, Sandra & Bob Thomson, Bear Ard, Trish Fineran, David Johnson, Paula Dubberly, Kathy Bowdring and Maggie & Beverly Tomasello.
- JoAnn Ackerman, Susan Anderson, Ruth Arnold, Marie Cataffo, Jeanne Hoenicke, Mary Hobbie, Liz Jones, Kirk Kitchen, Caroline Magill, Bob McIntyre, Michele Smith, Jon Smoot, Ann Spitler, and Maude Williams for delivering Meals on Wheels on January 21. A special welcome to our newest volunteer, Caroline Magill.
- Brett, Holly, Noah and Elle Levanto and Chris Parente for last minute moving furniture for ALIVE!
- Cara Alfano for making lunches and Anne Land for making soups for the Meade Memorial Bag Lunch Ministry.
- The Lenten Meditation Collection Team, Tom Hahn, Rawles Jones, Sharon Schambra, Tom Suydam.
- The helpers who created such a wonderful Betsy's Breakfast Church occasion: Alan Adenan, Stratton and Sharmili Edwards, Bethany and John Kucia, Tom Hahn, Brian Butcher, Trish Fineran, Cindi and Jay Bartol, Anne Richardson, and the FA's who support the gatherings along with Ariel Rudy who uplifted the creation of a banner to honor the Monks Walk For Peace presence at our church on Monday.
- The parishioners who marched in the George Washington Parade and Elizabeth Trigg and Karen Hill for being our Christ Church Parade Grand Marshalls.
- Anne Shine for her years of dedicated service on the Properties Committee.
- The parishioners who shopped, cooked, and served dinner at the Carpenter's Shelter, Christine Jones, Claire Chow, Jim Beattie, Bradley McAllister, Ann McMurray, Lenny Marsico, Micaela Shaughnessy, Van Ellet, Kristine Lebras and Anne Shackleton.



A PARADE AND SO MANY SPECIAL VISITORS!