Welcome to Christ Church Alexandria!

Christ Church embodies God’s unbounded love by embracing, liberating, and empowering people, whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith. If you are new to Christ Church, please fill out a welcome card, which can be scanned via QR code in your bulletin, or at the bottom of this page. Restrooms can be found on the first floor of Memorial Parish Hall, located across the churchyard. A staffed nursery and infant caring room are also available in the Parish Hall, up the stairs to the right of the main entrance, for children five and under. We are glad you’re here!

**Today – Rector’s Forum | Meade Room | 9:00 a.m.**

Join Rev. Noelle for a look back at the life of our parish over the last year and a look ahead at the year to come.

**Parish Life • Week of August 27, 2023**

**This Week at Christ Church**

For a listing of currently scheduled activities and meetings, visit [www.historicchristchurch.org/events](http://www.historicchristchurch.org/events)

**Sunday, August 27**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Sunday Forum
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:15 a.m. Children’s Chapel
11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

**Monday, August 28**

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
(www.facebook.com/ChristChurchAlexandria)

**Tuesday, August 29**

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

**Wednesday, August 30**

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 p.m. Compline – Facebook Live

**Thursday, August 31**

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
9:00 a.m. Lazarus Food Pantry – Meade Room

**Friday, September 1**

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

**Saturday, September 2**

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

**AA • Al-Anon**

Various groups meet regularly at Christ Church during the week. Please check our online calendar for specifics.

(www.HistoricChristChurch.org/events)
**General Announcements**

Send submissions of 50 words or less to ParishLife@ccalex.org.

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**Celebrating 250 Years**

In 2023 we have many opportunities to engage in the work of celebrating 250 years of continuous worship in our beautiful church. Don’t miss our special series of guest preachers, fellowship, music, and so much more. https://www.historichristchurch.org/celebrating-250-years

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**250th Anniversary Guest Preacher | Today**

Welcome The Rev. Erika L. Takacs!

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**Rector’s Forum | August 27 | 9:00 a.m. | Meade Room**

The summer is ending, and September is coming fast. Join Rev. Noelle for a look back at the life of our parish over the last year and a look ahead at the year to come.

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**Welcome Sunday | September 10 | Churchyard**

Welcome Sunday is a fun and festive day for Christ Church and our community! Join us after the 10:00 a.m. service in the churchyard for a potluck picnic featuring grilled hot dogs and activities for kids of all ages including a 250th Anniversary photo booth, balloon artist, games, music, tours, and 250th gifts for purchase, and lawn games. Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to share. To ensure a variety, please bring your favorite item by last name: A - E: green salads and fruit salads; F - K: chips, dips, veggie trays; L - R: desserts; S - Z: picnic favorites such as coleslaw, potato or pasta salad, baked beans, etc. Bring food to the Meade Room kitchen before the service. See you there!

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**Welcome Sunday | We Need Your Help!**

Hosting such a fun day requires many helping hands. If you are interested in helping at a churchyard activity, ensuring our potluck runs smoothly, welcoming guests in the churchyard, or planning behind the scenes - let us know! Are you new at Christ Church? This is a great one-time-only event to lend a hand and get to know others. We’d love to work with you! Sign up here: bit.ly/WelcomeSunday2023 or contact Julie Simonton at jsimonton@ccalex.org or 703.778-4941.

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**Children’s Choirs**

While we are still in the midst of summer, we hope that you and your child(ren) might make room for being a part of the children’s choirs when they resume this fall. There are two choirs for kids. The Cherub Choir sings monthly during the program year and rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:00 p.m. Designed for children ages 4-7, the young singers learn basic music notation, rhythm management, songs appropriate for the liturgical year, and matching pitch. The Canterbury Choir, for children in 2nd/3rd grade (depending on the strength of their reading skills) through 8th grade, rehearses on Registration information can be found here: bit.ly/3YJGzP5 If you have any questions, please contact Jason Abel at jabel@ccalex.org.

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**Christ Church Choir**

The Choir Church Choir resumes rehearsals on Thursday, August 24 at 7:30 p.m. While the choir won’t begin singing in church until Sunday, September 10, the rehearsals will allow everyone to get a jump start on the music planned for the fall. The Christ Church Choir is for adults and teens in the 9th grade and up. We welcome new members to join us! If you can read music and would like to discuss the possibility of joining, please email Jason at jabel@ccalex.org.

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**Faith Formation**

For information, contact the Rev. Lauren Banks at lbanks@ccalex.org or 703.778.4939

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**Join a Teacher Team**

Sunday School needs you! Sign up to join a teacher team today to help our littlest parishioners grow in faith—you’ll be surprised at how your own faith deepens as you share it with others. If you have one or two Sundays a month, there is room for you in Sunday School. All lessons plans and materials are provided. Email Ariel for more information and be sure to join us on Sunday, September 3 at 9:00 a.m. in the Library for a teacher catch up and introductions.

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**Adult Faith Formation | Sundays | 9:00 a.m.**

September 17 kicks off our adult faith formation offerings. This year, all adults will have three choices each week! The offerings are for September 17 through October 8. We’ll look to our future with the help of JSA, do a deep dive into the lectionary, and explore the characteristics, trends, and gifts of the seven generations in our pews. Stay tuned! For all questions, contact the Rev. Lauren.

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**Covenant Class | Wednesdays | 7:00 p.m.**

Covenant Class is an 8-week introduction for those who want to know more about being an Episcopalian & Christ Church – whether newcomers to the church or life-long Episcopalians – to get better acquainted with the clergy, staff, parish leaders, and other newcomers to Christ Church. We explore what it means to be part of the church, learn about the Episcopal Church and its history, worship, and mission, and participants can reach a better understanding of the part they can play in their new church home. The capstone event for many is baptism, confirmation, reception from another Christian tradition or reaffirmation of your baptismal vows. Classes begin mid-September. Contact Jessica Williams at jessicawilliams@gmail.com to sign up.

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**Education for Ministry (EfM)**

Many people feel the need to explore the Bible and theological issues in a way that supports their faith and helps them to express that faith in day-to-day life. Education for Ministry is a means to satisfy that desire. The EfM group at Christ Church meets on Wednesday evenings beginning in September. The EfM program from the School of Theology of the University of the South at Sewanee covers the Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, and theological issues in our lives. It is a four-year course of study but can be
OCTOBER 8 when the winning tickets will be drawn. Proceeds go to our partners at Mengo HIV/AIDS Clinic in Kampala Uganda. Prizes include restaurant gift cards to Murphy's, The Warehouse, Virtue Feed and Grain, Bonefish Grill and Common Plate Hospitality (Auggies, Urbano, Mason Social). The grand prize is a $500 gift card to Trader Joe's. There will be in person and online options for purchase.

**Glean for Lazarus Food Pantry Saturday & Sunday**

Each Saturday, Christ Church parishioners collect food donations from vendors at the Old Town Farmers Market at Market Square. Volunteers meet at 11:40 a.m. and hand out crates to participating farmers. After the market closes at noon, we pick up the crates and we take the food to Christ Church. We finish up by 1:00 p.m. or earlier. This food is distributed at our weekly Lazarus Food Pantry. You will be sent additional instructions and information at:

bit.ly/3x71w4t. Email Andrea McNicholas at alamcnicho@gmail.com, Coordinator for Gleaning.

Sunday Farmer's Market volunteers are needed to glean produce from 1:30pm to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoons from the Old Town North Farmers Market at901 N. Royal Street. Please consider signing up here: bit.ly/3NSKGkW. More details will be provided to all who sign up. Questions? Contact Liz Denson at ldenson@ccalex.org.

**Opportunities to Help at the Lazarus Food Pantry!**

Christ Church Lazarus Food Pantry provides weekly groceries to our neighbors in need. All are welcome to join us at the pantry in the Meade Room on Thursday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. We also need volunteers to occasionally pick up food at the Capital Area Food Bank and different retail stores (days and times are flexible), and backup delivery volunteers to bring food to homebound guests after the pantry. If you feel called to help in either of these areas, or if you want additional information, please contact Anne Shackleton at shackletonam@gmail.com.

**Back to School Blessing | Today**

A special Back to School blessing will be offered at both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services for all those returning to school this fall—students, teachers, and administrators alike! A special backpack tag will be available for those who would like one following the service.

**Youth Group and Sunday School Registration is Open!**

Christ Church’s Youth Ministries are open to anyone from 6th–12th grade, and the best way to get started is by registering! You can use the same form for Youth Group and Sunday School, and one form works for multiple youth. Visit bit.ly/CCYouth23-24 Contact Robbie at youth@ccalex.org for more details.

**Youth Group Bowling RSVPs Needed!**

Our Middle and High School Youth Groups will start off the new year at Bowl America Shirley! Your RSVPs are needed ASAP to ensure your space! Middle School Youth Group (6th–8th grade) RSVP by September 10 and High School Youth Group (9th–12th grade) RSVP by September 17.

**Youth Ministry Volunteers Needed!**

Ever found yourself thinking "I just don't understand kids these days?" If today's youth feel like a mystery, then come spend some time with our amazing young people in Youth Group and Sunday School! We'll work with your schedule and get you some answers to the questions you never knew you had about being a young person in the 21st century. Contact Robbie at youth@ccalex.org for more information on how to get involved in this joyous ministry.
**Blessings on**

- Bob Cady, Drew Mancke, Jeremey Mancke, Harrison Price, Emily Soapes, Laurie Tracy, and Libby Witt for helping with the SOD work session on August 19 and keeping our churchyard looking its best.

**Gift Shop**

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to Noon and Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 703.836.5258

All proceeds benefit outreach in the Alexandria community and globally.

The Gift Shop has many resources for those new to the church and interested in the upcoming Covenant class. We have the book *Welcome to the Book of Common Prayer*, by Vicki Black. We have the Book of Common Prayer in various sizes and one in large print. We also have Prayer Book/Hymnal combinations. We have the New International Bible and various study bibles. For children, we have a Children’s Bible and several books with bible stories. We hope you will come to see our book collection and select one that will enrich your worship.

**Christ Church Vestry, Clergy, and Staff**

**Vestry**
Libby Witt ’24, Sr. Warden
Steve Reed, ’26, Jr Warden
Sean Dalton ’24, John Grey ’24
Elizabeth Trigg ’24,
Jack Hutcheson ’25
Susan Magill ’25
Andrea McNicholas ’25
Betsy Powell ’25
Cornelia Horner ’26,
Ken Knapp ’26, Jay Purcell ’26
David Rees, Treasurer

**Clergy**
The Rev. Dr. Noelle York-Simmons
Rector
The Rev. Lauren Banks
Associate Rector
The Rev. Robbie Laughton
Associate Rector

**Music**
M. Jason Abel, Director of Music

**Parish Office**
Michelle Baize
Meredith Bracco
Liz Denson, Melanie Gray
Stephanie Woodland Kelly
Ariel Rudy, Julie Simonton

**Facilities**
Pouyan Meghdadian
Glen Curry, Kevin Lawyer
Arthur Miller