

# PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF AUGUST 10, 2025

## 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. An infant caring room is 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 – SUNDAY FORUM | MEADE ROOM | 9:00 A.M.

Addressing Mental Health in Ukraine: Dr. Olya Zaporozhets, Ph.D., Co-Founder & President of International Mental Health Consulting, Inc., based in Virginia, and the Open Doors Center for Psychological Counseling in Kyiv, is working to bring better trauma therapy resources to areas plagued by war.

## 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 10

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9:00 a.m. Lectionary Study – Library  
9:00 a.m. Sunday Forum – Meade Room  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour – Meade Room  
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

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

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

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

### MONDAY, AUGUST 11

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

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

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

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live  
12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist – Chapel  
5:30 p.m. Summer Cookout – Churchyard  
9:00 p.m. Compline – Facebook Live

### AA • Al-Anon

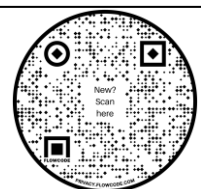
Various groups meet regularly  
at Christ Church during the week.  
Please check our online calendar for specifics.  
([www.HistoricChristChurch.org/events](http://www.HistoricChristChurch.org/events))

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

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



118 N. Washington St. Alexandria, VA 22314  
Phone: 703.549.1450 • Fax: 703.549.5883  
[www.HistoricChristChurch.org](http://www.HistoricChristChurch.org)



## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send submissions of 50 words or less to [ParishLife@ccalex.org](mailto:ParishLife@ccalex.org).

### Time to Check it Out!

Mid-year contribution statements have gone out. YAY!

This is a terrific chance to ensure your support for ministries that are important to you. Check your inbox (or mailbox if we don't have your e-mail) to see if it's arrived. And ... if you haven't pledged for 2025 yet - give it a go! We have five more months to answer God's call at Christ Church in 2025. Join us and pledge today. [bit.ly/CCPledgeToday](http://bit.ly/CCPledgeToday) or see the QR code in the bulletin.

### LGBTQ+ Theology and Faith | 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

First and Third Thursday of the month | Library  
LGBTQ+ parishioners gather every first and third Thursday for conversation about the relationship between their spiritual journeys and their coming out journeys. Through prayerful study of scripture in a safe, open, and loving space, we will seek a deeper understanding of our faith, our lived experiences, and our relationship with Jesus. For more information, please contact Terry Brown at [terrymbrown1@me.com](mailto:terrymbrown1@me.com).

### Summer Churchyard Cookout | August 13

Grab your picnic blankets and camp chairs and join your Christ Church friends for burgers, delicious side dishes prepared by the Foundation, fellowship, evening prayers and kid's activities in the churchyard on Wednesday, August 13 at 6:00 p.m.! We need grillers, set-up, clean-up, wine, and beer servers, greeters, etc. to make this final summer cookout a success, sign up here: [bit.ly/4ljf9Jv](http://bit.ly/4ljf9Jv)

### Summer Socials | Sign up NOW!

Get to know your neighbors who attend Christ Church by attending one of our August Summer Socials. Parishioners are opening their homes and backyards for these special events. To help hosts plan for the event, registration is required. Event dates, details and the sign up available here: [bit.ly/45fmkgU](http://bit.ly/45fmkgU). Questions? Email Julie Simonton at [jsimonton@ccalex.org](mailto:jsimonton@ccalex.org).

### Christ Church is Starting a Democracy Circle!

Democracy Circles are an initiative of The Workers Circle, a 125-year-old secular Jewish organization that has long fought for workers' rights and civil rights. Following the Presiding Bishop's call for us to be "Christians who seek to practice our faith fully in a free and fair democracy," Christ Church's new Democracy Circle is one of nearly 100 that have sprung up nationwide. We'll meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, at 11:30 in the Library with the purpose of understanding and strengthening for the long-term U.S. Constitutional democracy—our next meeting will be on Sunday, August 17. Please contact Libby Witt ([eawitt@hotmail.com](mailto:eawitt@hotmail.com)) and Susan Marquis ([slmarquis70@gmail.com](mailto:slmarquis70@gmail.com)) for more information.

### Daughter's Enrollment Now Open

Daughters of the King's annual enrollment period is now open. If you've been seeking a deeper prayer life and a habit of daily prayer, now is the time to act. Daughters is a national woman's order within the Episcopal Church. We vow to pray daily, support our parish, and spread our faith. At Christ Church, our 40-plus Daughters range in age from early 30s to over 90. We're single, married, mothers of young kids, empty nesters, at the start of our careers, in the busy heart of work, and long retired. Wherever we are in our lives, we long to deepen our relationship with God and open ourselves to pray for others who need confidential prayer. We also have a lot of fun. Come pray with us! For more information, contact President Nancy Knapp, [nvknapp@aol.com](mailto:nvknapp@aol.com), 571-212-4581.

### Join the Christ Church Choir!

Do you read music? Would you like to join a robust community of singers who help to lead worship at Christ Church? Would you like to instantly make friends with 40+ members of the parish? Consider joining the Christ Church Choir. There are a few rehearsals happening during the summer to be better prepared once the program year begins in September. If you are interested, please contact the Director of Music, Jason Abel, at [jabel@ccalex.org](mailto:jabel@ccalex.org) for more information.

### Want Your Child to Succeed in Life?

Enroll your child in one of our children's choirs this fall. Registration information will go out later in August but know that children ages 4 and up are welcome to join one of the Christ Church Choirs. Two children's choirs rehearse weekly on Wednesday afternoons (Cherub Choir for children ages 4-6/7 and Cherub Choir for children 8 and up). Research overwhelmingly reveals how children involved in music from a young age develop stronger cognitive, emotional, social, and physical skills compared to those with no musical involvement before the age of 10. Being part of a choir also helps to boost confidence while promoting discipline and cultural understanding. Additionally, singing in choir allows children to deepen their spiritual practices while learning more about our faith traditions and customs. Please consider enrolling your child(ren) in one of our choirs this fall!

### Come Join the Chancel Chapter!

Known in some churches as the "altar guild," the Christ Church Chancel Chapter sets up our altar for worship and cares for all of the items we need to celebrate and worship God together. Members spend time each week setting up the altar, caring for linens and silver, and helping to plan services with clergy and other lay volunteers. We are looking for more members to join this satisfying and important ministry. Chancel Chapter members serve about once a month, always in groups of two or three. Training will be provided. Attention to detail and a good sense of humor are required! For more information or to express interest, please email Betsy Powell at [elizabethpwall@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethpwall@gmail.com).

## FAITH FORMATION

For information, contact the Rev. Noelle York-Simmons at  
[rector@ccalex.org](mailto:rector@ccalex.org) or 703.549.1450

**Lectionary Bible Study | Sundays at 9:00 a.m. | Library**  
Ever wonder why that piece of scripture is in the Bible or what it means? Show up to the sermon and wish you knew more? This Bible study is for you! We'll read the lessons appointed for the day and conduct a brief study.

### **Forum: Addressing Mental Health in Ukraine**

August 10 | 9:00 a.m. | Meade Room

When a nation is at war, mental health often takes a back seat to the physical well-being of the people involved. Dr. Olya Zaporozhets, Ph.D., Co-Founder & President of International Mental Health Consulting, Inc., based in Virginia, and the Open Doors Center for Psychological Counseling in Kyiv, Ukraine, is working to bring better trauma therapy resources to areas plagued by war. She splits her time between the U.S., Ukraine, and traveling throughout Europe and the Middle East promoting awareness of mental health needs in Ukraine, supporting the EMDR therapy community, and consulting with mental health professionals.

### **Outreach Ministries Forum | August 17 Meade Room | 9:00 a.m.**

Christ Church is home to 14 extraordinary Outreach Ministries. In these challenging times, our work in Alexandria is needed more than ever. Join Melanie Gray, Director of Outreach and Mission, Liz Denson, Assistant Director of Outreach and Mission and Cessily Smith, Refugee Ministry Coordinator to learn about our ministries and the over 200 volunteers who make them thrive and discover how they are adapting to meet the urgent needs of Alexandrians today.

### **Education for Ministry**

Are you interested in exploring how Scripture and Christian tradition intersects with experiences in your daily life? Do you want to talk with God but are not sure how? Consider joining our Education for Ministry (EfM) group at Christ Church. Administered by the School of Theology of the University of the South, EfM is a four-year program, taken a year at a time, that surveys Old Testament, New Testament, Christian history, and questions around ethics and spirituality. New for 2025-26 will be a "Wide Angle" program that offers, in a single academic year, an overview of all four parts of EfM's newly revised multimedia curriculum. Our in-person, small (6-10 person) group meets weekly on Wednesday evenings from September to June. Here you will find a welcoming group of curious and thoughtful people who are exploring the traditional resources of Christianity amid modern perspectives on race, feminism and other faiths. What you can gain is wisdom. How you use it is up to you! Learn more about the curriculum at <https://theology.sewanee.edu/education-for-ministry/>. For more information about EfM at Christ Church, contact Tom Hahn at [tshahn1@aol.com](mailto:tshahn1@aol.com) or 703-585-3933.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

For information, contact

Children: Ariel Rudy at [arudy@ccalex.org](mailto:arudy@ccalex.org)

Youth: the Rev. Robbie Laughton at [rlaughton@ccalex.org](mailto:rlaughton@ccalex.org)

### **Back to School Blessing**

On Sunday, August 24, we will have a special back to school blessing at the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services for all students, faculty, and staff returning to school this fall. During this time of new beginnings and change, remember that God's love travels with you wherever you go! Custom backpack tags will be available for children and adults to take home.

### **Youth Group, Youth Faith Formation and Confirmation Class Registration**

Registration for all things Youth Ministry is open! All youth in grades 6 and up are invited to join in on everything going on at Christ Church. To register youth for Youth Group, Sunday morning Faith Formation, and Confirmation Class, please use this form: [bit.ly/45q4WVOS](https://bit.ly/45q4WVOS). Please email Robbie with any questions at [rlaughton@ccalex.org](mailto:rlaughton@ccalex.org).

## OUTREACH & MISSION

For information, contact Melanie Gray at

[mgray@ccalex.org](mailto:mgray@ccalex.org) or 703.778.4937

### **AUGUST OUTREACH: PASTA, PASTA SAUCE, AND CANNED FAVORITES**

This month, consider helping us stock the Lazarus Food Pantry with some of our most popular staples: pasta, pasta sauce, canned fish, canned fruit and canned tomatoes. You can leave items in the white wooden donations box in the Parish Hall or order online (<https://amzn.to/40g4CaF>) and ship to

Christ Church ATTN: Outreach at  
118 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

### **It's Gleaning Season!**

Each Saturday, Christ Church parishioners collect donations from farms and vendors that sell produce, baked goods, and dairy items at the Old Town Farmer's Market at Market Square. Volunteers meet at 11:40 a.m. to hand out crates to donating farmers. The vendors fill up the crates after the market closes at noon, then we take the food back to Christ Church, and we finish by 1:00 p.m. This food is then distributed at our Lazarus Food Pantry. Anyone interested can contact Andrea McNicholas at [alamcnicho@gmail.com](mailto:alamcnicho@gmail.com) for more information. All who sign up will be sent additional instructions and information.

## BLESSINGS ON...

- Laura Humphrey and Sharon Schambra for volunteering as Lazarus Court Advocates at the Alexandria Courthouse helping people facing eviction prepare to speak to the judge.
- The volunteers who pick up donations at Trader Joe's, Mom's and Panera each week for the Lazarus Food Pantry, including: Janet Beckmann, Mary Beth Stein, Ann Spitler, Jay Bartol, Cindi Bartol, Bob Thomson, Paula Dubberly, Bear Ard, David Johnson, Steve Slaton, Claire Haymes, Russ Haymes, Rich Jones, Andrew Floyd, and Denise Jean-Claude.
- All those who donated peanut butter, jelly, and canned goods to the Lazarus Food Pantry in the month of July.

## BLLLLL... BLLLLLL...BLLLLL

The bees are on the move! In order to paint and repair the windows on the north side of the parish house, our beehive will be temporarily relocated behind the church in the churchyard. Thank you for watching them from a respectful distance. We will have them back in their original home by the end of August.

## 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.*

We have some new books for children in the Gift Shop. *I Can Make a Difference* by Marian Wright Edelman, *Children of God*, *Storybook Bible* by Archbishop Tutu, *Psalms for Young Children* by Marie Arno, and *For Every Little Thing*, *Poems and Prayers* by June Colner. These are just a few from our book collection. We hope you will come by the shop and choose a book for your family to enjoy.

## CHRIST CHURCH VESTRY, CLERGY, AND STAFF

### Vestry

Steve Reed, '26, *Sr. Warden*  
Kathleen Hickman '27, *Jr Warden*  
Cornelia Horner '26  
Ken Knapp '26  
Jay Purcell Manchester '26  
Nanette Lawson '27  
Wendy Montes de Oca '27  
Christopher Thompson '27  
Jane Baird '28, Paula Dubberly '28  
Jessica Hughes '28, Steve Slaton '28

David Rees, *Treasurer*

### Clergy

The Rev. Dr. Noelle York-Simmons  
*Rector*  
The Rev. Robbie Laughton  
*Associate Rector*  
The Rev. Abbott Bailey  
*Priest Associate*

### Music

M. Jason Abel  
*Director of Music*

### Parish Office

Michelle Baize  
Meredith Bracco  
Liz Denson, Melanie Gray  
Ariel Rudy, Lia Sanchez  
Julie Simonton

### Facilities

Pouyan Meghdadian  
Glen Curry, Kevin Lawyer