

PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14, 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.

Care of Creation: A Christian Call

Join Rev. Noelle for a four-part series where we will look carefully at Old and New Testament passages to help us better understand how we can be stewards of creation instead of merely users.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

For a listing of currently scheduled activities and meetings, visit www.historicchristchurch.org/events

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

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
11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour – Meade Room
11:30 a.m. Daughters of the King – Library
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist – Chapel
4:30 p.m. Canterbury Choir – Choir Room
5:30 p.m. Cherub Choir – Choir Room
7:00 p.m. Covenant Class – Library
7:00 p.m. EFM – Meade Room
9:00 p.m. Compline – Facebook Live

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
9:00 a.m. Lazarus Food Pantry – Meade Room
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
7:30 p.m. LGBTQ+ Theology and Faith – Library

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

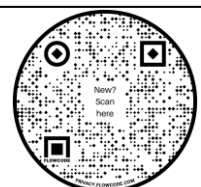
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

AA • Al-Anon

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



118 N. Washington St. Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703.549.1450 • Fax: 703.549.5883
www.HistoricChristChurch.org



GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Giving Makes us Feel Good!

Neuroscience proves that giving makes us feel good. Practicing generosity releases oxytocin and dopamine: the feel-good hormones that promote happiness, trust, and community. Giving makes us cheerful - and as everyone at Christ Church knows, "God loves a cheerful giver!"

(2 Corinthians 9:7)

Wanna try? You can give through - wait for it - cash, check, ACH, debit card, credit card, Apple Pay, Google Pay, PayPal, Benevity, DAFs, RMDs, and stock. Don't see your favorite option listed here? Let us know!

See our QR codes in Parish Life and the bulletin, or connect with Julie Simonton at jsimonton@ccalex.org or 703.778.4935

The Mengo Raffle Returns!



Help our partner Mengo HIV/AIDS Clinic in Kamapala, Uganda offer care to over 9,000 patients per year by purchasing raffle tickets. Tickets are on sale online now: bit.ly/MengoRaffle2025 and in-person. The winning tickets will be announced on

September 28. You do not need to be present to win. The grand prize is a \$500 gift card to Trader Joe's. Second place prize is a \$200 gift card to Signature Theater and a \$100 gift card to the Carlyle Restaurant. Additional prizes include restaurant gift cards at a variety of places in the area. Please note, raffle ticket purchases are not tax deductible. If you would like to make a separate tax-deductible donation to support Mengo Hospital, please visit bit.ly/GivetoChristChurch and select "Mengo Hospital" from the fund dropdown.

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.

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 3rd Sunday of each month, at 11:30 with the purpose of understanding and strengthening for the long-term U.S. Constitutional democracy. Our next

meeting is Sunday, September 21 in McMurray Commons. Please contact Libby Witt (eawitt@hotmail.com) and Susan Marquis (slmarquis70@gmail.com) for more information.

Christ Church Soccer Saturday | September 27 | 7:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited for a night out to watch DC United play the Philadelphia Union at Audi Field. Tickets are only \$30 each! Tickets are available first come, first served, no later than September 15. To reserve a spot or for more information, contact Robbie. rlaughton@ccalex.org.

Memorial Flowers | Did you know?

An often unknown part of our services is the reason behind our beautiful flowers arrangements at the front of the church. Memorial Flowers are sponsored by parishioners to Honor, Celebrate, and Remember a person or group of people. We then add them to our Prayers for the People and we print them in our bulletin. It could be celebrating a special anniversary, birthday, or honoring a special person in your life. It costs \$125 to sponsor. If you would like to contribute, contact Amy Wilczynski at amyelizabeth0106@gmail.com for more information.

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. If you are interested, please contact the Director of Music, Jason Abel, at jabel@ccalex.org for more information.

Children's Choir – Sign Up Today!

Rehearsals have begun! The Cherub Choir (for children ages 4-7) rehearse on Wednesday afternoons from 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. and sing on the first Sunday of each month. The Cherub Choir uses a combination of Orff and Kodaly training methods to introduce children to basic elements of learning music. The Canterbury Choir (for children who can read proficiently, ages 7/8 to 8th grade) rehearse on Wednesday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and sing each Sunday of the program year for the 10:00 a.m. service. The Canterbury Choir follows the RSCM training method which encourages not only strong proficiency in reading music, but also a deeper understanding of the music that is being sung. Both choirs use computer learning programs to assist each child to progress at their own pace. To sign your child up for choir, please email Jason at jabel@ccalex.org to express your interest! We hope to have a strong contingent of choristers helping to lead our music in worship this year!

FAITH FORMATION

For information, contact the Rev. Noelle York-Simmons at rector@ccalex.org or 703.549.1450

Care of Creation: A Christian Call | 9:00 a.m. | Meade Room
Sunday September 14, 21, 28, and October 5

The way we interpret our scriptural mandate to care for God's world drives the way we protect it. Join Rev. Noelle for a four-

part series where we will look carefully at Old and New Testament passages to help us better understand how we can be stewards of creation instead of merely users.

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.

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

Covenant Class is a 10-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. Classes begin September 17. Contact Jessica Williams at jessicavwilliams@gmail.com to sign up.

Love God Love God's World

Love God, Love God's World is a nine-session, film-based curriculum created by the Episcopal Church for anyone who wants to learn more about creation care and environmental ministry. The structure of the program is similar to Sacred Ground. Beginning on Tuesday, September 23, Libby Witt will be leading the group, meeting every other Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. For more information, please email Libby Witt at ewitt@hotmail.com.

Have Mercy Webinar from VTS | Wednesdays | 7:00 p.m.

October 1-29 | In person at Christ Church or on Zoom
Confused about the intersection of faith and politics in this chaotic moment? Join Dr. Kyle Lambelet, friend of Christ Church and director of the Saint Nicholas Center for Faith and Justice, for a webinar series that makes plain the political implications of the Christian tradition. Designed for clergy, lay folk, teachers, activists, citizens, and anyone looking to sharpen their theological understanding of politics. If you would like to join a small group at Christ Church to watch and discuss together, email Rev. Noelle, rector@ccalex.org. If you would like to join the VTS Zoom on your own, please register here: bit.ly/4maGP3u.

Women's Retreat: Save the Date | March 6-8, 2026

Calling all women of Christ Church! Mark your calendars for a Spirit-filled weekend away at Chanco on the James Retreat Center. We will be joined by The Rev Mary Hemmer, priest, author, and storyteller. More information, including sign-up links, will be available in December. This retreat is made possible by a generous donation from the family of Martha Wilcox, to help inspire our formation in Christ.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

For information, contact

Children: Ariel Rudy at arudy@ccalex.org

Youth: the Rev. Robbie Laughton at rlaughton@ccalex.org

Register for Sunday School

Sunday School begins again on September 14! Register your Sunday Schooler(s) ages three through 5th grade online today to help us prepare for the year ahead: bit.ly/SundaySchool2025

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/YouthMinistry2025. Please email Robbie with any questions at rLaughton@ccalex.org.

It's Time for Confirmation Class!

The Christ Church youth confirmation program, "Confirm Not Conform," is returning for the 2025-26 school year. All 9th graders (or above) who are interested in exploring their faith and considering being confirmed in the Episcopal Church (and, in addition, having a little fun) are welcome. Confirmation itself is not a mandatory part of the program. The class will meet throughout the year on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Fowler House Teen Center, beginning with a brief introductory session for parents and/or students on September 14. To register for class or learn more, please reach out to the class leaders, Kelley Brooke and Darrin Hostetler darrinahostetler@gmail.com.

OUTREACH & MISSION

For information, contact Melanie Gray at

mgray@ccalex.org or 703.778.4937

SEPTEMBER OUTREACH: CANNED FAVORITES

This month, consider helping us stock the Lazarus Food Pantry with some of our most popular canned offerings: tomatoes, fruit, soups, stews, tuna and sardines. 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.

BLESSINGS ON...

- The Mengo Committee team who sold Mengo Raffle tickets on Welcome Sunday: Andrew Floyd, Karen Hill, Bob Carpenter and Jim Cannon.
- Our Meade Memorial Bag Lunch volunteers Karen Hill, Mary Hobbie, Emily Bryan and family, Maude Williams, Emily Soapes, Elaine Wick, Amanda Blue, Anne Land and Claudia Ellet.

NAME TAGS

Personalized Christ Church Name Tags: Are you a regular attender that would like a personalized Christ Church name tag? If so, please email membership2@historicchristchurch.org with the name you'd like printed. It will then be made and posted on the name tag board in the portico.

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.

After spring storms and heavy rains, the summer drought made life very difficult for the bees. But now Malinda has brought to the Gift Shop a variety of late spring and summer honey that she says features the spicy nectar from the mints and herbs that enjoy heat and humidity. Come to the Gift Shop for this special late spring and summer honey. Malinda's honey is a special addition to our Gift Shop. Come by and take a look.

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
Van Bridgers, Glen Curry
Kevin Lawyer