

PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 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 – Welcome the Very Rev. Canon Richard Sewell, Dean of St George's College in Jerusalem. Rev. Sewell will preach this morning, and lead the forum at 9:00 a.m. in the Meade Room

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Fowler House
9:00 a.m. Sunday Forum – Meade Room
9:00 a.m. Lectionary Study – Library
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour – Meade Room
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
7:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting – Meade Room

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

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 – Teen Center
9:00 p.m. Compline – Facebook Live

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

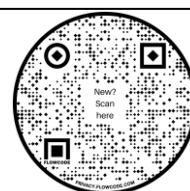
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

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.

This Is My Story

Your story of following God's call is an essential part of Christ Church's story. And there are SO many chapters ahead! Make your 2026 commitment to what's now, what's next, and what's always been. Pledge today.

bit.ly/CCPledgeToday

Or connect with Julie Simonton at 703.778.4935

or jsimonton@ccalex.org.

Pledge here: bit.ly/CCPledgeToday

or see the QR code in the bulletin.

Sunday Lunch for Furloughed Workers | 11:30 a.m. | Auditorium

Community always matters but community is vital in time of complexity and confusion. We're offering lunch and conversation with others who were furloughed, working without pay, or facing RIFs.

Help for Federal Workers

Christ Church parishioners who are experiencing financial strain due to the government shutdown are invited to contact the rector for financial assistance. All inquiries will be kept confidential. Thank you to those parishioners who have donated to this effort.

Thanksgiving Pantry Still Needs Groceries and Funds

We are in the home stretch! Thus far, we have received only half of what we need for food donations for our Thanksgiving Pantry. Please take a moment and visit our Amazon Wishlist to help us serve 230 families in Alexandria.

Order online: <https://amzn.to/40g4CaF> and ship to Christ Church. We have raised \$12,066 of our \$15,000 goal to purchase a grocery gift card for each family. Visit bit.ly/ThanksgivingDonations2025 if you wish to contribute. Contact Amy Bacon at amybacon4@icloud.com with questions.

Christ Church Democracy Circle | November 16

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 Democracy Circle is one of nearly 100 that have sprung up nationwide. We'll meet in McMurray Commons on the 3rd Sunday of each month, at 11:30 with the purpose of understanding and strengthening U.S. Constitutional democracy for the long-term. Please contact Libby Witt (ewitt@hotmail.com) and Susan Marquis (sanmarquis70@gmail.com) for more information.

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.

Stewards of the Dirt | November 22

Winter is coming, and it is time to prepare the church gardens. Stewards of the Dirt will hold a work session on Saturday, November 22 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the churchyard, and we could use your help. If you would like to join us and help keep our grounds healthy and beautiful, please contact Libby Witt at ewitt@hotmail.com.

Gift Shop Christmas Market | November 23 | Meade Room

The Gift Shop Christmas Market is coming soon! The annual Christmas Market will take place on Sunday November 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Come by and see our selection of Advent calendars, Christmas cards, ornaments, decorations, children's books and more. Try the jams and jellies and replenish your peanut supplies. It's an annual event you won't want to miss!

Lessons & Carols | December 7

Please join us for our 20th annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 7 at 5:00 p.m. The combined choirs of Christ Church will be joined by readers from throughout the community, a brass quintet, and guest organist, Dr. Daniel Aune. The service will include the premiere of a newly commissioned anthem by Jessica Nelson, Director of Music at the Cathedral of St Andrew in Jackson, Mississippi. The doors to the church will open at 4:30 for seating. Childcare will be available in the nursery and a festive reception will follow in the Auditorium. Bring a friend to join you in celebrating the marvelous music and stories from Advent and Christmas.

Monday Concert Series | 12:15 p.m. | December 8

Second Monday of the Month | October through May
Gut, Wind, and Wire, a trio formed by longtime Baltimore Consort members, Mark Cudek, Ronn McFarlane, and Mindy Rosenfeld, is named for the natural elements that bring our instruments to life: gut strings, wire strings, and wind (breath). Since its beginning, Gut, Wind & Wire has explored a wide variety of music from the 16th and 17th centuries, music from folk traditions and even original music. There is no admission for these concerts, though we hope audience members will support the series with a goodwill donation of any amount (suggested amount: \$10). These 45-minute programs include solo performers and chamber musicians based in DC, Maryland, and Northern Virginia. The full schedule is here: www.historicchristchurch.org/music

Wreaths Across America

For those who may wish to donate wreaths or participate in the December 13 (9:30 a.m.) laying of wreaths on a veteran's grave in the Alexandria National Cemetery (1450 Wilkes Street), please visit: www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/VA0175 to sponsor one or more \$17 wreaths. For each sponsored wreath using the VA0175 group, we get \$5 toward additional, free

wreaths. Deadline is December 1. Contact Glen Hewitt at Hewittglen@gmail.com for details or questions.

Christmas Special Gifts

Remember loved ones this Christmas with a special gift. Mail in the envelope included with your preprinted offering envelopes, submit the information online at www.historicchristchurch.org/donate, or send a check with "Christmas Special Gifts" in the memo line to Christ Church, 118 N. Washington St., Alexandria VA 22314. Please include a note with the name of your loved one and if your gift is to honor or remember them. Gifts must be submitted by December 16 to be included in the Christmas service.

FAITH FORMATION

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

Guest Preacher | November 16

On Sunday November 16, we welcome the Very Rev. Canon Richard Sewell is the Dean of St George's College in Jerusalem. The College is the Anglican center for pilgrimage in the Holy Land. In addition to his role as Dean of the College, Richard is a Residentiary Canon of St George's Cathedral, Jerusalem. Dean Sewell will also lead the forum at 9:00 a.m.

Exploring the Book of Revelation | Meade Room Wednesdays, December 3, 10, 17, | 7:00 p.m.

Revelation is the strangest and least-understood book in the Bible, but its ideas and language permeate our liturgy and pop culture. Over three weeks we'll dive into and demystify this strange and powerful book, and discover what it still has to say to us today. For more information or to register, contact Robbie Laughton rlaughter@ccalex.org.

Save the Date: Christ Church Pilgrimage to Turkey October 9-26, 2026

The Dean of Virginia Seminary, The Very Rev Ian Markham, and Rev Noelle will be leading a trip to walk in the footsteps of apostles and to learn up close about the rise of early Christianity. Dean Markham will lead an adult forum at Christ Church on February 15 to introduce the themes and questions for the pilgrimage. Contact Noelle for more information.

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.

Women's Retreat | March 6-8, 2026

Chanco on the James Retreat Center

The Rev. Mary Hemmler will lead the women of Christ Church in a retreat time of rest and renewal. Mary is an Episcopal priest, published author, storyteller, chef, and retreat leader. She will be leading us through conversations about spirituality and food. This retreat is made possible

through a gift by the family of Martha Wilcox. Contact Rev Noelle at rector@ccalex.org for more information and to sign up.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

For information, contact

Children: Ariel Rudy at arudy@ccalex.org

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

Bringing Advent Home Wreath Workshop | November 30
Bring Advent Home by creating an Advent wreath at 9:00 a.m. in the Auditorium! You will leave with a wreath for your household, four candles, and materials to help you wait patiently (or impatiently) for Christ's birth. Bring branches to share! If you would like to help with set up or clean up, please email Ariel at arudy@ccalex.org. We will not have Sunday School.

Fellowship for Parents of Infants and Toddlers

Raising tiny Christians is no easy feat! One Sock On is a space for parents to come together and share the triumphs and trials of parenthood in a loving, relaxed environment while little ones get to know church friends. One Sock On meets during Sunday School (9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.) in Room 103 in the Fowler House. Come whenever you can, for as long as you like. Email Jaclyn Hagner (jackie.hagner@gmail.com) if you have questions or would like to be added to the email list.

OUTREACH & MISSION

For information, contact Melanie Gray at mgray@ccalex.org or 703.778.4937

NOVEMBER OUTREACH: HOUSEHOLD STAPLES

This month, consider helping us stock the Lazarus Food Pantry with much needed items: toiletries, cleaning supplies, and canned vegetables and fruits. 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.

Spanish Translators needed at Lazarus Food Pantry and Lazarus Financial Ministry

Lazarus Food Pantry needs translators Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. until roughly 10:30 a.m. We need translators to help with the Lazarus Financial Ministry on Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. until roughly 5:00 p.m. Please reach out to Liz Denson for more details ldenson@historicchristchurch.org.

BLESSINGS ON...

- The parishioners who shopped, cooked, and served dinner at the Carpenter's Shelter Lenny and Milly Marsciso, Bob Carpenter, Joe and Carol Shull, Bradley McAllister, Cornelia Horner, Michaela Shaughnessy, Kris Lebras and Barb Boehm.
- The parishioners who made and served lunches at Meade Memorial Church, Karen Hill, Elizabeth Olson, Mary Hobbie and Jon Smoot, Maude Williams, Michele Smith, Emily Soapes, Ruth Arnold, Amy Wilczynski, Mary Dixon and Jack Hutcheson.
- Anne Alfano, Cara Alfano, and Michele Smith for shopping, cooking, setting up, serving, and cleaning up for Dinner Church for November Dinner Church and for everyone who lent support.
- Volunteers from the Properties Committee and Old Town Village for mulching the Christ Church Wilkes Street cemetery pathway from OTV Condos to Jamieson Avenue.

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.

Rob Radtke, during his visit last month, recommended the book *The Great Displacement, Climate Change and the Next American Migration*. We now have the book available in the Gift Shop. We hope you will come by the Gift Shop for a copy. We offer a variety of books for adults and children as well as gifts and cards for Baptisms and other special occasions. We hope to see you soon.

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