

PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1, 2026

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 CANON LEE HILL

Canon Hill will be the first in our Preacher/Teacher Series, offering the sermon at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services and the Adult Formation presentation at 9:00 a.m. in the Meade Room.

Choral Evensong | 5:00 p.m. | The service will feature music by Orlando Gibbons, William Byrd, and Johannes Eccard celebrating the vigil for Candlemas.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Sunday Forum – Meade Room
9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Fowler House
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. Choral Evensong

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

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
5:45 p.m. Dinner Church – Auditorium
7:00 p.m. Comprehensive Campaign Info Session – Meade Room
9:00 p.m. Compline – Facebook Live

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

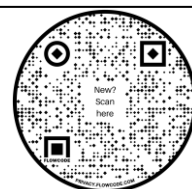
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

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.

2025 Contribution Statements Christ Church is grateful for YOU!

Have you received your Christ Church Contribution Statement for 2025 yet? Statements were e-mailed to most Christ Church donors before January 31. If we do not have your e-mail on file, your statement was sent by postal mail.

Want to access it yourself? You may view [all](#) your giving history anytime by logging into ShelbyNEXT Membership online or through the smartphone app. Need your login details? Email membership2@ccalex.org. For questions about your giving, e-mail Julie Simonton (jsimonton@ccalex.org) or call 703.778.4935.

Choral Evensong | Today

The next Choral Evensong will be sung by the Christ Church Choir on Sunday, February 1 at 5:00 p.m. The service will feature music by Orlando Gibbons, William Byrd, and Johannes Eccard celebrating the vigil for Candlemas.

Dinner Church | February 4

The first Wednesday of the month means Dinner Church! From 5:45 to 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium, we will offer a special dinner for everyone. There will be a short "Service of Word and Table" during dinner for everyone to participate in together, and a special craft corner for kids.

Information Session | February 4 | 7:00 p.m. | Meade Rm

Our Hope for Years to Come: A Comprehensive Campaign for Christ Church. For the last year, we have been working to develop a plan for our ministries and beloved campus that will meet the needs of our growing, thriving parish and serve the Christ Church community for generations to come. At the core of this work is ministry – to serve, to welcome, to include, and to grow with our hearts and minds always focused on God. The next step in this exciting work is to embark on a comprehensive campaign. Come to learn more and help shape what's ahead. A Zoom link will be also be available.

Betsy's Breakfast | February 8 | Auditorium

Breakfast is served in the Auditorium from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.!

George Washington Birthday Parade | February 14

Join fellow parishioners of Christ Church as we march in the George Washington Birthday Parade, Saturday, February 14, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The theme this year is George Washington: Virginia's Son America's Founding Father. Please register here: bit.ly/45nXPOM if you are interested by February 6. Please contact Elizabeth Trigg with any questions emtrigg@gmail.com.

Guest Choir | February 15

On Sunday, February 15, we will be blessed to be joined by the choir of Christ Church Episcopal, Winnetka, Illinois. Located right outside of Chicago, this church is well known for a long tradition of good music and a thriving music

ministry. They have toured throughout the United Kingdom and the United States. We are honored to have them joining us on their tour this winter. They will sing for the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist and then return to sing Choral Evensong here at 5:00 p.m. that same day. The intergenerational choir is under the direction of Organist-Choirmaster Richard Clemmitt and Assistant Organist Todd Gresick.

Democracy Circle | February 15 | Teen Center

The Christ Church Democracy Circle meets the third Sunday of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Teen Center. The Democracy Circle provides us with an opportunity to accept the Presiding Bishop's call for Episcopalians to be "Christians who seek to practice our faith fully in a free and fair democracy." The next meeting will be on Sunday, February 15. The subject of the meeting will be Christian Nationalism and how we can counter its influence. Please contact Libby Witt (ewitt@hotmail.com) and Susan Marquis (slmarquis70@gmail.com) for more information.

Shrove Tuesday | February 17 | 6:00 p.m.

Join us in fellowship and fun as we celebrate the last hurrah and final Alleluia before Lent begins. A short service with burning of the palms will be held at 6:00 p.m., followed by a meal and games for all. We'll enjoy traditional Shrove Tuesday pancakes along with Mardi Gras creole fare. All are welcome to help your Stewardship Committee with the fun, flair, and food. Volunteer to decorate, serve, tidy and more!

Ash Wednesday | February 18

Service of the Word and Imposition of Ashes:
7:30 a.m., 12 noon, 7:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Family Service: 5:30 p.m.

Vestry Elections

With Vestry elections scheduled for Sunday, March 1, it's time to prayerfully discern who our candidates should be. To be on Vestry you must be over 16 years old, an Episcopalian (confirmed/received in the Episcopal Church), and a member in good standing of Christ Church (demonstrated by regular attendance and pledging). If you feel called to nominate yourself or someone else, or if you just want more information about the process, please contact the Nominations Chair, Jaclyn Moyer, at nominations@historicchristchurch.org.

Monday Concert Series | March 9 | 12:15 p.m.

Second Monday of the Month | March through May
The series resumes in March with 4-Hand Piano works by Mozart, Schubert, and Barber; featuring Sean Burns and Jason Abel. 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

FAITH FORMATION

For information, contact the Rev. Noelle York-Simmons at 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.

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.

Preacher/Teacher Series: Canon Hill | Today

The Reverend Canon J. Lee Hill Jr is the Canon for Racial Justice and Healing in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. Canon Hill will be the first in our Preacher/Teacher Series, offering the sermon at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services, giving the Adult Formation presentation at 9:00 a.m. The Preacher/Teacher Series is made possible through a generous donation from the family and friends of Martha Wilcox.

Exploring Türkiye | February 15 | 9:00 a.m. | Meade Rm

The Very Reverend Dr. Ian Markham, Dean of Virginia Theological Seminary, will offer some theological waypoints and historical notes about the modern-day country of Türkiye. Türkiye figures prominently in our scriptures, especially in the travels of the apostle Paul. This presentation prefigures the fall pilgrimage to Türkiye, but all are welcome to come learn!

Lent Book Groups | Signup Deadline February 16

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor, scholar, and Nazi resistor. This year in our Lenten book study, we will read Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship*, in which he challenges comfortable Christianity in Nazi Germany~and today~ by emphasizing humility, sacrifice, and a transformed life following Jesus. To join one of our book groups sign up at bit.ly/3YWPeH4. If you'd like to lead a book group or have any questions, please contact Michelle Baize at mbaize@ccalex.org.

Preacher/Teacher Series: Rev. Sullivan | February 22

The Reverend Michael Sullivan has been president of Kanuga Camp and Conference Center, North Carolina, since 2016 and has lead the organization through renovations, natural disasters, COVID and more, into a renowned place of beauty and theological learning. The Reverend Sullivan is the second in our Preacher/Teacher series, offering the sermon at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services, giving the Adult Formation presentation at 9:00 a.m. The Preacher/Teacher Series is made possible through a generous donation from the family and friends of Martha Wilcox.

Women's Retreat | March 6-8, 2026

Chanco on the James Retreat Center

We understand "sabbath" to mean rest and, ideally, should be observed for a full 24-hour period weekly. But who has time for that? Lacking the time, we feel guilt and shame for not making time for God. Author, priest, retreat leader, and cook the Rev. Mary Hemmer will lead us through two days of learning to redefine holy rest to help soothe our weary bodies and souls. The retreat begins Friday evening and ends Sunday after lunch. There is a \$300 cost for the weekend with scholarships available upon request. This retreat is made possible by the friends and family of Martha Wilcox. For more information, please contact Rev Noelle. To sign up, follow this link: bit.ly/49B22zh.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

For information, contact

Children: Ariel Rudy at arudy@ccalex.org

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

Collecting Collage Materials

Children's ministries wants your magazines and books for collages, cards, and other crafts in Sunday School! National Geographics (from any year) are ideal, but books/magazines focused on plants, animals, cooking, decorating, or fashion work well too. Please skim your materials to make sure they are appropriate for children before donating and please no Us Weekly, People, or Cosmopolitan. Materials can be bagged, labeled for Ariel, and left at the front desk.

OUTREACH & MISSION

For information, contact Melanie Gray at

mgray@ccalex.org or 703.778.4937

FEBRUARY: PANTRY STAPLES

This month, consider helping us stock the Lazarus Food Pantry: plain oatmeal (not instant), pasta sauce, and can openers. It's hard to open a can without a decent can opener. 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 Speaking Volunteers Needed

We need Spanish speaking translators to help with the Lazarus Financial Ministry either remotely or in person on Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. until roughly 5:00 p.m. Sign up when you can. Training provided. We have more Spanish speaking residents calling for help than ever and many of them are very frightened and need financial assistance for rent, utilities, and medical bills. Please reach out to Liz Denson at ldenson@ccalex.org for more details.

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.

WELCOME SEMINARIAN EMILY MECKS

Emily Meeks is a postulant for Holy Orders to the priesthood in the Diocese of Olympia (The Episcopal Church in Western Washington). She is a second-year student in the Master of Divinity program at Virginia Theological Seminary with a concentration in Christian Spirituality. Emily is passionate about intergenerational ministry, spirituality and aging, and eco-theology.

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.

Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Come by the Gift Shop for Valentine's Day cards and small gifts for someone special. 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. Beth Bingham
Associate Rector

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