

PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF MAY 17, 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 –

Outreach Sunday | Meade Room after the 10:00 a.m.
Sundae Sunday | It's the last day of Sunday School! All are invited to the celebration in the churchyard.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, MAY 17

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Fowler House
9:10 a.m. Contemplative Prayer – St. Peter's
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
11:30 a.m. Outreach Sunday – Meade Room
11:30 a.m. Sundae Sunday – Churchyard
11:30 a.m. Democracy Circle – Teen Center
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

MONDAY, MAY 18

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

TUESDAY, MAY 19

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist – Chapel
7:00 p.m. Education for Ministry – Teen Center
6:45 p.m. Book Discussion – Library
7:00 p.m. Covenant Class – Meade Room

THURSDAY, MAY 21

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

FRIDAY, MAY 22

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

SATURDAY, MAY 23

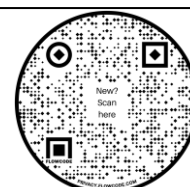
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

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.

Your Friendly Almost-Summer Check In

Did you wind up getting your 2026 pledge card in? Do you know where you are with your annual giving contributions?

If your answer to either of these is,

“Hmmm???” check your Shelby app or contact Julie Simonton. She loves e-mails and phone calls from Christ Church’s *cheerful givers!* Connect today at jsimonton@ccalex.org or 703.778.4935.

Learn more about our impact and how we fund mission and ministry here bit.ly/ThisIsMyStory2026 This thriving community depends on you. Join us and pledge today! bit.ly/CCPledgeToday or see the QR code in the bulletin.

Shrine Mont Parish Weekend

Join us for our annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont, June 19–21 (Father’s Day weekend), nestled in the beautiful Shenandoah Mountains. This beloved tradition offers a chance to step away from daily routines and enjoy fellowship, worship, and rest in a peaceful setting. The weekend includes shared meals, outdoor activities, worship services, and time to connect with friends old and new. All ages, individuals, couples, and families, are warmly invited. Registration is open: bit.ly/4ewYv9g For immediate questions, contact CCShrineMontParishRetreat@gmail.com.

Democracy Circle | Today | Teen Center

The Democracy Circle meets the third Sunday of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Teen Center. Ingris Moran, associate director of Alexandria's Tenants and Workers United supporting immigrants and other workers, will be our guest speaker. 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. Please contact Libby Witt (eawitt@hotmail.com) and Susan Marquis (slmarquis70@gmail.com) for more information.

Memorial Day Service at Wilkes St. | May 25

Join us for a special Memorial Day Service of Morning Prayer at the Wilkes Street Cemetery in Alexandria at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, May 25. All are welcome. Rain or shine.

Wilkes St. Cemetery Cleanup | May 30

The spring Christ Church Wilkes Street Cemetery cleanup will be conducted from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 30 at the 1500 block of Wilkes Street. Bring your favorite garden gloves and tools (e.g., rake, clippers, shears, saw, shovel, etc.) to help keep our cemetery and nearby cemeteries tidy, attractive, and safe. Questions: contact Glen Hewitt at: hewittglen@gmail.com.

Bishop's Visit | May 31

The Rt. Rev. Mark Bourlakas will join us May 31 for reception, reaffirmation, and confirmation. A reception to honor all will follow in the Auditorium. You can help ensure a warm and welcoming celebration by bringing finger foods or volunteering to help set up or clean up. Sign up online: bit.ly/BishopVisit2026.

FAITH FORMATION

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

Contemplative Prayer Group | Sundays

Our new weekly contemplative prayer group at Christ Church begins at 9:10 a.m. on Sundays. If you are seeking a deeper sense of peace and connection with God and are interested in learning more about centering prayer and other meditative practices, this group is for you. Rooted in stillness and simplicity, our weekly gathering will enable us to step away from the busyness of daily life for 20 minutes and enter into a time of guided, silent, reflective prayer. Whether you are new to contemplative practices or have long been drawn to this form of spiritual devotion, all are welcome. Join us as we listen, rest, and grow together in faith through the gentle rhythm of sacred silence.

We will meet in the St. Peter room (#207) on the 2nd floor of the Parish House. If you have questions, please talk with Carter Land or Rev. Beth at bbingham@ccalex.org.

Book Discussion: *On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity, and Getting Old* | May 20 & 27 | 6:45 p.m. | Library

How might our faith, spiritual practices, and understanding of God change or evolve as we age? Join us for a discussion of *On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity, and Getting Old* by Parker J. Palmer to engage these and other questions. In this reflective and hopeful work, Palmer explores what it means to grow older with purpose, courage, and a deepened sense of calling. Together, we’ll share insights, questions, and reflections inspired by the book’s themes of community, vocation, and embracing life’s transitions. We will cover the full content of the book over two meetings. Copies are available in the Gift Shop! Register here: bit.ly/4cD9Cwd. Questions? Email Rev. Beth at bbingham@ccalex.org.

Lectionary Bible Study | Sundays | 9:00 a.m. | Library Resumes next week!

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.

OUTREACH & MISSION

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

MAY: PANTRY STAPLES

This month, consider helping us stock the Lazarus Food Pantry: pasta sauce, canned soup, canned tomatoes, and cooking oil. 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.

Outreach Sunday | Meade Room

Join us in the Meade Room today after the 10:00 a.m. service and learn all ways your church is responding to the needs of our neighbors in Alexandria. Our 13 outreach ministries will have representatives from these ministries and will have information to share with you, in addition to specific opportunities for families with young children and youth.

Gleaning at the Old Town Farmer's Market

Come join us for the Gleaning ministry on Saturdays at noon, when we pick up fresh, beautiful, donated fruit and vegetables from the farmers at the Old Town market. It takes about 1.5 hours and is greatly appreciated by the recipients at our weekly Lazarus Food Pantry. This is an easy family activity that kids enjoy, helping us teach our children our love for our neighbors. Sign up on any Saturday you are available: bit.ly/4eufjJ4 or reach out to Andrea McNicholas at alamcnicho@gmail.com.

Join our Refugee Ministry Care Team

The Refugee Ministry at Christ Church has three new families that are in need of Care Team volunteers! Care Team volunteers provide critical support by staying in touch with families, offering companionship, and ensuring they feel welcome in their new community. They help with appointments, community events, and services like career support, school involvement, and basic needs. Your kindness can help these families thrive and adjust to their new life! Be the bridge to resources, fun activities, and connections. Get involved today and make a difference—one family at a time. Ready to lend a hand? We need you and we train you! If you are ready to take the first step, schedule a meeting with our Refugee Coordinator, Cessilye, here: bit.ly/3YtgowX or email her at csmith@historicchristchurch.org

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

For information, contact

Children: Ariel Rudy at arudy@ccalex.org

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

Celebrate Sunday School! | 9:00 a.m. | Fowler House

The last day of Sunday School for this year is today! All kids and parents are invited to the Fowler House for a special celebration to give thanks for another year of growing in God's love and all the people who helped us along the way! Please drop your children off in their classrooms at 9:00 a.m. as usual, and our celebration will begin shortly thereafter.

Sundae Sunday | After 10:00 a.m. worship | Churchyard

The entire parish is invited to celebrate the end of another year of Sunday School with ice cream sundaes in the churchyard after the 10:00 a.m. service!

Fellowship for New Parents

Are you the parent of an infant or toddler and looking for community? One Sock On, Christ Church's fellowship group for people in this stage of life, welcomes you! Join other parents and little ones to share in the trials and triumphs of raising tiny humans. OSO meets during Sunday School from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. in Fowler House Room 103. Drop in as you can, no rsvp necessary. All families of all shapes and sizes are welcome. Contact Jaelyn Hagner at jackie.hagner@gmail.com with questions.

Alexandria Regional Youth Games Night | May 17

Grace Church, Alexandria, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Come together with youth (6th-12th grade) from Episcopal churches across Alexandria for a night of fellowship and games. Dinner will be provided, but please send your youth with \$5 to help offset the cost. We will play games (outside, weather-permitting); both chill games and active games will be offered. Questions? Contact Rev. Emma at Grace Church: emma.brice@gracealex.org. RSVP Link: bit.ly/4ttojY4.

BLESSINGS ON...

- Anne Alfano, Cara Alfano, Glen Hewitt, and Michele Smith for planning, shopping, setting up, prepping, cooking, and cleaning up for a delicious and nutritious Dinner Church faithfully conducted and joyously enjoyed by all on May 6.

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 both in the Alexandria community and around the world.

Stop by the Gift Shop for your copy of *On the Brink of Everything* by Parker Palmer for Rev. Beth's discussion group starting May 20. We also have cards and small gifts to celebrate graduations, confirmations, and baptisms. Spring scarves and beautiful cards with flowers and birds are also on display. We hope to see you soon!

CHRIST CHURCH VESTRY, CLERGY, AND STAFF

Vestry

Kathleen Hickman '27, Sr. Warden
Steve Slaton '28, Jr Warden
Nanette Lawson '27
Wendy Montes de Oca '27
Christopher Thompson '27
Jane Baird '28, Paula Dubberly '28
Jessica Hughes '28,
Carrie Ann Alford, '29
James Beattie, '29
Janet Beckmann, '29
Christianne Witten, '29

Cornelia Horner, *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