

# PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF MAY 24, 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 – HAPPY PENTECOST!

## 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, MAY 24

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Study – Library
- 9:10 a.m. Contemplative Prayer – St. Peter's
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour – Meade Room
- 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

### MONDAY, MAY 25 – MEMORIAL DAY

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

### TUESDAY, MAY 26

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

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

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

### THURSDAY, MAY 28

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

### FRIDAY, MAY 29

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

### SATURDAY, MAY 23

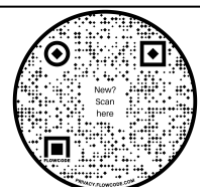
- 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
- 9:00 a.m. Stewards of the Dirt – Churchyard

### 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))



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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).

### 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](mailto:jsimonton@ccalex.org) or 703.778.4935.

Learn more about our impact and how we fund mission and ministry here [bit.ly/ThisIsMyStory2026](https://bit.ly/ThisIsMyStory2026) This thriving community depends on you. Join us and pledge today! [bit.ly/CCPledgeToday](https://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](https://bit.ly/4ewYv9g) For immediate questions, contact [CCShrineMontParishRetreat@gmail.com](mailto:CCShrineMontParishRetreat@gmail.com).

### 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](mailto:hewittglen@gmail.com).

### Stewards of the Dirt | May 30

The Stewards of the Dirt will hold its next work session on Saturday, May 30 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Meet SOD members in the churchyard and help us keep the church grounds looking beautiful. Tools will be provided. If you would like to help, please contact Libby Witt at [eawitt@hotmail.com](mailto:eawitt@hotmail.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](https://bit.ly/BishopVisit2026).

### Summer Cook Outs! | June 10 | 6:00 p.m.

Celebrate Pride Month!

Bring a chair or picnic blanket and enjoy a summer meal with your Christ Church friends. There will be kids' games, activities, and popsicles! If it rains, we will be in the auditorium, if the weather is good, we will be in the churchyard. Side dishes will be sponsored by LGBTQ+ Theology & Faith and the Christ Church Foundation. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help with set-up, hosting, and clean-up: [bit.ly/4fznuBk](https://bit.ly/4fznuBk). Join us in making this cookout a success!. The next Summer Cook Outs are July 8 and August 12.

### Knit and Crochet | June 14 | Teen Center

The Christ Church Knitters and Crocheters make hats and scarves year-round for our Outreach ministries. We will meet on June 14 after the 10:00 a.m. service in the Teen Center to knit and crochet together in friendship. Everyone is welcome! We will have yarn, patterns and expertise to share. For questions, please contact Barbara Ziegler at [barzieg@mac.com](mailto:barzieg@mac.com).

### Democracy Circle | June 28 | 11:30 a.m. | Teen Center

The 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. Please contact Libby Witt ([eawitt@hotmail.com](mailto:eawitt@hotmail.com)) and Susan Marquis ([slmarquis70@gmail.com](mailto:slmarquis70@gmail.com)) for more information.

## FAITH FORMATION

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

### Book Discussion: *On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity, and Getting Old* | May 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](https://bit.ly/4cD9Cwd). Questions? Email Rev. Beth at [bbingham@ccalex.org](mailto:bbingham@ccalex.org).

### De-Clobber: A Bible Study About Our Least Favorite Bible Verses, Sunday June 7, 14, 28 | 9:00 a.m. | Meade Room

Human sexuality dominates theological conversations in some spheres of Christianity. But these arguments are based off a mere six verses of scripture – the so-called clobber passages – that probably don't mean what we've been told they mean. Join Robbie as he de-clobbers these verses by examining their broader literary context and in light of God's unbounded love for all God's children, made in the image of God.

### Lectionary Bible Study | Sundays | 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.

### 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](mailto:bbingham@ccalex.org).

### 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).

## OUTREACH & MISSION

For information, contact Melanie Gray at [mgray@ccalex.org](mailto: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.

### 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/4eufyJ4](https://bit.ly/4eufyJ4) or reach out to Andrea McNicholas at [alamcnicho@gmail.com](mailto: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/3YtgouX](https://bit.ly/3YtgouX) or email her at [csmith@historicchristchurch.org](mailto:csmith@historicchristchurch.org)

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

For information, contact

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

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

### 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 Jaclyn Hagner at [jackie.hagner@gmail.com](mailto:jackie.hagner@gmail.com) with questions.

## BLESSINGS ON...

- Andrea McNicholas, Cornelia Horner, Anne Ramsey and Bill Chavan for gleaned donations from Old Farmers Market vendors.
- Jack and Mary Dixon Hutcheson, Claudia Ellet, Anne Land, Claire Chow, Jane Baird, Rosanne Bennett, Jon Smoot, Mary Hobbie, Karen Hill, Maude Williams, Michele Smith, Maryann Jones, Elizabeth Olson, Elaine Wick, Emily Bryan, and Milly and Lenny Marsico, for making and serving bag lunches at Meade Memorial.
- Barbara Boehm, Lenny and Milly Marsico, Cornelia Horner, Bradley McAllister, Ann McMurray, Claire Chow, Kathy Bowdring, and Jane Baird, who shopped for, cooked and served dinner for Carpenter's Shelter residents.
- Alan Adenan, Kevin Metz, John and Bethany Kucia and Jaime Montes De Oca for preparing the fabulous breakfast sandwiches for Outreach Sunday.

## 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.*

Come to the Gift Shop for your copy of *God and the Generals* by Charleen Smith-Biedel. It explores the history of Christ Church, and you will recognize many names and events. With Confirmation coming soon, we have cards, prayerbooks, crosses and other small gifts. 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