

PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF MAY 31, 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 Bishop Mark Bourlakas
Bishop's Reception | Auditorium | Follows the 10:00 a.m. worship service

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, MAY 31

- 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. Bishop's Reception – Auditorium
- 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

MONDAY, JUNE 1

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

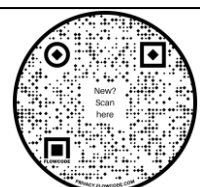
- 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

AA • AlAnon

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.

Bishop's Visit | Today

The Rt. Rev. Mark Bourlakas joins us for reception, reaffirmation, and confirmation. A reception to honor all will follow in the Auditorium

Book Launch: *God and The Generals*

June 7 | 11:30 a.m. | Churchyard

Parishioner Charleen Smith-Riedel is excited to announce the publication of her book on the history of Christ Church, *God and The Generals*. The Gift Shop will have copies for purchase and Charleen will be available to sign and answer questions during coffee hour on June 7. We hope to be outside if the weather cooperates, in the Meade Room if not.

Summer Cookouts | June 10 | 6:00 p.m. | Churchyard

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. Rain (Auditorium) or shine (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/4fzrwBk. The next 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.

Newcomers’ Reception | June 14 | 11:30 a.m.

If you are new to Christ Church within the last year, come join the clergy, vestry members, and others for a special coffee hour to learn more about our parish community. We will talk about how to get involved, formation opportunities, and have

time for questions and answers. We look forward to welcoming you! Email Rev. Beth at bbingham@ccalex.org

Shrine Mont Parish Weekend – Join the Waitlist!

The registrations for our annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont is now full! If you're still interested, please sign up for the waitlist: bit.ly/4ewYv9g. This annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont is June 19–21 (Father’s Day weekend). Nestled in the beautiful Shenandoah Mountains, our 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. For questions, contact CCShrineMontParishRetreat@gmail.com.

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

The Christ Church Democracy Circle usually meets the third Sunday of each month, but in June we will meet on the fourth Sunday to accommodate those who will be at Shrine Mont. We will meet on Sunday, June 28 at 11:30 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) and Susan Marquis (slmarquis70@gmail.com) for more information.

FAITH FORMATION

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

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 | St. Peter Room

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. 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.

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.

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

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.

Pops in the Park | June 13

Join church friends for popsicles and fun at Franconia Park on Telegraph Road Saturday, June 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. We have reserved the Treehouse for our morning together. This is a fun way to stay connected and meet other families. All are welcome!

BLESSINGS ON...

- Susan Anderson, Ruth Arnold, Jane Baird, Jeanne Hoenicke, Mary Hobbie, Caroline Magill, Bob McIntyre, Michele Smith, Jon Smoot, Ann Spidler, and Rusty Vellek for delivering Meals on Wheels on May 20.
- Kevin Metz, Rosanne Bennett, Mary Dixon Hutcheson, Van Ellet, Ann Hollingsworth, Cornelia Horner, Anne Ramsey, Andrea McNicholas, Sandra Thomson, Barbara Zeigler, Caroline Magill, Jessica Gonzalez, Sharon Schambra, Amy Prahar, Jane Baird, Margaret Zeigler, Cessilye Smith, Barbara Fallon, Denise Jean-Claude, Alan Adenan, John and Bethany Kucia, and Jaime Montes de Oca, who made Outreach Sunday a success.
- Chris Parente, Tillman Finley, Duncan Finley, and George Fennell who picked up available furniture and delivered furniture to those who need it in the City of Alexandria for ALIVE!.

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.

The Gift Shop can now offer three new books for you to enjoy; *Jesus and His Fishermen, The Untold Story* by Randal Teague, *George Washington and Alexandria* by Tim Rose and *American Gospel* by Jon Meacham. We also have additional copies of *God and the Generals* by Charleen Smith-Reidel. Come by the shop to see these exciting new additions in our collection. 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