

PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF AUGUST 9, 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 – SPECIAL GUEST PREACHER SHANNON FINNEY

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 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, AUGUST 10

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
- 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist – Chapel
- 6:00 p.m. Summer Cookout
- 9:00 p.m. Compline – Facebook Live

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

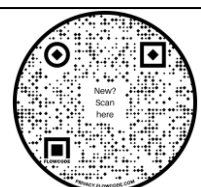
- 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

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.

Yes, Christ Church

Your Comprehensive Campaign is Coming!

Our Hope & Home for Years to Come" is the inspired campaign that will ensure our parish home remains a beacon of God's unbounded love and welcome for all people. From accessible bathrooms to a new elevator that reaches all Parish House community spaces ... from our full-time third clergy member to remembering the enslaved people who built our historic church ... from essential technology upgrades for worship to providing support for those in our community who experience poverty, violence, and injustice, ... and so, so much more.

We will launch in September.

Watch your inbox and your mailbox.

Join us in building a foundation for generations to come.

Summer Cookout | August 12 | 6:00 p.m. | Churchyard

Bring a chair or picnic blanket and enjoy a summer meal with your Christ Church friends! Rain (Auditorium) or shine (churchyard). Side dishes will be sponsored by the Democracy Circle and the Vestry. If you would like to bring a ready-to-serve dessert to share in a disposable dish, that would be awesome! There will be kids' games, activities, and popsicles. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help with set-up, hosting, and clean-up, join us in making this cookout a success: bit.ly/4w92cal

Democracy Circle | August 16 | 11:30 a.m. | 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.

Children's Choirs

Our Children's Choirs start up again this September. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday afternoons. There are two groups from which to choose. The Cherub Choir is for children ages 4-6/7 and rehearses from 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. and sings on the first Sunday of the month. This choir works on learning to read music rhythms, basic treble clef notation, and matching pitch. The Canterbury Choir is for children ages 7/8 and up. Their rehearsals are from 4:30 - 5:30. The Canterbury Choir sings each Sunday during the program year. The choristers work on comprehending music notation, understanding the liturgical year, learning about music history, and singing works from a variety of styles and traditions. Christ Church is a member of the Royal School of Church Music in America and follows their training guidelines. Research overwhelmingly shows

that children regularly involved in music have greater language skills, expanded cognitive function, and greater adaptation to social growth than those who don't. Set your child up for success while also allowing them to learn the joy of making music with others as we sing our praise and thanks to God. For further information, jabel@ccalex.org

Christ Church Choir

The Christ Church Choir, for high schoolers and adults, will begin rehearsals on Thursday, August 27. The choir rehearses each week from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. during the program year. The first Sunday the choir will sing will be on September 13. There are exciting plans for the choir this year as we work on a few large scale works, premiere a newly commissioned anthem, and welcome a roster of extraordinary guest organists for our Evensong series. If you read music, and would be interested in joining this hardworking, but very friendly group, please contact Jason at jabel@ccalex.org

FAITH FORMATION

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

Voting and More: Preparing for the 2026 Midterms as Episcopalians and Citizens

August 16 | 9:00 a.m. | Meade Room

Democracy is calling your name! The 2026 midterms are fast approaching. Your vote matters, and our nation needs your help. The Christ Church Democracy Circle invites all to the 9:00 a.m. forum on August 16 to learn what's on the ballot and the many things, large and small, we can do to ensure free and fair elections. Contact Susan Marquis (slmarquis70@gmail.com) or Libby Witt (eawitt@hotmail.com) with questions.

It's Time to Register for Education for Ministry (EfM)

Have you ever wondered how your story, the church's story, and God's story weave together to shape a thoughtful and spiritual Christian life? EfM is a program for anyone seeking a deeper encounter with God through study, reflection, and conversation about how faith informs everyday life. Over 36 weeks, participants engage with scripture, theology, and church history, using a new curriculum developed by the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. On Wednesday evenings, participants bring their studies, their honest questions, and their life experiences into a small and supportive seminar in the Teen Center, where we engage in theological reflection and strengthen our ability to sense God's presence in the world. The weekly seminars include participants on the four-year "EfM Classic" track or the one-year "EfM Wide-Angle" track. No academic background is required – just an open heart and a desire to

journey with others in curiosity, companionship, and faith. Contact EfM mentors Nancy and Ken Knapp at nvknapp@aol.com for additional information.

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
Resumes August 30!

Our weekly contemplative prayer group 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. 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

AUGUST: PASTA AND PASTA SAUCE

This month, consider helping us restock the Lazarus Food Pantry with some staples that are running low: pasta (all shapes/varieties), pasta sauce, old fashioned oatmeal, and cooking oil. Many thanks to those who donated food in July! We received hundreds of pounds of donations, which has allowed us to continue to give abundantly to our guests each week. 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.

Bag Lunch Ministry

Bag lunch is part of the safety net for our guests, and your support truly makes a difference. Please review the sign up

here: bit.ly/44eAqxX and sign up as you are able. If you have any questions, or you'd like to prepare something other than the listed sandwich, please email Karen Hill at jbh707@juno.com. Our remaining assignments are August 10-14; September 8-11; October 5-9; November 9-13; and December 15-17.

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 or reach out to Andrea McNicholas at alamcnicho@gmail.com.

Thursday Morning Delivery Help Needed

Have an hour or so on a Thursday morning to help a homebound neighbor? Each week, the Lazarus Food Pantry delivers groceries to several pantry guests who cannot come in person due to injury, illness, or disability. Deliveries are picked up after the pantry around 10 am and are delivered within the city of Alexandria limits. Volunteers can sign up as their schedule allows. Contact Liz Denson at ldenson@ccalex.org if interested or to learn more.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

For information, contact

Katherine Carpenter-Rains at kcarpenterrains@ccalex.org

Children and Youth Ministries

Do you have a child between the ages of 0 and 18? Christ Church Children and Youth Ministries offers programs for every stage of childhood and adolescence throughout the 2026-27 program year. Register your child for One Sock On, Sunday School, Youth Formation (Sundays at 9:00 a.m.), Middle and High School Youth Groups (Sundays at 6:00 p.m.), events, trips, seasonal offerings, and group service opportunities by visiting the link below or scanning the QR code on the Worship Cart after the service: bit.ly/3RgDSVF

Do You Feel Called to Serve?

Children and Youth Ministries is always looking to connect with adults who feel called to volunteer with children and youth. If you're interested in joining our team, please contact Katherine at KCarpenterRains@ccalex.org.

BLESSINGS ON...

- Cornelia Horner, Kevin Kratzer and David Johnson for gleaning at the Old Town Farmers Market for our Lazarus Food Pantry.
- Immanuel Church on the Hill for providing 9 families in our Refugee Ministry with backpacks filled with school supplies for the new school year.

PRAYER LIST

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE GIVEN

In honor of our Flower Delivery Team and the ways they share God's love in our community

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE BIRTH OF

Caroline Raine, granddaughter of Lenny & Milly Marsico

WE PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED

Carol Ann Detlef, Robert H. Jones

WE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING OVERSEAS

Holly Prousalis, Omar Sharif, the Hood, Doherty, and Jennings families

PRAYERS FOR THE PARISH

Mary Crow, Gladys Hook, LaVerne Scott-Rayford, Gail & Ridge Multop, Susanne O'Neill, Carol Lafley, Linda Hoekstra, Kathie Nelson, Doug Mitchell, Marynelle Losin, Joy Pinniger, Mary Ellen Freesland, Martha Rucker

GIFT SHOP

Peanuts, peanuts, peanuts! Come to the Gift Shop and select a can of our newly delivered peanuts! We have salted regular peanuts, salt and pepper peanuts, salt and vinegar peanuts, and honey roasted peanuts. We have large and small cans. They are a great snack and a wonderful special gift from Virginia for visiting friends. We hope to see you soon!

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.

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
Katherine Carpenter-Rains
Liz Denson, Melanie Gray
Lia Sanchez, Julie Simonton

Facilities

Pouyan Meghdadian
Glen Curry, Kevin Lawyer