

PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF AUGUST 16, 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 – FORUM | MEADE ROOM | 9:00 A.M.

Voting and More: Preparing for the 2026 Midterms as Episcopalians and Citizens: The Christ Church Democracy Circle invites all to the forum to learn the many things, large and small, we can do to ensure free and fair elections.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Sunday Forum – Meade Room
9:00 a.m. Lectionary Study – Library
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour – Meade Room
11:30 a.m. Democracy Circle – Teen Center
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

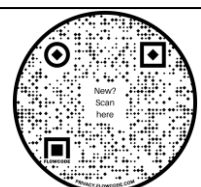
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
9:00 a.m. Lazarus Food Pantry – Meade Room
7:00 p.m. LGBTQ+ Theology and Faith – Library

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.

Democracy Circle | Today | 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 (ewawitt@hotmail.com) and Susan Marquis (slmarquis70@gmail.com) for more information.

Stewards of the Dirt | August 29

Stewards of the Dirt will hold a work session on Saturday, August 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the churchyard. If you would like to join us and help keep our grounds healthy and beautiful, please contact Libby Witt at ewawitt@hotmail.com. We look forward to seeing you!

Welcome Sunday | September 13 | We ♥ Picnics!

Picnic Potluck & Hot Dogs & Games & Fun - what could be better to kick off the program year?! Join us after the 10:00 a.m. service in the churchyard for lots of food and activities for kids of all ages. Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish. Help us ensure a variety: A - E: green salads and fruit salads; F - K: chips, dips, veggie trays; L - R: desserts; S - Z: picnic favorites like coleslaw, potato salad, baked beans, etc. Bring food to the Meade Room kitchen before the service. This beloved event is a church favorite because EVERYONE can be involved. From grill to garden games & set-up crews to welcome tables - there's a place for you. Sign up here bit.ly/WelcomeSunday2026

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. 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

Today | 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 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 ewawitt@hotmail.com with questions.

45 Minutes with Jason Abel | August 23 | 9:00 a.m.

Our Director of Music will discuss his recent sabbatical experiences, plans for the coming year, information about a new hymnal supplement we will be using occasionally at Christ Church in the future, and maybe a few random other things.

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 signup 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; 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.

Lazarus Emergency Financial Ministry Greeter

The Lazarus Emergency Financial Ministry is at Fairlington Presbyterian Church at 3846 King Street on Thursday afternoons. We need a volunteer to join the team from 2:30 to 4:30, to let guests in to wait in the parlor, offer coffee, tea, and water, and be with them while they wait to be seen by a counselor. Sign up for shifts as your schedule allows. Please contact Liz Denson ldenson@ccalex.org if you are interested or want to learn more.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

For information, contact

Katherine Carpenter-Rains at kcarpenterrains@ccalex.org

Pops and Planes | Saturday, August 22

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. | Gravelly Point Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Arlington
Join us as we kick off the new school year with a morning of fellowship, picnicking, and plane spotting! We will have popsicles for children and children at heart. Gravelly Point's wide open fields and spectacular low-flying airplanes make it a favorite spot for children and adults alike. We can't wait to celebrate the end of summer and the beginning of a wonderful new school year with you!

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 K CarpenterRains@ccalex.org.

BLESSINGS ON...

- The Christ Church parishioners who shopped, cooked, and served dinner at the Carpenter's Shelter Friday night Lenny and Milly Marsico, Megan Cavannaugh, Joe and Carol Shull, Rob Spiller, Steve Slayton, Cornelia Horner, Kris Lebras, and Jane Baird.

PRAYER LIST

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE GIVEN

In memory of E. Ballard Baker, Billy Jane Crosby Baker, Howard E. Camp, Jr, and Janice Draper Camp

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE BIRTH OF

Virginia Joan Bellows, daughter of Frances DePree & Travis Bellows

WE PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED

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, Karlyn Stanley, Raymond Ellis, Brenda Hernandez, Greg Peterson, Christine Jones, Sammy Manchester

GIFT SHOP

We love birds! The Gift Shop has beautiful cards featuring regional birds and stately eagles. We have dish towels with spring and summer birds. We have mugs with birds and words of scripture. We have spring and summer napkins with birds and flowers. And we have friendly bird friends to sit on your windowsill and greet you each day! Come to the Gift Shop and find a feathered friend! 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