

PARISH LIFE • WEEK OF AUGUST 30, 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 – RECTOR'S FORUM | MEADE ROOM | 9:00 A.M.

Come learn about how we are doing and where we are going this fall and spring, and see how you might get involved with our beloved community in Christ.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

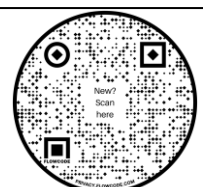
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
9:00 a.m. Lazarus Food Pantry – Meade Room
7:00 p.m. LGBTQ+ Theology & Faith – Library
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

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.

Tenth Annual Rector's Address | Today

9:00 a.m. | Meade Room

Every year, as the summer comes to a close, Noelle offers the parish a snapshot of the joys and challenges for the program year ahead. Come learn about how we are doing and where we are going this fall and spring, and see how you might get involved with our beloved community in Christ.

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

Democracy Circle | September 20 | 11:30 a.m. | Teen Ctr

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. 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. 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 p.m. and 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, please contact Jason at jabel@ccalex.org

Christ Church Choir

The Christ Church Choir, for high schoolers and adults, rehearses each week from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. during the program year. The first Sunday the choir will sing is 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.

Celebrating Ten Years | November 15

Do you remember that September Sunday just before the sermon when our new rector hiked up the steps to the wineglass pulpit, opened her arms, turned in a little circle, and simply announced, "I'm here." The church exploded in applause. That was 10 years ago. Now it's time to celebrate a decade of Rev. Noelle's rich ministry among us. On Sunday, November 15, we'll mark Noelle's anniversary with a day of celebration. Members of her Search Committee and of the 2026 Vestry have lots of ideas up their sleeves, and almost all of them need your input - and soon. What has Noelle meant to you and the parish? Is there a Noelle story, sermon, phrase, or theme that comes to mind? What new ideas, events, and additions did she bring? Co-chairs Sandra Thomson and Eileen Adenan are collecting it all. See them at church today or email Sandra, smbthomson@gmail.com, or Eileen, eileen42@live.com. You can also contact Carol Donlan at ckdonlan2@gmail.com or 703-941-0112.

FAITH FORMATION

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

A Liturgy of Remembrance for September 11, 2001 September 11 | 7:30 p.m.

The violent events of September 11th, 2001, left a scar on the hearts and minds of every American, especially those closely tied to the Pentagon, the World Trade Center, and the hijacked planes. On the 25th anniversary of that terrible day, we will come together to remember the people we lost and to pray for our own continued healing as individuals and as a nation. All are welcome to this service of prayer and music as we remember what we've lost and hope for a brighter future.

Covenant Class | Wednesdays | 7:00 p.m.

Covenant Class is a 10-week introduction for those who want to know more about being an Episcopalian & Christ Church - whether newcomers to the church or life-long Episcopalians - and to get better acquainted with the clergy, staff, parish

leaders, and other newcomers. Classes begin September 16. Contact Jessica Williams at jessicavilliams@gmail.com.

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. EfM meets in the Teen Center on Wednesday evenings. Contact EfM mentors Nancy and Ken Knapp at nvknapp@aol.com for additional information.

Contemplative Prayer Group | Sundays | St. Peter Room

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. 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. We 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.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

For information, contact

Katherine Carpenter-Rains at kcarpenterrains@ccalex.org

Back to School Blessing

Today, we will have a special back to school blessing at the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services for all students, faculty, and staff returning to school this fall. Custom backpack tags will be available for children and adults to take home.

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

OUTREACH & MISSION

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

AUGUST: CANNED FRUIT AND CANNED FISH

Thanks to your donations, the Lazarus Food Pantry is positively overflowing with pasta and pasta sauce! Thank you! Your donations allow us to give generously to pantry guests. This week, please consider helping us restock the pantry with some other essentials: canned fish (all types), canned fruit, old fashioned oatmeal, and grits. 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.

Travel Size Toiletries Needed

Many of the people who come to us for emergency food bags also request toiletries. We are collecting unopened travel-sized toiletries including body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, conditioner, and lotion to accompany our emergency food bags as requested. Or, purchase online here: bit.ly/4gB3GEC

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.

BLESSINGS ON...

- The parishioners who shopped, cooked and served dinner at the Carpenter's Shelter, Lenny and Milly Marsico, Bill Chavan, Anne Shackleton, Cornelia Horner, Van Ellet, Paul, and Kris Lebras.
- Christianne Witten, Jane Collins and Alexandria Women for Good for donating gift cards to families impacted by immigration and ICE in Alexandria.
- Andrea and John McNicolas for gleaning at the Old Town Farmer's Market for our Lazarus Food Pantry.

PRAYER LIST

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE GIVEN

In memory of Wilmer and Regina Hepner

WE PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED

Stanley Walker II, Jeanne Witt, Dolly Parton, Sam Keller, Kevin Vellek

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE BIRTH OF

Stella Grace Plotkin, granddaughter of Susan & Paul Cambon

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, Mary Ellen Freesland, Karlyn Stanley, Raymond Ellis, Brenda Hernandez, Greg Peterson, Christine Jones, Bob Bark, Unalane Ablondi, Margaret Welch, Sherley Keith, Susan Meslang, Mike Altieri, Rich & Vicki, John Kennedy, Elena Pokalova, Gene Rossi, Browne Mercer

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 a backpack buddy just in time for the new school year! We have squishy animal friends and race cars. We have teddy bears and poodles. We have puppy friends and turtle friends. Come pick one for you and one to give a friend! We hope you have a wonderful school year.

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