Parish Life • Week of November 8, 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 –

Youth Preachers

We are thrilled to welcome Linden York-Simmons and Evie McCombs, two of our High School seniors, to the pulpit today.

Forum | 9:00 a.m. | Meade Room

Parishioner Kris Amundson will talk about her new book that explores the role of grandparents in depth. *The Grandparent Effect.*

This Week at Christ Church

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

Sunday, November 8
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Sunday Forum – Meade Room
9:00 a.m. Lectionary Study – Library
9:10 a.m. Contemplative Prayer – St. Peter's Room
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour – Meade Room
11:30 a.m. Daughters of the King – Library
11:30 a.m. Newcomers Welcome – McMurray Cmns
11:30 a.m. Knit & Crochet – Teen Center
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, November 9
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
(*www.facebook.com/ChristChurchAlexandria*)

Tuesday, November 10
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

Wednesday, November 11 – Veterans' Day
Offices Closed
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
9:00 p.m. Compline – Facebook Live

Thursday, November 12
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live
9:00 a.m. Lazarus Food Pantry – Meade Room
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Friday, November 13
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – Facebook Live

Saturday, November 14
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
www.HistoricChristChurch.org

General Announcements

Send submissions of 50 words or less to ParishLife@ccalex.org.

Are you a part of our historic campaign yet?
Our Hope & Home for Years to Come is a landmark moment for Christ Church. This parish's generous commitments of almost $5,890,000 to date are a testament of faith in the campaign's projects and ministries. Thank you to everyone who has made a commitment.
We do not want to deprive anyone the blessing of participating in something so significant in the life of this parish. Your expression of confidence and support through a financial commitment is essential to the campaign's success.
Join us in ensuring Christ Church remains a beacon of God's unbounded love and welcome for all people.
Make your commitment today: *bit.ly/ourhopeandhome*

Newcomers' Reception | Today | 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 in McMurray Commons 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* with questions.

Monday Concert Series | November 9 | 12:15 p.m.
November's concert is *American Landscapes: A Musical Celebration at 250* featuring music by Gershwin, Copland, and Beach, with Ryo Usami, violin & Yi-Chen Feng, piano. There is no admission for these concerts, though we hope audience members will support the series with a goodwill donation of any amount (suggested amount: $10). These 45-minute programs include solo performers and chamber musicians based in the DC area. The full schedule is here: *www.historicchristchurch.org/music*.

Celebrate Noelle's 10th Anniversary | November 15
We will premiere a new hymn commissioned by Christ Church to honor The Rev. Noelle York-Simmons' 10th anniversary as our rector. Both the text and the music for this hymn were written specifically for this occasion. The preeminent hymn writer, Carl P. Daw, Jr. wrote the words with the music by our friend and former parishioner, The Rev. Dr. William Bradley Roberts. Come celebrate in the Auditorium on November 15 after 10:00 a.m. service. Many hands make light work! If you would like to contribute to the festivities, we have several different opportunities available. Sign up to volunteer: *bit.ly/47SSEXH*!

Stewards of the Dirt | November 21
Stewards of the Dirt will hold a work session on Saturday, November 21 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the churchyard. If you would like to join us preparing our gardens for the coming winter, please contact Libby Witt at *eawitt@hotmail.com*. We look forward to seeing you!

Democracy Circle | November 22 |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

Wreaths Across America
For those who may wish to donate wreaths or participate in the laying of wreaths on a veteran's grave in the Alexandria National Cemetery (1450 Wilkes Street) on December 19 at 9:30 a.m., please visit *www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/V*AANCA to sponsor one or more $17 wreaths. For each sponsored wreath, $5 is donated toward additional, free wreaths. Deadline is December 2. Contact Glen Hewitt at *Hewittglen@gmail.com* for details or questions.

Faith Formation

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

Today | 9:00 a.m. | Meade Room
Kris Amundson, *The Grandparent Effect* book discussion
It's hard to be, or to raise, a child these days. Grandparents are uniquely positioned to provide support. Christ Church member Kris Amundson will talk about her new book that explores the role of grandparents in depth. *The Grandparent Effect: Helping Children Thrive Through Love, Support, and Connections*, highlights research and stories about that critical relationship. The conversation will include examples of programs that support the grandparent/grandchild bond, stories about how grandparents are making a difference, and outlines some of the latest research in kids' physical and emotional development.

Rev. Kim Jackson, Preacher/ Teacher
November 15 | 9:00 a.m. | Meade Room
Our Preacher/Teacher Series returns with The Rev. Kim Jackson, an Episcopal priest and state senator from Georgia. Rev. Kim will offer the sermon at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services, and give the Adult Formation presentation at 9:00 a.m. This series is made possible through a generous donation from the family and friends of Martha Wilcox.

Women's Lenten Retreat | March 5-7 | Richmond
Save the date! The women of the parish are invited to a weekend away at beautiful Roslyn Retreat Center. We will rest and enjoy each other's company while The Rev. Penny Nash leads us through a program designed to help us remember how to find Jesus in our lives even amidst negativity and chaos. Registration will open in January.

Contemplative Prayer Group | Sundays | St. Peter Room
Our 20 minute 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. All are welcome to step away from the busyness of daily life and enter into a time of guided, silent, reflective prayer. The St. Peter room (#215) is 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

Thanksgiving Staples

Thank you for your generous donations of food to the Lazarus pantry! This month, we ask that you consider supporting the Thanksgiving Ministry, which serves our pantry guests as well as many other community members. See below for information on how you can give. You can leave items in the white wooden donations box in the Parish Hall or order online *https://amzn.to/40g4CaF*. Christ Church ATTN: Outreach at 118 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Thanksgiving Ministry at Christ Church
Giving to our neighbors at Thanksgiving is a Christ Church tradition. Food insecurity in Alexandria continues to rise, and this year we will help 265 families in need. Each family will receive a Thanksgiving bag stocked with everything but the turkey along with a $50 grocery gift card that will enable them to purchase the main dish of their choice along with any foods specific to their family tradition. Stop by the table in the churchyard to get a Trader Joe's bag with shopping list, order from our Amazon wishlist: *amzn.to/4za4Nn7* or donate here: *bit.ly/ThanksgivingDonations2026*. Volunteer to help with our Thanksgiving market November 19 - 21 by signing up here *bit.ly/thanksgivingmarket2026* or contact Amy Bacon at *amybacon4@icloud.com* to learn more.

Thursday Delivery Help Needed
Have an hour or so on a Thursday morning to help a homebound neighbor? The Lazarus Food Pantry delivers groceries to several pantry guests who cannot come in person. Deliveries are picked up after the pantry around 10:00 a.m. 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.

Visit Mengo Hospital with Christ Church
January 11-17, 2027
For over 30 years, Christ Church has been in mission partnership with Mengo Hospital in Kampala Uganda. The most recent and longest-running partnership project is the HIV/AIDS clinic and associated pharmacy. Join Rev Noelle and Mengo Committee leader Witney Schniedman on a trip to Uganda to visit our friends at Mengo, to learn more about our partnership projects and their trials and celebrations. Contact Rev. Noelle at *rector@ccalex.org* for more information.

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 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, toothbrushes, shampoo, conditioner, and lotion. Or purchase online here: *bit.ly/4gB3GEC*

Gleaning at the Old Town Farmer's Market – Season Extended!
Come join us for the Gleaning ministry on Saturdays at noon (through November 28), 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*.

Children, Youth & Family

For information, contact Katherine Carpenter-Rains at kcarpenterrains@ccalex.org

Family and Friendsgiving | November 15 | 6:00 p.m.
McMurray Commons
Please join us for a potluck style Friendsgiving! Please contact Katherine to RSVP and sign up!

Children and Youth Ministries Registration
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 *bit.ly/3RgDSVF* or scanning the QR code on the Worship Cart.

Blessings on...

- Those from Christ Church and Old Town Village and Condos for their participation in the semi-annual cleanup of the Christ Church, Frederick Douglass, and Methodist Protestant cemeteries on October 24.

Prayer List

The Chancel Flowers are Given

In memory of Bruce Denslow

In honor of Helen and Bridget Chadbourn, Louise Chadbourn, Charlotte Frances Clarke, and Betsy *Clarke*

We Pray for the Departed

Pamela Garvie, Greg Cunningham, Matthew Chapelli

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, Mary Ellen Freesland, Wynne Beers, Mary Beth Dority, the Hostetler and Snyder families, Anna Kosinska, Robert Dunn, Jane Brewster, Mary Jane Penzo, Monique Rizer, Elena Pokalova, Sasha Stelmakh and the Stelmakh family, Bob Bark, Rosanne Bennett, Nancy Stout, Diana Fisher, Tom Alford, Jane Baird, Anne Reed

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 by the Gift Shop for Thanksgiving cards and napkins, and we now have the chocolate peanuts available! We have several copies of Kris Amundson's book *The Grandparent Effect* and several children's books about fall and Thanksgiving. Come and see us 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
Katherine Carpenter-Rains
Liz Denson, Melanie Gray
Lia Sanchez, Julie Simonton

Facilities

Pouyan Meghdadian
Glen Curry, Kevin Lawyer