

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CFG Meet and Greet today after worship. If you have been thinking about joining a Covenant Fellowship Group (CFG) at APC, the fall is a great time to join! After worship today, there will be an opportunity to meet CFG leaders and ask any questions that you might have. If you would like to know more about leading or hosting a CFG, please contact Pastor Josh Diack at josh.diack@alexandriapres.org. **There will also be a 4-week CFG Leadership Training for anyone interested in leading a CFG.** The training will run from September 12-October 3 after worship in Room 205. The class is a prerequisite for anyone who would like to begin a CFG.

The Adult Choir resumes on September 8, rehearsing on Wednesday evenings and singing in worship on Sunday mornings. If you have not sung with us before, this will be a fine time to start! More details to come, but you may direct general questions to Vell Rives, vellrives@gmail.com.

The Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study begins meeting in person either on the front porch at church or in the Chapel (depending on weather) on September 9, from 9:45am-11:30am. We will be studying Ephesians, using Heather Holleman's book "Included in Christ: Living a New Story From Ephesians". Childcare is provided. All are welcome! Please sign up by contacting Lynn Streett at lynn.streett79@gmail.com. **It's very important for you to sign up ASAP if you will be using childcare, in order to help us gauge our nursery needs.**

The Thursday Evening Ladies Bible Study begins meeting on September 9 on Zoom from 8-9:15pm. We will be studying Ephesians, using Heather Holleman's book "Included in Christ: Living a New Story From Ephesians". Please contact Lynn Streett at lynn.streett79@gmail.com to sign up and to receive the Zoom link. Please join us! All are welcome!

Friday morning women's Bible study begins meeting every other week in person either on the front porch at church or in the Chapel (depending on weather) on September 10 from 9:45 –11:30am. We will study Hebrews using study questions written by Nancy Guthrie. This study does not provide childcare, however we can reserve a room for homeschoolers. Please contact Ruth Fisher ruth.fisher@hotmail.com to let her know you are coming and if there is a need for the homeschooling room.

Newcomers' Fellowship Dinner on Saturday, September 11, 6-8pm. If you've been attending APC for one week or several months, Christian and Christine Brittle invite you to their home, 2707 2nd St S, Arlington, VA 22204, for food and fellowship. The dinner and fellowship will be outdoors. You'll have a chance to meet church officers and staff, ask questions and learn more about the ministry God is building here. Childcare is provided. Please RSVP to Katie Coombs at katie.coombs@alexandriapres.org and indicate if you will need childcare and the number and ages of your children.

APC Fall Kick-Off: Hot Dog and Ice Cream Social, Sunday September 12 from 4:30-6pm. We are excited to kick-off fall as an APC family with a hot dog and ice cream social! Hot dogs will be provided and an ice cream truck will be visiting the APC parking lot to provide sweet treats. Join us from 4:30-6pm out on the front lawn for a time of fellowship and fun. **Volunteers are needed** for set-up, food prep, cooking, serving and clean-up. Contact Matt Coombs at matthew.coombs@alexandriapres.org or Vicki Wolfe at vicki.wolfe@alexandriapres.org for more details and to sign up.

Inquirer's Class September 24-25. If you are interested in membership or in gaining a deeper understanding of APC, you should attend this class. You will receive an introduction to Christianity, the PCA, and the specific vision/mission and philosophy of ministry at APC. Membership is open to all who profess faith in Christ and believe the basic teachings of the Christian faith. Attending the class does not obligate you to join the church. The Friday night session is from 6:30-9pm starting with a dinner, and the Saturday session is from 9am-3pm. Please RSVP to Katie Coombs at katie.coombs@alexandriapres.org if you wish to attend, and indicate if you have childcare needs.

CORPORATE PRAYER IN 2021

Every Sunday, 8am—Chapel or via Zoom. Praying for our Worship Service.

Second Saturday of the month, 9am—Zoom. Praying with our Elders for our church.

Third Saturday of the month, 11am—Zoom. Praying with the Prayer Committee.

Fourth Sunday of the month, 5pm—Zoom. Praying with our church community.

Intercessory Prayer Team. Contact Pastor Tom Holliday for details.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

You are invited to join the children's ministry in sharing the Gospel, teaching Bible truths and discipleship of our children! Will you join our teams of Nursery volunteers (ages 0-4yrs), Sunday school teachers (ages 2yrs-5th grade) and Explorer's leaders (K-5th grade)? Please contact Erin Furgerson, Director of Children's Ministries to get more information about each opportunity. erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org.

APC is hiring nursery workers for Sunday evening activities starting in September. These are paid positions for adults or teens. If you are interested, or someone you may know, please contact Erin Furgerson, Director of Children's Ministries, erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org.

CHILDREN AND TEENS

Nursery registration is required and offered up to age 4. We have a limited capacity based on how many volunteers we have. Please register at the link found in the APC email. Registration is open Wednesday through Friday each week.

Children's Church Room 124, 2nd and 4th Sundays during the sermon for children ages 5-7

Sunday school | 10:30-11:30am | Beginning September 12

Children	Infants: ages 0-1 in Bunnies Room; Ages 2-3 in Tigers Room; Age 4 in Elephants Room; Grades K-1 in Lions Room; Grades 2-3 boys in the Pipe room; Grades 4-5 boys in Room 305; Grades 2-5 girls in Room 306
Teens	Chapel

Sunday evening | 5-6:30pm | Beginning September 19

Explorers	<i>Children age 5-5th grade, Outside as weather permits and Fellowship Hall.</i> We welcome children to experience gospel living and discipleship as they build relationships with one another and with the leaders of their small groups.
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PROTAS	<i>Teens 6th-12th grade</i> Connect each week in community with your peers — the schedule includes games, worship, small group discussions, a short devotion at a teen level, and more. Discipleship groups are also meeting during the week. Contact: Adam LeRoy at adam.leroy@alexandriapres.org .
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ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday school | 10:30-11:30am

Praying the Psalms, Led by Elder Marc Allen, Room 302/303. Begins September 12. When you pray, how do you pray? Do you pray as did David: "Be merciful to me and hear my prayer?" As the Sons of Korah did: "my soul pants for you O God?" Or as another Psalm-writer did: "Why, O Lord, do you stand far off?" However you pray, if you desire to come closer to God in your prayer life and to know Him more, then the Psalmists stand ready to guide you. By reading, studying, and praying selected Psalms, we will seek to understand better our own prayer lives, the shape a Godly prayer life takes, and the great promise of prayer God offers to us -- an intimate relationship with Him.

The Gospel of John – The Word Made Flesh, Led by Elder Aaron Renenger and Pastor Josh Diack, Room 104. Begins September 19.

Join us in our study of the Gospel of John, where we encounter Jesus as eternal God, Jesus as the incarnate Son, and Jesus as the Messiah who fulfills God's promises and brings grace upon grace. Whether one is brand new to the faith or has been a Christian for many years, the Gospel of John provides a deep and intimate portrait of our Lord and Savior, beckoning us not only to come to Jesus, but to remain in Him.

Sunday Evening | 5-6:30pm, Begins September 19.

Walking Wisely in Contentious Times, Led by Pastor Mike Powell, Chapel. The events of the past couple of years have unearthed some real challenges for the church. Racial tensions, political division, social justice and a global pandemic have made it clear that the family of God isn't as unified as we may have thought. How do we navigate these difficult and divisive times? Come join us as we seek to lay a foundation and establish a framework to begin responding in a way that endeavors to maintain unity and honor Christ.

Gospel Conversations and Prayer, Led by Elder Matthew Coombs, Room 104.

We all benefit from a good Gospel Conversation but often do not take the time to sit down and have one. We also benefit from "praying in" those conversations and the beautiful truths of God. Come explore the wonders of the Bible, come with a question you have, come willing to share a recent conversation you have had with God that might encourage others, come and have a Gospel conversation! We will finish our time praying together as we "pray in" our conversation.

unchanging
truth.
changing
lives

Alexandria Presbyterian Church is a welcoming community of believers, rejoicing in the gospel, transformed by its power, and responding with grateful hearts in service to our God and world. We long to taste the glory of God in such an astonishing way that the city of Alexandria will be drawn to the majesty and mercy of our great God. It is our desire that our worship will serve as an authentic model to our city of the possibilities for transformation of individuals, families and a city encountering the glory and grace of God.

Please, no food or drink in sanctuary. Silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.
Please see a greeter or usher for assistance.

Holy Worship Service

GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

■ **prelude** | *Becky Mason, flute; Serenity Novak, Worship Assistant*

Sinfonia from “Ich steh mit einem Fuß im Grabe”, BWV 156, *J.S. Bach*
Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy, *Arr. Rebecca Bonam*

■ **call to worship** | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*

John 17:20-23

²⁰“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word,
²¹that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be
in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given
me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³I in them and you in
me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and
loved them even as you loved me.

■ **songs of praise**

Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven’s mercy seat

*Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev’rything
And I will adore You*

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
Such a mar’lous mystery yeah

*Jennie Lee Riddle; © 2004 Gateway Create Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song
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Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand
What comes apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand

*O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death*

What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer’s blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ

Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ He lives Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

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■ **prayer of adoration**

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ **scripture reading** | *Shannon Allen*

Mark 12:28-34

The Great Commandment

²⁸And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing
that he answered them well, asked him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?”
²⁹Jesus answered, “The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.
³⁰And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all
your mind and with all your strength.’ ³¹The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as
yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” ³²And the scribe said to him,
“You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him.
³³And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength,
and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and
sacrifices.” ³⁴And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far
from the kingdom of God.” And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

■ **farewell**

■ **congregational prayer**

■ **offertory prayer** | *Deacon Jon Erickson*

■ **musical offering** | *Becky Mason, flute; Serenity Novak, piano*

My Savior’s Love, Charles H Gabriel, Arr. Brent Olstad

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ **sermon scripture reading**

Ephesians 4:1-6

Unity in the Body of Christ

¹I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to
which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with
one another in love, ³eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There
is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your
call— ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and
through all and in all.

■ **prayer for illumination**

■ **sermon** | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*

“Unity not Uniformity”

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ **song of response**

Wonderful Merciful Savior

Wonderful merciful Savior
Precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men
Oh You rescue the souls of men

*You are the One that we praise
You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for
Oh our hearts always hunger for*

Counselor Comforter Keeper
Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way
Oh we hopelessly lost the way

Almighty infinite Father
Faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne
Oh we’re falling before Your throne

*Dawn Rodgers, Eric Wyse; © 1989 Curb Dayspring Music (Admin. by Warner-Tamerlane
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■ **benediction**

■ **announcements** | *Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life and Missions*