

**Alexandria Regional Report**  
**April 11, 2019**  
**St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Ivy, Virginia**

**New Ministries & Outreach**

Christ Church: The parish is breathing new life into existing outreach programs in need of more efficiency and capacity. Mission teams have been sent to Uganda and Renk in South Sudan to maintain the mission relationship and to re-ignite the Christ Church commitment to them. Christ Church is welcoming new students into the Kids of Note program to help underserved students in high school band programs to succeed and gain college admission.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church: Associate Rector, the Rev. Joani Peacock, has developed an Alexandria Lenten Pilgrimage where people can choose to walk the Way of the Cross here in Alexandria. Emmanuel is also very active in managing a food drive in support of the ALIVE! Ministries.

Mead Episcopal Church: Mead, in conjunction with *DC Central Kitchen*, is now offering hot noon meals on Saturdays to the homeless and underprivileged of Alexandria. Guests are also being provided with personal hygiene products.

Church of the Resurrection: Resurrection is helping Trinity Church, Arlington, with its "Comfort Cases" Lenten/ Easter project to provide personal care items to children in the foster care system. Resurrection has also completed a toilet paper and dental hygiene drive in support of food pantry clients. (SNAP does not cover these item under the "food stamp" provisions.) The parish has arranged an art display called Journey to the Cross through the Eyes of Children at VTS. This display accompanies the Seminary's outdoor Stations of the Cross display which will be used for a Good Friday meditation service.

**Collaborative Efforts with Other Parishes & Denominations**

Mead Episcopal Church: Mead provides an every weekday lunch program for the homeless of Alexandria. Numerous Episcopal churches provide food and service, along with other congregations.

St. Clement Episcopal Church: St. Clement and Church of the Resurrection will be holding a joint weekday Lenten Series focused on the Way of Life, Rule of Love initiative.

St. Paul's & Christ Church: These parishes will be holding a Good Friday Noon Lenten Service.

Church of the Resurrection: Worship, formation, and fellowship space are provided by VTS, Immanuel-on-the-Hill, and St. Clement while Resurrection is in the process of demolition and construction of its new parish building and affordable housing project. The extensive food pantry

operated by Resurrection is now being run through St. James Methodist Church, First Christian Church, St. Joseph's RC Church, ALIVE!, and Hunger Free Alexandria. The Last Saturday Food Distribution program is operating out of the John Adams Elementary School in the West End of Alexandria. Resurrection's Lazarus ministry is operating from Fairlington United Methodist Church.

### **Key Projects & Events**

Grace Episcopal Church: Grace has been in the process of securing funds in the amount of \$1.3 million for upgrading the HVAC system in the church and the school. Costs will be shared by both. Bishop Ihloff will be visiting Grace for the Easter Vigil. The parish has sent a mission to East Carolina to assist in flood recovery.

St. Clement Episcopal Church: The parish has undertaken an "April Showers" umbrella drive to assist the poor of Arlington and Alexandria.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church: St. Paul's has undertaken a capital campaign to raise \$3.1 million to revamp the HVAC systems in the parish hall, office building and pre-school, and the sanctuary. Nearly all the funds have been raised. The project, called "Keep St. Paul's Cool," will begin in June and is projected to run through December, 2019.

Church of the Resurrection: On Shrove Tuesday, at 8:00 AM, Resurrection's seminarian was ordained to the priesthood. Demolition of the church building and closing on the ground lease is scheduled for April, 2019. However, the demolition permit awaits Commonwealth of Virginia certification of the historical documentation required for demolishing a building over 50 years old. The church has interviewed and done due diligence on three builders; obtained new costing; and is working with the construction manager, architects, and lawyers (for potential contracts needed to effect the ground lease). The developer was awarded a \$1.1 million grant from the Commonwealth's Affordable Housing Trust Fund and is scheduled to meet with the Alexandria City Council in late March to secure city funding to finalize the project. (City Council approved the funding proposal last March for the 2019 budget.)

### **Transitions**

Grace Episcopal Church: The Rev. David Crosby will continue to serve as interim Assistant Rector through May, 2019. Then he will assume the position of Chaplain at St. George's College, Jerusalem.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church: The Rev. Alyse Viggiano, Curate, has been elevated to the position of Assistant Rector.

### **Response to Way of Life, Rule of Love**

Christ Church: The parish is using the Way of Love Lenten Calendar to push questions and practices out on social media. This Fall, the parish will be running an adult formation program exploring the seven ways.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church: Way of Life, Rule of Love is being used in the Adult Forum Lenten Series. Also, the parish retreat at Shrine Mont in May will be based on Way of Life, Rule of Love.

St. Clement & Resurrection: Way of Life, Rule of Love will be the central portion of the Lenten Series conducted by these parishes.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church: St. Paul's introduced its own program in 2018 that is nearly a mirror image of Rule of Life, Way of Love. It's call "Pray – Worship – Learn – Serve – Give." It is felt that introducing a new and very similar program would only serve to be confusing to the congregation.

### **Mustard Seed Grants**

No parish in the Alexandria has any plans to apply for a Mustard Seed grant in 2019.

### **Next Regional Meeting**

The next meeting of the Alexandria Regional Council will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on May 22, 2019, at 7:30 PM.