



SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ALION'S SHARE

AUGUST 16, 2025





SAINT MARK'S LADIES LUNCHEON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4th

Hello all,

We have been invited by Nancy Connett to use the dining area out at Peconic Landing in Greenport where she is currently residing for our next "Ladies Luncheon" on Saturday, October 4th. This will also include a personalized tour of the facility.

At this point Nancy does not know what the cost of lunch will be, but it should be in the ballpark of what we have been currently paying.

The part of the dining area we will be using depends on the number of us who commit to going there. For that reason, I am asking for RSVP's within the next two weeks so I can give her the attendance number. At this time she can also check the cost and what arrival time is best for them.

Hoping to see you there,

Kate

Kate Gabrielsen, Parish Administrator - 631-288-2111

Kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org

PLEASE RSVP by WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20th

Compline

Contemplative prayers for
The end of the day

Saint Mark's
Episcopal Church

Thursdays at 8pm via zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5697969237>

Meeting ID: 569 796 9237

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,5697969237# US (New York)



UPCOMING LISTENING SESSIONS

Each session will include opportunities for reflection, time of sharing, and prayer. Members of the Search Committee will be present to listen deeply and respectfully to all who attend.

SESSION	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Clergy & Lay	Saturday, August 9	11 AM - 12:30 PM	St. Alban the Martyr, St. Albans
Clergy	Tuesday, August 12	7 PM - 8:30 PM	Zoom
Lay	Thursday, August 14	7 PM - 8:30 PM	Zoom
Clergy & Lay	Sunday, August 24	1 PM - 2:30 PM	Church of the Advent, Westbury
Laity	Wednesday, August 27	7 PM - 8:30 PM	Zoom
Laity	Tuesday, September 2	7 PM - 8:30 PM	Zoom
Clergy & Lay	Sunday, September 7	1 PM - 2:30 PM	St. Luke & St. Matthew, Brooklyn
Clergy	Tuesday, September 9	7 PM - 8:30 PM	Zoom
Laity	Tuesday, September 10	7 PM - 8:30 PM	Zoom



To register for the Zoom sessions, scan the QR code or visit dioceseli.org/bishopsearch.
Registration for in-person sessions is not necessary.

Language-specific sessions, for those whose first language is not English, will be announced in due course.

TIMELINE



Bishop Provenzano Announces Resignation

DECEMBER 2024

Bishop Provenzano announces his intention to retire in September 2026.

JOC Calls for Committee Applications

MARCH - APRIL 2025

JOC requested applications for Search and Transition Committees. Application review and selection.

Search and Transition Committees Active

MAY - JUNE 2025

Beginning with a shared retreat, the committees are hard at work on communication, data collection, and profile creation plans.

Diocesan Profile Published, Application Opens

FALL 2025

A snapshot of our Diocese is available for potential applicants. Nomination and application period opens.

Slate Announced, Petition Period Opens

WINTER 2026

JOC announces slate of candidates. Petition process begins.

Electing Convention

SPRING 2026

Ninth Bishop elected at a special convention.

Joint Oversight Committee Active

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2025

Members of the Standing Committee and Diocesan Council appointed to Joint Oversight Committee (JOC). JOC meets with the Presiding Bishop and Consultants for the process.

Announcement of Search and Transition Committees

MAY 2025

Committees and Co-Chairs announced to Diocese.

Listening Sessions and Survey Conducted

JULY - SEPT 2025

Your chance to make your voice heard! Survey link and listening session info will be available soon.

Application Period Ends, Discernment Begins

FALL 2025

Applicants are screened and interviewed by the search committee.

Meet and Greets with Candidates

SPRING 2026

Your opportunity to hear directly from the candidates through in-person events across the Diocese.

Ordination of Ninth Bishop

SEPTEMBER 2026

The Diocese gathers for the ordination of the Ninth Bishop of Long Island.



Fall Festival

Main Street, Westhampton Beach

Saturday - October 11th

(Rain Date Sunday - October 12th)

11:00 AM to 5:00PM



Call for Vendors

For more information email - info@whbcc.org

or visit our website at

www.westhamptonchamber.org



Summer 2025 Worship Schedule

From May 24th through September 7th

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

“Mass on the Grass”

Come as you are outdoors in the Columbarium Garden

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist

Refreshments and fellowship time follow all services.





BULLETIN INSERTS

August 17, 2025 – Pentecost 10(C) **Episcopal Youth Event and Encuentro de Jóvenes Episcopales**

The following letter from the Rev. Lester Mackenzie, chief of Mission Program, provides an update on The Episcopal Church's two largest events for young people. It was published on July 25, 2025.

May grace and peace be with you during these warm summer days. After listening carefully and discerning with Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, our leadership team, and many of you across the church, and reading this report (<https://iam.ec/EYEassessment>) on EYE (Episcopal Youth Event) from 2021, I write with a full heart and deep hope for the future of our youth gatherings. We are all asking the same questions; and after much prayer and conversation, I want to share where we feel called to go next.

As Bishop Sean has said, “We will be a strong, adaptive church that communicates and embodies the depth of Christian spirituality and works toward The Episcopal Church’s vision of God’s kingdom by supporting ministry on the ground in dioceses.” This vision guides these plans.

EJE 2026 – A Celebration in Iglesia Episcopal en Colombia

Encuentro de Jóvenes Episcopales (EJE) will meet July 13–16, 2026, in Medellín, Colombia. This gathering will give Province IX a beautiful chance to celebrate faith, culture, and the gifts our young people bring. Our Mission Program team will work closely with Province IX leaders to bring this to life.

Looking Ahead to EYE 2028

After EJE 2026, we will pause to pray and reflect on what Episcopal Youth Event should look like in 2028. This space will help us hear what our communities most need. Some have wondered if EYE could happen alongside General Convention. After looking at that carefully, we decided combining them would stretch our volunteers too thin and make it harder to honor the unique spirit of both events. We will preserve the essence of each gathering and fully support the Official Youth Presence at General Convention.

Regional Gatherings

During late 2026 and 2027, we will invite dioceses, regions, and provinces to host smaller, more local gatherings where we can learn, connect, and try new ideas together.

After EJE 2026, we will gather young people, mentors, and leaders—especially those from communities of color—to help us imagine what comes next. You can expect to hear more about the timeline and opportunities to participate by fall 2026. We will move forward with purpose and care.

As I sit with all of this, I keep thinking about Esther and her moment of purpose. Maybe you are here “for such a time as this.” We must trust that good will grow from this work, even if we can’t see it all yet. I ask for your prayers and your partnership. Here’s how you can join us:

- Lift up young leaders in your communities.
- Share this vision with others who care about youth ministry.
- Walk alongside us as we move through this transition.
- Pray for our youth, their families, and the adult mentors who walk alongside them.
-

Thank you for everything you do to keep the holy fire alive in our young people. Your dedication makes all the difference. With deep gratitude,

The Rev. Lester V. Mackenzie, AHC (Associate of the Holy Cross)
Chief of Mission Program, Presiding Bishop’s Office

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The
36th
Annual

GAZEBO CONCERT SERIES

Summer 2025

All Concerts are on
Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 PM

at WHB Village Green, Corner of Main St. & Mill Rd.

Rain dates are the Thursday following the originally scheduled date, same time & location

- July 2 North Shore Pops
- July 9 Strawberry Fields: *Tribute to the Beatles* featuring
former members of Broadway's Beatlemania
- July 16 The Band Noiz: *Best of Rock, R & B And Soul*
- July 23 The Sound Symphony: *With Soprano Christine Cornell*
- July 30 Cold Spring Harbor: *A Billy Joel Tribute*
- August 6 Dr. K's Motown Revue
- August 13 The Chiclettes: *A Tribute To Pop Divas
Through The Decades*
- August 20 The Dedications: *50'S & 60'S Rock And Roll & Doo-Wop*
Special Concert Contributor St. Mark's Episcopal Church of Westhampton
- August 27 Sir Elton: *Elton John Tribute*
- September 3 Fast Lane: *Eagles Tribute Band*

The Gazebo Concerts are made possible with the generous support of:

The County of Suffolk • The Town of Southampton
The Kiwanis Club of Greater Westhampton • The Rotary Club of Westhampton
Raffles Generously Donated By Our Community Partners:
Brunetti Pizza • Daphne's • Ivy on Main • Margarita Grille
Salt & Loft • Seven Beach Lane • Sushi by Bob

Thank you to the Village of Westhampton Beach for the use of The Village Green



Fall Community Yoga Classes

Join yoga instructor Samantha Heckert in an 8 week yoga series designed to stretch, strengthen, and invigorate your body. Appropriate for beginners and longtime practitioners alike, the goal is to find confidence and ease in your individual practice. You will learn to work with any injuries or sensitivities you may have, go at a pace that feels right for you, and find peace and appreciation for what your body can do.

**Fridays, September 26th - November 21st
(excluding October 31st)**

10:00 am

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church

\$15 Single Class

or

\$100 Full Eight Week Series

Payable by Cash or Check day of class or Venmo @Samantha-Heckert-2 to pay in advance.

Email Sheckertyoga@gmail.com with any questions.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 7 Pentecost (Proper 12C) 9:30am Holy Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour	28 <i>[Johann Sebastian Bach, Composer, 1750]</i> Parish Office Closed	29 <i>Mary and Martha of Bethany</i>	30 7:30 Alateen in the Parish Hall <i>William Wilberforce, Social Reformer, 1833</i> 7:30pm Alanon	31 <i>Ignatius of Loyola, Priest and Spiritual Writer, 1556</i> 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 7:30pm Flute Choir Rehearsal	1 <i>Joseph of Arimathea</i> 10:00am Yoga	2 12:30am Ladies Luncheon 5:00pm Mass on the Grass with Prayers for Healing & Anointing
3 8 Pentecost (Proper 13C) 9:30am Holy Eucharist with Anointing & Prayers for Healing 10:30am Coffee Hour	4 Parish Office Closed	5 12:00pm WHB Garden Club	6 7:30 Alateen in the Parish Hall The Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ 7:30pm Alanon 7:30pm Bishop's Search Listening Session via Zoom	7 <i>John Mason Neale, Priest and Hymnographer, 1866</i> 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	8 <i>Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221</i> Last Day of BB Summer Camp 10:00am Yoga	9 <i>Edith Stein (Teresa Benedicta of the Cross), Philosopher, Monastic, and Martyr, 1942</i> 2:00pm WHB Flute & Clarinet Academy Recital 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
10 9 Pentecost (Proper 14C) 9:30am Holy Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour	11 <i>Clare of Assisi, Monastic, 1253</i> Parish Office Closed	12 <i>Florence Nightingale, Nurse, 1910</i>	13 7:30 Alateen in the Parish Hall <i>Jeremy Taylor, Bishop and Theologian, 1667</i> 7:30pm Alanon	14 <i>Jonathan Myrick Daniels, Martyr, 1965</i> 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	15 Saint Mary, the Virgin 10:00am Yoga	16 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
17 10 Pentecost (Proper 15C) 9:30am Holy Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour	18 <i>Artemisia Bowden, 1969</i> Parish Office Closed	19 6:30pm Vestry Meeting	20 7:30 Alateen in the Parish Hall <i>Bernard of Clairvaux, Monastic and Theologian, 1153</i> 7:30pm Alanon	21 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 8:00pm Compline Zoom	22 10:00am Yoga	23 <i>Martin de Porres, 1639, Rosa de Lima, 1617, and Toribio de Mogrovejo, 1606, Witnesses to the Faith in South America</i> 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
24 11 Pentecost (Proper 16C) Saint Bartholomew the Apostle 9:30am Holy Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour	25 <i>Louis, King, 1270</i> Parish Office Closed	26	27 7:30 Alateen in the Parish Hall <i>Thomas Gallaudet and Henry Winter Syle, Priests, 1902 and 1890 or [Simeon Bachos the Ethiopian Eunuch]</i> 7:30pm Alanon	28 <i>Augustine of Hippo, Bishop and Theologian, 430</i> 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 8:00pm Compline Zoom	29 <i>The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist</i> 10:00am Yoga	30 <i>Margaret Ward, Margaret Clitherow, and Anne Line, Martyrs, 1588, 1586, and 1601, and Charles Grafton, Bishop and Ecumenist, 1912</i> 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
31 12 Pentecost (Proper 17C) 9:30am Holy Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour	1 <i>David Pendleton Oakerhater, Deacon, 1931</i> Labor Day Parish Office Closed	2 Parish Office Closed <i>The Martyrs of New Guinea, 1942</i>	3 <i>[Phoebe, Deacon]</i> 7:30 Alateen in the Parish Hall 7:30pm Alanon	4 <i>Paul Jones, Bishop, 1941</i> 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 8:00pm Compline Zoom	5 <i>[Katharina Zell, Church Reformer and Writer, 1562]</i> 10:00am Yoga	6 <i>Hannah More, Religious Writer and Philanthropist, 1833</i> Parish Hall Event 9:00am Men's Breakfast 5:00pm Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing and Anointing

AQION'S SHARE

The Weekly Newsletter of
Saint Mark's Church
A Parish in the Episcopal
Diocese of Long Island

ST. MARK'S CHURCH

40 Main Street
P.O. Box 887
Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

Phone: 631.288.2111

E-Mail:

kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org

Website: www.stmarkswhb.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Friday
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

WEEKEND SERVICES

Sat. 5:00 p.m.—Holy Eucharist
Sun. 9:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist
(Livestreamed)

THURSDAY SERVICES

11:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist with
Prayers for Healing



SCAN ME

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano
Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. GERALYN WOLF
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Allotey
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. William Franklin
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rev. Christopher D. Jubinski
Rector

Email:

chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org

Cell: 410.253.3664



THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, 08/18	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday, 08/19	6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting via zoom
Wednesday, 08/20	7:30 p.m. Alanon Meeting - Atwater Room 7:30 p.m. Ala-teen Meeting – Parish Hall
Thursday, 08/21	10:00 a.m. Bible Study – Atwater Room 11:00 a.m. Mid-Week Healing Service – Fr. Chris' Office 12:30 p.m. The Threshold Singers – Atwater Room
Friday, 08/22	10:00 a.m. Yoga in the Parish Hall
Saturday, 08/23	5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the Columbarium
Sunday, 08/24	9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Church Coffee Hour in the Atwater Room

SATURDAY 5:00 p.m. Participants

LEM/Lector	John Kern
Usher	Steve Turner
Altar Guild	Catharine Nobiletti Victoria Garcia

SUNDAY 9:30 a.m. Participants

LEM	Carol Fitton
Lector	Bill Glover
Ushers	Paul Okula, Larry Andria
Altar Guild	Catharine Nobiletti Victoria Garcia
Coffee Hour	Yolande Hadlock Norma-Jeanne Okula

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Peter Williams	08/03
C.J. Jubinski,	08/08
Virginia Gilmore	08/09
Catharine Nobiletti	08/10
Lee Wadelton	08/10
Tom Hadlock	08/14
Allison Christensen	08/17
Joyce Hale	08/18
Kent Wolgemuth	08/18
Matthew Kern	08/20
Hunter Fritz	08/20
Kurt Hofmann	08/23
Colbie Canty	08/25
Marcia Palmer	08/27
Thomas Simson	08/28
Carin Murry-Reece	08/29

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Jeanine Graviano & Kelly Pickering	08/01
Tim & Janet Jurgielewicz	08/07
Steven and Margaret DeCaro	08/15
John & Elizabeth Umina	08/17
Sam & Eleanor Williamson	08/19
Thomas & Lois Simson	08/22
Michael & Sundry Schermeyer	08/22
Fr. Chris & Carol Jubinski	08/24
Kieran and Hannah Quinn	08/26

Services	In Person	On-Line
08/09 5:00 p.m.	26	
08/10 9:30 a.m	39	No livestream last week
TOTAL	65	

07/09 – Flute & Clarinet Recital	175
07/14 – Bible Study	10

Please Pray for Your Parish Every Day at 12:00 Noon. And, remember the People of the Middle East, Armenia, Ukraine, Haiti, Syria, and the United States of America too!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE SURVEY – Please take a few minutes to answer the worship schedule survey that was sent via email or inserted in today's bulletin.

YOGA CONTINUES during August/September/October (Fridays, 10 am in the Parish Hall). Contact Samantha Heckert at 631-365-1836 for additional information.

WEEKLY COMPLINE ON THURSDAYS – I invite you to come together in the spirit of prayer each Thursday evening at 8:00 p.m. for Compline starting this Thursday, August 21st. This service takes about 10 minutes to pray and is perfect way to unwind for the evening. The zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5697969237>
Meeting ID: 569 796 9237 or via telephone: +16468769923,,5697969237# US (New York)

PASTORAL CARE – Please notify me if you are sick or in the hospital so that I can pray for you and visit to bring you Holy Communion. Some people hesitate to call me because they think they are inconveniencing me. Not true! I am here for you and your spiritual care. My cell is 410.253.3664 – Chris +

INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY – Please download this great tool on your apple or android device and have up to the minute access of our parish directory.

ALTAR FLOWERS – If you would like to dedicate flowers for the Altar please contact Laura Bott at 631-722-4749 or email her at Laura.bott17@gmail.com. In September there is one vase available on the 7th, 14th, and 21st. and two on the 28th. Each vase is \$40. Please remember to contact Laura if you sign up in the book.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday, September 7 at 8 & 10 a.m. Fr. Chris to preach at Church of the Atonement

We ask that you remember those for whom prayers are requested:

Dick Anderson (Req. by Edie Hofmann), **Kurt Andon** (Req. by Sundy Schermeyer), **Ridgie Barnett** (Parishioner), **Amanda Cacoperdo** (Req. by Tim Feil), **Deana Chiusano** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Julia Cloppse** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Abby Connett** (Req. by Nancy Connett), **Victoria DiRocco** (Fr. Chris & Carol's daughter), **Owen Foster** (Diane & John Stewart's grandson), **Nancy Fraser** (Req. by Ki Nobiletti), **Fred Rees Garcia** (son of Victoria Garcia), **Jason Gordon** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Roberta Good** (Diane Stewart's Sister), **Max Gorman** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Elaine Hanes** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Barbara Ireton** (Req. by Carol Smith), **Debra Wolgemuth Jarashow**, (Req. by Elizabeth Wolgemuth), **Gretchen & Jim Jubinski** (Fr. Chris' Parents), **Karen** (Req. by Catharine Nobiletti), **Cole LoRusso** (Marj Kulesa's Nephew), **Bob Love** (Req. by Fr. Chris), **John & Anita Martinelli** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Colette Maseroni**, (Kate Gabrielsen's niece), **Earl Meyers** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Jock McLean** (Parishioner), **Sean McLean** (Req. by Jock McLean), **Carol Marin**, (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Austin Mooney**, (Laura Bott's brother), **Irene Monahan**, (req. by Laura Bott), **Paul Oele** (Parishioner), **Jesse O'Neil** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Cassie Panzarino** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Michele Parks** (Req. by Marjorie Kulesa), **Rosemary Rees**, (Victoria Garcia's sister), **Kenneth Reeves** (husband of Louise Reeves), **Martin Sarocky**, (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Sarah Witters** (Req. by Victoria Garcia.), **George Degener** (Req. by Fr. Chris), **Tom Simson** (Parishioner), **Allison Skinner** (Parishioner), **Louise Reeves** (Parishioner)

If there are any names that can be removed, kindly contact Kate in the church office 631-288-2111.

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces: Amanda E. Degener, Kyle M. Degener, George L. Degener, Jesse Fritz, Nicholas LoRusso, Joshua Rudd, Rob Scribner, James Mercready and Midshipman 4th Class Luke Williamson.



Church of the Atonement

17 Quogue Street
Quogue, New York 11959

We will be open for our
2025 summer season
from June 29 to September 7.

Services at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

In person and via Zoom.

June 29	The Rev. Dr. Robert S. Dannals (8 am) The Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano (10 am)
July 6, 13, 20	The Rev. Dr. Robert S. Dannals
July 27, Aug 3, 10	The Rev. Zachary R. Thompson
Aug. 17, 24	The Rev. Cn. Michael N. Ambler, Jr.
August 31	The Rt. Rev. Mark D.W. Edington
Sept. 7	The Very Rev. Christopher D. Jubinski

What Is Christian Nationalism?

The Complete Guide

BY SCOTT A. LEADINGHAM

Mar. 4, 2024



Freedom of religion is the first of five freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment. It means the government can't require or favor any one religion, and it protects the right to live by your own religious beliefs or none at all.

Similarly, though the phrase “separation of church and state” is not included in the U.S. Constitution, the idea is embedded in our legal system: The government is run by the people and its elected representatives, not any church.

How does that square with “Christian nationalism,” a phrase seen and heard often in recent years? How does the idea of a religion at the center of national decision-making sit with the First Amendment? What is Christian nationalism, exactly?

We answer those questions, and more, here.

What is Christian nationalism?

There is no clean and tidy definition of Christian nationalism since it is not a formal religious denomination or sect with a stated doctrine of beliefs; nor is there any single person or council leading Christian nationalism that oversees followers.

Generally, religious scholars, sociologists and others who study Christian nationalism describe it as a belief that the United States is a country defined by Christianity. In practice, this means:

- The government should take steps to keep the country's Christian roots and identity intact.
- The government should advocate Christian values and pass laws and enact policies that reflect those values.
- The separation of church and state is not a formal law that should be followed.
- God's plan is for the U.S. to be a successful nation based in Christian ideals.

Sociologists Andrew Whitehead and Samuel Perry used survey data of people responding to questions around those prompts and described people more accepting of them as supportive of Christian nationalism. Their work defines it as being more about political outcomes than a specific belief in religion and spirituality.

The term Christian nationalism is often used to describe another person's political and religious beliefs rather than as a label someone uses for themselves.

Writing in *Christianity Today*, Georgetown University scholar Paul D. Miller outlined it this way: "The term 'Christian nationalism,' is relatively new, and its advocates generally do not use it of themselves, but it accurately describes American nationalists who believe American identity is inextricable from Christianity."

Political scientist Eric L. McDaniel of the University of Texas at Austin describes Christian nationalism as going beyond religious belief and patriotism and into "a worldview that guides how people believe the nation should be structured and who belongs there."

RELATED: [Is America a Christian Nation?](#)

Does Christian nationalism violate the First Amendment?

Whether Christian nationalism violates the First Amendment is a tricky question.

The First Amendment protects people's deepest beliefs and protects petitioning for laws and policies that one believes in. Believing in Christian nationalism doesn't violate the First Amendment.

But the First Amendment also prevents government from establishing a national religion. Passing a law based on Christian nationalism may or may not violate the First Amendment. Courts decide whether a government action or law violates the Constitution.

What is not in question is that the First Amendment and the Constitution overall prevent:

- Establishing one faith as the official national religion of the U.S. (First Amendment establishment clause).
- Stopping you from practicing your preferred religion or forcing you to practice any religion at all (First Amendment free exercise clause).
- Requiring a religious test or oath for an elected office (U.S. Constitution Article 6).

What could Christian nationalism look like in practice?

There is no single Christian nationalism agenda that outlines specific policies and laws that believers wish to enact. Some adherents and prominent people who self-identify as Christian nationalists have suggested certain policies that attract media attention. However, generally the ideas of Christian nationalism are broad-based things like "keeping America's Christian identity intact," rather than passing particular laws.

If laws were proposed, they could be allowed under the First Amendment or could directly violate it. Consider some possibilities using a green, yellow or red-light designation.

Green light: protected by the First Amendment.

Yellow light: caution, those 45 words might not apply.

Red light: no First Amendment protection.

Prayer in public schools

Green light: Prayer is already allowed in public schools. Students are free to pray in groups or by themselves provided it is not disruptive and doesn't interfere with other students' rights. Teachers can pray in schools if that prayer is private and doesn't require or pressure students to join.

Red light: Requiring prayer in schools is different than allowing it. The First Amendment prevents public schools from requiring students to pray (for example, at the start of the day over an intercom) or pressuring them to pray. Also, a law that allows students to only pray a certain way or bars prayer of a certain religion would violate the First Amendment.

In 2023, a West Virginia school district settled a lawsuit from students who said they were forced to attend a Christian revival held at the school during school hours from The Fellowship of Christian Athletes. The district agreed to require stronger religious freedom and First Amendment training for staff.

Religious monuments in public spaces

Green light or **yellow light:** Monuments depicting religious images are generally allowed in public spaces provided they are not done so at the exclusion of other religions. However, in 2003, a federal court ruled that a display of the Ten Commandments at the Alabama Supreme Court violated the First Amendment. The judge who displayed it – installing it in the middle of the night without other justices' knowledge – was removed from office for judicial misconduct after refusing to follow the federal court's ruling.

Red light: Barring the religious monument of any one religion while allowing others would likely violate the First Amendment. In Iowa, The Satanic Temple placed a display in the state capitol, which was allowed, along with displays from other groups. The Satanic Temple display sparked outcry from people who said it was not a protected religious display and should be removed. A Mississippi man was charged for vandalizing it. Despite its name, The Satanic Temple doesn't follow or worship Satan or any god. It's one of several lesser-known religions that have been recognized as having First Amendment protections.

Church-run public charter schools

Yellow light: Public charter schools are run using taxpayer dollars, but they operate outside the normal school district and are overseen by an elected board. In 2023, Oklahoma became the first state to grant a public charter school to a religious group run by the Catholic Church. Oklahoma's attorney general challenged its legality under the state constitution and the First Amendment. In June 2024, the state Supreme Court ruled against the church-run school, saying its use of public funds was unconstitutional and "a charter school must be nonsectarian."

Three days later, the state's top education official unveiled a new policy mandating all public schools to teach the Bible in grades five through 12. Ryan Walters, the state's elected superintendent, said in a written order to school districts that "immediate and strict compliance is expected." Both Oklahoma

issues involve questions of religious instruction in public education that federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court, could rule on in the future.

On May 22, 2025, the [U.S. Supreme Court decided](#) not to overturn the state court ruling. It was a 4-4 tie, [with Justice Amy Coney Barrett not participating](#) and with no written opinion outlining the rationale for the decision. This means the decision will have no impact on future cases concerning other charter schools around the country. In such ties, the lower court ruling stands, meaning the Oklahoma Supreme Court order is still in place blocking the religious charter school. However, the U.S. Supreme Court could take a similar charter school funding case in the future, and, with all nine justices participating, such a case could set a precedent regarding taxpayer funding of religious charter schools that would apply nationwide.

RELATED: [Can the Government Fund Religious Schools?](#)

Criminal laws based in biblical teaching

Green light: Many criminal statutes, such as those relating to murder and theft, at the national and state levels are already drawn out of general religious teachings about morality and punishment.

Red light: Directly tying an offense and its punishment to any one religion's ideology would likely violate the First Amendment. For example, a law that specifies an act is illegal because of one religion's teachings and requires punishment directly tied to that same religion's doctrine would likely be unconstitutional.

Establishing Christianity as the official religion

Red light: This violates the First Amendment's establishment clause.

Barring anyone who is not Christian from holding public office

Red light: This violates Article 6 of the U.S. Constitution. The only way to change that is [to amend the Constitution](#), which is an intentionally difficult process.

Are all evangelical Christians also Christian nationalists?

Christian nationalism is not synonymous with evangelical Christianity. However, like Christian nationalism, there is no single leader or central doctrine in evangelical Christianity, which involves multiple Christian denominations, including Pentecostal, Anabaptist and Charismatic traditions, [according to the National Association of Evangelicals](#).

As a voting bloc, evangelicals have [trended toward the Republican Party](#) and more socially conservative positions in recent decades. But connecting the ideas of Christian nationalism directly to evangelical Christianity is incorrect.

The Pew Research Center regularly polls on religion and spirituality in politics and public life. Its [2022 research on opinions around America as a Christian nation](#) and Christian nationalism show differences among various religious and demographic groups, including:

People who say the founders intended the U.S. to be a Christian nation:

- All U.S. adults: 60%
- All Christians: 69%
- White evangelicals: 81%

People who say the U.S. should be a Christian nation now:

- All U.S. adults: 45%
- All Christians: 62%
- White evangelicals: 81%

People who have not heard or read anything about Christian nationalism:

- All U.S. adults: 54%
- All Christians: 59%
- White evangelicals: 57%

People who have a favorable versus unfavorable view of Christian nationalism:

- All U.S. adults: 5% versus 24%
- All Christians: 7% versus 15%
- White evangelicals: 10% versus 12%

Data from the Public Religion Research Institute reveals higher levels of support for Christian nationalism by white evangelicals compared to other religious groups. [PRRI's 2023 survey showed:](#)

People who are adherents to or sympathizers of Christian nationalism:

- All Americans: 30%
- White evangelicals: 66%
- Hispanic Protestants: 55%
- Black Protestants: 39%
- Latter-day Saints: 42%
- White Catholics: 31%
- Hispanic Catholics: 25%
-

Christian nationalism and the First Amendment

Religion plays a major role in U.S. public life and in the country's history. It is the first of five freedoms in the First Amendment. And even though the separation of church and state is not directly mentioned in the Constitution, its ideas are present in politics and public policy.

Christian nationalism [is not a new idea](#), though its prominence in news coverage and among some elected officials has grown in recent years. A belief that the U.S. is a country founded on Christian religious principles and wanting policy and the broader culture to reflect those ideals is not necessarily incompatible with religious freedom. But government imposing any one belief system on others – and taking away someone's freedom to practice their own religion or choose not to – brings church and state closer than the First Amendment allows. *This article was updated on May 29, 2025. It may be updated with future development. Scott A. Leedingham is a Freedom Forum staff writer. He can be reached at sleadingham@freedomforum.org.*

Rites of Passage

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

03 Peter Williams
08 C.J. Jubinski,
09 Virginia Gilmore
10 Catharine Nobiletti
10 Lee Wadelton
14 Tom Hadlock
17 Allison Christensen
18 Joyce Hale
18 Kent Wolgemuth
20 Matthew Kern
20 Hunter Fritz
23 Kurt Hofmann
25 Colbie Canty
27 Marcia Palmer
28 Thomas Simson
29 Carin Murry-Reece

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

01 Jeanine Graviano & Kelly Pickering
07 Tim & Janet Jurgielewicz
15 Steven and Margaret DeCaro
17 John & Elizabeth Umina
19 Sam & Eleanor Williamson
22 Thomas & Lois Simson
22 Michael & Sundy Schermeyer
24 Fr. Chris & Carol Jubinski
26 Kieran and Hannah Quinn



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THE GENERAL



THE FRAT BOY



THE CHARISMATIC



THE 1928 OPTION

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