

Adventurer

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL

Epiphany



Vol. 50, No. 3

Second Sunday After the Epiphany

Week of January 18, 2026



News & Events

Parish Meeting to Include Vestry Election January 25

The annual Parish Meeting of the Cathedral Church of the Advent will be held Sunday, January 25, 10:00 a.m. in the Nave. At the meeting, parishioners will elect 10 persons to serve on the Vestry of the Advent. The meeting will also include parish reports. See page 2 for a list of the Vestry nominees.

The Middle to Meet January 22

Women in their 50s and 60s are welcome to join the next gathering of The Middle on Thursday, January 22, 9:30-11:00 a.m. at the home of Margaret Martin. Please let us know you're coming by emailing Heather McCalley (Heather.McCalley@gmail.com). See page 2 for more information.

Third Wednesday Luncheon January 21

The Ageless Adventers will gather for a Third Wednesday luncheon on Wednesday, January 21, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Please RSVP by Friday, January 16, to Robin Turner (Robin@CathedralAdvent.com). See page 2 for more information.



A Word from Canon Pinter

I Want to Be a Pilgrim

"Who would true valour see, let him come hither; One here will constant be, come wind, come weather. There's no discouragement shall make him once relent, his first avowed intent to be a pilgrim."

Craig reminded me of this quote from John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress* just before I left for Greece. When this article is published in the *Adventurer*, I will have just returned from a 10-day pilgrimage with fellow Adventers to Greece. I'm writing this before I leave, so it will be interesting to reflect on this after we return, whether any of my hopes for the trip were realized.

To be honest, while I've done my best to prepare for this pilgrimage, I'm not sure whether my preparations are sufficient. Still, I am intentional about this: I want to be a pilgrim and not a tourist. To me, this means more than just gathering information about ruins; it means a first-handed attentiveness to the gospel story. I want

to listen to Paul's words where they were first written and read and carry the sense of wonder and truth back with me.

I want to be a pilgrim. This includes some of the strain of travel, albeit far from what Paul and his companions experienced. I want to know what it feels like as I walk the slope up to the Areopagus (Athens), stand on the *bema* (Corinth), take steps along the *Via Egnatia* (Philippi), or feel the Mediterranean mist on my face (Crete). I want to stand at that place where holiness and weather and soil meet, that integration of the ancient and the now.

My conviction is that Christ never changes and that you and I share the same citizenship in heaven as did the first-century believers. This means that wherever we walk, either in Mountain Brook or on Mount Athos, we are "strangers and pilgrims on the earth." We are those who have met the Lord Jesus along the Way, and who still journey with him until we come to our final Home. I'm glad I get to walk some of that road with you, my fellow pilgrims.

- Dean

People who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

- Hebrews 11:14

This Sunday:

January 18, 2026

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Will Fagan

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion

In the Nave. Preacher: Will Fagan

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion

In the Refectory. Preacher: Canon Young

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Canon Young

We will livestream the 9:00 a.m. Nave service and the 11:00 a.m. service.

Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Live, Facebook Live, or YouTube to access our stream.

Adult Education (10:15-10:50 a.m.):

The Dean's Class (Refectory) – *The Unforced Rhythms of Grace* – Craig Smalley

Mundane Apocalypses (Living Room) – *Are We Alone in the Universe?* – Wilson Hunter

20s and 30s Class (Lower School Library) – *Before You Turn 40: Discerning Career Decisions* – Ross Blankenship

Children's & Youth Education:

Our 3s and 4s classes meet at 9:00 a.m. Kindergarten through 3rd grade start the 9:00 service in church before leaving during the children's dismissal for Children's Church. 4th grade through 6th grade and Jr. and Sr. High youth have classes between the 9:00 and 11:00 services. See Sunday's worship bulletin for locations. The Nursery opens for our Infants, Toddlers, and 2s classes at 8:45 a.m. The Nursery is open for ages 6 weeks-5 years during the 11:00 service.



GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

Parish Meeting Set for January 25

The annual Parish Meeting of the Cathedral Church of the Advent will be held Sunday, January 25, 10:00 a.m. in the Nave. At the meeting, parishioners will elect 10 persons to serve on the Vestry of the Advent. The nominees are as follows:

Debbie Brazeal
Anne-Marie Brown
Mell Duggan
Cardwell Feagin
Brooke Fleming
Beth Flowers
Charlotte Getz
Kelly Hargrove
Connor Herfurth
Perry Keel
Tommy Kitsmiller
Anne Lynn Langloh
Tommy Mayfield
Clay Morris
Dan Price
Murray Priestler
Frank Taylor
Clay Wilson
Key Yeilding

The meeting will also include Dean Smalley's address to the Parish, a report from the Treasurer, and a word from the Senior Warden.

Election of Next Bishop of Alabama January 24

The election of the 13th Bishop of the Diocese of Alabama will be Saturday, January 24, 1:00 p.m. in the Advent Nave. The candidates are the Rev. Candice Frazer, Rector of the Church of the Ascension in Montgomery, Alabama; and the Very Rev. Richard Lawson, Dean of St. John's Cathedral in Denver, Colorado. The diocese will livestream the election on its YouTube page.

Holiday Closings

The church office and the Advent Bookstore will be closed on Monday, January 19, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Both will reopen on Tuesday, January 20.

Youth Ministry

High School Students Taking Mystery Trip

All 9th-12th grade students are invited to go on a road trip to a destination you will discover upon arrival. We will leave Friday, January 30, and return Sunday, February 1. Registration is open until Friday, January 16. Sign up at AdventBirmingham.org/Youth under the Retreats tab.

Kickball to Return January 25

Our next Advent Holy Rollers kickball game will be Sunday, January 25, 4:00 p.m. at the Crestline Fields. All youth and parents are invited to attend the competitively friendly contest.



spiritual growth & fellowship

Ageless Adventers

Next Third Wednesday Luncheon Is January 21

The Ageless Adventers will gather for a Third Wednesday luncheon on Wednesday, January 21, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209).

Whether you are still active, newly retired, or have been enjoying flexibility for decades, you are welcome! So that we have an accurate count for lunch, please RSVP by Friday, January 16, to Robin Turner (205-226-3500, Robin@CathedralAdvent.com).

Women's Ministry

The Middle to Meet January 22

And the favor of God was upon him.

Women in their 50s and 60s are welcome to join the next gathering of The Middle, when Darlene Pinter will lead a reflection on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, or Candlemas. Margaret Martin will host at her home (3402 Montevallo Road, 35213) on Thursday, January 22, 9:30-11:00 a.m. We will have crêpes and hot tea and coffee. Please let us know you're coming by emailing Heather McCalley (Heather.McCalley@gmail.com).

Women's Ministry

Rooted's Hannah Dow to Speak January 29

Join us on Thursday, January 29, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the home of Sister Clapp (57 Fairway Drive, 35213) for light snacks, conversation, and a helpful word from Hannah Dow (*right*), Executive Director of Rooted Ministry.

Hannah's talk, *Truth in Trial*, will draw from various Scripture passages and the ways the Lord has ministered to her through them during periods of suffering.

Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Women for details and to register.



Children's Ministry

Bible Study and Pizza for 5th and 6th Graders January 25

We invite 5th and 6th graders to the monthly Bible Study and Pizza Night on Sunday, January 25, 5:30-7:00 p.m. at 411 Euclid Avenue, 35213. Contact Tara Davis (Tara@CathedralAdvent.com) for more information.

Advent House: Intercessory prayer is on-going through the Advent House Prayer Ministry. To schedule a prayer session at Advent House (2317 Arlington Avenue South, 35205), call Kathy Logue at 205-410-4622.

Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."
- Mark 1:14-15



serving & outreach

Men's Ministry

Men to Serve at Brother Bryan Mission

Advent men will provide dinner and evening-prayer worship at Brother Bryan Mission on Sunday evening, January 25. We will gather at 5:00 p.m. to set up the meal, serve at 5:30 and join in fellowship with the 70 men in the program, and then assist in leading the worship service at 6:30. Our own Franklin Bradford will preach, and music will be led by Stephen Greene and Ben Nye. Contact Canon Young (Adam@CathedralAdvent.com, 205-226-3519) to see how you can take part.

Local Mission

Informational Meeting for Mission Opportunity February 1

Please prayerfully consider a local mission opportunity this summer with Canon Young. We are excited about partnering with the Georgia-based organization Kidz2Leaders, who are focused on ending generational incarceration. They provide stability, opportunity, and Christian community for the children of incarcerated adults. The Church of the Advent is helping to start an Alabama branch of this wonderful Christ-centered ministry in Birmingham. We will begin a summer camp for 8-10 year olds at Shocco Springs, to be held June 13-18. Individuals, couples, and families with children are all able to participate as counselors to create a nurturing overnight sleepaway camp experience.

Canon Young is hosting an informational brunch in the Refectory on Sunday, February 1, at 11:00 a.m. Come discover how you and your family can serve in Christ's name!

Local Outreach

Reformed University Fellowship Seeking Food and Drinks

RUF at UAB is seeking churches and small groups to provide food and drinks for their weekly Tuesday-evening gatherings during spring semester. Reformed University Fellowship reaches undergraduate and graduate students with the gospel of Jesus Christ and depends on local church connections to aid their hospitality on campus. If you or your small group would like to sign up to provide pizza or snacks for around 50 college students, contact Canon Young (Adam@CathedralAdvent.com).



worship

Lectionary

Sunday, January 18

Psalm 40:1-12

Isaiah 49:1-7

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42



education

Come and See

Women Studying John's Gospel

Come and See, the women's Bible study of the Gospel According to John, has resumed. Led by Margot Cooney, this group meets on Wednesday mornings at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209) from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Contact Leslie Housman (Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com) with questions.

Thursday Morning Moms

Bible Study for Mothers of Young Children Is Back

Thursday Morning Moms, our Bible study for moms of young children, meets on Thursdays from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Meeting weekly in the Living Room, the group is currently studying Genesis. Nursery care is available, but we are also glad to have little ones join us! New members are welcome to jump in any time. Contact Leslie Housman (Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com, 205-226-3511) with any questions.



making music

Midday Music

Vocal Group Southern Harmony to Perform January 30

Our Midday Music series will continue on Friday, January 30, at noon in the Nave with a performance by local vocal quartet Southern Harmony. All are cordially invited to this free, 30-minute concert.

I waited patiently upon the Lord;

he stooped to me and heard my cry.

He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay;

he has set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.

- Psalm 40:1-2

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Ella Cobbs Cook: (Children's Ministry) by Mr. and Mrs. David Mills; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Hanson; Mr and Mrs. Greg Curran; Magic City Needlepoint; Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Miller, Vivi Blalock and Jay Blalock; William Pritchard; Betty Dumas; Mr. and Mrs. Leland Keller; Karen Crunk; Mr. and Mrs. Ehney Camp; The Thompson Foundation; Mr. and Mrs. Lee Scroggins; Mr. and Mrs. Warren Lightfoot; Charlotte King; Nancy Poynor; Mr and Mrs. Eugene Stutts; Alice Schleusner; Mr. and Mrs. Scott Weeks; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Willings; Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Barlow; Mr. and Mrs. James Bradford; Kitty Lineberry

In Honor of Millie and Billy Hulsey: (Endowment Fund) by Betsy Dumas

diocesan staff

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda S. Curry, Bishop of Alabama

advent staff

The Very Rev. R. Craig Smalley, Dean and Rector

The Rev. Canon Thomas P. Murray, Vice Dean

The Rev. Canon James "Jay" W. Gardner, III, Canon Pastor

The Rev. Canon Dr. Dean L. Pinter, Canon Theologian

The Rev. Canon Adam A. Young, Canon Missioner

The Rev. William J. Fagan, Curate

The Very Rev. Dr. Paul F.M. Zahl, Dean Emeritus

transitions:

Mariages: Jane Ann Davison McCullough and Samuel Thomas Woodward, on January 3; Rachel Marie Aisling Loughney and Robert Warren Handrahan, III, on January 3

Death: Hugh Browning Thornton, Jr., on January 2

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Stella Scott Schreiber: (Pastoral Care) by Biddy Osbun

The Rev. John Thompson Brown: (Pastoral Care) by Elna Brendel • (Endowment Fund) by Joan and Stan Starnes; Anonymous

Sarah Britton Neal: (Endowment Fund) by Joan and Stan Starnes

John Carraway: (Endowment Fund) by Liz Carraway

In Honor of Barbara Partridge: (Endowment Fund) by Pat Blinn



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calendar:

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jan 18 Regular worship schedule | 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Church office closed | 20 | 21 Ageless Adventers Third Wednesday - Cranmer House - noon | 22 | 23 | 24 Election of the Bishop of Alabama - Nave - 1:00 p.m. |
| Jan 25 Regular worship schedule Parish Meeting - Nave - 10:00 a.m. Youth Kickball - Crestline Fields - 4:00 p.m. | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Women's Event with Hannah Dow - 57 Fairway Drive - 6:30 p.m. | 30 Midday Music - Nave - noon | 31 |

Monday-Friday (No meeting January 19): AA – Coe Conference Room, noon

Pastoral Notice: If you are going into the hospital, have need of prayer or counsel, or have a family member unable to attend church, please call the Pastoral Care Office at 205-226-3500.