

# Adventurer

Pentecost

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 50, No. 27

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost and Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Weeks of August 9/16, 2026



## News & Events

### Movie Night with PZ August 12

Join Paul Zahl on Wednesday, August 12, 7:00 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209) to watch Bette Davis in *Phone Call from a Stranger* (1952). In his inimitable way, Paul will continue to lead us to see one-way love as it shows up in movies. Feel free to invite friends!

If you have any questions, please call the church office (205-251-2324).

### Jesus Means Freedom:

#### A Parish-Wide Study of Galatians

All Adventers are invited to take part this fall in our parish-wide small-group study, *Jesus Means Freedom*, a 10-week study of Galatians, written by our very own Dean Pinter, Will Fagan, Mary Ann McCarty, and Leslie Housman. Small groups will begin their study of Galatians the week of September 20. Study booklets will be available for pickup or in-person purchase (\$10 each) in Clingman Commons this Sunday. See page 2 for more information.

### Men's Cookout Set for August 16

Advent men are invited to a cookout on Sunday, August 16, 5:00 p.m. at the Advent. See page 2 for details.



## A Word from Canon Pinter

Few of us, if any, live lives of uninterrupted joy. More often, our days are marked by the mysterious mingling of joy and sadness, a reality aptly described as *bittersweet*. The Eastern Christian tradition gives this paradox a beautiful name: *charmolympē*, a union of the Greek words *charma* (joy) and *lypē* (sorrow). It is the strange grace of discovering that joy and suffering are not always opposites but companions on the pilgrims' way.

The roots of this vision lie deep within the New Testament. The Apostle Paul dares to write, "We rejoice in our sufferings" (Rom. 5:3), not because suffering is good in itself, but because God transfigures it, forming endurance, character, and hope. Throughout 2 Corinthians, Paul inhabits this holy tension, describing the Christian life "as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing... as having nothing, yet possessing everything" (2 Cor. 6:9-10). The gospel does not erase pain; it fills it with hope.

The Fathers of the Church recognized this paradox. Gregory of Nyssa observes that "the one who ascends never ceases to desire

what he knows... and in this desire there is both delight and a kind of pain" (*The Life of Moses*). John Climacus later gives this experience its enduring name: "bright sadness/joyful sorrow" (*charmolympē*), a theme that echoes throughout the Orthodox liturgies, especially during the season of Lent.

This is the deep grammar of grace. We often discover God's nearness *not after* suffering has passed *but while* its winds still buffet us. The cup of sorrow is not removed, yet within it we taste the wine of the Kingdom. Why? Because the Son of God has entered every chamber of human darkness. He has descended into our grief, our frailty, even into death itself, so that no place remains untouched by his life.

We live, then, in the strange overlap of the ages: Old creation still groans while new creation has already dawned. Our tears are real, yet they are no longer definitive. Every Eucharist, every prayer, every quiet act of faith bears witness that the joy of the age to come has already broken into the sorrows of the present. And so, we journey on with *charmolympē*: hearts marked by the Cross yet already illumined by the radiant light of the Resurrection.

- Dean

**The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**

- John 1:5

## This Sunday:

August 9, 2026

**7:30 a.m. Holy Communion**

Preacher: Dean Smalley

**9:00 a.m. Holy Communion**

*In the Nave.* Preacher: Dean Smalley

**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](https://AdventBirmingham.org/Live), YouTube, or Facebook Live to access our stream.

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

August 9:

**The Dean's Class** (Refectory) – *A Few of Our Favorite Things: Some of Our Favorite Hymns* – Robin Anderson and Mary Zahl

**Tasting and Seeing: Youth Ministry at the Advent** (Assembly Hall) – Margot Cooney, Caroline Bass, and John Mark Haase

**20s and 30s Class** (Lower School Library) – *Summer Conversations: Life as I Know It* – Tommy Kitsmiller and Ben Nye

August 16:

**The Dean's Class** (Refectory) – *A Few of Our Favorite Things: Winchester and Windsor* – Fred Teardo

**Law and Gospel** (Assembly Hall) – Will McDavid and Gil Kracke

## Next Sunday:

August 16, 2026

**7:30 a.m. Holy Communion**

Preacher: Mary Ann McCarty

**9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer**

*In the Nave.*

Preacher: Mary Ann McCarty

**9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer**

*In the Refectory.*

Preacher: Dean Smalley

**11:00 a.m. Holy Communion**

Preacher: Dean Smalley



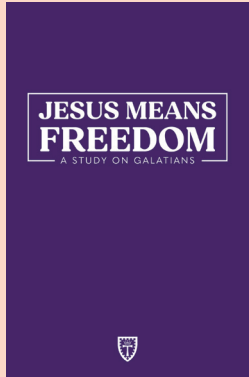
# GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!



## education

### Parish-Wide Galatians Study

#### Small-Group Study Will Begin in September



Join us this fall for *Jesus Means Freedom*, a 10-week, parish-wide small-group study of Galatians, exploring the freedom that is available to us in Christ: a freedom that Paul is desperate for the Galatians to understand as one that "is not merely freedom from bondage but freedom for something greater."

Small groups will begin their study of Galatians the week of September 20 and continue through early December. If you are not currently in a small group and want to

participate in the study, please fill out the interest form at [AdventBirmingham.org/Small Groups](http://AdventBirmingham.org/SmallGroups).

Booklets will be available for pickup or in-person purchase (\$10 each) in Clingman Commons on Sundays, August 9 and 16. For more information, visit [AdventBirmingham.org/Galatians](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Galatians).

### Thursday Morning Moms

#### Bible Study Resumes August 20

Thursday Morning Moms, our Bible study for moms of young children, resumes Thursday, August 20, 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the Living Room. This fall, the group will participate in the church-wide study of Galatians. Nursery is available, but we are glad to have babies with us, too. New members are always welcome – even if it's just during your maternity leave. Contact Leslie Housman ([Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-226-3511) for more information.

### Sunday Children's and Youth Education

Rising 4K and Kindergarten meet at 9:00 a.m. Rising 1st through 3rd graders start the 9:00 service in church before leaving during the children's dismissal. Rising 4th graders through 6th graders 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.



## worship

### Lectionary

*Sunday, August 9*

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b or Psalm 85:8-13 • 1 Kings 19:9-18  
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 • Romans 10:5-15 • Matthew 14:22-33

*Sunday, August 16*

Psalm 133 or Psalm 67 • Genesis 45:1-15 • Isaiah 56:1, 6-8  
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 • Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28



## spiritual growth & fellowship

### Men's Ministry

#### Cookout at the Church August 16

We will host the first annual Advent Men's Cookout on Sunday, August 16, 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Refectory at the church. Cost is \$12. All men are welcome!

Do you enjoy the smell of meat cooking in a large smoker? Do you enjoy cooking game that you killed to share with other men while completely embellishing how you took down the mighty beast? Is your pallet so sophisticated that you crave grilled meat constantly?

If you can answer yes to any of these deep philosophical questions, then you need get down to the church on August 16 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

We will be serving delicious, life-changing hot dogs, hamburgers and cheeseburgers, as well as any meat brought by any aforementioned hunter parishioners. Sides will be provided.

Please RSVP to Adam Young ([Adam@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Adam@CathedralAdvent.com)) or Franklin Bradford ([FranklinBradford@gmail.com](mailto:FranklinBradford@gmail.com)).

### Needlepoint Guild

#### A Call to Stitchers – New and Seasoned Alike

The first gathering of the Needlepoint Guild will be Sunday, August 16, 3:00-6:00 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). You are welcome whether you have stitched for decades or have never threaded a needle. Come share an afternoon of fellowship and stitching. Please let us know you are coming by contacting Catherine Kirpalani ([Catherine.Hall1@me.com](mailto:Catherine.Hall1@me.com)).

### Caregivers Support Group

#### Lunch Gathering August 14

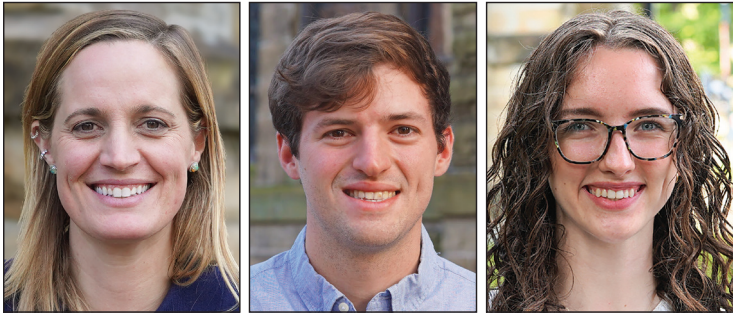
Caregivers are invited to a monthly lunch with others who have been impacted by the demands of caring for a loved one. The next gathering will be Friday, August 14, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). You are welcome whether you are a full-time caregiver or you are just beginning to experience changes in your life due to the health of a family member. To RSVP or for details, contact Robin Turner ([Robin@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Robin@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-226-3500).

### 20s & 30s Ministry

#### Dinner to Kick Off the New Season September 13

Save the date for the 20s & 30s Fall Kickoff Dinner on Sunday, September 13, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the home of Sidney and Martin Clapp (57 Fairway Drive, 35213). In addition to fellowship and food, Jen Green – an Advent member and psychologist – will join us for a conversation about resilience during the significant life stages many of us are navigating and what the gospel has to say about them. The cost is free. Please sign up at [AdventBirmingham.org/20s&30s](http://AdventBirmingham.org/20s&30s). Contact Will Fagan ([Fagan@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Fagan@CathedralAdvent.com)) with questions.

## Praying for Our Youth Ministry Team



We hope you will join us at the 9:00 a.m. services on Sunday, August 9, as we pray for our Youth Ministry Team.

Margot Cooney (*above left*), our Director of Youth Ministry, joins John Mark Haase (*above center*) and Caroline Bass (*above right*), our Associate Directors. All three are graduates of Beeson Divinity School. With an abiding desire that all our students would know the love of Christ and his gospel, they have a full year planned with Bible studies, programs, trips, and more. If you would like to hear more, please join them in the adult class on August 9 in the Assembly Hall (10:15 a.m.). Thanks be to God!

## Small Groups

### A Welcoming Space Where I Can Be Myself and Share Openly

When Fontaine first introduced me to the idea of joining a small group, she gave me a few options but said, "I think you would be a great fit for Debbie Brazeal's group." So, I decided to give it a try – and I'm so glad I did!

I'll admit, I was nervous walking in. I didn't know anyone or quite what to expect. But that nervousness quickly disappeared. Debbie and the ladies welcomed me with open arms and made me feel right at home.

Small group has become so much more than Bible study. We share meals, enjoy fellowship, laugh (a lot!), check on one another, encourage and pray for each other, and spend time in God's word. Most importantly, I've found a safe, welcoming space where I can be myself and share openly, knowing I'll be met with love and compassion.

We're sisters in Christ, friends, and a small but mighty community with a heart for Jesus.

I may be biased, but I think I landed in the best small group at the Advent!

I came looking for a small group and found a sisterhood.

- Trisha Moore

*New groups are being formed that will participate in the parish-wide Galatians study in September. For more information, please complete the interest form at [AdventBirmingham.org/SmallGroups](https://AdventBirmingham.org/SmallGroups).*



## Clergy Spotlight

### Q&A with Canon Missioner Adam Young

1. *What area of ministry are you most involved in, and what do you enjoy most about it?*

Being part of this excellent clergy team is an honor and privilege. I thoroughly enjoy preaching, pastoral visitation, and sacramental ministry, but as Canon Missioner, I get to spend time on what I term "outward-facing ministry." Interfacing with our ministry partners at home and abroad refreshes my own sense of call to see God at work in a global as well as an intimately personal way. I am inspired by the witness of our brothers and sisters down the street and across the ocean as they point people to the risen Savior through words and actions. I also love helping our community of Christ followers discover the beauty and wonder of the gospel in fresh ways when we serve alongside our ministry partners.

2. *What inspired you to pursue a call to ordained ministry?*

It wasn't so much my pursuit as God's gracious pursuit of me! It's one of those things that I couldn't imagine anything else because I have been so caught up in the vision of Jesus Christ crucified and risen for me. I desperately want others to know the depth of God's love for them because, to me, that's the ultimate thing that matters. I get a front-row seat to see what God is doing in the lives of people, and it's a wondrous privilege to get that peek behind the curtain. It grounds me in what is good and true and beautiful.

3. *If you could share one piece of spiritual advice with the parish, what would it be?*

Augustine's quip, "Love God and do as you please," comes to mind. We are caught in such a law-based world of "do this, or else." If the gospel is really true, Christ has already satisfied every obligation on our behalf. "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36). At our best, we echo this word to one another in hope that we each become more and more true to who God made us to be.

4. *On your day off, what is something you enjoy doing that parishioners might be surprised to learn about you?*

My family jokes that I am part Bobby Flay and part Gandalf the wizard. I love to smoke meats and smoke a pipe. Both are meet and right so to do!



## Women's Ministry

### Subscribe to the Women's Email Newsletter

Opt in for Women's Ministry's monthly e-newsletter and receive a listing of upcoming events and a Scripture reflection written by a woman of the parish. Go to [AdventBirmingham.org/Subscribe](https://AdventBirmingham.org/Subscribe) to opt in.

**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.

## advent clergy

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, Director of Parish Life and Evangelism  
 The Rev. Mary Ann McCarty, Curate  
 The Very Rev. Dr. Paul F.M. Zahl, Dean Emeritus

## diocese of alabama

The Rt. Rev. Richard T. Lawson III, Bishop

## transitions:

**Births:** Addison Celia Burke, daughter of Paige and Michael, on July 7  
**Baptisms:** Kathleen Grace Shelton and Ruth Everly Shelton, daughters of Nicole and Peter, both on July 26  
**Marriage:** Anne Kendall Outland and Jordan Anderson, on July 25

## memorials:

### Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

**Harry Edward "Ed" Logue:** (Pastoral Care) by Margaret Aderholt; Marnie Clark • (Advent House) by Mr. and Mrs. Pete Pritchard; Salon Summit c/o Deanna Lucas  
**John Barratt Rudolph, Jr.:** (Mission and Outreach) by Richard Vickers

**Naneita Leach Cobbs:** (Garden Fund) by Lynn and John Adams; Kathleen Doss; Mrs. Jack S. Allison • (Endowment Fund) by Amy Ager  
**My Mom:** (Mission and Outreach) by Robert Hornak  
**Ella Cobbs Cook:** (Children's Ministry) by Conner Abel; Amy Ager; Frank Anderson; Will Axon; Brian Barr; Walter Bates



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## calendar:

| SUNDAY                                                                            | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY                                                          | THURSDAY | FRIDAY                                                     | SATURDAY |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Aug 9<br>Regular worship<br>schedule                                              | 10     | 11      | 12<br>Movie Night with<br>Paul Zahl - Cranmer<br>House - 7:00 p.m. | 13       | 14<br>Caregiver Support<br>Lunch - Cranmer<br>House - noon | 15       |
| Aug 16<br>Regular worship<br>schedule<br>Men's Cookout -<br>Refectory - 5:00 p.m. | 17     | 18      | 19                                                                 | 20       | 21                                                         | 22       |

Monday-Friday: 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.