Adventurer

Pentecost

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL

Vol. 50, No. 38 | All Saints' Day | Week of November 1, 2026

News & Events

Choral Evensong for All Saints' Day November 1

We will hold Choral Evensong for All Saints' Day this Sunday, November 1, 5:30 p.m. in the Nave, celebrating the 25th anniversary of our Lammermuir continuo organ. The instrumentation for the service will feature exclusively the continuo organ and a string quartet accompanying the Cathedral Choir. *See page 2 for details.*

Quiet Day with Mary Zahl November 7

Advent Women will get together on Saturday, November 7, from 9:00 a.m. to noon for a Quiet Day led by Mary Zahl. Register through your Realm account or at AdventBirmingham.org/Women. *See page 2 for more information.*

Last Call to Register for Men's Sporting Clays Event

This Sunday, November 1, is the deadline to register for the Men's Sporting Clays event. Advent men and friends will gather to shoot sporting clays on Saturday morning, November 7, starting at 7:45 a.m. at Pursell Farms in Sylacauga. For more information and to register, visit AdventBirmingham.org/Men.

A Word from the Dean



In a lifetime littered with bad decisions, one on a recent Friday felt like one of our worst. Despite all best judgment and encouragement to the contrary, from the governor to friends and family, Paula and I steered into the storm, rather than away.

Long before this day, friends we love at the Advent had invited me to officiate their wedding in Fairhope, and I was delighted to say yes. Not only would there be the opportunity to be with them, but as it was in Fairhope, hopefully Joe and Susan Warren as well.

And then Isaias came, seemingly barreling toward the Mobile Bay. We delayed our departure, watched the news on a loop, started and stopped leaving numerous times. As we made our way we questioned further the extreme folly of our decision. A flood of cars was traveling north on 65 as we made our way south alone, save for power trucks and National Guard vehicles.

As we drove a song entered my head. Not Bob Seger's "started humming a song from 1962"; this one was written a year earlier than Seger's 1976 hit "Night Moves." It was Bob Dylan's "Shelter from the Storm" from 1975. The line? "Come in, she said, 'I'll give ya shelter from the storm.'" Shelter from the storm.

As you know, the storm went east, Fairhope was fine, but that phrase remains in my mind and is in so many ways illustrative of God. Throughout John's Gospel, Jesus invites us to abide in him; in Matthew's, Jesus expresses his longing to gather lost and rebellious people like a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus continues to reveal God as a shepherd, gathering, shielding us, his sheep, who wander seeking shelter, or make our own flimsy structures.

And long before, Isaiah shares words of the pastor and king that God is: "a hiding place from the wind, a shelter from the storm, like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a rock in a weary land" (Isaiah 32:2).

God steers toward our storms, inviting us to abide in him. Come in,

Craig

In the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by.

- Psalm 57:1b

This Sunday:

November 1, 2026

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Dean Smalley

9:00 a.m. Holy Baptism and Holy Communion
In the Nave. Preacher: Dean Smalley

9:00 a.m. Holy Baptism and Holy Communion
In the Refectory. Preacher: Vice Dean Murray

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Vice Dean Murray

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong for All Saints' Day

We will livestream the 9:00 a.m. Nave, the 11:00 a.m., and the Choral Evensong services. Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Live or YouTube.

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

The Dean's Class (Refectory) – *What's in a Name?: David and "The Wife of Uriah"* – Dean Pinter

The Inquirers' Class (Diocesan Conference Room) – *Prayer* – Will Fagan

The Birds and the Bees (Assembly Hall) – Tara Davis

Becoming Whole (Living Room) – *Replacing Destructive Outreach Ministry Practices* – Adam Young and Lisa Yeager

Breakfast:

8:15-9:00 a.m. in Clingman Commons

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!

worship

Choral Evensong for All Saints' Day



Service to Mark the 25th Anniversary of Our Continuo Organ

The Cathedral Choir will sing a service of Choral Evensong for All Saints' Day this Sunday, November 1, 5:30 p.m. in the Nave. This service will commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Lammermuir continuo organ, given in memory of John Hiram Urmey Jr. and Lucille McPhillips Urmey. The instrumentation for the service will feature exclusively the continuo organ and a string quartet accompanying our Cathedral Choir. The music for the service will be the very same music sung and played at the dedication service 25 years ago.

The service will also be livestreamed at AdventBirmingham.org/Live and on YouTube. Please join us for this very special service of Choral Evensong on All Saints' Sunday.

Lectionary

Sunday, November 1

Psalm 34:1-10, 22 • Revelation 7:9-17
Matthew 5:1-12

Local Outreach

Gifts Needed for Hope 4 Christmas Party

The Advent is hosting Hope 4 Christmas, a party for participating families of Kidz 2 Leaders, our ministry partner which works with the children of incarcerated adults in the Birmingham area. On Saturday, December 12, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Refectory, we will gather for crafts, food, a program, and gift distribution. Volunteer sign up is at AdventBirmingham.org/Mission.

Gifts are needed! There will be an Angel Tree with ornaments in Clingman Commons on Sundays, November 8 and 15. Simply pick an ornament off the tree and use the QR code to purchase *specific* gifts for *specific* children in the program and turn them in at the church office. The deadline is Sunday, December 6, as there will be a gift-wrapping party in Clingman on December 8. Contact Canon Young (Adam@CathedralAdvent.com) with questions.

spiritual growth & fellowship

Women's Ministry

Last Call to Register for Quiet Day with Mary Zahl



Don't miss out on this opportunity to prepare your heart and mind to receive Jesus afresh before the season of Advent begins. Mary Zahl *(left)* will guide us, using thoughtfully selected Scripture, music, and art. Participants should expect to enjoy periods of silence throughout the morning for prayer, Scripture reading, and listening.

Bring your Bible, pen, and paper, and join us Saturday, November 7, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the church. There is no cost for this event, but please register so we know how many to expect. You can register through your Realm account or at AdventBirmingham.org/Women. Contact Leslie Housman (Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com, 205-226-3511) with questions.

Caregivers Support Group

Lunch Gathering November 13

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, November 13, 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, 205-226-3500).

serving & outreach

Local Outreach

Toy Drive in December to Benefit Oak Tree Ministries.

We have the joy and opportunity to support the work of Oak Tree Ministries in Gate City by holding a toy drive the first two weeks of December. Christmas in the Village supplies new toys for parents and grandparents of children in Gate City to shop at 90-percent off retail price. The proceeds contribute to the summer ministry programming at Oak Tree. There will be a table in Clingman Commons on Sundays, December 6 and 13, to drop off toy donations. The Women's Ministry is also collecting toys for the Village at Christ in the Christmas Crunch on Thursday, December 3. There are also opportunities for volunteers to serve by pricing and setting up the store on Saturday, December 12, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 13, 2:00-5:00 p.m. Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Mission to see a complete wish list, volunteer sign-up, and ways to donate treats to the cause.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9

education

Sex Education

For 5th and 6th Graders, and Parents, on November 14

We live in a world that constantly talks about and references the body, relationships, and sex – often in ways that don't reflect God's design. Our hope is that the church and home can be the places where our children hear the truth.

On Saturday, November 14, from 9:00-11:00 a.m., the Advent will host The Bible Talks About *That?!* - our annual sex education course for 5th and 6th graders in the community and their parents.

The program will begin in the Refectory with children and parents together for a brief welcome. Afterward, children will dismiss to their sessions on God's good design of the body, male and female puberty, and sex.

Girls will meet with Tara Davis and Advent School Nurse Evelyn Lofty, RN.

Boys will meet with Adam Young and Advent parishioner and former Sunday School teacher Dr. Robert Green, MD.

While children are in their sessions, parents will remain in the Refectory to hear from Gil Kracke, Gunter Owens, Margot Cooney, and Will Fagan about how to talk to your children about these topics. We will conclude the program with children rejoining in the Refectory.

We know talking about these sex-related topics can feel awkward, but we are eager to equip and support you so that you feel comfortable, competent, and confident!

Refreshments will be provided. This is a community-wide program. Please register to attend at AdventBirmingham.org/BibleTalksAboutThat.

making music

Grassroots Songwriting Festival

Lowana Wallace Participating in Festival November 3

This year Lowana Wallace, our Refectory service music leader, had the opportunity to participate in Samford's Center for Worship and the Arts yearlong songwriting project, *The Sound of the Saints*. The project gathered local church musicians and songwriters throughout the year for workshops and collaborative songwriting sessions. Many of these newly written worship songs will be highlighted at the upcoming Grassroots Songwriting Festival at Samford University's Wright Center on Tuesday, November 3, at 7:00 p.m. The concert will feature the group Anchor Hymns as well as the Samford Worship Collective. Admission is free.

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.

Call for Vestry Nominee Suggestions

The Nominations Committee of the Vestry invites parishioners to suggest names for consideration for next year's Vestry class slate. Please complete a Nomination Suggestion Form if you know someone who would contribute to our parish's leadership. Forms can be submitted digitally on our website; visit AdventBirmingham.org/Nominations. Forms are also available at the Ushers' Stations on Sunday. Forms must be returned to Rachel DeSanto in the Dean's office by Friday, November 13.

It is recommended that you *not* notify the person that his/her name has been suggested.

The final slate of 20 candidates will be presented to the Vestry at the December meeting, and thereafter will be announced to the parish. Elections will take place during the annual Parish Meeting on January 24, 2027.

serving & outreach

Lenten Lunches

Leadership Team Named for 2027

We are pleased to introduce your 2027 Lenten Lunches Leadership Team. Volunteer chairs: Ann Campbell and Nancy McColloch; Treasurer: LaVonda Keel; Ordering Team: Robin Anderson, Lyn Lanier, Bobbie Lecznar, and Debbie Tiffin; Day Chairs: Kate Kiefer, Frances Mulkin, Grace Nielsen, Gail Braswell, Anne-Marie Brown, Lessie Brady, Catherine Kirpalani; Church Staff Contact: Leslie Housman; and Chair: Rosemary Ham. If you are interested in joining this wonderful group, please contact volunteer chairs Nancy (NDLMcColloch@gmail.com) or Ann (Ann@CathedralAdvent.com). There are many opportunities available, and this service is a great way to foster both old and new friendships at the Advent.

Lenten Lunches will be served from Ash Wednesday, February 10, through Maundy Thursday, March 25, 2027.

Behind the Scenes: Jen Green

The Lenten Preaching/Lunches series is not only a wonderful spiritual blessing but also a great time for fellowship. Meet Jen Green *(right)*, our coordinator for table reservations. If you would like to gather as a group during lunch, just contact Jen to request a table reservation in the Refectory. We look forward to seeing you and your group there.



"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." - Revelation 7:15-17

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

Intercessory Prayer Available at 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), contact Kathy Logue (205-410-4622, Kathy@CathedralAdvent.com).

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Frederick "Ricky" Wilkinson Bromberg: (Endowment Fund) by Karen and Barry Saunders; Richard and Mitzi Davis; the B.C. Clark family: Coleman and Melissa, Mitchell and Laetitia, Jim and Carolyn; Pink Diamond Corporation and Staff: Sam, Vera, Samira, and Sanaz Azemoon; Cathy Randall, Community Foundation of West Alabama; Lucy and Temple Tutwiler; the Nall and Whatley families; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Howard; Vivian and Carlisle Jones; Kathy, Bobby, and Robert Rolfe; Tim and Lynn Callahan; Bama and David Mills

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upcoming events:

Interested in more information?
Watch the *Adventurer*, check social media and the website, or call the church office (205-251-2324).

Parish-Wide

Choral Evensong for All Saints' Day
Sunday, November 1
5:30 p.m. in the Nave

Midday Music
Thursday, November 12
Noon in the Nave

Service of Advent Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 6
9:00 and 11:00 a.m. in the Nave

Toy Drive for Oak Tree Ministries
Sundays, December 6 and 13
Clingman Commons

Groups

Men's Sporting Clays
Saturday, November 7
7:45 a.m.-Noon at Pursell Farms

Women's Quiet Day
Saturday, November 7
9:00 a.m.-Noon at the Advent

Caregivers Support Luncheon
Friday, November 13
Noon at Cranmer House

Ageless Adventers Third Wednesday Luncheon
Wednesday, November 18
Noon at Cranmer House

Women's Christ in the Christmas Crunch
Thursday, December 3
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in Clingman Commons

Children and Youth

Youth Paintball
Sunday, November 1
4:00-6:00 p.m. at Central Alabama Paintball Park

Youth Park Place Partners
Wednesday, November 4
4:00-5:00 p.m. at Park Place

BigTime Ministries Retreat for 7th-9th Grade Girls
Friday-Sunday, November 6-8

The Bible Talks About *That?!*
Saturday, November 14
9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Advent
For 5th and 6th graders and parents

Youth Dinner and Devotional (Regressive Dinner)
Sunday, December 6
6:00-8:00 p.m.

AA: Monday-Friday, Coe Conference Room, noon