Pentecost

Adventurer

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL

Vol. 50, No. 39 | Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost | Week of November 8, 2026

News & Events

Church Tour:
I'm New Here: Where Is Everything?

If this is you, please join us for a church tour this Sunday, November 8, immediately after the 9:00 a.m. service. We'll meet in the Diocesan Conference Room (entrance is in the middle of the garden). Coffee will be available, and restrooms are nearby.

The Bible Talks About *That?!*
Sex Education Program November 14

The Advent will host The Bible Talks About *That?!*, our sex-education program for 5th and 6th graders and their parents, on Saturday, November 14, 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the church. Please register to attend at AdventBirmingham.org/BibleTalksAboutThat. *See page 2 for details.*

Unveiling of Dean Smalley's Portrait
Rescheduled to December 20

The unveiling of a portrait of Dean Craig Smalley has been rescheduled to Sunday, December 20, in Clingman Commons following the 11:00 a.m. service. It was originally scheduled for this Sunday, November 8. Painted by Jason Bouldin, this work is a welcome gift to the parish, in thanksgiving for our leaders past and present.



A Word from Will Fagan

Alongside Halloween and the clocks falling back, Reformation Day arrives on October 31 each year, marking Martin Luther's nailing up of the Ninety-Five Theses. Over the next several years and decades, the Reformation took hold in Germany and other parts of Europe, notably in the Netherlands, England, Scotland, Scandinavia, and modern-day Switzerland, where their Protestant churches still stand proudly today.

In England, like other sovereigns in Germany and Scandinavia, King Henry VIII sought to capitalize on religious reform for political gain; breaking with Rome could help him with his "great matter," yet he had no desire to part from late-medieval theology of the day. In other words, he wanted the English church to be Roman without a pope. On several occasions, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, appointed by Henry, stuck his neck out during theological debates with the King, once writing to him in a letter, "...the profession of our faith of the remission of our own sins enter within us into the deepness of our hearts, then it must kindle a warm fire of love in our hearts towards God, and towards all others for the love of God."

Cranmer means that *only* faith in Christ's work for the remission of our sins comforts our hearts, not anything we have to offer. The forgiveness of sins, as it were, sets off a chain reaction of love, first for God, and then for others through the "love that has been poured into our hearts" (Romans 5:5).

I get excited about the Reformation for several reasons: The beauty of Reformation prayer books and the Psalter sings off the page. The history of its movement is fascinating. But mostly, it excites me because when I read about this time in history, I see the same old story in the anthropological and sociological climate: People think they need to overcome their flaws and shortcomings (sin!) to be loved by God and others. Yet the beating heart of the Reformation tells us that is false. The forgiveness of sins through Christ's work – God's love poured into our hearts – sets off a chain reaction of love in our own, that we may have life and have it to the full. - Will

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
- Romans 5:5b

This Sunday:

November 8, 2026

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Canon Gardner

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion
In the Nave. Preacher: Canon Gardner

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion
In the Refectory. Preacher: Canon Young

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Canon Gardner

We will livestream the 9:00 a.m. Nave service and the 11:00 a.m. service. Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Live, YouTube, or Facebook Live to access our stream.

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

The Dean's Class (Refectory) – *What's in a Name?: Mary and Jesus* – Dean Pinter

The Inquirers' Class (Diocesan Conference Room) – *I'm New Here – Where Is Everything? (Tour of the Advent)* – Fontaine Pope

Look to Christ (Chapter Room) – *Let Not Your Hearts Be Troubled* – Gil Kracke

Becoming Whole (Living Room) – *Addressing Broken Systems and Broken People* – Adam Young and Lisa Yeager

Bible 101 (Assembly Hall) – *Peter, James, and John (Hebrews to Revelation)* – Tara Davis and Will Fagan

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. 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.

Breakfast:

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

GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

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.

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).

worship

Lectionary

Sunday, November 8

Psalm 70 • Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 • Matthew 25:1-13

spiritual growth & fellowship

Women's Ministry



Photos: Ministry Market vendor The Lovelady Center will sell salsas, pickles, jams, and jellies made from produce grown onsite.

Christ in the Christmas Crunch – Mark Your Calendars!

On Thursday, December 3, invite a friend and join us for this year's "Crunch," from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Clingman Commons. With beautiful music of the season provided by Carrie Teardo and Lowana Wallace, this year's event features readings and reflections given by Nina Botsford, Tara Davis, Charlotte Getz, Glynn Lassiter, Derrill McDavid, Ann Evans Nix, Louise Wright, and Mary Zahl.

New Ministry Market vendors including The Lovelady Center, Darling Grey, Over the Moon, and our own Youth Ministry join Portraits of Hope and bookstore favorites to help you take care of some of your holiday shopping while supporting the work of these organizations. We are thrilled once again to partner with Oak Tree Ministries in collecting gifts for their Christmas Village. See "Toy Drive to Support Oak Tree Ministries" under *Serving & Outreach* for more information and a link to a wish list to help you choose a gift to bring, unwrapped, to the "Crunch." A delicious lunch will be served.



Please register through your Realm account or at AdventBirmingham.org/Women to help us plan appropriately. Nursery is provided for children ages 5 and under.

Ageless Adventers

Next Third Wednesday Luncheon Is November 18

The Ageless Adventers will gather for the Third Wednesday luncheon on Wednesday, November 18, 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, November 13, to Robin Turner (205-226-3500, Robin@CathedralAdvent.com).

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

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

Ministry Partner Kidz2Leaders

Gifts Needed for Hope4Christmas Party

The Advent is hosting Hope4Christmas, a party for participating families of Kidz2Leaders, 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.

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.

making music

Midday Music

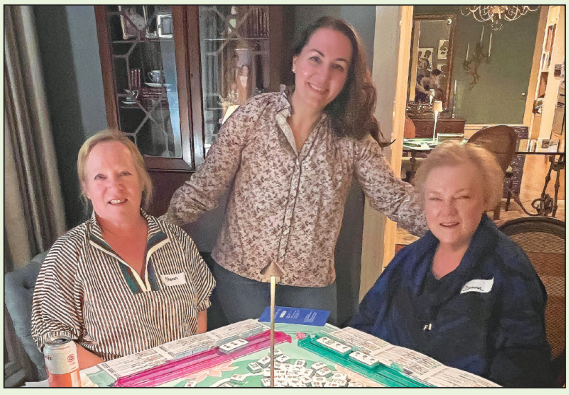


Organ Recital Set for November 12

Our Midday Music series continues with a free, 30-minute recital by organist Jonghee Yoon on Thursday, November 12, at noon in the Nave. Ms. Yoon *(above)*, a native of South Korea, is presently Principal Organist and Music Associate at Bellevue Presbyterian Church in Seattle, having previously served as Organ Scholar at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Greenville, North Carolina. Active as a performer on organ, harpsichord, and clavichord, she has performed in numerous prominent venues including Westminster Abbey, Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue in New York City, and the West Point Cadet Chapel in New York. Her program will include music of Charles-Marie Widor, Herbert Howells, and Bálint Karosi. On a personal note, Charles Kennedy, our Associate Director of Music, made acquaintance with her at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, when she attended a service of Choral Evensong sung by our Cathedral Choir in 2022.

This concert will also be livestreamed at AdventBirmingham.org/Live and on YouTube. Please come and hear what promises to be a half-hour of magnificent and beautiful music.

Mahjong Night



Above: With LaVonda Keel hosting and Sadie Goodman providing instruction, players of all levels had a blast learning and playing mahjong on October 27. Stay tuned to the next opportunity!

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

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Robert Klyce: (Garden Fund) by Marjorie Forney

My Mom: (Mission and Outreach) by Robert Hornak

In Honor of Mildred Knight: (Endowment Fund) by Permelia Voigt

Frederick "Ricky" Wilkinson Bromberg: (Endowment Fund) by Deane and Phil Cook; Carla and Bob Reich; Julie Goyer; Tookie and Keith Hazelrig; LAGOS; John Lauriello, Southpace; Nancy Poynor; Hatton C.V. Smith; Nina and Ken Botsford; Murray and Jim Priester; Gordon and Margret Martin; Robert and Ree Almon; the Kwiat Family; Sally and Will Legg; Blake and Kim Alexander; Gail and Jeffrey Bayer; Ann and John Iwanicki; Tudor Watch USA; Nancy Goldberg; Linda, Jeffry, and Melissa Schwartz; David Hawkins: Nancy Kimberly; Melanie and Andy Marsch; Vic Slay; John Gaffney; James Wiygul; Virginia Phillips; the families of Dan and Amy Wilbanks, John and Laurie Wilbanks; Matt and Kari Wilbanks, and Mark Wilbanks and Courtney Bartels; Spence and David Stallworth; Kathleen and Edmund Doss; Shaun Gray

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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

Dean Smalley Portrait Unveiling
Sunday, November 8
Noon in Clingman Commons

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

Hope4Christmas Party for Kidz2Leaders
Saturday, December 12
10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Refectory

A Ceremony of Carols
Thursday, December 17
5:30 p.m. in the Nave

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Thursday, December 17
6:00 p.m. in the Nave

Groups

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

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 Park Place Partners
Wednesday, December 2
4:00-5:00 p.m. at Park Place

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

AA: Monday-Friday, Coe Conference Room, noon