

# Adventurer

Epiphany

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 47, No. 2

The First Sunday After the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord

Week of January 8, 2023



## News & Events

### Women's Ministries Gathering January 12



Advent women will come together on Thursday, January 12, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Cranmer House to hear our guest speaker, Julie Sparkman (left), co-founder of Restore Ministries. Julie is the author of several popular video teaching series and co-

host of the podcast, *Head to Heart: Connecting What You Know to How You Live*. Register to attend at [AdventBirmingham.org/Women](https://AdventBirmingham.org/Women) or by contacting Janet Dozier ([Janet@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Janet@CathedralAdvent.com)). See page 2 for more information.

### Parish Meeting Set for January 22

The annual Parish Meeting of the Cathedral Church of the Advent will be held Sunday, January 22, 10:00 a.m. in the Nave. The meeting will include parish reports and the election of 10 persons to the Advent's Vestry. See page 2 for the slate of Vestry nominees.



## A Word from Canon DeHart

On January 6, the Christmas season ends with the Feast of the Epiphany. Different cultures celebrate this holiday in interesting ways. Czechs take an icy swim in the Vltava River, the Three Wise Men leave presents inside the shoes of children in Spain, and in Italy the good broomstick-riding witch Befana brings kids sweets and presents.

All of these celebrations are looking back to the story of the Magi, or the Three Kings. In Matthew 2, there is no number three; there are simply "Magi from the East." The number three arose in the retelling because of the three gifts. "Magi" identifies the visitors as astrologers. What's noteworthy is that they weren't Jews. They were "strangers to the covenant of promise" (Ephesians 2:12). They looked to the skies for meaning, which, had they known, went against the teaching of Scripture. Nevertheless, the Creator of the heavenly bodies used a star to lead them to Jesus.

In addition to coming up with three visitors, early Christians began to see the Magi as kings. Why? Because they saw the Old

Testament through the lens of Jesus' story. Psalm 72 reads:

*He [the messianic King] will rule from sea to sea and from the great river to the ends of the earth... The kings of Tarshish and of the isles will bring tribute to him; the kings of Sheba and Seba will present him gifts. All kings will bow down to him and all nations will serve him (8-11).*

The message of the Psalm is that the Messiah will be the King of kings. Ancient Christians saw the Magi as the fulfillment of this Psalm.

In the book of Revelation, St. John witnesses the City of God moving from heaven to earth. It is the coming future, the return of Jesus and the establishment of his everlasting kingdom are in view. In the Apocalypse, every nation, ruler, people, and religion will bring their treasures to the City of God, and the Lord of this city will bring unending peace to the world's peoples. This is the promise of Epiphany: all of the rulers of the world will bow before Christ's kingdom. This is the meaning of the story of the Three Kings – in the end, there is only One King. And no matter where you're from or what your history, this King is for us.

- Ben

## This Sunday:

January 8, 2023

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

Preacher: Dean Smalley

### 9:00 a.m. Holy Baptism

In the Nave. Preacher: Dean Smalley

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

In the Refectory. Preacher: Michael Weeks

### 11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Preacher: Dean Smalley

### 5:00 p.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Michael Weeks

We will livestream the 9:00 Nave, 11:00, and 5:00 services.

Visit [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](https://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 Story of Anglicanism* – Gerald Bray

**When in Romans** (Chapter Room) – *From Death to Life (In Whose Service Is Perfect Freedom)* (6:1–7:6) – Gil Kracke

**Interpreting Daniel's Visions** (Living Room) – Bill Wortman

**Faith and Family** (Assembly Hall) – *Three Questions Every Child Asks* – Cameron Cole

### Children's & Youth Education:

Our 3s and 4s classes meet at 9:00 a.m. Children in Kindergarten-3rd grade start the 9:00 service in church before leaving during the children's dismissal to meet teachers in Clingman Commons. Children in 4th grade and higher and youth have classes between the 9:00 and 11:00 services. See Sunday's service bulletin for details.

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!



## spiritual growth & fellowship

### Women's Ministries

#### Winter Gathering with Julie Sparkman January 12

Start the New Year with the women of the Advent! Join us Thursday, January 12, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209) to hear Julie Sparkman, co-founder of Restore Ministries.

In addition to her private counseling practice, Julie is the author of the popular video teaching series *Idol Addiction*, *Unhitching From the Crazy Train*, and *Six Weeks to Sane Thinking*, and co-host of the podcast, *Head to Heart: Connecting What You Know to How You Live*. Julie's desire is that her teaching would help people "understand the radical and restorative impact of the gospel in their everyday lives." Always engaging and helpful, Julie imparts the truth of the gospel with compelling illustrations and a dry wit.

Register at [AdventBirmingham.org/Women](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Women) or by contacting Janet Dozier ([Janet@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Janet@CathedralAdvent.com)). Contact Leslie Housman ([Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-226-3511) with questions.

#### Register Now for the Women's Retreat February 3-5

*"When we doubt God's love, we'll do all we can to control the circumstances and the people in our lives. When we know we are loved, we can surrender to anything. For this reason, we might say that the greatest battle of the Christian life is to believe that we are loved... and that the greatest question is, 'What keeps me from fully believing this?'"*

Do you ever struggle to fully believe you are truly loved? Join us Friday evening, February 3, through Sunday morning, February 5, for a wonderful weekend of rest and renewal with the Rev. Lisa Wheeler (*right*), Deacon and Assistant to the Rector at Church of the Apostles in Columbia, South Carolina. Lisa will take us through 1 and 2 Samuel, leading us to see how our confidence in God's love carries us through seasons of vulnerability, prosperity, and personal failure and helping us enter more deeply into the knowledge that we are cherished daughters of the King.



Cost for the retreat at Children's Harbor covers lodging, all five meals, snacks, programming, and materials. For details and registration go to [AdventBirmingham.org/Women](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Women). Questions? Contact Leslie Housman ([Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-226-3511).

### Caregivers Support Group

#### Next Lunch Gathering Set for January 13

Caregivers are invited to a monthly lunch with others who have been impacted by the increasing demands of caring for a loved one. The next gathering will be Friday, January 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 for lunch or for more information, contact Stella Schreiber ([Stella@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Stella@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-443-8558).

## Parish Meeting to Include Vestry Election January 22

The annual Parish Meeting of the Cathedral Church of the Advent will be held Sunday, January 22, 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:

- Craig Brady
- Richard Cook
- Lindsey Druhan
- Rachel Fry
- Charles Gaston
- Jen Green
- Kelly Hulsey
- Kathryn Keith
- Josh Menendez
- Bart Moore
- Claiborne Morris
- Thomas Nelson
- Emily Pruet
- Kate Ray
- Charlie Sharp
- Britt Thames
- Stacy Townsend
- Jason Wallace
- Chris Weingartner
- Forsyth White

The meeting will also include Dean Smalley's address to the Parish, a report from the Treasurer, and a word from the Senior Warden. Watch for more information to come about the Parish Meeting.

## Offering Envelopes Available

If you requested offering envelopes on your 2023 pledge card, you can pick them up in Clingman Commons. Please note that you have been assigned a new envelope number. Contact Beth Anne Maier with questions ([BethAnne@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:BethAnne@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-226-3517).

### Youth Ministry

**Jr. High:** Youth Group returns this Sunday, January 8, 6:00 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). We'll have dinner and games, and we'll spend some time in God's word.

**Sr. High:** Family Dinner is back this Sunday, January 8, 7:17 p.m. at Cranmer House. The theme is "PJ Night," so dress accordingly.

For more information on our Youth Ministry, contact Mary Ann McCarty ([MaryAnn@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:MaryAnn@CathedralAdvent.com), 601-513-2122) or Will Fagan ([Fagan@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Fagan@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-382-3293).

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



## worship

### Children's Ministries

#### 3K, 4K, and Kindergarten to Sing at Baptism this Sunday

Our 3K, 4K, and Kindergarten classes will sing this Sunday, January 8, when we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism during the 9:00 service in the Nave. Please drop off your 3K and 4K children in the Chapter Room between 8:45 and 9:00 a.m. Please have your Kindergarten walk to the front of the Nave when 3K and 4K stand up to sing. We look forward to continuing this special tradition! Contact Tara Davis ([Tara@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Tara@CathedralAdvent.com)) with questions.

### Choral Evensong

#### Weeknight Worship on January 19

The Cathedral Choir will sing Choral Evensong on Thursday, January 19, 5:30 p.m. in the Nave. A sung version of the Evening Prayer service, Evensong is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. Its primary purpose is to proclaim the wonderful works of God in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ through prayer and praise. All are invited to come and worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, and find rest in the gospel message.



### Lectionary this Sunday, January 8

Psalm 29 • Isaiah 42:1-9  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matthew 3:13-17



## spiritual growth & fellowship

### Ageless Adventers

#### Next Third Wednesday Luncheon Is January 18

Please join us for our Ageless Adventers Third Wednesday luncheon on January 18, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Our speaker will be Tara Davis, the Advent's Director of Children's Ministries.

Whether you are still actively working, newly retired, or have been enjoying flexibility for decades, you are welcome! To RSVP or for more information, contact Stella Schreiber ([Stella@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Stella@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-443-8558).

And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."  
- Matthew 3:16-17



## education

### Women's Bible Study

#### Wednesday Lunchtime Study to Resume January 11

Advent women and our neighbors at Park Place and Veranda are invited for Bible study, discussion, and lunch on Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Chapter Room. The group is led by Jane Menendez, Leslie Housman, Clariesse Hardy, and Brenda Anderson. Please contact Janet Dozier ([Janet@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Janet@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-226-3503) by 11:00 a.m. each Monday so she can reserve a lunch for you.

### Thursday Morning Moms

#### Bible Study for Moms of Young Children to Resume January 12

Are you a mom of little ones? Could you use a break, a time to share and pray with other women in the throes of this joyful but exhausting season of life? In the midst of laundry and naps, preschool carpools and field trips, do you struggle to find any time for yourself, let alone time for personal Bible study?

Join the Thursday Morning Moms weekly in the Advent's Living Room from 9:30-11:00 a.m. for Bible study, fellowship, and prayer. The Nursery is available, and you can jump in at any time. Led by Leslie Housman, the group is studying Matthew's Gospel. Contact Leslie Housman ([Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-226-3511) with any questions or to let us know you're coming.



## making music

### Midday Music

#### Music for Two Cellos January 20

Our Midday Music Series will continue on Friday, January 20, 12:30 p.m. in the Nave with a free, 30-minute program of music for cello duo, with Warren Samples, Principal Cellist of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra since 1986, and Lauren Peacock, newly appointed Assistant Principal Cellist of the ASO. Their program will include music by Bela Bartok, Jacques Offenbach, and José Elizondo.

The concert will also be livestreamed on [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Live), and be made available for later listening at any time. Please do not miss the opportunity to enjoy music performed by these outstanding musicians!

**Advent House:** Intercessory prayer is on-going through the Advent House Prayer Ministry. To schedule a prayer session at Advent House, call Kathy Logue at 205-410-4622.

## diocesan staff

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

The Rt. Rev. Brian Prior, Assisting Bishop of Alabama

## advent staff

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

The Rev. Canon Katherine P. Jacob, Deacon

The Rev. Dr. Michael Weeks, Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Wes Sharp, Clergy Associate

The Rev. Canon Ben DeHart, Canon for Parish Life

The Rev. Canon Jay Gardner, Canon Pastor

## memorials:

### Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

**John Hamilton Schuler:** (Pastoral Care) by Pat and Ben Carroll • (Garden Fund) by Mr. and Mrs. Francis Crockard, Jr. • (Endowment Fund) by David and Teresa Carroll; Hatton C.V. Smith; Vivian and Carlisle Jones; Carla and Bob Reich

**John and Elizabeth Schuler:** (Endowment Fund) by Diana and Bill Slaughter

**Frank Edward Lankford, Jr.:** (Music Discretionary Fund) by Charles and Courtney Wade; Mary and Victor Hanson; William Goodrich; Jane Gillespy • (Pastoral Care) by Mrs. Thomas A.S. Wilson

**Emmett Theodore Kohler:** (Pastoral Care) by Alice Bowsher  
**In Honor of Fred Teardo's 10th and Charles Kennedy's 15th Anniversary at the Advent:** (Music Discretionary Fund) by Bill McElwee and Thomas Graves

**In Honor of Lyn Lanier:** (Music Discretionary Fund) by Bobbi Lecznar



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## calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 8 Regular worship schedule Jr. High Youth Group - Cranmer House - 6:00 p.m. Sr. High Family Dinner - 7:17 p.m.	9	10	11	12 Women's Winter Gathering - Cranmer House - 6:30 p.m.	13 Caregivers Support Luncheon - Cranmer House - noon	14
Jan 15 Regular worship schedule	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Church Office closed	17	18 Ageless Adventers Third Wednesday - Cranmer House - noon	19 Choral Evensong - Nave - 5:30 p.m.	20 Midday Music - Nave - 12:30 p.m.	21

Monday-Friday (No meeting January 16): 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.