

Adventurer

Epiphany

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 43, No. 1

The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Week of January 6, 2019



News & Events

Mike Weeks to Continue Serving on Clergy Staff



We are grateful that Mike Weeks (*left*) will continue to serve at the Advent in 2019 as our Assisting Clergy. As many know, Mike has served in a limited role this year, as he worked on his Doctor of Ministry degree at Beeson. Having completed that, Mike will remain with us through next December, assisting in various areas and providing general clergy support. Please join us in welcoming Mike in his continued ministry among us.

Organist Michael Unger in Concert January 10

Multiple award-winning organist Michael Unger will perform a free concert on Thursday, January 10, 7:30 p.m. in the Nave. Dr. Unger, who serves as Assistant Professor of Keyboard at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, frequently appears as a soloist and chamber musician in North America, Europe, and Japan. See page 2 for more information.



A Word from Deborah Leighton

The 12 days of Christmas culminate in Epiphany, when we celebrate the coming of the wise men to the baby Jesus, guided by a star. How amazing that God announces the birth of the Light of the World with a miraculous star! Knowing Jesus as the Light that brings truth and salvation and eternal life was a part of my coming to faith as a young child.

During the first five years of my life, my father was rector of a church in Aliquippa, a steel mill town outside Pittsburgh. One of the musicians in his church was a woman named Kathleen Thomerson, who wrote Hymn #490 in our hymnal, which begins, "I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus." I remember Thomerson playing the organ while our church sang that song.

Her song for me is connected with one particularly dark moment when the youth group was gathered for an event at our downtown church. A teenage girl had tried to cross the street in front of the church,

but was hit by a car. She was unresponsive – things looked bleak. The people of the church called 911, and gathered to pray while one woman gave her CPR. The girl came back, seemingly miraculously. Her near-death experience involved what many involve: she saw a bright light, and felt as though she was being drawn towards it before she regained consciousness.

I saw darkness around me and in me, but I wanted to belong to that light that the girl saw. "In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the Light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus."

As we put our trust in Jesus, light and life eternal await us when we see him face to face on the last day. Even now, as we wait, God shines light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Jesus Christ, showing the darkness of our sin and suffering for what it is, and giving us hope that it will not always be like this.

- Deborah

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

- John 1:5

This Sunday: January 6, 2019

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Doug Webster

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Preacher: Doug Webster

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

In the Nave. Preacher: Doug Webster

11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Refectory. Preacher: Canon Schneider

5:00 p.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Canon Schneider

Adult Education: 10:10 - 10:50 a.m.

The Dean's Class (Nave) – *Psalm 87: The Gospel's Universal Appeal and Global Reach* – Doug Webster

Epiphany Stories (Chapter Room) – *Magi from the East* – Jon Harbuck and Steve Tilghman

The First Half: Faith and Finances (Especially for Those Under 45) (Living Room) – Helen and Dickie Owens

Faith and Family (Lower School Library) – *God Knows Families Need a Break: Principles of Sabbath* – Cameron Cole

Children's & Youth Education:

Classes are offered for 3-years and older. See Sunday's service leaflet for details. The Nursery is open 8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

At the Five O'Clock service, childcare is available for 4K and younger.

Lectionary:

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon and class recordings are available at AdventBirmingham.org.

The 9:00 a.m. service is broadcast live on WERC 960 AM, 105.5 FM, and AdventBirmingham.org.



GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!



making music

Concert Series

Organist Michael Unger to Perform January 10

The Advent's Concert Series continues Thursday, January 10, 7:30 p.m. in the Nave with a performance by the multiple award-winning organist Michael Unger. Dr. Unger (*right*), who serves as Assistant Professor of Keyboard at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, frequently appears as a soloist and chamber musician in North America, Europe, and Japan. He was a First Prize winner of the International Organ Competition Musashino-Tokyo, as well as a First Prize and Audience Prize winner of the National Young Artists' Competition of the American Guild of Organists. Please join us for his Birmingham debut as he plays the 100-rank Grieb-Williams Organ in this free concert.



No Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting in January

Our monthly prayer gathering will not meet Monday, January 7. We will resume our meetings on Monday, February 4, 7:15 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Typically held the first Monday of every month, the hour-long meeting is set aside to pray for the Advent.



serving & outreach

Food Drive

Bring Non-Perishable Items on January 13

We will collect non-perishable food items after the 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. services on Sunday, January 13. This year's Food Drive once again will support our ministry partner, Bridge Ministries. Bridge focuses on preventing homelessness in the Birmingham area by assisting people in crisis situations to pay their rent or utility bills or to secure temporary emergency lodging.

Food pantry needs include canned meats and fish; peanut butter; canned vegetables and fruits; hearty soups, stews, and chili; dried beans, peas, and rice; whole grain pasta; cereal (low sugar and oatmeal preferred); powered or canned milk. *Please check expiration dates* and avoid open containers.

For more information, please contact Bethany Rushing (Bethany@CathedralAdvent.com).



education

Small Groups

Study for Dads with Sons: Join Us Starting January 7

Join Mell Duggan and Jim Dixon as they lead fathers through case studies of men in the Bible as a guide for understanding how God's truth and gospel inform the raising of a boy. This men's group will meet on Monday mornings at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209), 6:30-7:30 a.m. starting January 7. Contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 443-8562) to sign up.

Group for Women in Their 20s and 30s Starts January 9

Sally Goings and Gretchen Williams will lead this group at Sally's home (4404 Corinth Drive, 35213). This 10-week study will meet on Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 p.m. beginning January 9. On the last Wednesday of each month, the group will attend the Young Adult Community Dinner at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). To sign up or for more information, contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com).

New Bible Study for Men in Their 20s and 30s

Mike Weeks (Advent's Assisting Clergy), Alfred Goings, and Allan Causey will lead this study on Tuesdays beginning January 15, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Alfred Goings' home (4404 Corinth Drive, 35213). To sign up, contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 443-8562).



spiritual growth & fellowship

Youth Ministry

Sr. High: "Pajama Night" Family Dinner this Sunday

All Sr. High youth are invited to join us for our Family Dinner this Sunday, January 6, 6:57-8:15 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). The theme is "Pajama Night," so wear your favorite PJs! Contact Rebecca Lankford (Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com).

Ageless Adventers

Fellowship in the Pines January 7

All Adventers are invited to join our friends at St. Martin's for lunch and a word from Canon Smalley on Monday, January 7, at noon. Lunch is served in the private dining room of The Arbors at St. Martin's (4941 Montevallo Road, 35210). Find out more by contacting Stella Schreiber (443-8558).

Support Group

For Mothers of Special-Needs Children

A six-week support group for mothers of children with special needs will meet on Thursdays from January 17-February 21, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). The group will provide space to reflect on how parenting children with special needs impacts our relationships, views of ourselves, and our spirituality, among other topics. For more information or to sign up, contact Stella Schreiber (443-8558, Stella@CathedralAdvent.com).

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



education

Inquirers' Class

The New Year Brings New Classes

We will offer a weeknight Inquirers' Class series on four Thursday evenings beginning January 17, 7:00-8:45 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209).

Our Sunday-morning spring series will meet for eight weeks beginning February 24 during the Sunday School hour, 10:10-10:50 a.m. in the Diocesan Conference Room.

For more information on the classes or joining the Advent, contact Fontaine Pope 443-8562, Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com.

Youth Confirmation

Classes for 6th Graders to Begin January 27

Confirmation for 6th graders will begin on Sunday, January 27. That morning during the 9:00 service, students will report to the Coe Conference Room as the younger children leave at the announcements. That night at 6:00 p.m., we will host a Confirmation kickoff dinner for parents and 6th graders in the Refectory. Please contact Rachel Cain for more information (Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com).



spiritual growth & fellowship

Women's Ministry

Luncheon with Charlotte Botsford Getz January 30

Ladies of all ages are invited to a luncheon on Wednesday, January 30, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Clingman Commons with speaker Charlotte Botsford Getz. Charlotte grew up at the Advent and worked on staff in youth ministry before marrying and starting a family. She serves as the blog editor for Rooted Ministry, and co-wrote her first book, *Unmapped*, published last year. She will speak on, "A Woman and a Well: the Living Water of the God Who Sees Us."

Lunch cost is \$10. Register online at AdventBirmingham.org.

Youth Ministry

Jr. High: Register Now for RYM Beach Trip June 24-28

All current 6th-8th graders are invited to the Reformed Youth Ministries conference in Panama City Beach, Florida, June 24-28. This week is full of incredible speakers, spiritual growth, team games, beach time, and loads of fun. The cost is \$535 per student. We have scholarships available for any families who need it.

Sign up at AdventBirmingham.org/Youth. Registration closes January 15, so do it today. Contact Rachel Cain (Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com) for more information.

Parish Meeting Set for January 27

The annual Parish Meeting will be Sunday, January 27, 10:10 a.m. in the Nave. Dean Pearson will deliver his annual address to the parish, and parishioners will elect 10 persons to serve on the Vestry. The nominees are as follows:

Fran Cade, Richard Cook, Fred Elliott, Shirley Elliott, Sam Everette, Ford Hamilton, Mary Hanson, John Hargrove, Melinda King, Glynn Lassiter, Miriam Morris, Craig Ogard, Brad Oser, Ed Partridge, Emily Price, Frank Springfield, Shirley Anne Stringfellow, Browning Thornton, Chris Weingartner, Jay Wright.

Offering Envelopes Available in Clingman

If you requested offering envelopes on your 2019 Pledge Card, you can pick them up in Clingman Commons. Please note that you have been assigned a new envelope number.



worship

Evensong

Sung Service of Evening Prayer Set for January 17

The Cathedral Choir will sing Choral Evensong on Thursday, January 17, 5:30 p.m. in the Nave. Evensong, a sung version of the Evening Prayer service, is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. This service offers an evening of respite and rest during the work week. Doug Webster will preach, with the Rev. Katherine Jacob officiating. Join us for worship of our Lord and Savior through prayer and song.



bookstore

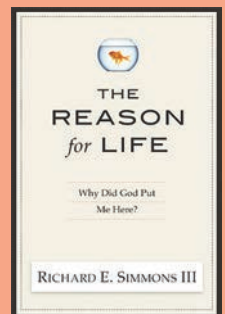
Why Did God Put Me Here?

Richard Simmons' new book, *The Reason for Life: Why Did God Put Me Here?*, has just arrived in the store. In this book Simmons seeks to answer "Why was I born?", "Why am I living?", and other questions concerning "If there is a God out there, why did he put me here?". Join Richard on his journey to understand what is the reason for life.

The Bookstore needs you! A new schedule for Sunday volunteers will start in February. Sunday volunteers usually help about one Sunday per month, 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. If you are interested in joining us, please call Cindy Funderburk (323-2959).

Our After-Christmas Sale continues, with 50-percent off sale items.

Store hours are Sunday, 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., and Monday-Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Contact us: 323-2959, Bookstore@CathedralAdvent.com. Visit us any time: AdventBirmingham.org/Bookstore.



diocesan staff

The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan, Bishop of Alabama

advent staff

The Very Rev. Andrew C. Pearson, Jr., Dean and Rector

The Rev. Canon R. Craig Smalley, Canon Pastor and Day School Chaplain

The Rev. Canon Matthew C. Schneider, Canon for Parish Life and Evangelism

The Rev. Canon Zac Hicks, Canon for Liturgy and Worship

The Rev. Deborah R. Leighton, Director of Women's Ministries and Clergy Associate

The Rev. Katherine P. Jacob, Deacon

The Rev. Michael Weeks, Assisting Clergy

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 226-3500.

Advent House: Intercessory prayer is on-going at Advent House. If you would like to schedule a prayer session, please call Kathy Logue at 410-4622.

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Marian "Teeny" Brannon: (Endowment Fund) by Mary M. Smith

Brian Keith: (Endowment Fund) by Patsy McCall

Sidney Allen: (Endowment Fund) by Grace and Doug Bethay

Elizabeth Eschelmann: (Endowment Fund) by Vail Jeavons

John Worrell Poyner: (Lenten Lunches) by Mr. and Mrs. Greg Curran • (Outreach) by Mr. and Mrs. E. Mabry Rogers

In Honor of Leo Adam Brown: (Garden Fund) by Elizabeth and Charles Scribner



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calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 6 Regular worship schedule Sr. High Youth Family Dinner - Cranmer House - 6:57 p.m.	7 Fellowship in the Pines - St. Martin's - noon	8	9	10 Sunrise Sinners - Refectory - 7:00 a.m. Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m. Michael Unger Organ Concert- Nave - 7:30 p.m.	11	12
Jan 13 Regular worship schedule	14	15	16 Ageless Adventers Third Wednesday - Cranmer House - noon	17 Sunrise Sinners - Refectory - 7:00 a.m. Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m. Choral Evensong- Nave - 5:30 p.m.	18	19

Every Sunday: Breakfast – Refectory, 8:00 a.m.

Monday-Friday: AA – Coe Conference Room, noon

We have more Bible studies, book studies, and groups of all kinds meeting than we can list on the calendar! Please join us in praising God for this blessing and visit AdventBirmingham.org/BibleStudies for a complete list of options available to you. If you have any questions, please contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 443-8562).