

# Adventurer

Epiphany

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 43, No. 3

The Second Sunday After the Epiphany

Week of January 20, 2019



## News & Events

### Parish Meeting Set for January 27

The Advent's annual Parish Meeting will be Sunday, January 27, 10:05 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. See page 2 for more information.

### Birmingham Boys Choir to Sing at Midday January 25

Our Midday Music series continues Friday, January 25, 12:30 p.m. in the Nave with a free, 30-minute concert by the Birmingham Boys Choir, directed by Ken Berg. Showcasing some of the area's most talented youth, the choir includes boys ages 8-18 from more than 35 schools in the region. See photo on page 2.

### Women's Luncheon with Charlotte Getz January 30

Charlotte Getz will speak at the Women's Luncheon on Wednesday, January 30, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Clingman Commons. 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. Register for lunch and the nursery at [AdventBirmingham.org/News](http://AdventBirmingham.org/News). See page 2 for more information.



## A Word from the Dean

In the past week I have been confronted by a question and an article concerning the nature and place of grace in the life of the Christian. Behind each is the explicit worry

that by preaching God's unmerited grace in Jesus, people would be led to take advantage of this gift. The answer, of course, is yes; you and I as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ will take advantage, and take for granted, his grace. To deny such is to deny the truth of our nature (1 John 1:8).

The real question is what does the Christian life look like and what is the place of God's law in our lives? Because those who worry about too much grace believe that the answer is either to create a balancing act between grace and the law or just to turn up the volume of the law until your life gets back on track. Neither of these approaches is to be found in the Bible, unless you're looking to drive someone away from the grace of God and leave them to their

own feeble strength. (Look at the counsel Job's friends give him or Paul's own struggle in Romans 7.)

The preaching of God's grace for sinners is not over and against the law, for the law has its place: its job is to convict sinners. The law is the mirror that shows us our face is dirty, but it alone does not have the power to cleanse. It points us to the soap of the gospel of Jesus Christ who alone can save. The law cannot produce righteousness (Romans 8:3).

I believe the answer centers around a biblical understanding of human nature. If we think that we have the strength within ourselves to right our lives spiritually, then the law is the way to go. But if we understand "that we have no power of ourselves to keep ourselves," then we have only one place to turn and that is Jesus Christ.

The gospel is not just for unbelievers; even those of us who are being saved are in constant need of hearing the message of God's love for sinners.

- Andrew

**Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?**

- Romans 2:4

## This Sunday: January 20, 2019

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

Preacher: Canon Schneider

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

Preacher: Canon Schneider

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

In the Nave. Preacher: Canon Schneider

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

In the Refectory. Preacher: Mike Weeks

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

Preacher: Mike Weeks

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

**The Dean's Class** (Nave) – *The Parables: Mercy Over Merit* – Doug Webster

**Epiphany Stories** (Chapter Room) – *Epiphanies Old and New* – Jon Harbuck and Steve Tilghman

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 36:5-10

Isaiah 62:1-5

1 Corinthians 1:4-17

John 2:1-11

Sermon and class recordings are available at [AdventBirmingham.org](http://AdventBirmingham.org).

The 9:00 a.m. service is broadcast live on WERC 960 AM, 105.5 FM, and [AdventBirmingham.org](http://AdventBirmingham.org).



# GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

## Parish Meeting Set for January 27

The annual Parish Meeting of the Cathedral Church of the Advent will be Sunday, January 27, beginning at 10:05 a.m. in the Nave. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to hear directly from the Dean about "the state of the parish" – looking back over the past year and looking ahead to 2019 and beyond.

Also at the meeting, 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.

If you're at the 9:00 a.m. service, please stay for this meeting; if you're attending an 11:00 a.m. service, please come early for this 10:05 a.m. meeting. Early service and Five O'Clock regulars will also find it worth their while to make a special trip to attend this once-a-year, important parish gathering.

We hope to see you there.



## making music

### Midday Music



#### Birmingham Boys Choir to Perform January 25

The Birmingham Boys Choir (*above*) will present Midday Music concert on Friday, January 25, 12:30 p.m. in the Nave. The choir is conducted by Ken Berg, who has led the ensemble since 1978, and accompanied by pianist Susan Berg. All are warmly invited to this free, 30-minute concert featuring some of the area's most talented youth.



## spiritual growth & fellowship

### Women's Ministry

#### Luncheon with Charlotte 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 Getz (*right*). Charlotte grew up at the Advent and worked on staff in youth ministry before marrying and starting a family, with whom she resides in California. She serves as the blog editor for Rooted Ministry, and contributes to other blogs, including Mockingbird. She co-wrote her first book, *Unmapped*, published last year.



Charlotte will speak on, "A Woman and a Well: The Living Water of the God Who Sees Us." Lunch is \$10, and a nursery is available. Register online for lunch and nursery at [AdventBirmingham.org/News](http://AdventBirmingham.org/News). Contact Deborah Leighton ([Deborah@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Deborah@CathedralAdvent.com)).

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge... so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift. - 1 Corinthians 1:4-5, 7a

### Youth Ministry

#### Jr. High: Last Call to Sign Up for RYM Beach Trip

This Sunday, January 20, is the deadline to register for the Reformed Youth Ministries conference in Panama City Beach, Florida, so sign up today! All 6th-8th graders are invited to the conference, set for 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.

Register at [AdventBirmingham.org/Youth](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Youth). Contact Rachel Cain ([Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com), 443-8551) for more information.

#### Next Sr. High Family Dinner Is January 27

All Sr. High youth are invited for dinner, games, and a lesson at our next Family Dinner on Sunday, January 27, 6:57-8:15 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). The theme is "Ski Night," so come dressed ready for the slopes. For more information, contact Rebecca Lankford ([Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com)).

### Young Adults Ministry

#### Next Community Meal Is January 30

If you are in your 20s or 30s, join us for food, fellowship, and a talk from Bethany Rushing and Global Teams representatives Sheryl Shaw and Curtis Chanda on Wednesday, January 30, 6:30 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Bethany is the Advent's Director of Mission and Outreach, and Global Teams is one of the Advent's ministry partners. Contact Mike Weeks ([Weeks@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Weeks@CathedralAdvent.com)) for more information.

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

### Youth Confirmation

#### Classes for 6th Graders 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 they leave with the younger children 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](mailto:Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com)).

### The Forum

#### Global Teams Reps to Speak January 27

Join us for the next gathering of The Forum on Sunday, January 27, 6:15 p.m. in Clingman Commons, immediately following the Five O'Clock service. Friends from our ministry partner, Global Teams, will be in town, sharing about building relationships with people who do not follow Jesus. Sheryl Shaw, North America Director, and Curtis Chanda, Global Teams' new International Director, will share stories of evangelism and relationship building in different cultural contexts and lead us in a discussion on how we can form intentional relationships in our own neighborhoods.



Above: Sheryl Shaw of Global Teams (right) with a board member of the Chisomo Orphan Care Center in Malawi

Dinner will be provided, but feel free to bring contributions as well. Children are always welcome at The Forum. Contact Anita Gray ([Anita@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Anita@CathedralAdvent.com)) for more information.

### Book Group

#### Group Reading *On Reading Well*

The Advent Book Group will discuss Karen Swallow Prior's *On Reading Well* on Wednesday, February 6, 7:00 p.m. at the home of James and Lyn Bradford (2500 Aberdeen Road, 35223). Prior is an English professor and Christian essayist/writer. In *On Reading Well*, she explores Christian themes and virtues through her reading of works by authors ranging from Henry Fielding to Cormac McCarthy, Jane Austen to Flannery O'Connor. New members are always welcome. Please contact James Bradford ([JBradford@Balch.com](mailto:JBradford@Balch.com), 873-5833) if you plan to attend or for more information.

**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.

### Holiday Closings

The Church Office and the Advent Bookstore will be closed Monday, January 21, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Both will reopen Tuesday, January 22.



## spiritual growth & fellowship

### Advent House Prayer Ministry

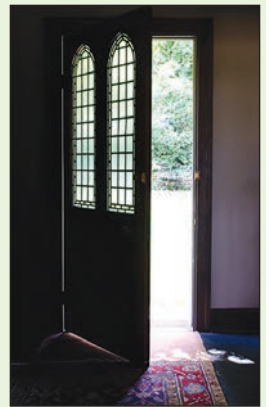
#### Prayer Continues at Advent House

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

- Philippians 4:4

The Advent House Prayer Ministry welcomes you to come for prayer. Whatever your need may be – whether you are seeking God's healing where there is brokenness in your life, seeking God's guidance when looking for direction, or seeking God's comfort amid hardship – come and take your need to God in prayer. Prayer intercessors, trusting in the grace and truth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, will pray on your behalf.

If you would like to schedule a prayer appointment at Advent House (2317 Arlington Avenue, 35205), please contact Kathy Logue at 410-4622.



## bookstore

### A Sunday-Morning Service Opportunity

The Bookstore needs some Sunday volunteers. 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 this ministry, please call Cindy Funderburk (323-2959).

We're still pulling gifts, books, and jewelry to add to our After-Christmas Sale, with items 50-percent off regular price. Come in to see what bargains are available!

The Bookstore will be closed Monday, January 21, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Regular 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](mailto:Bookstore@CathedralAdvent.com). Visit us any time: [AdventBirmingham.org/Bookstore](http://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

## memorials:

### Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

**Betty Tanner:** (Speakers Fund) by Mary and Victor Hanson;  
Page and Peter Poerschke; H.E. and Kathryn Logue

**Alice Ashton:** (Pastoral Care) by Allen and Kathryn Corey

**John Worrell Poynor:** (Pastoral Care) by Allen and Kathryn  
Corey • (Music Discretionary Fund) by Charlie and Jane Sharp;  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Warren B. Rhett

**Donna Jean Watkins Gaston:** (Pastoral Care) by Allen and Kathryn  
Corey

**Barbara Bankhead Oliver:** (Pastoral Care) by Allen and Kathryn  
Corey

**In Honor of Mildred Knight:** (Endowment Fund) by Ellyn Grady

**In Thanksgiving for Chip Schramm and Family:** (Podcast Fund)  
by Elizabeth Schramm

**In Thanksgiving for Christmas:** (Endowment Fund) by Terry Harris

**In Honor of Joshua:** (Endowment Fund) by Terry Harris



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## calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 20 Regular worship schedule	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Church Office and Bookstore closed	22	23	24 Sunrise Sinners - Refectory - 7:00 a.m. Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m.	25 Midday Music - Nave - 12:30 p.m.	26
Jan 27 Regular worship schedule Parish Meeting - Nave - 10:05 a.m. Youth Confirmation Dinner - Refectory - 6:00 p.m. The Forum - Cling- man - 6:15 p.m.	28	29	30 Women's Luncheon - Clingman - 11:00 a.m. Young Adults Community Meal - Cranmer House - 6:30 p.m.	31 Sunrise Sinners - Refectory - 7:00 a.m. Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m.	Feb 1	2

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

Monday-Friday (No meeting January 21): 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](http://AdventBirmingham.org/BibleStudies) for a complete list of options available to you. If you have any questions, please contact Fontaine Pope ([Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com), 443-8562).