

# Adventurer

Epiphany



OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL

Vol. 43, No. 4

The Third Sunday After the Epiphany

Week of January 27, 2019



## News & Events

### Annual Parish Meeting Is this Sunday

The 146th annual Parish Meeting of the Cathedral Church of the Advent will be held this Sunday, January 27, beginning at 10:05 a.m. in the Nave. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to hear directly from Dean Pearson about “the state of the parish” in his annual address – 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. (Those entitled to vote are confirmed/received members of the Advent age 16 and above.) Sunday School teachers may pick up and cast ballots in the Chapter Room. See *the insert for profiles of the Vestry nominees*.

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. Regular attendees of the 7:30 a.m. and Five O'Clock services 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.



## A Word from Canon Hicks

It doesn't sound like I should be so chipper about this, but one of the singular blessings of being in the line of work I'm in (maybe it's like this for doctors, too) is that it places me in constant proximity to the dying. I say it's a blessing because life, at least at my age and stage, has a vortex-like way of sucking me down black holes of meaningless superficiality: hours wasted scrolling through social media; burning time in half-interested Netflix watching. I find far too often my conversations with others remaining on the surface of how-was-your-week chit chat. But a hospital visit or sharing communion with someone in their home has a unique way of firing a red-hot laser beam of clarity through the fog of the insignificant ventures, the petty pursuits, and the unworthy passions of life.

It's this very clarity that Paul is getting at when he says, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth

comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us” (Romans 8:18). Elsewhere, the apostle says that our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an “eternal weight of glory” (2 Cor. 4:17). It's as though God is reminding us that there exists a table of spiritual weights and measures, and we are to be about the “heavy” things.

If I'm talking with someone, what's a more spiritually “heavy” question to ask: How's your week? Or how's your *faith*? Maybe a more “dense” activity is not scrolling through Instagram, looking at pictures of my friends, but turning the pages of my Bible, listening to the voice of God. I certainly don't want to discount the place of all these things – leisure, connection with others through social media, even “How's your week?” But I do hope and pray that God would be pleased to bear the fruit in me and in you that will show itself to last once all the superficial stuff of life is dead and gone. I hope for more, by God's grace, than just salvation “so as through fire” (1 Cor. 3:12-15). Oh God, make it so.

- Zac

**We look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.**

- 2 Corinthians 4:18

## This Sunday: January 27, 2019

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

Preacher: Canon Smalley

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

Preacher: Canon Smalley

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

In the Nave. Preacher: Canon Smalley

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

In the Refectory. Preacher: Canon Schneider

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

Preacher: Canon Schneider

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

Adult classes will not meet this Sunday, January 27, due to the annual Parish Meeting. Classes will resume next Sunday, February 3.

### Children's & Youth Education:

Classes are offered for 3-years and older. See Sunday's service bulletin 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:

Psalms 19

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Luke 4:14-21

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!



## spiritual growth & fellowship

### Women's Ministry

#### Charlotte Getz to Speak at Luncheon 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. Her talk is entitled, "A Woman and a Well: The Living Water of the God Who Sees Us." 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 received her B.A. in Creative Writing from Pepperdine University, and her M.F.A. in Photography from SCAD. 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.

Ladies of all ages are invited to the luncheon. The cost 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)).



### Youth Ministry

#### Sr. High: "Ski Night" Family Dinner Is this Sunday

All Sr. High youth are invited for dinner, games, and a lesson at our next Family Dinner this 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)).

#### Jr. High: Deadline Extended for RYM Beach Trip... But Not by Much!

If you haven't signed up for the Reformed Youth Ministries conference in Panama City Beach, Florida, do it today! The registration deadline has been extended to Thursday, January 31. 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. All we need at this point is a deposit to secure the spots for registration. We have scholarships available for any families who need it.

Register at [AdventBirmingham.org/Youth](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Youth). If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Cain ([Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com), 443-8551).



## education

### Youth Confirmation

#### Classes for 6th Graders Begin this Sunday

Confirmation for 6th graders will begin this Sunday, January 27. During the 9:00 a.m. service, students will report to the Coe Conference Room as they leave with the younger children at the announcements. This Sunday evening 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 this Sunday

Join us for the next gathering of The Forum this 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 (*right*), 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.

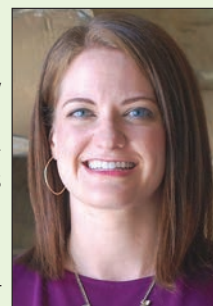
Dinner will be provided, but feel free to bring contributions as well. Children are always welcome at The Forum. Contact Anita Gray ([Anita@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Anita@CathedralAdvent.com)) for more information.



### Young Adults Ministry

#### Community Meal Set for 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 (*right*) 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.



### Ageless Adventers

#### Fellowship in the Pines February 4

All Adventers are invited to join our friends at St. Martin's for lunch and a word from Canon Smalley on Monday, February 4, 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, [Stella@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto: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

## Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting February 4

All parishioners are invited to a prayer gathering 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.



## servicing & outreach

### Lenten Lunches

#### Lunch Tickets, Sponsorships, and More Sunday Morning

Are you looking for a great way to connect with your friends, family, and neighbors who work downtown? Or, would you like to give toward a gospel-based fundraiser? Perhaps you long for a meaningful way to serve during March and April? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please stop by the Lenten Lunches table in Clingman Commons this Sunday, January 27. The Lenten Lunches Chairing Team would love to connect you with lunch tickets, sponsorship pledges, and volunteer opportunities.



### Food Drive

Thank you to all who participated in our annual Food Drive on January 13. We're grateful for your generosity and the dozens of boxes we get to send to our local partner Bridge Ministries. Bridge works to prevent homelessness in the Birmingham area by assisting people in crisis situations to pay their rent or utility bills or to secure temporary emergency lodging.



## education

### Newcomers' Tour

#### Tour of the Advent Offered February 3

*I'm new here: Where is everything?* Join us for a tour of the Advent on Sunday, February 3. We will meet at 10:10 a.m. in the garden area near the entrance to the Diocesan Conference Room. For more information, contact Fontaine Pope ([Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com), 443-8562).

### 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.

**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.



## bookstore

### There Is Still Time!

Check out our sale! The store continues its January Inventory Sale, with most items 50-percent off regular price. There are some fantastic buys available – four shelves of beautiful jewelry, children's books, stuffed lambs, wall crosses – and just added, a special 25-percent off select Anne Neilson products.

The Bookstore needs some Sunday volunteers. This time of year is a great time to see if helping in the store is for you! The next volunteer schedule will cover February through May. 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).

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

## transitions:

**Baptisms:** Thompson Bethea Mills, son of Mark and Caroline; Elizabeth Alabama Murthy, daughter of Sandeep and Elizabeth; Grace Elise Nechtman, daughter of Carl and Elise; Charles Fox Nielsen, son of Beeland and Grace; Averie James Roberts, daughter of James and Danielle; Kinleigh Elizabeth van Elkan, daughter of Eric and Casey; Susan Elizabeth Webb, daughter of James and Sarah; all on January 13

**Death:** Thomas Crawford Clark, Jr., on January 15

## memorials:

**Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:**

**Eiland Eland Anthony, Jr.:** (Music Discretionary Fund) by Jane Watwood Gibbs; Lyn Lanier and Bobbi Lecznar; Samuel E. Urmev

**Helen B. Wier:** (Music Discretionary Fund) by Angela Wier  
**In Thanksgiving for Bethany Rushing:** (Outreach) by Elizabeth and Charles Scribner



Cathedral Church of the Advent  
2017 6th Avenue North  
Birmingham, AL 35203-2701

Periodical Postage Paid  
Birmingham, AL

Published weekly (except bi-weekly June 15-August 15) USPS 055150 for no subscription fee by the Cathedral Church of the Advent, 2017 6th Ave North, Birmingham, AL 35203-2701.  
Periodical postage paid at Birmingham, AL POSTMASTER: Send changes to THE ADVENTURER OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT, 2017 6th Ave North, Birmingham, AL 35203-2701.

## calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 27 Regular worship schedule Parish Meeting - Nave - 10:05 a.m. Youth Confirmation Dinner - Refectory - 6:00 p.m. The Forum - Clingman - 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
Feb 3 Regular worship schedule Jr. High Youth Super Bowl Party - 4116 Abingdon Lane - 5:15 p.m.	4 Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting - Cranmer House - 7:15 p.m.	5	6	7 Sunrise Sinners - Refectory - 7:00 a.m. Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m.	8	9

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](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).

## NOMINEES FOR THE VESTRY

For election at the annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 27, 2019

*Each profile contains the answer to the question,*

*“What are your hopes for the Cathedral Church of the Advent for the immediate future?”*

**FRAN CADE** – Member 35 years • Volunteer • Husband: Catlin • Former Vestry Member, Christian Education, Small Groups, Women’s Ministries • “I hope that the Advent continues to ‘Take it in. Take it deep. Take it out.’ In other words: I hope and pray that we continue to encourage and challenge each other daily – to take the gospel message in by hearing the word, to continue to take the gospel message deep into our hearts (and therefore be transformed) through prayer and fellowship, and to take the gospel message out through our witness in our specific location and beyond. ‘He is like a tree transplanted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither’ (Psalm 1).”



**RICHARD COOK** – Member 18 years • Portfolio Manager • Wife: Anna • Discipleship Visioning Team, Stewardship Caller, Usher, Luther Germany Trip, Small Group Member • “I hope that the Advent will proclaim justification by faith alone, and thereby be a comfort to sinners like me.”



**FRED ELLIOTT** – Lifelong Member • Banker – Renasant Bank • Wife: Kris • Sunday School Teacher, Usher, Stewardship Caller, Advent Audit Committee, Communications Committee • “From clergy to staff to parishioners, the Advent provides a family we can always count on to be a solid foundation of God’s word despite what is going on in the outside world. It seems that the gospel is pushed aside more and more throughout our society – even in many of our churches. I would like us to find ways to reach out more to those who are thirsting for this message, even when they don’t realize it is what they need. I hope that we build upon being a welcoming and inviting place to those who are searching. My hope is for us to continue to find new ways to let those who are looking know that the gospel is always embraced at the Advent.”



**SHIRLEY ELLIOTT** – Member 35 years • Paralegal • Husband: George • Former Vestry Member, Rwanda Mission Team, Daughters of the King, Stewardship Caller, Five O’Clock Service Altar Guild, Small Group Leader, St. Catherine’s Guild, Former President of Advent ECW Board, Former Lay Rector for Advent’s Cursillo community • “My hopes for the Advent: that we, as a church family, would continue to grow in grace, encouraging one another in the assurance of the gospel and sharing Christ with others in Birmingham and beyond; that the love of Christ would be unmistakable in our words, actions, and relationships; and that those who do not know the Lord would be drawn to him by the Holy Spirit through our worship services, outreach efforts, education, and discipleship ministries.”



**SAM EVERETTE** – Member 20 years • President, Alabama Insurance Alliance, Inc. • Wife: Ennis • Former Vestry Member, Small Group Leader, Former Head Co-Usher, Former Head Men’s Ministry, Stewardship Captain, Cursillo, Alpha Group Leader, Confirmation Table Leader, Sunday School Teacher • “I am thankful that the Lord has used the Advent’s dedication to promote the gospel to open my eyes and my heart to the grace and message of Jesus Christ. This has made such a great impact on our family that it is my hope that the Advent continues to ‘do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in’ both in Birmingham and the world.”



**FORD HAMILTON** – Member 8 years • Wood Fruitticher Foodservice • Wife: Kate • Usher Captain, Stewardship Captain, Small Groups • “My hopes for the Advent are that we continue to preach a message of salvation through grace and that we don’t allow secular concerns to diminish our focus of proclaiming the freeing power of the gospel of Jesus Christ and making disciples wherever God has placed us.”



**MARY HANSON** – Member 40 years • Homemaker • Husband: Victor • Former Vestry Member, Small Group Leader, Advent House Prayer Ministry, Former ECW President, Lenten Lunch Co-Chair, Cursillo Staff • “My hope is for the Advent to stand firm in its mission to ‘proclaim the freeing power of the gospel of Jesus Christ and to make disciples wherever God has placed us.’ I am interested in continuing to foster a culture of welcoming and discipleship training for the Advent family and beyond.”



**JOHN HARGROVE** – Member 30 years • Attorney • Wife: Kelly • Former Vestry Member, Audit Committee, Cursillo, Small Group Leader, Stewardship Chair, Youth Sunday School Teacher, Vine Project • “I hope that the Advent continues to be an engaging and growing congregation excited about communicating and worshipping in new ways while remaining steadfastly committed to the gospel and the sufficiency of Scripture.”



**MELINDA KING** – Member 30 years • Husband: Henry • Advent House Intercessor, Prayer Team, Women’s Ministry, Small Group Leader, Lenten Lunch Volunteer, Mentoring Program • “My hope for the Advent is that we continue to: ‘Love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind,’ in worship and deed; and that we ‘love our neighbor as ourselves’ by connecting members to each other and our community.”



**GLYNN LASSITER** – Member 23 years • Retired Teacher • Husband: Warren (deceased) • Advent House Intercessor, Small Group Leader • “‘Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations’?” (Mark 11:17). My desire is that through prayer, the church, and the Advent specifically, will come into agreement with Jesus and welcome him for who he is – King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Once that is accomplished, we then can respond rightly to any issues Jesus raises with us.”



## NOMINEES FOR THE VESTRY

For election at the annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 27, 2019

*Each profile contains the answer to the question,*

*“What are your hopes for the Cathedral Church of the Advent for the immediate future?”*

**MIRIAM MORRIS** – Member 34 years • Homemaker • Husband: Clay • Sunday School Teacher, Inquirers' Class Helper, ECW/Women's Ministries, St. Catherine's Guild, Lenten Lunches Volunteer Chairman, Ageless Adventers Helper, Outreach Helper, Advent House Guild • “My prayer for the Advent (and myself) in the immediate future is: As the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached and taught at each gathering, our hearts would be so transformed that our weekly worship would feel like a Homecoming with our brothers and sisters in Christ; that our transformed hearts would allow us to put aside fear/pride so that new relationships might grow; and that all of our ministries and programs might flourish and win more hearts for Christ.”



**CRAIG OGARD** – Member 10 years • Construction • Wife: Julie • Men's Hike Ministry, Men's Small Group Bible Study • “My hope for the Advent is what Paul writes to Timothy in 1 Timothy 3:14-15 about the church: ‘...the household of God, which is the Church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.’”



**BRAD OSER** – Member 12 years • Vice President, Healthgrades • Wife: Eleanor • Co-Leader of the Men's Hike, Usher, Sunday School Teacher • “My hope and prayer is that the Advent continues to preach the message of God's unconditional love and grace, and that the message will spread amongst all ages, especially our children. It is through this message of grace that the Advent will continue to be a place of rooted theology, faith-based outreach, and a powerful example for generations to come.”



**ED PARTRIDGE** – Member 30 years • Physician • Wife: Barbara • Former Vestry Member, Sunday School Teacher, Stewardship Chairman, Discernment Team Member, Chalice Bearer • “My hope for the Advent in the immediate future is that our changes in Sunday services add new parishioners seeking the gospel of Christ and that these changes do not cause us to deviate in any way from our dependence on Christ and his saving grace.”



**EMILY PRICE** – Member 12 years • Attorney/Homemaker • Husband: Oscar • St. Amelia's Guild Co-Chair, High School Girls Bible Study Teacher, Sunday School Teacher, Vacation Bible School Volunteer, Lenten Lunches, Adult Sunday School Teacher, Lay Reader • “‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine’ (Isaiah 43:1). This truth molds the believer's heart in two ways: one, knowing how fully loved we are, we desire to share that love with both fellow believers and those who do not know God's love. Two, God's acceptance frees us to seek his call for service to our church family. My hope for the Advent is that our members would joyfully live out the freedom God offers in this verse. I pray that we would provide meaningful opportunities for our members to connect and experience God's love through Bible study, fellowship opportunities, and outreach. I also hope that we can help each of our parishioners to discern and use their God-given talents for ministry.”



**FRANK SPRINGFIELD** – Member 15 years • Attorney • Wife: Caroline • Youth Sunday School Teacher, Usher • “My hope is that we continue to be Christ focused and that we strive to spread the gospel both within the Episcopal Church and beyond.”



**SHIRLEY ANNE STRINGFELLOW** – Member 42 years • Homemaker • Husband: Ed • Former Vestry Member, Former ECW President, Former Lenten Lunch Chair, Former Christian Education Director, Former Hospital Chaplain, St. Alice's Guild, Advent Prayer Minister, Bible Study Teacher, Advent Womens' Ministry Committee, Chalice Bearer • “My hope for the Advent is that we become a place where every member is taught and encouraged to be a disciple, using their unique gifts given by the Holy Spirit to further the Kingdom of God. It takes every last one of us working together for his glorious return! Come, Lord Jesus.”



**BROWNING THORNTON** – New Member • Small Business Operator • Wife: Hannah • Usher, Stewardship Caller • “My hope for the Advent is that we continue to enjoy God's grace and extend God's glory by remaining committed to gospel ministry and the resulting love of our neighbors.”



**CHRIS WEINGARTNER** – Member 2 years • Director - Founders Advisors • Wife: Rachel • Visioning Process – Discipleship Team, Small Group, Dads with Sons Bible Study, Usher, Stewardship Call Campaign • “My hope for the Advent is that we as a church family continue to live out our Affirmation of Purpose to proclaim the freeing power of the gospel of Jesus Christ and to make disciples wherever God has placed us. My goal is that we continue to strengthen our relationship with the Lord while also encouraging members to feel empowered and confident in our faith to share it with an outside world that is so desperate for the transformative power of the gospel. Additionally, I hope that the Advent will always be a welcoming place for all worshippers to dive into God's word while also equipping them with the education and tools to know him more deeply.”



**JAY WRIGHT** – Life-long Member • Partner, Bradley Arant • Wife: Emily • Usher Captain, Stewardship Captain, Small Groups • “In such a fearful world, we need a fearless church’ (C.S. Lewis). I pray the Advent continues to embody this sentiment by proudly professing the beauty and power of God's grace and the gospel. In order to maintain the success of our programs and ministries within and outside the church, the Advent must continue to attract new members and encourage everyone's active participation in the church. I pray the Advent has the strength to make changes necessary to continue improving accessibility to newcomers, and the wisdom to do so in ways that focus our attention ever and only on God, Jesus, and the Resurrection.”

