

Adventurer

Easter

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 43, No. 20

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Week of May 19, 2019



News & Events

Last Call to Sign Up for VBS

Sign up while spaces remain! Register at AdventBirmingham.org/VBS for Roar Vacation Bible School, happening Monday-Thursday, June 3-6, 9:00 a.m.-noon at the Advent. VBS is open to children who have just completed 3K-5th grade.



We've scheduled a VBS work day on Thursday, May 30 (lunch provided!), to help us prepare the way. See page 2 for more information.

New Members Confirmed

Thirty youth and 26 adults were confirmed as members of the Advent on May 5. Please join us in welcoming them, as we give thanks for their being a part of our parish family. See page 2 for a list of our new members.

Make Plans Now for the Women's Retreat

All women of the Advent are invited to visit AdventBirmingham.org/Retreat to sign up for the annual Women's Retreat, set for Friday-Sunday, August 23-25, at Children's Harbor. See page 2 for more information.



A Word from Canon Schneider

In 1906 Pope Pius X said, "The Church is essentially an unequal society. ...The one duty of the multitude is to allow themselves to be led, and, like a docile flock, to follow the Pastors." I hope at least part of you cringes at what Pius said. But in practice, I wonder if most American churches aren't much different than his description.

If it's at all true for us at the Advent, it's not because our staff wants to be leading a docile flock. Neither is it that our members are necessarily docile. But there are unfortunate practices we have inherited from our society that often turn church into much more of a spectator sport than an active gathering.

The Bible doesn't describe the church as a passive and consumptive activity though. The church is not a building, denomination, or ordained ministers. "Church" in the New Testament *is* the masses. And the flock is not to be docile.

We are preaching through 1 Corinthians at the moment, which I'm finding is very

good for us. I look forward to when we get to chapters 12-14, where Paul describes congregational ministry – that the church of God in each locality is the body of Christ, and the body is made up of multiple members with different gifts, which are all needed to be the complete body.

Then there is the famous love chapter. Do you realize chapter 13 is not for weddings but for Sunday church? Finally in chapter 14, prophecy – or speaking God's word – is held up as the most important and powerful thing we do together. The description is of a congregation gathering in an orderly fashion to speak God's word to one another for mutually building each other up. Yes we hear the gospel proclaimed from the pulpit, but what would it be like to be in a community where we also casually spoke God's word to each other? In the pews, in the halls, in the parking lot, in the car ride home?

This is no docile flock. This is a determined gathering of God's people who know they are redeemed by Christ and know where they are headed. And they can't keep silent.

- Matt

For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, and the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. - 1 Corinthians 14:31-32

This Sunday: May 19, 2019

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Dean Pearson

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Preacher: Dean Pearson

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

In the Nave. Preacher: Dean Pearson

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) – *Look to Jesus* (Hebrews 12:1-3) – Dean Pearson

The Monotheistic Religions: How Are They Similar and How Are They Different? (Chapter Room) – *Christianity* – Jason Wallace

Lion of Judah, Our Trust Is in You:

Reflections on God at Work in Malawi (Living Room) – Susan Elliott, Taylor Webb, Rachel Cain, and Bethany Rushing

Faith and Family (Lower School Library) – *Marriage Basics: The Bible's Definition of Love, Service, and Leadership* – Cameron Cole

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, child-care is available for 4K and younger.

Lectionary:

Psalm 148

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Acts 11:1-18

John 13:31-35

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!



education

Vacation Bible School

VBS Work Day May 30

We are so excited for the "Mane" event this summer: *Roar* VBS, June 3-6! We hope you will stop by to help us prepare the way on Thursday, May 30. Come and go as needed, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Lunch provided! The Nursery will be available from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Questions? Please contact Laurie Shanks (Laurie@CathedralAdvent.com).

The Forum

This Sunday: On Prayer

We will explore the topic of prayer from a biblical perspective at our next meeting of The Forum, this Sunday, May 19, 6:15 p.m. in Clingman Commons. The Forum is a monthly fellowship and education program that meets following the Five O'Clock service with the purpose of building up our confidence in Jesus Christ and building our community. Each discussion also aims to be as practical as possible and is a good opportunity to invite visitors to join you at our church. Supper is provided, and families with children are welcome. For more information, contact Anita Gray (Anita@CathedralAdvent.com).



spiritual growth & fellowship

Men's Ministry

Men's Dinner Set for May 22

All men of the Advent are invited to join us for a time of food and fellowship on Wednesday, May 22, 6:00 p.m. at the home of Dave Brown (2933 Montevallo Road, 35223). For parking and other information, contact Mike Weeks (Weeks@CathedralAdvent.com).

Women's Ministry

Get Away to the Women's Retreat, August 23-25

Women of the Advent are invited to join their sisters in Christ for a time of rest and spiritual rejuvenation at our annual retreat, Friday-Sunday, August 23-25, at Children's Harbor.

Our speaker will be Mary Willson, who will offer *"Who Is a God Like You?" Exulting with Micah in Our Matchless God*. Mary serves as director of women in ministry at Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis, Tennessee. She has been trained both in the local-church context as well as through formal theological education, recently earning a Ph.D. in Old Testament from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. She enjoys opening up the Bible to apply it to the lives of women today.

Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Retreat to register. Contact Anita Gray with questions (Anita@CathedralAdvent.com).

New Members Confirmed



Bishop Sloan officiated (*above*) as 30 youth and 26 adults were confirmed as members of the Advent on May 5. Please join us in welcoming them, as we give thanks for their being a part of our parish family.

Youth: Victor Altamirano, Ward Bromstad, Martha Helen Burnette, Sykes Carlson, Barrett Eldridge, J. Wesley Everette, Ransom Everette, Rex Everette, Turner Ezelle, Billy Flowers, Tarver Griffin, Jesse Hicks, Mac Holley, Davis Johnstone, Frank Lee, Fletcher Lefel, Sarah Malone, Ella Montgomery, Lucas Newton, Ann Everett Pruet, Emily Anne Read, Allen Shanks, Eastin Spotswood, Stephen Springfield, Lib Staples, Sophie Taylor, Charles Townsend, Ashley Brooke Tomberlin, David Tynes, Cooper Wallace

Adults: Laura Baker, Lauren Bland, Anna and Dan Clinkman, Virginia Combs, Christa and Jason Cordova, Charlotte Donlon, Bebe Goodrich, Sheri and Nathan Herum, Ann Johnson, Lee Anne and Richard Martin, Noel Merrill, Lorrie Beth Milton, Sarah Catherine and Scott Nesbitt, Tim Smith, Michael Stalvey, Hannah Thornton, Faye and James Walls, Taylor Webb, Rachel Weeks, Angela Wier

Nave Lighting Project to Begin June 3

We're excited to share that the lighting and wiring work in the Nave will begin on Monday, June 3, with the project finished before school resumes in August. To do the work, scaffolding will occupy the entire south side of the Nave for the first half of the summer, before being moved to occupy the entire north side. We will be able to gather in the Nave for our Sunday services throughout the summer, though there will be no access during the week, allowing the work to be done safely and well.

Please visit AdventBirmingham.org/Nave2019 for more information, including a complete set of FAQs, and join us as we thank God for the blessing that is our downtown building.

Young Adults' Ministry

Gathering Set for May 29

If you are in your 20s or 30s, join the Advent Young Adult Community for a time of fellowship on Wednesday, May 29, 5:30 p.m. at Habitat Feed and Social, in the Grand Bohemian Hotel in Mountain Brook Village (2655 Lane Park Road, 35223). Contact Mike Weeks (Weeks@CathedralAdvent.com) for more information.

(Jesus prayed the Father) "As you sent me into the world, so I have sent (those you have given me) into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth." - John 17:18-19



worship

Choral Evensong

Ascension Day Service on May 30



The Cathedral Choir will sing Choral Evensong for Ascension Day on Thursday, May 30, 5:30 p.m. in the Nave. Evensong, a sung version of the Evening Prayer service, 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. Come join us in celebration of the Ascension of our Lord, and worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Canon Smalley will preach.

Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting June 3

All parishioners are invited to a prayer gathering on Monday, June 3, 7:15 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Typically held the first Monday of every month, this hour-long meeting is set aside to pray for the Advent.

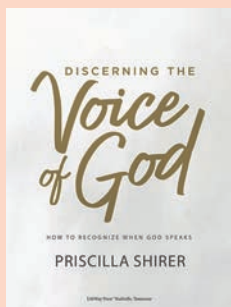


education

Women's Bible Studies

Two Summer Studies Begin in June

What Love Is: Join Jane Menendez on Wednesdays beginning June 5, 9:15-10:30 a.m. at her home (4221 Sharpsburg Drive, 35213), as she leads us through Kelly Minter's seven-week DVD study, *What Love Is: The Letters of 1, 2, 3 John*. For VBS volunteers, there will be a make-up session on the evening of June 5 at 7:00 p.m. at Jane's home. You may purchase a workbook from Lifeway or Amazon, or you may reserve a copy (\$15) by contacting Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com) by June 4. This copy may be picked up and paid for at the first meeting.



20s and 30s: Women in their 20s and 30s are invited to study Priscilla Shirer's seven-week DVD study, *Discerning the Voice of God: How to Recognize When God Speaks* on Wednesdays, beginning June 5 at 7:00 p.m. Gretchen Williams and Sally Goings will facilitate this study at Sally's home (4404 Corinth Drive, 35213). You may purchase the new 2017 edition workbook from Lifeway or

Amazon, or you may reserve a copy (\$15) by contacting Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com) by June 4. This copy may be picked up and paid for at the first meeting.

These groups will not meet on July 3.



servicing & outreach

Local Outreach

Service Day Recap



We gathered, worshiped, prayed, and walked downtown Birmingham streets on Saturday, May 4, during our annual Service Day. Thanks to all who attended and to Advent Mission & Outreach for coordinating the work. Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Outreach to learn more about our mission partners and ways you can serve all year.



spiritual growth & fellowship

Youth Ministry

Mark Your Calendars: Six Flags Trip Is July 11

Join us for a day at Six Flags over Georgia on Thursday, July 11! All rising 7th-12th graders are welcome. We'll meet at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Ave, 35209) at 7:30 a.m. Bring your own bag lunch and some spending money if desired. Buy your discounted ticket online and bring the printed confirmation with you, or buy a ticket at the park for \$65. We'll get back at 7:00 p.m. Register online at AdventBirmingham.org/Youth. Contact Rachel Cain (Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com) for more information.

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:

Birth: Steven Scott Nesbitt, III, son of Scott and Sarah Catherine, on April 12

Marriages: Sarah Brooks Heath and Randel Timothy Frazier, on May 3; Rebecca Claire Woodall and Sam Bellman, on May 5

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Ruby Kiefer: (Music Discretionary Fund) by Nancy and Ricky Bromberg

Jim Houston Day, Sr.: (Endowment Fund) by Michael and Linda Mansperger; Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Dollar; the Loyd Artists Family; UAB Educational Foundation; Karin Elsner; Carolann Butts • (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by William S. Pritchard, III

In Honor of Lesley McRae and Shane Sharpe: (Music Discretionary Fund) by Elizabeth and Charles Scribner



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calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 19 Regular worship schedule The Forum - Clingman Commons - 6:15 p.m.	20	21	22 Men's Dinner - 2933 Montevallo Road - 6:00 p.m.	23 Sunrise Sinners - Refectory - 7:00 a.m. Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m.	24	25
May 26 Regular worship schedule	27 Memorial Day Church Office closed	28	29 Young Adults' Gathering - Habitat Feed and Social - 5:30 p.m.	30 Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m. Choral Evensong for Ascension Day - Nave - 5:30 p.m.	31	June 1

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

Monday-Friday (*No meeting May 27*): 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).