A Word from the Dean

In an effort to be pastoral, I have compromised my convictions. I have allowed inappropriate songs to be sung at funerals, I have allowed sentimentality to overcome Bible truths in baptisms, and I have allowed lone individuals to determine what Sunday gatherings are to look like. I knew I should not have done it, but I did it in order to keep them happy and around. Hoping that being all things to all men in order that some might be saved, I caved. The result: the gospel was compromised and those I sought to keep around left anyway. It was a lose-lose scenario, but worst of all, instead of ministering to them, I placated them in their ignorance.

This is, I believe, an occupational hazard for ministers. Attempting to be tactful, we never drive home the gospel to those who need to hear it. And in the end, weak-spined as we can be, we fail to commend who need to hear it. And in the end, weak-spined as we can be, we fail to commend the hope that is within us. And in the end, weak-spined as we can be, we fail to commend the hope that is within us. And ministers of the gospel at that!

The answer is not to depersonalize ministry, treating everyone as a spiritual statistic, but, in fact, to make it more personal. If “Christ died for you,” then the message is intensely personal and the call of Christ to administer the gospel ought to be carried out in a direct and personal manner. Anything less would be to ignore the role that we have been called to as ministers and as Christians.

The great preacher D.L. Moody was making his way to preach at the Chicago Avenue Church early one Sunday and came across a man passed out drunk on a park bench. Moody sat down on the bench, waking the man up. Seeing that the man had one eye open, Moody asked, “Young man, what do you know of the Lord Jesus Christ?” The drunk man replied, “Who are you and what business is it of yours?” Moody introduced himself to which the man responded, “I guess it is your business!”

You don’t have to be a Moody; if you are a Christian, asking such questions is your business. Showing forth the light of the gospel in this dark and fallen world is your business. Willing to endure scorn for showing mercy and standing on truth is your business. In the name of Christ, go and be about your business.

- Andrew

Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.

- 2 Timothy 2:3-4

News & Events

Roar VBS Begins June 3

Our 2019 Vacation Bible School, Roar! Life Is Wild – God Is Good, will happen Monday-Thursday, June 3-6, 9:00 a.m.-noon at the Advent. The week will conclude with the traditional closing program on Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in the Refectory. See page 2 for more information.

Easily Update Contact Info. June 2

Come see us in Clingman Commons between morning services on Sunday, June 2, to update your mailing, phone, and email contact information. Help us get our data as accurate as possible before we publish the next Church Directory in the fall.

Save the Date: Rally Day Is September 8

Save the date for Sunday, September 8, when we formally kick off another great ministry year!

This Sunday:

May 26, 2019

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Michael Weeks

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Michael Weeks

11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
In the Nave. Preacher: Michael Weeks

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion
In the Refectory. Preacher: Dean Pearson

5:00 p.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Kevin Stigall

Adult Education: 10:10 - 10:50 a.m.
May 26: The Dean's Class (Nave) – Look to Jesus. (Hebrews 12:1-3) – Dean Pearson

June 2:

The Dean's Class (Nave) – Christian Posture (Hebrews 12:4-17) – Dean Pearson

Our Strivings Cease: The Musical Theology of Advent Birmingham’s Album (Chapter Room) – Canon Hicks

Psalm 88: A Word for the Left Out, Lonely, and Passed Over (Living Room) – Gil Kracke

Ecclesiastes for Every(woman) (Lower School Library) – Why This Book? Vanity! (Chs. 1-2) – Jonathan Harbuck

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.

Next Sunday:

June 2, 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: Deborah Leighton

5:00 p.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Deborah Leighton
### education

**Vacation Bible School**

Parents and Friends Invited to Closing Program

VBS 2019 will conclude with the traditional closing program on Thursday, June 6, 11:30 a.m. in the Refectory. Parents and friends are invited to see what the children have learned throughout the week. A delicious hot dog lunch will follow in Clingman Commons. We hope you will make plans to celebrate a wonderful week with us.

**There's Still Room for You to Help**

It’s not too late to volunteer to help with VBS. We would love for you to join what promises to be a fun-filled week! Register today at AdventBirmingham.org/VBS.

**VBS Set-Up: Prepare the Way May 30**

Join us for a fun day of transforming our church for Roar VBS on Thursday, May 30. No artistic ability required; we will have plenty of projects and would appreciate all willing hands. Come and go as you are able, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Lunch provided! The Nursery will be available from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; please contact Laurie Shanks to register for the Nursery. (Laurie@CathedralAdvent.com).

**Teacher Training During Sunday School Hour June 2**

All VBS adult volunteers and teen helpers: please make plans to join us for training on Sunday, June 2, 10:10-10:50 a.m. in the Assembly Hall. You will receive all the information you need to prepare for VBS. The Nursery will be available for teachers until noon. Questions? Please contact Elizabeth Wilson (Elizabeth@CathedralAdvent.com, 226-3547).

**Advent Audio**

Listen to Preaching and Teaching on Our Website

Catch up on sermons, Lenten preaching, and recordings from our many wonderful education classes this summer! AdventBirmingham.org/Audio has many options to help you grow in faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ this season.

### 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.

### spiritual growth & fellowship

**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.

**Adventurer Begins Summer Schedule**

Beginning this week, the Adventurer will be published every other week for the next 12 weeks, concluding with the issue dated August 4/11. Weekly publication will resume with the issue dated August 18, 2019.

**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.

**Small Groups**

Women's Lunchtime Group Starts June 11

This new group will base its discussions on the book *Gospel Identity: Discovering Who You Really Are*. Led by Fran Cade, the 10-week study will meet in the church’s Living Room on Tuesdays, beginning June 11, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. To join or for more information, contact Fontaine Pope (443-8562, Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com).

**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.
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.

Holiday Closing

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day. It will reopen on Tuesday, May 28.

making music

Spotify

New Summer Playlist from Advent Birmingham

Follow our Spotify page and enjoy a new summer playlist, curated for our community by the leaders of our Advent Birmingham music ministry. Advent Birmingham musicians play during our Five O’Clock and Refectory services, and they released their first album, Our Strivings Cease, in 2018. Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Spotify.

worship

Lectionary

Sunday, May 26:  Psalm 67
     1 Corinthians 10:23-33
     Acts 16:9-15
     John 14:23-29 or
     John 5:1-9

Sunday, June 2:  Psalm 97
     1 Corinthians 11:1-16
     Acts 16:16-34
     John 17:20-26

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.

education

Youth Ministry

Take the Summer Reading Challenge

We are issuing a book-of-the-summer challenge to teenagers and families. Reading a good book of theology is a great way to grow in relationship with Christ. The book, Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ, by John Piper is a great place to start. It focuses on different aspects of the person, character, and nature of Christ. Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ is an easy read. It’s a compilation of weekly emails that Piper sent to his church that focus on who Jesus is. Therefore, it’s short, and each chapter can be read as a daily devotional in about 10 minutes. Our hope in your reading this book is that you may see the wonder and beauty of Christ and treasure him. We encourage everyone to sign up at AdventBirmingham.org/Youth and to buy a copy (available through Amazon).

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 by contacting Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com) by June 4. This copy may be picked up and paid for ($15, cash or payable to the Advent) 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 by contacting Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com) by June 4. This copy may be picked up and paid for ($15, cash or payable to the Advent) at the first meeting.

These groups will not meet on July 3.

The Inquirers’ Class

One-Day Session Set for July 20

The Inquirers Class is an adult education course that will give you an idea of what the Advent believes and why we believe it. It is open to anyone, but it is designed particularly for newcomers to the Advent. We will have a one-day course on Saturday, July 20, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in the Living Room. Lunch is provided. Register at AdventBirmingham.org/Inquirers-Class. Our fall eight-week series will be on Sundays, 10:10-10:50 a.m., beginning September 15. Contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 443-8562) with questions.
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:
William "Bill" Calvin Guin: (Outreach) by LaVonda and Perry Keel; Nancy Patterson; Janette Webb; Susan and Greg Oates
Our Parents and Brothers: (Endowment Fund) by Roy Knight
J.J. Monaghan: (Endowment Fund) by Margaret G. Livingston
In Thanksgiving for the Knight Family: (Endowment Fund) by Roy Knight

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

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transitions:
Birth: Kurt Thomas Proctor, son of Brooks and Ellen, on May 7
Baptism: Thompson Douglas White, son of Doug and Forsyth, on May 12
Marriage: Madeline Nicole Salathé and Jackson Vaughn Langcuster, on May 11
Deaths: George William Andrews, III, on April 24; Maureen Habrat McDowell, on May 10

calendar:

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<td>May 26</td>
<td>27 Memorial Day Church Office closed</td>
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<td>30 Praise Service - Clingman Commons - 8:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>3 Nave Lighting Project begins Vacation Bible School - Advent - 9:00 a.m.</td>
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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).