

Adventurer

Pentecost

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 42, No. 33

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Week of September 30, 2018



News & Events

Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting October 1

All parishioners are invited to a prayer gathering on Monday, October 1, 7:15 p.m. at Cranmer House in Homewood (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Typically held the first Monday of every month, the hour-long meeting is set aside to pray for the Advent.

Alan Jacobs in Conversation with Mark Gignilliat October 2.

Join us Tuesday, October 2, at 7:00 p.m. for a special evening with visiting theologian Alan Jacobs and Mark Gignilliat at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Their conversation, part of the Advent Theological Lecture Series, will cover a range of topics that relate to the question, "How are we to read, think, and write?" Alan Jacobs is a Distinguished Professor of Humanities in the Honors Program at Baylor University, as well as a Resident Fellow at Baylor's Institute for the Studies of Religion. Mark Gignilliat is a professor at Beeson Divinity School and serves as Lay Canon Theologian at the Advent.

Progress on Our Visioning Process

As our new program year begins, we want to update everyone on how our life as a parish family continues to be shaped by the Visioning Process we completed last year. See page 2.



A Word from Canon Schneider

An important phrase in our vision statement is "wherever God has placed us." I hope this phrase doesn't get lost in all the other really good language of the full sentence: "We exist to proclaim the freeing power of the gospel of Jesus Christ and to make disciples wherever God has placed us."

So what do we mean by proclaiming the gospel wherever God has placed us? We're not just talking about formal preaching. Though proclamation includes the pulpit to be sure, all of us as followers of Jesus are proclaimers (see Acts 2:16-18). Where do we do proclaim? Wherever we are. The whole earth is God's domain, from your kitchen table to a loved one's deathbed to the places where Christianity is forbidden – all corners of this world and everywhere in between. Wherever you are, God has placed a witness for his gospel who is prepared to share the reason for our hope.

What about making disciples wherever God has placed us? Simply put, a disciple

is a Christian. The word "disciple" is used more times in the New Testament than "Christian" to describe those who have put all their trust in following Jesus. So much so that they want to bring others along with them, making more disciples. How are disciples made? By hearing the proclaimed gospel and being invited to respond in repentance and faith. Who is to do this? The very person God has placed in their life, which might be you.

Once a disciple is "made," disciple making isn't finished. Disciples need to be sustained by the witness of fellow believers to persevere through the rest of this life. Being a disciple of Jesus is tough going. As Jesus himself tells us, becoming his follower means taking up a cross, so we need each other to endure and to grow in love. A disciple needs to continually hear that same good news in order to persevere. Who is to proclaim it? We need to hear this message on the lips of a fellow believer – the very one God has placed in our life right now, which might be you.

- Matt

Exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

- Hebrews 3:13

This Sunday: September 30, 2018

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Mark Gignilliat

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Preacher: Mark Gignilliat

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

In the Nave. Preacher: Mark Gignilliat

11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Refectory. Preacher: Dean Pearson

5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Preacher: Canon Schneider

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

The Dean's Class (Nave) – *Rest in a Restless World* (Hebrews 4:1-11) – Dean Pearson

Getting to the Heart (Chapter Room) – *A Man, His Two Sons, and the Party* (Luke 15:11-32) – Gil Kracke

Living Under the Easy Yoke: The Sermon on the Mount (Living Room) – Doug Webster

Life Under the Sun: Ecclesiastes (Assembly Hall) – Mark Gignilliat

Faith and Family (Lower School Library) – *Foundations of Forming Christian Kids: The Importance of Theological Depth* – Tucker Fleming

Inquirers' Class (Diocesan Conference Room) – *Our Redemption and Final Hope* – Michael Weeks

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.

Children's & Youth Education:

Classes are offered for 3-years and older. See Sunday's service leaflet for details. Nurseries are open 8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. At the 5:00 service, childcare is available for 5-years and younger.

Lectionary:

Psalm 124 or Psalm 19:7-14
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
James 5:13-20
St. Mark 9:38-50



GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

Stewardship

Realizing That There Are Ample Provisions

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

- Matthew 6:25-27

It is fascinating to be at the start line of a marathon packed with well-trained and well-provisioned runners. There is a highly charged mix of excitement and worry.

Runners tend to bring along everything they might possibly need for a marathon.

There are layers of clothing, running belts for water bottles, energy bars, cell phones, and sports monitoring devices. Provisions seem endless.

Then the race begins. It does not take long to realize that the very things that the runners thought would help are actually hurting. All of the stuff quickly weighs them down. Runners begin to let go. Clothing and running belts are thrown on the ground or handed off to delighted children on the sidelines.

At the same time, runners realize that there are ample provisions all along the course. Total strangers are joyfully giving runners everything they need all along the way. There was no reason to worry. All the runners had to do was just let go. And so it is for the runners of marathons, for the birds of the air, and for all of us.

- Tommy Armstrong



Above: Suzan and Tommy Armstrong

Progress on Our Visioning Process

As our new program year begins, we want to take the opportunity to update everyone on how our life as a parish family continues to be shaped by the Visioning Process we completed last year.

As a reminder of what was involved in the process, we first gained clarity on our identity: the Advent is a church with a living, daring confidence in God's grace through the gospel of Jesus Christ. From there, we developed an affirmation of our purpose which has existed since our founding in 1872: the Advent exists to proclaim the freeing power of the gospel of Jesus Christ and make disciples wherever God has placed us.

To align and steward our resources – our time, money, and talent – around our purpose and identity, we prayerfully discerned six areas (or tenets) that would help us organize our ministry. Those tenets are Communication, Discipleship, Ministry Development, Outreach, Shepherding, and Worship. Many of us then worked together to develop specific ideas related to each tenet, as a way to begin to map part of our way forward.

Where are we now? We are in the midst of implementing many of those ideas. The Visioning Process has proved to be very helpful in clarifying the opportunities we should engage as we keep in sight our identity and purpose; who we have been is helping us know how and where to go forward together.

Please visit the website for a fuller update on some of what we are doing in each of the six tenets: AdventBirmingham.org/Vision.

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.



spiritual growth & fellowship

Ageless Adventers

Fellowship in the Pines October 1

All Adventers are invited to join our friends at St. Martin's for lunch and a word from Canon Smalley on Monday, October 1, at noon. Lunch is served in the private dining room of The Arbors at St. Martin's (4941 Montevallo Road, 35210). For more information, contact Stella Schreiber (443-8558, Stella@CathedralAdvent.com).

Women's Ministry

Luncheon Set for October 24

Advent women and their guests are invited to a luncheon with Julie Sparkman on Wednesday, October 24, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Clingman Commons. Julie is a licensed counselor and speaker who authored the series *Idol Addiction* and *Crazy Train*. Her talk for us is entitled, "It's All in Your Head." To register for lunch, please contact Anita Gray (Anita@CathedralAdvent.com, 443-8550).

Youth Ministry

Jr. High Meeting this Sunday

Jr. High youth are invited to come to Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209) for dinner, games, and a lesson this Sunday, September 30, 6:30-7:45 p.m. The theme this week is Tie Dye, so wear the craziest tie dye shirt you can find! For more information, contact Rachel Cain (Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com).

Next Sr. High Family Dinner Is October 7

All Sr. High students are invited to join us on Sunday, October 7, for our next Family Dinner. We'll meet at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209), 6:57-8:15 p.m. for dinner, games, and fellowship. The theme is School Spirit, so come dressed in your high school colors. For more information, contact Rebecca Lankford (Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com).

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9

making music

Midday Music

New Season Opens with Piano and Strings September 28

The Advent's Midday Music series will open on Friday, September 28, 12:30 p.m. in Clingman Commons with a performance by Jeffrey Flaniken, violin; Angela Flaniken, viola; and Advent parishioner Donald Sanders, piano. This trio of faculty members at Samford University will perform works by Fauré, Mozart, Shostakovich, and more. You are cordially invited to this free, 30-minute concert.



Above: Jeffrey and Angela Flaniken

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

Small Groups

When Helping Hurts: A Short-Term Group

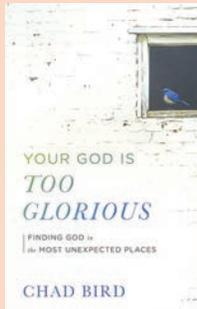
Good intentions are not enough. *When Helping Hurts* offers a different framework for thinking about poverty and its alleviation. Rather than merely defining it as a lack of material things, the book addresses the roots of the issue: broken relationships with God, self, others, and the rest of creation.

Bethany Rushing, Director of Mission and Outreach, will facilitate this study at Debbie Brazeal's home in Homewood on Wednesdays, October 3 - November 7, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Space is limited to 12 people. To sign up, contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 443-8562).

Women's Book Study Begins October 2

Paula Smalley will lead a study of the book *Your God Is Too Glorious: Finding God in the Most Unexpected Places* at her home on Tuesday evenings, beginning October 2 at 7:00 p.m. Most of us are regular people who have good days and bad days. Our lives are radically ordinary and unexciting. That means they're the kind of lives God gets excited about. While the world worships beauty and power and wealth, God hides his glory in the simple, the mundane, the foolish, working in unawesome people, things, and places.

This group is limited to 12 people. To join, contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 443-8562).



The Cathedral Choir

Last Call to Order Smoked Boston Butts

To support future choir tours and projects, the Cathedral Choir is selling hickory smoked Boston Butts at a cost of \$35 each. They are fully cooked and provided by Cater Up!, a catering company affiliated with Batter Up! restaurant in Childersburg. The deadline to order is this Sunday, September 30. To place an order, please visit the choir's table in Clingman Commons after each of the morning services this Sunday, or speak to a choir member. Pick-up will be on Friday, October 12, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Advent.



servicing & outreach

Habitat for Humanity



Help Build a House October 20

Join us on Saturday, October 20, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. as we help Habitat for Humanity build a home for the Baker Family. The build address is 4829 Avenue R, Birmingham, 35208, in the Ensley neighborhood (much closer this year!). Come for the entire day, or just a few hours! Register at bit.ly/2QDrdrZ. Contact Ann Johnston (acj2600@gmail.com) or Heather Cooper (Heather@SaltPond.net) with questions.

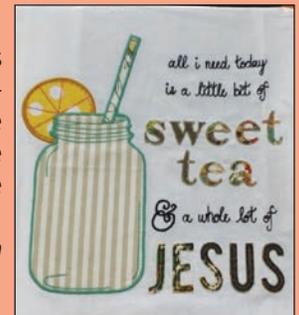


bookstore

A Little Southern Comfort

Do you know someone who needs a little pick-me-up or a little something to show you care? We have the perfect thing! Just in from The Daughters of Hope are handmade tea towels that will make you smile. *All you need is a little bit of sweet tea & a whole lot of Jesus.*

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. Visit us any time: (AdventBirmingham.org/Bookstore). We hope to see you in the 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:

Claire Virginia Willard Gomperts: (Endowment Fund) by

Mary Williams • (Cathedral Choir Fund) by Reuel L. Huffman

Olga Illyn: (Pastoral Care) by Elizabeth and Charles Scribner

Clare Hill Draper, III: (Outreach) by Mary and Victor Hanson;

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Knight, Jr. • (Music Discretionary Fund) by Louis and Deenie Culver

Jim Garner: (Music Discretionary Fund) by Stephen Schaeffer; Samuel E. Urme; Chris Chrisenberry; Ann Ellinger; James Maloney; Scott Sagel; Kristen Nadeau; Ed Melanson

David Peacher: (Music Discretionary Fund) by Stephen Schaeffer

Alice Ashton: (Endowment Fund) by Net and Robin Wade

In Honor of Henry Kent James: (Garden Fund) by Elizabeth and Charles Scribner

In Thanksgiving for Samuel Abney Britton Neal on his Birthday: (Altar Guild) by Amy Neal Ager



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
Sept 30 Regular worship schedule Jr. High Youth Group - Cranmer House - 6:30 p.m.	Oct 1 Fellowship in the Pines - St. Martin's - noon Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting - Cranmer House - 7:15 p.m.	2 Alan Jacobs in Conversation with Mark Gignilliat - Cranmer House - 7:00 p.m.	3	4 Sunrise Sinners - Refectory - 7:00 a.m. Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m.	5	6
Oct 7 Regular worship schedule Sr. High Youth Family Dinner - Cranmer House - 6:57 p.m.	8	9	10	11 Sunrise Sinners - Refectory - 7:00 a.m. Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m.	12	13

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).