



Celebrating 150 Years 1868 - 2018

429 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401
Telephone: 912-232-0191 Fax: 912-236-4247
Website: www.wesleymonumental.org

December 8, 2019

A SEASON OF CELEBRATION

**FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
December 8, 11:00 a.m.**

This morning our 11:00 a.m. worship experience will be the traditional Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is a service of Christian worship celebrating the birth of Jesus that is traditionally followed at Christmas. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols and choral music.

**THE NATIVITY PAGEANT
Wednesday, December 11, 6:15 p.m.**

This Wednesday night our children will share with us once again the story of the child who changed the world and more specifically changed you and me. The program will begin at 6:15 p.m. following our Wednesday night dinner. If you are coming to dinner and don't have a standing reservation, please make sure and make a reservation by calling the church office, 912-232-0191. This will be our last Wednesday night dinner until January 8th.

**HANDEL'S MESSIAH WITH CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA
Saturday, December 14, 7:30 p.m.**

Tickets: \$35. Students with I. D.: \$15
MessiahSavannah.eventbrite.com, choir members, or church office

**JOYFUL NOISE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
December 15, 4:30 p.m.**

Next Sunday at 4:30 p.m., our youngest children will present their Christmas program and music. There will be dinner following the play, but you need to make a reservation by calling the church office.

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICES

10:30 a.m.- Worship Service
3:30 p.m.- Worship Service (child-friendly service enjoyed by all ages)
6:00 p.m.- Carols by Candlelight and 6:30 Worship Service

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019 — 8:45 A.M.

Second Sunday of Advent

Gathering and Announcements

Ben Martin

Welcome to worship this morning. Thank you for joining us. If needed, the nursery for infants to 3 years old is located on the first floor. Hearing assistance devices, several seat cushions, large print bulletins, and large print hymnals are available in the narthex, and an usher will be happy to help you with them. Please fill out the attendance registration pad found in the pew, and remember to silence your cell phones and refrain from flash photography during the service. We pray this hour will be a meaningful and grace-filled encounter with God through music, word, and fellowship.

Lighting of the Candles

Opening Voluntary

Silent Night

Madeleine Hall, pianist

* **Hymn No. 250** Once in Royal David's City IRBY

* **Affirmation of Faith No. 881** The Apostles' Creed

James P. Owens

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

the third day He rose from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit;

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

* **Gloria Patri No. 71**

GREATOREX

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen. Amen.

Lighting of the Peace Candle

Josh, Ellen, Madelyn, and Bennett Williams

Congregational Response

"Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."

Children's Sermon

Nelle Bordeaux

Children ages 3 - 3rd Grade line up at the door on the right side of the sanctuary to go to Children's Worship, held in Room 201.

Morning Prayer & The Lord's Prayer Jennifer Thompson

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory;
For ever. Amen.

* **Hymn No. 230** O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

Offertory Prayer James P. Owens

Offertory Voluntary I Saw Three Ships arr. Joseph Martin

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

During the 11:00 a.m. service, please remove the attendance sheets from the book and give to the acolytes as a symbolic offering of our presence in worship.

* **Hymn of Response** DIX

As they offered gifts most rare;
At that manger rude and bare;
So may we, with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ! to Thee our heavenly King.

* **Scripture** (Pew Bible, pg. 640-641, 683-684) Isaiah 11:1-9, 53:1-6

Sermon "From a Dry Stump" James P. Owens

* **Hymn No. 217** Away in a Manger AWAY IN A MANGER

Reception into Church Membership Hymnal pg. 38

Beth and Matt Linebarger and daughters, Lily and Harper

* **Benediction** James P. Owens

* *Please stand as you are able.
Immediately following each service a docent is available by the grand piano to share with you a brief history of this sanctuary and congregation.
All music reprinted under OneLicense.net No. A-719387 and CCLI No. 11046193.*

Altar Flowers

The flowers by the altar today are given to the glory of God by Alan Campbell for the memory and life of M'Liss Williams, who through her walk of faith forever inspired all who knew her.

Just Born

Congratulations to Erica and Jackson Timmons on the birth of a daughter, Ellen Ruth Timmons on November 26, 2019. A rose is by the altar today in honor of Ellen.

Poinsettia Orders—Last Day to Order

Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on Friday, December 20 and may be taken home following the last Christmas Eve service. Please place your orders for plants in memory or in honor of loved ones by today, Sunday, December 8. Order forms may be found at all sanctuary entrances. Checks should be made payable to Wesley Monumental UMC in the amount of \$13 per plant, marked "Altar Guild Poinsettias."

Messenger Brigade

The Messenger Brigade will meet this Thursday, December 12 at 10:00 a.m. in Oliver Hall Room 205.

Stewardship Update

Thank you to everyone who has turned in your estimate of giving cards for 2020. So far we have received 139 cards totaling \$959,258 in estimated giving for 2020. That compares to 180 cards totaling \$1,122,494 in commitments for 2019. You can return the card to the office in person or by mail, or fill it out online on our website.

A Year-End Reminder

All 2019 contributions to the church must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2019 in order to comply with IRS regulations regarding charitable deductions.

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service:

Partners in Prayer: Ellie Tardif **Docent:** Shirley & Peter Roberts

Offering Steward: Jerry Benson

Ushers: David Butler, Paul Cleveland

Greeters: Donna Benson, Linda Butler

Children's Worship: Laura Blake

11:00 Service:

Partners in Prayer: Mickey Rountree **Docent:** Gretchen Patricio

Acolytes: Peter Thompson, Charlie Glidewell

Greeters: Jan Harman, Patricia Jacobs

Offering Steward: Art McGowen

Ushers: Mark Glidewell, Ken Griner, Brian West, Sam Daniel, Peter Delvers, Chris Donegan, Greg Dotson, Justin Dunn, Joe Edwards, Tim Edwards, David Gaskin

Children's Worship 3's & PreK: Shazi Edmonds, Laura MacGregor

Children's Worship K-3rd: Ellen Williams (Charlotte), JoAnne Garcia-Melendez

Monica Harper Dekle, Director of Music and Organist

Handel's *Messiah* with Choir and Orchestra

Saturday, December 14. 7:30 PM. Tickets: \$35. Students with I. D.: \$15
MessiahSavannah.eventbrite.com, choir members, or church office

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Thank You

Thank you to all who served our Family Promise homeless family guests this past week from December 1-7 and to all who organized the Mission Closet this week.

Children in the Hospital on Christmas

Please bring new or gently used small stuffed animals for children in the hospital. Boxes are by all church entrances.

Homeless Breakfast Saturday, December 21

Meet at 7:45 a.m. at East Gordon entrance to church. Please bring batteries (AA, AAA, or D), dark socks, bicycle inner tube accessories, or give to Nelle if you can't attend.

Gift Cards

Please bring Kroger gift cards for refugee families. Please pray for the right jobs for newly arriving refugees.

Jennifer Thompson, Congregational Life

Merry Makers

Merry Christmas! Put on your red and green and join us at Wesley Gardens tomorrow, Monday, December 9 from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. for our annual Christmas party! Members of the barbershop chorus of Savannah, 13th Colony Sound, will be sharing their talent with us through a special presentation of Christmas Music. We will also enjoy a meal and hear the Christmas story in a special way. Cost is \$7.00. Let Jennifer know today if you plan to attend.

Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry

Christmas Ornament Painting, Today, Sunday, December 8th

We'll be painting pottery ornaments in room 202 and room 303 immediately following the 11:00 service. These ornaments can be hand-painted by your child and then they are glazed and fired by professionals. This year we have some new designs including a star, cross, snowman, and stocking. The ornaments make great Christmas presents for grandparents or other family members. Ornaments are \$13 each and come with a ribbon for hanging. No need to make a reservation, we'll have all the supplies ready for you, and the ornaments will be ready for pick up on December 20.

Christmas Fun Day for Babies, Toddlers and Preschoolers

Next Saturday, December 14, the nursery will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. for Christmas Fun Day! We enjoy having the children come and spend the day with us, and we hope all of their parents have some time to enjoy the Christmas season. We have lots of activities planned for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. We are providing lunch and plan to eat around noon. We'll make ornaments, bake cookies, play on the playground, and watch a Christmas movie. It is fine for the children to come for the whole day or for any part of the day. To register, send an email to charli@wesleymonumental.org with the time they will be arriving on the 14th.

James P. Owens, Director of Student Ministries

Preteens (4th & 5th Grade)

Christmas Party!

We're having a Christmas party for all our 4th and 5th graders! On December 15 from 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m., we will gather at the Green family home for lots of Christmas fun. There will be lunch served, cookie decorating, games, and just maybe a special visit from you-know-who! See James P. Owens or Amy Green for details.

4th-5th Grade Bible Study

All 4th-5th Graders are invited to join us for Bible Study on Wednesday afternoons from 5:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. at Wesley Monumental, right before church supper. Through skits, games, and drills, your kids will learn how to read their Bibles and learn skills like locating passages by book, chapter, and verse, and distinguishing different types of books of the Bible.

Youth (6th-12th Grade)

Ski Retreat

Our annual ski retreat is February 6-9, 2020. We're going to Snowshoe, WV. The cost is \$350 per person and that includes ski rentals, lift tickets, meals at Snowshoe, and lodging. Sign-ups will begin soon!



A Record of Our Faithfulness

Attendance: (12/1/19)

8:45 A.M. Worship	101
11:00 A.M. Worship	311
Total Worship	412
9:45 A.M. Sunday School	149
Nursery (8:45 & 11:00)	16

Finances: (12/02/19)

Total Budget for the Year	\$1,931,779.07
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date	\$1,709,154.83
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date	\$1,745,972.87
Construction Loan Balance	\$379,359.56

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Ben Martin.....Senior Pastor	Tom Anderson.....Financial Manager
Rev. Nelle Bordeaux.....Outreach and New Members	Daphne Burrows.....Administrative Assistant, Reception
Rev. Jennifer Thompson.....Congregational Life	Jennifer Brookins.....Administrative Assistant to Pastoral Staff, Media Communications
Monica Dekle.....Director of Music and Organist	Suzanna King.....Director of Hospitality
Skip Watts.....Music Assistant	Nathaniel Legree.....Custodian
James P. Owens.....Director of Student Ministries	Betty Dudley.....Housekeeper
Charli Weeks.....Director of Children's Ministry	Micah Sprünger.....Wesley Gardens Property Manager
Haley Herrington.....Children's Ministry Assistant	Kenneth Hayes.....Wesley Gardens Groundskeeper/Maintenance
Jimmy Flowers.....Church Administrator	



Follow us on social media @wesleymonumental and use our hashtag #wesleymonumental when sharing your Wesley moments!

To assist with our website, publications and social media; please email your Wesley photos to wesleymonumentalphotos@gmail.com. All photos are appreciated and do not need to be recent, "throwback" pictures encouraged!"

**Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
December 8, 2019**

Sermon Notes

As a Praying Church...

We pray for the children who are participating in the Christmas programs at Wesley this season. Open their hearts anew to the precious love of Jesus as they see and understand His story. We also pray for those who watch these programs - that they too would experience the living Christ.

This Week at Wesley

Sunday, December 8

- 8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
- 9:30 AM Coffee and Donuts, FH
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM New Member Class, OH 205
- 11:00 AM Lessons & Carols, SNC

Monday, December 9

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 11:00 AM Merry Makers Christmas Event, WG
- 5:00 PM Nativity Pageant Dress Rehearsal
- 6:00 PM Mark Spradley Trombone Choir, FH

Tuesday, December 10

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Holland House
- 9:00 AM Eli's Place—Polar Express Day
- 9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study, FH
- 9:00 AM Bible Buddies, FH
- 11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 205
- 2:00 PM Prayer Partners, OH 308

Wednesday, December 11

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 9:30 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study
Brunch, Home of Nelle Bordeaux
- 11:00 AM Bible Study w/Ben, OH 310
- 4:45 PM Call to Prayer
- 5:00 PM 4th/5th Grade Bible Study, EB 405
- 5:30 PM Supper, FH
- 6:15 PM Nativity Pageant, FH
- 7:15 PM Chancel Choir, EB 4th Flr

Thursday, December 12

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 10:00 AM Messenger Brigade, OH 205
- 12:00 PM Downtown Bible Study, Ruth's Chris
- 1:00 PM *Messiah* Rehearsal, SNC

Friday, December 13

- All Day *Messiah* Rehearsal, SNC
- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 10:00 AM Docent Tours, SNC

Saturday, December 14

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place Fun Day
- 7:30 PM Handel's *Messiah*, SNC

Pastor on Call This Week

Ben Martin..... 912-547-1835

OH = Oliver Hall	EB = Education Building
SNC = Sanctuary	FH = Fellowship Hall
WG = Wesley Gardens Retreat Center	

**Wednesday Night Supper:
12/11/19**

Menu: Fried Chicken, French Fries
Green Bean Casserole
Children: Pizza

***Make reservations NOW for
Supper and the Children's Nativity
Pageant on December 11.

In Our Prayers.....

Karen Nickles, Dean Muenckler (son of Jim and Libby Muenckler), Ashley Ball (Linda Sapp's step-grandson's wife), Mark Case, Katie Bennett (cousin of Meb Ryan), Ann Lott, Bill Taylor, Ryan Davis, Wesley Hudson (nephew of Leigh Connor), Betty Collins (mother of Becky Ike), Andrew Brown (great nephew of Gaye Reese), Leigh Conner, Sandi Dixon, Debby Warner, Chad Ebel, Gene Herrington (mother of Will Herrington), Joe Stubbs (father of Joe T Stubbs), Danny Wright (son of Betty Dudley), Norma Day (mother of Dorie Gaskin), Louise Page, Hendrick Smock (grandson of Judy Smock), Mary Williams, Patty Ronning, Bob Franz, Harriet and Bill Bland, David Burke, Abby (grand-daughter of Toni Olds), Joe Clark (father of Maureen Culbreath), Adam Corey, Joe Gold, Jan Nyborg, Bourke Cannon, Diane Wells, Rev. Matt Hearn, Lauren and Yates Parker (daughter and son-in-law of Susan and Tom Colgrove), Les Wilkes, Patsy Robinson, Rita Gietzen (sister of Joyce Cole), Kathy Delaigle, Betty Roberts (aunt of Anna Ivey), Earl Goodwin (brother of Beth Aldrich), Alison White (niece of Linda Sapp), George Vail, Carla Thomas, Rev. John Martin, Sr., Spencer Davis, Caroline Moore, George LeMay, Martha and Erv Sloan, Fenton McEvoy (son of Kate and Brian and grandson of Ron and Judy Freeman), Jim Gietzen, Denise LeMay, Randy Warner, Toni Olds, Janice Dukeman (daughter of Erv Sloan), Dick Wallace, Chuck Brown (brother of Gail Rountree), Grace Crosby Utomo (friend of Jean Remley), Patty James, Mark Thomas, Sammy Reesman, Vivian Wilson, Richard Bartels, Mandy Hawkins and Family, Debra Chapman (daughter-in-law of Ruth and Elton Stuenckel), Cheryl Richardson and Family

At Home/Extended Care

Carolyn White (mother of Jennifer Thompson), Ann Ernst, Bella Grace Bartels, Peggy Murphy, Grace Bockes, Becky Heckard, Georgia Dickerson, Betty Weeks, Michael Mamalakis, Linda McKibben, Lois Wooten, Bobbie Mattox

Military Serving Abroad/Stateside

Jason Childers, Austin New, Jerred Pyles, Justin Geen, Matt and Melinda Allen, Yates Holleman, Daniel Ealy, Dan Barton, Joshua Laws, Shea Murray, Charles Smock, Chris Watson, Clint Guild