



Celebrating 150 Years 1868 - 2018

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

December 15, 2019

THANK YOU WESLEY CHOIR

One of the blessings of being a downtown historic church is we have guests from all over the world who worship with us each week. One thing they are consistently moved by is the quality of sacred music that draws us all into worship. Over the last week, we have been given the gift of several beautiful worship experiences led by our music ministry. Lessons and Carols really begins the Christmas season for us in song and word. The children's Nativity on Wednesday night reminded us of what the prophet said, "and a little child shall lead them" as they led us into God's presence. Saturday, the presentation of Handel's Messiah to a packed church culminated a year of preparation and shared the magnificent story of God's salvation through Christ. We never want to take for granted the countless hours of hard work and the gift of talent those in our music ministry offer to us week after week. Early each Sunday morning as I pray through the sanctuary in preparation for worship, one of my prayers is that our praise would rise to God as a sweet aroma and that in turn God's glory would descend up on us. Thank you God and thank you Monica, the chancel choir, the youth choir, and our musicians for answering that prayer again and again this week.

JOYFUL NOISE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION, TODAY 4:30 p.m.

This afternoon our youngest children's choir will present their Christmas celebration. Join us as the joyful sing of Christmas and warm our hearts and God's.

A SEASON OF GIVING

Thank you for generously "adopting" the Urban Hope and Wesley Community Center children for Christmas, and for blessing Knox Davis, the son of Ryan and Asia Davis. We continue to collect stuffed animals for children in the hospitals to be distributed on Christmas morning. And we continue to collect dark socks, batteries (AA, AAA, D) for the homeless to be distributed at our monthly breakfast this Saturday.

Finally, we hope you will prayerfully consider supporting our Debt Elimination Campaign. We would like to turn in our gifts or commitments by next Sunday. If you did not receive a letter and card in the mail, they are available by each door in the sanctuary.

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019 — 8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Third 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.

Chiming of the Hour (11:00)

Owen Washburn

Lighting of the Candles

The Acolytes

Opening Voluntary (8:45) Ukrainian Bell Carol arr. Joseph Martin

Opening Voluntary (11:00) Carol of the Bells Lilly Marler, pianist

* **Hymn No. 234** O Come, All Ye Faithful ADESTE FIDELIS
(stanzas 1, 2, 3, 6)

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

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** GREATORIX
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 Joy Candle

Gilmore, Laura, Hannah, and Eliza MacGregor (8:45)

Todd, Caroline, Sara, and Anna Livingood (11:00)

Congregational Response

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

Baptismal Covenant (11:00)

Anne Katherine Rabe
daughter of Jarrett and Rachel Rabe

Congregational Response:

With love and thanksgiving we welcome Annie as a member of God's family and Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church. By God's grace we will do all in our power to increase her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love that she may grow into a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ who walks in the way that leads to life.

Children's Sermon

James P. Owens

8:45 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.

11:00 Children ages 3 - PreK leave through the door on the right side of the sanctuary to go to Preschool Children's Worship in Room 201.

Children in grades K - 3rd leave through the door on the left side of the sanctuary to go to Elementary Children's Worship in Room 303.

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.** 238 Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA

Offertory Prayer

James P. Owens

Offertory Solo (8:45)

Gesu Bambino

David Edwards, tenor

Offertory Voluntary (11:00)

Savannah Trombone Choir

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel/God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

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. 1)

Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon

"When God Changes Your Plans"

Ben Martin

* **Hymn No.** 219

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

* **Benediction**

Ben Martin

Closing Response (11:00)

AWAY IN A MANGER

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
 close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
 bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
 and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.
 (Congregation)

Closing Voluntary

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
 Savannah Trombone Choir

* *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.

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**Usher Roses**

The roses worn by the ushers today are given in loving memory of Bob Farrow by his children and grandchildren.

Called Administrative Board Meeting

A brief Administrative Board meeting will take place tomorrow, Monday, December 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The main topic of the meeting will be to approve the 2020 budget.

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.

Christmas Eve Communion Services—Tuesday, December 24

- ◆ 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- ◆ 3:30 p.m. Child-Friendly Service (enjoyed by all ages)
- ◆ 6:00 p.m. Carols by Candlelight
- ◆ 6:30 p.m. Worship Service

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service:

Partners in Prayer: Britt Griffin

Docent: Jeanne Poenicke

Offering Steward: Ed Poenicke

Ushers: Johnny Smith, Henry Whitfield

Greeters: Jeanne Poenicke, Pat Killewald

Children's Worship: Holly McCormick

11:00 Service:

Partners in Prayer: Adam Kobek

Docent: Linda Sapp

Acolytes: Jed Thompson, Hannah Green

Greeters: Don & Vicki Teague, Barbara & Johnny Phelps

Offering Steward: Chris Donegan

Ushers: Jason Pedigo, Johnny Phelps, Michael Hasselle, Adam Hess, JD

Hunt, Bill Hunter, Corey Jones, Lucas Kinard, Todd Livingood

Children's Worship 3's & PreK: Allison Willis, Leslie Shor

Children's Worship K-3rd: Nikki Parks, Karen Washburn

Monica Harper Dekle, Director of Music and Organist

Welcome to the Savannah Trombone Choir

Founded in 2017 by Mark Spradley, the Savannah Trombone Choir is comprised of high school students from across Savannah. This ensemble serves as an excellent opportunity for a younger generation to perform in a chamber music setting, and it brings these sounds and excitement of trombone choir music to the Savannah area. This ensemble meets weekly on Monday evenings and performs two annual concerts.

Thank You

Thank you for supporting the music ministry through your attendance at The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols and Handel's *Messiah*. Thank you for supporting and encouraging the children through your attendance at their Nativity Pageants. With grateful appreciation, the choir and I acknowledge those who have given monetarily to support the long tradition of exemplary music in our historic church.

Calling All Carolers

On Sunday December 22nd, choir members will carol to homebound church members. A light lunch will be provided in the Sanctuary following the 11:00 service, and we will depart from Wesley at 12:20 to begin caroling. All are welcome. If you would like to join, please RSVP to Monica no later than Monday evening, December 16. monica@wesleymonumental.org

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Thank You

Thank you for Urban Hope, Wesley Community Center, and Family Promise wrapped presents.

Homeless Breakfast 7:45 a.m., Saturday, December 21

Please bring batteries (AA or AAA or D) or bicycle inner tube accessories. Meet Nelle at East Gordon Street door. Please sign up in advance with Nelle or Perfect Potluck online, coordinator last name, Wesley Monumental, password 7385.

Please Bring Small Stuffed Animals for Hospitalized Children

Boxes just inside all church doors. New or gently used. We'll deliver Christmas morning.

Want To Do One Act of Servanthood Daily?

Please sign up for a weekly Bible verse email of encouragement. Questions? Email Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Jennifer Thompson, Congregational Life

Merry Makers January Program

Monday, January 13 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Cost of lunch is \$7.00. How many of us have lost someone close to us and not known how to take care of their affairs? Or, how many of us have thought about taking care of our own affairs ahead of time as a gift to those we love? Come meet Marilyn Athey, a Personal Affairs Manager, as she shares her wisdom and leads us through the tool "Five Wishes." Planning is important - and it can even be enjoyable - when we are able to make preemptive decisions based on our own individual desires for the future.

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! Today, 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: (12/8/19)

8:45 A.M. Worship 57

11:00 A.M. Worship 558

Total Worship 615

9:45 A.M. Sunday School XXX

Nursery (8:45 & 11:00) XX

Finances: (12/08/19)

Total Budget for the Year\$1,931,779.07

Actual Revenues Year-to-Date\$1,725,385.96

Actual Expenses Year-to-Date\$1,787,359.79

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 Sprunger.....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 15, 2019**

Sermon Extended

Monday	Matthew 1:18-25	When have my plans been interrupted and how have I responded?
Tuesday	Matthew 1:18-25	Have I struggled with disappointment or bitterness that affects others?
Wednesday	Romans 8:28	Have I seen or allowed God to work through a disruption of my plans?
Thursday	Matthew 6:34-35	Do I really trust God for tomorrow? If so how does that affect my plans?
Friday	Isaiah 43:18-19	Am I in a place where my plans have been destroyed and I am waiting on God in hope?

Sermon Notes

As a Praying Church...

We lift up those who will spend the holidays without a loved one..... whether the absence of that loved one has been caused by death, estrangement, mental illness, addiction, deployment, disease, geography, or something else. Be with these people and give them your comfort and your peace. Allow them to find joy in simple things and to know that You, Lord, will never leave them.

This Week at Wesley

Sunday, December 15

- 8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
- 9:30 AM Coffee and Donuts, FH
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship, SNC
- 12:30 PM 4th/5th Grade Christmas Party, Home of Amy Green
- 4:30 PM Joyful Noise Christmas Celebration, SNC/FH

Monday, December 16

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 6:00 PM Mark Spradley Trombone, SNC

Tuesday, December 17

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Holland Hse
- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study, FH
- 9:00 AM Bible Buddies, FH
- 11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 205
- 1:15 PM Staff Christmas Luncheon

Wednesday, December 18

- No Wednesday Night Supper
- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 11:00 AM Bible Study w/Ben, OH 310
- 7:15 PM Chancel Choir, EB 4th Flr

Thursday, December 19

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 12:00 PM Downtown Bible Study, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse

Friday, December 20

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 10:00 AM Docent Tours, SNC

Saturday, December 21

- 7:45 AM Homeless Breakfast, Meet at Gordon Street Door

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

Pastor on Call This Week

Ben Martin912-547-1835

Wednesday Night Supper

Our Wednesday Night Suppers and programming have ended for 2019.

We will resume January 8, 2020.

If you have a "permanent" reservation, you will not need to renew for the Winter-Spring session. If you wish to cancel the permanent reservation, please notify the church office, 912-232-0191. Most of all, if you are not going to attend a particular night, please advise the office so we can plan for the appropriate number.

In Sympathy...

Mildred Walker
on the death of her son,
Monty Walker

In Our Prayers.....

Sylvia Boone (sister of Susan Wallace), 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