



Celebrating 150 Years 1868 - 2018

429 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401
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Website: www.wesleymonumental.org

December 22, 2019

Christmas Eve

The title to the popular carol says it best, "O Holy Night." Apart from the Easter Sunday morning celebration, no other time of worship is as powerful and as popular as Christmas Eve. It is truly a holy night. Holy means to be set apart from the normal. We arrive to a beautifully adorned sanctuary, we sing the music that carries so much meaning and memory, we read the story of his birth, gather at the table remembering that God so loved the world He gave His only Son, and we end in the glow of candlelight. All of it adds to the sacred solemnity of this day. Worship on Christmas Eve is also an important time to retaining or regaining perspective on what this day means when we are immersed in a world of commercialism. We hope you will set aside time for worship with us on Tuesday. The following will be our schedule for the day:

- 10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship and Communion
- 3:30 p.m. - Our children-focused service that is enjoyed by all ages
- 6:00 p.m. - Carols by Candlelight
(music by the Chancel choir and congregation)
- 6:30 p.m. - A service of Word and Table

We are grateful SCAD has made extra parking available to us in their lots on Abercorn (one block south of us) behind their building and in the lot facing Drayton behind the Chatham Apartments. (608 Drayton Street, 516 Drayton Street, 545 Abercorn Street)

DEBT ELIMINATION CAMPAIGN

This morning we hope everyone who would like to participate will turn in your gifts/pledge cards for our Debt Elimination Campaign. Remember we are trying to match a generous \$193,000 gift and if we do, we will pay off our building debt and free up our budget for more ministry. Thank you to all who have already made a gift or commitment, we are already off to a great start towards our goal. There are commitment cards by each door if you forgot to bring one with you. You may drop them in the offering plate this morning. If you make a check out for the campaign make sure and mark it Debt Elimination Campaign.

REMEMBER THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON DECEMBER 25 & 26.

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019 — 8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Fourth 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)

Michael Grabowski

Lighting of the Candles

The Acolytes

Opening Voluntary

O Come, All Ye Faithful

arr. Richard Kroes

Introit (11:00)

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Anna Laura Page

* **Hymn** No. 240 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

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

Jennifer Thompson

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 Love Candle

Carmine, Evan, and Emma James Cowart (8:45)

Mort, Leslie, Millie, and Mary Shor (11:00)

Congregational Response

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

Children's Sermon

Charli Weeks

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 James P. Owens

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. 215** To a Maid Engaged to Joseph ANNUNCIATION

Offertory Prayer Nelle Bordeaux

Offertory Voluntary (8:45) Sing We Now of Christmas
arr. Mark Hayes

Offertory Anthem (11:00) All Bells in Paradise John Rutter

Deep in the cold of winter,
Darkness and silence were everywhere;
Softly and clearly, there came through the stillness
a wonderful sound to hear:

Refrain: All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King.

Lost in awe and wonder,
Doubting I asked what this sign might be:
Christ our Messiah revealed in a stable,
A marvellous sight to see. *Refrain*

He comes down in peace, a child in humility,
The keys to his kingdom belong to the poor;
Before him shall kneel the kings with their treasures,
gold incense and myrrh. *Refrain*

All bells in paradise I heard them ring:
"Glory to God on high" the angel voices sing.

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. 56-57) Luke 1:26-56

Sermon "When God Calls You" Ben Martin

* **Hymn No. 218** It Came Upon the Midnight Clear CAROL

* **Benediction** Ben Martin

Closing Response (11:00)

ST. LOUIS

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray
 cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
 We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell.
 O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!
 (Congregation and Choir)

Closing Voluntary

Festive Voluntary on ADESTE FIDELES

Daniel Berghout

* *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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**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

Wesley Community Center Bags of Hope

The United Methodist Women will be distributing the WCC Bags of Hope and contribution envelopes today, Sunday, December 22. Please return your filled bags or contributions to the church next Sunday, December 29. Your support of this community outreach for needy families is greatly appreciated!

Stewardship Update

Thank you to everyone who has turned in your estimate of giving cards for 2020. So far we have received 153 cards totaling \$1,002,606 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:** Henry Whitfield**Docent:** Lori Miller**Offering Steward:** Britt Griffin**Ushers:** Bill Tedder, Jimmy Hill**Greeters:** Susan Griffin, Phillip Carter**Children's Worship:** TBD**11:00 Service:****Partners in Prayer:** Grace Greene**Docent:** Ellene Anderson**Acolytes:** Sara Livingood, Julianna Jones**Greeters:** Mildred Walker, Camille O'Neill, Joanne Faulk**Offering Steward:** John Beasley**Ushers:** Brian West, Forrest Lott, Bates Lovett, Bill Lovett, Bill Mattocks, Jake Maxwell, Robert McCorkle, Matt Merritt, Matthew Mobley**Children's Worship 3's & PreK:** Ginny Cheshire, Ellen O'Connor**Children's Worship K-3rd:** Melanie Maxwell, Emily Jones

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Sign Up for Servanthood

Would you like to do one act of servanthood daily and receive a weekly Bible verse email of encouragement? Tell Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net or 912-234-9245.

New Year, New Bible Study! Bring Your Baby and Your Bible!

"Shepherd to King: The Life of David," Young Mothers' Bible Study, Meets in the Fellowship Hall, Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., all are welcome, even if you don't have a baby!

Downtown Bible Study

Studying 1 and 2 Thessalonians, Meets at Ruth's Chris Steak House (111 West Bay Street), Thursdays, noon-1 p.m., please bring a donation for the waiters. Nelle teaches the lesson.

Thank You

for Urban Hope, Family Promise, Wesley Community Center, and homeless breakfast donations this past week. Kroger gift cards (any amount) needed for refugee families.

Jennifer Thompson, Congregational Life

Wednesday Night Bible Study – Winter 2020

Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God by Francis Chan

What if.....what if there were more to God than we ever thought? What if our view of God has been incomplete somehow – narrower or smaller than He ever intended? Chan's book will lead us toward a life of "more God" in a world that claims to have "enough God." It is a ten week, discussion based, "no guilt" study (come if you read the book or not!) led by Rev. Jennifer Thompson. The group will meet on the 3rd floor of Oliver Hall in room #308 immediately following Wednesday night supper.

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 his/her 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)

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: (12/15/19)

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| 8:45 A.M. Worship | 101 |
| 11:00 A.M. Worship | 363 |
| Total Worship | 464 |
| 9:45 A.M. Sunday School | 121 |
| Nursery (8:45 & 11:00) | 20 |

Finances: (12/15/19)

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Total Budget for the Year | \$1,931,779.07 |
| Actual Revenues Year-to-Date | \$1,789,640.13 |
| Actual Expenses Year-to-Date | \$1,836,950.56 |
| 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 22, 2019**

Sermon Extended

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|---|
| Monday | Luke 1:26-39 | What do I have in common with Mary? |
| Tuesday | Isaiah 6:1-8 | Intentionally make yourself available to God each day this week. |
| Wednesday | I Corinthians 12:12-31 | Have I received this as my "call"? |
| Thursday | Luke 1:39-45 | What gets in the way of my "believing what God has spoken"? |
| Friday | Ephesians 1:17-23 | Pray for the eyes of your heart to be enlightened that you may hear God's call today. |

Sermon Notes

As a Praying Church...

We ask that you watch over all who are travelling this holiday season. Protect them and give them blessed visits with family and friends.

This Week at Wesley
Sunday, December 22

8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
9:30 AM Coffee and Donuts, FH
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship, SNC
12:00 PM Lunch for Carolers, FH
12:20 PM Caroling Group Departs

Monday, December 23
Eli's Place Closed All This Week

Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve

10:30 AM Christmas Eve Service, SNC
3:30 PM Christmas Eve Service, SNC
6:00 PM Carols by Candlelight, SNC
6:30 PM Christmas Eve Service, SNC

Wednesday, December 25
Christmas
Church Office Closed

Thursday, December 26
Church Office Closed

Friday, December 27
10:00 AM Docent Tours, SNC
4:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal, SNC

Saturday, December 28
4:00 PM Wedding, SNC

Pastor on Call This Week
Ben Martin912-547-1835

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

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...
The Family of *Becky Heckard*

The Skinner Family
on the death of Tara's grandfather,
George Martin Butts, Sr.

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 Stuenkel), Cheryl Richardson and Family

At Home/Extended Care

Carolyn White (mother of Jennifer Thompson), Ann Ernst, Bella Grace Bartels, Peggy Murphy, Grace Bockes, 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