



***Celebrating 150 Years 1868 - 2018***

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December 29, 2019

#### **AFTER THE RUSH**

Advent is the season of preparation and expectation. Each week as we move toward Christmas, our calendars, schedules, homes, lives move faster and fill up to overflowing with good things, and then in a moment, it is over. You might say the shepherds go home, and the wise men aren't there yet, and life settles back into a routine. Except for Mary and Joseph, life would never be routine again. If only the same could be true for us, that when Christ becomes a part of our lives nothing would ever be routine, but instead the daily anticipation of life with Christ. Most of our lives are not moments of angels singing or wise men bowing, but of hard work and responsibilities, moments of fear and unexpected changes, and hopeful looking ahead to dreams fulfilled. On the backside of Christmas this year when the lights are turned off and the tree taken down, it will be easy and maybe even a relief or comfort to slide back into our routines. But how do we maintain our sense of awe that God so loved the world He gave His only son? How do we maintain our sense of Emmanuel, God with us? Worship is certainly one thing, like "wise men" drawing near and bowing down to offer our gifts. Mary also sets an example as she "ponders all these things in her heart." Taking time to prayerfully reflect on the Word keeps us aware of His presence. Joseph also reminds us that a commitment to obedience and being prepared to go where God sends, keeps us listening and looking for His guidance. So I pray the sense of anticipation and expectation of Advent and the spirit of joyful wonder of Christmas would go with us into the New Year. So Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Christ has come, we are not alone.

*Ben*

## MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2019 — 8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

*First Sunday after Christmas Day*

### 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

The Acolytes

### Opening Voluntary

Scherzo on "God Rest Ye Merry"

Thomas Bohlert

\* **Hymn No. 246** Joy to the World ANTIOCH

\* **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.

### 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

Ben Martin

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. 224**    Good Christian Friends, Rejoice    IN DULCI JUBILO

**Offertory Prayer**    James P. Owens

**Offertory Voluntary**    Masters in This Hall    arr. Mark Hayes

**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. 884, 58)    Zechariah 9:11,12; Luke 2:1-7

**Sermon**    "Are You Ready for Christmas?"    Nelle Bordeaux

\* **Hymn No. 251**    Go, Tell It On the Mountain  
Afro-American Spiritual

\* **Benediction**    Nelle Bordeaux

**Closing Voluntary**    Sleigh Ride    arr. Thomas Trotter

\* *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.*

**Thank You!**

Daphne and Jennifer would like to say thank you to the church members who have assisted with the Messenger, additional mail outs, answering phones, and other office related duties. Your support is greatly appreciated!

**Wesley Community Center Bags of Hope**

The United Methodist Women will be collecting the WCC Bags of Hope and contribution envelopes today, Sunday, December 29. Thank you for your support.

**Y'All Haul - Trucks Needed**

Tuesday, December 31. Trucks needed to move furniture for refugee families. Please meet at 3:00 p.m. at the church. Sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

**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.

**Church Office Closed**

The church office will be closed Wednesday, January 1, 2020.

**2020 Altar Flowers**

If you would like to give Sunday altar flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please email [jennifer@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:jennifer@wesleymonumental.org). Request forms are also located at all Sanctuary entrances. The cost is \$85, and the Altar Guild will purchase and arrange the flowers for you.

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**Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service:**

**Partners in Prayer:** Britt Griffin      **Docent:** Shirley & Peter Roberts

**Offering Steward:** Paul Cleveland

**Ushers:** Jeff Miller, Phillip Carter

**Greeters:** Judy Cleveland, Henry Whitfield

**Children's Worship:** Melinda Sortor

**11:00 Service:**

**Partners in Prayer:** Sue Ellis      **Docent:** Bebe Cole

**Acolytes:** Taylor Mason

**Greeters:** Madge & Joe Edwards, Jerolyn & Walt Carroll

**Offering Steward:** Brian West

**Ushers:** Jason Pedigo, Richard Moore, Ted Moore, Jeff O'Connor, Jim Pannell, Jon Pannell

**Children's Worship 3's & PreK:** JJ Haire, Emily Cay

**Children's Worship K-3rd:** Phillip Green, Jen Mobley

**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](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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)*

**4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Bible Study**

All 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> 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: (12/22/19)

8:45 A.M. Worship	86
11:00 A.M. Worship	357
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>443</b>
9:45 A.M. Sunday School	149
Nursery (8:45 & 11:00)	XX

**Finances: (12/22/19)**

Total Budget for the Year .....	\$1,931,779.07
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date.....	\$1,861,227.03
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date .....	\$1,882,056.18
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
Dr. 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](mailto:wesleymonumentalphotos@gmail.com). All photos are appreciated and do not need to be recent, "throwback" pictures encouraged!"

**Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church  
December 29, 2019**

**Sermon Extended**

Monday	Genesis 32:10	Am I grateful to Him?
Tuesday	Psalms 116:2	How can I thank Him?
Wednesday	Psalms 13:6	Do I live in hope?
Thursday	1 Chronicles 29:5	Am I willing to serve Him?
Friday	Colossians 1:19-23	How am I at peace with Him and others?

**Sermon Notes**

A large empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for writing sermon notes.

**This Week at Wesley**

**Sunday, December 29**

8:45 AM    **Worship Service, SNC**  
9:30 AM    **Coffee and Donuts, FH**  
9:45 AM    **Sunday School**  
11:00 AM   **Worship, SNC**

**Monday, December 30**

**Eli's Place Closed All This Week**

5:30 PM    **Mission Comm. Mtg, OH 205**

**Tuesday, December 31**

**New Year's Eve**

**Wednesday, January 1**

**New Year's Day**

**Church Office Closed**

**Thursday, January 2**

**No Scheduled Activities**

**Friday, January 3**

10:00 AM   **Docent Tours, SNC**

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

**Pastor on Call This Week**

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

**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...*

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 Stuenckel), 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