



New Members

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach & New Members
912-234-9245, tbordeaux@prodigy.net

Next New Member Course

Our December course will be December 6 and 20, at 10:00 a.m. both Sundays, with the class joining December 20. Please call the church office to sign up, 912-232-0191.



Alex & Whit Campbell

Just eight days after their wedding, Alex and Whit were once again standing beside Ben Martin at the front of the Wesley sanctuary, but this time, he was joining them in an even more important covenant than their marriage vows, as they took their church membership vows to the Lord Jesus. Alex is a Hancock Day School elementary teacher brought to Wesley by her students, and Whit is a mortgage lender. Both are from South Carolina.

Shepherds: Courtney & Matt West, Avery & Henry West

Welcome, New Members

We are thankful the following joined the church on October 27.



Jeanne Poenicke

Already Jeanne is a faithful children's Sunday school teacher, United Methodist Women leader, and now she joins her husband and shepherd, Ed, as a member of the church. We are thrilled over her decision.

Shepherd: Ed Poenicke, Jr.



Savannah & Scott Rogers

Savannah and Scott are both from South Carolina, and she is a nurse practitioner in Bluffton. Savannah and Scott came to Wesley for the traditional worship and strong preaching. Scott is in industrial real estate.

Shepherds: Amy and Rob Martin, IV, & Ally Martin

Christmas Carols on the Church Steps

Sunday, December 20, 4:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m. Please wear a mask. All are welcome.



What a Meaningful Christmas Present to the Lord and Your Loved Ones!

As 2020 ends, make a plan as an individual or family to read the entire Bible together next year. We'll start on New Year's Day, January 1, 2021, to read the whole Bible during 2021. There will be a Sunday School class, Bible study, or you may simply read along on your own or as a family. We'll read chronologically to see how all the stories fit together. Questions or to sign up, Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.



Memorials December 2020

THE MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND

Gifts have been received:

In memory of:

Sylvia Boone

(Sister of Susan Wallace)

Bill Bland

Betty Weeks

Wattie Hayes

(Mother of Harriet Bland)

From Ge-Juan H. Wilkes

In memory of

Judy Riddle

(For her love of music)

From Her Husband, Don Riddle

THE MONUMENTAL MUSIC FUND

Gifts have been received:

In memory of:

Wattie Hays

(Mother of Harriet Bland)

Avis Coleman Cheney

(Sister of Jeanette Cason)

From: Madge and Joe Edwards

THE MISSION FUND

Gifts have been received

In memory of:

Judy Riddle

From: David and Linda Butler

THE ENDOWMENT FUND

Gifts have been received:

In memory of

Judy Riddle

From:

Jim and Karen Pannell

John and Patricia Beasley

Roderick C. Campbell

Judy S. Smart

In memory of

Patty James

From Linda K. Sapp

In memory of:

Becky Heckard

Lucy Exley

Linda McKibben

Bobbie Mattox

Betty Weeks

Bathey Coffield

From Camille O'Neill



Missions

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach & New Members
912-234-9245, tbordeaux@prodigy.net

Thank You for Mission Generosity

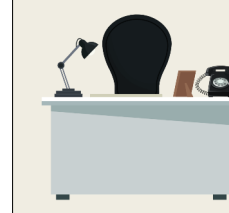
You have during this month alone provided groceries for Wesley Community Center needy families, a new washer and dryer for a refugee family with eight children at home, furniture and housewares for a formerly homeless young honor student at Savannah State University and also for a mother who fled from Kabul, Afghanistan with her three children, and two sewing machines for two refugee mothers.



Shown below are a baby, Salaam, from a family from Damascus, Syria, age 13 months, wearing a sentimental coat donated by a church member. Also below is an Afghani mother showing the jacket and pants she sewed from donated fabric on a sewing machine given by a church member.



Another church member gave a complete set of antique china, and other families gave chairs, a desk, beds, and housewares. We hope to do more construction (shown below is Anne Chaddock Donegan, building a ramp for a senior adult to enable her to stay in her own home) this month at Wesley Community Center for its nursery classrooms, at Family Promise, and at the Tiny Houses. If you would like to help, please sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.



You Can Help! Amen Handymen!

Right now most needed are groceries (please no glass jars) and a full-time job for a young woman who will graduate this month from Savannah State University. Law firm receptionist or education work would be her dream job. Please speak with Nelle if you would like to see her resume, tbordeaux@prodigy.net. Also, minor home repairs for senior adults. Questions? See Nelle.



December At-A-Glance

Wednesday Night Supper (WNS) Schedule

4:30 Call to Prayer, OH Parlor
 5:15 WNS To-Go Meals, WSD
 5:30 WNS Take-Out Meal, WSD & FH
 6:00 Joyful Noise Choir
 6:00 Children's Choir
 6:00 Youth Bible Study, EB 4th Flr
 6:00 "Spiritual Formation" Study,
 Led by Ben Martin
 6:00 "The Book of Isaiah" Study,
 Led by Jennifer Thompson
 7:15 Wesley Chamber Singers Rehearsal, SNC
 *WNS times and events are subject to change.

Tuesday, December 1

5:30 Evangelism Comm. Mtg
 6:00 Pacesetters, FH

Wednesday, December 2

See WNS Schedule

Thursday, December 3

2:00 Courtney Gaines Circle

Friday, December 4

2:00 Greenery Pickup, OH CY

Saturday, December 5

9:00 Greenery Pickup, OH CY
 9:30 Hanging of Greens, SNC

Sunday, December 6

10:00 New Member Class
 12:00 Christmas Ornament
 Painting, EB 202

Tuesday, December 8

2:00 Prayer Partners
 5:30 Mission Committee Mtg
 5:30 Finance Committee Mtg

Wednesday, December 9

See WNS Schedule
 6:00 Managing Grief Program

Saturday, December 12

9:00 Christmas Fun Day
 11:30 Jane Shirah Circle, OH

Sunday, December 13

3:30 Youth Group Christmas
 Party
 4:30 Christmas Celebration
 Program, SNC

Monday, December 14

11:00 Merry Makers, WG
 5:00 Nativity Pageant
 Dress Rehearsal
 5:30 Administrative Board
 Mtg, Zoom

Tuesday, December 15

2:00 Care & Share

Wednesday, December 16

6:15 Nativity Pageant,
 Wayne Street

Thursday, December 17

10:00 Messenger Brigade,
 OH 310

Sunday, December 20

10:00 Confirmation Class
 10:00 New Member Class
 4:00 Christmas Sing-a-long,
 SNC Steps

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve Services

Friday, December 25

EB = Education Building
 FH = Fellowship Hall

OH = Oliver Hall
 WG = Wesley Gardens Retreat

OH CY = Oliver Hall Courtyard
 SNC = Sanctuary



Prayer Committee



Joy to the world! The Lord has come! Let earth receive her King.

We worship our almighty God for sending us His Son, Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He came to save us from our sinful nature. He came to give us eternal life in Heaven. The Holy Spirit fills us with gratitude and the desire to communicate with our Lord and Savior.

This Christmas season is a huge rescue from a sobering year of pandemic, tension, and concern. So, let's fill our hearts this season with joy! The world, and all of us, need this encouragement.

The Prayer Committee, Rev. Martin, and the staff invite you to join us on Wednesday afternoons from 4:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. in the Parlor of Oliver Hall. Prayer is worship and a school from which we never graduate!

-Prayerfully, Sue Ellis



Poinsettias



Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on Friday, December 18 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 **Sunday, December 13.**

Checks should be made payable to Wesley Monumental in the amount of \$14 per plant, marked "Altar Guild Poinsettias." Or visit <https://pushpay.com/g/wesleymonumental> to pay online. Select "Give one time" and "Poinsettias" as the fund. Once paid, email the poinsettia order form to daphne@wesleymonumental.org or deliver to the church office by Sunday, December 13. Order forms may be found by all church entrances and on our website.



Children's Ministry

Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry
 912-232-0191 Ext. 225, charli@wesleymonumental.org



Christmas Presentations

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for our children's Christmas presentations. The Elementary children are working diligently to learn their lines and songs for the Nativity Pageant. This year the pageant will be presented outside on Wayne Street following Wednesday Night Supper on December 16 at 6:15 p.m. The Joyful Noise choir children will present their Christmas Celebration Program on Sunday, December 13 at 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



Christmas Ornament Painting

On Sunday, December 6, we'll be painting pottery ornaments in room 202 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 snow globe and an elf 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

On Saturday, December 12, 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 12th.

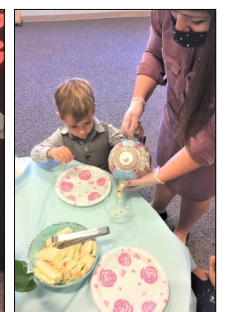


Christmas Eve Family Service

This year we are having two Family Services on Christmas Eve, one at 11:30 a.m. and one at 4:00 p.m. to help us comply with social distancing recommendations. During this service the children bring in the pieces to our nativity scene. Since we are having two services we will need twice as many children this year. If your child would like to participate in this service please send an email to charli@wesleymonumental.org.



Halloween Costume Parade & Storybook Party



The children had fun parading around Calhoun Square in Halloween costumes. After the parade, the children visited different Halloween story stations where a parent volunteer read a book to them.



Ms. Kayleigh's class enjoyed a tea party for manners and etiquette week.



From Ben's Desk

Ben Martin, Senior Pastor
912-232-0191, Ext. 216, ben@wesleymonumental.org

A Real Advent



Most years Advent is just an early Christmas, not its own season of waiting, expectation, and hope. But this year, we just may be in a place truly to experience Advent. For ten months now, we have been waiting. Waiting for life to return to “normal,” for the pandemic to end, for fear and uncertainty to go away, for jobs to reappear, for schools to start back, for worship to return to normal. But we are still waiting. And so, what do we do while we wait? Give up? Get angry? Defiantly ignore the reality? Or keep waiting in faith? And faith in what? A political system? Science and technology? God? All of those? None of those? There is no such thing as faith without waiting.

And expectation? When this thing started I expected two or three or four weeks and it would be over for all practical purposes. And then weeks became months and months push towards a year and expectations eroded and sometimes hope with it. So how are we to maintain expectation? By following the press releases on rising or falling case numbers or phase three testing of a vaccine? Or by living in the present moment but trusting God holds the future? Faith is not faith without expectation.

And hope? A glimmer of hope. Is it in a potentially effective vaccine on the horizon? A change in political leadership? A recovering economy? Or is our hope in God? And if so, what kind of hope? Hope for the second coming of Jesus? Hope for some divine intervention? Or faith-based hope in the presence of God with us right where we are? Hope that is an “anchor for our souls” in the storm not just removing the storm.

I'm thinking this year we can really “feel” the season of Advent, so let's not just turn it into an early Christmas. Let's let this season of waiting, expectation, and hope settle in on us and shape and strengthen this thing in us we call faith. Then as the prophet said in another season when God's people were waiting in a time of trouble and difficulty, *“Then your light will break forth like the dawn and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”*



Congregational Life

Rev. Jennifer Thompson, Congregational Care
912-232-0191, Ext. 202, jennifert@wesleymonumental.org

Merry Makers Christmas Party

Please don your holiday clothing and come celebrate Christmas at Wesley Gardens on Monday, December 14 from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. We will be doubly treated to a festive meal of prime rib, potatoes au gratin, roasted asparagus, and individual molten lava cakes prepared by Suzanna and seasonal musical entertainment by an ensemble comprised of our own Wesley choir members! Please know that we will continue our commitment to social distancing, mask wearing, and safe meal service.

Cost is \$7.00. RSVP to Jennifer Thompson by Thursday, December 11 at jennifert@wesleymonumental.org or by texting her at 229-726-7735. Or, you can let Daphne know in the church office.



Merry Makers
COOKING WITH
THE STARS!

Monday, January 11
11:00 am-1:00 pm

Our very own celebrity chef, Suzanna King, will be demonstrating her cooking prowess and allow us to TASTE her creations for our Merry Makers program! Would you like to know such things as: how to better cook for 1 or 2 people; how to prepare inexpensive, healthy meals; what substitutions can be made in recipes; or even how to cut an onion? Email Suzanna King or Jennifer Thompson and let them know about your cooking questions and curiosities! Please know that we will continue our commitment to social distancing, mask wearing, and safe meal service.

RSVP to Jennifer Thompson by Thursday, December 11 at jennifert@wesleymonumental.org or by texting her at 229-726-7735. Or, you can let Daphne know in the church office.



Youth

James P. Owens, Director of Student Ministries
912-232-0191 Ext. 209, james@wesleymonumental.org

Join James P. Owens during
Advent for daily devotionals!
Read below for details.



Advent is here! During this season, we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of our savior Jesus. We reflect on the arrival of the Messiah and remember that he will come again. It is a time of waiting and expectation, of patient hope for God to act powerfully. At this time when we are thinking about the coming of Jesus, I would like us to wonder, “What would it look like for Jesus to come to our world today?” What I mean is not “What if the incarnation had happened now?” or “What if the second coming happened tomorrow?” Instead, I am asking what would it mean for the presence and power of Jesus to be working in this world right now? In our lives? In our families and communities?

Join me at noon every day during Advent on Facebook Live for daily devotionals! They will be broadcast on the Wesley Monumental Facebook page. I'll be looking at a different Bible passage each day and wondering what it would mean for Jesus to be present with us right now.

The youth ministry is also preparing for an exciting Advent. Our youth choir will be singing in the Lessons & Carols services on December 13. We look forward to hearing them raise their voices along with the chancel choir in that special service. The youth group will also celebrate with our annual Christmas party that afternoon.



Music

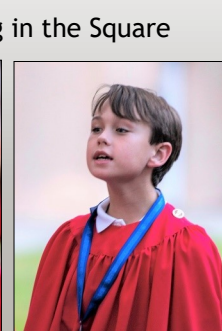
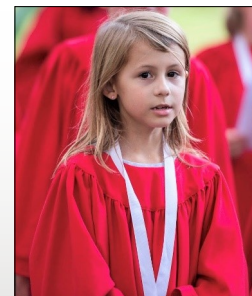
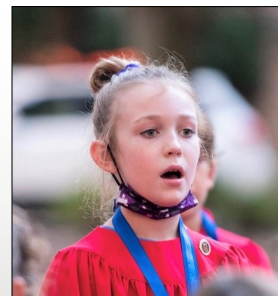
Monica Dekle, Director of Music & Organist
912-232-0191 Ext. 213, monica@wesleymonumental.org

I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live:
I will sing praise to my God while I have
my being.” Psalm 104:33



THE MONUMENTAL MESSENGER

Life at Wesley



Sunset Singing in the Square

This year for Eli's Place Chapel, the children watch Rev. Nelle on the big screen in the Fellowship Hall



DAR, Savannah Chapter, Flag Pole Dedication was held November 10 with several Wesley members in attendance



Eli's Place Halloween Costume Parade & Storybook Party



Messenger Monthly Spotlight



Fall Festival Fun!

