



## Evangelism

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach & New Members  
912-234-9245, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net)

### Welcome, New Members!

We are thankful the following joined during November. Next New Member Course: Jan. 10 & 24, 10:00 a.m. both Sundays, with the class joining the church on Sunday, Jan. 24. Please call 232-0191.



### Micaela and Ryan Anderson and daughter, Fielding, and son, Ford

Never do you know where inviting a friend to church might lead, but the Lord knows! Ellen invited her friends to worship, and soon 3-year-old Fielding joined the Joyful Noise preschool children's choir, and now the Anderson family has joined the church. Micaela has had the painful loss of both her grandmother and grandfather in recent months to COVID. She and Ryan both work in the medical field, and they love traditional worship.

*Shepherds: Ellen and Allen Williams; Children's Shepherds, Charlotte and Lanier Williams*

### Join a Bible Study! (Sign up with Nelle, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net))

- **Young Mothers' Bible Study** Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., via Zoom, Chronological Bible Study
- **Downtown Bible Study** Thursdays, noon to 12:30 p.m., via Zoom, Studying 1 and 2 Corinthians



### Have You Made a New Year's Resolution to Read the Entire Bible?

Join your church family in reading the entire Bible during the New Year.

Here are frequently asked questions:

**Do I need a special Bible?** No. Any Bible will work fine. A chronological Bible just makes it a little easier to find the daily readings.

**What if I get behind on reading?** We all will get behind at times. Every week, there is a "Catch-Up Day" with no new readings.

**Will there be a class?** Yes. Nelle will teach on Sunday mornings a lesson on the week's Scripture. Bring your questions! Also, the Young Mothers' Bible Study will study the entire Bible on Tuesdays.

**Where do I find the readings?** Just look in every Sunday's bulletin, and also there will be a weekly email of encouragement, sent by our own Jennifer Brookins. Sign up for the weekly email with Nelle, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net). You may also have a printed list of the entire year's readings if you prefer.

**May I join remotely?** Yes. You may join via Zoom on Sunday or Tuesday mornings, or you may come in person on Sundays.

**What is the deal with chronological study?** We'll see how the stories fit together by reading the Bible as the events happened. For example, on New Year's Day and January 2, we'll read how God made the world from Genesis and also from Psalm 8 and from John 1. Later, we'll read the Psalms that David wrote as we read the exciting story of his life, and we'll read Jesus's life from birth to resurrection, and then we'll read Paul's life in Acts along with his letters. It will help us all grow in faith.

**I still have questions:** Please call Nelle, 912-234-9245, or [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net)

### Daily Chronological Bible Readings - January 2021

Please sign up with Nelle to read the entire Bible; all are welcome.

Friday, 1	Genesis 1,2	Sunday, 10	Genesis 17-19	Thursday, 21	Catch-Up Day
Saturday, 2	Psalms 8 and 104;	Monday, 11	Genesis 20-23	Friday, 22	Job 1-5
	John 1:1-3	Tuesday, 12	Genesis 24-26	Saturday, 23	Job 6-9
Sunday, 3	Genesis 3-5	Wednesday, 13	Genesis 27-29	Sunday, 24	Job 10-13
Monday, 4	Genesis 6,7	Thursday, 14	Catch-Up Day	Monday, 25	Job 14-17
Tuesday, 5	Genesis 8, 9;	Friday, 15	Genesis 30-33	Tuesday, 26	Job 18-21
	Psalm 12	Saturday, 16	Genesis 34-37	Wednesday, 27	Job 22-24
Wednesday, 6	Genesis 10,11	Sunday, 17	Genesis 38-40	Thursday, 28	Catch-Up Day
Thursday, 7	Catch-Up Day	Monday, 18	Genesis 41-43	Friday, 29	Job 25-28
Friday, 8	Genesis 12,13	Tuesday, 19	Genesis 44-46	Saturday, 30	Job 29-32
Saturday, 9	Genesis 14-16	Wednesday, 20	Genesis 47-50	Sunday, 31	Job 33-36



## Missions

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Our next Family Mission Project will take place on Saturday, January 23. See below for details.



### Family Mission Project

Saturday, January 23, 10:00 a.m. to noon

Assemble wooden desks for Urban Hope children to use while they have virtual school. Huge thanks to Woody Brown for building the prototype desk. Weather permitting, we'll assemble desks in East Wayne Street; rain location, Fellowship Hall. Please sign up in advance so we can have enough tools, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net). Please wear work gloves. All ages welcome.

### Amen Handymen!

Need a minor home repair? Or, in our case, a major home repair? Just kidding! But if you are a senior adult and need minor home repairs, please call Nelle, 912-234-9245. Teams of church members will complete your to-do list. If you want to

help with handyman repairs, please also tell Nelle.

### Family Promise

Help build for homeless families, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net)

### Thank you

For Christmas presents for Urban Hope children and for generous Christmas Mission Offering gifts. Most needed now are funds for rent and citizenship, checks to the church, earmarked Missions.

### Groceries

You have been so generous! Especially needed are rice, pasta, cereal, peanut butter, canned meat and vegetables and fruit, oatmeal, and grits. Please put by any church entrance.



## Memorials

January 2021

### THE ENDOWMENT FUND

Gifts have been received:

In memory of  
**Lonnie K. Morgan**  
From:  
Tiny Howard Family  
Steve Howard  
Cheryl Clay  
Dennis Hartman  
Janice Saturday  
Margaret and John C. Wylly, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Neil Johnson  
Martha L. Sullivan  
Bonnie, Lawrence, and Brenda Lee  
Raymond E. Cartledge  
Susan and Mike Thompson  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Holmes Minis  
Shirley A. Sienkiewicz (Sister of Lonnie)  
Bonnie R. Turner  
Mary M. Smith

### THE ENDOWMENT FUND CONT.

Gifts have been received:

In memory of  
**Major General William P. Bland, Jr.**  
From Willette W. Ansley  
  
In memory of  
**David H. Fritts**  
From Erlene Proctor  
  
In memory of  
**Valinda F. McKibben**  
From Anne G. Webster  
  
In memory of  
**Judy Riddle**  
From:  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Speyer  
Jake and Suzanne Marbach  
Mary M. Smith

### THE MONUMENTAL MUSIC FUND

Gifts have been received:

In memory of  
**James E. Davis**  
From The Wesley Chancel Choir  
  
In memory of  
**Lonnie Kessler Morgan**  
From: Bob and Jan Harman

### THE PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Gifts have been received:

In memory of  
**Heather Riley**  
From Courtney Gaines Circle  
  
In memory of:  
**Avis Cheney**  
**Batty Coffield**  
From Penny L. Harper





## January At-A-Glance

EB = Education Building  
FH = Fellowship Hall

OH = Oliver Hall  
WG = Wesley Gardens Retreat

SNC = Sanctuary

### Wednesday Night Supper (WNS) Schedule

4:30 Call to Prayer, OH Parlor  
5:00 WNS To-Go Meals, Wayne Street Door  
5:30 WNS Take-Out Meal, FH  
6:00 Joyful Noise Choir  
6:00 Children's Choir  
6:00 Youth Bible Study, EB 4th Flr  
6:00 Answers to the Big Questions Study,  
Led by Ben Martin  
6:00 The Epic of Eden Study,  
Led by Jennifer Thompson  
7:15 Wesley Chamber Singers Rehearsal, SNC  
\*WNS times and events are subject to change.

### Friday, January 1

New Years Day  
Church Office Closed

### Tuesday, January 5

5:30 Evangelism Comm. Mtg

### Wednesday, January 6

No Wednesday Night Supper  
Supper and Programs Resume 1/13

### Sunday, January 10

10:00 New Member Class, OH

### Monday, January 11

11:00 Merry Makers, FH

### Tuesday, January 12

2:00 Prayer Comm. Mtg, OH  
5:30 Missions Comm. Mtg

### Wednesday, January 13

See WNS Schedule

### Monday, January 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Eli's Place & Church Office Closed  
2:00 Courtney Gaines Circle

### Tuesday, January 19

2:00 Care & Share  
5:30 Finance Comm. Mtg  
6:00 Pacesetters

### Wednesday, January 20

See WNS Schedule

### Thursday, January 21

10:00 Messenger Brigade,  
OH 310

### Saturday, January 23

10:00 Family Mission Event  
Wayne Street

### Sunday, January 24

10:00 New Member Class,  
OH

### Monday, January 25

2:00 Joy Circle Mtg  
5:30 Administrative Board  
Mtg

### Wednesday, January 27

10:30 Jane Shirah Circle  
See WNS Schedule



## Additional Announcements



### Access ACS and Church Life App

Need help locating a church member's phone number or need to know your remaining pledge balance for the year? Access ACS, our church management software, can help with both.

#### With Access ACS, you can...

- Access the Online Directory
- Update your contact information including photo
- View your Pledge and Giving History for the year

To begin, visit wesleymonumental.org, then click on "Member Login or Member Directory"

#### With the ChurchLife App, you can...

- Access the Online Directory

To begin, download the app on your phone, then login with the same username and password you use for Access ACS.

Confused? Need help creating an account or resetting your password? Email or call Jennifer Brookins in the Church Office and she will be happy to help, jennifer@wesleymonumental.org or 912-232-0191.



## Prayer Committee

**"Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid." - Isaiah 12:2**



It's a NEW YEAR. The prayer committee and ministers invite you to join us for prayer. We meet each Wednesday from 4:30 p.m.—5:00 p.m. in the parlor of Oliver Hall. Prayer is the mightiest force on the planet. Prayer to our Lord is the greatest gift and available all year---every day. We look forward to praying with our church family in 2021.



## Children's Ministry

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

## Our Jesse Tree



This year during Advent our children have been making ornaments to decorate our Jesse Tree. The Jesse Tree tradition began in medieval times when people who were unable to read would look at pictures to remind them of lessons in the Bible. The name comes from Jesse who was the Father of King David. A prophecy from the book of Isaiah tells us,

*"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—and he will delight in the fear of the LORD." Isaiah 11: 1-3.*

We believe that Jesus is the Branch and the fulfillment of this prophecy.

The Jesse Tree is a way of telling the story of God's plan from the beginning of time to redeem His people by sending a Savior. It follows the lineage of Christ's family and key people in the Old Testament that God uses to tell His story from Creation through Christ's birth. The ornaments give us an opportunity to review the stories and create a symbol that is a visual reminder of the story.

Our Jesse Tree is near the Nativity on the right front side of the Sanctuary. Be sure to look at the ornaments and see which stories you remember.







## From Ben's Desk

Ben Martin, Senior Pastor  
912-232-0191, Ext. 216, [ben@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:ben@wesleymonumental.org)

## GOOD BYE 2020, HELLO 2021

When we are young, time can't pass fast enough. We are always ready for the next birthday, Christmas to arrive, to graduate. We are always ready for a new year to begin. When we get older, we start wishing we could slow time down. Birthdays bear down on us and time passes at a seemingly relentless pace. When I set up this article to save on my computer, it was the first time I've typed or written 2021. Those numbers jumped out at me. 2021. We are more than 20 years past Y2K. Remember how we were all living with the threat of all the things that were going to shut down and go wrong when the year 2000 began? But then it came and went uneventfully. Little would we know 9/11/2001 would be far more impactful than the dreaded year of 2000.

And now here we are on the cusp of 2021, and most of us are ready to say goodbye to 2020. Like 2001, few years will be as impactful upon life as we know it than 2020 has been. The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic was unlike anything we had experience in most of our lifetimes. A new year always holds the hope of a clean start and a new beginning, but this year we are hoping for a return to life as it was before. We are ready to say goodbye to 2020, but are we really ready to say hello to 2021? Are we going to be any different than we were when the clock struck midnight on January 1, 2020? 2001 had a lasting impact on our nation and world, in my opinion most of it was not for good. A crisis, a tragedy, a threat, plunged us into a different way of looking at the world, an unending war on terror, a whole new experience of air travel, immigration restrictions, and over the last twenty years we are not more united as a nation, but decidedly more divided.

What are we going to do with 2020? What are we going to learn? How are we going to grow? For us as followers of Jesus, these are not political or social questions, they should be faith questions. What will 2020 do to our faith and to our churches? Our hope is that 2021 will see an end to this pandemic. But, what will we look like when a vaccine is widely distributed, and we begin to return to "normal" life? Will we be better, more generous, patient, understanding, tolerant, and self-giving? Only we can answer that question. So, while I'm ready to say hello to 2021 with great hope, I'm not ready to say goodbye to 2020 until I've had time to reflect on how it has impacted me as a person of faith, and us as a community of faith.



## Congregational Life

Rev. Jennifer Thompson, Congregational Care  
912-232-0191, Ext. 202, [jennifert@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:jennifert@wesleymonumental.org)



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! She will be preparing a meal in front of us while sharing with us her "tricks of the trade." She is also interested in what you would like to know about the culinary world. 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 ahead of time with 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 Friday, January 8 at [jennifert@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:jennifert@wesleymonumental.org) or by texting her at 229-726-7735. Or, you can let Daphne know in the church office. Cost \$7.00 \*Please look forward to entry and exit instructions for that day as we will have to "skirt around" the Eli's Place kids per COVID ordinance.

### New Wednesday Night Bible Studies for Adults

Come join us for a great start to the new year! Wednesday night adult Bible studies will return on January 13 with two classes. The Rev. Ben Martin will offer a class called *Answers to the Big Questions: A study of Genesis 1-3, Job 1-3, Ecclesiastes 1-3, Matthew 5-7*. The Rev. Jennifer Thompson will lead her class through a 12 week study called *The Epic of Eden: Understanding the Old Testament*. Be on the lookout for more information!



### Merry Makers COOKING WITH THE STARS!

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



## Youth

James P. Owens, Director of Student Ministries  
912-232-0191 Ext. 209, [james@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:james@wesleymonumental.org)

On December 13, our youth choir blessed us with their musical gifts by singing in the 8:45 Lessons & Carols service. We are so proud of our youth choristers!

Later that day, we enjoyed another annual youth group tradition - our Christmas party! We ate pizza, played Christmas-themed games, and, of course, the legendary White Elephant gift exchange. We also awarded prizes for our students who wore their best ugly Christmas sweaters and creatively festive outfits.

2020 was an unusual year - to say the least - but I am extremely grateful to work with such a wonderful group of students and families! Even with masks, social distancing, Zoom, and all, it has been a great year with the Wesley Youth Group.



## Music

Monica Dekle, Director of Music & Organist  
912-232-0191 Ext. 213, [monica@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:monica@wesleymonumental.org)

"And still their heavenly  
music floats  
O'er all the weary world."





# THE MONUMENTAL MESSENGER

## Life at Wesley



For Thanksgiving, every Urban Hope child, teacher, and the bus driver took home a turkey.



The group known as “Descant Get Enough” (from the Wesley choir) performed at the Merry Makers Christmas event.



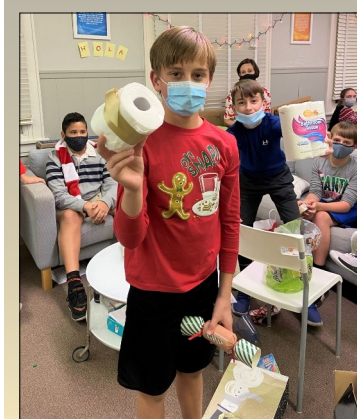
Joyful Noise Christmas Celebration



Christmas Fun Day



Annual Youth Christmas Party



## Messenger Monthly Spotlight

### Advent 2020 - Making Christingles



The idea of the Christingle began in Germany in 1747. A minister who loved children was looking for a simple way to explain the happiness that comes to people from Jesus. A Christingle has 5 parts that help us know God and Jesus. The first part is the orange. It stands for the world. We read in the book of Genesis how God made the world. (*Genesis 1:1-4*) The second part is the red band around the orange. The red band is the love and the blood of Jesus. (*John 3:16, Mathew 26:26-28*) The dried fruits remind us of God’s creation and how God provides all we need through the four seasons of the year. (*Matthew 6:26, Matthew 6:28-30*) The four toothpicks remind us of the four corners of the world, north, south, east, and west and that we are to spread the good news about Jesus all over the world. (*Matthew 28:19-20*) The candle reminds us of Jesus Himself. (*John 8:12*) Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.” We remember that Jesus is the light that came into the world at Christmas.

