



Celebrating 150 Years 1868 - 2018

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January 3, 2021

A "DO OVER"

It is common to most areas of our lives that we have a need for the opportunity to try again when we've failed at something. When we were kids playing, how often when we messed it up that we said, "that doesn't count" or "I was just practicing" or "do over." In golf we take mulligans, teachers sometimes give "make-up" work, and we put erasers on pencils. And then there is this thing called forgiveness. To be forgiven is to be given a chance to start over in spite of past failure. It never means what happened to necessitate forgiveness didn't matter, it means someone is giving me another chance in spite of it.

The beginning of a new year is a time when we wipe the slate clean and start over in many areas. Before all our electronic devices, we actually started a new calendar and it was a clean slate. It is a new tax year, a new fiscal year, a new vacation year (yea!), and a new deductible year (yuk!). How often do we feel the need to start over with God? There is something about the pursuit of "holiness" or "being perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect," that makes us feel like we often miss the mark. The good news is that the Bible teaches us repeatedly that God is a God of new beginnings. The Prophet says God offers a "new covenant" where he will "remember our sins no more." Paul speaks of "forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead." And in Revelation God says, "behold I am making all things new." There is a hymn I think of at the beginning of every new year:

*"This is the day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone."*

*For by the life and death of Jesus God's mighty Spirit, now as then, can
make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.*

*Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind
our disappointments, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure
to find.*

*Christ is alive and goes before us to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new."*

At Wesley Monumental, we are all relieved to see 2020 go and hopeful to see 2021 begin. But, I pray that we don't just erase 2020. How could we? But, instead use what we have learned through the last challenging year and make us better for the year ahead.

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP
SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2021
8:45 & 11:00 A.M. Sanctuary
Epiphany Sunday

Opening Voluntary Prelude on First Noel Daniel Berghout

Welcome and Announcements Ben Martin

Welcome to worship. Thank you for joining us. Please 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.

Nursery & Children's Worship: *If needed, the nursery for infants to 3 years old is located on the first floor, and Children's Worship for ages 3 to 3rd Grade is located on the second floor.*

Please register your attendance: *If you are a Wesley member or regular attendee, text @wmmumc316 to phone number 81010 to join the Worship Service Attendance thread. If you have already joined, you will receive a text message each Sunday morning reminding you to text the total number of household members worshipping and the service you are attending or if viewing online. If this is your first time using Remind, you may be asked to complete your name, phone number, and select "parent.") If you are visiting, please text your name and total number of attendees to Rev. Ben Martin, 912-547-1835.*

Offering: *To tithe, text wesleymumc to 77977 or place your offering in the offering/tithe box located at the main Sanctuary entrance. Online giving is also available on our website, wesleymonumental.org*

Prayer Requests: *Please email your prayer requests to Rev. Ben Martin, ben@wesleymonumental.org*

Lighting of the Candles (11:00) The Acolytes

Opening Hymn

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
Jessica Messere, cellist

"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." Ephesians 5:19 (KJV)

* **Affirmation of Faith** 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.

Pastoral 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.

Voluntary Ode to Joy to the World Jessica Messere, cellist

* **Scripture** Psalm 118:24, Matthew 6:34, Philippians 3:12-14

Sermon "Goodbye 2020!" Ben Martin

Closing Hymn Good King Wenceslas Jessica Messere, cellist

Benediction Ben Martin

Closing Voluntary We Three Kings arr. Diane Bish

* *Please stand as you are able.*

Following the service, please take your bulletins, masks, and all belongings with you.

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Just Born

Congratulations to Stuart and Bobo Mullens on the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Emerson Mullens, on December 19, 2020. A rose is by the altar today in honor of Emmy.

Congratulations to McCaul and Tommy Stedem on the birth of a son, Thomas Robert Stedem III, on December 23, 2020. Grandson of Martha and Joe Mathews. A rose is by the altar today in honor of Thomas.

Poinsettias

We have several poinsettias leftover from Christmas Eve. If you would like one, they are located in the hallway outside of the Fellowship Hall.

Stock Question

Wesley Monumental received 112 shares of AFLAC stock. Please notify Tom Anderson, tom@wesleymonumental.org or 912-232-0191, if you donated these stocks so that proper credit may be given.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to give Sunday altar flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact Jennifer Brookins in the church office, 912-232-0191 or jennifer@wesleymonumental.org. The cost is \$85, and the Altar Guild will purchase and arrange the flowers for you. The following dates in January and February are available: January 10, 17, 24 and February 7, 28.

New Member Course

January 10 and 24 at 10:00 a.m.; class will join January 24. Call the church office to sign up, 912-232-0191.

2021 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*. Additional information and sign up sheets for the studies and Wednesday Night Supper will be available in the January 10 bulletin.

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks, Haley Herrington

Greeters: Lori Miller

Ushers: Jeff Miller

Partners in Prayer: Carmine Cowart

11:00 Service

Acolyte: Peter Thompson

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks, Haley Herrington

Greeters: Barbara & Johnny Phelps

Ushers: TBD

Partners in Prayer: Grace & Art Greene

Jennifer Thompson, Congregational Life

Save the Date: Merry Makers - Cooking with the Stars!

Monday, January 11, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Cost \$7.00. 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 this Friday, January 8 at 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.

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Chronological Bible Sunday School Class

Starts today, Sunday, January 3, at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome, even if you are not yet sure whether you want to read the entire Bible. Nelle will teach.

Young Mothers' Bible Study

Will meet this Tuesday, January 5 via Zoom at 9:00 a.m.

Bible puppet show for children at the start. Sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net

Downtown (Well, Actually, Zoom from Anywhere!) Bible Study

Will resume Thursday, January 7.

Studying "First and Second Corinthians"

Family Mission Project - Desks for Urban Hope Children

Come assemble wood desks to help children learn! Saturday, January 23 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. All ages welcome. Sign up with Nelle Bordeaux. See the prototype built by Woody Brown in the Fellowship Hall.

Amen, Handymen-Need a Minor Home Repair?

Teams of members assist seniors with a to-do list. To give or receive help, call Nelle, 912-234-9245

James P. Owens, Director of Student Ministries

Preteen (4th & 5th Grade)

4th and 5th Grade Sunday School Teacher Needed!

We are in need of a teacher to join our group of awesome 4th and 5th grade Sunday school teachers! You will teach twice a month in a rotation. Lessons and materials are provided. Please see James P. Owens or email james@wesleymonumental.org for details.

Youth (6th-12th Grade)

Youth Sunday School In-person or via Zoom

Join us each Sunday morning for youth Sunday school in person or via Zoom. Email james@wesleymonumental.org for the Zoom details.

No Youth Group Today

All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us for Youth Group Sunday afternoons beginning January 10 from 3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. and Youth Choir from 5:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Youth Group, January 10 – Zombies vs. Humans

Sunday afternoon Youth Group will resume on January 10 with a bang! Back by popular demand, it's Zombies vs. Humans. Please bring a non-perishable food item (such as pasta, rice, canned goods, cereal, or peanut butter) to donate to Wesley Community Center.



A Record of Our Faithfulness

Attendance: (12/27/20)	
8:45 AM Worship	25
11:00 AM Worship	60
Online Worship Views	134
Total Worship	219
Nursery (All 3 Svcs)	2
Children's Worship (All 3 Svcs)	5
9:45 AM Sunday School	40

Finances: (12/27/20)

Total Budget for the Year	\$1,983,419.00
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date	\$1,786,438.91
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date	\$1,835,664.88

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. All photos are appreciated and do not need to be recent, "throwback" pictures encouraged!"

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church

January 3, 2021

Sermon Extended

Monday	Deuteronomy 8:1-19	Reflect on 2020. What does God want me to learn from it?
Tuesday	Matthew 6:25-34	How is the future causing me anxiety and challenging my faith? Give it to God.
Wednesday	Psalms 118:24	What do I have to rejoice in today? Thank God for it.
Thursday	Philippians 3:4-13	What do I need to release from my past? Let it go.
Friday	Philippians 3:12-16	What goal would God have me strive to reach this year? Write it down.

Sermon Notes

As a Praying Church...

We ask you, Lord, to be with those who have committed to read the whole Bible in 2021. Give them perseverance and bless them through your Holy Word.

Daily Chronological Bible Readings for 2021

Please sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net, to read the entire Bible; all are welcome.

Sunday, January 3	Genesis 3-5
Monday, January 4	Genesis 6, 7
Tuesday, January 5	Genesis 8, 9; Psalm 12
Wednesday, January 6	Genesis 10, 11
Thursday, January 7	Catch-Up Day
Friday, January 8	Genesis 12, 13
Saturday, January 9	Genesis 14-16
Sunday, January 10	Genesis 17-19

This Week at Wesley

Sunday, January 3

8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship Service, SNC

Monday, January 4

9:00 AM Eli's Place (Teachers Only)
6:00 PM Trombone Choir

Tuesday, January 5

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
9:00 AM Eli's Place (Students Return)
9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study, Zoom
11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 310
5:30 PM Evangelism Comm. Mtg

Wednesday, January 6

9:00 AM Eli's Place
11:00 AM Bible Study with Ben
No WNS or Programs

Thursday, January 7

9:00 AM Eli's Place
9:00 AM Removal of Greenery, SNC
12:00 PM Downtown Bible Study, Zoom

Friday, January 8

9:00 AM Eli's Place

Pastor on Call This Week

Ben Martin 912-547-1835

Wednesday Night Supper
will resume January 13, 2021.
Sign up sheets and additional information will be available in the January 10th bulletin.

In Our Prayers.....

Grover Bell, Mario Delfiaccio (brother of Cynthia Willet), Joyce Cole, Lamar Allen, Jennifer Hodges, The Family of Oscar and Donna Cook, Rodney Powers, Jack Coakley (infant son of Alice Ann and John Coakley and grandson of Anne and Jake Coakley), Jared Holt (son of Rusty Holt), Lucy Driscoll, Wesley Woods, Dean Muenckler, Barbara Burnett, Ken McDuffee (son of Annelle McDuffee), Joe Cain, Joel Williams, George Durden (brother-in-law of Gary Kornegay), Will Hamilton, Ceil Waters, Bill Gardner, Dave Fleiner (father of Derek Fleiner), Virginia Davis, Kim Rahn, Bob Harman, Beth Aldrich, Liane Willard, Craig Hanson, Theresa Fields, Grace Bockes, Ella Ealy (granddaughter of Carolyn Roth), Carla Thomas, The Family of Meaghan Wylie, Ellen Atkins, Stephen Oden (nephew of Cameron Schmitz), Rosemary Beasley, Claire Hayes, Vera Mobley (mother of Christina Varnedoe), Bryan Bost, Katie Bennett (cousin of Meb Ryan), Ryan Davis, Andrew Brown (great nephew of Gaye Reese), Debby Warner, Norma Day (mother of Dorie Gaskin), Louise Page, Bob Franz, David Burke, Adam Corey, Jan Nyborg, Bourke Cannon, Diane Wells, Rev. Matt Hearn, Patsy Robinson, Rita Gietzen (sister of Joyce Cole), Kathy Delaigle, Earl Goodwin (brother of Beth Adrich), Alison White (niece of Linda Sapp), George Vail, Rev. John Martin, Sr., Spencer Davis, Caroline Moore, Martha and Erv Sloan, Fenton McEvoy (son of Kate and Brian and grandson of Ron and Judy Freeman), Jim Gietzen, Randy Warner, Janice Dukeman (daughter of Erv Sloan), Chuck Brown (brother of Gail Rountree), Grace Crosby Utomo (friend of Jean Remley), Sammy Reesman, Vivian Wilson, Richard Bartels, Mandy Hawkins and Family, Cheryl Richardson and Family

At Home/Extended Care

Peggy Murphy, Roz Evans, Harriet Bland, Ann Lott, Bill Taylor, Ann Ernst, Bella Grace Bartels, Georgia Dickerson, Lois Wooten, Michael Mamalakis

Military Serving Abroad/Stateside

Jason Childers, Austin New, Jerred Pyles, Matt and Melinda Allen, Yates Holleman, Daniel Ealy, Dan Barton, Joshua Laws, Shea Murray, Charles Smock, Chris Watson, Clint Guild

In Sympathy....

*Janice Johnson,
sister of Patricia Jacobs*

*The Bradley Family
on the death of
Dan and Waldo's sister,
Jane Bradley Wheeler*