

June
2021

Volume 70 Issue 6
June 6, 2021

wesleymonumental.org

THE MONUMENTAL MESSENGER



Life at Wesley



In April, Y'All Haul took place with 5 stops to move furniture donated by church members for refugee families.

Wesley members continue to provide lawncare for The Living Vine.



Trio of Camilles (Camille Russo, Camille Wilkes, & Camille O'Neill) with their Eastertide Hats.



Music Awards Ceremony



For April's Family Mission Project, children and parents raked, pruned bushes, planted flowers, and repaired a rope fence at the Fresh Air Home on Tybee Island.



On Sunday, May 2, Wesley Monumental welcomed our newest confessing members, the 2021 Confirmation Class!



From Ben's Desk

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

Summer at Wesley



Summer is almost here and at Wesley we are excited to get back to some more “normal” activities. One of our big summer highlights is heading to Wesley Gardens Retreat Center on Sunday evenings for our youth group, youth choir, Sunday night worship, and fellowship dinner. On June 6, we will begin the Sunday night program at Wesley Gardens. We plan on returning to the chapel this summer for worship instead of being outside as we were last year. For those doing the “Read through the Bible,” our Sunday night sermons will be based on the reading for that week, and our staff will share the preaching responsibilities. Unlike last year when worship at Wesley Gardens was a third service (that was the same as our morning service), this year we will return to our traditional format of singing and a different sermon than the morning.

Our Sunday night meal will be a little different this year. Suzanna will be preparing the whole meal instead of having Sunday school classes bring side dishes. Please make a reservation for dinner by emailing daphne@wesleymonumental.org. There will be a nursery for children each week.

Wesley Gardens will also be the sight for our Vacation Bible School (June 14-18), Youth Missions Camp (June 21-26), and Children's Summer Fun Daze Camp (July 26-30).

We are so blessed to have this wonderful retreat center and hope you and your family will come out and enjoy it this summer. We have a wonderful playground, walking trails, a dock for swimming, kayaking and boating, and plenty of space for outside fun.



Congregational Life

Rev. Jennifer Thompson, Congregational Care

Grief Share Dates Set!

Our *Grief Share* group will begin soon. Please let Jennifer Thompson know if you are interested by emailing jennifert@wesleymonumental.org or calling the church office. We will have an informational meeting on Monday night, May 24 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. This will provide information about the format of our meetings and the book participants will need to purchase for the program. If you cannot attend this first meeting, please email Jennifer and she will get you the necessary information and add you to the email list which will provide you with the Zoom link. We will begin the actual group meetings on Monday night June 7 and will continue for the 13 Monday nights through June, July, and August. Anyone can join us. You do not have to be a church member and, because we are hosting this first group via Zoom, you don't even have to live in Savannah or in the same time zone. If you have experienced grief in any way, prayerfully consider participating in *Grief Share*.



Trip to Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation & Lunch

Thursday, June 10. Hey, Merry Makers, let's take a day trip! Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation is a beautiful plantation in Darien which represents the history and culture of Georgia's rice coast. While there we will visit the museum, watch a film, and tour the buildings on the plantation property. We are able to drive from the museum to the plantation site to limit the amount of walking required. When we are finished, we will eat a yummy, fresh seafood lunch at Mudcat Charlie's right on the Altamaha River. If you don't eat seafood, no worries, there are plenty of options! For those riding the NEW church bus (which has seats with a center aisle), we will leave from the church at 8:00 a.m. We can accommodate 15 people on the bus. Those seats will be available to the first 15 people who let me know that they need one. Those who plan to drive can follow the bus or meet us at the plantation at 9:30 a.m. The cost of the trip is \$7 for entrance to the plantation, \$10 to help pay for gas if you ride the bus, plus the cost of lunch. Please sign up for the trip by Wednesday, June 2 by emailing Jennifer Thompson (jennifert@wesleymonumental.org)

Merry Makers - The Mighty Eighth - Wednesday, July 7, 2021

Come go with the Merry Makers for a docent-led tour of the *The Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum* in Pooler. This amazing museum honors the Eighth Air Force which was activated in 1942. The museum features over 90,000 square feet of exhibits, interactive displays, historical artifacts, and a magnificent collection of aviation art. For those riding the church van (which has seats with a center aisle), we will meet at the church at 8:45 a.m. We can accommodate 15 people on the van. Those seats will be available to the first 15 people who let Jennifer Thompson know that they need one. Those who want to drive can follow the van or meet us in the museum lobby at 9:30 a.m. The cost of the trip is \$25 for the museum tour and lunch. Please sign up for the trip by Monday, June 28 by emailing Jennifer Thompson (jennifert@wesleymonumental.org) or calling the church office.



Children's Ministry

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

May has been a busy month with Music Awards, Infant Recognition, and Eli's Place Graduation. It is so good to see many of you coming back to church! We are continuing to follow the Georgia Department of Public Health Covid Guidance and will continue to welcome children at the Wayne Street entrance for drop off and pick up.



Infant Recognition Sunday



Vacation Bible School

There are a few spots left for our Vacation Bible School at Wesley Gardens. VBS will be held at the Wesley Gardens Retreat Center the week of June 14 - 18 from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon each day. If you have not already registered, please register today at www.myvbs.org/wesleymonumental.

It takes a village to shepherd all of our children through the learning centers and activities that are planned for VBS. From making and serving snacks, to helping put welcome packets together, there are tasks for everyone. You can sign up to help at myvbs.org/wesleymonumental or by emailing charli@wesleymonumental.org.



Summer Fun Daze at Wesley Gardens

Summer Fun Daze registration forms have been emailed to families with children in kindergarten - 3rd grade. This year's camp will be held the week of July 26 - 30 at the Wesley Gardens Retreat Center. Our theme is *Mission Possible*. We'll be traveling the world to hear how amazing people are obeying Jesus' words to, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to everyone, everywhere." Space is limited so be sure to register today. Email charli@wesleymonumental.org if you need a registration form or have questions.



Eli's Place Summer Camp

Summer Camp at Eli's Place is for children as young as 12 weeks through those who have completed Pre-K and will be starting kindergarten in the fall. It is a great opportunity for children to build friendships with other children who are members of Wesley Monumental. It is also a way to introduce friends and family members to Wesley. Email charli@wesleymonumental.org for a registration form and more information.

Infant Recognition Sunday



Nursery Sub-Committee





Evangelism

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

Welcome, New Members!

We are thankful the following joined during April. Our June New Member Course will be Sundays, June 13 and 20 at 10:00 a.m. both Sundays, with the class joining on June 20.



Rachel and Zac Suttles and sons, James and Winn

Rachel is a pharmacist, and Zac is a third-generation architect. Zac's dad practices architecture in Douglas, GA, and Zac's late grandfather, Al Suttles, was the architect for much of Epworth By the Sea, including the new dining hall, youth center, and prayer chapel. Both Rachel and Zac grew up in Douglas. He practices at Lott-Barber with Wesley member Forrest Lott. James, age 4, and Winston (Winn), age 1, both attend the Sanctuary. Rachel likes vegetable gardening and fishing, and Zac enjoys hunting, fishing, woodworking, and playing the guitar.

Shepherds: Kelsey & Jesse Bentley; Children's Shepherds: Saige & Walker Bentley



Daily Chronological Bible Readings - June 2021

It is NEVER too late to start reading the Bible!

All are welcome in Sunday School, Fellowship Hall and Zoom, 9:45 a.m. To sign up for a weekly email of Bible encouragement, please tell Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

June Bible Memory Verse

"Salvation is of the Lord." - Jonah 2:9c

Tuesday, 1	Proverbs 13-16	Tuesday, 15	1 Kings 12; 2 Chronicles 10
Wednesday 2	Proverbs 17-20	Wednesday, 16	1 Kings 13-14; 2 Chronicles 11-12
Thursday, 3	Catch-Up Day	Thursday, 17	Catch-Up Day
Friday, 4	Proverbs 21-24	Friday, 18	1 Kings 15:1-24; 2 Chronicles 13-16
Saturday, 5	1 Kings 5-6; 2 Chronicles 2-3	Saturday 19	1 Kings 15:25-16:34; 2 Chronicles 17
Sunday, 6	1 Kings 7-8; Psalm 11	Sunday, 20	1 Kings 17-19
Monday, 7	2 Chronicles 4-7; Psalms 134; 136	Monday, 21	1 Kings 20-21
Tuesday, 8	Psalms 146-150	Tuesday, 22	1 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 18-20
Wednesday, 9	1 Kings 9; 2 Chronicles 8; Proverbs 25-26	Wednesday, 23	2 Kings 1-4
Thursday, 10	Catch-Up Day	Thursday, 24	Catch-Up Day
Friday, 11	Proverbs 27-28	Friday, 25	2 Kings 5:1-8:15
Saturday, 12	Ecclesiastes 1-6	Saturday, 26	2 Kings 8:16-19; 2 Chronicles 21:1-22:9
Sunday, 13	Ecclesiastes 7-12	Sunday, 27	2 Kings 9-11; 2 Chronicles 22:10-23:21
Monday, 14	1 Kings 10-11; 2 Chronicles 9; Proverbs 30-31	Monday, 28	2 Kings 12-13; 2 Chronicles 24
		Tuesday, 29	2 Kings 14-15; 2 Chronicles 25-27
		Wednesday, 30	Jonah 1-4



Youth

James P. Owens, Director of Student Ministries

Congratulations Confirmands

One of my favorite parts of being the Director of Student Ministries here at Wesley Monumental is that I get to shepherd young people through the process of Confirmation. As Methodists, we baptize babies and young children to initiate them into the life of the church. Baptized children are members of our church, but, at Confirmation, they take the important step of professing their faith in Jesus Christ for themselves.

Confirmation is a time when young people make their faith their own. Over the past school year, this Confirmation class has learned about the basics of the Christian faith, what it means to be a United Methodist, and how to be an active member of the church. On April 25 and May 2, they took the vows of membership and became full members of the body of Christ gathered here at Wesley Monumental.

For this year's Confirmation class, the faith of their parents and grandparents is now their own faith. Welcome and congratulations to Leighton Allen, Claudia Barrow, Sallie Beckwith, Christopher Butler, Ansley Cheshire, Addison Conger, Michael Cooler, Cullen Dunn, Keeley Haughie, Joey Hayes, Ava Herndon, Hayden Hoffman, Helen Hoffman, Will Hoffman, Robbie McCorkle, Emerson McCormick, Ava Montjoy, Byron Pederson, Waylon Pederson, Marley Sigmon, Owen Washburn, Harper Wilcox, Lyla Wilcox, and Andrew Wilkes.



Missions

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

Read below for ways to get involved!!!



Family Mission Project

Friday, June 4 from 10:00 a.m. to noon, Drive-Through Grocery Give-Away at Fellowship of Love Community Church's parking lot outdoors - 1402 Harmon Street (at East Anderson). Please sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net, in advance.

Amen Handymen - Home repairs for senior members and missionaries. Leader is Steve Eberhardt. To give or receive help, please call Nelle, 912-234-9245.

Construction Ministry - Nick Hitt leads our Construction Ministry. Underway are Family Promise 4 houses for homeless families and Tiny Houses for homeless veterans. Sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Grace Monkeys - Auto repair for Urban Hope and Wesley Community Center and Family Promise families. Joel Hayes leads this ministry. Sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Grassy Guys and Gals - Do you like yard work? Join the Grassy Guys and Gals in lawn care for The Living Vine Christian Maternity Home, Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m. (usually every two weeks). Don Riddle leads this group. Sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Groceries for Wesley Community Center - Most needed are cereal, peanut butter, canned vegetables, canned meats, canned fruits, rice, oatmeal, and pasta. Boxes by all doors.

Y'All Haul - Thank you for helping with your trucks and your muscles. Flexible schedule. Please sign up with Nelle. The most needed furniture item is narrow dressers with four or five drawers, as many apartments are small.



Changing Lives in Savannah by Reimagining Oral Health

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." - Galatians 6:2

About a year ago, God introduced me to a young man named Lynn. Lynn had grown up in Savannah, and his efforts to build a self-sufficient life for himself were hampered by missing teeth that caused him both embarrassment and shame. He found it difficult to get job offers after employers interviewed him, but wherever Lynn turned, he could not afford the dental care he needed. Through his church, he was introduced to a dentist who volunteered to help Lynn not only regain his smile but change his life. I was intrigued - how many more lives could be changed through free dental care? To find out, a number of dentists and lay people, such as I, established a virtual committee and met online throughout the pandemic.

As we learned more about oral health, we discovered that Savannah has longstanding income disparities and very limited access to free dental services. Without routine access to oral care, children and adults alike are at risk for medical complications, as well as the social and economic consequences felt by Lynn. A recent survey of adults in Chatham County without dental insurance found that almost 60% of adults have not seen a dentist in over 12 months due to cost. As a result, approximately 11% indicated that they use the hospital emergency room for dental pain.

The next person God put in my path was Dr. Felix Maher, who has been providing free dental care to children in Savannah for 12 years, under the Savannah Volunteer Dental Clinic (SVDC). He agreed to "adopt" our adult oral health committee and together, establish a Free Family Dental Clinic, serving adults, children and families.

After an online planning process throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the virtual Free Family Dental Clinic sponsored by SVDC is becoming a reality, finalizing a contract for space, recruiting volunteers, collecting donated supplies and equipment, and hoping to open in the next few months.

We are nearly there, but now, we need YOUR help, whether you are a dental professional volunteer or a lay volunteer as I am, or you know of someone else who can help. Please call or email, 214-771-1208 or peter@robertshealthsolutions.com. Together, we can make a difference. - Peter Roberts



June At-A-Glance

EB = Education Building
FH = Fellowship Hall

OH = Oliver Hall

SNC = Sanctuary

WG = Wesley Gardens Retreat

Sunday Evenings at WG Schedule
3:00 Youth Group
5:00 Youth Choir, Chapel
5:30 Worship Service, Chapel
6:15 Dinner, Main House

Friday, June 4

10:00 Drive-Thru Grocery
Give-Away, 1402 Harmon St.

Sunday, June 6

See Sunday Evening Schedule

Monday, June 7

9:00 Eli's Place Summer Camp
Thru 6/10
7:00 Grief Share Class, Zoom

Thursday, June 10

8:00 Merry Makers Depart for Trip
to Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation

Sunday, June 13

10:00 New Member Class
See Sunday Evening Schedule

Monday, June 14

Vacation Bible School, WG
7:00 Grief Share Class, Zoom

Thursday, June 17

10:00 Messenger Brigade

Sunday, June 20

10:00 New Member Class
See Sunday Evening Schedule

Monday, June 21

9:00 Eli's Place Summer Camp
Thru 6/24
Youth Group Mission Week, WG
7:00 Grief Share, Zoom

Tuesday, June 22

2:00 Care & Share, FH

Sunday, June 27

See Sunday Evening Schedule

Monday, June 28

9:00 Eli's Place Summer Camp
Thru 7/1
7:00 Grief Share Class, Zoom



Wesley Gardens Retreat

Thoughts from the Retreat

Happy Summer from Wesley Gardens. Abbie & I realized recently that as many meaningful happenings take place out here each week, you may enjoy occasional glimpses. Given that design and renovation are keen interests of mine, I've enjoyed slowly preserving and remodeling the spaces, beginning with the cottages (see photos at www.wesleygardensretreat.com) and, more recently, the main room of the Main House.



Here are some other recent highlights from around the property:

+MAIN HOUSE - Wesley funded a retreat weekend for House of Hope, girls rescued from sex trafficking and placed in this group home and Christ-centered recovery program. Our family had a wonderful time laughing, swimming and worshipping with them.

+WHITE COTTAGE - A missionary couple serving for decades in Hong Kong was forced out for their faith earlier this year, and able to retreat in the White Cottage for a week—resting, healing, and asking God "where now shall we go?"

+GREY COTTAGE - A burnt-out pastor came for a handful of days, seeking God's rest and receiving spiritual direction.

+BOATHOUSE - Our first "Maker's Retreat" was hosted by Abode Studios for fifteen Savannah artists.

+CHAPEL - From various fronts, we've noticed a growing exhaustion and expressed need for rest. In response to that for Savannah folks, we'll begin offering "Fourth Friday" gatherings, with guided prayer in the Chapel at 9:00 a.m., noon, and 4:00 p.m., and the remainder of the day set apart for solitude and quiet. Feel free to join us for any part of these days.

+PERSIAN PLATE - We're grateful to now have our friend, Sakina Rokshar, on our website as a meal option for retreatants (and/or she'd be delighted to provide the food if you want an ethnic spin on an upcoming gathering). Sakina is a single mom and Iranian refugee, so it's been wonderful to come alongside her in some of these culinary dreams.

And these are but the fringes! Please never hesitate to come out for a stroll, picnic, or dip in Moon River. Simply drop us an email at hello@wesleygardensretreat.com.

Gratefully, Micah & Abbie Sprunger

www.wesleygardensretreat.com

@wesleygardenslife

<https://www.facebook.com/wesleygardensretreat>



Music

Monica Dekle, Director of Music & Organist



Choristers having downtime on the playground



Children's Easter Play



Our gentlemanly volunteers helped the choristers lead worship on Mother's Day.



Prayer Committee

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free."

- Galatians 5:1

The One True Liberty

Oswald Chambers says "There is only one true liberty, the Liberty of Jesus at work in our conscience, enabling us to do what is right." This year's 2021 National Day of Prayer theme was "Now the Lord is the spirit, and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." Prayer is our communication with the One who sees, loves, forgives and sets us free - Jesus Christ.

Come join us in the fall in Oliver Hall to pray with your church family on Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. before Wednesday Night Supper. You will be glad, and we will rejoice in the freedom of prayer.

- Sue Ellis, Committee Chair



Memorials & Honorariums As of May 10, 2021

The Endowment Fund

Gifts have been received in memory of:

Mary McGowen
(Mother of Art McGowen)

From:
Gordon and Bonnie Montgomery

Bill Thomasson
Mary McGowen
Joyce Cole

From
Linda K. Sapp

Avis Cheney
(Sister of Jeanette Cason)
Judy Riddle

From:
Dick and Susan Wallace

The Monumental Music Fund

Gifts have been received in memory of:

Joyce Cole
From:
The Wesley Chancel Choir
Adele P. Grubbs

Mary McGowen
Georgia Dickerson
Bill Thomasson
Clyde Singletary
Joyce Cole

From:
Patsy and Randal Robinson

Joyce Cole
From:
Dick and Susan Wallace

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Gifts have been received in memory of:

Mary McGowen
James Hill
From:
Dick and Susan Wallace

The Wesley Gardens Endowment Fund

Gifts have been received in memory of:

Clyde Singletary
From:

Penny L. Harper
Jim and Karen Pannell

Bill Thomasson
From:
Melvin and Ann Croft
Dick and Susan Wallace

Bill and Cass Thomasson
From: Gail and Mickey Rountree

The Music Endowment Fund

Gifts have been received in memory of:

Joyce Cole
From:
Damian and Gerri Kucharik
Timothy C. Mooney
Melvin and Ann Croft
Andrew and Monica Dekle
Gail and Mickey Rountree
Carolyn Roth
Ron and Karen Washburn
Mr. and Mrs. E. Ford Baskin
Leo and Mavis Heinz
Jim and Karen Pannell
Leslie and Patricia Parkman
Leslie Ann Parkman and the Children
Dorothy P. Harper

Local Missions Fund

Gifts have been received in memory of:

Mary McGowen
From Penny L. Harper

Honorarium
Gifts have been received in honor of

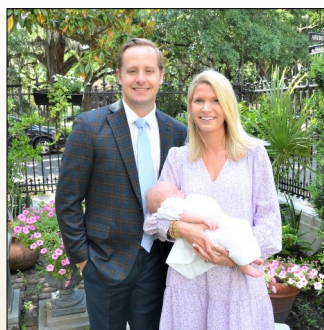
Nelle Bordeaux
From:
Dick and Susan Wallace



Messenger Monthly Spotlight



Infant Recognition Sunday



On Mother's Day, we recognized 26 babies who have joined or been born into our congregation over the past year.

