

# THE MONUMENTAL MESSENGER



## Life at Wesley



Wesley was thankful to have the largest group of walkers among any group in the 2022 Love Walk to benefit Wesley Community Center, held February 12.



Joyful Noise Choir leading worship.



Youth helping Repurpose Savannah by pulling nails from boards to be used for the Family Promise houses.



Choir members receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday.



We had a fantastic turnout for our Family Bingo Night! Thank you to everyone who participated. With your generosity, the Susanna Wesley Circle raised over \$1,100 for women's missions.



## From Ben's Desk

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

## *A Real Easter Again*



For the last two years, Easter has not been what we've come to expect here at Wesley. Two years ago our only Service was an online one recorded earlier in the week. Last year we had four Services, but only one had the choir and it was limited seating, social distancing, and masks. But this year we are having a "resurrection of Easter." Easter is back full steam at Wesley. No reservations (Praise the Lord!) and two identical services (8:45 & 11:00) featuring our choir and the Easter brass. We will also have a Sunrise Service at Wesley Gardens at 7:00 a.m. It was a great success last year and so we decided to offer it again in addition to our two sanctuary Services.

While every Sunday is a "little Easter," a celebration of the resurrection (which is why Sundays are not counted in the forty days of Lent), there is no Sunday of the year like Easter Sunday. The joy and anticipation that accompanies worship that day is second to none. It is the day without which there would be no Christian faith. Our faith is resurrection faith. Paul wrote, *"If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. 19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied."* 1 Corinthians 15:17-19

We look forward to seeing you in worship as we celebrate the resurrection. To get our hearts ready, we will also return this year to our lunch services during Holy Week. Monday-Wednesday and Friday we will have a meal and worship. On Thursday we will meet in the Evening for our Maundy Thursday Communion Service. Make plans to join us all week.



## Congregational Life

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



### Connect Sunday School Class New Study!

Come join the Connect Sunday school class in a new study on the book of John! Who are the people in the Connect class? We are people of all ages, single, married, with kids, with grandkids, without kids at all.....we are just people who want to learn the Bible. We meet at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings in Oliver Hall, Room 207. ALL are welcome ANY time! (We are on Zoom too! Contact Jennifer Thompson at [jennifert@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:jennifert@wesleymonumental.org) for a Zoom link.)



### Living Life to the Fullest: An Older Adult Retreat

This fun-filled retreat will take place at beautiful Epworth by the Sea on St. Simons Island, May 16-19, 2022. There will be speakers, entertainment, workshops, and excursions (included in the price of your registration - which is a DEAL!). To register, go to [www.EpworthByTheSea.org/events](http://www.EpworthByTheSea.org/events), click on *Register Here*, and scroll down to find this event. There you will find the prices, which vary depending on the number of persons in your room and which housing you choose. Pitts/Booth is cheaper, no direct view of the water, but a lot closer to the dining room and the auditorium. Turner Inn is the most expensive, has private balconies on the river, but is a longer walk from the dining room and auditorium (and parking is premium). Robertson Inn is in the middle price-wise and location-wise. It does have a view of the water from each room. Please let Jennifer Thompson know that you are planning to go so that she can connect you with others from Wesley who are also going. And, let her know if you need transportation as well.



## HOLY WEEK

### Merry Makers April Event

Holy Week noonday services and lunch are to resume for the first time since 2019! (Thank you, Jesus!) Come support the first of our 2022 noonday services and enjoy lunch.



## Children's Ministry

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

We have several fun events planned for Spring and Summer. Come join us!



### Easter Egg-stravaganza

Our annual Easter Festival and Egg Hunt is scheduled for Sunday, April 10 at 4:00 p.m. at the Wesley Gardens Retreat Center. There will be lots of eggs, treats, games, art activities, and more. Our youngest children will gather on the flagpole side of the main house and our elementary children will gather at the basketball court. It will be a fun afternoon for everyone. Plan to bring your Easter basket and bug spray. Watch for more details on Instagram @CMatWesleyUMC or on our website.

### Children's Easter Program

Mark your calendar and invite your family and friends to our children's Easter program on Wednesday, April 20 at 6:15 p.m. Rehearsals are underway and the children are excited about their singing and speaking parts. The program is being presented during the season of Easter and it will be a joyful celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, our Savior.



### Vacation Bible School

This year our Vacation Bible School will be held at the Wesley Gardens Retreat Center June 13 - 17 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Registration will open in April for all Wesley Monumental families.



### Summer Fun Daze at Wesley Gardens

Wesley children, who have completed kindergarten through third grade, can attend our Summer Fun Daze camp at the Wesley Gardens Retreat Center the week of July 18 - 22. It will be a fun week full of games, crafts, science, and water fun along with some time spent studying God's Word. Monday - Wednesday we'll start at 9:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. On Thursday, we'll start at 9:00 a.m., and we will be spending the night at Wesley Gardens! Our tired campers will be ready to be picked up at noon on Friday. The cost for the week is \$85. Registration information will be emailed to families with eligible children in April.



### Summer Camp at Eli's Place

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 and it is also a way to introduce friends and family members to Wesley. Registration opens the week of April 11.

### Ninja Warrior Day at Eli's Place





## Evangelism

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

## Welcome, New Members!

We are thankful the following joined during February. Our April New Member Course will be April 10 and 24 at 10:00 a.m. both Sundays, with the class joining April 24. Please call the office to sign up, 912-232-0191.



### Susie Chisholm

Susie is a Savannah native, and she and her husband, Billy Chisholm, have three grown children, five grandsons, and a granddaughter on the way. She is an amazing sculptor, known for her statue of Johnny

Mercer in Ellis Square; the runner at Lake Mayer; Sam Adams in Boston; Nathaniel Greene in Valley Forge; and Charles Fraser on Hilton Head Island. Already she is in the Pastor's Sunday School Class.

*Shepherd: Jan Harman*



### Mary Catherine Finnerty & Chandler Holloway

Both are Georgia natives: she is from Thomson, and he is from Americus. She works at Hussey Gay Bell as the assistant to Holmes Bell, and he is a senior mechanic at Gulfstream working

on 500 and 600 torque boxes. They are engaged to be married at Wesley on December 17, 2022. Their friends, Amanda and Dr. J.T. Prather, brought them to Wesley.

*Shepherds: Amanda & Dr. J.T. Prather & sons, Will, Matthaus, & McCrae Prather*



### Annabelle & Kieron O'Grady & daughter, Charlotte "Charlie" O'Grady

Annabelle and Kieron are both from England. He was a maritime attorney in London prior to moving to Hilton Head Island, where he is a loan

officer. Annabelle works in research operations and is a volunteer with Scouts. They were married at Wesley by Ben Martin on February 11, 2018, and then he baptized their daughter, Charlie, just recently; she is two years old. Annabelle's son, Noah, is a Marine. The O'Grady family are Prayer Partners for a young man who is a refugee from South Sudan.

*Shepherds: Staci & Chris Donegan*

*Charlie's Shepherd: Anne Chaddock Donegan*



### Laura & the Honorable Bob Pirkle, Sr.

Bob is the chief municipal court judge in Richmond Hill and also serves in Pembroke, Walthourville, and Hagan. He likes running, hunting, and fishing. Laura likes genealogy and walking the

Historic District, where they live. Bob grew up in Hinesville, also the hometown of his shepherds. Laura is from Birmingham. They have two grown sons and one daughter.

*Shepherds: Christna & Carl Varnedoe & daughters, Mary Mobley Varnedoe & Stafford Varnedoe*



### Bible Studies

**Thursday noon via Zoom**, taught by Nelle, currently studying Matthew's gospel. New topic will start soon, the book of Revelation. Here's your opportunity to learn about this daunting book! All are welcome. Sign up, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

**Young Mothers' Bible Study in person**, taught by Nelle, Oliver Hall, Room 310. Bible Buddies for infants and children, taught by the fabulous Carmine Cowart and Sarah Jean Yost. New 4-week series for April is the Easter story in all four gospels. All are welcome. Sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.



## Missions

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

Shred Your Stress is April 22nd!  
Details below.



### April Family Mission Project to Celebrate the Life of Angela Sherrill

Friday, April 1, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Fresh Air Home on Tybee Island. Please sign up in advance, tbordeaux@prodigy.net. Please wear gardening gloves and bring a rake. All ages are welcome.



### Shred Your Stress

Friday, April 22, 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., East Wayne Street car line. If only it were that easy! Please bring documents to shred. Huge thanks to Savannah Shredding. Please no staples or paper clips. Needed are helpers to lift boxes. Please sign up to help with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.



### Construction Ministry Wants You!

Construction Ministry leader, Nick Hitt, has the permits for construction on Cumming Street to build and to renovate homes for Family Promise formerly circumstantially homeless families. Needed are helpers with trim, paint, and building. Please sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net. All are welcome! We hope the family will be able to move into the home in June.

### Lawn Care at the Living Vine

Don Riddle leads this ministry. Come help pull weeds, mow and edge the massive lawn, and pray for the Living Vine residents and staff at this Christian maternity home for unwed mothers and their infants. Also needed are volunteers to help with the young women, and Judi Painter is our liaison to the Living Vine for women who volunteer with the young residents.



### Urban Hope and Refugee Ministry

Prayer Partners are praying daily for a specific Urban Hope or refugee child. Also needed are maternity clothes (size small-medium) for an Afghan mother-to-be and helpers to drive refugee children to doctors' appointments. Prayer Partners are led by Judi Painter.



### Amen Handymen

Steve Eberhardt leads this ministry for home repairs for senior church members. To request a repair or to give help, tell Nelle, 912-234-9245.

### Grace Monkeys

Joel Hayes leads this ministry to repair vehicles for agencies we serve, such as Urban Hope, with minor repairs such as light bulbs and oil changes. Sign up to help, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

### Wesley Community Center

Our church delivers 800 pounds of organized groceries per month. Please drop off items just inside any church door or the Oliver Hall lobby. Most needed are:



- Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Sacks of rice or dry beans
- Peanut butter
- Grits
- Canned meat or vegetables or fruit
- Pasta and sauce



## Prayer Committee

*Jesus Arose!  
Hope & Promise of Easter*



Easter is the reminder of what Jesus did for us on the cross. He accomplishes for us what we cannot do on our own. The greatest encouragement, hope, salvation ever is celebrated on Easter! Jesus conquered Satan and gave us victory over death. As we approach Easter Sunday, we invite you to pray with us on Wednesdays from 4:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. in the Oliver Hall Parlor to show our gratitude for this amazing and eternal gift that we celebrate.  
- Sue Ellis, Committee Chair



## Jane Shirah Circle

### April Meeting

The Jane Shirah Circle will meet on Wednesday, April 27 at 10:30 a.m.



## Lilies & Caladiums

### Easter Lilies & Caladiums Order Form

Lilies and caladiums will be placed around the altar to the glory of God on Easter Sunday, April 17. You may order plants in memory or in honor of loved ones for \$15 per plant. Orders must be received in the church office by **Sunday, April 3, 2022**.



Checks should be made payable to Wesley Monumental in the amount of \$15 per plant, marked "Altar Guild Lilies."

Or visit [bit.ly/WMEasterLilies](http://bit.ly/WMEasterLilies) to pay online. Select "Give one time" and "Easter Lilies and Caladiums" as the fund. Once paid, email this form to [daphne@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:daphne@wesleymonumental.org) or deliver to the church office by Sunday, April 3.

\_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lilies x \$15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_ White Caladiums x \$15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> in memory of _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> in honor of _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> in memory of _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> in honor of _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> in memory of _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> in honor of _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> in memory of _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> in honor of _____ |

by: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRINT Clearly - Thank you!**

Please check one:

- I plan to pick up my plants following the 11:00 Easter Service or within a few days after Easter.
- I do not plan to pick up my plants; Memorial Only.



## Music

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



# RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS' DONA NOBIS PACEM

Saturday, May 14, 2022 7:30 P.M.

Wesley Monumental Choir with 42-piece Orchestra

Dr. Monica Dekle, conductor

Alysa Smith, soprano Nicholas Davis, baritone

Proceeds benefit Purple Heart veteran and Wesley member Ryan Davis and his wife and son, Asia and Knox.



Tickets:

[www.MonumentalMusic.eventbrite.com](http://www.MonumentalMusic.eventbrite.com)

(912) 232-0191 [monica@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:monica@wesleymonumental.org)

\$35 tax-deductible donation \$15 students with ID



Scan for tickets



## Youth

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

What are the special places in your walk with God? I find that, for many of us as Christians, we have certain places where we feel especially connected to God. Maybe it's our church sanctuary. Maybe it's somewhere like Wesley Gardens, or a place where you met Jesus as a young person.

For many of the youth of Wesley Monumental and other churches in South Georgia, that place is Epworth by the Sea. If you've never been to Epworth, it is a beautiful camp and retreat center on St. Simon's Island operated by the United Methodist Church. Over the weekend of March 4-6, I had the privilege of taking several members of our Confirmation Class to Epworth for the South Georgia Conference's annual Confirmation Retreat. There, along with 400 participants from over 30 churches, we enjoyed worship, fellowship, and fun on the gorgeous Epworth property.

Many of our church's young people will return to Epworth by the Sea this summer for Camp Connect, our summer camp ministry. Every summer, Camp Connect holds fun, Christ-centered summer camps for students from 4<sup>th</sup> grade through High School. You can learn more about Camp Connect on their website, [campconnectumc.org](http://campconnectumc.org).





## Messenger Monthly Spotlight



### Confirmation Retreat

In March, several of our Confirmands attended the 21st Annual Confirmation Retreat held at Epworth By The Sea in St. Simons Island.