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wesleymonumental.org

THE MONUMENTAL MESSENGER



Life at Wesley



Frankie Thornton and Connie Moore wrote Bible verses and sacked groceries for Old Savannah City Mission at the September Family Mission Project.



"I sing because I'm happy. I sing because I'm free. For His eye is on the sparrow, so I know He watches me."



In August, a team from 9 Coastal District churches, fully insulated and sheet rocked a house in Mayfield, KY which had been destroyed by a tornado on December 10, 2021.



The final Family Promise house has just been framed up on Cumming Street. Construction of these transitional houses for homeless families has been a three year project spearheaded by many Wesley Monumental members under Nick Hitt's leadership. Through the fall, we will be siding the new construction seen above at 220, and then completing the interior finishings at 220 and 225 simultaneously. Please check church emails and the bulletin for mid-week and weekend volunteer times.



On September 10, the Merry Makers took a trip to Jacksonville to see *Grumpy Old Men* at the Alhambra Theatre.



From Ben's Desk

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

"Stewardship"

Stewardship is the responsible management or supervision of any resource. The Bible and the Christian faith talk a lot about stewardship. Human beings are giving stewardship over God's creation. We are called to exercise stewardship over our marriage, children, body, money, time, and talent. We have been given stewardship over God's church and the gospel message. At the heart of Christian stewardship is the idea that everything belongs to God, including our very lives. Jesus even teaches that how we exercise stewardship of "little things" here will determine what responsibilities and resources we are entrusted with eternally. While the Bible talks about a wide variety of stewardship responsibilities, it talks more about money than anything else. Jesus reminded us that it has the power to compete for our loyalty and trust, to function as a rival god.

Each year during the month of October, we turn our attention in the church to issues of stewardship. It is the time we begin preparing for the coming year. We are recruiting a new Leadership Team, planning a new church budget, and creating a new church calendar of ministry. This year we are also making plans for the renovation of our Education Building (you will hear more about it in the coming months). Each of these requires the stewardship of talent, money, and time. Responsible stewardship requires prayerful and thoughtful planning and commitment. It asks us to prioritize our lives in order to make the best use of our scarce resources. Stewardship asks us to think about the future, and Christian stewardship is not just next week or month or year, but to think eternally.

I hope you will join us this month as we address issues of stewardship and prayerfully think about what God has entrusted to each of us as a part of our responsibility for everything that belongs to Him.



Congregational Life

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



Dutch Treat at Flying Fish Bar & Grill

Join us for a "Dutch treat" lunch on Friday, October 28 at 11:00 a.m. at Flying Fish Bar & Grill (7906 US-80, Savannah). Please call the Church Office or contact Jennifer Thompson by Thursday, October 25 to let her know you are coming.



October Merry Makers Program AUTHOR Carolyn Cubbedge

Did you know that our VERY OWN Carolyn Cubbedge has just been published?! Come join Carolyn in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, October 10 as she shares with some of her favorite people (YOU!) about her chapter in the book *When God Whispered My Name*. The editors of the book will be with Carolyn. Let Carolyn know ahead of time if you want her to bring you a copy of the book (at a cheaper rate than the online price). Please call the Church Office or contact Jennifer Baker by Friday, October 7 to make a reservation.



Prayer Committee



Prayer is Vital to Our Lives

The devotional book *New Morning Mercies* by Paul David Tripp devotes September 13 to seven points of prayer. To quote one of the seven, "Prayer is an act of worship. It is profoundly more than bringing to God our grocery list of self-defined wants and needs. Prayer acknowledges God's existence. This is the bottom line of all true prayers. It begins and ends with the recognition that there is something more ultimate in the universe than you (and me). Prayer places emphasis firmly on the first four words in the Bible...In the beginning God...so prayer also acknowledges God is creator and is sovereign."

Prayer is absolutely vital to our personal lives. You are invited to join Rev. Martin and the Prayer Committee to pray with us each Wednesday from 4:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. in the Parlor of Oliver Hall. - Sue Ellis, Chairman

Join us on Wednesday Nights
from 4:45 to 5:15 p.m.



Children's Ministry

Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry

Meet Our Nursery Staff



On Sunday mornings our Sanctuary is not the only place in our church that is full of happy and excited children. In our nursery, on the first floor there are babies and toddlers being lovingly cared for by our nursery staff and volunteers.

Emily Davis

Ms. Emily, teaches "To Babies with Love" beginning at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday. The children sing about God's creation: the light, sun, moon, trees, flowers, animals and people, say their Bible words, pat their Bibles, and look for Jesus in its pages. Emily invites everyone to walk down the nursery hall and look through the window to see the faces of the children light up with recognition a little more each week. Even our youngest babies are included in this magical time.



Aleyse Scarborough

Ms. Aleyse works in the nursery on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. Originally from Columbia, South Carolina, she moved to Georgia a little over a year ago. Aleyse is currently attending GSU Armstrong seeking a Bachelor's in Elementary Education. She loves playing with her Yorkshire Terrier, Bruno, and singing songs from her favorite musicals. Her favorite part about Sundays is seeing all of the beautiful children and singing Sunday school songs with Ms. Emily!

Carli Stevens

Ms. Carli is a senior Elementary Education major at Georgia Southern. Carli began working at Eli's Place last fall and started working in our Sunday nursery in January. She grew up in Quitman, GA and served as a Medical Logistics Specialist in the army for four years. She has a two year old son, Liam, who keeps her very busy when she is not studying for school.



Meaghan Wylie

Ms. Meaghan has been in our nursery and at Eli's Place for six years. Meaghan came to work in the Wesley nursery when she was a freshman at SCAD. She graduated in 2019 with a BFA in Fibers but loves her work with young children so much she has decided to pursue a masters degree in education. During the pandemic, Meaghan was instrumental in putting together the weekly packets that were mailed to our children. In her free time she loves to travel, especially to England where her mum grew up and where she has family.

Ron Melton

Mr. Ron is our Sunday morning baby whisperer. Ron has been helping in our nursery for the last 10 years. The children adore him, and he can quiet the fussiest child. Known as "Grumpy" to his co-workers at 1790, he is anything but grumpy on Sunday mornings. Our babies light up when Mr. Ron comes into the room.

As a reminder, the nursery opens at 8:30 for the early service and is open until 12:15 every Sunday. Ms. Aleyse, Ms. Carli, and Ms. Meaghan look forward to welcoming your children. Some of our families find that the early service is a better fit for their schedule. The babies are up early, and you can be back home in time for a morning nap.



Evangelism & Missions

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

Welcome, New Member!

We are thankful Elizabeth Cook joined on August 14.



Elizabeth Cook

Elizabeth is from Montgomery, Alabama, and her shepherd is from Birmingham, AL. Elizabeth likes the traditional worship and beautiful sacred music of Wesley. She grew up in First United Methodist Church

in Montgomery.

Shepherd: Dr. Gillian Kicklighter

Next New Member Course

The next New Member Course will be Sundays, October 23 and 30, at 10:00 a.m.; please call the Church Office to sign up, 912-232-0191. Class will join as a group on October 30.

"Gardens in the Bible"

New topic in the Young Mothers' Bible Study. Starts October 11.



Old Savannah City Mission Groceries

Please bring peel-back (no can opener needed) cans of Vienna sausages; soft granola bars; dark men's socks to boxes by all church doors.



Wesley Gardens Retreat

Micah Sprunger, Retreat Director
912-441-7578, micah@wesleygardensretreat.com



Spiritual Direction

Our team is growing! Christian Swails is available on site at Wesley Gardens for one on one Spiritual Direction. A Spiritual Director is someone trained in holy listening and spiritual companionship, helping others name and notice the presence of God in their lives. Christian is passionate about making this ancient practice available in the Lowcountry. For more information, email hello@wesleygardensretreat.com.

Bible Study: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Join us for the spiritual discipline of Bible study. An in-depth class presented by bible scholar and ESV commentator Dr. Scott Hafemann. This Fall we will be looking closely at "Peter, the Preacher" by examining his speeches in the book of Acts. Join us Tuesdays, October 11 and 25 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the Main House. Contact hello@wesleygardensretreat.com for details.



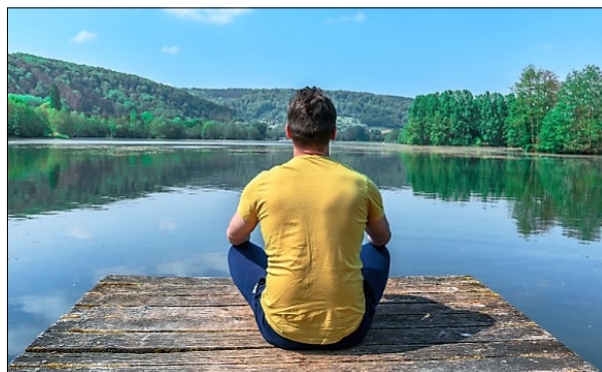
Commemorative Live Oaks & Benches

Looking to make a lasting contribution to Wesley Gardens Retreat or honor a special person or occasion?

Memorial Live Oak trees and teak benches are now available. Custom plaques and engravings are also available.

All donations are tax deductible.

For details, please email, micah@wesleygardensretreat.com



Yoga on the Dock!

YogaFaith Savannah has resumed with their wonderful Wednesday classes from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (donation based). All ages and stages and sizes are welcome.



Missions Cont.

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



October Family Mission Project

Monday, October 10 from 11:00 a.m. to noon at P.A.C.K., 4 Mall Terrace, Savannah. Please sign up in advance with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net. All ages are welcome as we sack groceries for children in need.



A Monumental Christmas

The marketplace of gifts in service to others, opening in November.

This Christmas, would you consider a gift that keeps on giving? Rather than buying more stuff, an “alternative gift” is a donation you make to one of the 10 agencies with whom Wesley shares in ministry. You “purchase” an alternative gift through a donation that funds specific items or programming. (Please make checks payable to the church.) The church directs your donation to the organization that sponsors the gift you’ve chosen. We supply a specially designed card and a description of your special gift for you to give to the recipient. The market website - www.amonumentalchristmas.org and print catalog are under final design and will be available from mid-November until mid-December.



Lending a Hand in Mayfield, Kentucky

On December 10, 2021 the National Weather Service issued a tornado emergency for Mayfield at 9:26 p.m. The tornado reached high-end EF4 intensity as it tore directly through the center of town, resulting in widespread, catastrophic damage. 600 homes were destroyed in Mayfield/ Graves County, Kentucky.

Through the hallmark connectionalism of the United Methodist Church, members at Mayfield FUMC reached out to family and friends at Wesley Monumental. Immediate financial assistance was sent. The connections grew from there. Having worked on other construction projects together in Savannah, sister UMC churches came together with the help of the SGC Coastal District Mission Committee. In Mayfield, local UMC pastors, Revs Richard Dowdy and Mark Stephens had been managing disaster relief, mission teams, and reconstruction through their Graves County Cluster nonprofit that organized and funded reconstruction. Mayfield FUMC, Christ and Trinity UMC provided accommodations and great cooking throughout the week. The ladies of local churches put out a spread of country cooking every night.

Over the week of August 22-28, 2022, the team of 16 volunteers from 9 churches of the Coastal District fully insulated and sheetrocked the house. Corie Turley, Ann and Melvin Croft, Pat Monahan, and Scott Cleaveland represented Wesley. The construction was at the home of an elderly veteran whose house was obliterated as he sought refuge with his daughter in the hallway. They were selected for assistance due to being elderly and disabled, but also due to insurance failing to match the full cost of reconstruction. The Coastal District Missions Committee sent \$10,000 towards the cost of reconstruction, in addition to the \$15,000 Wesley Monumental sent immediately after the storm, thanks to your generosity.

Laying hands on the house, praying for the success and safety of the project, as well as healing and wholeness for the family and community were integral to the work week. What was best, the work was equal to the labor. We had the right skill set and the right number of workers. Pastor Richard gave outstanding construction supervision. And at a time when so much of our denomination is focused on dividing, it was good to unite in service to others. The churches making up this mission team came from different perspectives - but when it came down to it - we were the same hands and heart of Christ in a tornado-ravaged community.

The team is already considering serving in eastern Kentucky in 2023 where the devastation of flooding has been just as substantial - and will no doubt take as long to assess and reconstruct. We already have those United Methodist connections at work in Hazard, Perry County, Kentucky. Consider joining us.





Christmas Greenery 2022

The Altar Guild of Wesley Monumental UMC is excited to offer fresh balsam greenery from Vermont for the Christmas season!

Your pre-paid order will be shipped to the church the Monday after Thanksgiving. Orders should be available for pickup in the Oliver Hall courtyard on Friday, December 2 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., Saturday, December 3 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., and the following week during the church's normal business hours. **(Please note, we are subject to possible shipping changes and will notify you, the best we can, if there are changes to delivery dates and times.)**

Orders are due by Sunday, October 23, and payment is due with your order. Funds from this project are used to offset the cost of decorating the church during the Advent season. Below are two options to order and pay.

Order & Pay Online: bit.ly/WMChristmasGreenery2022

Hardcopy & Check: Complete form and return to the Church Office, 429 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401. Please make your check payable to Wesley Monumental UMC and mark it for greenery order. To pay online visit: bit.ly/WMPayOnline Select "Give one time" and "Christmas Greenery" as the fund. Once paid, email this form to bakerj@wesleymonumental.org or deliver to the church office by Sunday, October 23.

Item Description	Price	Quantity	Price Total
12 inch balsam wreath/centerpiece, single-faced	\$18.00		
22 inch balsam wreath, double-faced	\$32.00		
28 inch balsam wreath, double-faced	\$40.00		
34 inch balsam wreath, double-faced	\$54.00		
3 yard balsam garland	\$40.00		
5 yard balsam garland	\$60.00		
TOTALS			

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Name _____

E-mail _____

Best Phone # _____

Address _____

Scan to
submit
your order.

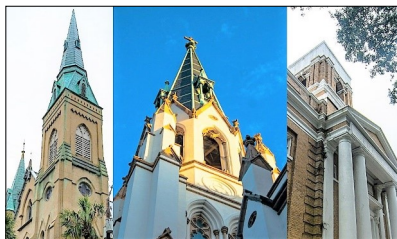


All orders are due by **SUNDAY, October 23, 2022.**



Music

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



Three Choirs Festival Sunday, October 16, 5:00 PM

Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
(222 E Harris Street, Savannah, GA 31401)

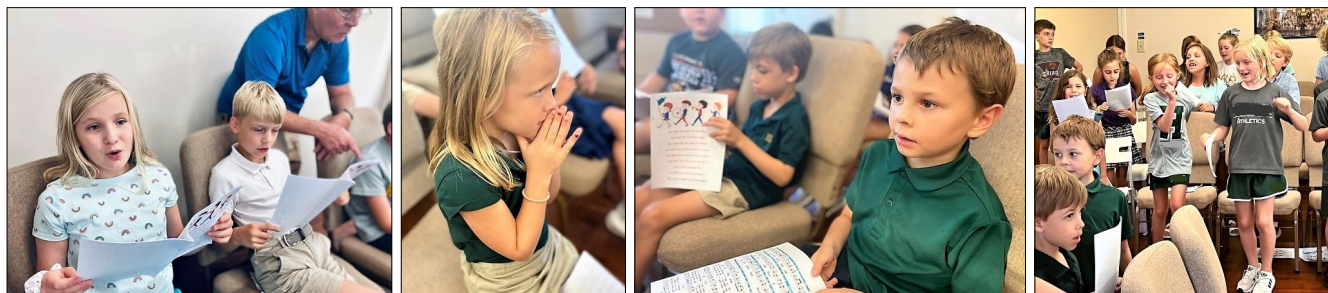
Experience the grandeur of more than 120 voices with brass and organ. The choirs of Wesley Monumental United Methodist and Christ Church Anglican join forces with the Cathedral Choir for an evening of spectacular music making. A limited number of tickets are on hold for Wesley Monumental members at a 25% discount.

Tickets: Scan code or visit: Savannahcathedral.org/2022-2023-concert-series

Discount Code: WUMTCF22



Wednesday Night Children's Choir



Youth

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

Fall is here, which means we're back downtown for Youth Group! Sunday night youth group is a fun and accessible way for Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers to get plugged in to the life of the church. We meet weekly, eat together, play games, and study the Scriptures.

This fall we are studying Romans, chapter 12. You might wonder, "The whole fall on one chapter of the Bible?" Well, read the chapter and you'll see why. Romans 12 is a deep and meaningful piece of Scripture, and each verse seems to jump off the page with potential applications to our lives. I look forward to talking with our students about not conforming to the world, living in Christian community, Spiritual gifts, and the many other topics in Romans 12.

Our games are always a highlight of youth group. We always enjoy dodgeball, Ga-Ga ball, and on special occasions, Zombies vs. Humans. Recently we played "Face the Cookie," where students had to try to make a cookie slide down from their foreheads into their mouths without dropping it. Their facial expressions were the best!

Youth Group meets weekly from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Youth choir runs from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. If you know a Middle Schooler or High Schooler who would benefit from being a part of this great group of kids, invite them or contact James P. Owens for more information.





Messenger Monthly Spotlight



Learning about our 5 senses at Eli's Place.

