



Celebrating 154 Years 1868 - 2022

429 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401
Telephone: 912-232-0191 Fax: 912-236-4247
Website: www.wesleymonumental.org

November 27, 2022

ADVENT

It is Thanksgiving weekend, but like the culture making the sudden jump from Thanksgiving to Christmas in the wee hours of the morning on "Black Friday," today the church makes the sudden shift to the season of Advent. In many ways Advent, the season of waiting, preparation, and expectation, is the lost season in our rush to get to Bethlehem. For the church and the liturgical calendar, Advent is the four weeks leading up to Christmas. The word literally means the arrival of something (or someone in our case) notable. We think of it as preparation for the celebration of the arrival of "baby Jesus" at Christmas, but you might say the season "begins at the end" with a reminder that we are waiting for the return of Jesus. The reality of our lives is that we live in a perpetual season of Advent, one day at a time, not knowing what tomorrow holds for us. But, for people of faith, our hope is in the gospel message "God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son." Because of this we can pray during Advent John's simple prayer at the end of Revelation, "Come Lord Jesus."

I want to say a special thanks to Caroline Livingood, Denise Grabowski, Nelle Bordeaux, Jennifer Brookins, and Carolyn Cubbedge and the Joy Circle for preparing our **Advent Devotional Book**, and a special thanks to all who wrote the devotionals. **It is available in the sanctuary this morning.** It will be a great way to celebrate Advent and keep our attention on Jesus.

Our worship and special events schedule for Advent:

Nov. 27	8:45 & 11:00 a.m.	First Sunday of Advent Worship
Dec. 3	9:00 a.m.	Hanging of the Greens
Dec. 4	8:45 & 11:00 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent Worship
Dec. 11	8:45 a.m.	Third Sunday of Advent Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Festival of Lessons and Carols
	5:00 p.m.	Joyful Noise Christmas Celebration
Dec. 14	6:00 p.m.	Children's Nativity Pageant
Dec. 18	8:45 & 11:00 a.m.	Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Christmas Caroling with the Choir

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services:

Dec. 24	10:30 a.m.	Communion Service
	3:30 p.m.	Child-Oriented Service with Communion (enjoyed by all ages)
	5:30 p.m.	5:30-6:00 Carols by Candlelight followed by Communion Service at 6:00 p.m.
Dec. 25	11:00 a.m.	Christmas Morning Worship (no 8:45 Service or Sunday School)

MORNING WORSHIP
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022
8:45 & 11:00 A.M.
First Sunday of Advent

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. If needed, hearing devices and large print hymnals are available in the Narthex.*

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.*

Chiming of the Hour (11:00)

Caden Valdez

Lighting of the Candles (11:00)

The Acolytes

Opening Voluntary (8:45)

Echo Noel

Louis Claude D'Acquin

Introit (11:00)

Spiritual

Leave your sheep and leave your lambs,
Rise up shepherd and follow.
Follow the star of Bethlehem.

Jerome Elder, tenor

Lighting of the Hope Candle

Aaron and Ashley Higgins (8:45)

Joel and JoAnna Hayes, Ori and Joey (11:00)

Congregational Response

"Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."

* **Hymn No. 718** Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending HELMSLEY

* **Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed James P. Owens

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.

* **Gloria Patri**

GREATOREX

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Baptismal Covenant (11:00)

Winfield Joseph Timmons
son of Erica and Jackson Timmons

Congregational Response:

With love and thanksgiving we welcome Winfield as a member of God's family and Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church. By God's grace we will do all in our power to increase his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love that he may grow into a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ who walks in the way that leads to life.

Children's Sermon

Charli Weeks

8:45 Children ages 3 - 3rd grade line up at the door on the right side of the sanctuary to go to Children's Worship on the second floor. Following the service, they can be picked up on the second floor.

11:00 Children ages 3 - 3rd grade leave through the doors at the front of the sanctuary and go to Children's Worship on the second floor. Following the service, they can be picked up from the Fellowship Hall.

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

James P. Owens

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.

* **Hymn No. 209** Blessed Be the God of Israel MERLE'S TUNE

Offertory Prayer

James P. Owens

Solo (8:45)

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow
Jerome Elder, tenor

Spiritual

Offertory Anthem (11:00)

arr. Julian Wachner

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Ori Hayes, soprano

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

During the 11:00 a.m. service, please remove the attendance sheets from the book and give to the acolytes as a symbolic offering of our presence in worship.

To tithe, text wesleymumc to 77977 or place your offering in the offering plate.

Online giving is also available on our website.

* **Hymn of Response** DIX

As they offered gifts most rare; At that manger rude and bare;

So may we, with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,

All our costliest treasures bring, Christ! to Thee our heavenly King.

* **Scripture** (Pew Bible, pg. 56) Luke 1:5-23

Sermon

"Expectation and Disappointment"

Ben Martin

* **Hymn No. 202** People, Look East BESANÇON

Reception into Church Membership (11:00)

Alex Whiddon and Brad Wilborn
with daughter, Sloane Wilborn

Benediction

Ben Martin

Closing Voluntary

Toccata on HYFRYDOL

Joel Raney

* *Please stand as you are able.*

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

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Altar Flowers

The flowers by the altar today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Leskosky, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Everett G. Drinnon by Lauren and Bryan Leskosky.

Christmas Greenery Pick Up

Orders will be available for pickup in the Oliver Hall courtyard on Friday, December 2 from 2:00 p.m. – 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.) Thank you for your orders!

Calling All Advent Decorators!

The Wesley Monumental Altar Guild is in need of additional volunteers to help decorate during the Advent and Christmas season. We have brass to polish, greenery to hang, trees to decorate and so much more. The transformation of our beautiful sanctuary on December 3rd at 9:00 a.m. takes many hands, so if you enjoy decorating or would love to learn more about the Altar Guild, please contact Caroline McDermott, wesleymonumental altarguild@gmail.com.

Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on Friday, December 16 and may be taken home following the last Christmas Eve service. Please place your orders for plants in memory or in honor of loved ones by Sunday, December 11. Order forms may be found at all sanctuary entrances or you can order and pay online by visiting bit.ly/WMPoinsettias

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks

Greeters: Lori & Jeff Miller

Offering Steward: Jeff Miller

Ushers: Jeff Miller

Partners in Prayer: Henry Whitfield

11:00 Service

Acolytes: Adair Thomas, Camille Wilkes

Greeters: Barbara & Johnny Phelps

Offering Steward: Chris Donegan

Ushers: Chris Donegan, Todd Livingood, Bates Lovett, Pratt Mathews,

Bill Mattocks, Robert McCorkle, Ryan McKenzie, Matt Merritt, Matt Mobley

Partners in Prayer: Gaye Holt

Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist

"Music is important because that's what shapes our church. From the Joyful Noise Choir to the Chorister's Choir through Youth Choir to Chancel Choir and events and pageants and even everyday church, we are always singing. That's what makes our church a church, and that's why music is important." - Benjamin Simpson, age 9

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Join us Sunday, December 11 at 11:00 a.m. for the choir's Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is a service of Christian worship celebrating the birth of Jesus that is traditionally followed at Christmas. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols and choral music.

Caroling with the Choir - Come Join Us!

Want to join the Youth and Chancel Choirs caroling and giving communion to shut-ins on Sunday, December 18 after church? Contact Monica, monica@wesleymonumental.org. Lunch provided. All welcome.

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Groceries Most Needed This Week

Soft granola bars are needed this week for Old Savannah City Mission.

Urban Hope Family Mission Project

Monday, December 12. Please sign up in advance with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net, with what you want to cook at home and bring (ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, fruit, salad, rolls, cookies, paper plates and cups, plastic cutlery) for 75 people. Please meet at Independent Presbyterian Church, Bull at Oglethorpe, at 5:30 p.m. All ages are welcome!

Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry

Christmas Ornament Painting

Today, Sunday, November 27, we'll be painting pottery ornaments in room 202 immediately following the 11:00 service. These ornaments can be hand-painted by your child and then they are glazed and fired by professionals. Ornaments are \$12 each and come with a ribbon for hanging. No need to make a reservation. The ornaments will be ready for pick up on December 18.

Christmas Fun Day for Babies, Toddlers and Preschoolers

On Saturday, December 10, the nursery will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. for Christmas Fun Day! We enjoy having the children come and spend the day with us, and we hope all their parents have some time to enjoy the Christmas season. We are providing lunch and plan to eat around noon. We'll make ornaments, bake cookies, play on the playground, and watch a Christmas movie. It is fine for the children to come for the whole day or for any part of the day. To register, send an email to charli@wesleymonumental.org with the time they will be arriving on the 10th.

Christmas Presentations - Mark Your Calendars!

Make plans to join us for our children's Christmas presentations. This year the Nativity Pageant will be presented in the sanctuary following Wednesday Night Supper on December 14 at 6:15 p.m. The Joyful Noise Choir children will present their Christmas Celebration Program, Sunday, December 11 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

James P. Owens, Director of Student Ministries

Youth Christmas Party at Wesley Gardens, December 11

Mark your calendars for the youth group Christmas party on December 11, from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Wesley Gardens Retreat. All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us for dinner, fun games, and the infamous White Elephant gift exchange. There will also be prizes for the best "Ugly Christmas Sweater" or outfit.

Ski Trip, February 2-5

Our annual youth group Ski Retreat will take place from February 2-5. All 6th-12th graders are invited and registration will open soon. For now, we are in need of some adult leaders! So, if you would like to chaperone this fun and exciting event, please contact James P. Owens.

Jennifer Thompson, Congregational Life

Dutch Treat at El Mezcal Mexican Restaurant

Tired of turkey? Join us for a "Dutch treat" at Jennifer T.'s favorite Mexican restaurant, El Mezcal in Pooler, on Tuesday, November 29 at 11:00 a.m.! (125 Foxfield Way, Pooler – across the street from Savannah Tire) Please call the church office or contact Jennifer Thompson by tomorrow, Monday, November 28 to let her know you are coming.

Christmas Favorites with Claire Frazier and Bobby Hanson

It's beginning to look.....or sound.....a lot like Christmas! On Monday, December 12 at 11:00 a.m., our own Claire Frazier and her friend, professional harmonica player, Bobby Hanson (along as an accompanist on the piano) will entertain us with a selection of Christmas Favorites in the sanctuary. A festive lunch prepared by Suzanna will follow at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Please call the church office or contact Jennifer Thompson by Friday, December 9 to make reservations.



A Record of Our Faithfulness

Sunday Attendance: (11/20/22)	
8:45 AM Worship	85
11:00 AM Worship	329
Online Worship Views	121
Total Worship	535
Nursery	12
Children's Worship	24
Sunday School	141

Finances: (11/20/22)

Total Budget for the Year	\$2,022,708.12
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date	\$1,709,508.53
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date	\$1,825,314.74

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Ben Martin.....Senior Pastor	Jennifer Baker.....Administrative Assistant, Reception
Rev. Nelle Bordeaux.....Outreach and New Members	Jennifer Brookins.....Administrative Assistant to Pastoral Staff, Media Communications
Rev. Jennifer Thompson.....Congregational Life	Ashley Higgins.....Communications Director
Dr. Monica Dekle.....Director of Music and Organist	Suzanna King.....Director of Hospitality
Julia Flowers.....Music Assistant	Nathaniel Legree.....Custodian
Rev. James P. Owens...Director of Student Ministries	Betty Dudley..... Housekeeper
Charli Weeks.....Director of Children's Ministry	Micah Sprünger.....Wesley Gardens Property Manager
Jimmy Flowers.....Church Administrator	Kenneth Hayes.....Wesley Gardens
Tom Anderson.....Financial Manager	

**Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
November 27, 2022**

Sermon Extended

Monday	Luke 1:5-7	Have any experiences of disappointment affected my faith?
Tuesday	Luke 1:8-9	What have I been waiting on from God that finally happened?
Wednesday	Luke 1:10-18	Has disappointment ever made me afraid to hope for something?
Thursday	Romans 5:1-5	How is hope different from expectation?
Friday	Hebrews 11:1	How do faith and hope go together in my life?

Sermon Notes

As a Praying Church...

We ask You, Lord, to be with us as we begin this season of Advent.....as we prepare our hearts for Your coming.....as we take time to remember that we need You as our Savior.

This Week at Wesley

Sunday, November 27

- 8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
- 9:30 AM Coffee, FH
- 9:45 AM Sunday School, EB & OH
- 11:00 AM Worship Service, SNC
- 12:15 PM Ornament Painting
- 4:00 PM Youth Choir, EB 4th Floor

Monday, November 28

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 9:30 AM Eli's Place Chapel, SNC
- 6:00 PM Trombone Choir Rehearsal, SNC

Tuesday, November 29

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Holland Hse
- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study, OH 310
- 9:00 AM Bible Buddies, OH 308
- 11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 310
- 11:00 AM Merry Makers Dutch Treat, El Mezcal, Pooler
- 6:00 PM Pacesetters Tree Decorating, FH

Wednesday, November 30

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 11:00 AM Bible Study w/Ben, OH 310
- 4:45 PM Call to Prayer, OH Parlor
- 5:30 PM Dinner, FH
- 6:00 PM Joyful Noise Choir
- 6:00 PM Children's Choir
- 6:00 PM Youth Bible Study, EB 4th Flr
- 6:00 PM Ben's Bible Study, FH
- 6:00 PM Advent Study, led by Jennifer Thompson, OH 207
- 6:00 PM The Enneagram Study, led by James P. Owens, OH 408
- 6:00 PM Young Women's Small Group, led by Katie Knight, OH Parlor
- 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, EB 4th Flr

Thursday, December 1

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 12:00 PM Courtney Gaines Circle Christmas Lunch

Friday, December 2

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 2:00 PM Greenery Pickup, OH Courtyard

Saturday, December 3

- 9:00 AM Hanging of the Greens, SNC
- 9:00 AM Greenery Pickup, OH Courtyard

OH = Oliver Hall EB = Education Building SNC = Sanctuary FH = Fellowship Hall WG = Wesley Gardens Retreat

In Our Prayers....

John Burton, Oscar Cook, Gloria Eitel, Doris Rothenberger (mother of Susan Colgrove), Michele Bazemore, June Stevenson and Lynn Stratton, (mother and sister of Toni Olds), Jennifer Thompson, Gloria Parker, Suzette Parker, Edna Cooper (mother of Joellen Cooper-Pyles), Emily Perry (granddaughter of Joyce and Richard Zehl), Tim Mooney, Grace Bockes, Janet Wist, Mark Thomas, Dale and Becki Fisher (cousins of Holly Conger), Bo Watts, Jan Pullin, Valery Hanks, Cindy Telljohann, Walter Sumner (brother of Rosanne Montjoy and uncle of Michael Montjoy), Sheila Kraeuter (mother of Scot Kraeuter), Shari and Mel Hubbard, Dewayne Barfield (brother of Shirley Turner), Jimmy Stephens (brother of Kathi Hodges), Camille Herring (sister of Wade Herring), Harriett Gattis (mother of Clayton Gattis), Rebecca Lewis, Marilyn Holleman, Pat Beasley, Matthew McClain, Paul and Connie Kurtz (parents of Dan Kurtz), Jane Bostwick (mother of Meb Ryan), Walter Thomas (brother of Mark Thomas), Bob Harman, Darin Aldinger, Sandrae McCorkle, Grant Kassinger (nephew of Peggy Jolley), Sally Polk (sister of Peggy Jolley), Anita Pringle, Danielle Robertson (granddaughter of Ceil Waters), David Heery, Palmer Hood (brother of Ge-Juan Wilkes), Louis Burnsed (brother of Marilyn Hitt), Diane Coleman (friend of Carmine Cowart), Carla Corn (mother of Sarah Shelby), Doug Stutzman, Alyssa Jones (granddaughter of Rusty Holt), Jerry Comunale (brother-in-law of Cynthia Willett), Jennifer Hodges, Ella Ealy (granddaughter of Carolyn Roth), Ryan Davis, Janice Dukeman (daughter of Erv Sloan), Martha Sloan, Fenton McEvoy

Pastor on Call This Week

Ben Martin..... 912-547-1835

Wednesday Night Supper November 30

<p>To cancel or make a reservation, please email or call Jennifer Baker in the Church Office, 912-232-0191 or bakerj@wesleymonumental.org.</p> <p>Menu: Sausage and Chicken Gumbo</p>

At Home/Extended Care

Olin Bockes, Lee Butler, Bella Grace Bartels, Edith Roszkowiak, Ruth & Elton Stuenkel, Harriet Bland, Roz Evans, Lois Wooten

Military Serving Abroad/Stateside

Daniel Ealy, Michael Sailors, Dajuan Monley, Jason Childers, Clint Guild, Yates Holleman, Chris Watson