



***Celebrating 154 Years 1868 - 2022***

*429 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401  
Telephone: 912-232-0191 Fax: 912-236-4247  
Website: [www.wesleymonumental.org](http://www.wesleymonumental.org)*

---

December 25, 2022

**Merry Christmas**

On behalf of all your staff at Wesley, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! It is such an honor to serve this congregation. 2022 has been another wonderful year here. I hope we never take for granted what a blessed church we are. We welcomed 75 new members into our congregation; celebrated 25 baptisms; Eli's Place was at maximum capacity with 150 children; Wednesday night children's choirs had more than 120 participants; and Sunday worship each week was full of excitement, incredible music, and joyful children. Wesley Gardens had its best year ever, we had many Bible studies at church and in the community, took mission teams out, and had countless members serving across this city in places like The Living Vine, Family Promise, Urban Hope, Union Mission, Wesley Community Center, etc. In other words, our ministry impacted our lives, the Savannah community, and the world in places and in ways we may never see, but God does. All of us who serve here are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of what God is doing here. Thank you for your support, encouragement, generosity, and partnership in ministry. We are excited about 2023, what lies ahead and to see what God will do with us and through us. May we go forth, humbly, thankfully, passionately, and expectantly to serve Christ Jesus, the Savior of the world.

*Ben*

**MORNING WORSHIP**  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022  
11:00 A.M.  
*Christmas Day*

**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**

Haley Hess

**Lighting of the Candles**

The Acolytes

**Opening Voluntary**

A. D. Miller

Go, Tell It On the Mountain (Gigue)

\* **Hymn No. 246** Joy to the World ANTIOCH

\* **Affirmation of Faith No. 880** The Nicene Creed Nelle Bordeaux

\* **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.

**Children's Sermon**

Charli Weeks

*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**

Nelle Bordeaux

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.

\* **Hymns**

No. 228	He Is Born	IL EST NÉ
No. 229	Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	W ZLOBIE LEZY
No. 224	Good Christian Friends, Rejoice	IN DULCI JUBILO

**Offertory Prayer**

Nelle Bordeaux

**Offertory Voluntary**

arr. Joseph Martin

I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In

## Presentation of Tithes and Offering

*During the 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. 640-641, 91-92) Isaiah 11:1-10, John 1:1-18
  
- Sermon** "Imagine" Ben Martin
  
- \* **Hymn No. 251** Go, Tell It On the Mountain SPIRITUAL
  
- Benediction** Ben Martin
  
- Closing Voluntary** Sleigh Ride arr. Thomas Trotter
  
- \* *Please stand as you are able.  
Following the service, please take your bulletins, masks, and all belongings with you.  
All music reprinted under OneLicense.net No. A-719387 and CCLI No. 11046193.*



## Congratulations

Wesley Monumental congratulates Mary Catherine Finnerty and Chandler Holloway on their marriage which took place December 17 in the sanctuary.

## Poinsettia Pick Up Reminder

Those who ordered poinsettias may take them home following today's service.

## Eli's Place and Church Office Closed

For the week of December 26, Eli's Place will be closed all week, and the Church Office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, December 26.

## Stewardship Update

Thank you to everyone who has turned in your estimate of giving cards for 2023. As of December 13, we have received 127 cards totaling \$950,702 in estimated giving for 2023. That compares to 142 cards totaling \$1,093,852.52 in commitments for 2022. You can return the cards to the office in person or by mail, or fill it out online on our website.

## **A Year-End Reminder**

All 2022 contributions to the church must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2022 in order to comply with IRS regulations regarding charitable deductions.

## **New Year, New Wednesday Night Bible Studies for Adults - Begins Jan. 11**

### ◆ **Philippians Study - led by Ben Martin**

Ben will be teaching a class on Paul's letter to the Philippians. No book, just bring your Bible.

### ◆ **"Live Your Truth and Other Lies..." Study - led by Jennifer Thompson**

We've all seen the memes that populate the internet: *live your truth, follow your heart, you only have one life to live*. They sound nice and positive. But, what if these slogans are actually lies that unhinge us from reality and leave us anxious and exhausted? Using the book *Live Your Truth and Other Lies: Exposing Popular Deceptions That Make Us Anxious, Exhausted and Self-Obsessed* by Alisa Childers, this discussion-based study will unpack many such popular statements, explore what the Bible has to say about them, and empower us to live the way God created us to live. If you plan to attend this study, please contact Jennifer Thompson at [jennifert@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:jennifert@wesleymonumental.org) and let her know that you will need a book.

### ◆ **New Enneagram Study - led by James P. Owens**

The current Wednesday Night Enneagram study, led by James P. Owens, will continue to meet when Wednesday Night Suppers resume in January. The class will be reading *The Path Between Us* by Suzanne Stabile with the topic, "Enneagram and Healthy Relationships." If you are interested in the topic, James and the class would love for you to join them, even if you did not attend the fall class or have much knowledge about the Enneagram.

## **Family Bingo Night - January 20**



Join us Friday, January 20 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for our 2nd annual Family Bingo Night presented by the Susanna Wesley Circle. There will be dinner, dessert, bingo, and exciting prizes with proceeds benefitting charities within our community. Scan the code for additional details including pricing, ways to pay, and to register. Also, if you would like to donate a prize, or maybe a gift card you received for Christmas that you may not have use for, please email [swcirclewm@gmail.com](mailto:swcirclewm@gmail.com).

## **Savannah Book Festival - Looking for Volunteers**

Did you know it takes 200 volunteers to host the Savannah Book Festival? This incredible group of volunteers works tirelessly to make the Savannah Book Festival one of the best in the country. If you are interested in helping, registration is now open for Saturday, February 18, 2023. To register, visit [savannahbookfestival.org/support/volunteer/](http://savannahbookfestival.org/support/volunteer/). If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Donna Bunn, [donnabunn@gmail.com](mailto:donnabunn@gmail.com) or [info@savannahbookfestival.org](mailto:info@savannahbookfestival.org). For extensive Festival information, visit [savannahbookfestival.org](http://savannahbookfestival.org).

---

## **Assisting in Worship Today - 11:00 Service**

**Acolytes:** Jordan Hess

**Greeters:** Mary Anne Hill

**Children's Worship:** Sarah Labrot

**Offering Steward:** Jim Willis

**Ushers:** Jim Willis, Jesse Bentley, Jon Boothe, Tom Bordeaux,

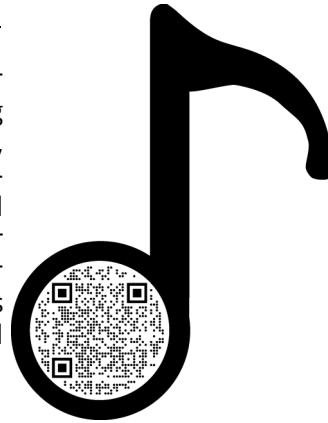
Fred Bozeman, Chandler Brannen, Doug Carroll, Jake Coakley, Jerry Cohn

**Partner in Prayer:** Sue Ellis

**Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist**

**Spread the Word**

Tell your friends and spread the word about our 130-children and youth who will be singing hymns with 33-piece orchestra on Sunday, February 26 at 5:00 PM. This is a huge evangelism opportunity. On top of that, we are proud of our kids and their parents. Thanks to our generous orchestra sponsors, every ticket dollar goes directly to the Building Fund for Children's and Music Ministry. The children are delighted to raise money for their own ministry area.



Tickets are \$35:

[MonumentalMusic.eventbrite.com](https://www.monumentalmusic.eventbrite.com) or church office

**Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members**

**Mentors Sought for Young Mothers**

Would you like to be paired with a young mother to meet with her six times per year (every other month) at your convenience for Christian encouragement? Questions or to sign up, please contact Nelle, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net).

**Mission trip to Santa Elena, Honduras - February 10-17, 2023**

Serving with Mission on the Move and Camino Ministries, Sharlene and Pat Monahan will be leading this return trip to Santa Elena, Honduras. With Mission on the Move, we will be working with their new community center, which Wesley helped fund, that is serving disabled children of the community. We will also be working with Camino Ministries who are building \$1500 homes for low income Hondurans. This work is led by a United Methodist pastor who is also planting new churches in the area. Our week will involve serving and encouraging children, maintenance work at their school, constructing low cost family housing and sharing in Christian fellowship, worship and study. All skill levels are needed - a servant's heart is most important. We will be staying at a lovely lakeside inn utilized by MOM, with private rooms that are safe, secure, comfortable and very sanitary. We have a team of seven signed up so far. No Spanish required - Sharlene, along with Sheila and Skip Watts will serve as our translators. If you would like to join the team, we will be buying our plane tickets through Delta soon. The cost for tickets is around \$700. If you have questions and are interested in joining the team, please call our missions chair, Scott Cleaveland at 912-598-8278 or email at [msctclv@gmail.com](mailto:msctclv@gmail.com). This can be a life-changing experience.

**Jennifer Thompson, Congregational Life**

**Merry Makers January Event**

All of us know that SCAD is a part of the fabric of Savannah. Katie Holderness, executive director of SCAD's new initiative, Friends of SCAD, will be our speaker for Merry Makers on January 9 at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. She will share with us how SCAD continues to work towards connecting with the community and its plans for future ways to contribute to the city of Savannah. Katie often attends Wesley with her sister who is a Wesley member. Please email Jennifer Baker by noon, Friday, January 6, [bakerj@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:bakerj@wesleymonumental.org) or contact Jennifer Thompson to RSVP.

**James P. Owens, Director of Student Ministries**

**Ski Trip, February 2-5**

We're going to have an awesome ski trip in 2023! All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join us from February 2-5 for our ski retreat to Winterplace, WV. The cost is \$350 which includes lodging, transportation, meals, and ski rentals and lift tickets for two days of skiing. To sign your students up, please contact James P. Owens, james@wesleymonumental.org.

**Micah Sprünger, Wesley Gardens Property Manager**

**Bible Study: Tuesdays, January 10 and 31**

Join us for the spiritual discipline of Bible study. An in-depth class presented by Bible scholar and ESV commentator Dr. Scott Hafemann. This winter we will continue looking closely at "Peter, the Preacher" by examining his speeches in the book of Acts. Join us Tuesdays, January 10 and 31 from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the Main House. Contact hello@wesleygardensretreat.com for details.

**Fourth Friday Retreat**

For January the "Fourth Friday" retreat has been moved to the third Friday, January 20. Join us in the chapel for some time of guided retreat and solitude. In addition to group prayer and *Lectio Divina* (meditation on Holy Scripture), the retreat will feature teaching and discussion. Coffee is provided at 8:45 a.m. The retreat is from 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Please bring your own lunch. For questions and further details, email hello@wesleygardensretreat.com.



**A Record of Our Faithfulness**

Sunday Attendance: (12/18/22)

8:45 AM Worship	83	Nursery	14
11:00 AM Worship	286	Children's Worship	26
Online Worship Views	123	Sunday School	138
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>492</b>		

**Finances: (12/18/22)**

Total Budget for the Year .....	\$2,022,708.12
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date .....	\$1,942,958.24
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date .....	\$2,002,006.77

**CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Ben Martin.....Senior Pastor	Jennifer Baker.....Administrative
Rev. Nelle Bordeaux.....Outreach and New	Assistant, Reception
Members	Jennifer Brookins.....Administrative Assistant to
Rev. Jennifer Thompson.....Congregational Life	Pastoral Staff, Media Communications
Dr. Monica Dekle.....Director of Music	Ashley Higgins.....Communications Director
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
Jimmy Flowers.....Church Administrator	Property Manager
Tom Anderson.....Financial Manager	Kenneth Hayes.....Wesley Gardens

**Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church  
December 25, 2022**

**Sermon Extended**

Monday	Isaiah 11:1-5	What does this passage tell us about Jesus/the Messiah?
Tuesday	Isaiah 11:6-10	What do we learn here about God's Kingdom/will?
Wednesday	John 1:1-9	In what ways does Jesus bring light in to my darkness?
Thursday	John 1:10-13	Have I received him into my life and how does it affect me?
Friday	John 1:14-18	What does Jesus reveal to us about God?

**Sermon Notes**

**As a Praying Church...**

We ask You, Lord, to help us to take time on this Christmas day to sit and really think about what it meant for You to be born as a baby in Bethlehem. Thank You for coming.....for us.

**In Our Prayers....**

Katie Adrian, Thelma Carter (mother of Phillip Carter), Dan Walker (brother-in-law of Karen Nickels), Aida Watts, Shari and Mel Hubbard, Bryan Vance (father of Chris Vance), Chad Gamble (brother of Kim Watson), Byron Boyd, John Burton, Oscar Cook, Gloria Eitel, Jan Pullin, Doris Rothenberger (mother of Susan Colgrove), Michele Bazemore, June Stevenson and Lynn Stratton, (mother and sister of Toni Olds), Jennifer Thompson, Suzette Parker, Emily Perry (granddaughter of Joyce and Richard Zehl), Tim Mooney, Grace Bockes, Mark Thomas, Dale and Becki Fisher (cousins of Holly Conger), Bo Watts, Valery Hanks, Cindy Telljohann, Walter Sumner (brother of Rosanne Montjoy and uncle of Michael Montjoy), Sheila Kraeuter (mother of Scot Kraeuter), 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 Komunale (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

At Home/Extended Care

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

Military Serving Abroad/Statedside

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

**This Week at Wesley**

**Sunday, December 25**

**Christmas Day**

**11:00 AM   Worship Service, SNC**

**Monday, December 26**

**No Eli's Place This Week**

**Church Office Closed**

**Tuesday, December 27 - Friday, December 30**

**No Scheduled Activities**

**Saturday, December 31**

**New Years Eve**

**Wednesday Night Supper**

Our Wednesday Night Suppers and programming have ended for 2022. We will resume January 11, 2023.

**Pastors on Call This Week**

Sunday, 12/25

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

Monday, 12/26 - Saturday, 12/31

Nelle Bordeaux.....912-234-9245



*Merry Christmas*