



Celebrating 155 Years 1868 - 2023

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

January 8, 2023

"THIS IS A DAY OF NEW BEGINNINGS"

All through the Bible we find God revealed as a "God of new beginnings." God is always starting over, resurrecting and re-creating his people, shaping us into His image. We have long looked at the beginning of a new year as a time to recommit ourselves to being made "new." We make "New Year's" resolutions about many kinds of self-improvement.

My New Year's resolutions aren't usually to do anything I've never done before, but to recapture what I never should have gotten away from. Therefore, for me, it is important to enter a new year by looking back and being reminded of who I am. As Christians, our identity is grounded in our baptism. Every time we baptize a baby, we are saying that this child belongs to God, that God has a claim on his/her life. Eventually we are challenged to embrace that claim by our own commitment to Christ as our savior and to submit to his Lordship or authority in our lives. This morning on the first Sunday of Epiphany when we remember the baptism of Jesus, we invite our congregation to renew our commitment to Christ by a reaffirmation of our Baptismal covenant with God.

At the end of our service this morning, you will be invited to renew your commitment to Christ and the Church by renewing your vows of baptism. As a symbol of that renewed commitment we will come forward to touch the baptismal waters as you hear the words, "Remember you are a baptized child of God and be thankful." If you would like to stop at the chancel rail for a time of prayer, you are invited to do so. If you have never been baptized and you feel led to make a public profession of your faith in Christ and be baptized, wait until the end of line and then come up and let me know that is your desire and we would be honored to lead you in that commitment and baptize you. Let this be for us all a day to remember and reclaim our primary identity as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023
8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
Baptism of the Lord

Opening Voluntary Milos Sokola
Passacaglia Quasi Toccata on B-A-C-H

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) Milly Schmitz

Lighting of the Candles (11:00) The Acolytes

Introit (11:00) Be Thou My Vision SLANE

* **Hymn** No. 261 Lord of the Dance Shaker Tune

* **Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed Nelle Bordeaux

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 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.

* **Hymn** No. 252 When Jesus Came to Jordan COMPLAINER

Offertory Prayer Nelle Bordeaux

Offertory Voluntary (8:45) arr. Michele Murray
'Tis the Gift to Be Simple/The Master Hath Come

Offertory Anthem (11:00) John Gardner
Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance.

Refrain

Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance
Thus was I knit to man's nature
To call my true love to my dance. *Refrain*

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was
So very poor, this was my chance
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass
To call my true love to my dance. *Refrain*

Then afterwards baptized I was;
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard I from above,
To call my true love to my dance. *Refrain*

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.*

* **Doxology** No. 95 OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* **Scripture** (Pew Bible, pgs. 2-3) Matthew 3:1-17

Sermon "Remember Your Baptism" Ben Martin

Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant Hymnal pg. 50

* **Hymn** No. 383 This Is a Day of New Beginnings BEGINNINGS

Benediction Ben Martin

Closing Response (11:00) Amen John Rutter

Closing Voluntary Evocation Marcel Dupré

* *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.*

Usher Roses

The roses worn by the ushers today are given in loving memory of Bob Farrow by his children and grandchildren.

February Messenger Deadline

The deadline to submit announcements for the February Messenger is tomorrow, Monday, January 9. Email jennifer@wesleymonumental.org.

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 unhook 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 and let her know that you will need a book.

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

Fall semester's Wednesday Night Enneagram study, led by James P. Owens, will continue to meet when Wednesday Night Suppers resume this week. 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 swcirc.lewm@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/. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Donna Bunn, donnabunn@gmail.com or info@savannahbookfestival.org. For extensive Festival information, visit savannahbookfestival.org.

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks
Greeters: Linda Butler, Pat Killewald
Offering Steward: David Butler
Partners in Prayer: Henry Whitfield

11:00 Service

Acolytes: Ansley Pedigo, Palmer Thomas
Greeters: Cynthia and Jim Waldrop
Offering Steward: Jason Pedigo
Ushers: Jason Pedigo, Bob Cole, Sam Daniel, Peter Delters,
Michael Donovan, Greg Dotson, Justin Dunn, Mehmet Ergul, David Gaskin
Partners in Prayer: Gail Brannen

Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist
Children's Choirs Resume this Week!

Joyful Noise and Children's Choir resume this Wednesday, January 11 at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 15. 5:00 PM
Concert at Cathedral of St. John the Baptist

The organists of four of Savannah's downtown churches come together to put the Noack organ through its paces. Monica Dekle (Wesley Monumental), Jacob Fuhrman (Independent Presbyterian), George Fergus (Christ Church Episcopal), and Paul Thornock (Cathedral Basilica) share the playing duties.

Tickets available online only. For 25% off visit:

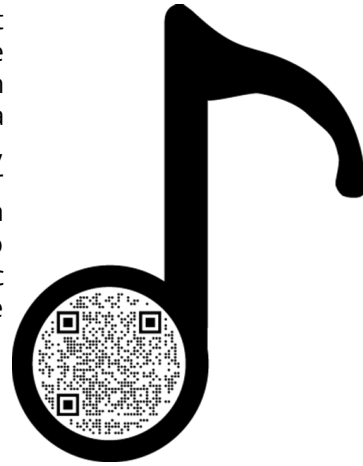
www.eventbrite.com/e/387573682317/?discount=WUM4ORF23

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, church office, or scan the QR code.



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.

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 tomorrow, January 9 at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. She will share with us how SCAD continues to work toward 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 let Jennifer Thompson know today if you plan to attend.

James P. Owens, Director of Student Ministries

Ski Trip, February 2-5

We're going to have an awesome ski trip in 2023! All 6th-12th 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: (1/1/23)

8:45 AM Worship	41	Nursery	XX
11:00 AM Worship	136	Children's Worship	XX
Online Worship Views	95	Sunday School	63
Total Worship	272		

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
January 8, 2023**

Sermon Extended

Monday	Matthew 3:1-6, John 1:9	How do I know I am forgiven?
Tuesday	Matthew 3:17, John 3:16	How do I know I am loved?
Wednesday	Matthew 3:17, Romans 1:1-7	How do I know I am called?
Thursday	Matthew 3:17, 2 Timothy 1:3-7	How do I know I am empowered?
Friday	Matthew 28:16-20	How do I know I am not alone?

Sermon Notes

As a Praying Church...

We ask You, Jesus, to be present as we resume all of our Wednesday night programs. Bless the fellowship around the tables as we eat and each study and choir as we seek to draw closer to You. Thank You, Lord.

This Week at Wesley

Sunday, January 8

- 8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
- 9:30 AM Coffee, FH
- 9:45 AM Sunday School, EB & OH
- 11:00 AM Worship Service, SNC
- 4:00 PM Youth Choir, EB 4th Flr
- 5:00 PM Youth Group, EB 4th Flr

Monday, January 9

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place

Tuesday, January 10

- 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

Wednesday, January 11

- 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, EB
- 6:00 PM Children's Choir, EB
- 6:00 PM Youth Bible Study, EB 4th Flr
- 6:00 PM Young Mothers' Small Group, OH Parlor
- 6:00 PM Philippians Study, Led by Ben Martin, FH
- 6:00 PM Book Study, Led by Jennifer Thompson, OH 207
- 6:00 PM Enneagram Study, Led by James P. Owens
- 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, EB 4th Flr

Thursday, January 12

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 12:00 PM Bible Study with Nelle, Zoom

Friday, January 13

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place

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

Pastor on Call This Week

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

Wednesday Night Supper

January 11, 2023

Menu: Meatloaf

To make a reservation, email bakerj@wesleymonumental.org. If you attended WNS during the Fall, your reservation will carry over to the Winter/Spring semester. If you plan not to attend, please email Jennifer Baker.

In Sympathy....

The Walker and Nickels Families on the death of *Dan Walker*, brother-in-law of Karen Nickels

The Carter Family on the death of *Thelma Carter*, mother of Phillip Carter

In Our Prayers....

Katie Adrian, Shari and Mel Hubbard, Bryan Vance (father of Chris Vance), Chad Gamble (brother of Kim Watson), 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), 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 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

At Home/Extended Care

Olin Bockes, Lee Butler, Bella Grace Bartels, Edith Roszkowiak, Ruth and 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