

May
2023

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wesleymonumental.org

THE MONUMENTAL MESSENGER



Life at Wesley



On April 2 during the Wesley Monumental Church Conference, members voted to move ahead with the renovation of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors of the Education Building. The Capital Funds Drive will take place in May.



Youth Pancake
Breakfast Fundraiser



Children participating in Palm Sunday.



Work crew of church members completed three work days to build wooden edging that curves along the sidewalk for the Tiny House formerly homeless veterans.





From Ben's Desk

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

May Celebrations!

The month of May is full of big events at Wesley. They represent milestones, rites of passage, accomplishments, and hope for the future. On May 7, we will have our Confirmation Service where a number of our students will make a public profession of their faith and become full members of the church. On May 10, we end our Wednesday night school-year program with our Children's Music Awards. On May 14, we will celebrate Mother's Day and recognize all the new babies born in our church over the last year. On May 21, we recognize our graduates and have a commitment day for our Capital Funds Drive for the Renovation of the Education Building. All of these special days look back to where we have been and look forward to where we are going.

The Capital Funds Commitment is critical for the future of our ministry of music and with children. Many of you were present at the Church Conference on April 2 when we voted to move ahead with the renovation of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors of our Education Building. However, affirmation of the need doesn't by itself enable us to accomplish this needed work. How much we are able to accomplish will depend on what level of financial commitment we make to the project. We will have some informational meetings to share more with you about the renovation, the Capital Funds Drive, and how you can give to make it a success. Every person's gift matters in a large undertaking like this. Please be prayerfully asking God to show you how He is calling you to participate. When we look at our growing children's ministry and music ministry, we realize how blessed we are at Wesley. This is an investment in the faith lives of our children and in the worship life of our church.



Prayer Committee

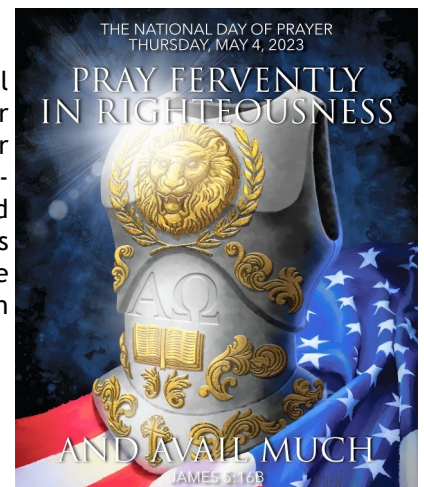
Luke 23:32-43 ~ The Two Thieves



The Two Thieves always intrigue me. The one believed! The other one did not. They both started out mocking and ridiculing Jesus on the middle cross. But, the one had the Holy Spirit reveal to him who this man was in the middle. This thief said, "We deserve this but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Remember me when you come into your Kingdom." Jesus responded "I tell you the truth today you will be with me in paradise." The other thief came so close but what we can understand from Luke 23, he never believed. What a gift when the Holy Spirit reveals to us who Jesus Christ is - our Lord and Savior and the only reason we will be with Him in Heaven. This is the greatest gift in this world and we pray to our Lord on Wednesday nights from 4:45 p.m. -5:15 p.m. in the Oliver Hall Parlor. You are welcome to join us. - Sue Ellis, Committee Chair

National Day of Prayer

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church will participate in the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 4, 2023, by observing periods of prayer throughout the day. Members are encouraged to join in prayer for our country and its leaders by lifting your united voices on its behalf. A suggested prayer schedule may be found in the April 30 Sunday bulletin, online, and Wesley Weekly email blasts. While we ask you to join your respective groups in prayer, your prayers are welcomed at any time. The sanctuary will also be open on Thursday, May 4 from 7:30 a.m. to noon, so members and visitors can stop by and pray.





Children's Ministry

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

Infant Recognition Sunday
is May 14!
See details below.



Infant Recognition Sunday

Each year, on Mother's Day, we look forward to recognizing the babies born into our congregation and this year is no exception! On Sunday, May 14 we will be honoring more than 20 families who welcomed babies into the world this past year. If you are a member of Wesley Monumental or attend regularly, please contact charli@wesleymonumental.org to confirm we have your child on our list.

Vacation Bible School

This year our Vacation Bible School will be held at Wesley Gardens Retreat June 5 - 9 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. At this time registration is open for all Wesley Monumental families. Register at www.myvbs.org/wesleymonumental

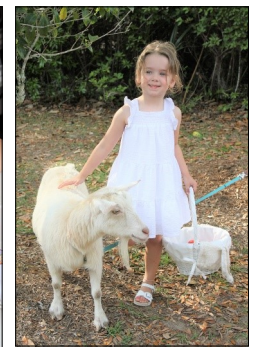


Summer Fun Daze at Wesley Gardens

Wesley children, who have completed kindergarten through third grade, can attend our Summer Fun Daze camp at the Wesley Gardens Retreat the week of July 17 - 21. 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. Space is limited. At this time registration is open

for members of Wesley Monumental. You can register for VBS and/or Summer Fun Daze at www.myvbs.org/wesleymonumental

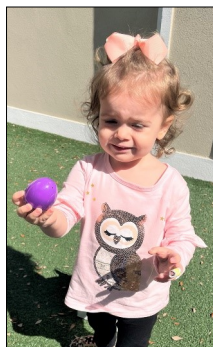
More Easter Egg-stravaganza Pics!



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. Registration is now open.

Egg Hunts at Eli's Place





Evangelism

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

Welcome, New Members!



Susan & Johnny Ganas, Jr.

Already Susan is in the Chancel Choir. She and Johnny owned Georgetown Hardware Store. Their daughter, Catie Aiken, and her husband, Brad, are their shepherds.

Shepherds: Catie & Brad Aiken



Mary Beth & Ross Clary & children, Anna Louise & Will

Mary Beth is from Athens, Ga., and Ross grew up in Savannah. His great-grandfather, George Clary, was a Methodist minister, for whom one of the buildings at Epworth-by-the-Sea is named.

May New Member Course

We are thankful the following joined on March 26. Our next New Member Course will be Sundays, May 21 and 28, at 10:00 a.m. both Sundays, with the class joining as a group on May 28. Nursery provided. Please call the church office to sign up, 912-232-0191.



Join a Bible Study!

- ◆ **Young Mothers' Bible Study**
Current topic, "The Day Mom Finally Snapped: A Christian View of Anger"
Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m., Oliver Hall, 3rd Floor
Nursery provided by fabulous Carmine Cowart.
- ◆ **Thursday Noon Bible Study**
Current topic, the book of Esther
Thursdays, noon to 12:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Please sign up for either Bible study with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Mentors Needed for Young Mothers

Is the Lord calling you to give Christian encouragement to a young mother, meeting with her once every other month at a time of your convenience? Can you hear that sound? We are praying for you.

Questions or to sign up, call Nelle, 912-234-9245.



Missions

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



May Family Mission Project Grocery Sacking

Friday, May 26
11:00 a.m. to noon
Oliver Hall lobby

Please bring a canned good or a box of your favorite cereal. Children are welcome! We'll sack groceries for Old Savannah City Mission.

Sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.



Thank you to the congregation for your generous grocery donations for Old Savannah City Mission! Every sack includes organized groceries and a Bible verse. Here, Michael Donovan and Anne Eller are packing groceries and adding a Bible verse in each sack. Join us May 26 for our May Family Mission Project and help sack groceries.



Youth

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

For as long as anyone can remember, the Wesley Monumental youth group has hosted a pancake breakfast on the morning of the St. Patrick's Day parade. And this year's breakfast was one of our biggest ever! Our youth group and adult helpers did an awesome job making this annual tradition happen once again.

We met on Thursday evening, decorated the Fellowship Hall, and got everything ready for the next day. Then, we got a little bit of sleep (very little for some of us), and we were ready for the big day. We served pancakes, bacon, and green grits to over 500 people on the morning of St. Patrick's Day. Our youth helped out as servers and money collectors. Some poured coffee and OJ, others made to-go boxes, and a few even went out into the square to advertise.

Special thanks goes out to all the adults who helped with the lock-in and breakfast, and to everyone who donated items for it!



Congregational Life

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



Merry Makers May Event

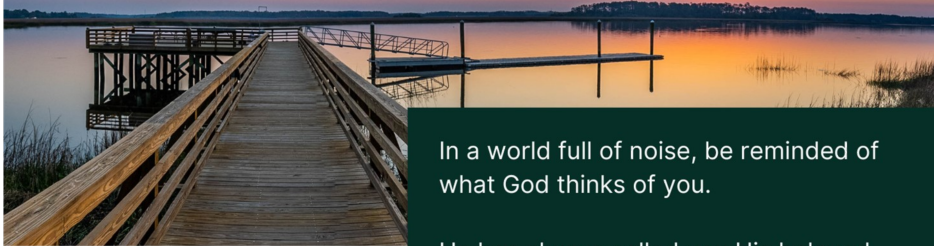
Lots of people say they want to write and publish a book, but few ever do. Come learn from someone who's done it-three times! Wesley Monumental's own Communications Director, Ashley Mays Higgins, is a traditionally published author who writes fiction for fierce young women of faith. On Monday, May 8 at 11:00 a.m., join Ashley in the Fellowship Hall for an interactive presentation about her personal journey toward publication, how you can take the first steps toward being an author, and a Q&A about the publishing industry. Ashley will have crossword puzzles, bookmark-making supplies, and more fun surprises we'll enjoy together. Contact Jennifer Baker in the church office to make your reservation, bakerj@wesleymonumental.org or 912-232-0191.



Wesley Gardens Retreat

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

The Sacred Journey Retreat At Wesley Gardens



In a world full of noise, be reminded of what God thinks of you.

He has always called you His beloved.

A Life Worth Living.

cocreationlife.com

3 night experience
MAY 25-28, 2023



Come slow down with us on the moon river and take a break from the hurry and hustle. Here you will experience ancient ways of being present to yourself, to God, and the beauty around you.

Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls. (Jeremiah 6:16)

If you choose to come, we will explore those ancient paths and practice them while you are with us. Our time together will be spent focusing on rest, prayer and embracing your belovedness.

What you can expect to receive: Deep listening, encouragement, new language for your with-God experience, storytelling, intimate worship, good food, fellowship and rest---lots of rest.

Your retreat will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 25 and end by lunchtime on Sunday, May 28. Your ticket includes ALL MEALS during your stay, lodging, spiritual direction, materials, and a special gift.

To register, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-sacred-journey-retreat-tickets-541014718587> or contact Christian Swails at christian@cocreationlife.com.



Memorials & Honors

May 2023

Gifts have been received in Memory or Honor of:

The Endowment Fund

In memory of
Grace Bockes
From
Olin Bockes
Wes & Barb Hauswirth

The Music Endowment Fund

In memory of
Ruth Stuenkel
From
Tim Mooney
Frank & Florence Anderson
Margie & Tom Carlin
Wilson & Catherine Higbee

The Music Endowment Fund Cont.

In memory of
Helen McCutchen
From
Ken & Deanne Rimes



Music

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



We were so glad everyone was here Easter Sunday.
Isn't it wonderful that Easter lasts 50 days!?



Chancel Choir and Children's Choir on Palm Sunday.

 **Wesley**
MONUMENTAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
429 Abercorn Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

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Messenger Monthly

Easter Egg-stravaganza!

