



Celebrating 155 Years 1868 - 2023

429 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401
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Website: www.wesleymonumental.org

September 17, 2023

HELP!

Last Sunday morning as the children were leaving, I mentioned we had 163 children in attendance for our children's choir on the first Wednesday night of the school year. Sunday morning, we had about seventy children for children's worship and eighteen 4th-5th graders for worship education, not to mention the nursery. What it all screamed out to me was, "HELP!" We are so blessed here at Wesley to have so many beautiful children as a part of our church family, but it takes a lot of people willing to serve to help our staff care for and nurture our children's faith. Would you be willing to give a little time to our children's ministry? (And it helps for those parents, whose children have grown up, to step in so our young parents, who are caring for children all the time, might have a break to worship.) Please see Charli if you would like to volunteer.

Then, I noticed all the different announcements in the bulletin about where people are needed to serve in various ministry areas. More acolytes (and another acolyte coordinator for 2024), communion stewards to help set up and clean up after communion each month, offering counters, etc.

Serving is a spiritual discipline as well as a fulfillment of our church membership vows. When we serve, we give up our own agenda for God and others. It is fulfilling and makes a difference in us and those we serve. I think about our choir members who every week show up for rehearsal and worship to lead us in worship and the unseen people in the balcony who are running the sound system and livestreaming our service, of greeters and ushers, altar guild people who adorn our sanctuary with flowers, of Sunday school teachers who prepare each week to teach, youth group leaders on Sunday evening, and all the volunteers for the nursery and children's worship. Sundays alone require a lot of service in order for worship, Sunday school, and youth group to happen, not to mention all the ministry that happens from Monday to Saturday.

Thank you to all who give so much to make this ministry happen. If you would like to find an area to serve, please let us know, and we will provide the opportunity to bless God, our congregation, and our community.

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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)

Elizabeth Huff

Lighting of the Candles

The Acolytes

Opening Anthem

I'll Walk with God

arr. Douglas MacLean

Julia Flowers, soprano

* **Hymn No. 89** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee HYMN TO JOY

* **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** GREATOR EX

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)

Winslet Joan Kutchey

daughter of Xada Rae Baxter and Bobby Kutchey, III

Congregational Response:

With love and thanksgiving we welcome Winslet 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 her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love that she may grow into a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ who walks in the way that leads to life.

Children's Sermon

Ben Martin

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. 600 Wonderful Words of Life WORDS OF LIFE

Offertory Prayer James P. Owens

Offertory Voluntary (8:45) TBD
TBD

Offertory Anthem (11:00) Consider the Lilies arr. Roger Hoffman

Consider the lilies of the field, How they grow.
Consider the birds in the sky, How they fly.

He clothes the lilies of the field. He feeds the birds in the sky.
And He will feed those who trust Him,
And guide them with His eye.

Consider the sheep of His fold, How they follow where He leads.
Though the path may wind across the mountains,
He knows the meadows where they feed.

He clothes the lilies of the field. He feeds the birds in the sky,
And He will feed those who trust Him,
And guide them with His eye.

Consider the sweet, tender children Who must suffer on this earth.
The pains of all of them He carried
From the day of His birth.

He clothes the lilies of the field, He feeds the lambs in His fold,
And He will heal those who trust Him,
And make their hearts as gold.

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, pg. 38) Mark 4:1-20

Sermon "Back to Basics Part 7: Tending Our Hearts" Ben Martin

* **Hymn** No. 571 Go, Make of All Disciples LANCASHIRE

Benediction Ben Martin

Closing Response (11:00) TBD
TBD

Closing Voluntary TBD TBD

* *Please stand as you are able.
Following the service, please take your bulletins, masks, and all belongings with you.
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Flowers

The flowers by the altar today are given to the glory of God and in appreciation for all the good and kind people of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church. Happy Fall from Era and Wayne Hall.

The flowers in the narthex today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marie and David Fritts from the family.

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

Messenger Brigade

Will meet this Thursday, September 21 at 10:00 a.m. in Oliver Hall 205.

Volunteers Needed

- **Acolytes - Training Today, September 17**

Any rising 6th grader or above who is interested in becoming an acolyte is invited to a brief training session today, Sunday, September 17 and on Sunday, October 8 immediately following the 11:00 service. Acolytes serve by lighting the candles, assisting with baptisms, and collecting attendance rosters during our worship service. Acolytes usually serve one Sunday per quarter. Any questions, please contact Caroline Livingood at calivingood75@gmail.com.

- **Communion Stewards**

Additional Communion Stewards are needed to help prepare communion for our monthly Communion Sunday services. This is a great way to serve our church from behind-the-scenes, and training is provided. If you would like to learn more, please contact Amelia Wells (Communion Team Leader) at 912-665-2902 or amelia.wells@gulfstream.com.

Called Administrative Board Meeting

We will have a brief Administrative Board Meeting next Monday, September 25, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom to approve several items for Charge Conference. This meeting will be via Zoom only, and the link and agenda packet will be emailed to the board members on Friday, September 22.

Christmas Greenery - Orders Due Sunday, October 15

The Altar Guild of Wesley Monumental UMC is excited to offer fresh balsam greenery from Vermont for the Christmas season! For details and to order, visit www.wesleymonumental.org/2023-greenery/ or pick up an order form located at all sanctuary entrances.

Wesley Christmas Bazaar

The Wesley Christmas Bazaar is returning this year and will showcase handwork, including but not limited to woodwork, monogrammed clothing, photography, jewelry, hand-painted notecards and local landscapes, candles, toys, lathe turned bowls, and furniture--to mention a few. The Bazaar will be held Saturday, November 4, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in Oliver Hall. We are looking for vendors, and you are invited to reserve your space now. Questions, contact one of the co-chairs: Woody Brown at 912-352-7833, or Carolyn Hale Cubbedge at 912-308-3385.

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks

Greeters: Linda Butler

Offering Steward: David Butler

Partners in Prayer: Carmine Cowart

11:00 Service

Acolytes: Couper Howard, TBD

Children's Worship: Sarah Labrot, Alix Lane

Sunday School: Volunteers Needed

Greeters: Carolyn & James Cubbedge

Offering Steward: Chris Donegan

Ushers: Chris Donegan, Jacob Sigmon, Travis Thomas, Vin Thomas, Matt West, Mark Wilcox, Drew Wilkes, Glen Willard, Allen Williams

Partners in Prayer: Sandra McGowen

Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist

Cabaret Under the Stars ~ Dinner, Dancing, and Music

Thursday, October 19. 6:00 – 9:00 PM, 429 Abercorn Street, Savannah



Enjoy a beautiful October evening with a backdrop of one of Savannah's breathtaking squares entertained by The Fabulous Equinox Orchestra—an 11-piece "fiery hot and soulful Southern big band." Invite your friends and neighbors to an enchanting and elegant evening with scrumptious heavy d'oeuvres, delectable wine, dancing, and captivating music! All proceeds support the capital campaign.

Tickets and details: equinoxorchestra.com, scan the QR code, or call Monica 912-232-0191.

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

New Member Course Starts Today, Sunday, September 17

The class will meet today and next Sunday, September 24, at 10:00 a.m., with the class joining as a group on the 24th. Nursery provided. Please call the church office to sign up at 912-232-0191.

Skip the Gym! Bend to Pick Up Attendance Rosters!

Helpers are needed from noon to 12:10 p.m. on Sundays to pick up the attendance roster top page from sanctuary pews. Please tell Nelle if you would like to help.

Bible Study Topics

- Young Mothers' Bible Study. Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., nursery provided. Currently studying "Women in the Bible." Verses this week will be about Sarah, Genesis, chapter 18.
- Thursday Noon Bible Study via Zoom. Thursdays from noon - 12:30 p.m. Currently studying the Gospel of Mark. Verses this week will be Mark, chapter 11. Sign up for either study with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Help Wanted - Serving at Wesley Community Center

Monday, October 2, and Wednesday, October 4, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Our United Methodist Men (and ladies, too) are pulling together a team to do some painting and light construction at Wesley Community Center on Drayton Street in preparation for their hosting a United Methodist Women's conference. All skill sets are needed. We will grab lunch in Starland following. If you want to sign up or have questions, contact Woody Brown at brown_wr@bellsouth.net or call 912-352-7833.

Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry

Many thanks to all the ladies who recognized the need for extra hands in Children's Worship last week and came to help. For the next few weeks, the children are working on learning the words of the Apostles' Creed and what they mean. If a child is sitting near you on Sunday morning, you can help by handing them the laminated copy of the Creed that is in the pew rack.

Worship Education for 4th & 5th Graders

As children enter 4th & 5th grade, we encourage them to begin staying in the Sanctuary for the entire worship service. It can be a long hour for them and their parents, but participating in the service helps to prepare them for Confirmation. Today, Sunday, September 17, 4th & 5th graders are invited to meet Ms. Charli in the back balcony under the Wesley Window. After the Children's Sermon, we'll go to room 305 and continue learning about the different parts of the service and how the service is put together. The class will also meet on October 1 and October 15. Pick-up is from the Fellowship Hall at the end of the service.

Children's Worship Training for 4th & 5th Graders Today!

4th & 5th graders who would like to help with Children's Worship should plan to stay for lunch and training today, Sunday, September 17 after the 11:00 service. Sign up information will be given to all who attend.

Second Grade Bible Presentation - Sunday, October 15

Bible Presentation for our second graders will take place Sunday, October 15. Please email charli@wesleymonumental.org to confirm we have your child on our list.

James P. Owens, Director of Student Ministries

Youth Group and Youth Choir Tonight

Join us for Karaoke Night at Youth Group from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Youth Choir will meet from 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Micah Sprünger, Wesley Gardens Property Manager

Wesley Gardens Retreat Bible Study

An in-depth study by Bible scholar and ESV commentator Dr. Scott Hafemann examining the Exodus/Passover-Redemption. Tuesday, September 26, from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the Main House. For details, contact: hello@wesleygardensretreat.com.

Fourth Friday Retreat

On Friday, September 22, 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), this liturgically-based retreat will feature teaching and discussion. We will provide coffee and tea at the Memory Garden gazebo from 8:30 a.m. The retreat is from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., with the remainder of the afternoon available for a self-guided personal retreat. Feel free to bring your own lunch or snack. For questions and further details, please email hello@wesleygardensretreat.com.

Monthly Spiritual Practices Gathering

For anyone interested in engaging their heart into deeper transformation and those looking for tools to walk out their faith. Join Christian Swails as he leads a Spiritual Practices Gathering once a month at Wesley Gardens Retreat. The next gathering will take place Sunday, September 24 at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome and feel free to bring a friend!



Grocery Items for Old Savannah City Mission

Most needed this week is pasta. Please place donations in marked boxes in the Wayne/Gordon Street foyers and Oliver Hall.

Capstone Capital Campaign (9/10/23):

Pledges Received	174
Total Pledged or Given	\$1,660,060
Campaign Goal	\$2,500,000

Finances (9/10/23):

Total Budget for the Year	\$2,083,655.68
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date	\$1,407,567.84
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date	\$1,456,287.43

A Record of Our Faithfulness

Sunday Attendance: (9/10/23)

8:45 AM Worship	98	Nursery	21
11:00 AM Worship	384	Children's Worship	67
Online Worship Views	157	Sunday School	161
Total Worship	639		

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Ben Martin.....Senior Pastor	Jennifer Brookins.....Administrative Assistant to
Rev. Dr. Nelle Bordeaux..... Outreach &	Pastoral Staff, Media Communications
New Members	Ashley Higgins..... Communications Director
Rev. James P. Owens ... Director of Student Ministries	Suzanna King..... Director of Hospitality
Dr. Monica DekleDirector of Music & Organist	Betty DudleyHousekeeper
Julia Flowers Music Assistant	Micah Sprünger Wesley Gardens
Charli Weeks Director of Children's Ministry	Property Manager
Jimmy Flowers.....Church Administrator	Ernie Banks..... Wesley Gardens
Tom Anderson Financial Manager	Groundskeeper/Maintenance
Jennifer Baker Administrative	Christian Swails..... Wesley Gardens
Assistant, Reception	Spiritual Direction/Reservations

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
September 17, 2023

Sermon Extended

Monday	Mark 4:1-9	Read the parable from the perspective of the sower, the seed, and the soil. What do each say to me?
Tuesday	Mark 4:10-13	How does being an "insider" instead of an "outsider" change how we hear Jesus' teaching?
Wednesday	Mark 4:14-20	What am I doing to "tend" my heart that the Word might flourish in me?
Thursday	Luke 10:38-42, 12:22-34	What principles of spiritual formation is Jesus teaching here?
Friday	John 15:1-17	What does this passage have in common with the Parable of the Sower?

Sermon Notes

This Week at Wesley

Sunday, September 17

- 8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
- 9:30 AM Coffee, FH
- 9:45 AM Sunday School, EB & OH
- 10:50 AM 4th/5th Grade Worship Ed., SNC Balcony
- 11:00 AM Worship Service, SNC
- 12:00 PM Acolyte Training, SNC
- 12:00 PM Children's Worship Training for 4th/5th Grades, FH
- 4:00 PM Youth Choir, EB 4th Flr
- 5:00 PM Youth Group, EB 4th Flr

Monday, September 18

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 2:00 PM Courtney Gaines Circle, FH
- 6:00 PM Trombone Choir Rehearsal, SNC

Tuesday, September 19

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Sunny Side Up
- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study & Bible Buddies, OH 310/308
- 11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 310
- 6:00 PM Pacesetters Mtg, FH

Wednesday, September 20

- 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 Studies, EB 4th Flr
- 6:00 PM Book of James Study, Led by James, FH
- 6:00 PM Book Study, Led by Ben, OH 310
- 6:00 PM Women's Small Group, Led by Katie, OH Parlor
- 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, EB 4th Flr

Thursday, September 21

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

Friday, September 22

- 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 Nights at Wesley

September 20

Menu: Chicken-Sausage Gumbo

Ben's Book Study Zoom Link:

If you cannot attend Ben's Wednesday 6:00 p.m. evening study on *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr and would like to join via Zoom, please email jennifer@wesleymonumental.org for the Zoom link.

In Our Prayers....

Anne Holley, Saddle Kurtz (aunt of Dan Kurtz), Tommy and Harriett Gattis (parents of Clayton Gattis), Dolly Caylor (mother of Rhonda Radcliff), Sharon and Terry Knepper (parents of Holly Conger), Susan Wallace, Karen Nickles, Lloyd Chapman, Mary Odom, Richard Zehl, Will Weeks, Jeralyn Wilson, Mercedes Brenne and Jack Carman (friends of Anne Tyree), Georgia Kate Anderson, Lindsey Goldberg, Mary Hohnerlein (friend of Ken and Deanne Rimes), Gail Brannen, Heather Neisler, Carlyle Buevas (sister of Madge Edwards), Archie Davis, Rodney Scott, Robin Brinkley, Pat Monahan, Aaron Higgins, Pat Killewald, McCarthy Family, Byron Rogers, John Birkheimer, Eleanor McCurry, John Beal (brother-in-law of John Birkheimer), Palmer Hood (brother of Ge-Juan Wilkes), Sara Hardwick (sister of Cassie Beckwith), Dennis Deal (cousin of Patricia Jacobs), Lynn and Dan Kurtz, Connie Kurtz (mother of Dan Kurtz), Ashley Post, Angela Chancey (niece of Cynthia Willett), Katie Adrian, Ken Brownfield, Shari and Mel Hubbard, Cindy and John Burton, Oscar Cook, Doris Rothenberger (mother of Susan Colgrove), Michele Bazemore, Suzette Parker, Tim Mooney, Dale and Becki Fisher (cousins of Holly Conger), Valery Hanks, Dewayne Barfield (brother of Shirley Turner), Camille Herring (sister of Wade Herring), Matthew McClain, Jane Bostwick (mother of Meb Ryan), Walter Thomas (brother of Mark Thomas), Grant Kassinger (nephew of Peggy Jolley), Sally Polk (sister of Peggy Jolley), Alyssa Jones (granddaughter of Rusty Holt), Ella Ealy (granddaughter of Carolyn Roth), Ryan Davis, Martha Sloan, Fenton McEvoy

At Home/Extended Care

Bella Grace Bartels, Pat Beasley, Harriet Bland, Olin Bockes, Roz Evans, Bob Harman, Marilyn Holleman, Sandrae McCorkle, Toni Olds, Edith Roszkowiak, Elton Stuenkel, Mark Thomas, Cindy Telljohann, Lois Wooten

Military Serving Abroad/Stateside

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