



***Celebrating 155 Years 1868 - 2023***

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September 24, 2023

**REV. JAMES P. OWENS AND BEING UNITED METHODIST**

Being United Methodist is both theological (a big word for how we see God revealed and at work in the world) and ecclesiastical (a big word for how we do church and how we live the Christian life together). Our theological perspective sees salvation as a lifelong process of growth or being restored in the image of God in which we are all created. It means we are always growing, becoming, and enlarging our view of Christ in us and in others. Our ecclesiastical perspective is one of connectionalism. We are all a part of the body of Christ and connected one to the other. As United Methodists, we are partners in ministry with thousands of United Methodist congregations around the world. Our particular part of that body is the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church.

I say all that because this week you received an email from our Associate Pastor and Director of Student Ministries, James P. Owens, informing you he is about to be appointed as the senior pastor at Encounter United Methodist Church in Rincon. The way I look at it is he is not leaving; we are sending. We are not losing; we are partnering. We are sharing one of our pastors with the Church, in this case, a sister church that is in need of a pastor. This has been a long, unfolding process of calling for James, and we have been a big part of him living into this call. From helping him explore that call in ministry here to enabling him to go back and complete all the educational requirements for his ordination, and now to partner with him in this new ministry.

While we will be sad to see James go, we are excited to be a part of expanding our ministry through the development of leadership for the church. The good news is they will still live here in Savannah, and Whitney, Anna, and Abby will not be strangers but will continue to participate in some of our children's ministries.

Next Sunday, October 1st, during the Sunday School Hour (9:45-10:45 a.m.), we will have a time to recognize James and express our appreciation for his faithfulness to Christ here at Wesley Monumental UMC. Please make plans to join us. There will be food, a little time for James to share, and time for us all to visit with him and his family. Please pray for James as he prepares to take this next big step in living our God's call on his life.

*Ben*

# MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

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

*Seventeenth 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)

James Butler

## Lighting of the Candles

The Acolytes

**Opening Voluntary** This Little Light of Mine arr. Joe Utterback

**Introit (11:00)** Sanctus Lindsay Norden

Youth Choir and Chancel Choir

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God of Hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high. Amen!

\* **Hymn No. 188** Christ Is the World's Light CHRISTE SANCTORUM

\* **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** GREATORUM

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

*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. 707** Hymn of Promise PROMISE  
**Minute for Mission** (11:00) Hollis Burnside  
 Bring a Friend will be Sunday, October 22

**Offertory Prayer** Nelle Bordeaux  
**Offertory Voluntary** (8:45) arr. Joel Raney

His Eye Is On the Sparrow

**Offertory Anthem** (11:00) Amen Jester Hairston  
 Youth Choir and Chancel Choir

Jerome Elder, tenor

With guests Heidi Bindhammer, Caroline Freeman,  
 Jimmy Flowers, Josie Gadson, Tonie Gadson,  
 Roger Moss, Whitney Owens, and Johnny Phelps

Amen! Good Lordy. Amen! Have mercy.

Amen, Amen, Amen!

See the little baby wrapped in a manger on Christmas morning.

See Him in the temple talkin' with the elders

who marveled at His wisdom.

See Him at the Jordan where John was baptizin'

and savin' all sinners.

See Him at the seaside talkin' to the fishermen

and makin' them disciples.

Marchin' in Jerusalem over palm branches in pomp and splendor.

See Him in the garden prayin' to His Father in deepest sorrow.

Led before Pilate. Then they crucified Him, but He rose on Easter.

Hallelujah! He died to save us, and He lives forever.

Amen! Amen! Amen, Amen!

### **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. 38-39) Mark 4:21-34

**Sermon** "Back to Basics Part 8: Keys to the Kingdom" Ben Martin

- \* **Hymn No. 585** This Little Light of Mine Spiritual

**Reception into Church Membership** (11:00)

Lane Gibson

Andrew Phillips

Rachel and Miller Stephens with daughter, Evelyn

**Benediction** Ben Martin

**Closing Response** EDELWEISS

May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever;

grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.

Lift up your eyes and see God's face, full of grace forever;

may the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Choir and Congregation

**Closing Voluntary** arr. Albert Travis

Toccata on Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

- \* *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 loving memory of Bill Harper and in honor of Dot Harper by Penny Harper.

### **Just Born**

Congratulations to Meredith and Taavo Roos on the birth of a son, Cooper Tobias Roos, on September 12, 2023. A rose is by the altar today in honor of Cooper.

### **Volunteers Needed**

- **Acolytes - Training**

Any rising 6th grader or above who is interested in becoming an acolyte is invited to a brief training session today 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 tomorrow, Monday, September 25, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom to approve several items for Charge Conference. This meeting will be via Zoom only. If you did not receive the Zoom link and agenda packet on Friday, September 22, please email jennifer@wesleymonumental.org.

### **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/](http://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. Questions, contact one of the co-chairs: Woody Brown at 912-352-7833, or Carolyn Hale Cubbedge at 912-308-3385.

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### **Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service**

**Children's Worship:** Charli Weeks

**Greeters:** TBD

**Offering Steward:** TBD

**Partners in Prayer:** Mark Lindsay

### **11:00 Service**

**Acolytes:** TBD

**Children's Worship:** Katie Knight, Sarah Labrot, Caroline McDermott, Leslie Shor

**Sunday School:** Meghan Scoggins

**Greeters:** TBD

**Offering Steward:** Jim Willis

**Ushers:** Jim Willis, Brad Aiken, Jesse Bentley, David Blake, Jon Boothe, Tom Bordeaux, Fred Bozeman, Chandler Brannen, Doug Carroll

**Partners in Prayer:** Adam Kobek

**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](http://equinoxorchestra.com), scan the QR code, or call Monica 912-232-0191.

**Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members**

**Grocery Items for Old Savannah City Mission**

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

**Bring a Friend Sunday!**

Evangelism Committee members are handing out invitations for Bring a Friend Sunday, to be held Sunday, October 22 at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. Please pray for a friend and invite your friend! Better still, drive your friend to church!

**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 Lot's Wife, Genesis, chapters 13, 18, and 19; Luke 17:32, 33.
- 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 12. Sign up for either study with Nelle, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto: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](mailto:brown_wr@bellsouth.net) or call 912-352-7833.

**Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry**

**Second Grade Bible Presentation - Sunday, October 15**

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

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

**Youth Group Tonight**

Join us for Youth Group tonight from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 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. This Tuesday, September 26, from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the Main House. For details, contact: hello@wesleygardensretreat.com.

**Monthly Spiritual Practices Gathering - This Afternoon**

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 this afternoon, Sunday, September 24 at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome and feel free to bring a friend!



**Capstone Capital Campaign (9/17/23):**

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

**Finances (9/17/23):**

|                                    |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Total Budget for the Year.....     | \$2,083,655.68 |
| Actual Revenues Year-to-Date ..... | \$1,440,252.82 |
| Actual Expenses Year-to-Date ..... | \$1,479,788.34 |

**A Record of Our Faithfulness**

Sunday Attendance: (9/17/23)

|                      |            |                    |    |
|----------------------|------------|--------------------|----|
| 8:45 AM Worship      | XX         | Nursery            | 16 |
| 11:00 AM Worship     | 275        | Children's Worship | 50 |
| Online Worship Views | 172        | Sunday School      | 24 |
| <b>Total Worship</b> | <b>XXX</b> |                    |    |

**CHURCH STAFF**

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

**Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church  
September 24, 2023**

**Sermon Extended**

|           |              |   |
|-----------|--------------|---|
| Monday    | Mark 4:21-25 | How can I pay better attention to what and how I hear from God?             |
| Tuesday   | Mark 4:26-29 | If the Kingdom doesn't grow in me by striving, what should I do?            |
| Wednesday | Mark 4:30-32 | What small way is the Kingdom beginning to grow in me?                      |
| Thursday  | Mark 4:33-34 | What can I recognize that I am not ready or able to hear yet from Jesus?    |
| Friday    |              | Read my favorite parable of Jesus as if I am hearing it for the first time. |

**Sermon Notes**

## This Week at Wesley

**\*\*Visit [wesleymonumental.org/events/](http://wesleymonumental.org/events/) to view the calendar online.\*\***

### Sunday, September 24

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

### Monday, September 25

9:00 AM Eli's Place  
2:00 PM Joy Circle Mtg, OH 310  
5:30 PM Administrative Bd Mtg, Zoom  
6:00 PM Trombone Choir Rehearsal, SNC

### Tuesday, September 26

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Sunny Side Up  
9:00 AM Eli's Place  
9:00 AM Johnny Appleseed, FH  
9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study & Bible Buddies, OH 310/308  
11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 310  
2:00 PM Care & Share Mtg, OH 205  
6:30 PM WG Bible Study, WG

### Wednesday, September 27

9:00 AM Eli's Place  
10:30 AM Jane Shirah Circle  
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 & OH  
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 28

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

### Friday, September 29

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 27

Menu: Baked Ziti

*In Sympathy...*

The Family of  
*Jean Remley*

The Stubbs Family  
on the death of *Joe Stubbs*  
father of Joe T Stubbs

## In Our Prayers....

Adam Corey, 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 Buelvas (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