



Celebrating 155 Years 1868 - 2023

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

November 19, 2023

THE DISCIPLINE OF THANKSGIVING

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances. For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." -1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Thanksgiving may be largely an American holiday, but its roots go back much further. The people of Israel practiced "harvest" festivals to give thanks to God, and the "thanksgiving offering" was the most often practiced sacrifice. The Bible teaches consistently from start to finish that we are the beneficiaries of God's grace and that the practice of thanksgiving is critical for our relationship with God. It is so easy in times of abundance and prosperity to forget how blessed we are and where it all comes from. In the book of Deuteronomy, Moses is warning the Israelites just before they enter the promised land that the prosperity of the land could be their downfall. In times of abundance, he warns they could too quickly forget the true source of their blessings.

On the other hand, in times of adversity, it is easy to overlook our blessings because they are easily lost in the face of trouble. Not surprisingly, Paul, a man whose life had frequent adversity, taught that we should *"give thanks in all circumstances."* For Paul, thanksgiving or gratitude is a spiritual discipline to be practiced whether we are experiencing blessings or adversity.

As Thanksgiving Day approaches and we look forward to being together with family and friends, I pray we all find time to practice thanksgiving. It doesn't matter if it is a time of adversity or blessing; practicing being thankful will protect our hearts and our faith.

One historic way we practice thanksgiving is through generosity. As we bring our fall stewardship campaign to a close, we hope you will prayerfully consider how your giving can be an act of faith and gratitude for what God has done for you.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Each year, we participate in a Community Thanksgiving Service with several other Downtown Historic communities of faith. This year's service will be Tuesday night, November 21st, at 7:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 223 Bull Street. We hope those who are able will represent Wesley Monumental at the service.

MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

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

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Savannah Trombone Choir

Benjamin Blalock Grayson McHugh
Michael Brown Benjamin Phillips
Gabby Bryant Reese Scott
James McCarn Campbell Tunney
Mark Spradley, founder and director

Welcome and Announcements

Nelle Bordeaux

*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)

Olivia Wanager

Lighting of the Candles

The Acolytes

Opening Voluntary

Reflection and Celebration

David Wilborn

Introit (11:00)

Crown Him with Many Crowns
Olivia Wanager, pianist

* **Hymn No. 102** Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET

* **Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed Carolyn Hale Cubbedge

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)

Rhys Oliver Kerby
son of Christa and Kyle Kerby

Congregational Response:

With love and thanksgiving we welcome Rhys 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

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge

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. 526** What a Friend We Have in Jesus CONVERSE

Offertory Prayer

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge

Offertory Voluntary How Great Thou Art arr. By Sonny Ausman

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. 1) Genesis 1:1-4

Sermon

"Understanding Jesus"

Nelle Bordeaux

- * **Hymn No. 77** How Great Thou Art Stuart Hine

Benediction

Nelle Bordeaux

Closing Voluntary

Jupiter Chorale

Gustav Holst

- * *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 cornucopia by the altar today is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mario Delfiaco, brother of Cynthia Willett.

Church Office & Eli's Place Closed

In observance of Thanksgiving, Eli's Place will be closed Monday (11/20) through Friday (11/24), and the church office will be closed starting at noon on Wednesday (11/22) through Friday (11/25).

Care and Share Wants You!

Want to help visit a homebound church member once per month? Please speak with Bonnie Delters, 912-351-0814, Care and Share Committee chairman.

New Member Course Starts Today

Our next New Member Course will be held today, November 19 and 26 at 10:00 a.m., both Sundays, with the class joining as a group on November 26. A stewardship lesson will be held on Wednesday, December 6, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A nursery will be provided at all three sessions. Please call the church office to sign up at 912-232-0191.

The Historic District Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

First Baptist Church of Savannah, 223 Bull Street, will host this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service this Tuesday, November 21, at 7:00 pm. Everyone welcome.

Calling All Advent Decorators!

The Wesley Monumental Altar Guild is in need of additional volunteers to help decorate during the Advent and Christmas season. We have brass to polish, greenery to hang, trees to decorate, and so much more. The transformation of our beautiful sanctuary on December 2 at 9:00 a.m. takes many hands, so if you enjoy decorating or would love to learn more about the Altar Guild, please contact Caroline McDermott, wesleymonumentalaltarguild@gmail.com.

Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary on Friday, December 15, and may be taken home following the last Christmas Eve service. Please place your orders for plants (\$16) in memory or honor of loved ones by Sunday, December 10. Order forms may be found at all sanctuary entrances, or you can order and pay online by visiting www.wesleymonumental.org/poinsettias/

February Mission Trip to Santa Elena Honduras, February 11-18, 2024

A Wesley team will serve with Mission on the Move (MOM) in Santa Elena over St. Valentine's week. In addition to working with the children and providing maintenance support for MOM facilities, we will build houses again with El Camino. The days are peppered with times of reflection, Bible study, and song. While we have some folks skilled at framing buildings, all you need is a loving heart, open mind, and helping hands to be a great team member. Our accommodations are clean and comfortable, the food is good, and we serve in a safe community. Attendees are expected to cover their Delta Airlines ticket, currently running around \$600, and a portion of room and board. **If you are interested in serving, contact Scott Cleaveland at 912-598-8278 by Sunday, December 17.** The absolute cut-off for attendance is January 5. If you have questions about Mission on the Move, speak with Sharlene Monahan, Will Faulk, or Sheila Watts. Rusty Holt and Jake Coakley are well-versed in our home construction with El Camino. Please consider serving, you will be blessed by the experience.

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks
Greeters: Lori Miller, Jeralyn Wilson
Offering Steward: Jeff Miller
Partners in Prayer: Mark Lindsay

11:00 Service

Acolytes: Avery West, Anna Livingood
Children's Worship: Amy Daniel, Sarah Labrot, Courtney Lee, Ashley Wanager
Sunday School: Volunteers Needed
Greeters: Frank Anderson, James Cubbedge
Offering Steward: Jason Pedigo
Ushers: Jason Pedigo, Matt West, Mark Wilcox, Drew Wilkes, Glen Willard, Allen Williams, Jesse Bentley, David Blake
Partners in Prayer: Mickey Rountree

Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Mark your calendar for the annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 10, at 11:00 a.m. This service is over 100 years old. It follows traditional readings from the King James Version of the Bible, starting with the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden read by a young chorister, going through the promise of the coming Messiah, and the birth of Jesus. The readings are interspersed with Christmas carols that bring each scripture to life. Unforgettable is Ms. Camille O'Neill's recitation of the seventh lesson.

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Bible Study Topics

- Young Mothers' Bible Study. Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., in Oliver Hall room 310; nursery provided. Currently studying "Women in the Bible." Verses this week will be about "Delilah," Judges 16:4-31.

Diapers and Baby Girl Clothes Needed

Diapers and baby girl clothes are needed for a Congolese refugee newborn. Please drop off with Nelle.

Help Needed for Hospitalized Children on Christmas Morning

Want to help visit children in the hospital on Christmas morning from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.? Please sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net. Must be age 12 or older to sign up.

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge, Senior Adults and Pastoral Care

Christmas Event

Merry Makers and Wanna-Be Merry Makers are asked to save this date for our annual Christmas gathering on Monday, December 11. We will gather for brunch at 11:00 a.m. at Wesley Gardens Retreat. Our own Claire Frazier will provide the entertainment, and we will be treated to a mini-Christmas bazaar by those who participated in the church-wide bazaar in November. Merry Makers are asked to bring a favorite holiday treat to share. You may sign up by calling the church office or by registering online. Cost is \$7 per person. Questions? Call Carolyn Hale Cubbedge at 912-308-3385.

Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry

4th & 5th Graders

Today, Sunday, November 19, all 4th & 5th graders are invited to sit together in the back balcony for the 11:00 service. After the service we'll quickly change clothes and go to Wesley Gardens Retreat for a picnic lunch. After lunch we will work on cleaning up the grounds and then have time for Gaga ball and the playground. Pick up is from the Baker's Pride parking lot on DeRenne Avenue at 2:00 p.m. Email charli@wesleymonumental.org to let us know you are coming.

Youth Group

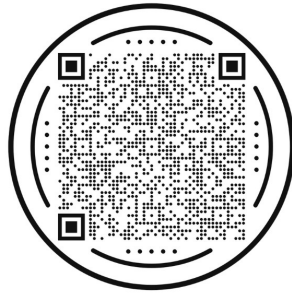
Sundays

- Youth Group will not meet November 19 or November 26 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.
- Youth Choir will meet on November 26 from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. They will be going to dinner after rehearsal.

Upcoming Events

- Join the Youth on December 3 for Youth Mission Night, the Christmas Edition, from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Rev. Nelle Boudreaux and Neilie Dunn will lead the youth in mission projects for Urban Hope and Union Mission. Dinner will be provided. All students 6th-12th grade are invited to attend.
- The Youth Christmas Party will take place December 10 from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at Wesley Gardens Retreat. Tacky Christmas Sweaters are encouraged, and students should plan to bring a gift for the White Elephant Gift Exchange.

Micah Sprünger, Wesley Gardens Property Manager



The Sacred Journey Retreat

A wonderful success in the spring, this retreat at Wesley Gardens is back. The retreat will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 30, and end by lunchtime on Sunday, December 3. We will explore the spiritual journey, new ways to engage in ancient spiritual practices, and experience abundant rest. Your ticket includes ALL MEALS during your stay, lodging, spiritual direction, materials, and a special gift.



Finances (11/12/23):

Total Budget for the Year	\$2,083,655.68
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date	\$1,699,056.77
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date	\$1,853,340.08

A Record of Our Faithfulness

Sunday Attendance: (11/05/23)

8:45 AM Worship	67	Nursery	28
11:00 AM Worship	405	Children's Worship	87
Online Worship Views	166	Sunday School	183
Total Worship	638		

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Ben Martin Senior Pastor
 Rev. Dr. Nelle Boudreaux..... Outreach & New Members
 Rev. Carolyn Hale Cubbedge Senior Adults and Pastoral Care
 Dr. Monica Dekle..... Director of Music & Organist
 Julia Flowers..... Music Assistant
 Charli Weeks..... Director of Children's Ministry
 Jimmy Flowers Church Administrator
 Tom Anderson..... Financial Manager
 Jennifer Baker Administrative Assistant, Reception

Jennifer Brookins..... Administrative Assistant to Pastoral Staff, Media Communications
 Ashley Higgins Communications Director
 Suzanna King Director of Hospitality
 David Lindquist..... Maintenance Tech
 Betty Dudley..... Housekeeper
 Micah Sprünger Wesley Gardens Property Manager
 Ernie Banks Wesley Gardens Groundskeeper/Maintenance
 Christian Swails Wesley Gardens Spiritual Direction/Reservations

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church

November 19, 2023

Sermon Extended

Monday	Genesis 1:1	How does this verse show God's majesty?
Tuesday	Genesis 1:2-4	Where does God bring His light in my life?
Wednesday	John 1:1	How does Jesus bring light to the whole world?
Thursday, Thanksgiving Day	Psalm 100	What blessings has He given?
Friday	John 1:2-5	How does my idea of Jesus need to be bigger?

Sermon Notes

A large empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for handwritten notes.

This Week at Wesley

****Visit wesleymonumental.org/events/ to view the calendar online.****

Sunday, November 19

8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
9:30 AM Coffee, FH
9:45 AM Sunday School, EB & OH
9:45 AM New Member Class, OH 205
10:50 AM 4th/5th Graders, SNC Balcony
11:00 AM Worship Service, SNC
12:00 PM 4th/5th Grade Third Sunday Fun, WG

Monday, November 20

Eli's Place Closed This Week

Tuesday, November 21

9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study & Bible Buddies, OH 310/308
7:00 PM Community Thanksgiving Svc, First Baptist Church, 223 Bull Street

Wednesday, November 22

Church Office Closes at Noon

Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving
Church Office Closed

Friday, November 24

Church Office Closed

Saturday, November 25

11:00 AM Wedding

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

Pastors on Call This Week

Sun, Mon, Wed, Fri
Nelle Bordeaux.....912-234-9245
Tues, Thurs, Sat
Carolyn Cubbedge .912-308-3385

Wednesday Night Supper November 22

No Wednesday Night Supper this week. We hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving and join us again on November 29.

In Sympathy...

The Garcia-Melendez Family
on the death of
Manolo Garcia-Melendez,
husband of Jo Anne Garcia-Melendez

The Cole Family
on the death of
Marjorie Buchanan,
sister of Bebe Cole

In Our Prayers....

Isaiah Benjamin Akrong, Carolyn Donovan, Tim Edwards, Ella Ealy (granddaughter of Carolyn Roth), Roger Lemay, Philip Fritts (brother of Lynn Fritts), Gloria Eitel, Adam Corey, 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), Karen Nickles, Lloyd Chapman, Mary Odom, Richard Zehl, Will Weeks, Mercedes Brenne and Jack Carman (friends of Anne Tyree), Georgia Kate Anderson, Lindsey Goldberg, Mary Hohnerlein (friend of Ken and Deanne Rimes), Heather Neisler, Carlyle Buevas (sister of Madge Edwards), Pat Monahan, 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), 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