



**Celebrating 155 Years 1868 - 2023**

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December 10, 2023

**CHRISTMAS SPECIAL EVENTS AT WESLEY**

**The Joyful Noise Christmas Celebration and Dinner  
Sunday, December 10, 5:00 p.m.**

This evening at 5:00 p.m., our youngest children's choir will present its Christmas program. There will be a dinner following the play; please make a reservation by calling the church office so we will have plenty of food prepared.

**The Children's Nativity Pageant  
Wednesday, December 13, 6:15 p.m.**

One of the highlights of Christmas at Wesley is the Children's Nativity Pageant. It will take place this Wednesday night, December 13, after Wednesday night dinner. The Pageant will feature our children from 1st to 5th grade. They will share with us the Christmas story in drama and carols. Please note, if you plan to eat dinner (and are not on the permanent reservation list) or bring additional guests, please email Jennifer Baker in the church office at [bakerj@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:bakerj@wesleymonumental.org) or call 912-232-0191.

**Christmas Caroling for Our Shut-ins  
Sunday, December 17, 12:30 p.m.**

We will have a light lunch after worship and divide into several groups to go carol for our shut-ins. To sign up, email [monica@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:monica@wesleymonumental.org). Lunch provided. All welcome.

**Christmas Eve Communion Services  
Sunday, December 24**

- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship- message and communion (no 8:45 a.m. service or Sunday school)
- 3:30 p.m. Family Service (child-focused, enjoyed by all ages)
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Service with choral music followed by message and communion

*Ben*

# MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

8:45 A.M.

*Second Sunday of Advent*

## 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.*

## Lighting of the Candles

**Opening Voluntary** Ding Dong! Merrily on High arr. Joel Raney

\* **Hymn No. 250** Once in Royal David's City IRBY

\* **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.

## Lighting of the Hope Candle

Bobby Kutchey III, Xada Baxter,  
Walt Baxter, Meris Baxter, and Winslet Kutchey

## Congregational Response

His name is wonderful, His name is wonderful,  
His name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.  
He is the mighty King, Master of everything,  
His name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.

## 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.*

## 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. 230** O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

**Offertory Prayer** Carolyn Hale Cubbedge

**Offertory Voluntary** Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming arr. Joel Raney

### **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.*

\* **Hymn of Response** DIX

As they offered gifts most rare; At that manger rude and bare;  
So may we, with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ! to Thee our heavenly King.

\* **Scripture** (Pew Bible, pg. 638, 58) Isaiah 9:1-7, Luke 1:78-80, 2:11-14

**Sermon** "The Prince of Peace" Ben Martin

\* **Hymn No. 240** Hark! the Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

**Benediction** Ben Martin

**Closing Voluntary** Adeste, Fidelis Garth Edmundson

\* *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 Sally M'Liss Williams, who in her walk of faith forever inspired all who knew her.

### **Usher Roses**

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

### **Stewardship Update**

Thank you to everyone who has turned in your estimate of giving cards for 2024. As of December 6, we have received 122 cards totaling \$937,506 in estimated giving for 2024. That compares to 114 cards totaling \$783,247 in commitments for 2023. You can return the cards to the office in person or by mail, or fill it out online on our website.

### **Messenger Brigade**

The Messenger Brigade will meet this Thursday, December 14 at 10:00 a.m. in Oliver Hall Room 205.

### **Poinsettia Orders - Last Chance to Order - Deadline is Today!**

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 today, 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/](http://www.wesleymonumental.org/poinsettias/)

### **December Administrative Board Meeting**

The Admin Board will meet tomorrow, Monday, December 11 at 5:30 p.m. in the Choir Room (EB 4th Floor) and via Zoom. The main topic of the meeting will be to approve the 2024 budget. If you are a Board member and did not receive the Zoom link and agenda emailed to the Board on Friday, December 8, please email [jennifer@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:jennifer@wesleymonumental.org).

### **Guest Speaker-Rabbi Haas**

On December 17 at 9:45 a.m., Rabbi Robert Haas, spiritual leader of Congregation Mickve Israel, will be the Ivy Class's guest speaker in the Fellowship Hall. He will share his insight on the current situation in the Middle East. All adult and youth Sunday school classes are invited.

### **A Year-End Reminder**

All 2023 contributions to the church must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2023 in order to comply with IRS regulations regarding charitable deductions.

### **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.

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

**Children's Worship:** Charli Weeks

**Greeters:** Linda Butler, Ann Croft

**Offering Steward:** David Butler

**Partners in Prayer:** Anne Thompson

### **11:00 Service**

**Acolytes:** Ansley Pedigo, Marshall Pedigo

**Children's Worship:** Hannah Conger, Sarah Labrot, Stephanie Parker, Erica Timmons

**Sunday School:** Erica Timmons

**Greeters:** James Cubbedge, Barbara & Johnny Phelps

**Offering Steward:** Brian West

**Ushers:** Jason Pedigo, Bob Cole, Sam Daniel, Peter Delves,

Michael Donovan, Greg Dotson, Justin Dunn, Tim Edwards, David Gaskin

**Partners in Prayer:** Grace & Art Greene

### **Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist**

#### **Caroling with the Choir**

Join the Youth and Chancel Choirs caroling and giving communion to shut-ins next Sunday, December 17 after church. To sign up, email [monica@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:monica@wesleymonumental.org). Lunch provided. All welcome.

### **Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members**

#### **Urban Hope Christmas Supper**

Tomorrow, Monday, December 11 at 5:30 p.m. Dishes needed are: ham, macaroni and cheese, green beans, sweet potato casserole, rolls, lemonade, cut fruit, salad, cookies, paper plates, cups, plastic cutlery, and napkins. Sign up with Nelle at [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net)

#### **Coats Needed**

New or gently used coats are needed for refugee families, especially women's small or medium and men's medium or large sizes. Please bring to Oliver Hall lobby bin.

#### **Grocery Packing Party**

Help sack groceries on Monday, December 18, from 11:00 a.m. to noon in the Oliver Hall foyer. Sign up with Nelle, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net).

#### **The 2023 Christmas Offering - Addressing Hunger**

According to Healthy Savannah, a nonprofit focused on poverty - in the fall of 2023 - 17.6% of all residents and 21.8% of children in Chatham County are food insecure. If in doubt, check out the line of cars every Friday morning at the intersection of Harmon and Anderson. As a response, our 2023 Christmas offering will be used to fund dynamic food programs that are feeding those most in need. The funds received in this Christmas offering will be divided among PACK, who feed children while out of school, Old Savannah City Mission, who feed the homeless, and Fellowship of Love, who feed families and shut-ins. Each organization provides food directly to those in need with minimal overhead and partnership with Second Harvest. If you have any questions or would like to serve more directly, contact Rev. Nelle Bordeaux.

#### **Christmas Morning Visit to Hospitalized Children**

Please sign up with Nelle, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net), to visit children from 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. on Christmas Day. Ages 12 and older.

#### **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 Ichabod's mother, Michal, and Abigail, 1 Samuel 4, 14, 18, 19, 25.
- Thursday Noon Bible Study via Zoom. Thursdays from noon - 12:30 p.m. Verses this week will be Hosea, chapter 5. Sign up for either study with Nelle, [tbordeaux@prodigy.net](mailto:tbordeaux@prodigy.net).

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

#### **Christmas Presentations**

The Joyful Noise Choir children will present their Christmas Celebration Program, tonight, Sunday, December 10 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

The children's Nativity Pageant will be presented in the sanctuary following Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, December 13 at 6:15 p.m. Please note, if you are not on the permanent reservation list, or you plan to bring additional guests to dinner this Wednesday, please email Jennifer Baker in the church office, [bakerj@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:bakerj@wesleymonumental.org) or call 912-232-0191.

**Youth Group**

**Youth Christmas Party**

Tonight will be the Youth Christmas Party at Wesley Gardens Retreat from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Tacky Christmas attire is encouraged, and the best outfit will win a prize! We will also do a White Elephant Gift Exchange. All students 6th-12th grade are welcome to attend.

**Ice Skating Fun with Skip and Sheila on December 16!**

Do you like fun? Do you like Skip and Sheila? Join us for ice skating on December 16. We will meet at Wesley Monumental at 1:15 pm and travel to the Civic Center as a group. Students will need \$12 for admission and \$2 for skate rental.

**Micah Sprünger, Wesley Gardens Property Manager**

**Fourth Friday Retreat - Friday, December 15**

Due to falling close to Christmas, this month's Fourth Friday Retreat will be on the THIRD FRIDAY. This liturgically-based retreat sets apart space and time for quiet, solitude, and reflection on Holy Scripture. We'll share a 9:00 a.m. start in the chapel (8:30 a.m. for those who'd like a cup of coffee/tea in the gazebo next to the chapel) and a 1:00 p.m. end. There's no cost or retreat experience necessary. Feel free to bring a lunch or snack. All weary souls welcome. For questions and further details, email hello@wesleygardensretreat.com.

**Carolyn Hale Cubbedge, Senior Adults and Pastoral Care**

**Merry Makers Christmas Event**

Tomorrow, 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. Cost is \$7 per person. Please let Carolyn Hale Cubbedge know today if you plan to attend.

**Veterans Day Breakfast Video**

The November 11 Veterans Day Breakfast program featuring Army Ranger Ryan Davis can now be viewed on the Wesley Monumental YouTube page.



**Finances (12/03/23):**

Total Budget for the Year .....	\$2,083,655.68
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date .....	\$1,805,455.69
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date .....	\$1,958,483.99

**A Record of Our Faithfulness**

Sunday Attendance: (12/3/23)

8:45 AM Worship	88	Nursery	15
11:00 AM Worship	371	Children's Worship	59
Online Worship Views	140	Sunday School	133
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>599</b>		

**CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Dr. Ben Martin ..... Senior Pastor  
 Rev. Dr. Nelle Bordeaux ..... 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  
December 10, 2023**

**Sermon Notes**

## This Week at Wesley

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

### Sunday, December 10

8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC  
9:30 AM Coffee, FH  
9:45 AM Sunday School, EB & OH  
10:00 AM New Member Class, OH 205  
11:00 AM Lessons & Carols, SNC  
12:15 PM Lunch with Youth, FH  
5:00 PM Youth Christmas Party, WG  
5:00 PM Joyful Noise Christmas Celebration, SNC

### Monday, December 11

9:00 AM Eli's Place  
11:00 AM Merry Makers Event, WG  
5:30 PM Administrative Board Mtg,  
Choir Room/Zoom  
5:30 PM Nativity Pageant Dress  
Rehearsal, FH/SNC  
5:30 PM Urban Hope Supper,  
Independent Presbyterian

### Tuesday, December 12

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  
5:30 PM Missions Comm. Mtg, Zoom  
5:30 PM Trustees Mtg, OH 310

### Wednesday, December 13

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  
6:15 PM Nativity Pageant, SNC  
7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, EB 4th Flr

### Thursday, December 14

9:00 AM Eli's Place  
10:00 AM Messenger Brigade, OH 205  
12:00 PM Bible Study w/Nelle, Zoom  
5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal, SNC

### Friday, December 15

9:00 AM Eli's Place  
4:00 PM Wedding, SNC  
Reception, FH

### Saturday, December 16

1:15 PM Fun with Skip & Sheila,  
Youth Meet at Wesley, Then  
Go to Civic Center

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

### Pastors on Call This Week

All days except Wednesdays  
Ben Martin.....912-547-1835  
Wednesdays  
Nelle Bordeaux .....912-234-9245

### **Wednesday Night Supper December 13**

Menu: Baked Ziti

## In Our Prayers....

Elaine Singletary, Gail Brannen, Jason Horton, Kevin Wilson, Archie Davis, Isaiah Benjamin Akrong (nephew of Deanna Sorrells), 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 Buelvas (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 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 (grand-daughter 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