



Celebrating 156 Years 1868 - 2024

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January 7, 2024

A NEW YEAR WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES

2024 is already a week old, and life is returning to whatever normal is after the Christmas holiday season. This week, we will be returning to our full "weekday" routine here at Wesley. Our Wednesday Night program will restart with several new adult Bible study opportunities. Remember to make a reservation for dinner. You can make a standing reservation, pay for a whole semester, and make Wednesday night a more "convenient" commitment. Mid-week is not always easy, but it is always worth it for a good meal, fellowship, and some spiritual nourishment between Sundays. We hope you will join us. In the next several weeks, we will begin our Education Building Renovation and move the dinner portion of our Wednesday night program to the fellowship hall of Mickve Israel Synagogue next door. We will get you more information about the schedule as we get closer to our start date.

Wednesday Nights

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 4:45-5:15 p.m. | Call to Prayer, Oliver Hall Parlor |
| 5:30-6:00 p.m. | Dinner, Fellowship Hall |
| 6:00 p.m. | Children's Choir and Joyful Noise Choir
Youth Small Groups
Women's Small Group,
led by Katie Knight
Letters of John Bible Study,
led by Carolyn Hale Cubbedge
Exodus Bible Study,
led by Ben Martin
Conclusion of "The Universal Christ" Study,
led by Christian Swails |
| 7:15 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |

Don't forget our other mid-week offerings:

Tuesdays

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. | Men's Breakfast Bible Study with Ben Martin,
(Sunnyside Up - 800 E Derenne Ave) |
| 9:00 a.m. | Young Mothers' Bible Study and Bible Buddies
with Nelle Bordeaux (Oliver Hall room 310) |

Wednesdays

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 11:00 a.m. | Wednesday Morning Bible Study with Ben Martin,
(Oliver Hall room 310) |
|------------|--|

Thursdays

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 12:00 p.m. | Noontime Bible Study with Nelle Bordeaux,
(via Zoom) |
|------------|---|

Also, starting January 14, our Sunday afternoon Spiritual Practices Gathering will relaunch at Wesley Gardens Retreat led by our Director of Spiritual Formation, Christian Swails.

MORNING WORSHIP
SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024
8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
Epiphany Sunday

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) Jude Durkin

Lighting of the Candles

Opening Voluntary In Dulci Jubilo arr. Norman Dello Joio

Introit (11:00) One Small Star
Willa James Coley, soprano

* **Hymn No. 254** We Three Kings KINGS OF ORIENT

* **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.

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 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. 228** He Is Born IL EST NÉ

Offertory Prayer

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge

Offertory Voluntary (8:45) Joy to the World arr. Joseph Martin**Offertory Anthem** (11:00) The Shepherds' Farewell Hector Berlioz

Thou must leave Thy lowly dwelling,
 The humble crib, the stable bare.
 Babe, all mortal babes excelling,
 Content our earthly lot to share.
 Loving father, Loving mother,
 Shelter Thee with tender care!

Blessed Jesus, we implore Thee
 With humble love and holy fear.
 In the land that lies before Thee,
 Forget not us who linger here!
 May the shepherd's lowly calling,
 Ever to Thy heart be dear!

Blest are ye beyond all measure,
 Thou happy father, mother mild!
 Guard ye well your heav'nly treasure,
 The Prince of Peace, The Holy Child!
 God go with you, God protect you,
 Guide you safely through the wild!

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, NT, pg. 44-45) Mark 9:1-29

Sermon "Back to Basics Part 20: Help My Unbelief" Ben Martin

* **Hymn No. 249** There's a Song in the Air CHRISTMAS SONG

Benediction Ben Martin

Closing Response (11:00) The Work of Christmas arr. Dan Forrest

When the song of the angels is stilled.
 When the star in the sky is gone.
 When the kings and princes are home.
 When the shepherds are back with their flock.
 The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost, to heal the broken,
 to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,
 to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among brothers,
 to make music in the heart.

- Howard Thurman (1973)

Closing Voluntary Finale from Symphony No. 1 Louis Vierne

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

Congratulations to Mary Catherine and Chandler Holloway on the birth of a boy, Robert Finnerty Holloway, on December 29, 2023. A rose is by the altar today in honor of Robert.

New Year, New Studies for Adults!

◆ **Sunday Morning Sunday School**

* Today, Sunday, January 7, join the Connect Sunday School Class at 9:45 a.m. in Oliver Hall room 207 as they begin a new book study on Sandra L. Richter's *The Epic of Eden: Jonah*. "In this book, Dr. Sandra Richter will take us on a journey through Jonah's life that leads us all to the place where we realize that our God is way bigger than we thought. Not only will we learn everything we ever wanted to know about the brutal Assyrians of Nineveh, ancient seafaring ships, and large aquatic creatures, but we will also be challenged with the same message that confronted Jonah. Are we willing to let God be God, to move us out of our comfort zones, and embrace a calling that might just take us to the edges of the world we know?" Everyone welcome.

◆ **Wednesday Night Bible Studies - Starts This Wednesday, January 10**

- * Bible Study on the Letters of John (7 week study)- Carolyn Cubbedge
- * Bible Study on Exodus- Ben Martin
- * Women's Small Group- Katie Knight
- * Last half of the Book Study on The Universal Christ- Christian Swails

Grocery Items for Old Savannah City Mission

Most needed this week are canned fruit and rice. Please place donations in marked boxes in the Wayne/Gordon Street foyers and Oliver Hall.

Meals Needed

Family Promise needs cooks to prepare a meal at home January 14-20 to deliver at 5:30 p.m. to White Bluff Presbyterian Church. If you would like to provide a meal, please sign up with Nelle at tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Spanky's Box Lunch Benefiting the Kids of Mission on the Move

On Sunday, January 21, following 11:00 worship, join us in the Fellowship Hall for a box lunch of chicken fingers in support of our mission team heading to Santa Elena, Honduras, in February. Spanky's is donating the lunches, and 100% of your donation will go to the Mission on the Move children. The Wesley mission team will speak about their exciting upcoming mission trip after lunch. Reserve your box lunch (\$10 per box) by emailing tbordeaux@prodigy.net by Wednesday, January 17.

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks

Greeters: TBD

Offering Steward: Jeff Miller

Partners in Prayer: Charlie Clarke

11:00 Service

Acolytes: Cole Valdez, Christopher Butler

Children's Worship: Volunteers Needed

Sunday School: Volunteers Needed

Greeters: TBD

Offering Steward: Brian West

Ushers: Brian West, Mehmet Ergul, Ted Moore, Jim Pannell, Jon Pannell, Johnny Phelps, Willie Roberds, Ken Spriggs

Partners in Prayer: Mickey Rountree

Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist

Children's Choir

We can't wait for children's choir to resume on Wednesday, January 10! All 1st-5th graders are welcome. We learn scripture and music-reading through traditional hymns and Bible songs. We look forward to the annual Easter play! We'll also be singing for Palm Sunday, our mothers on Mother's Day, and we'll be leading worship several other times. The Awards Ceremony on May 8 is our grand finale! (P.S. Ms. Charli's Joyful Noise Choir for three-year-olds through Kindergarteners also resumes January 10). "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him." – Psalm 127:3

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Bible Studies

- Young Mothers' Bible Study will resume this Tuesday, January 9, with a lesson on "Bathsheba," 2 Samuel 11:1-27; 12:1-25; 23:39, 1 Kings 1:11-31; 2:13-19; 1 Chronicles 3:5; Psalm 51; Matthew 1:6. Join us from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. in Oliver Hall room 310; nursery provided.
- Thursday Noon Bible Study via Zoom resumes this Thursday, January 11, from noon to 12:30 p.m. with a lesson on Hosea, chapter 7. Questions or to sign up, please email Nelle at tbordeaux@prodigy.net

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge, Senior Adults and Pastoral Care

January Merry Makers - Tomorrow!

Army Captain Paden Sickles will speak at the January 8 Merry Makers meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Captain Sickles, an engineer, has just completed nearly a decade of service in the US Army. Her transition into civilian life included the formation of SickFit, a unique sock, streetwear, and custom embroidery company encouraging fashion, conversation, comfort, and empowerment.

Sickles says that SickFit was started on a hot summer day in Texas after she completed a 12-mile ruck march for Air Assault School, and her feet were destroyed. It was then that she knew that boot socks and performance socks lacked quality, innovation, and design. At that point, she pledged to do better for our service members and their families.

Captain Sickles recently competed in the Second Service Foundation's national Military Entrepreneur Challenge, where she got to pitch her business to a private panel of judges. She ended the competition in second place and received \$6,000 in start-up capital and \$25,000 pro-bono legal services, which she will utilize to scale her business to the next level while protecting her brand with risk management.

Paden is a Kentucky girl who grew up near Louisville. She has a contagious and winsome personality. She will so captivate her audience that Merry Makers may decide to enlist in the Army--or at least begin wearing different socks! Let Carolyn know today if you plan to attend. Cost is \$7 for lunch. The meeting starts at 11:00 a.m.

Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry

As you begin to make plans for summer camps and vacations, be sure to reserve these weeks for Vacation Bible School and Summer Fun Daze.

- June 3 - 7 Vacation Bible School from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon for children 3 years old - 5th grade
- July 15 - 19 Summer Fun Daze from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. for children who have completed Kindergarten - 3rd grade

Registration for both events will open January 15.

Youth Group

Youth Minister Candidate

All youth are invited to join us this morning at 9:45 a.m. for Sunday school and to meet the youth minister candidate who will also teach the Sunday school lesson.

Youth Local Mission Night

Join us this evening from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. to sort NICU baby items. Please bring baby items such as size 2 diapers.

Micah Sprünger, Wesley Gardens Property Manager

Volunteers Needed in 2024

Would you enjoy gardening in a quiet and prayerful environment? Individual or group volunteers are needed to help maintain the grounds. Tasks include removing Spanish moss from shrubs, weeding, trimming azaleas, and keeping the marsh edge clean. Email micah@wesleygardensretreat.com for details.

Christian Swails, Wesley Gardens Spiritual Director

Spiritual Direction

Spiritual Direction is an ancient, Christian art form dating back to the desert mothers and fathers from the 3rd century AD. It is a practice of holy listening with a trained director to name and notice the big questions you are holding and the stuck places with God, yourself, and others. A place to feel the pain, disappointment, curiosity, and honesty inside of your spiritual journey. It's a non-judgmental space to explore the deeper questions of the soul and get to the things you don't have the ability to in the frantic pace of life. There is no agenda, just a non-anxious presence listening you into the places that have been hidden for a while and meeting God there.



Wesley Monumental is now offering our members an opportunity to meet 1-on-1 with Christian Swails, MA, a trained Spiritual Director with a Masters Degree in Spiritual Formation, to see if this is a good fit for you in this season. If you would like to learn more about this ancient practice, you can set up a meeting with Christian at Wesley Gardens by following the QR code.

Weekly Spiritual Practices Gathering - Starting January 14

Starting Sunday, January 14, we will relaunch our weekly spiritual practices gathering at Wesley Gardens Retreat. For anyone interested in engaging their heart in deeper transformation and those looking for tools to walk out their faith, join Christian Swails from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome, and feel free to bring a friend!

Finances (12/24/23):

Total Budget for the Year	\$2,083,655.68
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date	\$2,109,872.10
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date	\$2,091,077.56

A Record of Our Faithfulness

Sunday Attendance: (12/31/23)

8:45 AM Worship	106	Nursery	10
11:00 AM Worship	222	Children's Worship	19
Online Worship Views	139	Sunday School	4
Total Worship	467		

CHURCH STAFF

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

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
January 7, 2024

Sermon Extended

Monday	Mark 9:14-19	Do I ever feel like my faith is failing me?
Tuesday	Mark 9:15-27	Pray the father's prayer every day this week, "I believe, help my unbelief."
Wednesday	Mark 9:28-29	What do prayer and faith have to do with each other?
Thursday	Hebrews 11	What do we learn about faith here?
Friday	John 14:1-7, Galatians 2:15-16	(see footnotes Faith "in" or Faith "of") What is the difference between having the faith of Jesus and faith in Jesus?

Sermon Notes

This Week at Wesley

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

Sunday, January 7

8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
9:30 AM Coffee, FH
9:45 AM Sunday School, EB & OH
11:00 AM Worship Service, SNC
5:00 PM Youth Group, FH

Monday, January 8

9:00 AM Eli's Place
9:30 AM Eli's Place Chapel

Tuesday, January 9

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Sunny Side Up
9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study, OH 310
9:00 AM Bible Buddies, OH 308
11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 310

Wednesday, January 10

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 & OH
6:00 PM Youth Bible Studies, EB 4th Flr
6:00 PM Exodus Bible Study,
Led by Ben, FH
6:00 PM Letters of John Bible Study,
Led by Carolyn
6:00 PM The Universal Christ Study,
Led by Christian
6:00 PM Women's Small Group,
Led by Katie, OH Parlor
7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, EB 4th Flr

Thursday, January 11

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

Friday, January 12

9:00 AM Eli's Place
5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal, SNC

Saturday, January 13

4:00 PM Wedding, SNC

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

January 10

Menu: Chicken Cacciatore

In Sympathy....

The Miller Family
on the death of *Keith P. Gunn*,
father of Lori Miller

The Odom Family
on the death of *Linda Odom*,
mother of Mike Odom

In Our Prayers....

Danielle Robertson, Camille Searcy, Roger Lemay, Gail Brannen, Jason Horton, Kevin Wilson, Archie Davis, Isaiah Benjamin Akrong (nephew of Deanna Sorrells), Tim Edwards, Ella Ealy (granddaughter of Carolyn Roth), 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, 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 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