



Celebrating 156 Years 1868 - 2024

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

January 14, 2024

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON SPIRITUAL PRACTICES
AT WESLEY GARDENS RETREAT**

Last Sunday, in my sermon about the man who said to Jesus, "I believe, help my unbelief," I suggested that maybe we should be praying for more faith. Maybe instead of always praying for the outcome, we should be praying for the input. The man had faith, but he was asking Jesus to give him a reason to have more faith. To pray such a prayer is risky. What would happen to me if God gave me a personal experience that increased my faith? How might it affect my life? I suggested that maybe in 2024, we should pray that prayer every day, "I believe, help my unbelief." But praying the prayer may not be so effective if I don't find ways to be with God in an intentional way to receive such an experience. So, I also suggested that in addition to praying the prayer, we should find ways to spend some time paying attention to God.

We want to offer you an opportunity for that kind of focused attention. Beginning this afternoon, at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons at Wesley Gardens Retreat, Christian Swails, our Director of Spiritual Formation, will offer a time of guided Spiritual practices. A large part of Spiritual Formation is creating space in our busy, crowded lives to encounter God. Christian is inviting us in the tradition of Jesus and his disciples to "come away to quiet place". There, he will "hold some space" with us where we can pay attention to what God might want to show us that will help us grow the faith of Jesus, faith grounded in personal experience, an encounter with the Word, the creation, and the fellowship of fellow faith seekers.

We hope you will consider risking this kind of a spiritual journey. We may be surprised at how God answers our prayer for more faith.

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024

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

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Dr. Sinisa Ciric, violin
Ricardo Ochoa, violin
Marsha Krantz, viola
Michael Carp, timpani
11:00 musicians

Dr. Leah Dutton, cello
Harmon Shinall, double bass
Raymond Patricio, bassoon

Opening Voluntary Carillon de Westminster Louis Vierne

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

Chiming of the Hour (11:00) Abbott Scoggins

Introit (11:00) Glorious Is Thy Church Warren Angell
Glorious is Thy Church, O Lord, greatly to be praised.
We come to Thee in adoration for the Church's one foundation.

* **Hymn** No. 139 LOBE DEN HERREN
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

* **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** 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 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. 141 Children of the Heavenly Father Swedish Melody

Offertory Prayer Nelle Bordeaux

Offertory Voluntary (8:45) How Great Thou Art arr. Bruce Greer

Offertory Anthem (11:00) Carolyn Jennings

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain

Climb to the top of the highest mountain,
joyous tidings proclaim to the world.
Lift up your voice, shout the good news:
behold, your Lord comes to you.
He will feed His flock like a shepherd.
He will carry the lambs in His arms.
He will ever keep them safe from harm.
Behold, your Lord comes to you.
He who made the stars in the heaven,
He who fashioned the earth and the sea,
From time eternal He was God, the Alpha and Omega, He.
Behold, your Lord!
He will come in power and glory.
He will rule with mercy and truth:
Hope of the nations, light of all the world.
He will love the little children.
He will hold them in His arms.
Love Him and trust Him as a little child.
Behold, your Lord comes to you.

- Adapted from Isaiah 40

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, NT, pg. 45) Mark 9:30-37

Sermon "Back to Basics Part 21: Plausible Deniability" Ben Martin

- * **Hymn** No. 126 MIT FREUDEN ZART
Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Benediction Ben Martin

Closing Response (11:00) Buryl Red

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

Closing Voluntary Carillon-Sortie Henri Mulet

- * *Please stand as you are able.*
Following the service, please take your bulletins, masks, and all belongings with you.
All music reprinted under OneLicense.net No. A-719387 and CCLI No. 11046193.

Altar Flowers

The flowers by the altar today are given to the glory of God and in honor of the wedding of Nan Spacek and Austin Simpson who were married in the sanctuary on January 13, 2024. The flowers are also given in honor of Mrs. William P. Bland, Jr. and in memory of Major General William P. Bland, Jr., grandparents of Nan.

Usher Roses

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

Church Office and Eli's Place Closed

The Church Office and Eli's Place will be closed tomorrow, Monday, January 15 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr., Day.

Washer/Dryer Needed

We are in need of a gently used washer/dryer for a local family. Please email jennifer@wesleymonumental.org if you can help.

Children's Ministry Assistant Position

We are hiring a full-time Children's Ministry Assistant! This person will work closely with Charli Weeks to serve both Wesley Monumental children and our Eli's Place friends. This individual must be comfortable planning lessons and activities, leading Sunday School and Children's Worship, and contributing new ideas to help us improve our existing programs. If you, or someone you know, has a teacher's heart, a collaborative spirit, and a love for Jesus and children, please review the full job description online, then follow the instructions there to apply. For job description visit, bit.ly/WMChildrensMinistryAssistant

Messenger Deadline

The deadline for the February Monumental Messenger (our monthly newsletter) is tomorrow, Monday, January 15. If you have an announcement you would like to submit, please send to jennifer@wesleymonumental.org.

Spanky's Box Lunch - See Tear Off on Insert and Order Today!

Please help support providing Christian books and materials for distribution to children during Wesley Monumental's 2024 mission to Santa Elena, Honduras, February 11-18, by buying a boxed lunch (chicken fingers, spuds) for only \$10. The mission team of 14 will be returning for a children's ministry (140 in after-school Vacation Bible School and 12 wards in Oaks of Righteousness and Vacation Bible School in the Bordo, San Pedro Sula) and a construction ministry (to build three tiny houses). The lunches, which will be prepared fresh and donated by Spanky's Restaurant (River Street), will be ready for pick up at noon after the 11:00 worship service on January 21 in the Fellowship Hall, or join us for a meal together in the Fellowship Hall to learn more about Wesley Monumental's international mission outreach. If you want to support the mission but don't want a boxed lunch, please consider contributing to the Mission Committee or buying and donating a meal for delivery to Union Mission.

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: Addison Conger, Camille Wilkes

Children's Worship: Katy Eichholz, Sarah Labrot, Allison Willis

Sunday School: Volunteers Needed

Greeters: Barbara & Johnny Phelps

Offering Steward: Jason Pedigo

Ushers: Jason Pedigo, Tom Bordeaux, Fred Bozeman, Chandler Brannen, Doug Carroll, Christopher Cay, Jake Coakley, Jerry Cohn, Bob Cole

Partners in Prayer: Sue Ellis

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Mission Committee Meeting Today

The Mission Committee will meet today, Sunday, January 14, in the Oliver Hall Parlor at 12:15 p.m.

Family Promise Homeless Family Ministry This Week, January 14-21

Please pray for the homeless children and parents for whom the church will provide supper every night this week. Peggy Jolley leads this ministry.

New Member Course Starts Next Sunday

The course will meet on Sundays, January 21 and 28, at 10:00 a.m. both Sundays, with the class joining as a group on Sunday, January 28. Nursery provided. To sign up, please call the church office at 912-232-0191 or email Nelle at tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Grocery Items for Old Savannah City Mission

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

Y'All Haul

If you would like to help move furniture from church members' homes for refugee families, email Nelle at tbordeaux@prodigy.net. Trucks and strong backs needed. Flexible schedule.

Bible Studies

- Young Mothers' Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in Oliver Hall room 310; nursery provided. Currently study "Women in the Bible." This week's lesson will be about "Two Mothers of Solomon's Time and the Queen of Sheba," 1 Kings 3:16-28 and 1 Kings 10:1-13; 2 Chronicles 9:1-12; Matthew 12:42; and Luke 11:31.
- Thursday Noon Bible Study meets Thursdays from noon to 12:30 p.m. via Zoom. Currently studying Hosea, chapter 8. Questions or to sign up, please email Nelle at tbordeaux@prodigy.net

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge, Senior Adults and Pastoral Care

Cookies Needed!

The city of Savannah will hold a renaming ceremony for Taylor Square on Saturday, February 10, at 11:00 am. Wesley has been asked to provide light refreshments for the event. If you would be willing to provide some cookies, please complete the attached form or call the church office. You may bake any kind of cookie as long as it does not have nuts. Cookies should be packaged two to a snack bag and be dropped off at the church by Friday, February 9.

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 tomorrow, Monday, January 15.

Youth Group (6th-12th Grade)

Sunday, January 14

There will be no youth group this evening. Youth group and youth choir will resume next Sunday, January 21.

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 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!

A Record of Our Faithfulness

Sunday Attendance: (01/07/24)

8:45 AM Worship	XXX	Nursery	20
11:00 AM Worship	425	Children's Worship	54
Online Worship Views	131	Sunday School	24
Total Worship	XXX		

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 14, 2024

Sermon Extended

Monday	Mark 9:30-32	What do I not understand about God? Have I asked to show or explain it to me?
Tuesday	Mark 9:33-34	Where do I see in myself a desire for power, prosperity, popularity, position, or prominence?
Wednesday	Psalms 139	Are there things I am ashamed that Jesus knows about me? Should I be?
Thursday	Mark 9:35	Memorize this verse
Friday	Mark 9:36-37	Where are the places I might be able to “welcome God”?

Sermon Notes

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

This Week at Wesley

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

Sunday, January 14

8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
9:30 AM Coffee, FH
9:45 AM Sunday School, EB & OH
9:45 AM Confirmation Class, OH 205
11:00 AM Worship Service, SNC
12:15 PM Mission Committee Mtg, OH Parlor
4:00 PM Spiritual Direction, WGR

Monday, January 15

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Church Office & Eli's Place Closed

Tuesday, January 16

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 17

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, OH
6:00 PM The Universal Christ Study,
Led by Christian, OH 310
6:00 PM Women's Small Group,
Led by Katie, OH Parlor
7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, EB 4th Flr

Thursday, January 18

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

Friday, January 19

9:00 AM Eli's Place

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 17

Menu: Teriyaki Pork

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....

Ann Lytle, Monica Cleaveland, Emily Davis, Emery Warnock, Penny Harper, Danielle Robertson, Camille Searcy, Roger Lemay, Jason Horton, Kevin Wilson, Archie Davis, Ella Ealy (granddaughter of Carolyn Roth), Philip Fritts (brother of Lynn Fritts), Adam Corey, Saddle Kurtz (aunt of Dan Kurtz), Tommy and Harriett Gattis (parents of Clayton Gattis), Dolly Caylor (mother of Rhonda Radcliff), Sharon & Terry Knepper (parents of Holly Conger), Karen Nickles, Lloyd Chapman, Richard Zehl, Will Weeks, Georgia Kate Anderson, Lindsey Goldberg, Mary Hohnerlein (friend of Ken & Deanne Rimes), Heather Neisler, Carlyle Buelvas (sister of Madge Edwards), Pat Monahan, McCarthy Family, Byron Rogers, Katie Adrian, John Birkheimer, Eleanor McCurry, Lynn & Dan Kurtz, 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), Connie Kurtz (mother of Dan Kurtz), Ashley Post, Angela Chancey (niece of Cynthia Willett), Ken Brownfield, Shari & Mel Hubbard, Cindy & Oscar Cook, Doris Rothenberger (mother of Susan Colgrove), Suzette Parker, Tim Mooney, Dale & 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 Stuenckel, Mark Thomas, Cindy Telljohann, Lois Wooten

Military Serving Abroad/Stateside

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

Chicken/Cookie Sign Up

Please complete and place in the offering plate
or return to the church office.

Name _____

Phone _____

Spanky's Chicken Fingers and Spuds

Yes, I want to help provide Christian books and materials for children when Wesley Monumental's mission team travels to Santa Elena, Honduras.



The boxed lunches from Spanky's (River Street) will cost \$10 and will be ready for pick up on January 21 at noon after the 11:00 worship service, or I can also eat with my family in the Fellowship Hall and learn more about Wesley Monumental's international mission outreach.

Please complete this form and place in the offering plate. If you want to support the mission but don't want a boxed lunch, please consider making a contribution to the Mission Committee, or buying and donating a meal for delivery to Union Mission.

Number of boxed lunches _____

Or, I will contribute my boxed lunch (lunches) to the Parker's Home for Women at Union Mission _____



Cookies Needed for Taylor Square Renaming Ceremony

The city of Savannah will hold a renaming ceremony for Taylor Square on Saturday, February 10, at 11:00 a.m. Wesley has been asked to provide light refreshments for the event. If you would be willing to provide some cookies, please complete this form and place in the offering plate or call the church office.

- You may bake any kind of cookie as long as it does not have nuts.
- Please package two to a snack bag .
- Cookies should be dropped off at the church by Friday, February 9.

Yes, I will provide _____ dozen cookies.

Thank you for your support!