

March  
2024

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wesleymonumental.org

# THE MONUMENTAL MESSENGER



## Life at Wesley



Children's Choir and Joyful Noise Choir lead worship on February 11.



Youth Super Bowl Party!



The Merry Makers enjoy a fun Valentine's luncheon held in the Parlor of Oliver Hall.



14 participants went on a mission trip to Santa Elena, Honduras, from Feb. 11-18, and they built three houses and led a Bible school for children.



## From Ben's Desk

Ben Martin, Senior Pastor  
912-232-0191, Ext. 216, [ben@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:ben@wesleymonumental.org)



## Renovation Begins

A complete list of room changes may be found on the next page. →

This month, our long-anticipated renovation of the Education Building will get started. Of course, that means moving everything out of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors and figuring out where everything and everyone will go for the next six to nine months. Many thanks to Charli, Monica, and Jimmy, who have worked tirelessly to find a way to keep all our ministries going in a lot less space. The youth will be moving to the 4th Floor of Oliver Hall. Eli's Place will be utilizing space in the breakout rooms of the Fellowship Hall and sharing some space with adult classrooms on the 3rd floor of Oliver Hall. The Alpha Class will begin meeting in the multi-purpose room in the Fellowship Hall. Children's Worship will move downstairs to the largest area of the Fellowship Hall. On Wednesday nights, the adults will eat dinner at Mickve Israel. And so on..... At any rate, you can see this will take a lot of weekly work of changing out rooms and a lot of patience and understanding from our congregation as we navigate the challenges of this project. When done, we will have safer, healthier, and better-equipped space to house our children, youth, and music programs. This renovation is the last part of a 15-year journey in renovating our church plant and preparing it for the future.

We cannot thank everyone enough for your generous financial commitments to the project. However, we still have a long way to go to meet the need. One thing we were not anticipating was a renovation of the Education Building elevator. But as most of you know, it has been a constant problem since a lightning strike last July damaged the control system. This repair will add about \$250,000 to the project. If you haven't yet made a commitment, please consider doing so. Every gift is important, and no gift is too small (or too large). If you've already made a commitment and you get an unexpected blessing, would you consider sharing some for this project?

Oh, and by the way, let's not forget that in the middle of all this "brick and mortar" stuff is Lent, and we are on the way to Jerusalem with Jesus. This, too, is a season of spiritual renovation as we practice some self-discipline, fasting, praying, and self-examination in preparing ourselves for the resurrection to new life.



## Youth Ministry

Hello All. Your friendly neighborhood Youth Committee Chair Sheila Watts here. February brought the annual youth ski trip. Wesley sent 27 students and seven chaperones to Winterplace, WV. This trip would not have been possible without the awesome chaperones who took our students: Laura Blake, Robin Canady, Katherine Grimmert, Matt Mobley, Mandy Roberts, Jennifer Sy, and John Sy. Thank you all again for volunteering your time! This month also brought the Super Bowl Party, which was hosted in Neilie Dunn's neighborhood clubhouse. This was a great night of fellowship for our students as they gathered to watch the game and commercials. February ended with a youth mission night at Old Savannah City Mission with Rev. Nelle Bordeaux. It was a wonderful experience for our students to learn about homelessness in our city and the work of Old Savannah City Mission. If your student is not yet plugged into the Wesley Monumental Youth Ministry, now is a great time to start!



Please follow the youth on Instagram at [@wesley\\_monumental\\_youth](https://www.instagram.com/wesley_monumental_youth) for more photos and updates!



## Children's Ministry

Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry  
912-232-0191 Ext. 225, charli@wesleymonumental.org

## Renovation Locations!

A complete list of room changes for adults and children may be found below.

It is such an exciting time for the children of Wesley. Many of them do not quite understand what the word "renovation" means, but they know from all of the activity that something big is happening. Please check out the list to see where your child's classroom will be located beginning on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Sunday Mornings

<i>Class Name</i>	<i>Location</i>
Adult Choir .....	Choir Loft
Alpha .....	Fellowship Hall Multi-Purpose Room
Compass .....	Oliver Hall, Room 407
Connect .....	Oliver Hall, Room 207 (no change)
Epworth .....	Oliver Hall, Room 309 (no change)
Ivy .....	Oliver Hall, Room 310 (no change)
Journey .....	Oliver Hall, Room 308 (no change)
Millennial Blend .....	Oliver Hall Parlor, Room 213 (no change)
Pastor's Class & Coffee .....	Fellowship Hall (no change)
Youth Junior High .....	Oliver Hall, Room 408
Youth Senior High .....	Oliver Hall, Room 405
Nursery .....	Education Building, Nursery, Room 101 (no change)
3 & 4 Year Olds .....	Education Building, Nursery, Room 103
K through 3rd Grade .....	Fellowship Hall, Bump Out Room - Right
4th & 5th Grade .....	Fellowship Hall, Bump Out Room - Left

### Wednesday Nights

<i>During Wednesday Night Supper</i>	<i>Location</i>
Adults .....	Mickve Israel
Elementary School Children .....	Fellowship Hall
Joyful Noise Children .....	Education Building, Nursery, Room 103
.....	Fellowship Hall, Bump Out Room - Right
.....	Fellowship Hall, Bump Out Room - Left
Nursery .....	Education Building, Nursery, Room 101 (no change)

<i>During Choir</i>	<i>Location</i>
Adult Choir .....	Fellowship Hall
Children's Choir - Chimes .....	Ms. Kim, Oliver Hall, Room 310
.....	Mr. Ken, Oliver Hall, Room 309
.....	Mr. Ash, Oliver Hall, Room 308
Children's Choir - Singing Intensive .....	Ms. Anne, Oliver Hall, Room 407 (no change)
Children's Choir - Singing .....	Ms. Monica, Sanctuary
Joyful Noise Choir .....	Fellowship Hall, Multi-Purpose Room
.....	Fellowship Hall, Bump Out Room - Right
.....	Fellowship Hall, Bump Out Room - Left

### Bible Studies

Nelle Bordeaux - Young Mothers, Tuesday Morning .....	Oliver Hall, Room 210
Bible Buddies, Tuesday Morning .....	Oliver Hall, Room 207
Ben Martin - Wednesday Morning .....	Oliver Hall Library, Room 205
Wednesday Evening .....	Mickve Israel
Christian Swails - Wednesday Evening .....	Oliver Hall Library, Room 205
Katie Knight - Wednesday Evening .....	Oliver Hall Parlor, Room 213 (no change)
Youth Group - Wednesday Evening .....	Oliver Hall, Rooms 405 & 408



## Evangelism

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach & New Members  
912-234-9245, tbordeaux@prodigy.net

## Welcome, New Members!

We are thankful the following joined during January. Our next New Member Course will be on Sundays, March 17 and 24, at 10:00 a.m. both Sundays, with the class joining as a group on Sunday, March 24. Please call the church office to sign up at 912-232-0191. Nursery provided.



### Effie & Nic Allsbrooks

Effie's parents, Melissa and Murch Moorer, Jr., joined the same day! Effie loves building theater sets, and Nic is a graphic designer. Rev. Ben Martin baptized Nic on the day he joined. Prior to their joining, their Shepherds, the Kingston family, took them out for coffee.

*Shepherds: Mackenzie and John Kingston, Jr., and daughter, Birdie Kingston*



### Susan Luke Evans

For over 30 years, Susan owned her own speaking business. She just moved here from Toronto, and she has dual American and Canadian citizenship. Her father was a Southern Baptist minister. Her neighbor, Linda Sapp, invited her to church and now is her Shepherd.

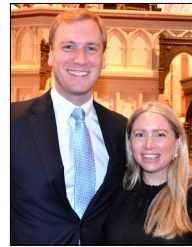
*Shepherd: Linda Sapp*



### Melissa & Murch Moorer, Jr.

Melissa is from Charleston, and Murch is from Reevesville, S.C. She teaches 11th-grade English at Savannah Christian Preparatory School, and he is an Equitable Financial insurance investment advisor. They have two daughters. They and their Shepherds live in the Historic District, and the Moorers' home was built in 1794.

*Shepherds: Gail and Mickey Rountree*



### Kathryn and Ryan Pross

Already, Kathryn is in the Young Mothers' Bible Study, along with her Shepherd, Lesli-Anne Glenn. Kathryn and Ryan are expecting their first child in March. She is an interior designer who grew up in Savannah; she enjoys antiquing. He is a Wells Fargo financial advisor who grew up in Birmingham, AL. He likes running.

*Shepherds: Lesli-Anne and Bill Glenn  
Baby's Shepherds: William, Lily, and Bear Glenn*



## Spring into a Bible Study!



### Young Mothers' Bible Study

- Meets Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. in Oliver Hall
- Presently studying "Women of the Bible"
- Bible Buddies nursery provided by Carmine Cowart, who teaches the children, while Nelle teaches the mothers.

### Thursday Noon Bible Study

- Meets from noon to 12:30 p.m. via Zoom
- Currently studying "Minor Prophets"

Sign up for either Bible study with Nelle,  
tbordeaux@prodigy.net



## Memorials & Honors

### The Music Endowment Fund

In memory of  
**Marjorie Buchanan  
Anne Holley**  
From  
Janet & Andy Thompson

### The Endowment Fund

In memory of  
**Anne Holley**  
From Linda Ferguson  
  
In honor of  
**Lou & Jeanette Cason**  
From JoAnne Garcia-Melendez

## March 2024

*Gifts have been received  
in Memory or Honor of:*

### The Olivers' Missions Endowment Fund

In memory of  
**Monica Cleaveland**  
From  
Adrienne Tietz

### Monumental Music

In memory of  
**Monica Cleaveland**  
From  
Wesley Chancel Choir  
Ken & Deanne Rimes

In memory of  
**John Burton**  
From Pam Highsmith



## Missions

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach & New Members  
912-234-9245, tbordeaux@prodigy.net

Urban Hope children and families enjoyed supper prepared and served by Wesley members, including young Wesley members.



### Urban Hope Needs:

- Bibles (new) for summer camp participants
- Printer ink cartridges (black and color)
- Swiffer Jet and refills

Questions?  
Please speak with Nelle,  
tbordeaux@prodigy.net



## Additional Announcements

Jane Shirah Circle - The Jane Shirah Circle will meet March 27.



### Lilies & Caladiums for Easter Sunday

Lilies and Caladiums will be placed around the altar to the glory of God on Easter Sunday, March 31, and may be taken home following the 11:00 a.m. Easter Service. Please place your orders for plants in memory or in honor of loved ones by Sunday, March 24. The cost is \$15.50 per plant, and order forms may also be found at all Sanctuary entrances, or you can order and pay online, [www.wesleymonumental.org/2024-easter-flowers/](http://www.wesleymonumental.org/2024-easter-flowers/)

*Join us to explore. . .*



### God's Wonders: A Guided Kayak Tour at Wesley Gardens Retreat

March 23, 2024 from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

\$50 per person

Come enjoy a beautiful day outside and marvel at the beauty of God's creation. Pack a picnic and join us for a guided kayak tour. All ages welcome! To sign up, call or text 912-236-8115, or send an email to [naturesavannah@gmail.com](mailto:naturesavannah@gmail.com).

*"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands." - Psalm 19:1.*



## Spiritual Direction

Christian Swails, Wesley Gardens Spiritual Director  
 912-217-8646, hello@cocreationlife.com  
 cocreationlife.com, christianswails.com

## Spiritual Direction

### What is a Spiritual Direction Session Like?



It can be tough to try something new when you're not quite sure what it is or what to expect. Spiritual Direction has been historically difficult to describe because it is incredibly experiential and unique to each individual. When you book a Spiritual Direction session you will receive a text from me (Christian) to set up an initial phone call. The call is for us to "meet" one another and make sure this is a good fit for you in this season. During the call I will help you understand more about Spiritual Direction and answer any questions you may have. If we determine it's a good fit, we will meet in person at Wesley Gardens on the date you booked through the link below. We will meet in one of the cottages or a quiet space in the main house. I will bring us into some silence together and help us settle into the space. I'll then read a piece of scripture or wisdom literature as a blessing over us. We will enter back into the silence. If you have never had the

opportunity to hold sacred silence with another, it is hard to describe how transformative and revealing that space is. During those moments, the noise of life begins to fade, and what's really going on below the surface begins to emerge. So it's ok if you don't know right now what it is you want to get to in Spiritual Direction. This is what I will help you with. As the things that want to be said begin to emerge, I will invite you to share those things. I will listen, without judgement or agenda, to the places within you that have been silenced, or too busy, or too scared, or too hurt, or too confused to process. I will work with the Holy Spirit to help you discover Christ within you in those places. This is a safe, confidential, and brave space for you to notice and name the things that you can't get to on your own. I would be honored to hold this space with you.

#### Testimonials from Wesley Monumental members who have experienced Spiritual Direction:

"I believe that to know God, one needs to inquire, reflect, and question. I wrestle with the suffering and injustice in the world. I have not attended seminary and am woefully lacking in my study of theology. I appreciate my time with my Spiritual Director, who is a knowledgeable coach and guide. The answers are mine to discover. My Spiritual Director helps to point me in the right direction."

"For me, Spiritual Direction has given validation to years of sensing a desire for something more, and deeper, in my spiritual life. I'm starting to see a connection between various thoughts, images, and feelings that I've experienced throughout my life. And looking back on quotations and passages from readings that I've saved, I see not only a pattern, but a path forward. I am more at peace and lighter in spirit (and excited!) as I continue this journey."

"In a world of angry noise, we strain to hear the still small voice of God. In a world at war, we yearn for peace. In a world of excess, we hunger for the bread of life. In a world of apps, we long for connection. We need not walk alone in our straining, our yearning, our hunger, our longing. Spiritual Direction offers the time and space to feel God's presence, with help to open our eyes to see and our ears to hear."



If you are curious about this ancient Christian practice, scan the QR code below and book a session. I will call you, and we can talk through it. I'd love to know you more.



In Peace,

Christian  
Spiritual Director

<https://christianswails.com/>

"Spiritual Direction for me has been a wonderful experience. It allows me the space to get mentally unstuck. I wasn't sure what it was all about at first but was intrigued when I read about it in the church bulletin. At the same time I had been praying about some personal things in my life and just didn't seem to be making much progress on my own. With that said, I felt the Lord pulling me toward making an appointment for spiritual guidance. I'm so glad I did! It is therapeutic, but with sensitivity and awareness of the Holy Spirit."



## Music

Monica Dekle, Director of Music & Organist  
912-232-0191 Ext. 213, [monica@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:monica@wesleymonumental.org)



### Joyful Noise Choir and Children's Choir leading worship February 11.

Thanks to parents and caregivers for faithfully getting your children to rehearsal week after week, even when it is sometimes difficult. Thanks to the 1st-5th grade teachers for faithfully pouring hours upon hours of their time and talents into the children: Anne Hawks, Ash Grimmett, Carolyn Roth, Jo Anna Hayes, Ken Rimes, Kim Grimmett, Laura McDaniel, Lee Green, Ori Hayes, Raymond Patricio, Tyler Cobbs, and Julia Flowers. Substitute teachers: Nelle Bordeaux, Gail Rountree, and Gretchen Patricio.

Thanks to the Joyful Noise teachers who faithfully come each week to help the children find their singing voice: Katie Ashby, Miang Chow, Mike Eckmann, Beth Kaufman, Caitlin Kelly, Rebekah Matthews, Deborah Roberds, Shirley Roberts, Aleyse Scarborough, and Meaghan Wylie.



## Senior Adults & Pastoral Care

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge, Senior Adults & Pastoral Care  
912-232-0191, [carolynhalecubbedge@gmail.com](mailto:carolynhalecubbedge@gmail.com)

## *Upcoming Merry Maker Events*



Merry Makers will meet on Tuesday, March 11, at 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor of Oliver Hall. Melissa Emery will present a travelogue of her recent trip to Panama and Columbia. Lunch will be served. Please call the church office to make your reservation. Cost for lunch is \$7.00.

The April meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8. The program will be Downsizing: Declutter, Destash and Dump.

 **Wesley**  
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## Messenger Monthly Spotlight



### Youth Ski Trip 2024

