

October
2024

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wesleymonumental.org

THE MONUMENTAL MESSENGER



Life at Wesley



It always fills our hearts and our street with joy when these friends sing from the steps. Here they are singing "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart" from memory.



Chancel choir singing for Ms. Ann Lytle on a rainy Saturday morning.



Our youth greeters welcoming visitors and members.



Youth handbell choir rehearsals have begun!



From Ben's Desk

Ben Martin, Senior Pastor
912-232-0191, Ext. 216, ben@wesleymonumental.org

Harvest Time

The month of October ushers us into the season of Fall and the traditional season of Harvest. Our Fall Festival at Wesley Gardens Retreat highlights this month in our church. This year, the Fall Festival will be held on Sunday, October 27, at 4:00 p.m. But, when it comes to harvest, we are particularly focused on the completion of the Capstone Renovation Project and moving back into our newly renovated Education Building. Each week, we have been watching this extensive and exciting project come together. It is an investment in our children and music ministries, two of the most meaningful and fruitful ministries of Wesley Monumental. Our children in church and Eli's Place will have a more comfortable, secure, and effective space for learning and fellowship. On the fourth floor, our children, youth, and adult choirs will finally have sufficient space for rehearsals and preparation to lead us in worship. In November, we will have an official re-opening of the space. This renovation has been a huge undertaking, and our Children and Music staff have worked so hard at swapping out space each week and being creative in how we keep our ministries going with such limited space during the renovation. It is also a huge financial undertaking, and just because we finish the building, we are not finished with the project until it is paid for. We cannot thank you enough for your generosity. If you have not made a commitment to or given to the project, we ask you to prayerfully consider how you can be a part of this needed work. Keep on the lookout for our big "grand opening" celebration as the project comes to an end.



Wesley Meet and Mingle



Join us for our November and January Meet and Mingles

Wesley Meet and Mingle is a new program that provides opportunities for Wesley members to spend some social time with other Wesley members they already know or want to meet. The **November Meet and Mingle** event is a Low Country Boil at Wesley Gardens Retreat on November 3 at 5:00 p.m. Reservations are a must. Your fee of \$15.00 per person guarantees your meal. Call the church office or see Carolyn Hale Cubbedge to make your reservation. Space will be limited, so call early.

Tickets for the Ghost Pirates game (our **January Meet and Mingle** event) on January 5, 2025, will be available until December 5. Cost is \$30 per ticket. Your payment reserves your seat. Make checks payable to Wesley Monumental UMC and give them to Carolyn Hale Cubbedge or drop them off in the church office. Questions? Call Carolyn at 912-308-3383.



Wesley Christmas Bazaar



The annual **Wesley Christmas Bazaar** is scheduled for Saturday, November 2, 2024. The bazaar will showcase all sorts of handwork including but not limited to woodwork, monogrammed clothing and linen items, photography, jewelry, notecards, candles, scroll-sawn ornaments, needlework, picture frames, toys, paintings, and lathe-turned bowls to mention a few. The bazaar will provide an excellent opportunity to learn about the gifts of our fellow church members and to shop for Christmas. We are looking for vendors, and you are invited to reserve your space now. There will also be a bake sale, and donations are needed. If you have any questions, contact one of the co-chairs: Woody Brown at 912-352-7833 or Carolyn Hale Cubbedge at 912-308-3385.



Children's Ministry

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



First Day Fun at Eli's Place!

On September 3, Eli's Place welcomed many young friends for the first day of "school." As you can see from their expressions, most of them had a great day.





Evangelism & Missions

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

Welcome, New Members!

We are thankful the following joined on August 25. Our October New Member Course will be on Sundays, October 20 and 27, at 10:00 a.m. both Sundays, with the class joining as a group on October 27. Please call the church office to sign up at 912-232-0191. Nursery provided.



Heather & Danny Evans

Heather is an interior designer who grew up in Greenville, South Carolina and Jacksonville, Florida. Rev. Ben Martin baptized her on the Sunday she joined. Danny grew up in the Episcopal church. They have two young adult children and two college-age children. They like Wesley's traditional worship.

Shepherds: Mary and Jon Boothe and Charlotte, Ella, and Joseph Boothe



Cori & Zak Palmer & sons, Davis & Graham Palmer

Cori is from Ocilla, GA, and was a classmate with Dr. Monica Dekle. Cori's grandfather, Dr. Sams, was a beloved doctor there. Cori is a speech audiologist with her own business. Zak sold medical equipment and grew up in Augusta, GA, with his shepherd, Matt Mobley. The Palmers and Mobleys live on the same street. The Palmer children are Davis, grade 4, and Graham, grade 1, at Hancock Day School.

Shepherds: Jen and Matt Mobley; children's shepherds, Hudson and Emma Mobley

Join a Bible Study!

♦ Young Mothers' Bible Study

"A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World" by Paul E. Miller is our topic, Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., nursery provided while Nelle teaches the mothers. Please email Nelle to sign up, tbordeaux@prodigy.net. All are welcome.

♦ Thursday Bible Study

Noon, via Zoom, presently studying "Minor Prophets." Please sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Urban Hope Family Supper

Help cook supper at home and serve 75 guests on Monday, October 28. Please meet at 5:30 p.m. at Independent Presbyterian Church; Urban Hope guests will arrive at 6:00 p.m., and we finish clean-up by 7:30 p.m. Needed are: ham, salad, sweet potato casserole, green beans, rolls, paper plates (large and small sizes), paper cups, plastic cutlery, cookies, and cut fruit. Sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net. All ages are welcome to help!



Youth Ministry

Maggie Hatchett, Director of Student Ministries
912-580-7553, maggie@wesleymonumental.org

Thank you all for coming together while I was with my family mourning the death of my father. I am so thankful to be a part of a community that can come together during a hard time. I am hopeful for the rest of the year and look forward to getting back to normal. We are getting ready for all of the fall activities. Things to look forward to are Columbus Day Service and Fun Day at the church on October 14, Youth Retreat to Epworth on November 22-24, and Ski Trip on January 30-February 2. Parents, please remember to look at the BAND to see any other info about events. If you have any time on Wednesdays or Sundays, we would love for you to hang out with us, even for only an hour. We need help with games, food, handbells, choir, and bible study.

Youth Mission Day ~ Monday, October 14

On Monday, please bring a sack lunch and meet at the church at 9:00 a.m. to sack groceries and to lead worship and serve lunch at Old Savannah City Mission. Please come to the Oliver Hall lobby. Sign up with Maggie Hatchett. Parents may pick you up at church at 3:00 p.m.



Memorials & Honors

October 2024

Gifts have been received in Memory or Honor of:

Monumental Music

In memory of
Beverly MacGregor
Virginia Davis
From
Ken & Deanne Rimes

Music Endowment Fund

In memory of
Virginia Davis
From
Dot & Penny Harper

In memory of
Dwayne L. Willett
From
Cynthia Willett

In memory of
Olin Bockes
From
Richard & Joyce Zehl

In memory of
Lois Wooten
From
Don & Judy Lineback
Patty Ronning
Sharon Gentry
Anne Curtis
Ronald & Jennifer Camp
Judy & Dan Bradley
Mr. & Mrs. Don Waters
Care & Share
Ann & John Gargus
Becky Cheatham
Jim & Karen Pannell
Judy & Mike Fogarty

The Endowment Fund

In memory of
Edith Roszkowiak
Elton Stuenkel
Virginia Davis
From
Care & Share

In memory of
Bill Mock
From
John & Barbara Lientz

Eli's Place Scholarship Fund

In memory of
Anne Chaddock Donegan
From
Steve & Dana Eberhardt

The Capstone Project/Building Fund

In memory of
Virginia Davis
Lois Wooten
From
Adrienne Tietz
Susan & Dick Wallace

In memory of
Virginia Davis
From
Suzanne & Jake Marbach





Wesley Gardens Retreat

Micah Sprunger, Retreat Director
912-441-7578, micah@wesleygardensretreat.com
wesleygardensretreat.com



Live Oak Saplings - Available This Fall

Stewardship of this magnificent property includes yearly removal of decayed trees and replanting young trees. Trees provide shade for retreatants during the hot summer months and are good for the environment. For anyone seeking to honor a loved one, commemorative trees are available.



- Live Oak or Bald Cypress Sapling - \$500
- Size: 4-5" diameter trunk, 15'-20' height
- Planting date: December 7-15, 2024
- Included: 4" x 6" custom stainless steel plaque and photos of your tree.

Donations can be made thru November 30. For more information or to initiate the gift process, email micah@wesleygardensretreat.com.

Fourth Friday Retreat

Craving set apart time & space to connect with God? If so, you might find FOURTH FRIDAY RETREAT meaningful. It's free and requires no previous retreat experience, offering a mix of solitude and time with Scripture (via Daily Office & Lectio Divina). You can shape the retreat as your soul is needing—we'll simply provide an optional framework. Spiritual Direction with a local pastor is available throughout. For those desiring a bit of caffeine before meditation, freshly roasted coffee will start pouring at 8:45 a.m., and the retreat after that 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Feel free to linger for self-guided retreat through the afternoon.) All weary souls welcome.

A Few Recent Highlights...

+ Led by Story Book Farms of Richmond Hill, our first ever "Homeschool Mama's Retreat" allowed weekend space for 20 homeschool mothers to rest in silence, meditate on Holy Scripture, savor local artisan meals, enjoy a massage, and find inner renewal.

+ A Bulgarian congregation from Jacksonville enjoyed their first group retreat. Intimate conversations, slow walks around the grounds, and group worship in the chapel were just some of the special moments they experienced together.

+ Christian Swails continued to offer Sunday afternoon Spiritual Exercises, leading a faithful handful of Wesley Monumental folks in various ancient spiritual disciplines.

+ A group of five Community Bible Church (Richmond Hill) members now come out one Wednesday a month for a day of silence and solitude together, focusing on encountering and resting in the Presence of Christ.

+ We welcomed Phillip McClure, a local graphic designer and follower of Jesus, onto our Wesley Gardens staff! Phillip comes with a deep love of Wesley Gardens and will be working two days a week doing anything from mowing grass to making beds to helping with design projects.

Join
US

Weekly Spiritual Practices Gathering

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. on Sunday afternoons at Wesley Gardens Retreat. Everyone is welcome, and feel free to bring a friend!



Music

Monica Dekle, Director of Music & Organist
912-232-0191 Ext. 213, monica@wesleymonumental.org



Children's Choir (and Joyful Noise Choir) began September 4, and we are so excited to sing in church soon. Even if you missed the first rehearsal, you may join at any time.

The 1st-5th graders are working in depth on: Since Jesus Came Into My Heart, I Am Bound for the Promised Land, The Battle Hymn of the Republic, Zion's Walls, Hymn of Promise, Doxology, Gloria Patri, Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer.

During dinner prior to choir (after entree, before dessert), we work on a local mission project specially curated by Rev. Nelle. For example, two weeks ago we created cards for one of our shut-ins. The Chancel Choir took the cards to her and read every single one. This past week we cut out and colored miniature Wesley Monumental churches with doors that swing open and a Bible verse on them to put on sacks of food for hungry children. The kids who receive the sacks say their favorite part of the sack is the note from another child.



Senior Adults & Pastoral Care

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge, Senior Adults & Pastoral Care
912-232-0191 Ext. 202, carolynhalecubbedge@gmail.com

Merry Makers

Merry Makers will meet on October 14 at 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor of Oliver Hall. Liz Palles, owner of Cents and Sensibility, will be the speaker. She will share options for finding new homes for our household items in our downsizing efforts. Lunch follows on the fourth-floor pergola of Oliver Hall. Cost is \$7. Please call the church office to make your reservation. Questions? Call Carolyn Hale Cubbedge at 912-308-3385.



Christmas Greenery & Advent

Christmas Greenery

The Altar Guild of Wesley Monumental UMC is excited to offer fresh balsam greenery from Vermont for the Christmas season! Your pre-paid order will be shipped to the church the Monday after Thanksgiving. Orders are due by Sunday, October 13, and payment is due with your order. Forms may be found at all sanctuary entrances and online. Funds from this project are used to offset the cost of decorating the church during the Advent season. Thank you for your order.

Advent 2024

The theme for the 2024 Advent devotional book is "O Come, All Ye Faithful." If you would like to be one of twenty-five writers, please see Carolyn Hale Cubbedge or Evonne Mobley. In your writing, you are being asked to share how your faith is preparing you for the birth of Jesus. Hopefully you can share a personal experience. You will receive guidelines for your writing. The deadline for submission is Sunday, November 10.





Messenger Monthly Spotlight



Children's Worship at Wesley



During summer Children's Worship, we learned all about the Lord's Prayer through fun activities and crafts. It was so exciting to hear the questions our friends had and watch them grow in faith and connection with God through prayer.

