



Celebrating 157 Years 1868 - 2025

429 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401
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Website: www.wesleymonumental.org

January 5, 2025

NEW OFFERINGS FOR A NEW YEAR

The beginning of a new year is always a good time for committing or recommitting ourselves to practices and habits that contribute to our physical, mental, emotional, relational, and spiritual health. Beginning in January, we will offer new opportunities at Wesley that work towards those important goals. Email or call us in the office to sign up for any of these opportunities.

Wednesday Nights

On January 15, we will return to our **Wednesday Nights at Wesley midweek dinner, choirs, youth group, and adult studies**. This semester, there will be several options for our after-dinner studies.

- ◆ *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry* by John Michael Comer. Christian Swails and Ben Martin will teach this book study on "How to stay emotionally healthy and spiritually alive in the chaos of the modern world."
- ◆ *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt. Taught by Glen Doki. This book study focuses on "How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness."
- ◆ Grief Share—A group experience of processing grief and loss. Led by Carolyn Hale Cubbedge and Rhonda Radcliff.
- ◆ Young Women's Small Group—A supportive fellowship and study group for women led by Katie Knight.

Spiritual Practices

Sunday Afternoon Spiritual Practices at Wesley Gardens Retreat Center will be led by Christian Swails

- ◆ 1st Sunday (every month) - Christian Meditation (begins 2/2)
- ◆ 2nd Sunday (every month) - Lectio Divina (begins 1/12)
- ◆ 3rd Sunday (every month) - God in Nature/Reflective Writing (begins 1/19)
- ◆ 4th Sunday (every month) - Book Club (begins 1/26) - We will be reading *The Practice of the Presence of God* (written in 1692) by Brother Lawrence

Marriage Enrichment Date Nights

Marriage Enrichment Date Nights, Retreat, and Tools for Connection will be led by Christian and Hannah Swails.

- ◆ January 25, 4:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- ◆ February 22, 4:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- ◆ March 28-29 - Marriage Retreat at Wesley Gardens Retreat

Midweek Bible Studies

Also, remember our regular **Tuesday Morning Men's Study** at 7:00 a.m. and **Young Mothers' Bible Study** at 9:00 a.m. **Wednesday Morning's Bible study with Ben** at 11:00 a.m., and **Thursday's Online Bible Study with Nelle** at noon.

MORNING WORSHIP
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025
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.*

Lighting of the Candles

Chiming of the Hour (11:00)

Opening Voluntary

Adeste Fidelis

arr. Eric Thiman

* **Hymn No. 254**

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

* **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 from 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 second floor.

Morning 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. 248** On This Day Earth Shall Ring PERSONET HODIE

Offertory Prayer Nelle Bordeaux

Offertory Anthem arr. Michael Clawson

The First Noel with Pachelbel's Canon

Carolyn Roth, soprano

Derek Llamas, tenor

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 pgs. 2, 194)
Matthew 2:1-12, Ephesians 5:8-14

Sermon "Darkness to Light Part 5- Ben Martin
Chasers or Children of the Light?"

Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant Hymnal pg. 50

* **Hymn No. 206** I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light HOUSTON

Benediction Ben Martin

Closing Voluntary I Saw Three Ships arr. Richard Elliott

* *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 from Shirley and Peter Roberts to the glory of God and in gratitude for the staff and clergy of Wesley Monumental UMC.

Stock Donation

We have received 54 shares of WALMART INC stock. Please email tom@wesleymonumental.org if you made this donation.

Grocery Items for Old Savannah City Mission

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

Connect Sunday School Class—New Study in January—Join Us!

Connect Sunday School invites anyone looking for a small group study to join us on Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. In January, we will start a study of Hebrews with a book/video guide called *Better* by Jen Wilkin. Connect Sunday School is a small group of all ages, couples and singles, some with extensive Bible knowledge and some just starting their journey. We would love for you to join us any Sunday! We meet in the barrel-vaulted room in Oliver Hall, the first room to the right on the 2nd floor.

Next New Member Course, Sundays, January 19 and 26 at 10:00 a.m.

The class will join as a group on January 26. Come to both parts of this two-part series. Nursery provided. Call the church office to sign up, 912-232-0191.

Altar Flowers - February Dates Available

If you would like to give Sunday altar flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please email Jennifer Brookins in the church office, jennifer@wesleymonumental.org. The cost is \$120, and the Altar Guild will purchase and arrange the flowers for you. The following dates are available: February 2, 9, 16.

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks

Greeters: Lori Miller, Jeralyn Wilson

Offering Steward: Jeff Miller

Ushers: Melvin Croft, Richard Wilson

Partners in Prayer: Charlie Clarke

11:00 Service

Acolytes: Michael Cooler, Jordan Hess

Children's Worship: Sarah Labrot

Sunday School: Volunteers Needed

Greeters: Kim & Mehmet Ergul

Offering Steward: Brian West

Ushers: Brian West, Mehmet Ergul, Rusty Holt, Jim Pannell, Jon Pannell, Johnny Phelps, Willie Roberds, Kenneth Spriggs

Partners in Prayer: Mickey Rountree

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Young Mothers' Bible Study Starts New Topic This Week, "What Children Teach Us about God"

Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., "Wonder: Isaac," Genesis 22:1-19. All are welcome! Nursery provided by fabulous Carmine Cowart and Del Muller, while Nelle teaches the mothers. Please sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net. Jenna Watts suggested this new topic.

Thursday Noon Bible Study with Nelle

Thursdays, noon-12:30 p.m. by Zoom. Currently studying Paul, "1 Corinthians 14." Email tbordeaux@prodigy.net for the Zoom link.

Family Promise Cooks Needed January 12-18 for About 15 Guests

Family Promise serves homeless families. If you want to cook at home and deliver at 5:00 p.m. on your chosen night, please sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net. Peggy Jolley leads this ministry. She or Nelle will meet you at 5:00 p.m. at White Bluff Presbyterian Church, 10710 White Bluff Road.

Save the Date of Saturday, March 8 for Day of Service

Mark that new 2025 calendar with this date, 9:00 a.m. to noon, for a Day of Service with other United Methodist congregations in the area, culminating in a cook out at noon at Wesley Gardens Retreat. All ages are welcome.

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge, Senior Adults and Pastoral Care

Merry Makers, our senior adult fellowship, will meet on Monday, January 13, at 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor of Oliver Hall. Lunch will be served. Cost is \$7. Please call the church office to make your reservation.



Date Nights, Retreat, & Tools for Connection Led by Christian and Hannah Swails

Great news! Starting in the new year, we will host a series of date nights, once per month, for January, February, and March wrapping with a marriage retreat at Wesley Gardens. The best part....wait for it....FREE CHILD CARE!!! Here's how it works:

Mark your Calendar right now for:

Saturday | **January 25** | 4:30pm - 8:00pm

Saturday | **February 22** | 4:30pm - 8:00pm

1. Come to the church
2. Drop off your kids
3. Christian & Hannah Swails give you some tools for connection
4. You leave for a romantic dinner (without kids)
5. You hopefully return for your children

Friday (Evening) & Saturday (All Day) | March 28, 29

Then, in March, we will move out to our stunning retreat center, Wesley Gardens, on the beautiful Moon River, at the best time of the year to be out there - For a Friday evening and Saturday (all day) Marriage retreat. Christian and Hannah will facilitate some tools and spiritual practices specifically for reconnecting with your spouse, your best friend.

Additional details and ways to sign up will be available soon!

Maggie Hatchett, Director of Student Ministries (6th-12th Grade)

Youth Group

- ◆ Youth Group will be back on Sunday, January 12 and Wednesday Nights on January 15!
- ◆ Winter Retreat is January 30-February 2. Sign up by January 1. More info and sign up on the church website.



Parents, join our BAND for more info!

Christian Swails, Wesley Gardens Spiritual Director
Spiritual Formation Schedule for 2025

Starting in 2025, we will have some incredible offerings each week at Wesley Gardens Retreat, including a book club on the 4th Sunday of every month! This is a place to learn and practice some ancient spiritual practices that have cultivated a deep inner life of peace, healing, and clarity for disciples of Jesus for thousands of years. There is no need to come every week; just pop in and check out one of the practices below that you feel drawn to. Each week is a new practice, so you can join anytime. This schedule will continue throughout the year.

- ◆ 1st Sunday (every month) - Christian Meditation (begins 2/2)
- ◆ 2nd Sunday (every month) - Lectio Divina (begins 1/12)
- ◆ 3rd Sunday (every month) - God in Nature/Reflective Writing (begins 1/19)
- ◆ 4th Sunday (every month) - Book Club (begins 1/26) - We will be reading *The Practice of the Presence of God* (written in 1692) by Brother Lawrence

Questions or interested in joining, please email Christian Swails at christian@cocreationlife.com (or just show up).

A Record of Our Faithfulness

Christmas Eve Services: (12/24/24)

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 10:30 AM | 211 |
| 3:30 PM | 283 |
| 5:30 PM | 739 |
| Online Worship Views | 241 |
| Total Worship | 1474 |

Sunday Attendance: (12/29/24)

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------------------|----|
| 8:45 AM Worship | 73 | Nursery | 5 |
| 11:00 AM Worship | 172 | Children's Worship | 12 |
| Online Worship Views | 145 | Sunday School | 97 |
| Total Worship | 390 | | |

Finances (12/29/24):

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Total Budget for the Year | \$2,126,355.46 |
| Actual Revenues Year-to-Date | \$2,185,772.71 |
| Actual Expenses Year-to-Date | \$2,200,446.71 |

CHURCH STAFF

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

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
January 5, 2025

Sermon Extended

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday | Matthew 2:1-2 | What has motivated my own spiritual search? |
| Tuesday | Matthew 2:1-8 | When has a sign confirmed scripture for you or scripture made sense of a sign? |
| Wednesday | Matthew 2:1-12 | How has my relationship with Christ affected or changed me? |
| Thursday | Ephesians 5:8-14 | How can I begin to live as a child of the light? |
| Friday | Matthew 2:1-12, Ephesians 5:8-14 | Is there a difference in being a chaser of the light and a child of the light? |

Sermon Notes

This Week at Wesley

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

Sunday, January 5

8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
9:30 AM Coffee & Refreshments, FH
9:45 AM Sunday School, FH/EB/OH
11:00 AM Worship Service, SNC
3:00 PM Meet & Mingle Event,
Ghost Pirates Game

Monday, January 6

9:00 AM Eli's Place—Teachers Return

Tuesday, January 7

9:00 AM Eli's Place—Children Return
9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study, OH
9:00 AM Bible Buddies, OH
11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 205
5:30 PM Evangelism Comm. Mtg,
Zoom

Wednesday, January 8

9:00 AM Eli's Place
7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 9

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

Friday, January 10

9:00 AM Eli's Place

Saturday, January 11

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| OH = Oliver Hall | EB = Education Building |
| SNC = Sanctuary | FH = Fellowship Hall |
| WGR = Wesley Gardens Retreat | |

Pastors on Call This Week

All days except Wednesdays & Fridays
Ben Martin 912-547-1835
Wednesdays
Nelle Bordeaux..... 912-234-9245
Fridays
Carolyn Cubbedge . 912-308-3385

Wednesday Night Supper

Our Wednesday Night Suppers and programming have ended for 2024. We will resume January 15, 2025.

In Our Prayers....

Ed Derst, Khadra Turley (mother of Corie Turley), Anne Hawks, Adeline Hayes, Meghan Hitt, Joey Herndon (father of Erica Timmons), Jeralyn Wilson, Berta Botkin, Terry Franz, Vicki Worden, Lulu Gribbins, Barbie Lientz, Dolores Park (mother of Jeff Endsley), Jimmy Fincher (father of Amy Green), Aaron Berkebile, Harriett Gattis (mother of Clayton Gattis), Doug Moore, Debbie Andrews, Katie Townsend, Raine Rude, John Walter, Helen Weitz (sister of Bonnie Delvers), Melissa McDonald and Family, Michael Baggott, Wayne Thomas, Family of Logan Spencer (friend of Charles Stewart), John Martin Sr., Rachel Spence, Jan Pullin, Dean Muenckler, Julia Holliday, Danielle Robertson, Roger Lemay, Jason Horton, Archie Davis, Ella Ealy (granddaughter of Carolyn Roth), Adam Corey, Saddle Kurtz (aunt of Dan Kurtz), Dolly Caylor (mother of Rhonda Radcliff), Sharon and Terry Knepper (parents of Holly Conger), Karen Nickles, Will Weeks, Lindsey Goldberg, Pat Monahan, Mary Hohnerlein (friend of Ken and Deanne Rimes), Byron Rogers, John Birkheimer, Eleanor McCurry, Connie Kurtz (mother of Dan Kurtz), Ken Brownfield, Oscar Cook, Doris Rothenberger (mother of Susan Colgrove), Tim Mooney, Walter Thomas (brother of Mark Thomas), Alyssa Jones (granddaughter of Rusty Holt), Ryan Davis, Martha Sloan, Fenton McEvoy

At Home/Extended Care

Bella Grace Bartels, Pat Beasley, Harriet Bland, David Chow, Roz Evans, Sandrae McCorkle, Toni Olds, Camille Searcy, Mark Thomas, Cindy Telljohann, Dick Wallace

Military Serving Abroad/Stateside

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

In Sympathy....

The Burrows Family
on the death of
Daphne Burrows