



Celebrating 157 Years 1868 - 2025

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Website: www.wesleymonumental.org

March 16, 2025

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

"Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good."
- Genesis 50:19

Tomorrow, we once again celebrate St. Patrick's Day. It is a day when I am always reminded of the experience of Joseph when he was sold into slavery by his brothers. As he looked back on his life, he realized that God was able to redeem the actions of his brothers by using it to put him in a place of influence that would, in turn, save his people. St. Patrick's story was much the same. Captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, he would later say that it was the years during his captivity that God used to convert him to Christianity and deepen his relationship to God. In fact, those years were so significant that after escaping, he would choose to return to the land of his captivity in order to share the gospel with the people of Ireland.

The question about the providence of God is always a tricky one. "Did God cause this?" or "Did God use this?" can make all the difference in the world with how we view God. There are many things that happen to us in life that I do not believe are the will of God. Some are the result of our choices, some the result of the choices of others, and some for which there is no explanation. I do know that the Bible shows us a God who is always working to redeem every circumstance for good. The old saying is that hindsight is 20/20, which is usually how it works when it comes to what God is doing in a situation. One of the main goals of growth in the spiritual life is to shorten the time between God being at work and my being aware of it, particularly in difficult circumstances. In the interim, the question becomes, can I trust God when I can't see how He could possibly bring good from a bad situation? For us, St. Patrick becomes an example of a man willing to embrace a time of difficulty and let God use it for good in his life. Have a happy St. Patrick's Day, and be careful not to make any choices that God has to redeem for good!

REMEMBER TO JOIN OUR YOUTH FOR THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST FROM 7:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. THE COST IS \$10 FOR ADULTS AND \$5 FOR CHILDREN, AND THE PROCEEDS GO TO SUPPORT YOUTH MINISTRY TRIPS AND MISSION PROJECTS.

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP
SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025
8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
Second Sunday in Lent

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)

Charlotte Lee

Opening Voluntary (8:45) Londonderry Air arr. Joseph Martin

Opening Anthem (11:00) LONDONDERRY AIR

He Looked Beyond My Fault
Ericka Stack, mezzo-soprano

* **Hymn No. 451** Be Thou My Vision SLANE

* **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** GREATORIX

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.

Baptismal Covenant (8:45)

Wiley Carter Allsbrooks
son of Effie and Nic Allsbrooks

Congregational Response:

With love and thanksgiving we welcome Wiley as a member of God's family and Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church. By God's grace we will do all in our power to increase his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love that he may grow into a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ who walks in the way that leads to life.

Baptismal Covenant (11:00)

Margaret MacGregor Pross
daughter of Kathryn and Ryan Pross

Congregational Response:

With love and thanksgiving we welcome Margaret as a member of God's family and Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church. By God's grace we will do all in our power to increase her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love that she may grow into a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ who walks in the way that leads to life.

Children's Sermon

Charli Weeks

8:45 & 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. 611 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise STUTT GART

Offertory Prayer

Nelle Bordeaux

Offertory Solo (8:45)

LONDONDERRY AIR

He Looked Beyond My Fault
Ericka Stack, mezzo-soprano

Offertory Anthem (11:00)

St. Patrick's Hymn

Dan Forrest

May the strength of God pilot us,
May the wisdom of God instruct us,
May the hand of God protect us,
May the word of God direct us.
Be always ours this day and for evermore.

-St. Patrick, 5th century (Prayer for the Faithful)

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 pgs. 61,190) Luke 4:1-4, Galatians 5:16-26

Sermon "An Opportune Time Part 2: Life in a Body" Ben Martin

* **Hymn** Insert Christ Beside Me BUNESSAN

Benediction Ben Martin

Closing Response (11:00) A Gaelic Blessing John Rutter

Closing Voluntary Allegro from Symphony No. 2 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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Altar Flowers

The flowers by the altar today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Edith Lucile Dunnill Hamilton by Laura and Bob Pirkle.

Messenger Brigade

The Messenger Brigade will meet this Thursday, March 20 at 10:00 a.m. in Oliver Hall Room 205.

Grocery Items for Old Savannah City Mission

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

New Member Course

Our next New Member Course will be today, March 23 and 30 at 9:45 a.m.; both Sundays. Please call the church office to sign up, 912-232-0191. Nursery provided. Come to both Sundays. Class will join as a group on March 30.

Strategic Planning Retreat

The Administrative Board will be gathering for Wesley's Strategic Planning Retreat on Sunday, March 30, from 12:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and lunch will be served. If you are an Administrative Board member, please RSVP to Jennifer Brookins, jennifer@wesleymonumental.org by March 26.

Freedom Song: One Family's Struggle with Addiction—One Nation's Path to Recovery—Sunday, March 30, 4:00 p.m.— Congregation Mickve Israel

Concerns about addiction for you or your family? Then this Musical Play and follow-up Q&A session is for you! Freedom Song is a transformative musical that will shatter the myth of Jews being immune to addiction. By interweaving a Passover Seder with personal stories of addiction, Freedom Song poses one stark question— “what are you a slave to?” The cast of Freedom Song is not a cast of actors; they are actual addicts in recovery that have broken off the shackles of drugs, alcohol, gambling, and other destructive behaviors. By performing in Freedom Song, the interchanging cast members have an opportunity to answer questions from the audience and to share their experiences on how best to recover from a lifestyle of addiction. There is no fee to attend. Everyone is welcome and the play will be age appropriate for teenagers and older.

Lilies & Caladiums for Easter Sunday

Lilies and Caladiums will be placed around the altar to the glory of God on Easter Sunday, April 20 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 Monday, April 7. The cost is \$16.00 per plant and order forms may be found at all Sanctuary entrances or you can order and pay online wesleymonumental.org/2025-easter-flowers/

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks

Greeters: Lori Miller, Becky Endsley

Offering Steward: Jeff Miller

Ushers: Jeff Endsley, Richard Wilson

Partners in Prayer: Britt Griffin

11:00 Service

Acolytes: Charlotte Williams, Harper Sortor

Children's Worship: Blake & Lizzie Grimsley, Cameron Schmitz

Sunday School: Blake & Lizzie Grimsley

Greeters: Nancy & Woody Brown

Offering Steward: Chris Donegan

Ushers: Chris Donegan, Bart Rhodes, Don Riddle, Scott Rogers,
Jacob Sigmon, Vin Thomas, Christian Valdez, Matt West

Partners in Prayer: Adam Kobek

Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist

"About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose." Acts 16:25-26

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Grocery Sacking

Friday, March 21 in the Oliver Hall lobby, children and youth welcome. Bring a canned good. All are welcome!

Lenten Mission to Serve Babies and Mothers-to-Be at the Living Vine Christian Maternity Home

Children will take home a baby bottle to fill with coins, bills, and checks made out to the Living Vine Christian Maternity Home, which is a residential home for mothers, mothers-to-be, and babies. Please bring the filled bottle back to church on Palm Sunday, April 13. For youth and adults, please take home a baby bottle from the narthex window sill and return the filled bottle on Palm Sunday. Also needed is yard work help to mow and edge at the Vine's massive yard: Peter Delters leads this ministry on alternate Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m. all spring, summer, and fall; we are thankful to Don Riddle, Jr., for his many years of leading this ministry. Judi Painter is our liaison to the Vine.

Bible Studies

- Young Mothers' Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Oliver Hall Parlor with Bible Buddies meeting in the barrel vault room. Currently studying "Friendship in the Bible," "God and Moses," Exodus 33:12-23; 34:28-35; Numbers 12:1-8.
- Thursday Noon Bible Study meets Thursdays from noon to 12:30 p.m. via Zoom. Currently studying "All about Paul," 2 Corinthians 8.

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge, Senior Adults and Pastoral Care

Lunch and Learn

The next Lunch and Learn is scheduled for Sunday, April 6, following the 11:00 worship service in the Parlor of Oliver Hall. Judge Tom Bordeaux, Chatham County Probate Judge, will present "Probate Procedures and Pitfalls." All interested persons are invited to attend. A light lunch will be served. Please call the church office to make your reservation. Questions? See Carolyn Hale Cubbedge

Charli Weeks, Director of Children's Ministry

Empty Metal Cans Needed

Please bring empty metal cans that would hold about 1 ¾ cups of vegetables or fruits and place in the box by the water fountain on the second floor of the Education Building. Soup-size cans or smaller can also be used.



Vacation Bible School/Summer Fun Daze—Register Now!

As you begin to make plans for summer camps and vacations, be sure to reserve these weeks for VBS and Summer Fun Daze. To register for either event, scan QR code or visit: myvbs.org/wesleymonumental

- June 2-6 Vacation Bible School from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon for children 3 years old – 5th grade.
- July 14-18 Summer Fun Daze from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. for children who have completed Kindergarten – 3rd grade.



Sunday School and Children's Worship—Help Needed

Many thanks to everyone who has signed up to help in Sunday School and Children's Worship. There are still weeks where help is needed. Please scan the QR code or visit the link below to sign up for a week that fits your schedule. bit.ly/WMSundayAMVolunteerSpring2025

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

Youth Group

- Youth tonight with Lock-in after! If you forgot to sign up for the St. Pat's breakfast, text or email Maggie! We would love to have you join us!
- Join us on Wednesday Nights for our Midweek Bible study and fun! We are loving learning about Exodus and all the things it has to offer.
- Youth at the church next Sunday, March 23!
- Youth at the Gardens on March 30, van leaving the church at 4:30 p.m.
- We are in search of a Middle School Sunday School teacher to join our rotation! If you would be interested, please reach out to Maggie!

Micah Sprünger, Wesley Gardens Property Manager

Fourth Friday Retreat — Join us Friday, March 28

- **Morning Prayer & Solitude Retreat: 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Craving time alone with God? If so, you might find this meaningful. There's no cost or need for previous retreat experience. We'll begin in the Main House and provide an optional framework (via the Daily Office & Lectio Divina), but you can utilize the grounds and shape the morn as your soul needs. Micah's fresh roasted coffee will start pouring at 8:45 a.m., and spiritual direction with a local pastor will be available throughout the event.

Christian Swails, Wesley Gardens Spiritual Director

Today, Sunday, March 16 at Wesley Gardens Retreat

Come learn how to quiet your anxious mind and experience the presence of God through:

- GOD IN NATURE / REFLECTIVE WRITING - We will start at 4:00 p.m.



A Record of Our Faithfulness

Sunday Attendance: (03/09/25)

8:45 AM Worship	74	Nursery	XX
11:00 AM Worship	309	Children's Worship	XX
Online Worship Views	169	Sunday School	XXX
Total Worship	552		

Finances (03/09/25):

Total Budget for the Year	\$2,190,241.30
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date	\$509,061.88
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date	\$443,603.89

CHURCH STAFF

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

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
March 16, 2025

Sermon Extended

Monday	Luke 4:1-4	What is wrong with turning a stone to bread when he was hungry?
Tuesday	Galatians 5:16-21	How does physical desire get in the way of my spiritual life?
Wednesday	Genesis 1:26-27, John 1:14	How do we experience our physical bodies as "good"?
Thursday	2 Corinthians 4:7-5:10	What does Paul teach us about life in a physical body?
Friday	Galatians 5:22-26	What does Paul mean by "crucifying the body"? How do I keep physical desire from ruling me?

Sermon Notes

This Week at Wesley

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

Sunday, March 16

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
12:30 PM Beginner Handbells, SNC
4:00 PM Spiritual Formation, WGR
6:00 PM Youth Overnight

Monday, March 17

St. Patrick's Day
Eli's Place & Church Office Closed
7:00 AM Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser, FH

Tuesday, March 18

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Sunnyside Up
9:00 AM Eli's Place
9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study,
OH Parlor
9:00 AM Bible Buddies, OH
11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 205
6:00 PM Adult Handbells, SNC

Wednesday, March 19

9:00 AM Eli's Place
9:30 AM Eli's Place Chapel, SNC
11:00 AM Bible Study w/Ben, OH 205
7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal,
EB 4th Flr

Thursday, March 20

9:00 AM Eli's Place
10:00 AM Messenger Brigade, OH 205
12:00 PM Bible Study w/Nelle, Zoom

Friday, March 21

9:00 AM Eli's Place

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 Bordeaux912-234-9245
Fridays
Carolyn Cubbedge..912-308-3385

Wednesday Night Supper March 19

No Wednesday Night Supper or
Programs this week. See you next
Wednesday, March 26.

In Our Prayers....

Jamie and Jason Hopper, Bobby Staples, Toni Walker, Waylon Barrett Hinnant, Joe Armour (brother-in-law of Kim Grimmett), Dewayne Barfield (brother of Shirley Turner), John Conner, Carolyn Mills and Mark Mills (mother and brother of David Mills), Ed Derst, Khadra Turley (mother of Corie Turley), Adeline Hayes, Meghan Hitt, Joey Herndon (father of Erica Timmons), Berta Botkin, Terry Franz, Vicki Worden, Lulu Gribbins, Barbie Lientz, Dolores Park (mother of Jeff Endsley), Aaron Berkebile, Doug Moore, Debbie Andrews, Katie Townsend, Raine Rude, John Walter, 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, 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, Mary Hohnerlein (friend of Deanne and Ken Rimes), Byron Rogers, John Birkheimer, Eleanor McCurry, 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, 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 Brosnan Family
on the death of *Barbara Brosnan*,
wife of Dave Brosnan

The Knowles and Thomas Families
on the death of *Lon Knowles, Sr.*,
step-father of Vin Thomas

Meaningful Marriage

Tools for Connection

*Rejuvenate your marriage
with an unhurried
weekend together.*

Friday Night

March 28

5:30-8 p.m.

Free childcare with dinner provided
at Wesley Monumental UMC

6-8 p.m.

Dinner on the Terrace
at WMUMC

Saturday

March 29

9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Free childcare with lunch provided
at Wesley UMC

10 a.m-3 p.m.

Daytime Retreat
at Wesley Gardens

**Building a meaningful marriage is easier when
you can spend time with your spouse.**

Your marriage thrives on connection, but uninterrupted time with your spouse can be scarce. So we're eliminating the barriers that keep you from focusing on each other. On Friday, March 28 and Saturday, March 29, enjoy meals together, free childcare, and simple prompts to help you reconnect.

RSVP by Wednesday, March 26



Register online at
WesleyMonumental.org/Meaningful-Marriage
or call the church office.
912-232-0191