



Celebrating 157 Years 1868 - 2025

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

March 30, 2025

HALFWAY HOME

The season of Lent is forty days, not counting Sundays, six weeks of a journey with Jesus towards Jerusalem and the cross. We are halfway there. Lent is a season of fasting and penitence, a time for honest self-examination. At the halfway point, we must decide if we will press on or turn back. If we "gave up something for Lent," it is a good time to reaffirm our commitment or to restart it if it already fell by the wayside. This year, Easter is late and spring is early; the earth is in full bloom, and resurrection could not wait on the calendar. But waiting is important in Lent, giving our soul work through our spiritual disciplines time to take root. We are forming the holy habit of self-denial, the ability to say no to our bodies, our egos, and our culture. I, for one, confess my Lenten disciplines have been shaky at best, so I'm glad for a time to regroup and reinforce some resistance in my heart and mind. I'm finding my humanness to have a pattern. I'm good in the morning but not in the evening, my resistance is compromised by my weariness. It seems to be a pattern for the season of Lent, strong in the beginning but limping home on the homestretch. Remember, Lent is forty days, not counting Sundays. So today, on this Sunday, we can be as graceful with ourselves as Christ is with us. But tomorrow, we begin again, and Jerusalem is now on the horizon. May we finish well.

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP
SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025
8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
Fourth 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)

Laurel Gattis

Opening Voluntary (8:45) Prelude III in D Minor Felix Mendelssohn

Introit (11:00)

The Light That Is Felt

Charles Ives

Mary Beth Clary, mezzo-soprano

* **Hymn** No. 292 What Wondrous Love Is This WONDROUS LOVE

* **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.

Baptismal Covenant (11:00)

Charles Homer Jones
son of Sallie and Carson Jones

Congregational Response:

With love and thanksgiving we welcome Charlie 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.

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.

Administrative Board Upcoming Meetings

- Strategic Planning Retreat—Today, Sunday, March 30, from 12:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- March Administrative Board Meeting—Tomorrow, Monday, March 31 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and Zoom.

High School Girls' Bible Study During Lent

Mondays, 3:15 p.m.-4:00 p.m. during Lent, March 31, April 7, and 14. All are welcome. Bring a friend! Please come to Oliver Hall, 1st floor, Nelle's study. We'll have an after-school snack for the girls. Nelle will lead a Bible study on "Easter in All Four Gospels." Maggie and Nelle can't wait to see you!

Freedom Song: One Family's Struggle with Addiction—One Nation's Path to Recovery—Today, 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. 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—Deadline April 7

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/

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.

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks

Greeters: Linda Butler, Lori Miller

Offering Steward: Jeff Miller

Ushers: Jerry Benson, Jimmy Hill

Partners in Prayer: Henry Whitfield

11:00 Service

Acolytes: Haley Hess, Adair Thomas

Children's Worship: Katie & Sly Knight, Hannah Swails

Sunday School: Kat Gardner, Emily Robinson

Greeters: Randal Robinson, Linda Sapp

Offering Steward: Adam Hess

Ushers: Adam Hess, Tom Bordeaux, Fred Bozeman, Chandler Brannen, Doug Carroll, Jake Coakley, Jerry Cohn, Bobby Lee, Sam Daniel

Partners in Prayer: Mickey Rountree

Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist

Thank you to Mary Beth Clary for singing this beautiful poem by John Greenleaf Whittier set to music by Charles Ives.

A tender child of summers three, Seeking her little bed at night,
Paused on the dark stair timidly. 'Oh, mother! Take my hand,' said she,
'And then the dark will all be light.'

We older children grope our way From dark behind to dark before;
And only when our hands we lay, Dear Lord, in Thine, the night is day,
And there is darkness nevermore.

Nelle Bordeaux, Outreach and New Members

Help Cook and Serve 75 Urban Hope Guests April 14

Please cook a dish at home and help serve at Independent Presbyterian Church; please meet at 5:30 p.m.; the Urban Hope children and families arrive at 6:00 p.m.; we usually finish clean-up by 7:15 p.m. Needed are pulled pork, buns, salad, dill pickles, macaroni and cheese, green beans, BBQ beans, cut fruit, cookies, lemonade, large and small paper plates, plastic cutlery, cups, and napkins. Sign up with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

Family Promise Homeless Families Need Supper Cooks, April 20-26

Choose a night and cook a meal for about 15 homeless guests. Please deliver on your chosen night at 5:00 p.m. to White Bluff Presbyterian Church, 10710 White Bluff Road, to meet Nelle or Peggy Jolley. Sign up, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

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," "Elijah and Elisha," 1 Kings 19:1-21; 2 Kings 2:1-25.
- Thursday Noon Bible Study meets Thursdays from noon to 12:30 p.m. via Zoom. Currently studying "All about Paul," 2 Corinthians 10.

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.

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

Youth Group

- Youth at the Gardens today, Sunday, March 30, van leaving the church at 4:30 p.m.
- New High School Girls' Bible Study will be held on Mondays, from 3:15 p.m.-4:00 p.m. during Lent, March 31, April 7, and 14. All are welcome. Bring a friend! Please come to Oliver Hall, 1st floor, Nelle's study. We'll have an after-school snack for the girls. Nelle will lead a Bible study on "Easter in All Four Gospels." Maggie and Nelle can't wait to see you!
- 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.

Micah Sprünger, Wesley Gardens Property Manager

Enneagram Exploration, Today, Sunday, March 30

Calling all 11th and 12th graders! Ever wonder where your unique fears or motivations might come from or how God relates to your personality? Special afternoon happening this afternoon, March 30, at Wesley Gardens Retreat from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., guided by pastor & trained enneagram counselors Mike & Cheryl Frazier. It's free, though requested that you take the \$15 Wagner assessment (www.wepss.com/buy.asp) prior to the retreat. Expect good snacks, great conversations, and fresh insights about yourself and God. RSVP to abbiepsmith@gmail.com.

Christian Swails, Wesley Gardens Spiritual Director

Spiritual Practices

Spiritual Practices will resume this summer.



A Record of Our Faithfulness

Sunday Attendance: (03/23/25)

8:45 AM Worship	125	Nursery	XX
11:00 AM Worship	XXX	Children's Worship	XX
Online Worship Views	154	Sunday School	107
Total Worship	XXX		

Finances (03/16/25):

Total Budget for the Year	\$2,190,241.30
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date	\$582,973.60
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date	\$532,587.04

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Ben Martin.....	Senior Pastor	Jennifer Doki.....	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
Ericka Stack	Music Associate	Suzanna King.....	Director of Hospitality
Julia Flowers	Music Assistant	David Lindquist.....	Maintenance Tech
Charli Weeks	Director of Children's Ministry	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
March 30, 2025

Sermon Extended

Monday	Genesis 3:1-7	Why did God put the off-limits tree in the garden? What has He made off limits for me?
Tuesday	Luke 4:9-13	In what ways am I acting as if I do not have limits?
Wednesday	Luke 4:9-13	How might the devil use scripture against me?
Thursday	Deuteronomy 6	How are God's commands "limits" meant to protect and prosper us?
Friday	Exodus 20:8-11, Mark 2:23-28	How is the Sabbath meant to protect us?

Sermon Notes

This Week at Wesley

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

Sunday, March 30

- 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
- 12:15 PM Strategic Planning Retreat, FH
- 12:30 PM Beginner Handbells, SNC
- 4:00 PM Youth Choir, WGR
- 5:00 PM Youth Group, WGR

Monday, March 31

- 3:15 PM HS Girls' Bible Study, OH
- 5:30 PM Admin Board Mtg, FH/Zoom
- 6:00 PM Pacesetters, OH Parlor
- 6:00 PM Trombone Choir Rehearsal, SNC

Tuesday, April 1

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Sunnyside Up
- 9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study, OH Parlor
- 9:00 AM Bible Buddies, OH
- 11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 205
- 12:30 PM Amen Handymen, Meet at Wesley
- 5:30 PM Evangelism Comm. Mtg, Zoom
- 6:00 PM Adult Handbells, SNC

Wednesday, April 2

- 11:00 AM Bible Study w/Ben, OH 205
- 5:30 PM Dinner, FH
- 6:00 PM Children's Choirs, EB
- 6:00 PM Youth Bible Studies, OH 4th Flr
- 6:00 PM Ruthless Elim. of Hurry Study
- 6:00 PM Anxious Gen. Study
- 6:00 PM Grief Share
- 6:00 PM Young Women's Small Group
- 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, EB 4th Flr

Thursday, April 3

- 12:00 PM Bible Study w/Nelle, Zoom

Friday, April 4

- 5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal, SNC

Saturday, April 5

- 6:00 PM Wedding, SNC

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 April 2, 2025 Gumbo
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In Our Prayers....

Claire Frazier, Byron Boyd, Jamie and Jason Hopper, Bobby Staples, Toni Walker, Waylon Barrett Hinnant, Joe Armour, Dewayne Barfield, John Conner, Carolyn Mills, Mark Mills, Ed Derst, Khadra Turley, Adeline Hayes, Meghan Hitt, Joey Herndon, Berta Botkin, Bob Franz, Vicki Worden, Barbie Lientz, Dolores Park, Doug Moore, Debbie Andrews, Katie Townsend, Raine Rude, John Walter, Melissa McDonald and Family, Michael Baggott, John Martin, Sr., Rachel Spence, Jan Pullin, Dean Muenckler, Danielle Robertson, Roger Lemay, Jason Horton, Archie Davis, Ella Ealy, Adam Corey, Dolly Caylor, Sharon and Terry Knepper, Karen Nickles, Will Weeks, Lindsey Goldberg, Mary Hohnerlein, Oscar Cook, John Birkheimer, Eleanor McCurry, Doris Rothenberger, Walter Thomas, 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, Tim Mooney

Military Serving Abroad/Stateside

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

In Sympathy....

The Hall Family
 on the death of
Bettina Bass,
 grandmother of Geoff Hall

The Daniel Family
 on the death of
Bernice Jackson,
 grandmother of Amy Daniel

The Wallace Family
 on the death of
Dick Wallace,
 husband of Susan