

WESLEY WINDOW

DECEMBER 14, 2023

WORSHIP SERVICES

DECEMBER 17, 2023
3RD SUNDAY
IN ADVENT

Traditional

8:30AM

Sanctuary
Greg Porterfield

11AM

Sanctuary
Greg Porterfield

Scripture

Luke 1:26-38

Modern

9:30AM

Celebration Space
Scott Harris

11AM

Celebration Space
Scott Harris

Watch live at
www.wesleyumc.net

Livestream on
YouTube & Facebook

Video will be available



WESLEY
CHURCH

The Manger

My favorite manger scene is years old and by no means the most valuable possession among the Advent décor we place about our home. Mom gave it to us, what, thirty or more years ago? Ceramic, it has survived our children's toddler years, but barely. One lamb is missing an ear and now has a bobbed tail. The other has two legs amended so that it can no longer stand its own.

It now leans on the manger for its stability - and shouldn't we all? The single most critical moment, however, was years back when I looked into the manger and found the Baby Jesus missing. "Who took Jesus??" I bellowed. At which point one of the children said, "I put him in his mama's arms."

And I had not even thought to look there. For that reason, it is my favorite.

This Sunday, you are invited to bring your favorite manger scene and share it with the rest of us at Wesley. It is an appropriate thing to do. After all, isn't this the season where we remember God shared his Son with us?



JOIN US FOR
A WEDNESDAY
CHRISTMAS
SERVICE!

**Mid-Week
Modern**

6pm
Dec. 20

CANDLELIGHT NURSERY PROVIDED

THIS SERVICE WILL BE THE SAME AS THE
4PM MODERN CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.

Meet the Manger

What's so special about a nativity set? Besides its inherent importance of depicting the birth of our Savior, your family's personal set may evoke memories of Christmas past or bring to mind the people and places that reside somewhere in your long ago...

Maybe you got your set from a foreign country when your family was stationed overseas.

Or you cherish the one great-grandmother had on her mantle, passed down through the generations. Perhaps you received Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus as a wedding gift, and for many years after added wisemen, angels and shepherds until the set was complete.

And maybe your favorite could be the Fisher-Price Little People set that you used to teach your toddler about Jesus.

You're invited to bring your special set to church to share it and your story with the Wesley family. Sets will be on display Sunday morning, 9AM-12PM. Come enjoy holiday treats and the delightful Christmas experience of Meeting the Manger!



Drop-Off:

Saturday, 12/16, 12-1PM
Sunday, 12/17, 8-9AM

Pick-Up:

Sunday, Dec. 17/17, 12:30PM
Monday, Dec. 18/18, 9AM-5PM

Christmas Caroling

DECEMBER 16 @ 1PM
MEET AT THE CHURCH



OUR PRAYERS

Alcohol/Drug Addiction	Amy Eubanks	Earl Morgan
Tony Altman	Bret Evans	Daryl & Sharon Morse
Nate Anderson	Gordon & Betty Fair	Jamie Moxley
Lisa Atchley	Jerry French	Jane Moxley
Armed Forces	Homer Gaither	Scott Noss
Baker Family	Dee Gebhard	Frank & Peggy
Danny Barton	Greg Gelinas	Ondrea
Beery Family	Sue Haas	Jared Ondrea
Skylar Bernstein	Sulli Hajek	Julie O'Neal
Gena Berry	Bob Hall	Jared Overton
Rose Mary Bishop	Cindy Hall	Donna Palmer
Jim & Judy Bowman	Deborah Hall	Rusty Palmer
John & Darlynn	Mark Hall	Debbie Parker
Bradley	Kris Hardy	Eunice Parker
Pam Buckus	Jessi Hickey	Sam Passmore
Tim & Cindy Bufford	Shaun Hickman	Lily Patterson
Vickie Bufford	Dave Hinner	Gloria Prather
Garry Burkhart	Don & Betty Holck	David Radford
Benjamin Butler	Joe Jackson	Family
Diana Butler	Patricia Jameson	Susan Reitz
Gilbert Caride	Jimmy & Patsy	Steve Samborne
Branch Carter	Johnson	Johnny Seals
Gloria Cawley	Roger Johnson	Lonnie Servais
Frances Chandler	Jerry & Teresa Kelly	Stephen & Debra
Cherland Family	Jeri Key	Shockley
Chris & Lisa Childs	Olivia King	Richard Shouse
Christy Family	Taylor Laurson	Jack Smith
Megan Clark	Wanda Lee	Gary Sonnedeker
Kim Diane Cliett	Linda Linder	William & Marietta
Marie Creasy	Amy & Ava Litka	Steele
Audrey Dawe	Juliet Maddox	Bobby Strozier
Ann Dockal	Allyson Malcom	Family
Hannah Dodson	Dan Marshall	Melissa Tobakos
Walter & Linda	Michelle Mashak	Cynthia Trammell
Dodson	Haley McPhail	Jackie Troupe
Katherine Dore	Tony Medina	Waddell Family
Draper Family	Jeffrey Mims	Debi West
Raynetta Drinnon	Miller & Margaret	Megan Williams
Jennifer Earlenbaugh	Mims	Bonnie Wilson
Dolore Eckles	Bob Minton Family	Timothy Wirz
	Susie Miville	

OUR WEEKLY BREAD

Most everyone knows the song "Mary, Did You Know?" The beautiful lyrics contain powerful phrases like, "Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand" and "This child that you've delivered will soon deliver you." It's a stirring line of questions that causes listeners to stand in amazement at the power of our God.

We really don't know much about Mary except that she was a virgin and probably in her early teens. According to Luke 1:28, we know that she was "highly favored" and that "the Lord was with her." Even without a stunning resume, God used her. She was invited by the Creator of the universe to change the world. Many think the reason He chose her is because of her willingness. Upon hearing how this would play out in her life, Mary's response was, "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as You have said." (Luke 1:38) Mary simply said yes to her Lord with no conditions whatsoever.

Where are you in your life right now? How much of "you" have you truly surrendered? Is there something that you are missing out on because you won't let Him lead? We have a Messiah. His name is Jesus. He is the Savior of the world. He walked on water effort. He came and died to make us new. He gave sight to a blind man. He calmed a raging storm with his hand. He fed over 5,000 people with a tiny bit of bread and fish. He does the miraculous. And He has amazing plans for your life.

Squarespace.com

Baptism December 17

Savannah Bell Hammond

Born January 3, 2020

Daughter of Matthew & Brittany Hammond

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers on December 17 are placed to the glory of God to give thanks for the life of

Bill Kavanagh

by Sylvia and the children



FOOD & SUPPLY COLLECTION

DECEMBER: BABY FOOD & DIAPERS

If you can donate any non-perishable foods and household staples, please place them in the Mission Cart in the Biscuit Area.

OUR GIFTS - DECEMBER 10, 2023

• Operating	\$	64,874
• Received Through This Week:	\$	2,075,388
• Budgeted Through This Week:	\$	2,507,275

And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed for the Mighty One has done great things for me - holy is his name.

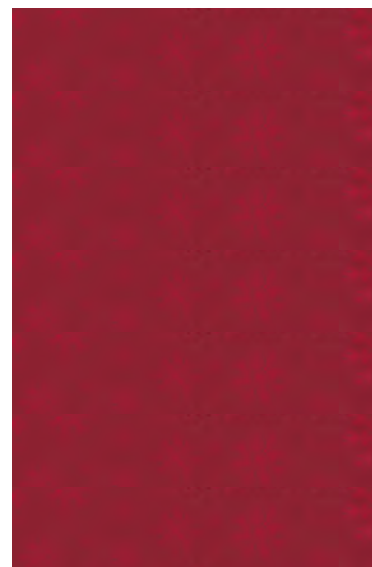
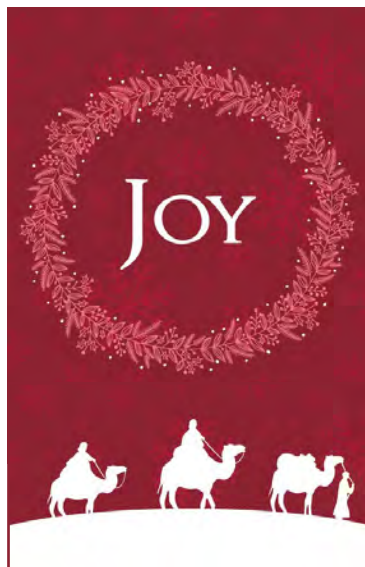
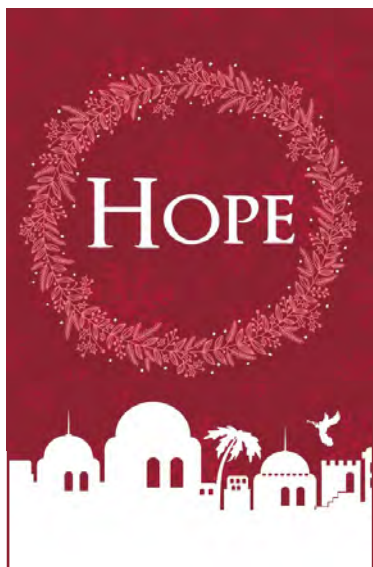
Luke 1:46-49



JOY

THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT





A Quick History of the Nativity Scene

The nativity scene represents the true spirit of Christmas with the birth of Christ. Although Frosty, the Grinch, Santa Claus, Christmas trees and carolers remind us of the holiday season, it's important to remember that they came along centuries after Jesus was born.

Over 800 years ago, St. Francis of Assisi showed us the first ever recorded nativity scene. He wanted to help children understand the true meaning of Christmas and remind the world the spirit of Christmas was to be treasured, not materialized.



St. Francis set up his scene with living people in a cave in Greccio, Italy. We still see live nativities here and there, but now we also have sets made of wood, clay, crystal, metal and all the materials in between. Displayed in our homes, churches, yards and stores, the stable, manger and people tell the story that is as old as Christmas itself.

Styles, colors and designs may differ with culture and taste, but they all represent the same basic pieces: a stable, manger, baby, mother and father. In the end, each is used to tell us that Christmas isn't just a time for gift giving or materialistic objects, but it is in fact a time to celebrate the birth of a Savior.



THIS WEEK AT WESLEY

Sunday - 17th

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT MEET THE MANGER

8:00a Nativity Drop-Off
8:30a Traditional Worship
9:30a Modern Worship
11:00a Modern Worship
11:00a Traditional Worship
12:30p Nativity Pick-Up
5:00p Family Pageant Rehearsal

Monday - 18th

9:00a Nativity Pick-Up
7:00p Scout Troop 615
7:00p Wesley Foundation

Tuesday - 19th

8:00a Men in Mission
7:00p Scout Troop 1615

Wednesday - 20th

10:00a Women's Bible Study
12:00 Students Alumni Lunch
2:00p Ambassadors Party
6:00p Mid-Week Modern Service
6:00p Handbells
7:00p Celebration Choir

Thursday - 21st

6:00a Men's Breakfast/Riverwood
9:15a Mom's Group
12:00p Wesley Kidz Skating/Party
6:00p Pickleball

Friday - 22nd

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED



**Senior Adult
LUNCHEON**

Thursday, Dec. 21, 12PM

**The Will & Dorie Show
from Millen, GA**

**Wife Saver Chicken
Bring a side dish \$7.50**

helen@wesleyumc.net to register.



**SCAN TO ORDER
OR VISIT
WESLEYUMC.NET**

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT
STUDENT MINISTRY**



**SCAN TO
REGISTER
BY
MONDAY,
12/18**

REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE

**You may have noticed the return of the teal
attendance pads in traditional worship.**

**Members and visitors, please print your name,
then pass it to other people in your row.**

**Visitors can receive Wesley information by providing
street and email addresses and phone number.
By doing this, we can better record your presence,
and you might just meet some new people!**



CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY PAGEANT DECEMBER 24, 11AM

Rehearsal: 12/17, 5PM



**WESLEY
CHURCH**

Helen Bissell.....Senior Adult Outreach
Rebekah Bryant ext 207.....Modern Music Director
Lisa Clayton.....Custodian
Laura Croft ext 210.....Preschool Director
Michelle Dodson ext 221.....Evangelism/Program Secretary
Amanda Ellis ext 203.....Finance Director
Ellyn Gilbert ext 224.....Student Ministries Coordinator
Jose Gonzales.....Custodian
Mark Haddon ext 206.....Facilities Manager
Scott Harris ext 205.....Associate Pastor
Laura Lowe.....Interim Assistant Music Director
Elaine Maxwell.....Pianist
Kate Morris ext 211.....Family Ministry Director
Greg Porterfield ext 201.....Senior Pastor
Makayla Rittwage.....Student Discipleship Coordinator
Carol Shikle ext 211.....Assistant Family Ministry Director
Kelley Sleeper ext 202.....Missions Assistant
Lindsey Solomon ext 223.....Associate Pastor
Aaron Talbott ext 213.....Pastor of Student Ministries
Jeff Wickell ext 225.....Music Ministries Director
Hillary Williamson ext 220.....Care Director

For a complete listing of staff contact information, visit wesleyumc.net.

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