

WESLEY WINDOW

JANUARY 22, 2026

Arrested

It's not a word that most people would want to begin a sentence with. "Hey Mom and Dad - I've been arrested and was wondering if you could come pick me up?" It is both parent and child's worst nightmare, the thing you hope never to hear. Everybody wants to steer clear of it. I have seen my fair share of resumes and I have yet to encounter the one that begins with, "I was arrested." Usually being arrested is a deal breaker, hard stop, end of the road. Where's the shredder? And why wouldn't it be? To be arrested means morality has been thrown to the wind, social norms have been violated. Doesn't it? If you've been arrested, it's the last thing, not the first thing, you begin an introduction with.

Except in the Bible. Did you know that there are over two dozen instances where people in the Bible are recorded to have been arrested. And many of them are luminaries of the faith. Joseph was imprisoned in Egypt. The prophet Jeremiah had a record a page long - read Jeremiah 32, 37 and 38. Micaiah was thrown in jail for standing up to the king. Paul made his arrests a part of his resume. He'd never make it through the second interview of any church position I had open. Peter was arraigned by no one less than King Herod, and finally, there is Jesus. We know how that turned out.

So maybe we shouldn't be surprised that in the gospel reading for Sunday, the reason for the beginning of Jesus' ministry is not because he had a "religious experience," but because he heard that John the Baptist was arrested. (Matthew 4:12-23) Or are those two things actually the same thing? That will be the subject of the sermon Sunday.

P.S. As I write these words on Wednesday, the weather forecast is unclear. Wesley's policy is always that your safety comes first and you should never endanger yourself if you are uncertain of weather conditions. That said, I don't believe I've never not had church on Sunday and I intend to be here Sunday. If you are uncertain, please check our Wesley website where we would announce any cancellations.

WORSHIP SERVICES JANUARY 25, 2026

Traditional
8:30 & 11:00AM
Sanctuary
Greg Porterfield

Scripture
Matthew 4:12-23

Modern
9:30 & 11:00AM
Celebration Space
Greg Hatfield

Watch live at
www.wesleyumc.net

Livestream on
YouTube & Facebook

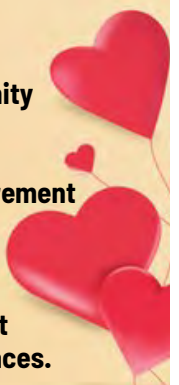
Video will be available
to view afterwards.



**WESLEY
CHURCH**

Smiles Are Our Business

Wesley Cares is reaching inside our church family and outside into our community to bring a kind smile and a loving touch to many. We are collecting individually wrapped snacks, toiletries and Valentines to bring a treat to our shut-ins. This collection also provides continued support for our monthly visits to a local retirement residence home. Each month Wesley Cares visits with cake, games and prizes in hand to celebrate the birthdays that month! We hope you will join this effort by providing a few snacks, maybe a toiletry or two, and as many Valentines as you can write! Place all of them in the Wesley Cares collection box in the Biscuit Area by February 1. Your simple act of kindness will bring a big smile to many faces.



OUR PRAYERS

Kara Alexander	Archie Fisher	Emily Newton
Charlene Alexander	Kimberly Floyd	Alicia Reeves
Lisa Arnold	Susan Gilbert	Dierdre Reeves
Betty Tanner	Dot Gleason	Kelli Reville
Brady	Don Hammett	Charlie Rockwell
John Bradley	Debra Ingram	Abby Roney
Delaine Brown	C. Eddy Ivey Jr.	Carol Roof
Kimberly D. Cliett	Jen Jetter	Dennis Scheyer
Robert Davidson	Olivia King	George Shealy
Bonnie Devereaux	Pat Lee	Chuck Smith
Jan Devereaux	Wanda Lee	Amber South
Cindy Dick	Todd Lindley	Heather South
Ski Doyle	Angie Livingston	Mowgli Stencil
Gene Draisey	Hannah Lotz	Lessie Thomas
Brian Ellefson	Clarence Malcom	Ruth Ann Waller
Amy Eubanks	Audrey McGuire	Bill Waples
Lauren Fackler	Glenda Metts	Bonnie Wilson
Irene Faucher	Aiden & Liam	Tucker, Cindy & John
Mike Fielder	Moultan	
	Lori Morgan	
	Carol Morse	

OUR WEEKLY BREAD

"Happy is he ... whose hope is in the Lord his God."
- Psalm 146:5

Happy is the one who has learned the secret of coming to God in daily prayer. Fifteen minutes alone with God every morning before you start the day can change circumstances and remove mountains! But all of this happiness and all of these unlimited benefits which flow from the storehouse of heaven are contingent upon our relationship to God. Absolute dependency and absolute yieldedness are the conditions of being His child. Only His children are entitled to receive those things that lend themselves to happiness; and in order to be His child, there must be the surrender of the will to Him. You do not come to know God through works - you come to know God by faith, through grace. You cannot work your way toward happiness and heaven, you cannot moralize your way, you cannot reform your way, you cannot buy your way. It comes as a gift of God through Christ.

Thank You, heavenly Father, for the gift of joy which comes from knowing Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.
- billygraham.org

OUR PRESENCE - JANUARY 18

8:30 Traditional	81	9:30 Modern	92
11:00 Traditional	154	11:00 Modern	92
TOTAL	419		

OUR GIFTS

• Operating:	\$	32,800
• Received Through This Week:	\$	112,610
• Budgeted Through This Week:	\$	147,838

Missions 2025 IN REVIEW

Restart: Provided beds for 302 people in our community who otherwise would not have one. This includes 156 families, 140 adults, 164 children and 19 veterans. The ministry has given away 3,889 beds since it began in 2014.

Men in Mission: Built wheelchair ramps for 36 people, some of whom are Wesley members.

Columbia County Cares: Collected 5,913 lbs. of food and staples for the food pantry.

Mechanics Ministry: Received 16 vehicles from generous donors and gave away 14 to people in need.

Yard Sales: Two sales netted \$80,000+ for mission groups within Wesley and outside our walls.

Thanks for your continued support of these missions!



COLUMBIA COUNTY CARES JANUARY FOOD & SUPPLY COLLECTION



**COFFEE
BODY WASH
DOG & CAT FOOD**


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

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Romans

Wednesdays, 6pm, Room 23

Join Pastor Greg to explore Romans, theologically the most influential book of the Bible.



FAITH 5K RUN

SATURDAY

In Motion

FEBRUARY 21 AT WESLEY
STARTING AT 8:45AM

Proceeds support Columbia County Cares.



CEREAL BOWL

FEBRUARY 8 DURING KIDZ SUNDAY SCHOOL

Bring your favorite cereal & join our annual cereal bowl competition!

DONATED CEREALS WILL SUPPORT COLUMBIA COUNTY CARES



WE'RE LOOKING!

Student Ministry Intern

Help lead and coordinate summer activities that will create community and facilitate spiritual growth in students and their families. Email ellyn@wesleyumc.net or visit wesleyumc.net/wesley-students to learn more.



WESLEY KIDZ Student Volunteers

Seeking caring & motivated students to serve in the Kidz hall on Sunday mornings.

Join Us for Training & Pizza Lunch!

Sunday, January 25, 12:30pm

Current & interested volunteers please attend.



VBS 2026

Planning Team Meeting
January 28, 6-7pm

Student Ministry Room
Childcare available.
Scan code to register.




AMBASSADORS

January 25	6:30pm	Program
February 1	6:30pm	Service Project
February 22	6:30pm	Program
March 20-22		Camp Glisson
March 29	12pm	Service Project
April 26	6:30pm	6:30pm
May 3	6:30pm	Party

REGISTER TO RECEIVE PROGRAM EMAILS.



3RD-5TH GRADES. BRING YOUR BIBLE.

Preschool Registration Opens Soon


Pick up registration packet prior to registration. Place the required items and payment in the registration packet envelope. Drop off registration packet to WPPK on the designated date.

Currently enrolled & siblings:
Register online to reserve a spot beginning February 2, 7AM. Monday-Wednesday, February 2-4PM. Bring packet back.

Wesley members, WPPK alumni: February 5, 2-3PM, drop off packets.

Open Registration: February 6, 9-11AM, drop off packets.

Return in person so it can be date and time stamped. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. If your class option is not available, you may place your child on a wait list. After February 6, email the WPPK office at wppk@wesleyumc.net or call 706-869-9807.



PICK UP & TAKE HOME FEBRUARY 8

SOUPER BOWL FUNDRAISER

Sunday

Support our Student Guatemala Mission Trip!

SCAN CODE OR VISIT WESLEYUMC.NET




COMING UP AT WESLEY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

8:30a Traditional Worship
9:30a Modern Worship
11:00a Modern Worship
11:00a Traditional Worship
11:00a Junior Church
5:30p K-2nd Children's Chor
6:00p 3rd-5th Children's Choir
6:00p Wesley Students
6:30p Ambassadors

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

7:00p AA Meeting
7:00p Scout Troop 615

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

8:00a Men in Mission
4:00p College Connection
7:00p Scout Troop 1615

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

10:00a Women's Bible Study
6:00p Pastor's Bible Study
7:00p Celebration Choir

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

9:15a Moms Group
7:00p AA Meeting

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

9:00a Faith in Motion Run Club

Women's WINTER BIBLE STUDY

"A Woman's Heart" by Beth Moore

WEDNESDAYS, 10AM

BOOKS AVAILABLE ON AMAZON



Parent Night Out
SQUISHMALLOW!
FEBRUARY 6, 5:30-8:30PM
GAMES, CRAFTS, BIBLE & SCIENCE
LESSON PLUS TONS OF FUN!
WESLEYUMC.NET TO REGISTER

FAITH In Motion

Join us behind the Evans Library
to run on Saturdays at 9am.
Bring a non-perishable food donation!
5K Run at Wesley on February 21!



REGISTER

Running to support Columbia County Cares



SUN
FEB
1

SUN
MAR
1

ADAPTIVE WORSHIP

2:00-2:30 PM | WESLEY UMC

JOIN US FOR A LOW SENSORY
WORSHIP SERVICE DESIGNED
WITH THOSE ATTENDING
IN MIND.

FOR DETAILS EMAIL
LAUREN@WESLEYUMC.NET



WESLEY CHURCH

Luke Amerson ext 207.....Modern Music Director
Helen Bissell.....Senior Adult Outreach
Laura Croft ext 210.....Preschool Director
Michelle Dodson ext 221.....Evangelism/Program Secretary
Amanda Ellis ext 203.....Finance Director
Leslie England ext 214.....Connections Director
Lauren Fackler.....Access Ministry Coordinator
Molly Furse.....Children's Music Director
Ellyn Gilbert ext 224.....Student Ministries Coordinator
Jose Gonzales.....Custodian
Mark Haddon ext 206.....Facilities Manager
Greg Hatfield.....Hospital Pastor
Joel Haywood.....Organist/Pianist
Greg Porterfield ext 201.....Senior Pastor
Makayla Rittwage ext 205.....Student Discipleship Coordinator
Carol Shikle ext 211.....Assistant Family Ministry Director
Kelley Sleeper ext 202.....Missions Assistant
Justin Smith.....Custodian
Aaron Talbott ext 213.....Family Pastor
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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@WUMCEVANS