

# WESLEY MEMORIAL

A METHODIST CONGREGATION

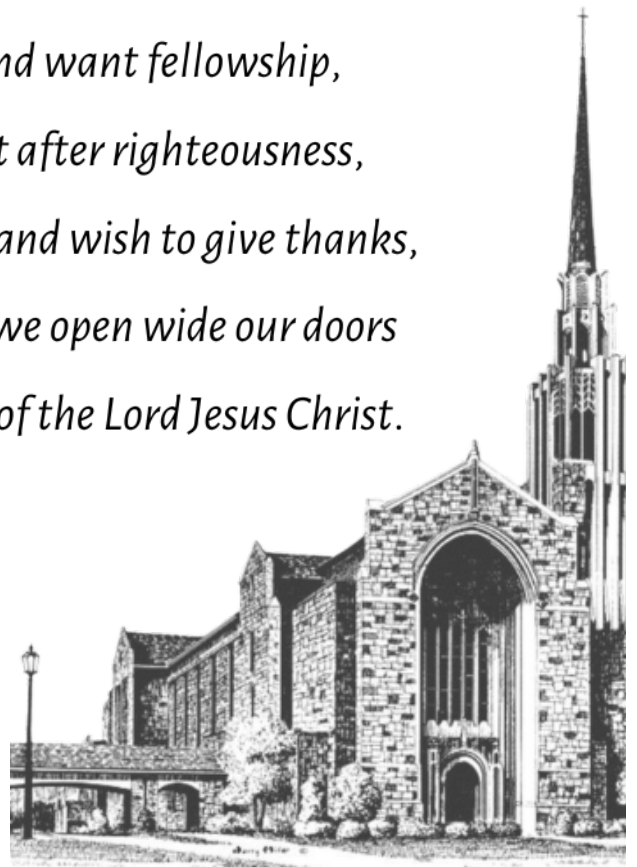
## WELCOME

To all who are spiritually weary *and seek rest,*  
to all who mourn *and long for comfort,*  
to all who struggle *and desire victory,*  
to all who sin *and need a Savior,*  
to all who are strangers *and want fellowship,*  
to all who hunger *and thirst after righteousness,*  
to all who have been blessed *and wish to give thanks,*  
and to whoever will come -- *we open wide our doors*  
*and offer welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

**SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2025**

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY 11:00**



*Our purpose is to make and sustain spiritually healthy followers of Jesus Christ who live in ways that transform the world.*



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

---

## PRELUDE

*O Savior, Hear Me*

Christoph von Gluck

The prelude is a time for people to become quiet, to meditate and pray, and to prepare their hearts individually for the worship of God.

## INTROIT

*Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

J.S. Bach

*Jesu, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright; drawn by thee, our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light. Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, with the fire of life impassioned, striving still to truth unknown, soaring, life attaining near thy throne.*

† CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER      Congregation reads bold print  
Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Let us pray:

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## † HYMN NO. 393

*God is Here*

ABBOT'S LEIGH

*God is here! As we Your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.*

*Here are symbols to remind us of our life-long need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.*

*Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us, as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.*

*Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work Your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive; we, who cannot live without You, we adore You! We believe!*

## Welcome!

Thank you for worshiping with us this morning! Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Notebooks during the announcements. If you are a guest, please leave your contact information and a pastor will contact you this week with more information about our church.

ABOUT  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH

For quick  
information about  
Children's Church,  
please scan me!



ON COMMUNION  
SUNDAYS WE PROFESS  
THE NICENE CREED, 325  
AD, THAT PROFFESSES  
THE FAITH OF THE  
UNIVERSAL CHURCH.

GIVING

Offering plates will be  
passed down each row  
during the service. To  
give online use your  
camera on your phone  
to scan the QR code  
to the right or text  
the word DETAILS to  
94000 to give online.



† PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Pray in Unison

**O holy merciful God, we confess that we have not always taken upon ourselves the yoke of obedience, nor been willing to seek and to do your perfect will. We have not loved you with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, neither have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. You have called us in the need of our sisters and brothers, and we have passed unheeding on our way. In the pride of our hearts, and our unwillingness to repent, we have turned away from the cross of Christ, and have grieved your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

BLESSING OF CHILDREN

*(children proceed to the front for a blessing and then exit through the pulpit side door for Children's Church)*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 12: 13-21 (Pg. 871)

This is the Word of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*"A Foolish Focus"*

Rev. Jeff Patterson

† NICENE CREED

We face the cross and profess in unison

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the one holy catholic\* and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

\* universal

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS



## OFFERTORY

*Panis Angelicus*

César Franck

*May the Bread of Angels become bread for mankind; the Bread of Heaven puts all foreshadowings to an end; Oh, thing miraculous! The body of the Lord will nourish the poor, the servile, and the humble. We ask You, O God Three and One, to visit us just as we celebrate You; along Your paths, lead us to where we are headed, to the light where You dwell. Amen.*

## † DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## † THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right and good to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your

wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



*Please be Seated*

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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, forever. Amen.**

#### THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs from under your table, but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us, Amen.**

## CARING CARDS

We share the names of some of our people who would be blessed to hear from you. There are cards in the Welcome Folders. Please write your encouraging message on the caring card and drop in the offering plate for us to address and mail.

SYMPATHY TO THE  
FAMILY OF TERRY  
CONDER WHO PASSED  
ON 8/29

Misty Conder (wife)  
Devon Conder  
(daughter)

SYMPATHY TO THE  
FAMILY OF DANIEL  
ODOM WHO PASSED ON  
8/31

Karen Odom  
(daughter)  
Jennifer Kallao  
(daughter)  
Jonathan Odom (son)

## SHARING THE EUCHARIST

*Please come to one of the 4 available serving stations and receive the bread and juice. Proceed to the next available station. If you need an individual cup of juice or a gluten-free wafer, please proceed to the center station. Our Stephen Ministers are available behind the communion rail if you wish for anointing with oil and prayer. (If you are unable to come forward and would like to be served at your seat, please let an usher know.)*

## MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION

### HYMN No. 49

*Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that Thou art- Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always; Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.*

*High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.*

### HYMN No. 113

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

ST. ELIZABETH

*Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O Thou of God and man the Son; Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor; Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.*

*Fair the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.*

*Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angel heav'n can boast.*

*Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations! Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine.*

### HYMN No. 561

*King of Kings*

KING OF KINGS

*In the darkness we were waiting without hope, without light; 'til from heaven You came running, there was mercy in Your eyes. To fulfill the law and prophets to a virgin came the Word; from a throne of endless glory, to a cradle in the dirt.*

*Refrain: Praise the Father, praise the Son, praise the Spirit, Three in one. God of Glory, Majesty; praise forever to the King of Kings.*

*To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost, to redeem the whole creation, You did not despise the cross. For even in Your suff'ring, You saw to the other side. Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus for our sake You died. Refrain*

*And the morning that You rose, all of Heaven held its breath 'til that stone was moved for good, for the Lamb had conquered death. And the dead rose from their tombs, and the angels stood in awe, for the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored.*

*And the church of Christ was born, then the Spirit lit the flame. Now this gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint. By His blood and in His name, in His freedom I am free, for the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me. Refrain*

† BENEDICTION

† THE CHORAL BENEDICTION  
*Amen*

Danish

† CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

† POSTLUDE

† Those who are able please stand.

---

**WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson, Senior Pastor

Reverend Clark Chilton, Contemporary Worship/Evangelism

Reverend Dr. Ken Lyon, Generosity/Church Vitality/Missions

Reverend Dr. Glenn Myers, Pastor of Visitation

Chancel Choir

Mr. Matthew Hoch, baritone

Mr. Chris Janney, Director of Contemporary Worship

Ms. Charli Mills, Director of Traditional Music and Worship Arts

Mr. Chris Ward, Organist

Mr. Nathan Peters, acolyte

Miss Brielle Keunnen, acolyte

Mr. Boone Chilton, crucifer

Miss Ella Hunt, Bible

**USHERS**

Mr. Warren Lackey

Mr. Jobie Redmond

Mr. J.J. Smith

Mr. Bruce von der Lippe

Mr. Kevin von der Lippe

Mr. Wayne Woodell

SERVICE NOTES: Texts of the Call to Worship, Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel taken from the English Standard Version Bible, The Book of Common Prayer, 2019, Anglican Liturgy Press, and The United Methodist Book of Worship, © 1992 The United Methodist Publishing House. Music: OneLicense.net A721606.





# WE ARE WESLEY MEMORIAL SCHOOL

*Train up a child in the way he should go;  
even when he is old he will not depart from it. ~ Proverbs 22:6*

## MISSION & IMPACT

Wesley Memorial School makes a lasting impact on its participants and the wider community by providing a safe, nurturing environment where every child is cared for and encouraged to grow. Through enrichment programs such as a reading incentive program, Kids' Kitchen, Praise and Worship, STEAM lab, and community events like our Spring and Fall Fests, children are given opportunities to learn, explore, and thrive. Our impact extends beyond academics—we walk alongside families in meaningful ways. This school year, for example, we have been supporting a family whose child is receiving treatment for leukemia at St. Jude's Hospital by sending tangible items, sharing lesson plans, and staying connected through ongoing communication. In these ways, Wesley Memorial School not only educates but also embodies Christ's love through compassion, community, and care.



## GENEROSITY & GIVING

Your gifts and generosity make a powerful difference in the life of Wesley Memorial School and its families. Through the scholarship fund, we are able to come alongside children and families in need—like the child currently undergoing treatment at St. Jude's whose dream was to experience school in a supportive, faith-filled environment. Because of the church's generosity, we can honor that dream and ensure that no child is left without the opportunity to learn, grow, and be surrounded by Christ's love. Continued giving allows us to pour into children who have a desire to attend a faith-based school, while also blessing and supporting families throughout our community. Each gift helps us further our mission of providing a nurturing, Christ-centered education that plants seeds of hope, faith, and lifelong impact.

WE ENGAGE  
WE EMPOWER  
WE EDUCATE

## INVOLVEMENT

There are many ways to get involved at Wesley Memorial School! You can help by subbing, volunteering at events, joining the yearbook or early childhood education committees, serving on the school board, or lending a hand in classrooms during special activities. Whether in leadership, the classroom, or behind the scenes, your gifts can make a difference in the lives of our students and families.



**OUR MISSION** is to provide a Christ-centered, academically rich environment for infants through kindergarten. Through small class sizes, guided play, and opportunities for independence, we nurture each child's social, emotional, spiritual, and academic growth—helping them reach their fullest potential and discover their unique gifts.





# WE ARE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

*Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me. Don't keep them away. The kingdom of heaven belongs to people like them." ~ Matthew 19:14*

## MISSION & IMPACT

Our Children's Ministry deeply impacts both families and the community by helping children grow in faith and drawing the church together in fellowship. Through weekly programs like Sunday School, Children's Church, and Wednesday Night Games and Gospel, as well as annual events such as Vacation Bible School, Summer Sports Camp, and the Epic Easter Celebration, children are given joyful opportunities to learn God's Word and share His love. The ministry's fruit is clear—7 children recently chose baptism, Bibles were given to kids who never owned one, and visitors are amazed at how much Wesley Memorial kids know about Scripture. By fostering faith, outreach, and worship, the ministry inspires children and families to live out God's love together.



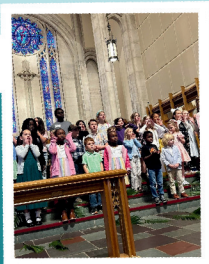
## GENEROSITY & GIVING

The generosity of Wesley Memorial Church makes every aspect of the Children's Ministry possible, from providing Bibles and meals to equipping events that share God's love with our community. A recent gift allowed us to host Mega Sports Camp for more than 70 children—a powerful outreach with eternal impact. As this ministry grows, we dream of expanding our ministry spaces so families feel welcomed into places where children can thrive and invite friends. We also seek to train more volunteers, ensuring that as God brings new families, we are ready to include them in the life of the church. Every gift helps us create opportunities for kids to encounter God's Word, experience His love, and carry it out into the community.



## INVOLVEMENT

Wesley Memorial's Children's Ministry is looking for volunteers to help share the love of Jesus with kids! Each week we need leaders for Sunday School, Children's Church, Wednesday Night Games & Gospel, summer camps, and special events. Whether teaching, assisting, or helping behind the scenes, there's a place for everyone to use their gifts. No matter your age, ability, or experience, if you love Jesus and want to use your God-given gifts to bless children, there's a place for you. We love our volunteers and are always recruiting—come join us!



## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to nurture the love of Jesus in children and families by encouraging faith at home, deepening biblical engagement, fostering prayer and discipleship, creating spaces to encounter God, and involving children in the life of the church.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome, guests! We're glad you're here. Scan the QR code on the left with your phone's camera to receive a free welcome gift!

Nursery childcare is available for infants through 2-year-olds during the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services, located in the Children's Ministry Hall. If you need help finding it, an usher will be happy to assist you.

Members and guests, please take a moment to fill out and pass the friendship folders located in each row.

Large print hymnals are available in the Narthex for those who need them.

To view the full church calendar, visit [wesleymemorial.org/calendar](http://wesleymemorial.org/calendar).

For more announcements, visit [wesleymemorial.org/announcements](http://wesleymemorial.org/announcements).

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<b>MONDAY, September 8</b> 10:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Bible Study with Pastor Jeff Ball & Bible Girl Scout Daisy Troop Cub Scouts Boy Scouts AA Meeting	Media Center Fellowship Hall Children's Ministry Wing Dining Hall Scout Room Adult Wing D208
<b>TUESDAY, September 9</b> 12:15 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Handbells Rehearsal Card Ministry Meeting Board of Directors Meeting	Adult Wing D212 Circle View Room Circle View Room
<b>WEDNESDAY, September 10</b> 7:20 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 6:45 p.m.	John Willett's Men's Bible Study Prayer Shawl Ministry Fall Kickoff: Wednesday Dinner (served until 6:30 p.m.) Vespers Handbells Rehearsal GriefShare Wesley Memorial Students (Grades 6-12) Disciple Bible Study Fall Kickoff: Magician Paul Spring Men's Bible Study Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Dining Hall Conference Room 3 Dining Hall Chapel Adult Wing D212 Adult Wing D203 Student Ministry Wing Circle View Room Fellowship Hall Conference Room 3 Choir Room
<b>THURSDAY, September 11</b> 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Contemporary Praise Team Rehearsal AA Meeting AlAnon	Fellowship Hall Adult Wing D202 Adult Wing D201
<b>SUNDAY, September 14</b> 7:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Televised Worship Service Traditional Worship AA Meeting Contemporary Worship Children's Ministry Sunday Funday Youth Sunday School Adult Sunday School Chancel Choir Rehearsal Small Groups/All Welcome Traditional Worship Children's Church Blessed Beginnings: A study for new, expecting & preschool moms	WGHP, FOX8 Chapel Adult D202 Fellowship Hall Children's Ministry Wing Student Ministry Wing Adult Wing Choir Room Dining Hall Sanctuary Children's Ministry Wing Circle View Room





WEDNESDAYS ARE BACK

# FALL KICKOFF

MEAL ● MAGICIAN ● MUSIC

SEPTEMBER 10

Have you been missing our Wednesday night dinners?  
Come join us for our Fall Kickoff on Wednesday,  
September 10 in the Dining Hall! We'll celebrate the end  
of summer and the start of a new season of ministry with  
a delicious meal and entertainment for the whole family.

Dinner begins at 5:15 p.m. – barbecue, baked beans,  
slaw, roll, salad bar and banana pudding

Live Music – our own Olivia from the Contemporary  
Worship Praise Team will provide uplifting music during  
the meal.

Entertainment – from 6:45–7:30 p.m., enjoy an incredible  
performance by Paul Spring with Rocking Rabbit Magic,  
sure to amaze both children and adults!



### Card Ministry Meeting

Join the Caring Card Crew to spread joy through hand-written notes. We meet the second Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in the Circle View Room to review prayer concerns and choose names from the prayer list and directory; during the month, members send cards to those selected. No registration or supplies required—just a heart to encourage others. Next meeting: Tuesday, September 9.

### Monday Bible Study: God's Plan for the Jews

Pastor Jeff will lead God's Plan for the Jews: A Study of Romans 9–11 beginning Sept. 8 and continuing through Dec. 8. The group meets Mondays at 10:30 a.m. in the Media Center. The study will explore Paul's teaching in Romans 9–11 on God's plan for Israel now that Jesus Christ has come. Register by calling the church office at 336.884.2204 or email [receptionist@wesleymemorial.org](mailto:receptionist@wesleymemorial.org).

### Disciple Bible Study

Disciple Bible Study at Wesley continues with a new class, Wednesday nights beginning Sept. 10. This year's study will follow the Disciple 3 curriculum, entitled "Remember Who You Are." It delves into the writings of the Old Testament prophets and the travails of the Israelite people during the monarchy days (first semester), and then offers a close study of the Letters of Paul (second semester).

Disciple is a 30-week study with preparatory Bible and handbook reading plus weekly two-hour classes. The various Disciple courses have reached millions worldwide, immersing them not only in Bible study but also in an enriching spiritual experience with fellow Christians. The relationships created are long lasting; the fellowship unforgettable.

Tucker Mitchell is leading this year's class. It's his fourth Disciple class at Wesley and his 16th overall.

The class will meet Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. in the Circle View Room at Wesley. Classes last about two hours. For more information, or to sign up, contact Tucker at [tuckermitchell4104@gmail.com](mailto:tuckermitchell4104@gmail.com), or call him at 843.409.5587.

### Ministry Team Update

A Ministry Team Update meeting will be held on Sept. 16th, at 6 p.m. in the dining hall. All are invited and encouraged to attend this event. Whether you are on a ministry team or not, this is a wonderful time to learn more about the wide-ranging opportunities to serve here at Wesley Memorial, and to discover areas in our church and community that are aligned with your passions. As service is a foundational part of our faith journey, please join us in this celebration of our ministry teams.

### Constitution Day Bell Ringing

On Wednesday, September 17, our church bells will ring at 4 p.m. to mark the 238th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787. This observance is part of "Bells Across America," a nationwide tradition sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution during Constitution Week, September 17–23. We invite you to pause in prayer and gratitude for the freedoms we share.

### A Study of First Corinthians with Pastor Jeff

Pastor Jeff will begin his new Bible study, A Study of First Corinthians, on Sept. 17. The study runs through May 13, 2026, and meets on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the dining hall or at 6:45 p.m. in the media center. First Corinthians is filled with practical Christian truth. Paul founded the church in Corinth, but the believers struggled to leave their old lives behind and embrace their new identities in Christ. Topics include church divisions, sexual immorality, lawsuits among believers, marriage, worship services, women's role in the Christian community, the work of the Holy Spirit and spiritual gifts, Holy Communion, and the resurrection of the body. Register by calling the church office at 336.884.2204 or emailing [receptionist@wesleymemorial.org](mailto:receptionist@wesleymemorial.org).



### Single & Parenting Support Group

Being a single parent isn't easy. You may feel exhausted, overwhelmed, and underappreciated—and you're not alone. We welcome you to attend Single & Parenting—a supportive group where you can connect with others who understand your challenges and discover practical tips to help you thrive.

Join us starting September 17 for:

- Free Dinner
- Children's ministry program offered 6-7:30 p.m. for ages two through fifth grade
- Encouragement, wisdom, and real-life parenting support

This group will meet for 13 weeks starting Wednesday, September 17th at 6:00 p.m. in D202. Take a break. Focus on *you*. Find rest, hope, and community.

Registration available at [wesleymemorial.org/sandp](http://wesleymemorial.org/sandp).

### Financial Peace University

If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone.

You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time for your struggle to end—starting today. Financial Peace University is the nine-week class that's helped nearly 10 million people learn step by step how to beat debt and build wealth. Class starts on Wednesday, September 17th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in room D201. Join us and learn how you can pay off debt, save more money, and build wealth. The cost is \$79 per household. More information and link to register available at [wesleymemorial.org/financial-peace](http://wesleymemorial.org/financial-peace) Note: scholarships available.

Learn *God's ways* of handling money.

### New Group for Moms

Blessed Beginnings is a Bible study for expecting, new and preschool moms that meets the first and third Sundays of each month at 2 p.m. in the Circle View Room at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church. The group includes Bible study and discussion, complimentary childcare, prayer and support for moms, and fellowship with women who understand the joys and challenges of raising young children. Refreshments and resources for growing families are also provided. Come as you are and leave encouraged. RSVP by emailing [communications@wesleymemorial.org](mailto:communications@wesleymemorial.org).



### Carolina Christmas Bazaar – General Store Donations

Storage for General Store donations will be available soon in the church parking lot! We welcome your gently used household items, seasonal décor, toys, purses, accessories, and more.

Please note: No clothing, large furniture, or electronics can be accepted.

To arrange a drop-off time, contact:

- Debbie Lassiter at 336.880.7111
- Teresa Swartz at 336.847.1793

Thank you for supporting the Wesley Women and the Carolina Christmas Bazaar!

### New Couples Group Starting in September

We're excited to launch a New Couples Group for those ages 45 and under. The group will meet in the Fellowship Hall after the 9:30 service on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, beginning in September. Our first topic of discussion will be communication. Children are welcome to attend Children's Church or the nursery during this time. If you have any questions, please reach out to Abigail at [afelton@wesleymemorial.org](mailto:afelton@wesleymemorial.org).

### Caregiver Support Group

Are you supporting aging parents? Walking with someone through chronic illness, dementia, or mental health challenges? Navigating foster care? Helping a loved one heal from trauma? You're not alone. We're forming a group reading *The Heart of a Caregiver*—a space to share, connect, and be encouraged. A time of respite for yourself. If you're interested in joining or want to learn more, reach out to Abigail at [afelton@wesleymemorial.org](mailto:afelton@wesleymemorial.org).

**PRICES /Person**

- \$455 Triple room
- \$469 Double room
- \$575 Single room

3 Days and 2 Nights Oceanfront  
December 1st-3rd  
(Depart Mon - Return Weds)

**Senior Adult** Exclusively for our SENIOR ADULTS 60+ yrs

**MYRTLE BEACH CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA!**

The South's **GRANDEST CHRISTMAS Show**

This trip is exclusive for our Wesley Memorial Seniors and their invited guests. Our Motorcoach will not include pickups of other groups. Daily itinerary presented at a later date - yes! It will include some free time for beach walking! Attractions we will attend are:

- Alabama Theatre - See the South's Grandest Christmas Show!
- Legends In Concert Christmas Show- Tribute Artists perform their Christmas classics
- Barefoot Queen - Dinner Cruise with Christmas entertainment on intercoastal waterway
- Tanger Outlet Center- Find great deals on our shopping trip!

#### Package Includes

- ✓ Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation on HOLIDAY TOURS including Wi-Fi and Electric
- ✓ Pickup and Return to Wesley Memorial
- ✓ 2 Nights Lodging - Oceanfront Hotel
- ✓ Meals: 2 Breakfasts at Hotel; 1 Lunch; 1 Dinner

#### More Information

For more information about this trip call or email Susan Sumpter:

336-848-4128

[susan.m.sumpter@gmail.com](mailto:susan.m.sumpter@gmail.com)

RSVP TO FRONT DESK NOW! CALL (336) 884-2204  
\$100 DEPOSIT DUE BY AUGUST 31 | 2ND DEPOSIT OF \$100 DUE SEPT 14  
FULL BALANCE DUE OCT 15

### Looking Ahead

Several upcoming dates to note in the life of our church:

- No Wednesday night dinner on Nov. 5 or Nov. 12.
- Rise Against Hunger will take place Feb. 1, 2026.
- Evensong service is set for March 1, 2026 at 4 p.m.
- Gary Chapman returns on March 7, 2026.
- The School of Methodism will be March 20–21, 2026.

**Autumn Lights: Candlelight Prayer Service**  
**Sunday, Sept. 28 | 6:30-7 p.m. Fellowship Hall**  
**Registration begins at 6 p.m.**

**Raising Awareness and Financial Support to Benefit  
ALZHEIMER'S / DEMENTIA PATIENTS  
& THEIR CARE PARTNERS**

Whether you are a Care Partner alongside your loved one on the Alzheimer's/Dementia journey, or a faithful supporter for ending this disease - we recognize and honor the challenges and sacrifices of the Patient's friends and family members. We know your devotion is not an easy path, but a beautiful gift of LOVE.

At Wesley Memorial, we seek to bring "AUTUMN LIGHT" by offering a special worship service of Wholeness and Healing. ALL FAMILIES OF ALL FAITHS are invited to participate in this candlelight service of Music and Prayers. Please share the date of Sunday, September 28 with community friends. Upon arrival, attendees will receive a candle votive in a glass jar. Printed information will be available for those seeking programs of support.

All will be invited to write names on paper flowers of loved ones affected by this devastating disease. Our pastors will pray over these names. Should you feel led to make a donation, 100% will be given to the Alzheimer's Association of Guilford County.



*Sponsored by the Senior Adult Council of Wesley Memorial*

**Membership Updates**

In efforts to keep our membership database updated, we are asking all members to report any family changes. Change examples include birth, marriage, baptism, transfer, death in family, and any changes to contact information such as email, phone #, and address. If you are not a member, but are very active in the church, please feel free to reach out and update your information as well! To send your updates please email [info@wesleymemorial.org](mailto:info@wesleymemorial.org) or email [icruzvalencia@wesleymemorial.org](mailto:icruzvalencia@wesleymemorial.org) for further questions.

**The Benevolence Fund**

This fund is used to meet needs in our community. If you'd like to contribute, please make checks payable to the church and mark them "Benevolence Fund."

**Join Our Prayer Team**

Do you feel called to the ministry of intercessory prayer? We are seeking prayer warriors of all ages and stages who will pray before, during and even after our church services each Sunday. If interested contact Pastor Clark at 336-812-4813 or [cchilton@wesleymemorial.org](mailto:cchilton@wesleymemorial.org)

**Generosity Forms**

A spiritually healthy follower of Christ grows in all practices—including generosity. Will you take your next step in spiritual generosity? Scan the QR code or visit [www.wesleymemorial.org/wearewesley](http://www.wesleymemorial.org/wearewesley).



---

## Sermon Growth Notes

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---