

WESLEY WINDOW

FEBRUARY 23, 2023

WORSHIP SERVICES

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

**Traditional
8:30AM**

Sanctuary
Greg Porterfield

11AM

Sanctuary
Greg Porterfield

**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
to view afterwards.**



**WESLEY
CHURCH**

Giving Up Bread

The season of Lent has arrived, and it was observed well at Wesley. Throughout the day there was an opportunity for you to receive the imposition of ashes both here at church and outside. Hundreds of you took advantage of the experience in our Celebration Space and elsewhere; I am grateful to Kate Morris who made possible this contemplative and interactive time which everyone appreciated. The Ash Wednesday service at 7pm was as beautiful and moving as any I have ever observed. The music was powerful in its depth and richness, and the room, cast in purple light cloaked in darkness, shared what only words would be at a loss to convey. These 40 days are not just any time and this is not just another experience - this is Lent. First, a word of appreciation to Jeff Wickell, Elaine Maxwell and our choir, who provided such a profound experience as we enter into this sacred season. There is much more in store for these coming weeks, and you will not want to miss any of it.

And as to Lent - I have made my annual vow to give up bread. You know - that thing I do every year and fail miserably in my resolve. I am happy to report, now deep into this time (36 hours), I have not had a bite of bread. Not that I haven't already encountered temptation. No sooner had I begun my vow than did a box of Hero's Donuts arrive to the church. At first I rationalized. I mean, I had only vowed to give up bread (you know, the loaf kind); surely donuts are an entirely different culinary species than bread. I knew immediately that such logic would not fly. Then I thought, well, really donuts are much more a member of the cake family than bread family, and I had said nothing about giving up cake. Again, honest reflection prevented me from making such a moral argument.

When in such a dilemma it is good to seek the counsel of others so I asked the staff what I should do. Lindsey said, "You know Lent doesn't officially start until after the service at 7:00." While I appreciated the sentiment, I am not sure to what liturgical calendar she was referring. No, I'm stuck, though I will tell you it is easier to resist the one remaining day-old donut than the ones delivered freshly yesterday.

That is the point, you understand. The season of Lent is not an exercise in simple self-improvement. It is true: I could stand to lose 10 pounds (okay, 15 or 20); still you get my point. The purpose of Lent is to say that going your own way doesn't get you where you want to go. Lent interrupts our journey and if we let it, resets our course. I once thought that my reluctance to confront temptation was that it would reveal my weakness. I know now it reveals my desires. Most of what is temptation is really chaff - distraction from what I know I really want and for certain what I need. You will not find this guidance anywhere other than in prayer and at church. I look forward to seeing you Sunday on our journey that when done well arrives at Easter.

See you Sunday online or in person.

**FOOD
DRIVE**

4,464 lbs.

Collected through 2/23

**Donations accepted through
Tuesday, February 28!**



OUR PRAYERS

Alcohol/Drug Addiction	Franklin Family	Jamie Reynierson
Kim Aiken	Jeff Freehof	Rickerson Family
Phil Aldridge	Jerry French	David Rivers & Family
Armed Forces	Justin Gilstrap	Margaret Rutledge
Baker Family	Donald Grant	Debbie Saxon
Marie Bantling	Hawn Family	Katie Scarboro
Danny Barton	Emily Henderson	Dennis & Bea Scheyer
Joanne Bazemore	Norm & Chris Hess	Deborah Scott
Beery Family	Dave Hinner	John Sears Family
Bible Family	Eleanor Hinson	Lonnie Servais
Marlin Bowman	Stephanie Huggins	Ed Sheats Family
John & Darlynn Bradley	Carol Hutchins	Stephen & Debra Shockley
Judy Brown	Patricia Jameson	Simpson Family
Ruby Brown	Sharon Jenkins	Gary Sonnedecker
Pascal & Barbara Bryant	Jimmy & Patsy Johnson	Grant Steerman
Tim & Cindy Bufford	Roger Johnson	Tom Stembridge
Vickie Bufford	Leazura Farmily	Bobby Strozier
Diana Butler	Linda Linder	Eddie Tanner Family
Courtney Calvert	Amy & Ava Litka	Melissa Tobakos
Ella Cassidy	Linda Mancini	Tucker Family
Francis Chandler	Pete Miller	Al Tybner
Dennis Christy	Jeffrey Mims	Carolyn Tyner
Jim Courson	Miller & Margaret Mims	Dea Tyner
Jada Daves	Glynn Moore	Lance Tyner
Ken & Cindy Dick	Daryl & Sharon Morse	Jimmy Vaughn
Phoebe Dinkins	Jamie Moxley	Jane Verran
Ann Dockal	Randall Newton	Kaylee West
Natalie Dray	Scott Noss	Cody Williams
Eppenbrock Family	Norris O'Dell	Jessica Wilson
Amy Eubanks	Geraldine Owens	Ralph & Jeannie Zeringue
Faigler Family	Sarah Pence	Katie Zix
Irene Faucher	Dana Pinkerton	
Holly Faux	Sidney Putnam	
Malik Frails	Ray Rash	
	Louise Reeves	

OUR WEEKLY BREAD

It's the beginning of Lent, a 40-day time of repentance. But to focus only on repentance is to miss what the season really can offer. It's so much more than a period of groveling for how low we are as sinners. It's more about renewal and preparation than repentance. It's a time to sweep away the cobwebs - to let the distractions of life be purposely removed. It involves an introspective gaze toward the actions, emotions and thoughts that keep us from experiencing Christ-likeness, but that doesn't mean we should walk around depressed for 40 days.

Scripturally, repentance shows a very different reaction than groveling and depression. Sure, there is an awareness of the sin and the barrier that it creates between us and God, but the awareness is there to lead us to restoration. Many people miss this important piece of repentance. They repent of something and then continue to feel bad about what they had done, or how they had let God and others down. The problem with that thinking is that it's not at all how Jesus saw repentance!

Jesus told the woman caught in adultery that she wasn't condemned. Instead of shunning the tax collectors, Jesus ate with them and celebrated their turning. The sick he healed, the possessed he freed, the children he blessed and the widows he embraced. Jesus believed that heaven rejoiced when sinners repented. And his largest words of criticism were for the religious folks who paraded their piety. Jesus rejoiced when the lost were found - he threw parties for those who found redemption. Repentance leads to renewal.

That's what Lent is - a time to begin preparations. It's a season of renewal and a time to sit still and reflect. What is clogging up your life - your mind, body, soul - from truly being prepared to see Jesus? What is distracting you and causing life to become out of focus? What could you strip away so that you could experience renewal this Lenten season?

Jim Nichols, Kentucky Conference UMC

*Create in me a clean
heart, O God, and
renew a right spirit
within me.*

(Psalm 51:10)



FOOD & SUPPLY COLLECTION

FEBRUARY: CRACKERS, TOOTHBRUSHES & TOOTHPASTE

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

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation;
and uphold me with thy free spirit.

OUR GIFTS 2/19/2023

• Operating	\$	36,516
• Received Through This Week:	\$	318,651
• Budgeted Through This Week:	\$	401,164

Welcome to Wesley!

NEW MEMBERS



IRENE PAINTON, CHERYL NYLUND & KIRK NYLUND

February 19, 2023

WE COMMEND THESE PEOPLE TO YOUR LOVE AND CARE. DO ALL IN YOUR POWER TO INCREASE THEIR FAITH, CONFIRM THEIR HOPE, AND PERFECT THEM IN LOVE.

Fill Eggs with Candy for the Hunt for Easter

Pick up a bag full of plastic eggs in the biscuit area.
Return filled with candy/toys/coins by March 1.



HUNT FOR EASTER

- Free Book for First 100 Families
- Petting Zoo
- Interactive Storytelling
- Photo Ops
- Easter Egg Hunt

**March 11
10:30AM-1PM
Wesley Lawn**

Follow along the story walk to help your child better understand Easter. Meet Mary, a Roman guard. Hear from an angel. Make some bath salts. Pet a bunny and a baby goat. Share a prayer and leave with a meal time prayer cube. Depart with a take-home Easter Egg hunt complete with a special "Jesus" surprise.

First 100 families receive a copy of *'Twas the Morning of Easter*.

At 9AM we will host special needs kids for a less chaotic experience.
We open for everyone at 10:30AM.



The Preschool still has openings in Toddler through Kindergarten classes. Registration is ongoing. Contact 706-869-9807 or wppk@wesleyumc.net.

Donations Needed

Pens Paint brushes Fish line
Glue sticks Acrylic paints
Stringable beads (assorted colors)
White small art canvases (approximately 12x12)
Felt-tip & Crayola fine tip markers (assorted colors)



Please bring donations to the church office.



March Kayak Adventures

SCAN TO REGISTER OR GO TO



WESLEYUMC.NET/RESOURCES

Fridays 9 a.m.
Meet at Betty's Branch
March 3, 10, 24 31

Scripture-Based Day Camp

Rising 1st-6th graders can grow spiritually, individually and socially at GROW Day Camp.

Transportation available from Wesley - drop off at 8:15am / pick up at 5pm. Visit wesleyumc.org/resources to reserve a spot.



**JUNE 5-9
White Oak Campground**

REGISTER FOR CAMP AT GROWDAYCAMPS.ORG



MARCH 16 @ 6PM

THE FOUNDRY 801 GREENE STREET
\$25 PER PERSON

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY WESLEY FOUNDATION

THIS WEEK AT WESLEY

Sunday - 26th

8:30a Traditional Worship
9:30a Student Foundations Class
9:30a Modern Worship
11:00a Modern Worship
11:00a Traditional Worship
6:00p Student Ministry
6:00p Divorce Support
6:30 Adult Foundations Class

Monday - 27th

7:00p Scout Troop 615
7:00p Wesley Foundation

Tuesday - 28th

8:00a Men in Mission
10:00a Spiritual Formation
7:00p Scout Troop 1615

Wednesday - 1st

10:00a Ladies' Bible Study
5:00p Supper
6:00p Programs & Classes
6:00p Handbell Choir
7:00p Celebration Choir

Thursday - 2nd

9:15a Mom's Group

Friday - 3rd

Women's Weekend

Saturday - 4th

Women's Weekend

WEDNESDAYS

— AT —

WESLEY

MARCH 1: CHICK-FIL-A!

SANDWICH, WAFFLE CHIPS, COOKIE: \$7.50
CHICK-FIL-A NUGGETS KIDS MEAL: \$5.00

WESLEYUMC.NET/RESOURCES

TO RESERVE BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 12PM

KIDZ PAW PATROL PLAY DAY



SATURDAY, MARCH 4
10AM-2PM

WESLEYUMC.NET/RESOURCES TO REGISTER

FOOD DRIVE

LET'S FEED THE HUNGRY

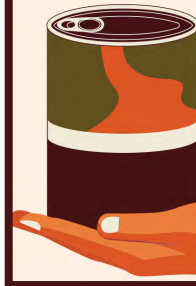
ALL OF
FEBRUARY

NON-PERISHABLE & UNEXPIRED FOOD ONLY

Canned Goods: pork & beans, tuna, carrots, corn etc.

Staples: saltines, mac & cheese, rice-a-roni, pet food, etc.

Toiletries: dishwashing liquid, sanitary products, toilet paper



WESLEY
CHURCH

YARD SALE

SATURDAY, MARCH 25
7AM-12PM

DROP-OFFS BEGIN
MARCH 8!

SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
3-6PM THROUGH MARCH 19

Visit wesleyumc.net/yardsale to see how you can volunteer your help with drop-offs, during sale week and on the sale day!



WESLEY
CHURCH

Luke Amerson.....Modern Music
Helen Bissell.....Senior Adult Outreach
Rebekah Bryant ext 209.....Worship Administrator
Lisa Clayton.....Custodian
Michelle Dodson ext 221.....Evangelism/Program Secretary
Melissa Donohue ext 210.....Preschool Director
Kaitlyn Dunaway ext 204.....Social Media Director
Amanda Ellis ext 203.....Finance Director
Ellyn Gilbert ext 224.....Student Ministries Coordinator
Susan Gilbert ext 220.....Pastor of Care
Jose Gonzales.....Custodian
Mike Grigsby ext 204.....Communications/Tech Director
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
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

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

825 North Belair Road Evans, GA 30809 706.869.0888
www.wesleyumc.net office@wesleyumc.net

