

WESLEY WINDOW

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

WORSHIP SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Traditional

8:30 & 11:00AM

Sanctuary
Greg Hatfield

Scripture

Matthew 18:21-35

Modern

9:30 & 11:00AM

Celebration Space
Greg Porterfield

Scripture

Matthew 18:21-35

Adaptive

2:00PM

Celebration Space
Greg Porterfield

Watch live at
www.wesleyumc.net

Livestream on
YouTube & Facebook

Video will be available
to view afterwards.



**WESLEY
CHURCH**

The Bible

Mark Twain is to have once observed of Scripture that "It ain't the parts of the Bible that I don't understand that give me trouble. It's the parts I do understand." A cogent point we sometimes skip over. To have a Bible is not the same as to know the Bible. Just as to call someone's name is not the same as being a friend. There is a world of difference between those two points. To know someone and to know scripture takes time and requires intentional work. Bible Sunday at Wesley is not simply our handing out scripture. That's just the beginning. Our commitment is that we offer occasions of prayer, practice and study that will nurture your faith and guide your life. I hope you will join us on Sunday, September 20, as we observe Bible Sunday at Wesley. Bring your favorite Bible!

And speaking of the Bible, I want to encourage you to join me Wednesday, September 16, at 6PM, for my Bible study examining the parables of Jesus. These 34 stories recorded in the Gospels come in all sizes. Mistakenly, we have confined their understanding as catchy antidotes, rather than what they are - an unveiling of no less than the kingdom of God. That we are confused by this should not be surprising. So were the disciples and all others within hearing of Jesus' voice. If the Sermon on the Mount serves as the constitution of our faith, the parables are our Declaration of Independence. They describe not only the life that surrounds us but the life we are invited to - the kingdom of God. I invite you to join me on Wednesday nights beginning this week.

I look forward to worshipping with you this Sunday.

GENERATION TO GENERATION:

BUILDING STRONGER CONNECTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 4-7PM

Parents/grandparents of children, teens and young adults will gain insight into how today's generations communicate, process emotions and experience the world differently.



Tickets: \$10. Childcare Available. Scan code for info & registration.

ELEMENTARY BIBLE PRESENTATION

SEPTEMBER 20
at all services

BRING YOUR BIBLES &
CELEBRATE WITH OUR KIDS!

REGISTER YOUR CHILD
AT WESLEYUMC.NET



OUR PRAYERS

Charlene Alexander	Cindy Dick	George Sealey
John Amarello	Walter Dodson	James See
Itala Azzarelli	Gene Draisey	Chuck Smith
Wilson Barr	Amy Eubanks	Glenn Smith
Heather Beale	Mike Fielder	George Snowden
Philip & Lois Beery	Archie Fisher	Donnie Strong
Lora Bohannon	Brenda Goodwin	Anna Teague
John & Darlyn Bradley	Jim Griswell	Lessie Thomas
Delaine Brown	Mildred Hammer	Caleb Townley
Donnie Burch	C. Eddy Ivey Jr.	Christina Troutman
Gilbert Caride	Nancy Leonard	Catherine Usry
Francis Chandler	Sierra Mims	Ruth Ann Waller
Penn Clark	Marcia Myers	Terry Waller
Kimberly D. Cliett	Roger Plessner	Cindy Wilkes
Liz Day	Debbie Poffenbarger	Billy Wilson
Jane DeLoach	Alicia Reeves	Bonnie Wilson
Bonnie Devereaux	Dierdre Reeves	Josephine Workosky
Jan Devereaux	Kelli Rville	
	Charlie Rockwell	
	Abby Roney	
	Dennis Scheyer	

OUR PRESENCE - SEPTEMBER 6

8:30 Traditional	96	9:30 Modern	103
11:00 Traditional	191	11:00 Modern	
Jr. Church	10	TOTAL	400

OUR GIFTS

• Operating:	\$	60,785
• Received Through This Week:	\$	1,493,015
• Budgeted Through This Week:	\$	1,774,052

Altar flowers on September 6 were placed in honor of
Tony & Debbie Welch
 for their 45th anniversary
 by Little David & Wesley Barnes

COLUMBIA COUNTY CARES SEPTEMBER FOOD & SUPPLY COLLECTION



**PANCAKE MIX & SYRUP
 TISSUES
 DOG & CAT FOOD**

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

OUR DAILY BREAD

The Moments of Silence:
A Prayer Guide for the 25th Anniversary of 9/11

8:46AM: THE NORTH TOWER

"God is our refuge and strength,
 a very present help in trouble."

Psalms 46:1

Heavenly Father, at this moment 25 years ago,
 an ordinary Tuesday morning was broken. We remember
 the workers at their desks, the crews on the plane, and the
 families whose phones would soon ring. Be our refuge now
 as You were a very present help then. In Jesus' name, Amen.

9:03AM: THE SOUTH TOWER

"The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart;
 and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

Psalms 34:18

Lord, at this moment the nation understood this was no
 accident. We remember the fear of that hour and the courage
 that answered it. Draw nigh to every heart still broken
 by what happened. In Jesus' name, Amen.

9:37AM: THE PENTAGON

"Greater love hath no man than this,
 that a man lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:13

Father, we remember those who died at the Pentagon -
 service members and civilians alike - and all who have laid
 down their lives in service since that day. Honor their
 sacrifice in Your sight. In Jesus' name, Amen.

9:59AM: THE SOUTH TOWER FALLS

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow
 of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me."

Psalms 23:4

Lord God, we cannot comprehend what was lost in those
 moments. But You were present in the valley of the shadow
 of death, and You are present with every grieving family still.
 Comfort them today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

10:03AM: FLIGHT 93, SHANKSVILLE

"Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid,
 neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God
 is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Joshua 1:9

Father, we remember the passengers and crew of Flight 93,
 who chose courage in their final minutes and spared
 countless other lives. May their example remind us
 that ordinary people can do extraordinary things
 when the hour demands it. In Jesus' name, Amen.

10:28AM: THE NORTH TOWER FALLS

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."
 Matthew 5:4

Lord, as we mark the final moment of that terrible morning,
 we entrust every name, every empty chair and every
 unanswered question to You. Comfort those who mourn,
 even 25 years later, for Your promise does not expire.
 In Jesus' name, Amen.

- thegodmessage.com

NEVER FORGET

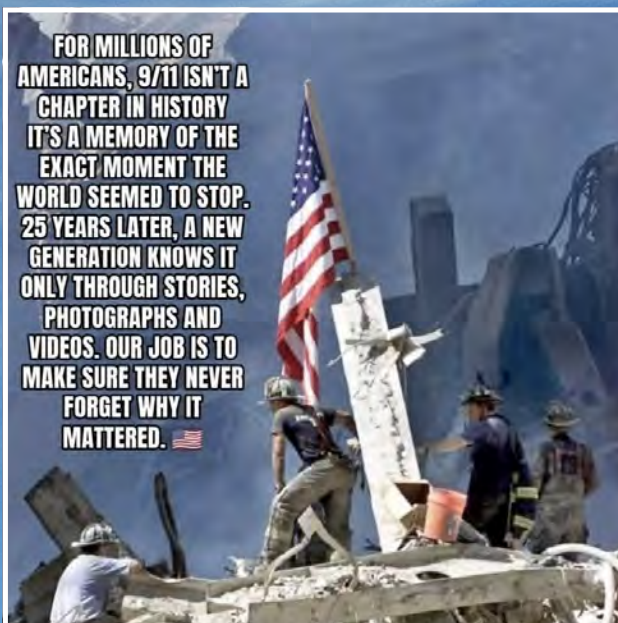
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The Wesley Staff Remembers 9/11

Shaken and Solemn

"Folks, this was no accident," the WBBQ deejay said gravely as he reported that another plane had hit the World Trade Center. I raced home to the TV, my mind filled with questions and escalating horror as I saw the burning towers and heard the endless sirens and watched as shell-shocked newscasters and witnesses struggled to make sense of what we were seeing. I just could not believe that within two hours, the towers were gone, the Pentagon was aflame and a diverted plane smoldered in the Pennsylvania ground. Shaken and solemn, I drove in silence to pick up my two-year-old from playschool. I hugged him tighter than I ever had. And I prayed. NEVER FORGET.

Kelley Sleeper



Surreal

I was home with Mary Walker in her bouncy seat, watching The Today Show. It was surreal to watch everything unfold on live television. I remember calling Curt at school and telling him they needed to turn on the TV. The days, weeks, and months that followed felt so heavy as we heard the stories of those who had been there - the people who were lost, the families who were waiting, and those who were still missing. As we approach the 25th anniversary, I find myself thinking of those families and holding them in my prayers. May we never forget their loss, their stories, and the lives that were forever changed that day.

Ellyn Gilbert

Lucky to Be Late

On the morning of September 11, 2001, I was running late. I remember exactly what I was wearing: black pants, blue button shirt and my hair was up. The morning felt cool and sunny; it started out as a beautiful day. I lived in Brooklyn and took the PATH Train from the WTC station every morning to my job in Newark, NJ.

My commute began as usual. I went from my apartment on E 29th Street to the bus stop, then caught the R train to the WTC. I walked out of the subway onto Church Street and entered WTC 5 entrance to the concourse mall as I typically did. I took the escalator four levels down to the PATH train platform and hopped on my train. It was around 8:45AM. At the very next stop, Exchange Place, I noticed an unusual amount of people on the platform not yet getting picked up to head into WTC station. Next stop, Grove Street, there were even more people just standing there with no inbound train in sight. As my outbound train made its way out of the tunnel, my Nokia cell phone rang (it was unusual to get calls back then).

At that moment, I glanced up, and my eyes were in disbelief: the North Tower of the World Trade Center was on fire, at least 90 floors up. I picked up my phone; it was my boyfriend calling, who worked in mid-town telling me the WTC was hit by a plane. When I tried to tell him it was on fire not hit by a plane, my phone went dead. All of a sudden I saw a plane circle the South Tower and fly right into the building a few floors lower than the first tower. Everyone on my train was in full panic mode. Unsure what we were seeing. And no one was able to use their cell phones. At the time, I truly did not believe it was a plane that I saw. I thought the fire I saw in the North Tower somehow jumped to the South Tower, like an explosion. I had no idea two planes had just struck both towers, a few minutes apart.

As we arrived at our final stop, Penn Station Newark, I knew I had to quickly get to the safety of my Broad Street

office. The 10-minute walk felt like an eternity. Since I was late for work, most of my co-workers were there already. My managers asked us to reach out to our families that may have been at the WTC. Since I did not have any family in NYC I tried to call them in Pennsylvania. But the landlines were also not working. The only thing I could do was send a mass email to all my contacts, letting them know I was not in the WTC and I had made it to work in NJ.

Over the next few hours, two more planes were hijacked and crashed, one in PA and one at the Pentagon. Our company quickly evacuated all employees, but most of us lived in NYC. Entering the city was completely impossible as all modes of transportation were shut down, so 12 co-workers and I piled into one minivan and headed to my HR Rep's condo in Secaucus, NJ. We ordered food and for the first time that I could remember that day, I prayed and invited my co-workers, some Jewish, some Islamic, it didn't matter, to pray too. We could actually see Ground Zero from the balcony, just across the Hudson.

Around 1AM, we were finally able to take public transportation back to NYC. With all the closures and shifts in train routes, I had to reroute through Times Square to get catch a train to my Brooklyn neighborhood. The most eerie thing I can remember about that was how quiet it was in Times Square. I could drop a dime and hear it hit in normally one of the busiest areas of the country. When I finally arrived at my apartment, I thought I'd sleep for days but I couldn't keep my eyes shut. My mind was racing and I couldn't stop thinking about the people I saw back on that platform underground in the WTC and wondering if they made it.

People ask me all the time how it felt to be at the WTC during the attack. I answer it the same way every time - I was as scared as you were and felt just as helpless. I just happened to be lucky I was late to work.

Leslie England

Realizing the Unbelievable

It was a Tuesday staff meeting at the church when, just before we were to start, we were hearing breaking news of a "plane crash" hitting the North Tower. We turned on the TV and started the meeting. I remember thinking it was an unfortunate accident; probably a private jet or smaller aircraft, certainly not a commercial jet, but the damage was unmistakable. We continued on with our business when we all started to realize the severity of the situation as we watched, in real time, the second attack on the South Tower. It was then that I allowed myself to realize the unbelievable fact that we were in a severe national emergency; this was not just duplicate accidents. I watched, again in real time, the collapse of the South Tower in a tremendous cloud of dust, smoke and debris; I still have images in my head of people running in business attire, covered in soot and ash. At that moment, I remember just wanting to be with my family and make sure they were safe.

Reverend Greg Hatfield



Just Stunned

I had just arrived at work where I was a trainer and licenser of foster parents. My friend and coworker mentioned something about a plane crash, and I thought well that wasn't that unusual, until I looked up what she was talking about. Next thing I knew our office was closing for the day and we all went home. I spent the day watching and rewatching the crashes on TV, just stunned that this could happen in America.

Hillary Williamson

The following is from Reverend Glenn Ethridge's Wesley Window column on September 19, 2001.

When Evil Avails, Grace Prevails

Evil assaulted the world Tuesday, September 11, 2001. Not that Evil has been dormant or inactive. Evil is always active. Tuesday reminded the world that Evil is a present, active force in the world. General peace in our country and economic prosperity helped us forget temporarily that evil people and Evil exist.

National leaders declared war on terrorism and terrorists. And the world from bended knee declared war on Evil. When Evil is most near, most real, we return to our spiritual roots. We remember that though we feel powerful, we are weak. So we bend our knees and pride, and we acknowledge to the Almighty that we depend on God for life, for breath, for hope.

Grace shall prevail. God is not the author of evil. Remarks that tragedy is God's punishment are cruel and ignorant. They are an irresponsible attempt to legitimize prejudice against those with whom we have disagreement. Grace prevails because God is the author of life, hope and eternal life.

The grace of God shall empower us to do more than most of us have been asked. The people of this nation will rise to defend freedom and justice, and we will do it with zeal. We will, at all cost, and with necessary sacrifice, and with unfailing resolve, protect human dignity, human freedom and the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It is our national creed, born in our spiritual belief that all people are created in the image of God. The world shall witness how God can use tragedy for good in the way we respond to this crisis.

In our collective grief, anger and desire to bring those responsible to justice, we will bring our hearts back to God. Because of who we are, we will treat with respect all Americans. There are fanatics in all religions. We will resist temptation to target all members of a certain group with our hate.

We will, however, seek the individuals responsible and bring them to justice, and we will do it in a way that reflects who we are. Even in our criminal justice system and even in way, this nation holds itself to the highest standards of our creed. For the specific people responsible, we will pursue them and prevent them from reigning terror on the world.

We will pray. We will sacrifice. And in it all, we will bring glory to God who created us, who redeemed us, and who sustained us. Terrorism may hurt us, but it will not change us.

Reverend Glenn Ethridge

Couldn't Comprehend

I was in my Finance class at Augusta State. We were getting ready for an exam and I remember a classmate coming in and saying a plane had hit the World Trade Center. I couldn't comprehend it. After our exam we found out school had been canceled for the rest of the day and a second plane had hit the other tower. I went to the computer lab to pull up the news and it took several minutes for it to load as the websites were just overwhelmed. I remember trying to call my mom but none of my calls could go through. I went home and put on the news and just watched the news for hours in horror of what had happened.

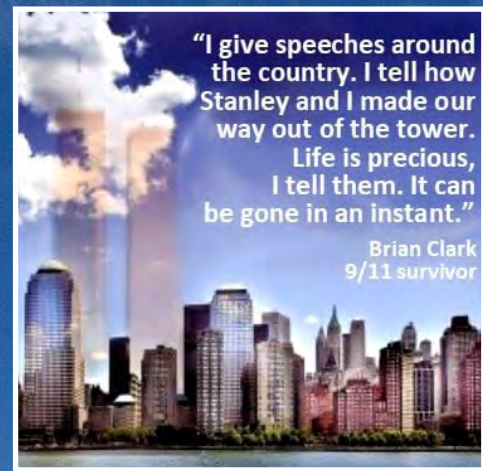
Michelle Dodson



Unexplainable

For my office, Tuesday mornings meant the weekly staff meeting. About 15 minutes in, someone opened the conference room door and gave us the news of the first plane hitting the north tower. Terrible news, but we continued with the meeting. When it happened again, the meeting was over. We let employees go home if they wanted. I stayed all day and vividly remember the drive home, watching the sun set over the Savannah River from the I-20 bridge. I knew this would be a historic day I'd never forget. Most of my thoughts revolved around my two middle-school-aged kids. What kind of world was this turning out to be? How would I try to explain to them what happened today? I prayed. Eyes wide open, driving, I prayed for God's wisdom and protection. That's the only response that seemed to make sense.

Mark Haddon



Terrifying and Devastating

I was at school in the 9th grade. Every teacher had the news coverage on. It was a very somber day. I remember us watching the news in absolute shock and horror. It was both terrifying and devastating. I specifically remember the trauma of watching people jump from the upper levels of the towers. I can still feel the pit in my stomach from that day. Friends, family and my youth group at Hillside UMC were my support systems. I do remember the united spirit that emerged on September 12, too. I know there was plenty of misdirected hate, but I remember that the "community" and "help your neighbor" spirit was uplifting to me. I'm sure that helped soothe some of the pain and make sense of a path forward. It was really heavy for a teenager.

Lauren Fackler



NEXT WEEK AT WESLEY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

8:30a Traditional Worship
9:30a Modern Worship
11:00a Modern Worship
11:00a Traditional Worship
11:00a Junior Church
2:00p Adaptive Worship
5:00p K-2nd Children's Choir
5:45p 3rd-5th Children's Choir
6:00p Wesley Students

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

6:00p Goodness Bible Study
7:00p AA Meeting
7:00p Scout Troop 615

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

8:00a Men in Mission
4:30p College Connection
7:00p Scout Troop 1615

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

9:00a Moms Group
12:00p Senior Adult Luncheon
7:00p AA Meeting

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

5:30p Parents Night Out
Senior Adult Outing -
Enopion Theater "David"

Thanks, Wesley!
ReStart Augusta collected 128
pillows during the August drive!



WOMEN'S MINISTRY MAHJONG & MINGLE

OCTOBER 1 | 6:30PM - 8PM
Student Ministry Room

Join us for an evening of fun &
fellowship as we play mahjong!
Everyone is welcome & teaching
will be available!



Scan code
to RSVP

SENIOR ADULT Events

LUNCHEON: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
12PM \$8 BRING A SIDE DISH

OUTING: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
THE ENOPIAN THEATER PRODUCTION OF "DAVID"

HELEN@WESLEYUMC.NET TO SIGN UP.



PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

SEPTEMBER 18
5:30-8:30PM

1 YEAR TO 5TH GRADE

wesleyumc.net to register

WESLEY YARD SALE



October 17
7am-12pm

Visit www.wesleyumc.net
for volunteer details and
more!

FIRST DROP-OFF: SEPTEMBER 30

Drop Off Dates:

Wednesday, Sept. 30: 3-6pm
Sunday, Oct. 4: 3-6pm
Wednesday, Oct. 7: 3-6pm
Sunday, Oct. 11: 12-6pm

Furniture Pick-Ups

Only for those without
trucks to move furniture.
To schedule, text Sam @
706-495-7337.

Friday Pre-Sale

Shop early on Friday,
October 16, 5-7pm. \$20
tickets available at drop-
offs and in the church office.

AGING WELL

SEMINAR

September 26
9:30am-11:30am

Healthy aging is about more
than growing older - it's about
maintaining strength,
independence and a positive
quality of life. Learn more from our
panel of medical professionals,
clinical social workers & clergy.

www.wesleyumc.net/events

Topics Covered:

- ✓ Healthy Eating
- ✓ Importance of Sleep
- ✓ Importance of Socializing
- ✓ Mobility/Fall Prevention
- ✓ Mental Wellness
- ✓ Spiritual Wellness

Scan code
or visit
website
to RSVP



FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION:

BUILDING STRONGER CONNECTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 4-7PM

Dr. Chow will explore how to build stronger relationships across
generations. Parents of young children, teens & young adults & grandparents
will gain practical insight into how today's generations communicate, process
emotions and experience the world differently.

TWO SESSIONS

Parenting Across Generations:
Understanding Kids,
Teens & Young Adults

From Conflict to Connection:
Practical Tools for Parenting
through Hard Conversations

Tickets: \$10
Childcare
Available



SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER
OR VISIT
WESLEYUMC.
NET

SEASONAL SINGERS! JOIN US FOR

Let the Stable Still Astonish
A Musical Offering

REHEARSALS BEGIN SEPTEMBER 16, 7PM
PERFORMANCE DECEMBER 13

JEFF@WESLEYUMC.NET FOR INFO



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Discover practical & spiritual tools to cope with grief.

September 20 | October 18 | November 15
December 20 2-3:30pm

Email hillary@wesleyumc.net for information.

