

May 12, 2023

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

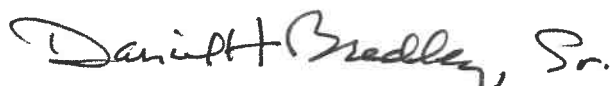
What a wonderful opportunity the City of Savannah has to give the name Wesley Square to the former Calhoun Square, in honor of John and Charles Wesley!

The Wesley brothers, who openly opposed slavery and who founded the Methodist religion, were not only associated with the City of Savannah in the 1730s, but their work and ministry were felt over our nation and the world at large. John Wesley's famous message was "The World is my parish". Charles Wesley wrote thousands of hymns, many of which are sung today in various denominations across the globe.

In 1868, a newly formed Wesley Church started holding services in a building on Drayton Street which is now the site of the Education Building of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church. By 1874, plans were proceeding for the erection of a new church building on the trust lot facing the now to be renamed square. This new church was to be a monument to John and Charles Wesley, and money was received from all over the world for its construction. Groundbreaking for this new edifice was held on June 30, 1875, and the first phase of construction was completed in 1878.

We ask that you please give thoughtful consideration and approval to name the square after John and Charles Wesley who historically had so much influence on our city, our nation and the entire world.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel H. Bradley, Sr." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Daniel H. Bradley, Sr.

CALHOUN SQUARE

BECAME

NO NAME SQUARE

SHOULD BECOME

WESLEY SQUARE

Others have enumerated the many reasons why this should be. Just in case you haven't seen the documentation, I'll include it with my petition.

Linda "Honey" Ryan

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Honey Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

REASONS TO CHANGE THE NAME OF CALHOUN SQUARE/NO NAME SQUARE TO WESLEY SQUARE

- Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church was built in their honor, and it has been a resident of this very Square for 155 years
 - Brother Charles and John Wesley are the founders of the Methodist Church, which now has approximately 80 million adherents worldwide
 - Charles Wesley published more than 4,500 hymns
 - The Wesleys opposed slavery
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 - Construction for the current church building on the Square began in June 1875
 - Dedicated May 30, 1890 as a monument to John and Charles Wesley
 - Funds were solicited and contributions were received from many areas of the world. For this reason, it has been said that Wesley Monumental Church belongs to all Methodists.
 - Wesley Monumental UMC owns three separate parcels on the square, including the entirety of the western trust lot. (Property Identification Numbers 20032-36006, 20032-36001, 20032-36005)
 - Brothers Charles and John Wesley are the founders of the Methodist Church. They began the movement that became “Methodism” in the 1730s.
 - The Methodist movement spread throughout the British Empire, the United States, and beyond because of vigorous missionary work, and today has about 80 million adherents worldwide.
 - Charles Wesley published more than 4,500 hymns and left some 3,000 in manuscript; George Frideric Handel wrote music specifically for some of them. Among Wesley’s best-known hymns are “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” and “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing.”
 - The Wesleys opposed slavery, as indicated in John Wesley’s *Thoughts Upon Slavery* where he called it slavery “complicated villainy” and noted “that slave-holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need a proof.”

Dear Members of the Savannah City Council,

I support naming the Square “formerly known as Calhoun Square” after John and Charles Wesley—“**Wesley Square.**” The Church has been a resident of this square for 155 years. We have the largest piece of property on the square. People come from all over the world to see the church which was built as a monument to John and Charles Wesley, the founders of Methodism. The church is said to belong to all Methodists because people from all over the world contributed money to it. The United Methodist Church is a global denomination with approximately 80 million adherents worldwide. The denomination is known for being inclusive, accepting, and loving--reflective of all nations. John and Charles Wesley adamantly opposed slavery.

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church supports many local missions, and we have specifically designated Missions Pastor, Rev. Nelle Bordeaux. We have a Mission Endowment to which church members contribute, and the interest from that Endowment funds Family Promise of Great Savannah, Urban Hope, Wesley Community Centers of Savannah, The Living Vine Christian Maternity Home, The Fresh Air Home, Mission on the Move International Ministry, Refugee Ministry, Homeless Outreach, Backpack Buddies, Greenbriar Children’s Center, Union Mission, and Habitat Faith Building.

Daily, church members are involved with all these ministries on the ground, feeding those who are hungry, putting together beds and cribs for refugees, hauling furniture to new refugee homes, building tiny houses for veterans, and the list goes on and on. We joke that the lobby of the church is a food pantry. We have a large number of children and young families at the church, and from a young age, we teach them to help and love others. Once a month the children and their parents make and serve dinner to children from Urban Hope.

The square should be named **Wesley Square** because of the history of our church which has been on the square for 155 years, John and Charles Wesley opposing slavery, and the church being a source of help and hope for many people in need in Savannah.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Ganas".

Susan Ganas

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Sincerely,



Johnny Ganas

May 9th, 2023

Dear Savannah City Council,

I am writing to you today to encourage you to choose the name “Wesley Square” for the Square formerly known as Calhoun Square.

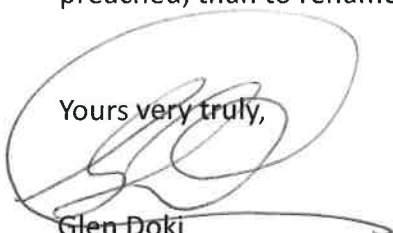
This name should be chosen to honor the brothers John and Charles Wesley, the founders of the Methodist movement with significant ministry and ties in Savannah. These Wesley brothers were foundational to modern Methodism, and their influence persists in many theological books, sermons, hymns, and letters.

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church (WMUMC) has been a literal cornerstone of this Square for 155 years. The name “Wesley Monumental” indicates the purpose of this church to serve as an everlasting monument to the Wesley brothers, to honor them for their contributions to religious life in America and around the world. WMUMC is itself a noteworthy contributor to ongoing missions in Savannah and beyond, continuously offering many indispensable services and funds to the needy in the community.

Of note, John and Charles Wesley were vehemently opposed to slavery in the young United States, and their teachings and writings were instrumental in the American political movement to abolish slavery. A representative but seminal work by John Wesley, titled simply *Thoughts on Slavery*, can be seen at <https://docsouth.unc.edu/church/wesley/wesley.html> and it clearly articulates his objections based on moral and scriptural grounds.

I can think of no better way to honor Savannah and the Square upon which the Wesley brothers preached, than to rename the former Calhoun Square to be called “Wesley Square” forever.

Yours very truly,



Glen Doki



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
SAVANNAH, GA 31401 F. 912 . 236 . 4247
WWW.WESLEYMONUMENTAL.ORG

REV. BEN MARTIN
Senior Pastor

REV. NELLE BORDEAUX
Outreach and New Members

REV. JAMES P. OWENS
Director of Student Ministries

REV. JENNIFER THOMPSON
Congregational Life

DR. MONICA DEKLE
Director of Music and Organist

JULIA FLOWERS
Music Assistant

CHARLI WEEKS
Director of Children's Ministry

JIMMY FLOWERS
Church Administrator

TOM ANDERSON
Financial Manager

JENNIFER BROOKINS
*Administrative Assistant to
Pastoral Staff, Media/Communications*

JENNIFER BAKER
Administrative Assistant, Reception

ASHLEY HIGGINS
Communications Director

SUZANNA KING
Director of Hospitality

MICAH SPRUNGER
Wesley Gardens Property Manager

JARED HANKS
*Wesley Gardens
Groundskeeper/Maintenance*

CHRISTIAN SWAILS
*Wesley Gardens
Spiritual Direction/Reservations*

May 8, 2023

Dear City Council of Savannah,

I wholeheartedly support Wesley Square. Additionally, I think it would be sensible to move the John Wesley statue to Wesley Square.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grace", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Grace Chow Grund
526 E41st1 Street
Savannah, GA 31401

May 5, 2023

Members of the Savannah City Council
2 East Bay Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

RE: The Square Formerly Known as Calhoun Square

Dear Members of the Savannah City Council:

I support naming the Square “formerly known as Calhoun Square” after John and Charles Wesley - “Wesley Square.” We have been members of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church for 12 years. The Church has been a resident of this square for a much longer time than that--155 years. We have the largest piece of property on the square. People come from all over the world to see the church which was built as a monument to John and Charles Wesley, the founders of Methodism. The church is said to belong to all Methodists because people from all over the world contributed money to it. The United Methodist Church is a global denomination with approximately 80 million adherents worldwide. The denomination is known for being inclusive, accepting, and loving--reflective of all nations. John and Charles Wesley adamantly opposed slavery.

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Sincerely,



Kenneth and Deanne Rimes

Patrick and Sharlene Monahan
14 Brannen Drive
Savannah, Georgia 31410

May 11, 2023

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Savannah
2 East Bay Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Dear Mayor and Council:

As members of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church, we support the renaming of the square in front of the church as "Wesley Square." The significance of John and Charles Wesley to not only Savannah's history but also their global impact, and the historical linkage of the church and the square, make this a logical choice.

Please consider the following relevant facts:

- An invitation from James Edward Oglethorpe led brothers John and Charles Wesley to become spiritual leaders to colonists and indigenous people in the early days of Savannah's settlement. From humble beginnings, they became founders of the Methodist Church. Their global impact cannot be underestimated since the Methodist Church now counts more than 80 million followers throughout the world. John preached an evangelical message, which endures today, while Charles wrote and published hymns, which total more than 4,500, and many are included in the hymnals of many different Christian denominations.
- John and Charles Wesley opposed slavery.
- Wesley Monumental was built in their honor on the southwest trust lot on Abercorn Street and Wayne Street with contributions from churches throughout the world. For 155 years, Wesley Monumental has helped to anchor the square and remained an integral part of Savannah's faith community. Wesley Monumental also acquired the northwest trust lot in the 1960s. In total, Wesley Monumental today represents the single largest land owner on the square with three parcels on Abercorn Street between Taylor Street and Gordon Street.

Sincerely yours,



Patrick and Sharlene Monahan

Note: We are not Savannah residents but care deeply about the community's history.

May 9, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Please accept this letter of support for the renaming of the Square at Abercorn and Wayne Streets as "Wesley Square" in memory of John Wesley and Charles Wesley who came to Savannah in 1735, shortly after the founding of Georgia.

- Wesley Monumental Methodist church was built in their honor, and it has been a resident of this very Square for 155 years.
 - Construction for the current church building on the Square began in June 1875
 - Dedicated May 30, 1890, as a monument to John and Charles Wesley
 - Funds were solicited and contributions were received from many areas of the world. For this reason, it has been said that Wesley Monumental Church belongs to all Methodists.
 - Wesley Monumental UMC owns three separate parcels on the square, including the entirety of the western trust lot. (Property Identification Numbers 20032-36006, 20032-36001, 20032-36005)
- Brothers Charles and John Wesley are the founders of the Methodist Church. They began the movement that became "Methodism" in the 1730s.
- The Methodist movement spread throughout the British Empire, the United States, and beyond because of vigorous missionary work, and today has about 80 million adherents worldwide.
- Charles Wesley published more than 4,500 hymns and left some 3,000 in manuscript; George Frideric Handel wrote music specifically for some of them. Among Wesley's best-known hymns are "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" and "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing."
- The Wesleys opposed slavery, as indicated in John Wesley's *Thoughts Upon Slavery* where he called it slavery "complicated villainy" and noted "that slave holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need a proof."

We all appreciate your thoughtful consideration.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Woodard". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

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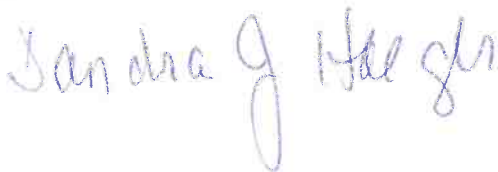
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandra J. Haegele". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'S'.

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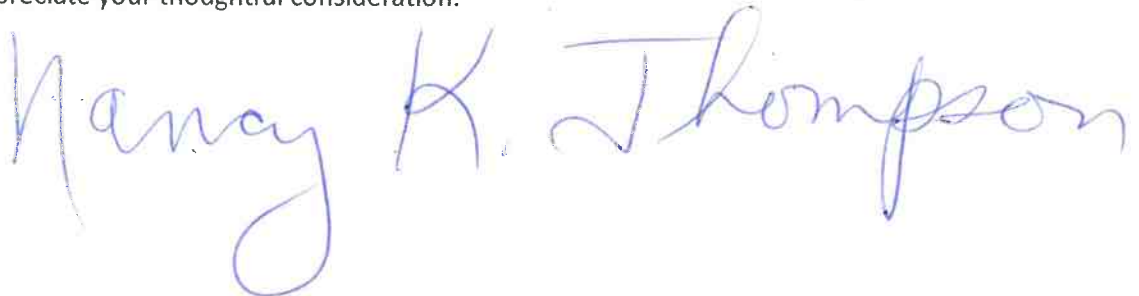
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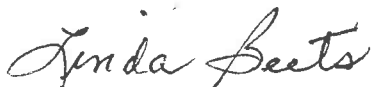
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Margaret A. Britts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping underline.

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Sincerely,



May 11, 2023

To the leaders of the City of Savannah, Georgia,

Eight years ago, we came to Savannah to find refuge from cold Midwestern winters and to enjoy a walkable, small city brimming with American History. We stayed for 5 months, soaking up the hospitality, immersing ourselves in all things that made this city such a magnet to us – culture, history, music, art, food, hospitality, reciprocity, and love. Yes, we found a community of love at Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church that welcomed us and encouraged us to explore more deeply our faith and our rich Christian heritage.

We were amazed to read about the powerful impact both John and Charles Wesley had on the Georgia colony from the very beginning being brought here by the colony's founder James Edward Oglethorpe. They, along with Oglethorpe abhorred slavery and devoted their lives to increasing the Christian faith in all people.

We most strongly urge you leaders to consider seriously the renaming of the square, formerly known as Calhoun Square to:

“Wesley Square”

...a very fitting and appropriate name for the historic significance of this wonderful name to the Georgia Colony.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Michael and Anne Hawks in cursive script.

Michael and Anne Hawks

316 W. Gwinnett Street, Savannah, GA

Lorill & Patrick Haynes
202 E. Taylor Street
Savannah, GA 31401

May 10, 2023

Monica Dekle D.M.
Director of Music and Organist
Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
Calhoun Square
429 Abercorn Street
Savannah, GA 31401
monica@wesleymonumental.org
912.232.0191

Dear Dr. Monica Dekle,

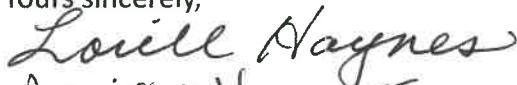
We are the owners of 202 E. Taylor Street, located at the corner of Taylor and Abercorn on Calhoun Square.

We are writing to express our support of the Application to rename the square after John and Charles Wesley. The brothers are the founders of the Methodist Church; a globally recognized denomination with approximately 80 million adherents. The church was built to honor the Wesley's at this site 155 years ago. People from all over the world come to visit it. The denomination is known for its inclusivity and John and Charles Wesley were adamantly opposed to slavery.

With property owners rightfully voicing their opinions on this controversial issue - it should be noted that Wesley Monumental is the largest piece of property on Calhoun Square.

Therefore, we are asking that that the Square formally known as Calhoun Square be renamed "Wesley Square" after John and Charles Wesley.

Yours sincerely,



Lorill and Pat Haynes

Lorillhaynes@gmail.com

Cell: 847.494.5218

Carolyn & Ched Hultman
126 E. Taylor Street
Savannah, GA 31401

May 10, 2023

Monica Dekle D.M.
Director of Music and Organist
Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
Calhoun Square
249 Abercorn Street
Savannah, GA 31401
monica@wesleymonumental.org
912.232.0191

Dear Dr. Monica Dekle,

We are the owners of 126 E. Taylor Street, located near the corner of Taylor and Abercorn on Calhoun Square.

We support the application to rename formerly Calhoun square to Wesley square after the brothers John and Charles Wesley.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Carolyn & Ched Hultman

Carolyn Hultman

Ched Hultman



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
SAVANNAH, GA 31401 F. 912 . 236 . 4247
WWW.WESLEYMONUMENTAL.ORG

May 11, 2023

Dear Members of the Savannah City Council,

I support naming the Square “formerly known as Calhoun Square” after John and Charles Wesley—“**Wesley Square.**” The Church has been a resident of this square for 155 years. We have the largest piece of property on the square. People come from all over the world to see the church which was built as a monument to John and Charles Wesley, the founders of Methodism. The church is said to belong to all Methodists because people from all over the world contributed money to it. The United Methodist Church is a global denomination with approximately 80 million adherents worldwide. The denomination is known for being inclusive, accepting, and loving--reflective of all nations.

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church supports many local missions, and we have specifically designated Missions Pastor, Rev. Nelle Bordeaux. We have a Mission Endowment to which church members contribute, and the interest from that Endowment funds Family Promise of Greater Savannah, Urban Hope, Wesley Community Centers of Savannah, The Living Vine Christian Maternity Home, The Fresh Air Home, Mission on the Move International Ministry, Refugee Ministry, Homeless Outreach, Backpack Buddies, Greenbriar Children’s Center, Union Mission, and Habitat Faith Building.

Daily, church members are involved with all these ministries on the ground, feeding those who are hungry, putting together beds and cribs for refugees, hauling furniture to new refugee homes, building tiny houses for veterans, and the list goes on and on. We joke that the lobby of the church is a food pantry. We have a large number of children and young families at the church, and from a young age, we teach them to help and love others. Once a month the children and their parents make and serve dinner to children from Urban Hope.

The square should be named **Wesley Square** because of the history of our church which has been on the square for 155 years, John and Charles Wesley opposing slavery, and the church being a source of help and hope for many people in need in Savannah.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Randal A. Johnson, Jr.".



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
SAVANNAH, GA 31401 F. 912 . 236 . 4247
WWW.WESLEYMONUMENTAL.ORG

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The square should be named **Wesley Square** because of the history of our church which has been on the square for 155 years, John and Charles Wesley opposing slavery, and the church being a source of help and hope for many people in need in Savannah.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Brett Guffey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "G" at the end.



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
SAVANNAH, GA 31401 F. 912 . 236 . 4247
WWW.WESLEYMONUMENTAL.ORG

May 11, 2023

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The square should be named **Wesley Square** because of the history of our church which has been on the square for 155 years, John and Charles Wesley opposing slavery, and the church being a source of help and hope for many people in need in Savannah.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan M. Griffin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Jennifer Brookins

From: Marion Thomas <thomasmarion1117@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2023 7:23 AM
To: Jennifer Brookins
Subject: Naming the Square

Good Morning,

Mark and I would like to vote to rename Calhoun Square to John Wesley Square.

Please consider this email our vote.

Thanking you in advance,

Mark and Marion Thomas

Jennifer Brookins

From: Martha Mathews <mbmathews12@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 4:15 PM
To: Jennifer Brookins
Subject: Renaming square

I support renaming former Calhoun Square to Wesley square.
Thank you,
Martha Mathews

Sent from my iPhone



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
SAVANNAH, GA 31401 F. 912 . 236 . 4247
WWW.WESLEYMONUMENTAL.ORG

Rev. Ben Martin
Senior Pastor

May 9, 2023

Rev. Nelle Bordeaux
Outreach and New Members

Rev. James P. Owens
Director of Student Ministries

Dr. Monica Dekle
Director of Music and Organist

Julia Flowers
Music Assistant

Charli Weeks
Director of Children's Ministry

Jimmy Flowers
Church Administrator

Tom Anderson
Financial Manager

Jennifer Brookins
*Administrative Assistant to
Pastoral Staff,
Media/Communications*

Jennifer Baker
*Administrative Assistant,
Reception*

Ashley Higgins
Communications Director

Suzanna King
Director of Hospitality

Micah SprUünger
*Wesley Gardens
Property Manager*

Jared hanks
*Wesley Gardens
Groundskeeper/Maintenance*

Christian swails
*Wesley Gardens
Spiritual Direction/Reservations*

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this in support of renaming Calhoun Square as WESLEY SQUARE. The following represent reasons for this conclusion.

- 1) The church that faces the square, Wesley Monumental, has been in this location and part of this community for over 155 years. It was originally dedicated as a monument to John and Charles Wesley, the founders of the Methodist Church, in 1875. Funds for the construction were received from across the world, identifying it as a church belonging to all Methodists and which currently includes over 80 million worldwide.
- 2) John and Charles Wesley strongly opposed slavery. It is documented that they authored a very influential letter for the abolishment of slavery and boldly published writings that identified slavery as being "inconsistent with mercy".
- 3) Wesley Monumental continues to be a steward of history for Savannah, a steward of this community, participating in and sponsoring many local events, and serves as a host for numerous musical and other events that bring local citizens and visitors from around the world.

To name the square "Wesley Square" would honor the work and dedication of John and Charles Wesley. People most often visit the square as a result of their notoriety and contributions. The significance of their efforts has provided an icon for our historic city that continues to thrive as a beacon for all.

Your consideration would be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia H. Jacobs". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "P".

Patricia H. Jacobs
Resident of Savannah and
Member of Wesley Monumental

May 10, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing you in reference to the renaming of the Square at Abercorn and Wayne Street as "Wesley Square" in memory of John Wesley and Charles Wesley who came to Savannah in 1735.

Wesley Monumental Methodist Church was built in their honor and has been in the square for 155 years. Because of the historical nature of Charles and John Wesley and the existing Wesley Monumental Methodist church and its existing real estate on the square, it would be most befitting to have the square named "Wesley Square". Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cynthia Willett".

Cynthia Willett

Member of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church

**C. Kenneth Spriggs
433 Habersham Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401**

10 May 2023

Dear Mayor Johnson, Alderperson Gibson-Carter (Post 1, At-Large),
Alderperson Blakely (Post 2, At-Large), and Alderperson Leggett (District 2):

As a resident at 433 Habersham Street for 38 years and the 5th owner of the house constructed in 1898, I walk through the Square at Abercorn and East Wayne Streets every Sunday to attend adult Sunday School and worship service at Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church. This letter is in support of submitting the name Wesley Square for your consideration.

Highlighted below are reasons the submitted name honors and commemorates two noteworthy persons, Revs. John and Charles Wesley; commemorates local history, events, and culture; and strengthens neighborhood identity.

Wesley Monumental United Church was built in honor of John and Charles Wesley, and it has been a "resident" on this square for 155 years.

John and Charles Wesley traveled to Savannah in 1735 at the invitation of General James Oglethorpe. John served as Anglican Rector of Christ Church until 1738. Charles served as General Oglethorpe's secretary.

In 1780, when the Methodist Episcopal Church was established by John Wesley, one of the tenets was the rejection of slavery in any form. Earlier in 1774, John Wesley wrote *Thoughts Upon Slavery*, a 57-page essay. He wrote extensively about the lands in Africa and concluded that all men, women, and children anywhere in the world should be free.

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church has a congregation membership of approximately 1,200. They reside throughout the City of Savannah, Chatham County, and beyond. Of particular importance, the Church teaches over 150 children from pre-K through High School in Sunday Schools and conducts an extensive music program.

To each of you, I recommend that you thoughtfully consider the name Wesley Square as an important addition to Savannah's rich cultural heritage.

Sincerely,



Wesley Letter

City of Savannah
City Council
Square naming request

James M. Rountree, JR
9 East Macon Street
Savannah, GA 31401

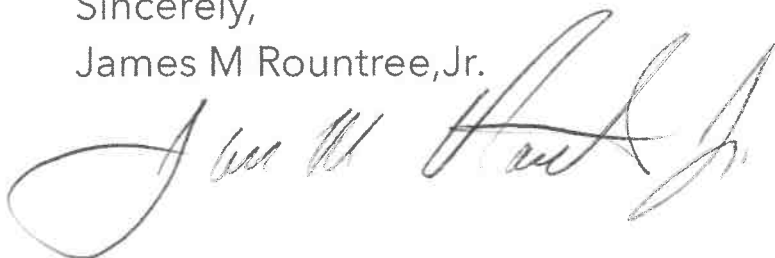
May 2, 2023

I would like to request that the Savannah Square recently named "Calhoun Square" be renamed "Wesley Square". There are many reasons that the square should be in honor of the brothers Charles Wesley and John Wesley.

Wesley Monumental Methodist Church was built in their honor and has been a resident of this very square for 155 years. The brothers Charles and John Wesley are the founders of the worldwide Methodist Church. Both brothers served in Savannah, Georgia. Charles published more than 4,500 hymns. Many while serving here in Savannah. Both Charles and John Wesley opposed slavery. Wesley Monumental Methodist Church occupies two of the Four "trust" lots facing the square. Please consider this request to rename the current unnamed square to "Wesley Square"

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,
James M Rountree, Jr.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James M. Rountree, Jr.", written in black ink.

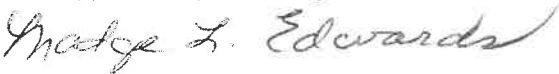
May 9, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Please accept this letter of support for the renaming of the Square at Abercorn and Wayne Streets as "Wesley Square" in memory of John Wesley and Charles Wesley who came to Savannah in 1735, shortly after the founding of Georgia.

- Wesley Monumental Methodist church was built in their honor, and it has been a resident of this very Square for 155 years.
 - Construction for the current church building on the Square began in June 1875
 - Dedicated May 30, 1890, as a monument to John and Charles Wesley
 - Funds were solicited and contributions were received from many areas of the world. For this reason, it has been said that Wesley Monumental Church belongs to all Methodists.
 - Wesley Monumental UMC owns three separate parcels on the square, including the entirety of the western trust lot. (Property Identification Numbers 20032-36006, 20032-36001, 20032-36005)
- Brothers Charles and John Wesley are the founders of the Methodist Church. They began the movement that became "Methodism" in the 1730s.
- The Methodist movement spread throughout the British Empire, the United States, and beyond because of vigorous missionary work, and today has about 80 million adherents worldwide.
- Charles Wesley published more than 4,500 hymns and left some 3,000 in manuscript; George Frideric Handel wrote music specifically for some of them. Among Wesley's best-known hymns are "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" and "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing."
- The Wesleys opposed slavery, as indicated in John Wesley's *Thoughts Upon Slavery* where he called it slavery "complicated villainy" and noted "that slave holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need a proof."

We all appreciate your thoughtful consideration.


Sincerely,

May 9, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Please accept this letter of support for the renaming of the Square at Abercorn and Wayne Streets as "Wesley Square" in memory of John Wesley and Charles Wesley who came to Savannah in 1735, shortly after the founding of Georgia.

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- The Wesleys opposed slavery, as indicated in John Wesley's *Thoughts Upon Slavery* where he called it slavery "complicated villainy" and noted "that slave holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need a proof."

We all appreciate your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe P. Edwards Jr. M.D." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Members of the Savannah
City Council
Savannah, GA 31401

49 Sassafus Trail
Savannah, GA 31404
May 10, 2023

Dear Sirs and Mesdames,

I am writing to support naming the former
Calhoun Square, Wesley Square in honor of
John and Charles Wesley and in recognition of
the fact that Wesley Monumental United Methodist
Church sits on that square and has been the
focal point for life on the square for 155 years.
Also, a name associated with the early history of
the city is more appropriate for a square located in
the historic district.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this
request.

Sincerely yours,

Juliana Garcia-Melendez

To: Square@savannahga.gov

From: The Smith Families: csmith406@prodigy.net

Date: May 10, 2023

Re: Renaming of the Square at Abercorn and Wayne Streets to "Wesley Square"

The Smith families are requesting that the Square at Wayne & Abercorn which is under consideration of being renamed, be named "Wesley Square". This would honor the historic brothers, John and Charles Wesley, who came to Savannah almost 300 years ago and 'birthed' the Methodist movement that exists all over the world today along with the beautiful hymens and music of Charles Wesley that are sung by so many Christian believers.

Visitors from around the world come to Savannah to see and experience the birthplace and beginnings of Methodism.

It would be fitting to have a plaque with one of John Wesley's famous quotes that encompasses his philosophy:

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." John Wesley

Thank you for your deliberation on this historic consideration of Wesley Square,

Cecil C Smith & Kyle S Smith

Calvin C Smith

Caledon A Smith & Jaqueline B Smith

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

To whom it may concern:

I support renaming the square to
Wesley Square.

Thank you,
Mary C Rose / "Bebe" Rose
300 Bull St #403
Savannah, Ga 31401

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

To whom it may concern:

I support the renaming of The
square to Wesley Square.

Thank you,

DANIEL W. ROSE
300 Bull St #403
Savannah, GA 31401

Daniel W Rose

May 10, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

I am writing this letter as an active member of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church in support of the re-naming of Calhoun Square as "Wesley Square." John and Charles Wesley came to Savannah in 1735, shortly after the founding of Georgia and were the founding fathers of Methodism. Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church was built in their honor and has been the main structure on this square for 155 years.

The Methodist movement begun by the Wesley brothers spread throughout the British Empire, the United States, and beyond because of vigorous missionary work. Today the United Methodist Church has about 80 million members worldwide. We are known as the church with "Open hearts, open minds and open doors."

Importantly, the Wesley brothers opposed slavery as indicated in John Wesley's *Thoughts Upon Slavery*. Wesley refers to slavery as "complicated villainy" and noted "that slave-holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need a proof." These words in these times are important as we consider the re-naming of this square currently named for a known slave-holder.

Some facts about Wesley Monumental UMC:

- Construction for the current church building on the Square began in June 1875
- Dedicated May 30, 1890 as a monument to John and Charles Wesley
- Funds were solicited and contributions were received from many areas of the world. For this reason, it has been said that Wesley Monumental Church belongs to all Methodists.
- Wesley Monumental UMC owns three separate parcels on the square, including the entirety of the western trust lot. (Property Identification Numbers 20032-36006, 20032-36001, 20032-36005)

Renaming this square as "Wesley Square" will celebrate brotherly love, peace, and freedom and honor the great legacy of Methodism in the U.S. that was born right here in Savannah, Georgia.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Meb Ryan
220 East 45th Street
Savannah, GA 31405

Jennifer Brookins

Subject: FW: Renaming Square

From: Connie Hiott <conniehiott@comcast.net>
Date: May 9, 2023 at 9:48:19 PM EDT
To: Monica Harper Dekle <monica@wesleymonumental.org>
Subject: Renaming Square

Monica

Please add us to the list of those residents supporting renaming Calhoun Square to Wesley Square!

Mark and Connie Hiott
504 East State Street
31401

May 12, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Please accept this application for the renaming of the Square at Abercorn and Wayne Streets as "Wesley Square" in memory of John Wesley and Charles Wesley who came to Savannah in 1735, shortly after the founding of Georgia.

- Wesley Monumental Methodist church was built in their honor, and it has been a resident of this very Square for 155 years.
 - Construction for the current church building on the Square began in June 1875
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- **Brothers** Charles and John Wesley are the founders of the Methodist Church. They began the movement that became "Methodism" in the 1730s.
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- Charles Wesley published more than 4,500 hymns and left some 3,000 in manuscript; George Frideric **Handel** wrote music specifically for some of them. Among Wesley's best-known hymns are "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" and "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing."
- The Wesleys opposed slavery, as indicated in John Wesley's *Thoughts Upon Slavery* where he called it slavery "complicated villainy" and noted "that slave holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need a proof."

I have included with this applications letters of support from other members of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church, as well as an endorsement from Mayor Van Johnson.

We all appreciate your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A Susan W. Wallace
Dr. Susan W. Wallace
112 Washington Ave.
Savannah, GA 31405
912-655-0667

May 12, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Please accept this application for the renaming of the Square at Abercorn and Wayne Streets as "Wesley Square" in memory of John Wesley and Charles Wesley who came to Savannah in 1735, shortly after the founding of Georgia.

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I have included with this applications letters of support from other members of Wesley Monumental **United** Methodist Church, as well as an endorsement from Mayor Van Johnson.

We all appreciate your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Wallace
Richard L. Wallace
112 Washington Ave.
Savannah, GA 31405
912-655-6691

May 7, 2023

City Council
Savannah, Georgia

Regarding Naming Request-
Former Calhoun Square to Wesley Square

Greetings with appreciation to those who serve on behalf of the citizens of Savannah.
I am writing as a constituent and a resident of the historic district, and a lifetime citizen.

As you approach this critically important task of naming a square, I respectfully propose that this square be named Wesley Square in honor of Charles and John Wesley. In respect for your time, I am going to list several bullets as to reasons for this request. I will break those bullets down into the history of the past as well as to the present and the mission and vision in the Wesley tradition.

THE PAST

- John and Charles Wesley were strong men of faith and because of this, they were appointed by the Trustees of England to arrive for the founding of Savannah and were to offer ALL people here, native Indians included, needed aid, education and to extend the message of grace to all.
- Upon John's Wesley return to England, he began to be more troubled about those who were poor and marginalized and those unwelcomed and unnoticed by the established church. Hence, he became a circuit rider preaching throughout England outdoors and in fields to all.
- Note that in the 1800's Frederick Douglass cited the anti- slavery opposition as written and communicated by John Wesley who throughout his life preached against the horror of slavery as well as the sin of prejudice against fellow humans.
- The historic edifice built in the 1800's is the largest building on the square located on a Trust lot. Visitors appreciate this church because the funds were collected by people throughout the world to build this sanctuary as a monument.

THE PRESENT

- Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church today is a mission church. While we have missions in Africa and Honduras, we believe that missions should begin in your very own community, with your very own neighbors and those in need. A member of our church, while in his late 70's, expressed much grief over the children in downtown Savannah, who did not have a safe place to go after school. Hence, Urban Hope was established and continues to this day. We will not forsake this mission.
- We partner with Wesley Community Center to support their mission and vision statement serving all in our community in need.

- We support family promise for families in needy times so that they can remain together in housing with meals provided until they get on their feet again. We do the same for refugees who find themselves here in Savannah.
- We build and provide Tiny Houses for our displaced veterans.
- We provide most needed food items weekly, year-round for several agencies.

We continue to practice this historic directive written by John Wesley.

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.”

Our story is not finished. We are growing our replacements in service to this community with our large membership of dedicated young families with children and youth. They are learning and practicing service to others beginning with our very own urban area.

Thank you for serious consideration and please advise if we can provide detail or answer questions.

With respect



Gail Brown Rountree

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church, Trustee

Resident of 9 East Macon Street, Savannah, Ga. 31401

912-657-5502

routreegail@gmail.com

Edwin Chase, D. Min.
70 Shipwatch Road
Savannah, Georgia 31410,

Dear Members of the Savannah City Council,

As an ordained United Methodist minister and a student of history, I applaud your efforts to rename Calhoun Square, given the blatant racism of John C. Calhoun.

The name “Wesley Square” is by far the most appropriate name for this square, given the fact that Wesley Monumental Church was built as a tribute to the Wesley brothers, John and Charles. Funds from around the world were given to build this historic church. Wesley Monumental Church with its stately Gothic steeples, has been the centerpiece of that square for 155 years and is by far the largest piece of property on the square.

But most importantly, both Wesley brothers worked tirelessly against slavery as early as 1740. *The last letter that John Wesley dictated before he died was to a young member of Parliament, William Wilberforce, encouraging him to keep up his efforts to abolish slavery.* After many failed attempts by Wilberforce, the Slavery Abolition Act was finally passed by Parliament in 1833.

John Wesley spoke forcibly against slavery, repeatedly referring to the slave trade as the “execrable sum of all villainies.” In 1774, he wrote the influential pamphlet, *Thoughts Upon Slavery.*

Because John and Charles Wesley campaigned against slavery vigorously at a time when that was most unpopular, makes “Wesley Square” arguably the most appropriate name for the square, given the reason for the name change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edwin Chase", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Edwin Chase

Carole Chase

70 Shipwatch Road

Savannah, Georgia 31410

Dear Members of the Savannah City Council:

I support naming the square formally known as Calhoun Square for John and Charles Wesley and naming it “Wesley Square.” Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church was built with the purpose of being a living monument to John and Charles Wesley. Money from across the world was given to build this beautiful 1890 Gothic structure.

John Wesley preached against slavery and wrote an influential pamphlet showing the horrors of slavery. Charles Wesley wrote countless hymns that are sung in churches around the world. Both brothers assisted General Oglethorpe in the early days of the colony.

Re-naming the square “Wesley Square” would honor two men whose lives continue to impact the lives of millions across the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carole Chase". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Carole Chase

Dear Mr Mayor and City Councilmen and Councilwomen,

5/8/23

I write this letter in support of the petition to rename the square formerly known as Calhoun Square to Wesley Square.

I have been a resident of Savannah since 1977 and a member of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church since 1979. I am also a member of the Chancel Choir, so I have a knowledge of both John in preaching and Charles in hymn writing. While John's impact in Savannah was not the most pleasant for him personally, his impact the world over was great and continues to be.

Let's honor John and Charles Wesley by naming the square on our church's doorstep Wesley Square.

Thank you for the consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ash Grimmett', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ash Grimmett

701 E 52nd St

Savannah, Ga 31405

912-856-9636

May 5, 2023

Dear Members of the Savannah City Council,

I support naming the Square “formerly known as Calhoun Square” after John and Charles Wesley—“**Wesley Square.**” I have been an active member of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church for 20 years. The Church has been a resident of this square for a much longer time than that--155 years. We have the largest piece of property on the square. People come from all over the world to see the church which was built as a monument to John and Charles Wesley, the founders of Methodism. The church is said to belong to all Methodists because people from all over the world contributed money to it. The United Methodist Church is a global denomination with approximately 80 million adherents worldwide. The denomination is known for being inclusive, accepting, and loving--reflective of all nations. John and Charles Wesley adamantly opposed slavery.

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church supports many local missions, and we have specifically designated Missions Pastor, Rev. Nelle Bordeaux. We have a Mission Endowment to which church members contribute, and the interest from that Endowment funds Family Promise of Great Savannah, Urban Hope, Wesley Community Centers of Savannah, The Living Vine Christian Maternity Home, The Fresh Air Home, Mission on the Move International Ministry, Refugee Ministry, Homeless Outreach, Backpack Buddies, Greenbriar Children’s Center, Union Mission, and Habitat Faith Building.

Members of our church are involved with all these ministries on the ground, feeding those who are hungry, putting together beds and cribs for refugees, hauling furniture to new refugee homes, building tiny houses for veterans, and the list goes on and on. We joke that the lobby of the church is a food pantry. We have a large number of children and young families at the church, and from a young age, we teach them to help and love others. Once a month the children and their parents make and serve dinner to children from Urban Hope.

Wesley Monumental is involved and actively working to enrich the lives of the people of Savannah. We are “givers” to our community in both time, effort and money. The Wesley brothers had this vision and began this work. The square should be named **Wesley Square** because of the history of our church which has been on the square for 155 years, John and Charles Wesley opposing slavery, and the church being a source of help and hope for many people in need in Savannah.

Sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature on the left is 'P. Talley Jones' and the second signature on the right is 'Barbara R. Jones'. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Talley and Barbara Jones

To: City of Savannah

Re: Renaming of Former Calhoun Square

I would like to support the proposal to rename the square to Wesley Square.


John and Charles Wesley were brought to Savannah by James Oglethorpe shortly after the founding of Savannah, John as an Anglican pastor and Charles as Oglethorpe's Secretary. While their stay in Savannah was relatively short, as founders of the U.S. and worldwide Methodist Church, they are prominent figures both nationally and internationally.

John Wesley founded the Methodist movement to serve and support working and oppressed people of all races. The Wesley brothers and their Methodist followers worked against slavery, and they were leaders on many social issues, including the abolition of slavery. When they went back to England after living in Savannah, they sent clergy back to the U.S. to carry on their work here and throughout the United States. Their followers advanced the abolitionist cause.

One of the quotes of John Wesley that would make an excellent plaque on the square would be: "Do all the good you can, by all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."

Wesley Monumental was built on the Square to advocate for good works in honor of the Wesleys and has been on the Square for 155 years. I believe naming of the Square as Wesley Square would further that goal.


Adrienne Teissier Tietz


May 1, 2023

307 West Taylor Street, Savannah



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
SAVANNAH, GA 31401 F. 912 . 236 . 4247
WWW.WESLEYMONUMENTAL.ORG

May 11, 2023

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The square should be named **Wesley Square** because of the history of our church which has been on the square for 155 years, John and Charles Wesley opposing slavery, and the church being a source of help and hope for many people in need in Savannah.

Sincerely,

Lawton Davis M.D.
Diane Davis M.P.



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bordeaux", is written over a faint, illegible printed name.



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Freeman".

John Freeman



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Kaufman".

Beth Kaufman

Jennifer Brookins

From: Neill F. McDonald <nmcдона1@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2023 7:07 PM
To: Jennifer Brookins
Subject: Fwd: Fw: Vote for Wesley Square--not a barbershopper message
Attachments: image001.png

I am in favor --

Neill McDonald

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Honey <hryansavh@aol.com>

Date: May 11, 2023 6:55 PM

Subject: Fw: Vote for Wesley Square--not a barbershopper message

To: murraymarshall@comcast.net," hubobwms@gmail.com" <hubobwms@gmail.com>," smhgfirstaid@gmail.com" <smhgfirstaid@gmail.com>," alan@alancampbellstudios.com" <alan@alancampbellstudios.com>," michael.Ellis@dnr.ga.gov" <michael.Ellis@dnr.ga.gov>," awrcairns@gmail.com" <awrcairns@gmail.com>," neillmac@bellsouth.net" <neillmac@bellsouth.net>," gamimi25@gmail.com" <gamimi25@gmail.com>," davidstottgordon@gmail.com" <davidstottgordon@gmail.com>," kstaylorjr@icloud.com" <kstaylorjr@icloud.com>," janice.t.clement@gmail.com" <janice.t.clement@gmail.com>," hoho0062000@yahoo.com" <hoho0062000@yahoo.com>," conorplittle@gmail.com" <conorplittle@gmail.com>," chris.thompson@miragefloors.com" <chris.thompson@miragefloors.com>," michael.r.mcleod@gmail.com" <michael.r.mcleod@gmail.com>," Carlielittle2016@gmail.com" <Carlielittle2016@gmail.com>," keithkirkland0469@gmail.com" <keithkirkland0469@gmail.com>," 2sef9@balgair.us" <2sef9@balgair.us>," robbieharp59@bellsouth.net" <robbieharp59@bellsouth.net>," will@mcvaymarine.com" <will@mcvaymarine.com>," dewiewms@gmail.com" <dewiewms@gmail.com>," jason.mcfarland@twmetals.com" <jason.mcfarland@twmetals.com>," hrmdonald@att.net" <hrmdonald@att.net>," johnwright@georgiasouthern.edu" <johnwright@georgiasouthern.edu>," jackson@sherrillandcompany.com" <jackson@sherrillandcompany.com>," mmccay45@comcast.net" <mmccay45@comcast.net>," wfh31307@hotmail.com" <wfh31307@hotmail.com>," Bothwell.dog@gmail.com" <Bothwell.dog@gmail.com>," Queenbia960@yahoo.com" <Queenbia960@yahoo.com>," lmlang1493@gmail.com" <lmlang1493@gmail.com>," msmarshalljr@gmail.com" <msmarshalljr@gmail.com>," faemac@bellsouth.net" <faemac@bellsouth.net>," crmccay50@comcast.net" <crmccay50@comcast.net>," hjcabraemardansav@hotmail.com" <hjcabraemardansav@hotmail.com>," whinn@aol.com" <whinn@aol.com>," Kelley1227@comcast.net" <Kelley1227@comcast.net>," sjohnson.geo@gmail.com" <sjohnson.geo@gmail.com>," ddixon@donniedixonlaw.com" <ddixon@donniedixonlaw.com>," dean_mccraw@bellsouth.net" <dean_mccraw@bellsouth.net>," savannahmidtown@mathnasium.com" <savannahmidtown@mathnasium.com>," jfetterman42@yahoo.com" <jfetterman42@yahoo.com>," rmmccuen14@aol.com" <rmmccuen14@aol.com>," coker.tom@gmail.com" <coker.tom@gmail.com>," hryansavh@aol.com" <hryansavh@aol.com>," jgsummerell@yahoo.com" <jgsummerell@yahoo.com>," sheribelle14@yahoo.com" <sheribelle14@yahoo.com>," jrudy36@gmail.com" <jrudy36@gmail.com>," bwfleming1@verizon.net" <bwfleming1@verizon.net>," buddymartinre@gmail.com" <buddymartinre@gmail.com>

Cc:

Re: Vote for Wesley Square--not a barbershopper message



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
SAVANNAH, GA 31401 F. 912 . 236 . 4247
WWW.WESLEYMONUMENTAL.ORG

May 11, 2023

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Oprie Franjic".

Jennifer Brookins

From: Dorothy Hosti <dhosti1111@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2023 10:26 PM
To: Jennifer Brookins
Subject: Calhoun Square.

Please include my vote for renaming Calhoun Square to Wesley square. Honey Ryan sent the email with the information.
Thank you Paulette Hosti

Jennifer Brookins

From: mmccay45@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2023 9:37 PM
To: Jennifer Brookins
Subject: Wesley Square

I wholeheartedly support renaming the former Calhoun Square, Wesley Square. I'm afraid it is an uphill battle, though. Should you need signatures on a petition, my wife and I would sign.

Thomas McCay
Savannah

Jennifer Brookins

From: murraymarshall <murraymarshall@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2023 8:03 PM
To: Jennifer Brookins
Cc: Honey; Murray Marshall
Subject: Wesley Square

Importance: High

Jennifer, I Vote for naming the former Calhoun Square, Wesley Square. Murray S. Marshall, 196 Coffee Pointe Drive, Savannah 31419.

Let me know what else I need to do.

Thanks, MURRAY

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Jennifer Brookins

From: Conor Little <conorplittle@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2023 7:11 PM
To: Jennifer Brookins
Subject: Wesley Square

Hi Jennifer,

I got your email from Honey Ryan, whom I know through the Savannah Scottish Games. I'd like to support the campaign to name the currently no-name square as Wesley Square and move the monument. What can I do to help?

Thanks!

Conor Little
(706) 372-0651 (c)
Sent from my iPhone



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
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WWW.WESLEYMONUMENTAL.ORG

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Sincerely,

Dale J. Kilhefner
Karen A. Kilhefner



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bonnie J. Roberts".



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Roth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" and "H".



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
SAVANNAH, GA 31401 F. 912 . 236 . 4247
WWW.WESLEYMONUMENTAL.ORG

May 11, 2023

Dear Members of the Savannah City Council,

I support naming the Square “formerly known as Calhoun Square” after John and Charles Wesley—“**Wesley Square.**” The Church has been a resident of this square for a much longer time than that--155 years. We have the largest piece of property on the square. People come from all over the world to see the church which was built as a monument to John and Charles Wesley, the founders of Methodism. The church is said to belong to all Methodists because people from all over the world contributed money to it. The United Methodist Church is a global denomination with approximately 80 million adherents worldwide. The denomination is known for being inclusive, accepting, and loving --reflective of all nations. John and Charles Wesley adamantly opposed slavery.

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church supports many local missions, and we have specifically designated Missions Pastor, Rev. Nelle Bordeaux. We have a Mission Endowment to which church members contribute, and the interest from that Endowment funds Family Promise of Greater Savannah, Urban Hope, Wesley Community Centers of Savannah, The Living Vine Christian Maternity Home, The Fresh Air Home, Mission on the Move International Ministry, Refugee Ministry, Homeless Outreach, Backpack Buddies, Greenbriar Children’s Center, Union Mission, and Habitat Faith Building.

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The square should be named **Wesley Square** because of the history of our church which has been on the square for 155 years, John and Charles Wesley opposing slavery, and the church being a source of help and hope for many people in need in Savannah.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter DeLuca".



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Riddle", is written over the word "Sincerely,".



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Caroline Freeman".

Caroline Freeman



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
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Sincerely,

Donald D Riddle
DONALD D RIDDLE
11 HICKORY GROVE WAY
SAVANNAH, GA 31403



429 ABERCORN STREET P. 912 . 232 . 0191
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Penelope Hendrix".



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anna C. Aiken".

ANNA C. AIKEN



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edwin B. Finley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'F' at the end.



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doreen S. Patrician".



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elaine W. Linley". The signature is written in a cursive style.

May 9, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Please accept this application for the renaming of the square at Abercorn and Wayne Streets as "Wesley Square" in memory of John Wesley and Charles Wesley who came to Savannah in 1735, shortly after the founding of Savannah. Brothers Charles and John Wesley are the founders of the Methodist Church.

- Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church was built in their honor and has stood on this square for 155 years.
 - Construction for the current church building began in June 1875.
 - Dedicated May 30, 1890 as a monument to John and Charles Wesley.
 - Funds were solicited and contributions were received from many areas of the world. For this reason, it has been said that Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church belongs to all Methodists.
 - Wesley Monumental owns three (3) separate parcels on the square, including the entirety of the western trust lot (Property ID #20032-36006; 20032-36001; 20032-36005).
- The Methodist movement spread throughout the world because of vigorous missionary work and today has almost 80 million adherents worldwide.
- Charles Wesley published more than 4,500 hymns and 3,000 manuscripts.
- The Wesleys opposed slavery as indicated in John Wesley's *Thoughts Upon Slavery* where he called slavery "complicated villainy" and noted that "slavery holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need proof".

I join many other members of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church and numerous other Savannahians in asking that you change the name of this square to the Wesley Square.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gaye Reese Holt

Member, Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church

May 9, 2023

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I join many other members of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church and numerous other Savannahians in asking that you change the name of this square to the Wesley Square.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rusty Holt", with a horizontal line underneath.

Rusty Holt

Member, Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church

May 9, 2029

Dear Sir and Madama

Please accept this application for the renaming of the square at Aberdeen and Wayne Streets as "Wesley Square" in memory of John Wesley and Charles Wesley who came to Savannah in 1735, shortly after the founding of Savannah. Brothers Charles and John Wesley are the founders of the Methodist Church.

- Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church was built in their town and has stood on this square for 155 years
 - o Construction for the current church building began in June 1875.
 - o Dedicated May 30, 1890 as a monument to John and Charles Wesley.
 - o Funds were solicited and contributions were received from many areas of the world. For this reason, it has been said that Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church belongs to all Methodists.
 - o Wesley Memorial owns three (3) separate parcels on the square, including the corners of the western trust lot (Property ID # 20032-36006, 20032-36007, 20032-36008).
- The Methodist movement spread throughout the world because of vigorous missionary work and today has almost 80 million adherents worldwide.
- Charles Wesley published more than 4,500 hymns and 3,000 manuscripts.
- The Wesley's opposed slavery as indicated in John Wesley's *Thoughts Upon Slavery* where he called slavery "complicated villainy" and noted that "slavery holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need proof"

I join many other members of Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church and numerous other Savannahians in asking that you change the name of this square to the Wesley Square

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



May 9, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

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I join many other members of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church and numerous other Savannahians in asking that you change the name of this square to the Wesley Square.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Savannahians", written in dark ink.

May 9, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

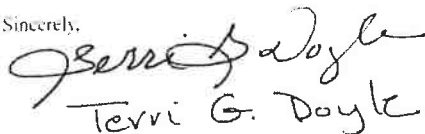
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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Terri G. Doyle

May 9, 2023

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Patti King

May 9, 2023

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- Charles Wesley published more than 4,500 hymns and 3,000 manuscripts.
- The Wesleys opposed slavery as indicated in John Wesley's *Thoughts Upon Slavery* where he called slavery "complicated villainy" and noted that "slavery holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need proof".

I join many other members of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church and numerous other Savannahians in asking that you change the name of this square to the Wesley Square.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



MYRA P. HILL

Jennifer Brookins

From: Lynne Bozeman <lynne.bozeman@danielravenelsir.com>
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2023 10:25 AM
To: Jennifer Brookins
Subject: Renaming of Calhoun Square

As the deadline for renaming Calhoun Square nears, I would like to take this last opportunity to endorse Wesley Square as the name of choice. Recognizing the injustices of past history, it is expected that the name of Calhoun Square can be uncomfortable to many. However, also understanding the historical significance of John and Charles Wesley in our community as founders of Methodism, it would be most appropriate to rename the square in memory of these two men. As the name of Calhoun can be uncomfortable for many, the name of Wesley is inclusive for ALL members of faith.

Wesley Monumental Methodist held its groundbreaking in June of 1875. This particular square has become a very meaningful part of our footprint for so many years. As a member of Wesley, I am very aware of visitors from out of town who come because they are drawn by the connection to the Wesley brothers and Savannah.

I respectfully ask that you consider Wesley Square as a long deserved choice.

--

Daniel
Ravenel 

Lynne Bozeman, Realtor®

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202 E. Liberty Street

Savannah, GA 31401

912-484-1568

jtatum@huntermaclean.com

May 11, 2023

Mr. Mayor:
Mayor, City of Savannah

Dear Mr. Mayor::

I write you in support of the application to name the formerly named Calhoun Square Wesley Square in honor of the brothers John and Charles Wesley.

John and Charles arrived in Savannah in 1735 at the invitation of Gen. James E. Oglethorpe. John served as the third pastor of Christ Church on Johnson Square. While serving in that capacity he published the Collection of Psalms and Hymns and established the first Christian Sunday school. Upon returning to England John Wesley established the Church that we know today as the Methodist Church. Under his leadership The Methodist Church became a powerful advocate for the abolition of slavery and for prison reform.

Charles Wesley served as secretary to Gen. Oglethorpe.

Today, The Wesley Monumental Methodist Church with a vibrant congregation is the dominant building on this square.

Wesley Square is the most appropriate name for this square.

Sincerely,



John M. Tatum

May 11, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I have owned a student tour company, named Students See Savannah, for 37 years. Students learn the history of Savannah as they tour the Historic District and surrounding areas.

I am writing in support of renaming the square at Abercorn and Wayne Street to be Wesley Square. Wesley Monumental Church dominates the square and was named for Charles and John Wesley, founders of Methodism.

Wesley Square would be an appropriate name to honor the brothers who have had an impact world wide!

Respectfully,

Ann Jeter

Luciana Spracher

From: Susan Strong <susanstrong.333@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 8:47 PM
To: Squares
Subject: [Caution - External Email] Wesley Square

Hi!

Let's rename Calhoun Square to Wesley Square. John and Charles founded Methodism, preached there and our magnificent church is named after them!

Sincerely,
Susan Strong

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Luciana Spracher

From: Frankie <frankiesowell3@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 6:17 PM
To: Squares
Subject: [Caution - External Email] Rename

The church which stands on the square. John Wesley square

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May 5, 2023

RECEIVED
CLERK OF COUNCIL OFFICE

MAY 15 2023

Members of the Savannah City Council
2 East Bay Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

RE: The Square Formerly Known as Calhoun Square

Dear Members of the Savannah City Council:

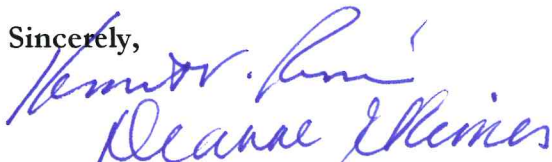
I support naming the Square “formerly known as Calhoun Square” after John and Charles Wesley - “Wesley Square.” We have been members of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church for 12 years. The Church has been a resident of this square for a much longer time than that--155 years. We have the largest piece of property on the square. People come from all over the world to see the church which was built as a monument to John and Charles Wesley, the founders of Methodism. The church is said to belong to all Methodists because people from all over the world contributed money to it. The United Methodist Church is a global denomination with approximately 80 million adherents worldwide. The denomination is known for being inclusive, accepting, and loving--reflective of all nations. John and Charles Wesley adamantly opposed slavery.

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church supports many local missions, and we have specifically designated Missions Pastor, Rev. Nelle Bordeaux. We have a Mission Endowment to which church members contribute, and the interest from that Endowment funds Family Promise of Great Savannah, Urban Hope, Wesley Community Centers of Savannah, The Living Vine Christian Maternity Home, The Fresh Air Home, Mission on the Move International Ministry, Refugee Ministry, Homeless Outreach, Backpack Buddies, Greenbriar Children’s Center, Union Mission, and Habitat Faith Building.

Daily, church members are involved with all these ministries on the ground, feeding those who are hungry, putting together beds and cribs for refugees, hauling furniture to new refugee homes, building tiny houses for veterans, and the list goes on and on. We joke that the lobby of the church is a food pantry. We have a large number of children and young families at the church, and from a young age, we teach them to help and love others. Once a month the children and their parents make and serve dinner to children from Urban Hope.

The square should be named Wesley Square because of the history of our church which has been on the square for 155 years, John and Charles Wesley opposing slavery, and the church being a source of help and hope for many people in need in Savannah.

Sincerely,



Kenneth and Deanne Rimes

Luciana Spracher

From: Marilyn Hitt <marilyn@hittgc.com>
Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 8:11 PM
To: Squares
Subject: [Caution - External Email] Calhoun Square

Wesley Square

Sent from my iPhone

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May 10, 2023

Dear Sirs and Madams:

I am writing this letter as an active member of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church in support of the re-naming of Calhoun Square as "Wesley Square." John and Charles Wesley came to Savannah in 1735, shortly after the founding of Georgia and were the founding fathers of Methodism. Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church was built in their honor and has been the main structure on this square for 155 years.

The Methodist movement begun by the Wesley brothers spread throughout the British Empire, the United States, and beyond because of vigorous missionary work. Today the United Methodist Church has about 80 million members worldwide. We are known as the church with "Open hearts, open minds and open doors."

Importantly, the Wesley brothers opposed slavery as indicated in John Wesley's *Thoughts Upon Slavery*. Wesley refers to slavery as "complicated villainy" and noted "that slave-holding is utterly inconsistent with mercy, is almost too plain to need a proof." These words in these times are important as we consider the re-naming of this square currently named for a known slave-holder.

Some facts about Wesley Monumental UMC:

- Construction for the current church building on the Square began in June 1875
- Dedicated May 30, 1890 as a monument to John and Charles Wesley
- Funds were solicited and contributions were received from many areas of the world. For this reason, it has been said that Wesley Monumental Church belongs to all Methodists.
- Wesley Monumental UMC owns three separate parcels on the square, including the entirety of the western trust lot. (Property Identification Numbers 20032-36006, 20032-36001, 20032-36005)

Renaming this square as "Wesley Square" will celebrate brotherly love, peace, and freedom and honor the great legacy of Methodism in the U.S. that was born right here in Savannah, Georgia.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Meb Ryan
220 East 45th Street
Savannah, GA 31405

Luciana Spracher

From: Paul Cleveland <841r@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2023 8:29 PM
To: Squares
Subject: [Caution - External Email] Renaming of Calhoun square

Recommend John Wesley Square or Wesley Square. The church , Wesley Monumental sits on the square and was built as a national monument to John Wesley who started the Methodist movement in the colony He also opposed slavery

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

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Luciana Spracher

From: YAH00 INC <bericut@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:34 PM
To: Squares
Subject: [Caution - External Email] Renaming Calhoun Square

With the historical significance and impact of the Wesley brothers in Savannah and the location of Wesley Monumental Church on the square, we feel that the name Wesley Square is the most suitable choice as the new name for Calhoun Square.

Richard and Elizabeth Cutts

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