

# JUDY BRADLEY

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
  - 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.”

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,



Judy Bradley  
Member of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church  
300 Bull Street  
Savannah, GA 31401

300 Bull Street ~ Suite 602 ~ Savannah, Georgia ~ 31401



## Office of the Mayor Savannah, Georgia

**Van R. Johnson, II**  
Mayor

May 12, 2023

Mr. Joseph Shearouse, Jr.  
City of Savannah  
2 East Bay Street  
Savannah, Georgia 31402

**Re: Naming Request Endorsement for Consideration- 'Wesley Square'**

To Whom It May Concern,

Please be advised that I endorse the naming request for consideration to name the public square located on Abercorn and East Wayne Streets, to 'Wesley Square' in accordance with City Ordinance and the process outlined within 'Article E. Naming of Public Property, Facilities, and Streets'.

I look forward to this application advancing within the process as required by City Code.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Van R. Johnson, II". The signature is stylized and written over the printed name below it.

Van R. Johnson, II  
Mayor