

Westminster Prays

Chut Moody	Kalaila Martin	Bob Bean
Lydia Crosby	Elliott Brouner	Sullivan Bull
David Keller	Walter Russell	Julia Moody
Joe Smith	Jan Erickson	John Linville
Speck Daniels	Dot Daniels	Frances McLean
Patty Snider	Martha Fox	Logan Gause
Mary Forbes	Terry Hall	Ryan Roberson
Emily Campbell	Charles Beck	Jennie Simmerman
Johnnie Harvey	Jack Eades	Mable Switzer
Roy Hoffman	Nekedra Lumar	Buck Morris
Sue Johnson	James Ella Collins	Dan Mills
Simms Daniels	Daniel Harms	Greg Kears
Eleanor Grayson	Jeff Wallace	Diane Fitzgibbon
Anne Powell	Judy Family	Betsy Williams
Charlie Reeves	Cliff Shelor	David Kerr
William Kerr	Jennifer Morgan	Larry Salley
Steve Varn	Susana Conte Walters	

Prayers of Sympathy and Support are extended to
The family and friends of Jervey Jones, who passed away on
December 7, 2017.

Serving in the Armed Forces

Jay Gilbert	Baxter Smoak	James Burnley	Robert Georgen
Lauren Smoak	David Ferguson	Andrew Krisel	Edward Stikeleather
Joshua Fincher	Ryan Depew	Tillman Reeves	Mike Cotham
Cameron Motley	Justin Forte	Mike Mann	Sullivan McMahan
Jeremy Rundall	Kevin Griggs	Kyle Dillon	

Friend of the Week

Mary Martschink
1218 Durham Place
Charleston, SC 29407

Church Family

Frank and Pat Painter
Cullen and Hilary Parrish
Cora, Hattie

Mission of the Week

Food Pantry
1157 Sam Rittenberg Blvd.
Charleston, SC 29407

College Student of the Week

Lance Morrison
1268 Orange Branch Road
Charleston, SC 29407

Prayer Request

Please complete and place in the offering plate.

Date _____

Please pray for _____

About _____

Should this request be listed in the bulletin? (permission of individuals required) Yes ___ No ___

Name of person making request _____

Requests ordinarily remain on the prayer list for about a month.

Please keep us updated.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, December 17

8:45 am	Worship Service
9:45 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
5:00 pm	Christmas Caroling, Covenant Hall
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Tuesday, December 19

7:00 pm	Handbell Choir
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Wednesday, December 20

6:00 pm	Wonderful Wednesday Church Family Dinner - Breakfast in PJ's
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Sunday, December 24

11:00 am	Worship Service, Lessons and Carols
5:00 pm	A Service for Families with Young Children
7:00 pm	Carols, Communion, and Candlelight
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

WESTMINSTER SESSION

CLASS OF 2018

Lindy Coleman
Brad Earnst
Priscilla Holtzclaw
Mark Patrick
Charlie Powell
Carole Russell

CLASS OF 2019

Ann Froneberger
Nancy Parrish
Rita Livingston
Henry Shepard
Chuck Towne
John Wright

CLASS OF 2020

Robert Coker
Eric David
Brenda Haile
George McAbee
David Purcell
Sally Rogers

Clerk-Priscilla Holtzclaw

Assistant Clerk - Rita Livingston

Treasurer-Betsy Williams

Assistant Treasurer-Patty Stokes

Westminster Presbyterian Church

1157 Sam Rittenberg Boulevard, Charleston, SC 29407

www.westminstercharleston.org (843) 766-8311

Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor

Mr. Robin Zemp, Director of Music

Mrs. Janie Bruce, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Ms. Anne Camburn, Business Administrator

Mrs. Nita Rushton, Office Administrator

Mrs. Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director

Mrs. Pam Smith, Preschool Assistant Director



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 17, 2017

8:45 am

GATHERING

Please greet each other warmly as the congregation gathers for worship.

Take a moment and sign your name in the friendship pad.

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

The Patrick Family

Matthew, Jill, Mary, and Catherine

Leader: During Advent we listen for the wonder of God's Word.

People: **Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.**

Leader: During Advent we reach beyond the noise and distractions of this world.

People: **Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.**

Leader: During Advent we ponder the good news that is our great joy.

People: **Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.**

Leader: During Advent we speak words of hope to those engaged in life's struggles.

People: **Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.**

Leader: During Advent we offer words of peace to those overcome by life's fears.

People: **Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.**

(Unison Prayer) Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey we pray that we would be guided by grace, strengthened in faith, and encouraged by Christ. With the many distractions surrounding us daily, help keep our eyes focused on your glory, our ears attentive to your word, and our hearts filled with joy. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

◆HYMN

O Come All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;

O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

continued

True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

CONFESSION

◆ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear Lord, you are coming again to establish your Kingdom, but we are not ready to welcome you. We are preparing our homes for Christmas, but we have neglected to prepare our hearts. We are alive with running errands and buying gifts, but we are sluggish in prayer and worship. Lord, forgive us for crowding you out of our Christmas preparations, and help us to be truly ready when you arrive.

◆ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

◆ RESPONSE OF PRAISE

FRENCH CAROL

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

◆ PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbors.

THE WORD

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Janie Bruce

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 1:1-18

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 91

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Jesus is GRACE and TRUTH

Pastor Daniel

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ HYMN NO. 123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

◆ DECLARATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND THE MORNING OFFERING

Please come forward and place your offering in the offering plate.

OFFERTORY

◆ SONG OF PRAISE

All creation, join in praising; God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising; to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king!

◆ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING OUT

◆ SENDING SONG NO.113 Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA

◆ BLESSING

◆ RESPONSE

We sing together:

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed to us;
His name is called Emmanuel!**

◆ Those who are able, please stand.

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Jane Williams Smith Mays, by her family.

Welcome to Westminster

We are delighted that you have joined us today and hope you will find a home here. Visitors are encouraged to stop by the welcome table in the narthex for more information about Westminster.

We have wonderful caregivers in our nursery who will lovingly care for your child and will provide you with a pager should they need to contact you. Our ushers can assist you in finding the nursery.

Parents who need to step out of the sanctuary for a while to tend to the needs of infants or small children can find privacy down the hall in the church parlor or in the church nursery.

Worship bags are available for preschool and elementary age children in the narthex.

Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available in the narthex.

For more information about Westminster:

- Check out our website www.westminstercharleston.org
- Plan to attend WPC 101 a three-week information class held quarterly during the Sunday school hour.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

ADVENT is the Latin word for "coming." For Christians it refers to the church season that prepares for the coming of Jesus Christ as God in human flesh – the incarnation. We celebrate his humble birth, his coming to us now, and his coming again in glory at the end of time.

The round shape of the Advent Wreath is a symbol of God's never-ending love for us. The evergreens represent everlasting life, and the purple candles are for him who comes royally as King of kings and Lord of lords. The pink candle is for the joy of the season, and in the center of the wreath is the white Christ candle lit on Christmas Eve.

The Christmas tree is decorated with lights and chrismons. Lights remind us that Jesus is the light of the world. Chrismons are symbols that illustrate aspects of the Christian faith.

ARE YOU A GUEST who has been attending Westminster and would like to take a step forward in faith? We would love the chance to speak with you about what it means to be Christian, what it means to be Presbyterian, and what it means to be a member at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Please check the "Desire a Call" box on the black Friendship Pad or speak with someone at the Visitor Table in the narthex after the service.

I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO GIVES ME STRENGTH!

Thank you to those who have made financial commitments for 2018! We have received 141 pledges totaling 539,288. Our goal is 100% participation, so if you have not yet turned in your commitment card (they are available in the fellowship pads and in the narthex), you may do that by placing it in the offering plate or by mailing it to the church office. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness in 2017- even as we look forward to fruitful ministry at Westminster Presbyterian Church.