



Westminster Presbyterian Church

# NEWSLETTER

April 2021

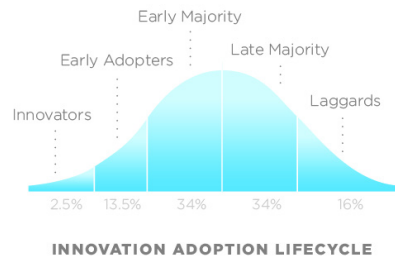


*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,  
1 Peter 1:3-4*

***Worship Joyfully. Serve Faithfully. Give Generously. Live Worthily.***

# PASTOR GREETING

In his book, "Diffusion of Innovations" (1962), sociologist Everett Rogers describes 5 personality types when it comes to a willingness to try new products and adopt new ideas.



- Innovators are the first in line to try a new thing. It is partly because they are, by nature, risk takers and excited about new ideas and ways of doing things.
- Early Adopters are ready to try new things, but they are very thoughtful and tend to make reasoned decisions.
- Early Majority is a group who are reasonably risk averse and want to make sure their money is wisely invested in the new products they try.
- Late Majority is a group that are often skeptical about new ideas and prefer to stick with the things that have proven to be tried and true.
- Laggards (Everett's term) is the final group who are highly resistant to change and risk; they may eventually try the new thing, but only after the trend is over.

As we come out from the shadow of Covid, I expect there will be similar responses as vaccinations continue, things start opening up, and life returns to some semblance of normal. I feel it in my own psyche when I see crowds of people together: Is it OK for them to be doing that?

I suggest as we go forward, we use the same level of patience and understanding with each other as we have tried to have in the last year. Some are ready to tear off the mask and hug and kiss with reckless abandon (Innovators). Others may still be traumatized by the grief of losing a loved one or afraid to rebound too quickly (Laggards or Late Majority). Their responses are partly conditioned by their personality, and a range of responses among a variety of people should be expected. Maybe more than ever, now is the time to proceed with love, considering the needs of others. As Philippians admonishes us:

*Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. (Philippians 2:2-4)*

*Pastor Daniel*

## FROM THE PULPIT

### *Return, Rebuild, Renew*

On April 25, we'll begin a new sermon series on the book of Nehemiah - Nehemiah's Life after Exile. The Israelites had experienced a terrible time: the destruction of Jerusalem and the sacred temple, deportation to Babylon, and life as exiles among their enemies. But now they were permitted to come back to the ruins of their sacred city. It is time to Return, Rebuild, and Renew, learning about a new life prepared for them by God. Nehemiah is a book about life and rebuilding after exile: perfect for us as we climb back from the Covid pandemic.

**April 4** John 20:1-18  
*The Dawning of the Light*

**April 11** John 20:19-31  
*Jesus and Thomas*

**April 18** Acts 3:12-19  
*What Is Astonishing You*

**April 25** Nehemiah 1:1-11  
*Life & Grief*

**May 2** Nehemiah 2:1-20  
*Life & Planning*

**May 9** Nehemiah 3:1-32  
*Life & Building*

**May 16** Nehemiah 4:1-23  
*Life & Persistence*

**May 23** Nehemiah 5:1-19  
*Life & Justice*

**May 30** Nehemiah 8:1-18  
*Life & Rejoicing*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- |      |  |      |   |
|------|--|------|---|
| 4/1  | Grace Fulmer<br>Lynn Macpherson<br>Barbara Crumrine                          | 4/18 | Molly Nida  |
| 4/2  | John Niblock<br>Lynda Higgins  | 4/19 | Charles Grafton-Mcglynn   |
| 4/4  | Gregory Johnson  | 4/20 | Pam Gill<br>Mark Peterson   |
| 4/6  | Kathryn Sams<br>Elizabeth Sams<br>Joan Frye                                  | 4/21 | Bob Walker<br>Kosti Holtzclaw<br>Bob Beaty  |
| 4/8  | Skyler Frasier   | 4/26 | Johan Enslin<br>Tom Higgins   |
| 4/9  | Shelby Earnst<br>Keith Gordon<br>Liz Shelor<br>Becky Housley<br>Mark Rushton | 4/27 | Olivia Grafton<br>Betsy McLaughlin<br>Debbie Hansel<br>Kristin Dounian<br>Neil Shepard<br>Howard Fulwiler |
| 4/10 | Emma Camburn<br>Sarah Johnson  |      | Robert Dadin<br>Addison Stoney  |
| 4/11 | Paige Dadin<br>George McAbee<br>Deborah-Anne Ferguson                        | 4/28 | Nancy Dixon<br>Cora Parrish<br>Daniel Smith   |
| 4/12 | Neal Axon  | 4/29 | Robert Coker<br>Shelby Miller<br>Joseph Clarey<br>Lesa Grayson  |
| 4/13 | Nita Rushton   |      |   |
| 4/14 | Brenda Jonsson   | 4/30 | Shirley Kruger<br>Tracy Friedrichs<br>Hailey Peterson<br>Robert Luhn                                      |
| 4/16 | David Butts<br>Kelly Vaughn<br>Rachel Parrish                                |      |   |
| 4/17 | Jack Mobley<br>Aurora Davis  |      |   |

# Welcome

## SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

9:00 - 9:45 a.m. via ZOOM

### For Adults

Meeting ID: 856 1961 4490

Passcode: 12345

Dial in by phone: 646-558-8656

### For Children

Meeting ID: 867 718 0847

Passcode: 1776

Dial in by phone: 646-558-8656

## RETURN, REBUILD, RENEW

The Session recently approved a few changes to our COVID protocols (check them out on page 11). This spring as part of the Sermon Series from Nehemiah, we invite you as a congregation to Return, Rebuild and Renew with Westminster. As you feel more comfortable and as more events and opportunities become available, we welcome you to return to a *new* normal at Westminster, to rebuild that relationship and foundation with God through discipleship as a present congregation, and to renew your faith through worship and fellowship opportunities that will continue to evolve, change and grow.

As simple as the children's rhyme symbolized to the right...

*Here is the church, here is the steeple,  
open the doors and here are ALL the people.*

We hope to ALL return, rebuild and renew together soon.



# EXPRESS BIBLE READING PLAN

*April - May 2021*

## *April 2021*

Thursday, April 1: Isaiah 65:17-25; John 3  
Friday, April 2: 2 Chronicles 33; John 4  
Saturday, April 3: Nahum 1:1-8; John 5  
Sunday, April 4: John 6  
Monday, April 5: 2 Kings 23:24-25; John 7  
Tuesday, April 6: John 8  
Wednesday, April 7: Zephaniah 3; John 9  
Thursday, April 8: Jeremiah 1; John 10  
Friday, April 9: Jeremiah 4:1-4; John 11  
Saturday, April 10: Jeremiah 5:20-31; John 12  
Sunday, April 11: Jeremiah 7:23-26; John 13  
Monday, April 12: Jeremiah 10:6-7; John 14  
Tuesday, April 13: Jeremiah 15:19-21; John 15  
Wednesday, April 14: Psalm 96; Jeremiah 17:7-10;  
John 16  
Thursday, April 15: Psalm 93; Jeremiah 18:1-10;  
John 17  
Friday, April 16: Psalm 112; Jeremiah 22:3; John 18  
Saturday, April 17: Jeremiah 25:5-7; John 19  
Sunday, April 18: Jeremiah 35:15; John 20  
Monday, April 19: Psalm 105:1-11, 42-45; John 21  
Tuesday, April 20: Psalm 67; 1 John 1  
Wednesday, April 21: Psalm 118; Jeremiah 24:7; 1  
John 2  
Thursday, April 22: Jeremiah 29:11-13; 1 John 3  
Friday, April 23: Jeremiah 32:17; 1 John 4  
Saturday, April 24: Jeremiah 33:6-9; 1 John 5  
Sunday, April 25: Jeremiah 38:20; 2 John  
Monday, April 26: Jeremiah 51:15-19; 3 John  
Tuesday, April 27: Psalm 143:8-12; 144:1-2;  
Revelation 1  
Wednesday, April 28: Ezekiel 3:16-27; Revelation 2  
Thursday, April 29: Revelation 3  
Friday, April 30: Ezekiel 11:19-21; Revelation 4

## *May 2021*

Saturday, May 1: Ezekiel 14:12-14; Revelation 5  
Sunday, May 2: Psalm 70; Ezekiel 16:49-63;  
Revelation 6  
Monday, May 3: Ezekiel 18:30-32; Revelation 7  
Tuesday, May 4: Psalm 111; Ezekiel 20:39-44;  
Revelation 8  
Wednesday, May 5: Ezekiel 22:30; 23:28-30;  
Revelation 9  
Thursday, May 6: Ezekiel 28:25-26; Revelation 10  
Friday, May 7: Ezekiel 31:10-14; Revelation 11  
Saturday, May 8: 2 Chronicles 36:22-23; Revelation 12  
Sunday, May 9: Psalm 48; Jeremiah 42; Revelation 13  
Monday, May 10: Revelation 14  
Tuesday, May 11: Lamentations 3:22-66; Revelation 15  
Wednesday, May 12: Daniel 1; Revelation 16  
Thursday, May 13: Psalm 81:9-10; Daniel 3;  
Revelation 17  
Friday, May 14: Ezekiel 33:10-11; Revelation 18  
Saturday, May 15: Psalm 110; Ezekiel 36:25-27;  
Revelation 19  
Sunday, May 16: Psalm 145; Revelation 20  
Monday, May 17: Psalm 128; Revelation 21  
Tuesday, May 18: Ezekiel 43:1-5; Revelation 22  
Wednesday, May 19: Ezekiel 45:9-10; Luke 1  
Thursday, May 20: Luke 2  
Friday, May 21: Daniel 6; Luke 3  
Saturday, May 22: Luke 4  
Sunday, May 23: Luke 5  
Monday, May 24: Daniel 12:1-3; Luke 6  
Tuesday, May 25: Psalm 84; Luke 7  
Wednesday, May 26: Luke 8  
Thursday, May 27: Psalm 127; Luke 9  
Friday, May 28: Haggai 2:1-9; Luke 10  
Saturday, May 29: Zechariah 3:7; Luke 11  
Sunday, May 30: Zechariah 4:6; Luke 12  
Monday, May 31: Zechariah 7:8-14; Luke 13

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

*Tuesday, April 6*

*7:30 - 8:30 a.m. on ZOOM*

Calling All Men! Join us for Bible Study the First Tuesday of every month. We're currently virtual (you must supply your own coffee and breakfast from home!), and hopefully we'll soon be able to make the transition to in-person.

Pastor Daniel is leading; join us for the Fellowship and Encouragement!

ZOOM login information:

- Meeting ID: 856 1961 4490
- Passcode: 12345
- Call in: 646-558-8656



## Happenings

### CALL FOR PHOTOS FOR WEBSITE UPDATE

Along with updating our web address and staff e-mails, we are updating our website accordingly with current, accurate and timely photos.

Please submit your photos from worship, fellowship, backpack buddies, handbells, choir, youth and children's activities - any and all things pertaining to Westminster to Meg Dorsel at [mdorsel@wpccharleston.org](mailto:mdorsel@wpccharleston.org).

*\*It's ok if you have masks on in the pictures.*

## MEETING THE HOLY SPIRIT

*New Adult Sunday School Series beginning April 11*

*9:00 - 9:45 a.m. on Sunday Mornings via ZOOM*

"So I say, walk by the Spirit..." In Galatians 5, we hear the Apostle Paul's admonition, but do we know what it means? How well do you know what (or rather who) the Holy Spirit is and what the Holy Spirit does today? Join us for this great study of the one some have called the most neglected member of the Trinity. Facilitated by Pastor Daniel, Pastor Lissa, and Lindy Coleman.

ZOOM login information:

- Meeting ID: 856 1961 4490
- Passcode: 12345
- Call in: 646-558-8656

## BACKPACK BUDDIES

*Wednesday, April 21*

*6:30 p.m. in the Breezeway*

Join us as we pack weekend food kits for students at Goodwin Elementary School. We will pack outside in the breezeway wearing masks and social distancing. The work takes about 45 minutes, and all ages are welcome. Hand sanitizer will be provided, and masks are required. Please call Dee Bee Wright at 843.729.7005 with any questions! Thank you!

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

April is here, and we are in person at the Preschool. A year ago the world was filled with so many questions about the future. We were not sure we would have a school year. I am so proud of the families and staff who have worked so hard to make this year happen. The children have enjoyed learning with their friends and having fun. The teachers and staff are sad that the opportunities to get to know our families have all been electronic, but they have loved having the time to get to know their students.

The children are looking forward to Easter and learning about Jesus and the Easter Bunny. What would Preschool be without an Easter Egg Hunt? The Preschool will continue to modify all the activities that would normally encourage in person parent participation to electronic viewing. We are so hopeful that we will be able to resume all these activities next year.

Our registration for next year is almost full. We were so surprised at the response we received from our families and the community. It looks like it will be a great year!

Thank you to Westminster for believing in us this year and allowing us to bring the children back to school.

Happy Spring!  
The Preschool

## SUMMER SAVE THE DATES

*Vacation Bible School*  
*"This is the Day"*  
**July 12-16**



More details to follow. If you are interested in volunteering to help that week, please contact Janie Bruce, [jbruce@wpccharleston.org](mailto:jbruce@wpccharleston.org).

*Picnic in the Park*  
*Mondays in the Summer*  
**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Pack a picnic and come check out some of our local parks!

<b>June 21</b>	Palmetto Island County Park, Mt Pleasant Big Toy Playground
<b>July 19</b>	James Island County Park Playground near Spray & Play area
<b>August 16</b>	Wannamaker County Park Fun-Lot & Tot-Lot area

*Family Friendly Hike*  
*Saturday, May 15*  
*Laurel Hill, Mt. Pleasant*  
**10:00 a.m.**

Wear comfortable shoes, sunscreen and don't forget to pack snacks and water. This hiking path is stroller friendly.

*Family Beach Evening*  
*Sundays in the Summer*  
**4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

<b>June 27</b>	Folly Beach County Park
<b>August 8</b>	Folly Beach County Park

# PRAYER ON THE PLAYGROUND

*Sundays 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.*

We are happy to welcome back our children and their parents for play on the playground Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. We will open the back gate to the playground for playtime followed by a quick devotion/prayer time at 10:30 a.m. We hope this gives young families time to get home and join us for our live stream worship at 11:00 a.m. All Prayer on Playground events are weather dependent, rain will be our only cancellation.

*This time is designed for families of small children. Parents are expected to remain on the playground - this is not a drop-off event (like regular Sunday School).*



Children,  
Youth &  
Families

## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT FEATURING "HOP"

*Wednesday, April 7  
(Week of Spring Break)  
7:00 p.m. on the  
Playground*

This is an outdoor event and weather permitting. The movie "HOP" will be shown on the playground. Please park on the back loop and enter through the gate near the Scout hut. Bring a chair and/or blanket and a refreshment for your family to enjoy.

From The Creators Of **DESPICABLE ME** Comes A Comedy About  
**CANDY, CHICKS AND ROCK 'N' ROLL**



# VOLUNTEER WITH READING PARTNERS SOUTH CAROLINA

Westminster is serving as a tutoring center for Reading Partners South Carolina. Westminster currently hosts 20 tutoring sessions and there is a need to serve more children from the Charleston County School District. Reading Partners is looking to host up to 30 more tutoring sessions from Westminster. Those interested in tutoring must attend two virtual orientations before being connected with an elementary school student and beginning a literacy mentorship. Tutoring sessions last just over an hour and volunteers must commit to at least one session per week, M-Th during the hours of 9am-3pm. No teaching or tutoring experience is required to participate in this program and onsite support is available. All tutoring centers follow CDC COVID-19 health and safety guidelines.

If you are interested in tutoring, sign up via [www.readingpartners.org/volunteer](http://www.readingpartners.org/volunteer) or email [volunteersc@readingpartners.org](mailto:volunteersc@readingpartners.org) with questions. To learn more about the organization check out [www.readingpartners.org/southcarolina](http://www.readingpartners.org/southcarolina).

*Reading Partners is a national children's literacy nonprofit that mobilizes local volunteers to empower aspiring readers in underserved schools to read confidently at grade level through one-on-one tutoring.*

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## HANDS OF CHRIST STATUS & NEEDS

So far we've distributed 153 bags of emergency clothing since January 1 for a total of 1035 children receiving school clothing, supplies, and books this school year. We expect to continue distributing emergency clothing to Charleston County Schools until the end of the school year.

### **NEEDS:**

- Books for Children Pre K thru 8th grade reading levels.
- We are completely out of books for 4th thru 8th grade. These are the grades students start reading chapter books.

If you care to donate books for us to distribute, please bring them to the Church Office and we will collect them and add them to our inventory for distribution.





## PLAYGROUND OPPORTUNITY

The time has come to retire some of the old playground equipment and replace it with something new. What we have has served us well (for 20 years), and we know the equipment will be a great addition! We've budgeted \$36,000 for the project, but we only need to raise \$9,000!! That's because the Westminster Endowment will give \$3 for every \$1 donated. That means if you give \$100, the Endowment will kick in \$300, turning your gift into \$400.

If you'd like to take part by making a donation, checks can be made payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church and marked "Playground." Or give online at [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org). Choose "Give Now" and the "Playground Project" fund. We'd like to have all gifts in hand by April 30 to ensure a summer installation. Thank You!



## WESTMINSTER FOOD PANTRY

*Always in Need*

Did you know that our Food Pantry not only provides non-perishable food items, but also diapers, formula, detergent, toothpaste and so much more.

Thanks to your generosity, we have doubled the Food Pantry outreach, now offering 72 food bags per week to people in the community, and we are expanding with a mobile distribution site at Mary Ford School.

*For more information and a full list of items we provide, email Nita Rushton at [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org) or stop by the front office.*

# MEMORIAL GIFTS

## *In Memory of*

Bobbie Yandle  
Bev Chotvacs  
Anna Lee Myers  
Bruce Yarnall

## *Given by*

Brenda Jonsson  
Westminster Circle 4  
Mark & Tracy Friedrichs  
Charlie & Meg Powell  
David & Ann Morris  
Doug & Frankie Earnst  
Northbridge Terrace Garden Club  
Carol Ann & Moot Truluck  
Howard & Jenny Fulwiler  
John & Mary Truluck  
Tom & Lynda Higgins  
Tombo & Ann Milliken  
Gloria Purcell  
Gary & Joyce Flowers  
Woody & Nancy Truluck  
Belton & Sara Tisdale  
Barbara Kallam  
Mitchell Carnell, Jr  
Dr & Mrs. Nolan Schwerin  
Atlantic Pest & Termite Mgmt  
JG & Margie Wylie  
Frank & Pat Painter  
Joan Leon  
John & Karen McGee  
Clif Green

# SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: MARCH 21, 2021

The meeting was called to order on ZOOM at 6 pm with prayer by Pastor Daniel Smoak who moderated the meeting and presented the devotional.

Administration –We have initiated a change in custodial services which will occur April 12.

Finance – approve the February 2021 Budget Summary. Contributions are ahead of budget YTD. Cash flow is positive YTD. Approved funding for new playground equipment. The WPC Endowment will give \$3 for every \$1 donated- up to \$27,000 for a total budget of \$36,000. Preschool Committee will make plans for equipment and installation.

Rebounding from COVID-19: Added these changes to current Covid Policy: Replacing hymnals and Bibles in the pews; Singing in worship (with masks on); Worship leaders removing masks for the parts they are leading; Return to usual Youth Group Format: Jr. High would meet from 5-6 pm and Sr. High from 6-7 pm with a snack/meal in between; Allow meetings in classrooms for groups 10 or fewer. Expected next steps will be resuming 8:45 worship service and resuming Nursery Care and Children’s Church for 11:00 worship.

Adopted recommendation from the Mission Committee (and guest Dee Bee Wright) to support the BetterNorthBridge Coalition alongside our partners LowCountry Food Bank and Metanoia in alignment with our church’s mission to care and promote equity within our community beyond our walls. We will write a letter on behalf of the church supporting this project, encourage the congregation to write letters of support, and offer sign space on our property to encourage others to do the same.

Before adjournment, we shared pastoral concerns and sang “God is so Good.”

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
1157 Sam Rittenberg Boulevard  
Charleston, South Carolina 29407  
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**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
**www.wpccharleston.org**  
**843.766.8311**

Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, *Pastor*  
dsmoak@wpccharleston.org  
843.872.1001

Rev. Lissa Long, *Associate Pastor*  
mlong@wpccharleston.org

Robin Zemp, *Director of Music*  
rzemp@wpccharleston.org

Janie Bruce, *Dir. of Youth & Children's Ministries*  
jbruce@wpccharleston.org

Nita Rushton, *Office Administrator*  
office@wpccharleston.org

Tommye Owen, *Financial Administrator*  
finance@wpccharleston.org

Alicia Crosby, *Preschool Director*  
preschool@wpccharleston.org

Joan Foster, *Childcare Coordinator*  
jmf0305@ymail.com

Meg Dorsel, *Communications Coordinator*  
mdorsel@wpccharleston.org

Carol Smith, *Church Hostess*

#### Sundays at Westminster

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**9:00 a.m. ZOOM Sunday School for Children & Adults**

**11:00 a.m. In Person and Livestream Worship Service**  
*In-Person following Covid Protocols and also available on Facebook Live, Westminster's YouTube channel, and www.wpccharleston.org.*

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#### Westminster Session

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##### **Class of 2021**

Allyn Bruce  
John Dounian  
Norman Hook  
Dale Norman  
Michael Patrick  
Paul Patrick

**Clerk**  
**Assistant Clerk**  
**Treasurer**  
**Assistant Treasurer**

##### **Class of 2022**

Nancy Dixon  
Sandra Pell  
Kendall Ramsay  
Carole Russell  
Nathan Snider  
Graham Wade

Priscilla Holtzclaw  
Carole Russell  
Doug Earnst  
Patty Stokes

##### **Class of 2023**

Matthew Akery  
David Boyd  
Earl Frasier  
Brenda Gibson  
Tim Platts  
Nathan Ward