

February 2022



THE GOOD NEWS

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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



Sundays at Westminster

- 9:00 a.m.** *In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary
Nursery Available*
- 10:00 a.m.** *Children, Youth and Adult Sunday School
Nursery Available*
- 11:00 a.m.** *In-Person and Livestream Worship Service
Nursery & Children's Church Available*



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Westminster Presbyterian Charleston



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GREETINGS

From Pastor Daniel

The Sound of the Trumpet

If even lifeless instruments, such as the flute or the harp, do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is played? And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle? So with yourselves. 1 Corinthians 14:7-9

The context of these verses is right in the middle of one of the most debated parts of Scripture. The early Church first experienced the gift of speaking in tongues on the day of Pentecost. People of all different nationalities had gathered in Jerusalem, and while language barriers would ordinarily be a problem in preaching the Gospel, they were not that day. Through the Holy Spirit, many of the people there began to speak in foreign languages. All the foreigners who had gathered that day were suddenly hearing the Good news of Christ in a tongue they could clearly understand.

It was not a one-time occurrence. Apparently, the Holy Spirit gave the gift of speaking in tongues to many people in the early church. Paul himself had the gift. But what happened is this: people began to think the gift of speaking in tongues was the best spiritual gift anyone could have. In fact, and we see this today, some people thought if you did not have the gift of speaking in tongues, you were not really

Christian. You didn't really have the Holy Spirit. The people in Corinth thought that, and that is why Paul devoted 3 chapters of his first letter to the topic. Chapter 12 is an introduction and explanation of spiritual gifts, chapter 13 is a longer exposition on love- the gift Paul believed was the greatest, and chapter 14 specifically addresses the topic of speaking in tongues. What Paul says in a nutshell is this: speaking in tongues is the least of all the spiritual gifts. All the other gifts- especially the ability to proclaim the Word, are for the building up and the edification of the church, but if you speak in tongues and don't have other gifts- like love, then you are only a noisy gong or a clanging symbol. If you speak in tongues in the assembly and no one understands what you are saying, then you are just babbling, and it is more detrimental to the church than it is useful. And that is where he uses the example of the musical instruments. If even lifeless instruments, such as the flute or the harp, do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is played? And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle?

What Paul was hoping the Corinthians would understand is this: They were to give a clear witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The way they conducted the assembly should give an understandable and comprehensible picture of what it means to follow the Way.

I'll take that a step further and say that it is not only what was coming out of their mouths that

was muddled, but it was also what was coming out of their lives. The Corinthians, for the most part, were not a group of folks who were, by the way they lived, giving a clear presentation of the Gospel of Christ. And so in the letter, Paul called them out. In the way they worshiped, in their thoughts and beliefs, in their moral decisions, in their actions, he challenged them: are you babbling or are making distinct notes? Are you sitting atop the fence of ambivalence, or are you clear in your witness to the Gospel?

Could it be the same questions apply to us today?

Pastor Daniel

WORSHIP JOYFULLY

From the Pulpit

February 6

*Life with Creation
Revelation 21:1-6
The Lord's Supper &
Congregational Meeting*

February 13

*Worship: Like the Angels
Isaiah 6:1-8; Revelation 4:1-11*

February 20

*Worship: With All Your Might
2 Samuel 6*

February 27

*Worship: Preaching Then;
Preaching Now
Acts 2:14-36*



Livestream available at wpccharleston.org as well as Facebook and YouTube.



Dial (843) 252-0146 anytime to listen to Sunday's Sermon with no charge.

COVID POLICY UPDATE

The Session has approved a move to mask optional on campus in 2022, provided Charleston County reaches an area of low disease activity according to SCDHEC. At present Charleston County has a high disease activity rating.

ASH WEDNESDAY *March 2, 2022*

8:00 - 8:15 a.m. & 12:15 - 12:30 p.m.

Brief gatherings in the sanctuary to pray and be marked with the ashes of repentance.

6:30 - 7:15 p.m.

Ash Wednesday worship where we hear God's word of hope and are marked with the ashes of repentance.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent. It's called Ash Wednesday because as a sign of repentance, believers through the centuries have received the mark of an ashen cross on their forehead. The ashes remind us of God's words to Adam when he sinned- "remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," and it reminds us of the Old Testament practice of wearing sackcloth and having ashes placed on the head as a sign of spiritual poverty. On March 2, there are several opportunities to gather.



WELCOMING NEW DISCIPLES TO WESTMINSTER

Baptisms

Lincoln and Colton Engles, sons of Sean and Abigail Engles, baptized November 14, 2021 by Pastor Lissa Long. Dee Bee Wright was assisting Elder.

Anderson Joseph Scruggs, son of Michael and Annelise Scruggs, baptized December 19, 2021 by Pastor Lissa Long. Brenda Gibson was assisting Elder.

New Members

Sean and Abigail Engles joined by reaffirmation of faith, November 14, 2021.

Bryan and Ann Kingrey with baby girl Poppy, joined December 5, 2021 by letter of transfer from Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church.

Jack and Caroline Christian, children, Mary Caroline, Eleanor Lee, John Charles V, Frances Jordon joined December 5, 2021 by letter of transfer from Spring Valley Presbyterian Church.

Michael Joseph Scruggs and Annelise Scruggs joined December 19, 2021. Michael joined by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian of Hilton Head. Annelise joined by letter of transfer from Our Lady of Lourdes.

LIVE WORTHILY

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP & FELLOWSHIP



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, February 6 following 11:00 a.m. Worship

The purpose of the meeting is to review the financial reports from 2021, review the budget for 2022, and in accordance with G-2.0804/G-1.0501 review and vote on the terms of call for our pastors.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, February 8

Trotter's Restaurant at Town & Country Inn

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Men of all ages: Join us for Breakfast and Bible Study from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. on the Second Tuesday of every month. We are meeting IN-PERSON for breakfast at Trotters Restaurant at Town and Country Inn and Suites (2008 Savannah Highway). We're studying OT characters: Jonah chapters 3 and 4 this month. Pastor Daniel will be leading; join us for the Fellowship and Encouragement!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Full Circle Class

in the Library

Cary Grayson Class

Room 4, Covenant Hall

Anchor Class

Room 1, Covenant Hall

FLOWER COMMITTEE UPDATE

Westminster is blessed to have many member volunteers with a special talent for flower arranging and gardening. We have a core group of ladies to construct the beautiful, special arrangements we enjoy in the sanctuary to celebrate and remember loved ones of our membership. They also break down arrangements into smaller vases for deacons and pastors to take to our home-based members, and help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas and Easter. We also treasure our volunteers who provide loving care to our campus landscaping, especially the Memory Garden.

In order to continue our service of flower arrangements requested by the membership, we find it necessary to increase the fee to \$60, effective January 2022. This small increase will help us continue to provide quality flower arrangements as prices continue to rise for fresh flowers and materials. Thank you for your continued support of this service. If you are interested in joining our member volunteers who arrange, or who garden, please contact Carole Russell, 843-442-5276 or clsrussell@comcast.net.

FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT

We begin a new sermon series on WORSHIP. God has created us for worship, and the more we know the more faithful we can be.

- 2/13** "Like the Angels" Isaiah 6:1-8; Revelation 4:1-11
We pattern our worship after the visions of Heavenly worship we see in Scripture.
- 2/20** "With All Your Might" 2 Samuel 6
David dances before the Lord- we worship with all our might.
- 2/27** "Preaching Then; Preaching Now" Acts 2:14-36
Peter's Pentecost sermon is a good example of the way the apostles preached in the 1st century. Is it a model to be followed today?
- 3/6** "Prayers of Confession" Psalm 51
Some churches have removed the "downer" prayers of confession from worship. Why haven't we?
- 3/13** "In Spirit and in Truth" John 4:1-26
Worship that is pleasing to God is in "Spirit and Truth."
- 3/20** "Decent and in Order" 1 Corinthians 14:26-40
Presbyterians love to worship "decently and in order," just as the Bible says. Do we take it too far? Also included: How do we understand the apparent prohibition of women preachers?
- 3/27** "Reverence and Awe" Hebrews 12:28-29
What does it mean to approach God with reverence and awe?
- 4/3** "Singing" Psalm 100; Ephesians 5:18-21
Singing is such an important part of worship. How do we know what is appropriate to sing?
- 4/10** "Worship in the Dark" Psalm 22
We worship God- even in the hard times. "Yet, you are enthroned on the praises of your people." (Palm/Passion Sunday)

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

The search process for our next Director of Youth and Children's Ministries! Contact a member of the Search Team for a job description or to make a referral:

- Dee Bee Wright (chair)
- Chuck Towne
- Abbie Mobley
- Jill Patrick
- Benjamin Whitener
- Robert Dounian
- Pastor Daniel



LIVE WORTHILY CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL

The New Year is off to a rocky start with Covid, many of our students are having to spend weeks quarantining due to original exposure from family members and then the students becoming positive. Overall, our parents have taken our quarantine directions in stride and followed our Protocols. The school returned to strict Covid protocols when we returned from Christmas. This has helped control the number of students who are quarantined. It is our prayer that February will start to show decline in cases. But the school goes on for the students who are attending.

This month Registration opens to the Public for the 2022-2023 school year. We are looking forward to a good turnout. If you know of any families interested in registering, please have them contact the office at 843-571-0321 or email us at preschool@wpccharleston.org.

The Preschool

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 a.m.

0 - 2's Nursery

3 - 5K

Christian Ed Building
Room 16

1st - 2nd Grade

Christian Ed Building
Room 17

3rd - 5th Grade

Christian Ed Building
Room 15

Middle & High School

Covenant Hall
Room 3

WESTMINSTER FAMILY,

I'm not sure there are enough ways for me to adequately express my gratitude to you all for the love and support you have shown me. The outpouring of kindness through this new transition has been nothing but overwhelming. However, the truth is, I've never felt anything other than love and support from you and for that I'm at a loss of words. Thank you for helping me grow as a leader, a teacher, and a disciple over the last eleven years. I look forward to continuing to grow together in new and exciting ways!

*With a full heart,
Janie Bruce*

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING *Sunday, February 13th*



While the Youth may not be able to host the Soup Luncheon again this year, they will still be accepting canned goods and monetary donations starting now until the day of the big game - Sunday, February 13. To donate, drop off canned goods or a check to the Church Office.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUMMER SAVE THE DATES

June 12-18
*Montreat Youth Conference (High School)**

June 26-30
Vacation Bible School
(note the shift to Sunday-Thursday)
Look for registration in April

July 20-24
Montreat Middle School Conference
*(Maryville, Tenn.)**

July 24-29
*Bethelwoods Camp**

*Look for Links in the Church E-News

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP

February

2/6 5:00 p.m. MS
6:00 p.m. HS

2/13 Souper Bowl Sunday
during Sunday School
No Youth Group

2/20 5:00 p.m. MS
6:00 p.m. HS

2/27 5:00 p.m. MS
6:00 p.m. HS

March:

3/6 5:00 p.m. MS
6:00 p.m. HS

3/13 5:00 p.m. MS
6:00 p.m. HS

3/20 5:00 p.m. MS
6:00 p.m. HS

3/21 5:00 p.m. MS
6:00 p.m. HS

3/27 All Youth
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
*Oscar Party at the
Wright's House*

April:

4/3 5:00 p.m. MS
6:00 p.m. HS

4/10 **Palm Sunday**
No Youth Group

4/17 **Easter**
No Youth Group

4/24 All Youth
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

SERVE FAITHFULLY

Doing God's Work in our Community



BACKPACK BUDDIES

Wednesday, February 2

6:00 pm. in Covenant Hall

Join us as we pack weekend food kits for local elementary school students. We will pack in Covenant Hall, 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.

Save the Date for upcoming Backpack Buddies Packing Dates:
March 30 and April 27



DEAR WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

I don't think I can adequately express my appreciation, or that of all of us on the Child Hunger Team, for Westminster's very generous commitment to feeding 70 more students at Stono Park through Backpack Buddies. The Parent Advocate at the school was thrilled at the news and said she can finally move these kiddos off her waitlist.

*You answered a big need and we are sincerely grateful.
Please share my thanks with the entire team there!*

SINCERELY,
LOWCOUNTRY FOOD BANK



BETTER NORTHBRIDGE INFORMATION MEETING

Wednesday, February 16

4:00 - 7:00 p.m. in Covenant Hall

Materials for the meeting are available on the County's project page BetterNorthBridge.com.

With no space dedicated to people on bikes or foot, and a small raised median with delineators down the middle, the North Bridge is one of the Lowcountry's most hostile crossings for vulnerable road users. The goal of the Coalition is to raise awareness and advocate funding and action from government agencies to construct a separate bicycle and pedestrian bridge. Westminster Presbyterian Church is a proud coalition member.

COLLECTING WINTER CLOTHING FOR LOCAL CHILDREN

Collecting through Mid March

Westminster in partnership with Hands of Christ is collecting winter clothing for students at Mary Ford, Chicora, and Goodwin.

Clothing needs in sizes from Toddler to Adults include:

- winter coats and jackets
- caps
- gloves
- sweaters
- belts
- pants
- shoes
- winter blankets

Bring either new or pre used clothing. If the latter, please make sure it's washed and clean. Leave the clothing in the cart in the Narthex or on the tables in Room 1 in Covenant Hall. We sort and divide up on Thursday's and deliver on Fridays.



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.

For more information and a full list of items we provide, email Nita Rushton at office@wpccharleston.org or stop by the front office.



GIVE GENEROUSLY

*of Your Time, Your Money, Your Resources
and Give Thanks for Your Blessings*

THORNWELL HOME FOR CHILDREN

The Christmas Eve Special Offering for Thornwell collected an additional \$5712 for this worthy organization. These funds will be provided in addition to Westminster's budgeted annual support of \$10,000.

DEAR WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

I want to express my gratitude for your gift and the continuous support and prayer for Thornwell! You all answer the call to serve and it is because of your kindness and generosity we are able to respond when children and families need loving care, resources and support! You provide such a blessing in allowing hope, healing, and assurances of God's love to be felt each and every day at Thornwell! You all truly make a difference and we are so grateful you walk alongside Thornwell!



GIFTS & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Roy & Jule Ann Hoffman
Clif Green
Doris Fox
Bill & Anna Lee Myers

In Honor of

Doug & Frankie Earnst

Given By

John & Judith Halberda
Mark & Tracy Friedrichs
Charlie & Meg Powell
Frank & Pat Painter
Gloria Purcell
Parkwood Dental Associates
Nolan Schwerin
Floyd & Joyce Tyler
Tom & Lynda Higgins
John & Fran Ligon
Jim & Shirley Seay
Pam Gill
Brenda Haile
Gary & Joyce Flowers
Brenda Jonsson
Richard & Nancy Truluck
Edwin & Sylvia Smith
John & Karen McGee
Nelson & Brenda Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Moluf



ANGEL TREE FOLLOW UP

Thank you for your continued support of the Angel Tree initiative. Westminster provided gift bags for 125 children at Mary Ford Early Childhood Center. In addition, designated monetary donations in the amount of \$4635 were collected which allowed our Youth Group to shop for additional children.

All of the donations were not used this year so \$1000 will be carried forward for use next year. Thank you for your generosity!

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR CATALOGUE FOLLOW UP

Now in it's second year, Alternative Gift Fair collections doubled! A total of \$1060 was collected for Westminster's designated Mission Partners such as Backpack Buddies, Hands of Christ and the Westminster Food Pantry, to name a few.

GIVE NOW



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charlestonwpc
to 73256



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wpccharleston.org



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Alicia Crosby, *Preschool Director*
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Joan Foster, *Childcare Coordinator*
jmf0305@ymail.com

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

Carol Smith, *Church Hostess*

Sundays at Westminster

9:00 a.m. In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary
Nursery Available

10:00 a.m. In-Person Sunday School
Children, Youth and Adult Classes Available

11:00 a.m. In-Person and Livestream Worship Service
Nursery & Children's Church Available

Westminster Session

Class of 2022

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

Class of 2023

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

Class of 2024

Norman Hook
Abbie Mobley
Karen Norman
Laura Patrick
Chuck Towne
Dee Bee Wright

Clerk
Assistant Treasurer

Carole Russell
Patty Stokes