

## Westminster Prays

Carol Cummings	Meg Powell	Summer Garris	Chrissie Bosworth
Bill Pennekamp	Keith Gordon	Mary Ashley Barbot	Ginger Sieftring
Kate Pennekamp	Larry Salley	Joyce Aydlett	Martin Davis
Love Moody	Lydia Crosby	Daryn Baker	Kevin Ritzel
Lisa Wilcox	David Morris IV	Curtis Sponseller	Gloria Underhill
Harold Fountain	Brian Carlow	Sean Fitzgibbon	Barbara Johnston
Nancy Plowden	Frances McLean	Thom Penney	Nita Rodemann
Gary Brooks	David Kerr	Nikolai Fruth	Jackie Epstein
Steve Buddin	Sharon Hutchinson	Mary Martschink	Edward Godshall
Dick Unger	Harper Croft	Maryalice Vann	Towne Family
Anderson Scruggs	Monnie Privette	Christina Miller	Charles Reeves
Pam Smith	Eleanor Woodbury	Meghan Hatfield	Merrily Burnette
Chad Waldrop	Evan McMillan	Rachel Singletary	John Martschink
Libba Palmer	Bruce Hamilton	Fran Ligon	Brenda Jonsson
Marion Woodbury	Don Sumner	Molly Griggs	Judy Tag
Bryan Thomas	Lauren Wilson	Ann Froneberger	Rose Derrick
Gloria Purcell	Reed Family	Cynthia Ebigwei	Robin Zemp
Will Edwards	Charlotte Griggs	Pat Skees	Cary Alexandre
Bob Ferguson	Debby Ferguson	Ellen Bollinger	Janet Wilson

### Friend of the Week

Rachel Crews  
1316 Kiki Way  
Charleston, SC 29407

### Mission of the Week

Back Pack Buddies  
1157 Sam Rittenberg Blvd.  
Charleston, SC 29407

### Student of the Week

Rachael Stokes  
1020 Benton St.  
Columbia, SC 29201

### Church Family

Dan and Anne Klingshirn  
Emma, Eddie  
Don and Barbara Lundy

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## Westminster Session Members and Committees

**Administration:** Tom Whetstone and Matthew Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Earl Frasier and Matt Teitsort;  
**Christian Education:** Lindy Coleman and Laura Patrick; **Fellowship:** Nathan Ward, Betsy McLaughlin, and Mike Niblock;  
**Finance:** Norman Hook and David Boyd; **Membership:** Karen Norman and Matthew Akery;  
**Mission:** Brenda Gibson and Chuck Towne; **Preschool:** Abbie Mobley; **Worship:** Dee Bee Wright and George McAbee;  
**Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Lindy Coleman; **Treasurer:** Nancy Dixon; **Assistant Treasurer:** Patty Stokes

### Westminster Presbyterian Church

1157 Sam Rittenberg Boulevard, Charleston, SC 29407  
www.wpccharleston.org (843) 766-8311

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

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

Mrs. Laura Patrick, Interim Director of Children's Ministries, LPatrick@wpccharleston.org

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

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

Mrs. Tommie Owen, Financial Administrator, finance@wpccharleston.org

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

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

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT BLUE CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 18, 2022

9:00 AM

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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### GATHERING

*Please greet each other warmly as the congregation gathers for worship.  
Take a moment and sign the virtual friendship register.*

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ◆ SONG OF PREPARATION

**While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.  
Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.**

#### ◆ LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE

The Cowart Family

One: We wait for the coming of the Lord with Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus!**

One: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

All: **We wait for you with expectation. Come, Lord Jesus!**

#### ◆ SONG NO. 115

Away in a Manger

MUELLER

#### ◆ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Taken from Ann Weems, *Yesterday's Pain*

**God who hears and receives our prayers, some of us walk into Advent tethered to our unresolved yesterdays, the pain still stabbing, the hurt still throbbing. It's not that we don't know better; it's just that we can't stand up anymore by ourselves.  
Hear our prayers of brokenness for our hope is in you.**

#### ◆ SILENT PRAYERS

#### ◆ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

#### ◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 447

We Are Forgiven

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.  
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

## FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT

### Today: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am

Blue Christmas A special service designed for those who aren't feeling so joyful during the holidays.

11:00 am

Lessons and Carols A festival of readings and singing that point us to the Messiah's birth.

### December 24: (Saturday) Christmas Eve

3:00 & 5:00 pm

Families & Young Children Two options to attend. We recreate the nativity with help from the congregation and all the children who wish to participate. Costumes provided; it's wiggly and wonderful.

7:00 pm

Carols and Candlelight A more reverent service with traditional carols, a sermon, and candle lighting.

5:00 and 7:00 pm will both be livestreamed.

### December 25: Christmas Morning!

*Luke 2:1-20*

11:00 am

Worship for the whole family Come as you are.  
One service only  
No Sunday School, Nursery or Children's Church

### January 1: New Year's Day

*Matthew 2:1-12*

11:00 am

Start the New Year with The Lord's Supper  
Come as you are. One service only.  
No Sunday School.  
Nursery and Children's Church available

### ADVENT DEVOTIONALS IN YOUR INBOX!

December we're sending out daily devotionals, prepared by some of the Westminster leaders, during the season of Advent and Christmas. These devotionals are based in Scripture and the lyrics of three hymns: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel; Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus; and Hark! The Herald Angels Sing. Each devotional will be delivered via email with a link to the hymn lyric for the day. If you are already on the WPC email list (receiving the Tuesday/Sunday ENews), you're all set. If you would like to receive the devotionals, please subscribe to the ENews at [wpc-charleston.org](http://wpc-charleston.org).

### WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

Women of Westminster are invited to come and enjoy a Christmas Drop-In at Pastor Lissa's home Sunday, December 18 between 2:00-5:00 pm. Please feel free to bring a daughter, a sister, a neighbor or niece with you! 94 Blairmore Drive Charleston, SC 29414 (Shadowmoss)

### 2022 YEAR END GIVING

As we approach the end of the church's fiscal year, please be aware that the church books will close December 31, 2022. In order to be recorded for 2022, all contributions will need to be received by December 31. You can mail your check, bring to the church office, or take advantage of the safe and convenient online giving. Thank you for your faithful and generous support of the missions and ministry of Westminster. 2022 Giving Statements can be accessed through your online Realm account. If you need to have it printed for pick up or mailed, please contact the church office. If you have any questions or need any information, please don't hesitate to call Tommye Owen at 843-766-8311, ext 105 or [finance@wpccharleston.org](mailto:finance@wpccharleston.org). For online givers, please make sure to update your "giving fund" to 2023 pledge starting in January. That drop down will be available by 1/1/2023. This is particularly important if you have set up for automatic weekly or monthly giving.

### OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you would like Offering Envelopes for 2023 please contact the church office. 843-766-8311 or [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org)

### STEWARDSHIP FOR 2023

THANK YOU to those who have already made those commitments for 2023! Our goal is 100% participation, so if you have not yet turned in your 2023 estimate of giving card (they are available in the narthex), you may do that by placing it in the offering plate or making your pledge online at [www.wpccharleston.org](http://www.wpccharleston.org). Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!!

### THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

#### Sunday, December 18

9:00 am      Worship Service, Blue Christmas  
10:00 am      Sunday School  
11:00 am      Worship Service, Lessons and Carols  
2:00 pm      Christmas Drop-In, Pastor Lissa's home  
6:00 pm      Stated Session Meeting, Room 4  
7:00 pm      AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

#### Tuesday, December 20

6:30 am      Toastmasters, Covenant Hall  
10:00 am      Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office

#### Wednesday, December 21

7:00 pm      AA Meeting, Covenant Hall Room 3

#### Saturday, December 24

3:00 pm      Worship Service, Families and Young Children  
5:00 pm      Worship Service, Families and Young Children  
7:00 pm      Worship Service, Carols and Candlelight

#### Sunday, December 25

11:00 am      Worship Service  
7:00 pm      AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### ◆PASSING THE PEACE

One:      The peace of Christ be with you.

All:      **And also with you.**

*Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbor.*

### THE WORD

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

Laura Patrick

SPECIAL MUSIC

Oh Holy Night  
Nancy Parrish, Bill McSweeney

ADOLPHE ADAM

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

PEW BIBLE O.T. PAGE 638

REFLECTION

Dwelling and Rejoicing

CANDLE LIGHTING

*As music begins, all who wish may come forward to light a candle in memory of someone,  
in prayer, or as a sign of hope.*

◆SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 110

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

◆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**

## INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

### 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.**

### SENDING OUT

◆SENDING SONG NO. 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

◆BLESSING

◆RESPONSE

We sing together: **Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel;  
God with us, revealed to us; his name is called Em-man-u-el!**

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◆Stand in body or in spirit

Leading the service today: Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor; Nancy Parrish, Music.

11:00 am Livestream at [www.wpccharleston.org](http://www.wpccharleston.org), YouTube (Westminster Presbyterian Charleston)

Acolyte is Eleanor Akery.

Ushers are George McAbee, Mary McAbee, Graham Wade.

### VIRTUAL FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

Please let us know you're here by completing the Virtual Friendship Register. Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to open or find on our website under the Quick Links, Virtual Friendship Register



### WAYS TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Church Pew Envelope: Place cash or check in the Pew Envelope and drop it in the Offering Plate in the Narthex.

Online: Click the "Give Now" button in the top right of our homepage at [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org).

Text: Text "charlestonwpc" to 73256. Thank you for giving.

## 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. In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's season and to pray for the return of the light. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that Great Day, we watch and wait in Holy Spirit for Christ's coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, and remembering the promises of God with prayer.

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

## WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

- We are delighted you have joined us for worship, and we hope you are encouraged and strengthened in the faith.
- New here? Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate.
- The nursery is available for children 2 and under in the Children's Building. We'll gather pertinent information upon check-in and be able to contact you during the service should a need arise.
- 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, family restroom, or in the church nursery.
- Worship bags and worship worksheets are available in the narthex for preschool and elementary age children.
- Following Time for Children (11:00 only) children age 2-5k (Wee Church and Children's Church) will gather in the narthex with adult leaders and then be led to the Children's Building. Parents may pick them up following the service.
- Hearing devices, magnifying sheets, and large print hymnals are available in the narthex.
- If you have a prayer request or questions about faith, life, or being part of the Westminster family, we invite you to reach out to one of our pastors.
  - Pastor Daniel Smoak, 843-872-1001
  - Pastor Lissa Long, 843-810-2232
- For more information about Westminster or to subscribe to our weekly ENews and email updates visit [www.wpccharleston.org](http://www.wpccharleston.org)

## IS GOD CALLING YOU TO JOIN THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY?

Here's how you can do it.

1. Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate or you may fill out an online New Member form under the visitor tab at [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org) or using the QR code.
2. One of our Pastors or someone from the Membership Committee will quickly be in touch, providing an opportunity individually or with a group to learn more about the church.
3. On a Sunday morning, you'll attend a meeting with the Session for reception into membership. We'll handle paperwork if you're transferring from another church or arrange baptism if you've never been baptized.
4. That same Sunday morning, you'll be introduced to the congregation during worship.

Questions? Speak with an usher or one of our pastors following the service.

## NEW HERE? MAKE SOME CONNECTIONS AT WESTMINSTER

Connections: An opportunity for those visiting or new who want to meet others and learn more about LIFE at Westminster. The next Connections Class is January 8, 2023. We meet from 10:00 – 10:40 in Pastor Daniel's office at the end of the Admin Hall. Kids are welcome or can go to Sunday School/Nursery. Save your spot at the January 8 Connections class by emailing [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org).

