

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*



WPCCharleston



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Westminster Presbyterian Charleston



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GREETINGS

From Pastor Lissa

Dear Friends,

This is one of those years where Lent feels 'early' and bunched up next to the Christmas season. Some years are like that...where Jesus takes hold and we are diving in one liturgical season to the next, right after each other and only a breath of space between.

There are two ways we can approach Lent on years like this one: we can stomp our feet and say 'I'm not ready!' or we can sit down, take a breath and say 'Here am I'. Truthfully, I have been in my vocation long enough that I have tried both ways and one way hurts and one way fills my cup. I will let you guess which one is which.

Here is why one works well and the other does not. First, fighting what is going to be uses energy you don't have for something you don't need to press against. Lent is coming whether you approve or not. Lent is hard for me each year on top of the spiritual journey we take in recognizing Jesus died so that we could live fully in relationship with God and each other. All four of my grandparents died within six weeks of each other. Not the same year, but within the same time period in Lent. My grieving changes from year to year, but that time frame is just tough. When I push against Lent and stomp my feet, I inhibit the healing that can come through the practice of Lent with worship, readings, prayer and resting in God's grace. When I lean in, I am physically, spiritually, and mentally allowing time to grieve (which is necessary) and time to heal. Second, God calls out to us just as we call out to God. God came to us through God's son Jesus and invited us to 'come and follow me'. We get to Walk With Jesus Daily. Lent is intentional. Lent is listening to the Holy Spirit. Lent is being humble. Lent is being vulnerable. Lent is the season where we can prepare for the glorious witness of Easter.

Friends, I invite you to pray about how you will approach Lent this year. Will you lean in or will you stomp your feet? Either way, God loves you, but one way will fill your cup and one way will be exhausting. I don't know about you, but I much prefer to wake up on Easter morning rested and ready to proclaim "HE IS HERE!!! Christ is risen indeed!"

Here am I Lord,

Pastor Lissa

WORSHIP JOYFULLY

From the Pulpit

All through 2023, we'll be engaged in a verse-by-verse study of the Gospel. If you would like a special copy of Matthew from "The Illuminated Scripture Journal" for following along and taking notes, they are available for you in the narthex. They are a gift for you, provide your read it and use it! Here's the schedule for the next few weeks.

February 5

The Lord's Supper
Matthew 4:23-25
Understanding the Kingdom of God

February 12

Matthew 5:1-16
The Sermon on the Mount I: The Path to True Happiness

February 19

Matthew 5:17-48
The Sermon on the Mount II: Ethics of the Heart

Wednesday, February 22

Ash Wednesday
Matthew 6:1-18
The Sermon on the Mount III: The Vector of Your Life

February 26

Matthew 6:19-7:11
The Sermon on the Mount IV: Different Than the Others Around Us

March 5

The Lord's Supper
Matthew 7:12-29
The Sermon on the Mount V: What Path Are You On?

March 12

Matthew 8: 1-17
Does He Heal Today?



Livestream available at wpccharleston.org & YouTube by searching for Westminster.



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

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 22, 2023

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 February 22, there are several opportunities to gather.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER WORSHIP

Palm Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 2

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday Worship

Thursday, April 6, 7:00 p.m.

The darkness falls as we worship- remembering the night Jesus was betrayed and arrested. Special music by the Westminster Choir and instrumentalists, and we'll share the Lord's Supper.

Good Friday Worship and Lunch

Friday, April 7, 12:00 p.m.

We gather in the sanctuary for worship that focuses on the final hours and final words of Jesus' life. Lunch follows in Covenant Hall from 12:30 - 1:00.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

The tomb is empty and death is defeated! Praise God for the victory we have in Jesus, and hear what difference the resurrection makes for us today. Special music and instrumentalists at both services.

WELCOMING DISCIPLES TO WESTMINSTER



Births

Hazel Sefah Anokye born on November 9, 2022, parents Vincent and Loretta Anokye.

Baptisms

James Bennett Openlander, December 4, 2022.

New Members

Lou and Sue Bowers

Joshua and Michelle Robinson, children Annie and Thomas.

Eleanor Woodbury

Ian and Caitlyn Campbell

Martha Nye

Pamela Roberts

Roger Lundgren

With Resurrection Hope

Frank Painter, October 24, 2022

Marion Woodbury, December 21, 2022

LIVE WORTHILY

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP & FELLOWSHIP



Thanksgiving Oyster Roast 2022

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Every Wednesday Night at 6:00 p.m. in Covenant Hall

Join us every Wednesday for a delicious supper for adults and children. Nursery is available. Families eat for a maximum of \$20.00 and individuals for \$7.00.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, February 5 following 11:00 a.m. Worship

A Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday, February 5 immediately following the 11:00 worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to review the financial reports from 2022, review the Session-approved budget for 2023, and in accordance with G-2.0804/G-1.0501 review and vote on changes in the terms of call for our pastors. We will also convene briefly for a Meeting of the Corporation. There is no business, but an annual meeting is required by SC law.

SECOND SUNDAY SOCIALS

Sunday, February 12 following 11:00 a.m. Worship

All are welcome to a fried chicken luncheon following 11:00 a.m. worship the 2nd Sunday of the month. Bring a Pot Luck Side or Dessert! Cash donations welcome for the fried chicken!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Anchor Class

Room 15, CE Building

Cary Grayson Class

Room 4, Covenant Hall

Parenting Class

Library, Covenant Hall

Jesus in the Gospel

Parlor, Admin Building

LOWCOUNTRY SMOCKERS GUILD

Second Thursday of every Month

Thursday, February 9

10:00 a.m. in Classroom 4, Covenant Hall

Our mission is to make baby burial gowns to distribute locally for the national "Wee Care" project, and to promote the art of hand sewing.

Starting February 9 and the second Thursday of every month, the Smocking Guild will be teaching free lessons to anyone wanting to learn how to smock or needs a refresher course. We will provide all the materials needed. Since we would like to know who is coming, please email or text your name and phone number to BrendaSews4@yahoo.com or 843.364.3429.

HOOKS AND NEEDLES

Second Monday of every Month

Monday, February 13

10:00 a.m. in Classroom 4, Covenant Hall

Hooks and Needles are finally meeting again in person after over two years of working on our knitting/crocheting projects at home. All are welcome to come (even just for the fellowship). Contact Deborah-Anne Ferguson at 914-263-3742 or daferguson11@gmail.com.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Second Tuesday of every Month

Tuesday, February 14

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. at Trotter's Restaurant

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 for breakfast at Trotters Restaurant at Town and Country Inn and Suites (2008 Savannah Highway). Pastor Daniel will be leading; join us for the Fellowship and Encouragement!

NEW HERE? MAKE SOME CONNECTIONS

Sunday, February 19

10:00 a.m. in Pastor Daniel's Office

Connections Class is an opportunity for those visiting or new who want to meet others and learn more about LIFE at Westminster. The next Connections Class is February 19, 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 by emailing office@wpccharleston.org

GROW IN THE FAITH WITH C.S. LEWIS

We're offering an 8-week study of C.S. Lewis's classic, *Mere Christianity*. You can join any of these groups by registering online through the ENews or emailing dsmoak@wpccharleston.org

- Sunday 5:00 – 6:00 at Church (childcare available)
- Wednesday 6:45 – 7:45 at Church
- Thursday 6:30 – 7:30 at Pastor Daniel's Home in Shadowmoss

We begin the week of February 12. Pastor Daniel will lead the discussion: books (\$10) will be distributed at the first meeting.

About the Book: One of the most popular introductions to the Christian faith ever written, Mere Christianity has sold millions of copies worldwide and was named the most influential book of the 20th century by Christianity Today. Originally a series of radio broadcasts during WWII, Lewis's intention was to make a logical and persuasive case for the core truths of the Christian faith. For those seeking to grow in faith and come to a better understanding of what Christians hold dear, Mere Christianity is a must-read.

LIVE WORTHILY CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL

The school year is flying by. Hard to believe that we are currently making plans for the next school year. Registration will open to the public on February 1st. Our goal is to fill every spot!

Preschool is ever changing and Covid, for example, has affected the way children and parents respond to Preschool. We have seen more students have difficulty in settling in at the beginning of the year and a greater need for socialization among the classes. This year we have many children who are receiving services in the areas of speech, occupational and physical therapy to name the most common. It seems our students are paying the price for Covid. We are fortunate to have a room that we can use for these services. Our teachers are faced with more challenges than ever before and they have learned to adapt. We are so blessed to have such a dedicated staff.

The upcoming month will be filled with love! The students have so much fun with Valentine's Day! The school will be filled with hearts. The fours will concentrate on learning their addresses and telephone numbers. The threes will continue with shapes colors and patterns. The real fun has begun with our twos now that they are happy and open to listening to Bible stories with Ms. Laura and getting time on the big playground. This is the place where learning is fun!

Blessings from the Preschool!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

**Children's Ministry
in the CE Building**

0-2's: Nursery
3-5K: Room 14
1st-2nd Grade: Room 13
3rd-5th Grade: Room 17

**Youth Discipleship
in Covenant Hall**

Mid Highs: Room 1
Senior Highs: Room 3

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Sunday, February 12

Sunday, February 12 will be the day millions will watch the 2023 Super Bowl. There will be parties filled with snacks and fellowship. There will also be millions of people who do not watch the game and do not have snacks to share. Their pantries are empty and a life of food insecurity will continue.

Each year, around the time of the Super Bowl football game, Souper Bowl of Caring mobilizes youth to collect dollars and cans for hunger-relief organizations in their local communities. 100% of the money they collect goes directly to the charity their choice. None of the money comes to the national headquarters.

Please mark your calendars to bring a donation of canned goods or a financial donation for the Youth of WPC to collect following worship services on February 12. All of the donations will go directly to assisting people with food insecurities in our community.

CLUB 3,4,5

Sunday, February 12

4:00 p.m. in Covenant Hall

All 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are invited for fellowship and fun. Club 3,4,5 will meet once a month from 4:00 to 5:00 in Covenant Hall. Save the Date for future Club 3,4,5s: March 26, April 23, May 21.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUMMER SAVE THE DATES

High School Montreat Youth Conference (completed 9th+)

June 11-17, 2023

*Registrations are open. Please use google form from Enews.

VBS

June 25-29, 2023

*Registrations will open in April! Stay tuned!

Maryville Montreat (completed 6th+)

July 19-23, 2023

*Registrations are open. Please use google form from Enews.

Bethelwoods Camp (early elementary+)

Pastor Lissa's Week July 23-28, 2023

*Registration is open. Please go to Bethelwoods.org to register.

WPC youth discipleship

February 5

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

February 12

Souper Bowl of Caring!

No Youth Discipleship in the evening, but Youth will help collect canned goods and financial donations following worship.

February 19

No Youth Discipleship due to holiday weekend

February 26

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

March 5

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

March 12

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

All Youth Oscar Party at the Wright's House

March 19

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

March 26

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

SERVE FAITHFULLY

DOING GOD'S WORK IN THE COMMUNITY



BACKPACK BUDDIES

Wednesday, February 1
6:30 pm. in Covenant Hall

We need your hands! Join us as we pack weekend food kits for local elementary school students. We will pack in Covenant Hall following Wonderful Wednesday supper. The work takes about 45 minutes, and all ages are welcome.

Future Dates: Mar 1, Mar 29, Apr 26



ANGEL TREE

Thanks to your generous donations to the Angel Tree, creative shopping by our youth at Target and to our Missions Team for delivering more than 150 gift bags to our friends at Mary Ford Early Learning Center just before Christmas.

WAYS TO SERVE

Mission Opportunities

Volunteer

at Neighbors Together

Wednesday, February 15 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Serve a hot meal or provide groceries to our neighbors in need at Neighbors Together; 2105 Cosgrove Ave, North Charleston, SC 29405.

Volunteer Regularly

with Mary Ford Early Childhood and Family Center

- Adopt a Classroom: Individuals or groups can sponsor a classroom, helping provide encouragement and support to teachers and students.
- Reading Partners/Flash CardS: Volunteers assist the Kindergarten Team with "sight word" flashcards twice a week for 1-2 hours.
- Lunch Buddies: Come have lunch with a student once a week. Contact Brenda Gibson for details and to sign up.

Sign up or have questions, contact
Brenda Gibson, brenmalia1@gmail.com.



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 45 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

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Sara McCoy
Karen Dangerfield
Ruth McSweeney
James H Walker (Bob Walker's brother)
Frank Painter
Dot Dangerfield

In Honor of

Andy & Baillie Anderson
Doug & Frankie Earnst

Given By

Dorothy Schultz
Bill & Cathy Williams
Westminster Hooks & Needles
Charlie & Meg Powell
Kathy S Wells
Doug & Frankie Earnst
Parkwood Dental Associates
Teresa & Monte Ashcraft
Keith & Karen Land
Jane Hughes
Debbie Redmon

Melinda McCrae
Jack & Leslie Harrelson Jr
Lance & Jean Lewandowski
Barbara Lundy
Jimmy & Joanne Painter
Dick & Carol Patrick



DEAR WESTMINSTER CHURCH FAMILY,

Thank you for the prayers, calls, cards, and meals over this past year as I underwent medical procedures and chemo. Your love and support means a lot to me.

MUCH LOVE,
PAM SMITH



GIVE NOW



TEXT

charlestonwpc
to 73256



ONLINE

wpccharleston.org



MAIL or DROP OFF

1157 Sam Rittenberg
Boulevard

MINUTE FOR MISSION

WPC Ministry in the Community & Beyond

- Thank you to everyone who worked to make the Angel Tree such a good show of love. Westminster adopted and shopped for 127 angels- each representing a Child at Mary Ford. You pulled 79 angels from the tree and shopped for them and gave enough money (more than \$4,000) so the youth could shop for the other 48 angels. Special thanks to the Mission Committee and Pastor Lissa and everyone who leaned into this wonderful mission opportunity.
- The 3-5th grade class continues to grow in number and in discipleship. Kids are engaged and growing in Christ!
- Westminster collected and distributed over 400 coats during December. Coats were distributed to students at Mary Ford, Chicora, and Goodwin Schools. Adult sizes were distributed at Neighbors together in North Charleston.
- Westminster hosts and supports Pack 79 and Troop 79. Recently Griffin completed his Eagle project: drainage maintenance and improving the bridge and walk between Westminster and our neighbors at Viviant Health. Well done, Griffin!
- In 2022, your gifts made a difference in the community!
 - \$24,000 worth of food distributed through the Westminster Food Pantry, one family at a time.
 - \$18,650 worth of food distributed in area schools through the Backpack Buddies program.
 - And at the Christmas Eve Services, we collected \$3,076 for Thornwell. This gift is in addition to our annual \$10,000 gift to Thornwell.
- We Love and Support Mary Ford Learning Center! At Wonderful Wednesday on January 18, Mary Ford teachers joined us for supper. Here, Principal Loretta Scott shares news from the Mary Ford community. Did you know in the Mary Ford community, the median household income is \$30,866, 18% of the residents have no healthcare coverage, 32% are below the poverty line, and 27% are households where grandparents are raising the grandchildren? Still, the Mary Ford Family keeps moving ahead, and with our help, things at the school are changing. She shared the great news of improving test scores and invited us to keep our relationship strong!



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Rev. Lissa Long, *Associate Pastor*
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Laura Patrick, *Interim Director of Children's Ministries*
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Joan Foster, *Childcare Coordinator*
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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 2023
Matthew Akery
David Boyd
Earl Frasier
Brenda Gibson
George McAbee
Nathan Ward

Class of 2024
Norman Hook
Abbie Mobley
Karen Norman
Laura Patrick
Chuck Towne
Dee Bee Wright

Class of 2025
Lindy Coleman
Betsy McLaughlin
Mike Niblock
Matthew Patrick
Matthew Teitsort
Tom Whetstone

Clerk
Assistant Clerk
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer

Carole Russell
Lindy Coleman
Nancy Dixon
Patty Stokes