

March 2023



THE GOOD NEWS

Westminster Presbyterian Church

We are called to be and to make disciples who love God and who love our neighbors.



Wounded Ukrainian Veterans Meet and Greet at Westminster



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



WPC_Charleston



Westminster Presbyterian Charleston



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GREETINGS

From Pastor Daniel

In our Sunday study of Matthew, I've made the case that Matthew is working hard to introduce us to Jesus. From the beginning of the Gospel, he wants us to know who Jesus is and why Jesus has come. Every detail is there for a purpose, because Matthew knows the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the hinge of history and the most important thing to ever happen for anyone who reads his Gospel.

That's why I have invited you to pay close attention on Sundays- because who Jesus is and why Jesus has come are questions of the utmost importance. Answering those inquiries is crucial to life, and missing the mark is the headwaters for other errors in thought and action.

Matthew and I are not alone in pressing toward the urgency of knowing Jesus. In our Mere Christianity study, we've seen CS Lewis say:

"I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

How do you answer questions about the identity and purpose of Jesus? I encourage you to study with us and see who Jesus really is and who he really is for you. It may change your life!

Pastor Daniel

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.

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?

March 19

Matthew 8:18-34
*Following Jesus: It's not for
Everybody*

March 26

Matthew 9:1-34
Clues about the Kingdom

April 2

Palm Sunday
The Lord's Supper

April 6

Maundy Thursday

April 7

Good Friday

April 9

Easter Sunday



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



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

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.

SOMEONE'S PRAYING LORD. COME BE HERE.

During the Sundays of Lent, we hope you'll share your prayer joys and concerns during the worship service so our pastors can include them in the Prayers of the People. Write down your prayers of confession, adoration, thanksgiving, joy, or petition on the index cards in the pew rack and put them in the baskets on the outer aisles. You can put them in the baskets before worship, during the Passing of the Peace or Children's Time, or during a hymn. We'll collect them from the baskets before we pray near the end of the service, and the pastor will pray through the cards during the Prayers of the People. We'll conclude with a Prayer Hymn. All prayers are welcome, but it is best to have a person's consent before writing their name on the card. (It's OK to pray for "a friend," because God knows who they are.)

"GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"

Westminster's Bicentennial

1823 - 2023

Westminster celebrates 200 years of God's faithfulness! Our planning team is at work and will be announcing details about festivities for a September celebration.

WELCOMING PARKSIDE CHURCH



Did you know that Westminster started a new church downtown? Well, we helped start a new church. Supported by Westminster and other churches in our presbytery, a new church was planted and has been growing downtown for the last several years. Starting a church is not easy, and starting a church during a pandemic is next to impossible, but God loves the impossible! On Sunday January 26, Parkside Church was chartered, Elders were ordained and installed, and Colin Kerr was installed as the pastor. It is a wonderful moment in the life of our presbytery, and it is an exciting time for the Parkside family.

With Resurrection Hope

Larry Salley, Sr.
November, 27, 1945 -
February, 2, 2023

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP & FELLOWSHIP



C.S. Lewis Book Study Group at Daniel and Amy's House

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.

SECOND SUNDAY SOCIALS

Sunday, March 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!

LOWCOUNTRY SMOCKERS GUILD

Second Thursday of every Month

Thursday, March 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.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Anchor Class

Room 15, CE Building

Cary Grayson Class

Room 4, Covenant Hall

Jesus in the Gospel

Parlor, Admin Building

HOOKS AND NEEDLES

Second Monday of every Month

Monday, March 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, March 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 AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, March 26, 2023

10:00 - 10:40 a.m.

Pastor Daniel's Office

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 March 26, 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 March 26 Connections class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org.

SAVE THE DATE

2023 Southeastern Intentional

Grandparenting Conference

April 28-29, 2023

The Christian Grandparenting Network exists for grandparents who want to intentionally pray for and promote the faith development of their grandchildren. For more information about the ministry and the upcoming conference, check out christiangrandparenting.com.

S.A.M.'s SOUP, SALAD, AND SANDWICH POTLUCK*

Thursday, March 9

1:00 pm. Covenant Hall

*Last name A-H Soup, I-P

Salad, Q-Z Sandwiches

*drinks and desserts provided

Join Grahame Long, Director of Museums for Historic Charleston Foundation, for an examination and discussion of Charleston's funerary art and its communication. Postmortem remembrance during the 18th and 19th centuries incorporated a wide variety of personal and cultural styles. Today, "this art of the grave" has become a symbology all its own and portrays a bit of everything from elegance to ugliness, fortune to tragedy.

S.A.M.'s (Senior Adult Ministry) is a ministry for all of WPC's finest 55+ older members and visitors.



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



Club 3,4,5

NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL

Top of the Morning to you! The Preschool will be visited by some naughty little guys in green on March 17th; and as with every holiday, the teachers will use shamrocks and Leprechauns to teach matching, counting and the color green. This month, the threes will celebrate Dads with a special breakfast and the fours will have a rootin' tootin' time at the Westminster Rodeo. Be careful though, many of our students are wanted by the law! Doesn't everyone want a wanted poster with their child's picture? So much fun!

Our wonderful school has always been invested in the success of our students as they move to the next grade or on to Kindergarten. To ensure that we have them on the right path, the students are evaluated individually and undergo Speech and Occupational Therapy screenings. We share the information at a face-to-face conference with their parents so we can share their successes and point out areas of concern. Our Evaluation process will take place in late March. So much of what happens in the Preschool stems from the original plan the founding Director and teachers had so many years ago. They broke ground on many of the objectives we follow today. Our goal is to educate the students and share our love of God.

We ask that you pray for our students and their families as they navigate raising their children in this post Covid world.

Blessing,
The Preschool

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

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

YOUTH OSCAR PARTY

Sunday, March 12

5:00 - 8:00 p.m. at The Wright's Home

Oscar Party at the home of John and Dee Bee Wright! Dress will be 70's vs 80's so break out your bell bottoms, side ponies, wind suits and geometric prints!

WINK, WEDNESDAY NIGHT KIDS

Wednesday, March 22

6:30 p.m. following Wonderful Wednesday Dinner

All Elementary age students join us for a "wink" of fellowship and learn a little bit about Jesus and the Bible through various activities.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH TRIP

Thursday, March 23 - Friday, March 25

We welcome all of our high school youth for the first trip of its kind to the upstate to tour and engage in a service project with our mission partner, Thornwell, as well as take a tour of Presbyterian College. We'll engage in a Bible Study on campus and enjoy the town of Clinton. Register via Google Form link on the E-news by March 10th.

CLUB 3,4,5

Sunday, March 26

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.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 1

10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Children and families are welcome to join in the annual Easter Egg Hunt on the playground. Storytime, crafts, prizes and photos with the Easter Bunny will take place by age/grade level throughout the event.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JOY TO THE WORLD

June 25-29, 2023

Registration will open in April, please read your E-news!

WPC youth discipleship

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

April 2

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

All Youth Discipleship

April 9

No Youth Group

Easter Sunday

April 16

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

April 23

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

April 30

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

May 7

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

SERVING FAITHFULLY



WALK FOR WATER

*Saturday, March 25th
9:00 a.m. at Riverfront Park*

Please join the Westminster team in a walk to raise funds to provide safe drinking water for communities worldwide in need. This year's walk on Saturday, March 25th will begin at 9:00 am at Riverfront Park.

Water Mission's Walk for Water is a unique event where you have the opportunity to walk in the shoes of our global neighbors. By doing so, you raise awareness and funds to help end the global water crisis. Whether you are part of the flagship Walk in Charleston, join a Walk elsewhere, or start your own Walk for Water, you can help change lives.



*Use promo code
WESTMINSTER23
for complimentary
registration*

WESTMINSTER HOSTED UKRAINIAN VETERANS

On February 21st, in partnership with Chs4Ukraine, Westminster had the opportunity to host a group of Ukrainian soldiers receiving prosthetics in the United States. These brave Ukrainians who lost their limbs in the war received free prosthetics by the Protez Foundation in Minnesota just weeks before.

SERVE NOW

VOLUNTEER

for Backpack Buddies
Wednesday, March 1 & 29
6:30 p.m. 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.

VOLUNTEER

at Neighbors Together
Wednesday, March 15
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Serve a hot meal to our neighbors in need the third Wednesday of every month at Neighbors Together; 2105 Cosgrove Ave, North Charleston, SC 29405. Contact Brenda Gibson, 843-478-0026 or brenmalia1@gmail.com.

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.

Sign up or have questions, contact
Brenda Gibson, 843-478-0026 or brenmalia1@gmail.com.

DONATE

Children's Belts and Shoes
in various sizes in the month of March

Donations can be placed in the large, labeled box in the Narthex.



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.





Claire Winkles



Get to Know Claire:

How long have you been a follower of Jesus? Tell us a little bit about your faith journey:

I have always been a loving member of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Baptized and confirmed here, I've spent my life surrounded and supported by many current members of our church. I attended WPC Pre-school and was even lucky enough to have Sue Smoak and Frankie Earnst as my teachers. I had Sunday School lessons by Mrs. Dee Bee and Mr. John and sat alongside Ms. Lindy Coleman and Mrs. Janie Bruce in front of the church as a little girl. As I moved on to middle school, I began joining my close friend on some Sundays at her Baptist Church youth group, where I learned the importance of daily quiet time and bible study. I also attended a youth mission trip to Atlanta with this church as well as a youth summer retreat to "Look up Lodge". I include this in my "faith journey" because these trips were some of the most eye opening and spiritually fulfilling moments of my life. I think some of the best ways to reach youth are by giving them opportunities to find the fun and excitement in leading a Christ led life, as well as giving them time for quiet conversation and getting comfortable talking to Jesus about their lives. I learned this in a small gazebo in the mountains of Georgia overlooking a lake and hearing the faint sound of laughter of friends. Throughout high school and college, my reliance on Christ grew larger. I was lucky to have already found my identity in Christ and have the strong foundation of the Presbyterian Church growing up. As I graduated college and began teaching shortly after, my faith and daily prayer with God is what has helped me love and nurture my students, as well as keep a positive outlook through the not so easy days of teaching.

Tell us about your calling to the position of DYCM:

My gifts, my faith, and my desire to share the stories of Jesus and foster belief in children are the reasons I feel called to serve at Westminster. I have spent the last 5 years of my professional career loving and teaching kids, and keeping God at the center of that work. I have loved God's children by example within the classroom. I feel that this calling will allow me not only to love God's children by example, but also to share the stories of Jesus as the greatest example for them to follow.

Please name a Bible verse or character that is particularly meaningful to you and why:

Sometimes during my daily quiet time, I like to search for new bible verses that relate to what I am currently going through. After accepting this position and wondering what might come of this amazing opportunity, I searched "Bible Verses about God's plan." After searching and reading through the very popular verses, I found a new one that I had not yet come across. Esther 4:14 "Perhaps you were born for such a time as this." I truly feel that this is the time that the Lord has called me. I feel I was born to do this job, and it is a lifelong dream come true, a great responsibility and a tremendous blessing.

What is your prayer for the Children and Youth of Westminster Presbyterian Church?

My prayer for the children and youth at Westminster is that they would each remember that their identity is in Christ. I pray that as they learn about Jesus and grow in their faith, that they would feel prepared and excited to go out and spread His word. I pray that each child and youth would see and feel God's love in every day ahead, and that they will always have a foundation in Christ's love. My final prayer would be for our church as a whole to be granted the heart of Jesus in everything we do to make God's children feel safe, happy, and loved. Amen.

CLAIRE WILL START AT WESTMINSTER IN JUNE after completing the school year as a teacher at Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School. In the meantime, Laura Patrick will continue as Interim Director of Children's Ministries and Pastor Lissa will continue to coordinate Youth Ministry.

With thanksgiving,
We announce Westminster's
Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

February 5, 2023
Westminster Presbyterian Church



Claire Winkles

Special thanks is given to the DYCM Search Team: Robert Dounian, Abbie Mobley, Jill Patrick, Chuck Towne, Ben Whitener, Dee Bee Wright (chair), and Pastor Daniel.

"I am excited to see how Claire will grow and how she will help the youth of our church grow in faith."

- Robert Dounian

"Sometimes our prayers are answered quickly—sometimes God says, "I need you to be patient to really see what I am doing for you and Westminster." Claire is the answer to so many intentional prayers for our children and youth, preschool family, and the future of our church."

- Abbie Mobley

"Claire has such a warm and open heart for all those around her. From my experiences with her, I know she will be a great fit as you Director of Youth and Children's Ministries. I believe with her gifts and talents, Claire will further nurture and grow the Youth Program at WPC."

- Jill Patrick

"The first time we met with Claire, her passion for young people and her love for God was abundantly obvious. From that point forward God kept opening and closing doors, pointing us in Claire's direction."

- Chuck Towne

"The informal gatherings were where I felt like Claire sealed the deal for me. She fit right in and had great responses and core beliefs that will translate well in her new role. I thoroughly enjoyed being on the search committee with such a great group!"

- Ben Whitener

"God is good all the time! Much, much prayer and discernment come with this decision. Prayer and discernment of each committee member and Claire. We interviewed, prayed, discerned, listened, thought, considered, socialized...and then did it all over again! There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that God is calling Claire to us and to serve Him in this place. Our children/youth will all be stronger in their faith! And you and I will too!"

- Dee Bee Wright



Westminster
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CHARLESTON, SC

March 2023 | 11

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Meg Dorsel, *Communications Coordinator*
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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