

THE GOOD NEWS

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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



Easter Egg Hunt



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 Daniel

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life... John 14:6

CS Lewis reminds us: The Christian life is more than following a path of good works or just trying to be good people. It is even more than asking What Would Jesus Do? Or What Would Jesus Drive? or What Would Jesus Eat? (Those last two, believe it or not, are popular books now.) You can ask those questions without ever surrendering your life to Christ. You can follow the way without ever truly encountering the Way. Do you see the distinction? Jesus doesn't just show us the way, he is the Way.

There is a great exchange in John 6 between Jesus and his disciples. Jesus has just fed the multitude with a few fish and a few loaves, and he uses that opportunity to teach, "I am the bread of life... and unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you." Of course many of the disciples who hear this admit that it is a hard saying. "Who can listen to it?" So, John tells us, they drew back and no longer went with him. They stopped following. Then Jesus turned to the twelve and said "are you going to leave too?" Peter's reply is fantastic. "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

There are two things going on here. First, Jesus lays out the way before them, and it is hard.

It turns some away. Second, as far as those who know him are concerned, there is no other option than to follow. Jesus has what they need.

Barbara Brown Taylor writes about difficulties of following the Way. She calls it high-priced discipleship. She looks at the status of many churches, particularly in America, and wonders how they would be different if Jesus was the pastor. Jesus said that we cannot be his disciples unless we hate our families, take up our crosses, and give away all our possessions. If Jesus were in charge of the average congregation, there would be about four people there on Sunday mornings, and those four would be fooling themselves. Jesus would greet newcomers by saying "are you absolutely sure you want to follow this way of life? It will take everything you have. It has to come before everything else that matters to you. Plenty of people have launched out on it without counting the cost, and as you can see, they are not here anymore. The other thing is, if you succeed- if you really do follow me- it will probably get you killed. Why don't you go home and think it over. I would hate for you to get in over your head."

Knowing the Way and following the Way is not easy. But for us there is no other option. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

To God Alone be Glory,

Pastor Daniel

WORSHIP JOYFULLY

From the Pulpit

We're Studying Matthew!
All through 2023, we'll be engaged in a verse-by-verse study of the Gospel.

May 7

Matthew 12:1-21
Conflict with the Pharisees 1: On Keeping the Sabbath

May 14

Matthew 12:22-37
Conflict with the Pharisees 2: On Demons and the Holy Spirit

May 21

Matthew 12:38-50
Conflict with the Pharisees 3: On Signs and Doing the Will of God

May 28

Matthew 13:1-23
Kingdom Parables 1 – The Sower: Jesus compares the Kingdom to a sower who sows seed in 4 types of soil.

June 4

Matthew 13:24-43
Kingdom Parables 2 – The Weeds, the Mustard Seed, and the Net: Jesus compares the Kingdom to a field of wheat and weeds, a tiny mustard seed, and a small amount of yeast.



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



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

"GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"

Westminster's Bicentennial, 1823 - 2023

Opportunity to Share Your Personal Testimony!

In September 2023, Westminster will celebrate 200 years as a congregation of people loving God and sharing his word! Each day in September, a personal testimony from a member of our flock will be shared based on phrases from the beloved hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness."

We are asking you or your family to select a phrase from this list included in the E-news and create a testimonial based upon it; each submission may be written, a piece of art or a video...we encourage you to be creative and to make your testimony personal! Your completed submission is due by May 31 and should be submitted electronically to deebewright@comcast.net. Questions, call Dee Bee Wright 843.729.7005

WE'RE GLAD YOU ASKED!

Special Summer Sunday School Class

We're planning a summer Sunday School for adults built around your questions! Pastor Daniel and Pastor Lissa will teach and facilitate discussion around questions that we receive from you. Questions about the Bible ("I've always wondered why Jesus said..."), Theology ("Why do bad things happen to good people?"), Church ("I've always wondered why the Presbyterian Church..."), Current Events ("How should Christians vote?"), and Life Experiences ("Is it true God is closest when we need him most?") are most welcome. We're receiving questions now and plan on the class to start on June 4. Submit your questions to dsmoak@wpccharleston.org.

WELCOMING DISCIPLES TO WESTMINSTER

Births

Archer Thomas Winkles, born April 6, 2023, parents Josh and Logan Winkles, grandparents, Dan and Elyn Winkles, great grandfather, Tom Harvey.

New Members

Sylvia (and Joe) Gamboa

Byron and Halley Autry
(daughters Gigi and Anne)

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP & FELLOWSHIP



Palm Sunday: Children's Time to Shine

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. Wonderful Wednesdays May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31!

We will be praying over and celebrating our graduating High School Seniors on the 17th. WiNK will also be May 17th!

SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCKS WILL RESUME JUNE 11!

**No Second Sunday Social Potluck
in May (Mother's Day)*

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 MINISTRY

Second Monday of every Month

Monday, May 8

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

This small group of dedicated volunteers meets monthly to knit and crochet baptismal blankets, prayer shawls and lap blankets. We are always looking for new members to join us. Yarn is provided and we can teach you if you would like to learn. Next meeting is Monday May 8 at 10AM in Room 4.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Second Tuesday of every Month

Tuesday, May 9

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!

LOWCOUNTRY SMOCKERS GUILD

Second Thursday of every Month

Thursday, May 11

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.



Easter Sunday, Sunday School

S.A.M.'s SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

Thursday, May 18

1:00 p.m. Lunch

We can't wait to gather again Thursday, May 18 at 1:00 p.m.! Lunch will be catered, so please bring \$10 to help cover the cost of the meal.

Our speaker will be Mark Patrick sharing all the options through the Charleston County Parks this summer. There are so many unknown nuggets to learn about. Please RSVP to mlong@wpccharleston.org or call the church office.

NEW HERE? MAKE SOME CONNECTIONS AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, June 18, 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 June 18 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 June 18 Connections class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



Celebrating Earth Day in Club 3,4,5

NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL

There are only five weeks of school left before Summer Break and you can count on the Preschool to pack them with lots of learning and fun activities. The students will have great fun preparing surprise gifts for their mothers, especially the four-year-olds. The Fours classes will prepare lunch and serve their moms at a special Mother's Day Luncheon. The fun will continue with Field Days and end of the year parties.

As we wrap up the school year, we look to the Fall and begin to prepare for the next round of students to enter Preschool. The Summer will begin with two weeks of Camp and then teachers will be gone for the Summer. We use this time to prepare the building and grounds with much needed freshening up and maintenance.

Blessings,
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

SENIOR RECOGNITION NIGHT

Wednesday, May 17

6:30 p.m. in Covenant Hall

We will pray over and celebrate our Class of 2023 High School Seniors during Wonderful Wednesday dinner.

WINK, WEDNESDAY NIGHT KIDS

Wednesday, May 17

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.

CLUB 3,4,5

Sunday, May 21

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.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JOY TO THE WORLD

June 25 - June 29 (Sunday - Thursday)

Sunday: 12:00pm - 1:30pm

Monday - Thursday: 9:00am - 12:00pm

Calling all Volunteers! We still need some group shepherds for VBS. Shepherds lead small groups of children around to different VBS stations. Please contact Laura Patrick if you are able to volunteer at lpatrik@wpccharleston.org.

WPC youth discipleship

May 7

5:00 p.m. Middle School

6:00 p.m. High School

May 14

Mother's Day

No Youth Group today.

May 21

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

End of the Year Mid High/
Senior High Events!

*Youth with the
Easter Bunny*



SERVING FAITHFULLY



Water Missions Walk for Water

MISSION PARTNER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY

*Healing Farm's Walk & Roll
Saturday, May 6, 2023
11:00 a.m. Wannamaker
County Park*

Every year thousands of students with disabilities are aging out of school with few options for employment or contribution. The general consensus is that individuals with disabilities are unable to contribute. At Healing Farms, we don't believe that! Join us at the 9th Annual Walk & Roll as we unite to #SeeAbility. Together we can help change the future for young adults with disabilities. How you participate is up to you - walk, push a stroller, ride a wheelchair. At the Walk & Roll you will have a chance to walk alongside local supporters and the families we serve. There will be food, music, and a fun zone with games and activities for all ages.

 **SAT 5.6.23 @ 11AM**
WANNAMAHER COUNTY PARK
8888 University Boulevard
North Charleston, SC 29406
REGISTER TODAY
WWW.HEALINGFARMS.COM

WALK FOR WATER

Our Westminster Team joined our mission partner, Water Missions Walk for Water initiative on Saturday morning, March 25th. The event raises funds and awareness to help provide safe drinking water for communities worldwide in need by offering a unique walk in the shoes of people in crisis who have to walk for miles to get fresh drinking water.

SERVE NOW

VOLUNTEER

*at Neighbors Together
Wednesday, May 17th
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. Please contact Jim Frye (843-729-2183) or Brenda Gibson (843-478-0026) if you can join the Westminster team!

VOLUNTEER

at Respite Care Charleston

Respite Care Charleston - RCC offers articles, support groups, half-day memory care (respite) and so much more. If you are interested in volunteering or participating, please reach out to Caitlin at 843-647-7405.

VOLUNTEER TO LEAD

*Hands of Christ WPC Volunteer Coordinator
for August Distribution*

Hands of Christ is looking for a WPC Volunteer Coordinator! This person would help coordinate all of our fabulous volunteers for the August distribution. Co-Coordinator are also an option. Reach out to Pastor Lissa if interested in hearing more.

DONATE SHOES AND SNEAKERS

Did you know that the shoes and sneakers you no longer wear can help support Boy Scout Troop 79 Charleston, micro entrepreneurs across the globe and our environment? Well, they can...All we need is your gently worn, used, or new shoe and sneakers in any condition. We are partnering with Funds2Orgs and Got Sneakers to help us raise funds for our troop, provide stock to micro entrepreneurs in impoverished countries, and keep shoes out of landfills. It's a win-win-win!!

Here's how you can help: Shoes: gently worn, used or new shoes that you no longer want. Men's, Women's, Children's of any type that you would feel good about giving to someone else (dress shoes, casual shoes, sandals, clogs, house shoes, crocs, flip flops, cleats, and other athletic shoes). No holes, tears, or excessive wear (should have intact soles and insoles), single shoes or mismatched pairs, or wet/moldy shoes please. Pair them together heel to heel with a rubber band and drop them in the bins located in Covenant Hall. (Shoes will be picked up from there each Monday until June 1st) We sincerely appreciate your support!



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

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

Sunday, May 14



On Sunday, May 14, we will collect the Mother's Day Offering for the benefit of Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina. For over 60 years, this offering has been an important act of support for this unique ministry of SC Presbyterians to older adults. The proceeds are used solely to support residents at Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina who have outlived their life savings through no fault of their own and now depend on the kindness of others. The average cost of Charitable Care in SC from 2011 to 2021 was \$1,244,455. You may drop your offering in the plate that morning, mail it in to the church, or give online at wpccharleston.org. Checks payable to Westminster, or choose "Presbyterian Home" on the online menu. Thank you!

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Marion Woodbury
David Wild

Given by

Brenda Jonsson
Joan Leon
Westminster Circle 4



Children's Choir Singing Palm Sunday



Easter Egg Hunt: Storytime



Easter Egg Hunters



Easter Egg Hunt: Craft Time

GIVE NOW



TEXT
charlestonwpc
to 73256



ONLINE
wpccharleston.org



MAIL or DROP OFF
1157 Sam Rittenberg Blvd.



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in the Realm Connect App

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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 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