

THE GOOD NEWS Westminster Presbyterian We are called to be and to make disciples who love God and who love our neighbors.





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

Nursery Available

10:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Nursery & Children's Church Available

Children, Youth and Adult Sunday School



GREETINGS From Pastor Daniel

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:26-27

Some people interpret these verses to mean being created in the image of God means we have dominion over the earth. As God has dominion over us, we, in God's image, have dominion over creation. Image = dominion.

I'm not so sure. First, I see people using that logic to validate their abuse of creation. The argument goes like this: we are created in God's image to have dominion over the earth, so we can rule it as we see fit.

Second, I think the "in our image, after our likeness" language is instead referring to the relational nature of God. Image = relationship. Did you notice the plural "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness?" How do you explain God speaking in first person plural? Most scholars agree God is speaking in Trinitarian language here. The "we" is God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It means by very nature, God exists in relationship. The three persons of the Trinity existing as the One True God are constantly relating to each other. So, when God creates people in his image, it means simply we are created to be in relationship. Image = relationship.

The implications are tremendous. You can't be a Christian by yourself. You're not created to be alone or even to close yourself off from your neighbors. We reflect the image of God most clearly when we are connected to each other, to God, to ourselves, and with creation. We bear the image of God when we are in relationships.

Together, with you,

Daniel

WORSHIP JOYFULLY From the Pulpit

This Summer, we continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew.

June 4

Matthew 13:1-23 Kingdom Parables 1: The Sower

June 11

Matthew 13:24-43 Kingdom Parables 2: The Weeds, the Mustard Seed, and the Leaven

June 18

Matthew 13:44-58 Kingdom Parables 3: The Treasure, the Pearl, and the Net

June 25

Matthew 13:53-14:36 Receiving Jesus

July 2

Matthew 15:1-20 Clean Hearts

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



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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS & SAVE THE DATE WPC's 200th Anniversary Festivities

September 23-24, 2023



Bicentennial 1823-2023

In 2023, Westminster Presbyterian Church celebrates 200 years as a

congregation of people doing God's work! Our celebration will take place with several special events in September!

Saturday, September 23 Picnic at the McLeod Plantation Historic Site

Event space located on Wappoo Cut. Time and menu will be announced closer to the date. Please feel free to share this date/event with WPC family who have moved on to other congregations. It is our hope to reconnect with many! If you would like a formal invitation to be sent, please contact Dee Bee Wright at 843.729.7005.

Sunday, September 24

Rev. Tom Are, Jr. who served Westminster as an Associate Pastor 1986-1989 will be preaching. Tom currently serves as co-pastor of Village Presbyterian Church in Prairie Village, Kansas. He is a graduate of Presbyterian College, Union Presbyterian Semiinary and Yale Divinity School. Tom and his wife, Carol were married during the time he served at Westminster. We are also planning something quick, cool and refreshing after worship Sunday!

If you have any questions, please reach out to any committee member: Mark Patrick, Janie Bruce, Grahame Long or Dee Bee Wright.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST STAFF MEMBERS Claire Winkles and Suzann Lilienthal



Claire Winkles joins us as Westminster's new Director of Youth and Children's Ministries.



Suzann Lilienthal has joined us as Westminster's new Office Administrator.

WELCOMING DISCIPLES TO WESTMINSTER

Births

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

Baptisms

Graham Ludwig, Henry Ludwig, Everett Ludwig baptized May 14, 2023. Pastor Lissa Long. Abby Mobley assisting Elder.

New Members

Sylvia Gamboa joined April 16, 2023 by letter of transfer from 1st ScotsPresbyterian.

Byron and Halley Autry joined April 16, 2023 by reaffirmation of faith. 2 daughters, Gigi and Anne.

Daniel Krajewski and Leslie Allen joined April 30, 2023 by reaffirmation of faith.

Matthew and Melissa Rutter joined April 30, 2023 by reaffirmation of faith. Daughter, Catalina Rutter.

With Resurrection Hope

Jim Hammersmith April 26, 2023

Bill Pennekamp May 15, 2023

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP & FELLOWSHIP



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY UPDATES Carol Smith, our beloved hostess and caterer of 20 years, is retiring!

Carol has been a consistent part of the Westminster family for a long time, and we're happy for her in this transition. She'll be with us on Wednesdays through June 7 and then the Second Sunday Social on June 11 is her last time in the kitchen.

We'll suspend Wonderful Wednesdays this summer until we secure a new caterer, but be on the lookout for special fellowship events hosted by the Fellowship Committee.

SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCKS JUNE 11, JULY 9, AUGUST 13

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

DOCTORATE IN MINISTRY UPDATE From Pastor Lissa

As the summer progresses you may see me with my nose in a book, taking notes on academic journals, and even inviting WPC friends and family to share in an interview. With my coursework complete, I am now working on my final Integrative Project or thesis which I hope to present in the fall!

The title of my thesis is "The Mystery of Discipleship in Curriculum: A focus on how the church teaches discipleship to children and youth" and looks at ways we can better share the joys of discipleship through church curriculum. I'm excited with the research I've begun and look forward to the opportunities the project may reveal.

Working on my Doctorate in Ministry with Union Presbyterian Seminary has been a wonderful, albeit hard, experience. I am incredibly grateful for WPC's support and prayers.

With Joy and to God's Glory, *Pastor Lissa*

LOWCOUNTRY SMOCKERS GUILD

Second Thursday of every Month Thursdays this Summer: June 8, July 13, August 10 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.

HOOKS AND NEEDLES MINISTRY

Second Monday of every Month Mondays this Summer: June 12, July 10, August 14 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. Join us for fellowship this summer.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Second Tuesday of every Month Tuesdays this Summer: June 13, July 11, August 8 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!

I'M GLAD YOU ASKED

Special Summer Sunday School Class Starting June 4 10:00 a.m. Covenant Hall

All summer long, join us in Covenant Hall for Sunday School. Pastor Daniel and Pastor Lissa will teach the class using questions you have submitted. We begin on June 4 with "How do we understand the devil, hell, and the part of the Apostles' Creed that says Jesus "descended into hell?" Join us at 10:00.

WHEN HELPING HURTS MISSIONAL RESPONSE Sunday, June 11 During Second Sunday Room 4, Covenant Hall

Are you interested in workshopping ideas for ways WPC connects, engages, listens, and serves within our community and the world? On June 11, grab your plate on Second Sunday and join together in Room 4 of Covenant Hall for exciting conversation!

SAVE THE DATE FOR Kickoff Sunday August 20th!

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL

Schools out for the Summer! We wrapped up the year with field day and end of the year programs. It has truly been a wonderful year for the families, students, and staff. We are also proud to announce that we won "Best Preschool" for Lowcountry Parent Magazine for the 4th time! This is the 7th year we've won or been runner up! In addition, we were runner up for the Best Private School and Best Childcare! We are blessed with such wonderful Preschool and Church families. Thank you for voting and showing your continuous support.

From all of us at the Preschool we wish you a blessed happy Summer.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR REHEARSALS Singing on Father's Day, June 18 at 11:00 a.m. Rehearsals on June 4 and June 11 from 5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

The Elementary Choir will be singing on Father's Day, June 18 at the 11:00 a.m. service. Rehearsals will be on June 4 and June 11 from 5pm-5:30pm in the choir room. All first graders—fifth graders are invited!! Contact Nancy Parrish 843-442-6654 or steelesowell@gmail.com.

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

PARK PLAYDATE Tuesday, June 20 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. James Island County Park Playground & Splash Pad

All children are invited to join us at James Island County park for a playdate on June 20 from 10:00-12:00. The children can play on the playground and in the splash pad. Bring a picnic lunch. (This is not a drop off event.)

CLUB 3, 4, 5 END OF YEAR PARTY

Wednesday, June 21 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Home of Laura & Paul Patrick

All 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are invited to a pool party at the home of Laura and Paul Patrick to celebrate the end of the school year. Fifth graders will be recognized as next year they will be in the youth group.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS JUNE 25-29! The theme this year will be "Joy to the World."

We are so thankful for the many children who have registered and all of the youth and adult volunteers. If you have any questions about VBS please contact Laura Patrick, Karen Norman, or Meghan Ward.

FAMILY BEACH DAY

Sunday, August 13 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Folly Beach County Park

All are welcome to join us for a beach day at Folly Beach County Park on Sunday, August 13 from 4:00-6:00. Look for the Westminster flag when you park to find us. Snacks will be provided.

PRAY FOR OUR Children & Youth Attending Camps & Conferences This Summer

June 11-17

9 Senior High Youth and 2 Adults at Montreat

July 19-23

16 Mid High Youth and 4 Adults to Montreat Middle School

July 23-28

Many of our young disciples at Bethelwoods (Pastor Lissa is Camp Pastor this week)

FOLLOW THE E-NEWS FOR A Church Summer Movie Day in July!

SERVING FAITHFULLY











CHURCH WORK DAY

On Saturday April 29, over 35 volunteers completed a great number of projects on our church grounds. The most noticeable ones: filling in potholes, pressure washing, window cleaning, fence repair, columbarium cleaning , some bush and tree pruning and a bath for the church bus! We are grateful to all our volunteers, Fellowship Committee who provided donuts, drinks and pizza, and to God for providing such a beautiful day! The spirit of fellowship was definitely present!

- Earl Frasier, Matt Teitsort, Carole Russell

THE CHOIR SHOWERED SARAH SHAYBAN

Sarah, our Assitant Director of Music, is expecting her second child any day now!







SERVE NOW

VOLUNTEER

at Neighbors Together Third Wednesday of each Month 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!

LEARN & SERVE WITH NEIGHBORS TOGETHER

Neighbors Together allows children and youth to serve alongside a parent/ grandparent! Links to register to serve alongside your child/ youth will be coming in the Enews. This is a great way to learn about the work of one of our WPC Mission Partners while also helping our neighbors.

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.

GIVE GENEROUSLY of your time, your money, your resources and give thanks

Dear Westminster,

I am so appreciative of my job as Office Administrator at Westminster Presbyterian Church. I am not sure how to thank you all for all of the support, love, friendship, and prayers given to me over the last 11 years. We recently adopted a new mission statement, "We are called to be and to make disciples who love God and who love our neighbors." I believe that the staff, office volunteers, deacons, elders and all of the members of Westminster show God's love everyday to everyone they meet. You all have certainly shown that to me.

There is one memory I would like to share. I have several, but will save for another time. A homeless man came into the church office carrying a huge wooden cross, God had told him to carry it to a certain location across the northbridge but there was a sign not to walk over the bridge. Pastor Daniel loaded the cross and the homeless man into his sedan. The cross was hanging out of the side window as he drove away, I'm sure he was glad the windows were down. I watched as they drove away, knowing that was a nice way to show God's love.

Pastor Lissa and Pastor Daniel thank you for teaching God's word with a heart like His! I appreciate and love you all.

> Love and blessings, Nita

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Pete Powell (Carlie Powell's brother) Jim Hammersmith

Given By

Brenda Jonsson Joan Leon Westminster Circle 4 Joe & Brenda Clarey James & Rose Hammersmith Joseph & Judy Rozzisi







THE WESTMINSTER FOOD PANTRY A special message from Nita Rushton

It has been a blessing serving the people that visit the food pantry. Because of our congregation, over the past 11 years, we have been able to increase the number of protein items in the bags, we have added laundry pods to each bag and are able to give \$20.00 gift certificates for a ham or turkey during the month of December.

Some visitors asked for food that they can eat now. Someone heard this request and now we have bag lunches prepared and stored to be available on request. Another request was for dog food, we now have dog and cat food on the shelf to give if requested. People asked for hygiene products and now they are provided.

A visitor said it was her birthday and a member overheard her request. Now we have containers filled with everything you need to prepare a birthday cake for visitors that come to the food pantry the month of their birthday. People have supplied candy bars and treat bags with "God Loves You" written on them to put in each bag. Diapers are also provided by a member. All of these items are donated by members without us using the Food Pantry Funds. I get the smiles, hugs, and kind words of appreciation. I assure them this is Westminster sharing God's love.

Without the volunteer shoppers, pick-up and delivery drivers, and food bag packers, we would not be able to serve the amount of people we do. Thank you, Westminster Presbyterian Church, for making my job great. I am happy I am able to retire to be with my family and be a part of the volunteers at Westminster.

GIVE NOW





TEXT charlestonwpc to 73256



ONLINE wpccharleston.org



MAIL or **DROP OFF** 1157 Sam Rittenberg Blvd.



REALM CONNECT APP Schedule recurring gifts in the Realm Connect App

Westminster Presbyterian Church 1157 Sam Rittenberg Boulevard Charleston, South Carolina 29407 Electronic Service Requested Non-Profit Org U.S. Postage Paid Charleston, SC Permit No. 48



Westminster Presbyterian Church www.wpccharleston.org 843.766.8311

Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, *Pastor* dsmoak@wpccharleston.org 843.872.1001

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

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

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

Suzann Lilienthal, *Office Administrator* office@wpccharleston.org

Tommye Owen, *Financial Administrator* finance@wpccharleston.org

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

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

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

Carole Russell Lindy Coleman Nancy Dixon Patty Stokes Class of 2025

Lindy Coleman Betsy McLaughlin Mike Niblock Matthew Patrick Matthew Teitsort Tom Whetstone