



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

June 25, 2023

9:00 am

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 NO. 137 He Came Down

He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
hallelujah forevermore.

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

All: Alleluia! Joy to the world!

One: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,
on them light has shined.

All: Alleluia! Joy to the world!

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

All: Alleluia! Joy to the world!

◆ PRAYER 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

◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Lord, you have come down for us and for our salvation, but we act as if we have no need. We trust ourselves and our own abilities, only turning to you when times get tough or we have tried everything else. Forgive our stubborn hearts and the ways we try to bend you to our wills instead of submitting to your gracious and better plans. Help us respond to you more faithfully in the future.

◆ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE 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.**

◆ 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

SPECIAL MUSIC Joy to the World!
Chris Dorsel

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 13:53 - 14:36 PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 15

SERMON Responding to Jesus

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE No. 104 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PRAYERS FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

SENDING OUT

◆ SENDING SONG NO. 136 Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain)

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

◆ BLESSING AND RESPONSE All Singing

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

◆ *Please stand, if able*

Leading the service today: Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor; Nancy Parrish, Music.
11:00 am Livestream at www.wpccharleston.org, YouTube (Westminster Presbyterian Charleston)
Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI License #2778901

Acolyte is Tanner Gentry
Ushers are Nancy Dixon, Regina Keene, Jim Drennan

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God in appreciation of Laura Patrick's
dedicated service as Interim Director of Children's Ministries.

The rosebud in the sanctuary is given to the glory of God and in celebration of the
birth of Natalie Simone on June 13, 2023. Parents are Sarah and Ghadi Shayban.

I'M GLAD YOU ASKED!

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 at 10:00. Join us!

- June 25 Who are all the “Marys” in Jesus’ life, and as women, do they get appropriate recognition?
- July 2 In a world torn apart by hot button issues and loud personalities, what role does the church play?
- July 9 How do Christians cling to the truth without being judgmental? Can we be tolerant and principled at the same time?
- July 16 Are Presbyterians evangelical?

WE'RE STUDYING MATTHEW!

All through 2023, we'll be engaged in a verse-by-verse study of the Gospel. Here is the Schedule for the next few weeks:

- June 25 Matthew 13:53-14:36 Responding to Jesus: We see five responses to Jesus- from outright rejection to strong faith.
- July 2 Matthew 15:1-20 Clean Hearts: God looks at more than our actions- he looks at the condition of our hearts.
- July 9 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 (Andrew Byrd Preaching)
- July 16 Matthew 15:21-39 For the Gentiles: Jesus’ ministry is extended to the Gentiles; he comes for them, too.

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.
 - o Pastor Daniel Smoak, 843-872-1001
 - o 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

SOMEONE'S PRAYING, LORD. COME BY HERE.

On Sunday 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.)

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 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.



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.



LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER!

Name tags are available on the name tag cart in the Narthex. Please find yours and wear it on Sunday mornings, returning it before you leave. If yours is missing, please use a sticky badge and put your name on the 'I need a name tag' form.

RESPITE CARE CHARLESTON

Respite Care Charleston 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.

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 wpccharleston.org.

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

NEIGHBORS TOGETHER

Volunteer to help serve one of the hot meals during the week! We have a team who serves on the third Wednesday of the month, or you can register at www.neighborstogether.org.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Dried Beans, Spaghetti Noodles, Cereal and/or Grits

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Westminster Presbyterian Church sponsors an AA group Sunday and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm in Covenant Hall room 3. If you or someone you know is seeking support, please feel free to share this information.

VBS THEME

This year's theme is "Joy to the World." Throughout the week, our storytellers and activities will help tell the Christmas story. Our memory verse for the week is "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." Isaiah 9:6

JOY TO THE WORLD VBS Special Offering

During Vacation Bible School, we will be having a coin drive with all proceeds going directly to the Thornwell Home for Children! Thornwell will be on-site with us on Tuesday to explain to the children how the coins will be put to good use during VBS. Each day we will have jars at the front of the Sanctuary where children can bring a specific coin to add to the jar. Sunday - Pennies, Monday - Nickels, Tuesday - Dimes, Wednesday - Quarters, Thursday - Dollars.

If you would like to contribute to this special offering the penny jar will be available today! You can also donate online at wpccharleston.org and select Thornwell under the "Fund" tab.

This Week at Westminster

Sunday, June 25

9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
12:00 pm VBS Opening Luncheon
7:00 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, June 26

9:00 am VBS
1:00 pm Hands of Christ Leadership Team
2:00 pm CYM, Kitchen

Tuesday, June 27

6:30 am Toastmasters, Covenant Hall
9:00 am VBS
1:00 pm Bridge Group, Library
2:00 pm CYM, Kitchen

Wednesday, June 28

9:00 am VBS
2:00 pm CYM, Kitchen
6:00 pm Officer Training Session 2
7:00 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall, Room 3

Thursday, June 29

9:00 am VBS

Friday, June 30

1:00 pm Hands of Christ Ops Meeting

Saturday, July 1

Sunday, July 2

9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
7:00 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall, Room 3

Westminster Prays

Sandi Daniels	Keith Gordon	Mary Ashley Barbot	Ginger Sieftring
Kate Penekamp	Lydia Crosby	Joyce Aydlett	Martin Davis
Love Moody	Brian Carlow	Daryn Baker	Kevin Ritzel
Lisa Wilcox	Frances McLean	Sean Fitzgibbon	Gloria Underhill
Harold Fountain	David Kerr	Nikolai Fruth	Nita Rodemann
Nancy Plowden	Sharon Hutchinson	Mary Martschink	Jackie Epstein
Gary Brooks	Harper Croft	Maryalice Vann	Towne Family
Steve Buddin	Monnie Privette	Christina Miller	Charles Reeves
Dick Unger	Eleanor Woodbury	Meghan Hatfield	Merrily Burnette
Libba Palmer	Evan McMillian	Rachel Singletary	John Martschink
Bryan Thomas	Don Sumner	Fran Ligon	Brenda Jonsson
Gloria Purcell	Lauren Wilson	Molly Griggs	Judy Tag
Will Edwards	Reed Family	Cynthia Ebigwei	Rose Derrick
Bob Ferguson	Charlotte Griggs	Gloria Ricoma	Robin Zemp
Allyn Bruce	Colby Turner	Janet Wilson	Pat Skees
Edward Fitzgibbon	Maryann Brown	Cary Alexandre	Bruce Hamilton
George Rogers	Judy Hatch		

Friend of the Week

Mrs. Robbie Yarnall
1565 N. Pinebark Lane
Charleston, SC 29407

Mission of the Week

Neighbors Together
1205 Cosgrove Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29405

Church Family

Harvey Rumph
Mark and Lynsey Rushton
Jaxon, Ellie, Sarah Kay

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, llong@wpccharleston.org

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

Ms. Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, cwinkles@wpccharleston.org

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

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

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

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

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

