



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

October 8, 2023

9:00 a.m.

## 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                      Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

#### ◆ WORDS OF PRAISE FROM PSALM 130

One: Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord!  
All: O Lord, hear our voice!  
One: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our pleas for mercy!  
All: We wait for the Lord, our soul waits, and in God's word we hope.  
One: O Israel, hope in the Lord!  
All: For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with the Lord is plentiful redemption.  
It is the Lord who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

#### ◆ PRAYER

#### ◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 409                      God is Here!

## CONFESSION

#### ◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS From Psalm 71

Lord, forgive our transgressions. Hear our prayer for our wandering hearts that are easily distracted. Hear our prayer for acting as though we are still in the wilderness although the kingdom is here before us. Hear our prayer for when we ask for guidance but don't turn to you first. Hear our prayer for when we seek restoration in relationships and forget your grace abides. Forgive us Lord, for we need you and love you.

#### ◆ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 447

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

Claire Winkles

SPECIAL MUSIC

Just Like Clay

*Natasha Akery*

Come, go down to the potter's house where he tends to his wheel  
Watch him take what is flawed, remake it

Can't I do with you, as the potter's done?  
Just like clay in his hands, so you are in mine

I'll take you, break you, remake you  
I'll fold you, mold you, reshape you

Can't I do with you, as the potter's done?  
Just like clay in his hands, so you are in mine

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Lamentations 3:1-26

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 766

SERMON

Great Is God's Faithfulness in Darkness

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG NO. 815

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

FESTAL SONG

◆ DECLARING OUR FAITH

FROM BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

**In sovereign love God created the world good  
and makes everyone equally in God's image,  
male and female, of every race and people,  
to live as one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.**

**Ignoring God's commandments,  
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,  
accept lies as truth,  
exploit neighbor and nature,**



## STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 15!



Having celebrated 200 years of ministry, we now turn to the future and how we can respond to God's faithfulness. EVERY member of the Westminster Session, Diaconate, and Finance Committee has already completed their 2024 Estimate of Giving Cards, and now each WPC disciple can make a personal commitment to the Lord and the ministry at Westminster for the coming year. Look for information in the mail this week. Bring your completed form (or fill one out online by choosing the 2024 Estimate of Giving button at [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org)) to worship on Sunday, October 15, and we'll dedicate our commitments to the Lord together in worship. Thank you for your participation; all responses are needed in our prayerful discernment in ministry planning for the coming year.

### 20,000 FOR 200!

In just a few short weeks, people responded to the 200th Anniversary Endowment challenge, and we raised almost \$25,000 for the Westminster Endowment Fund! Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!

### 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](http://wpccharleston.org).

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

### 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



### 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](http://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.



### FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT

We're concluding our series about the Faithfulness of God and hopping back into the Gospel of Matthew.

October 8	Lamentations 3:1-26	God is faithful in the dark.
October 15	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	God is faithful to call us to fellowship. <i>Stewardship Dedication Sunday</i>
October 22	Matthew 17:14-27	Dysfunctional Disciples: Jesus corrects his disciples' weak faith and lack of understanding.
October 29	Matthew 18:1-6	Who Is the Greatest? "Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."
November 5	Matthew 18:7-9	Temptations to Sin "Cut it off! Tear it out!" How radical are we supposed to be in dealing with temptation?

## **JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!**

- Children 0-2 Nursery.
- Children 3K-K, 1-2nd, and 3rd-5th classes meet in the Christian Education building.
- Youth 6th-8th and 9th-12th grades meet in Covenant Hall.

### **Adult Class Offerings**

- Anchor Class (Christian Education Building)-Bible Study through 6-8 week studies. Currently the group is using the book called Meeting the Spirit.
- Carey Grayson Class (Covenant Hall-Room 4)-This class works through the scriptures by chapter and verse! Currently the class is studying Deuteronomy.
- Jesus in the Gospel (Parlor-Admin Building)-Book study utilizing the book, Having Nothing, Possessing Everything by Michael Mather.
- WoW Women's Study (Covenant Hall-Library)-Book study utilizing the book Daughters of Grace.

## **PRAYER REQUEST?**

Leave your written requests in the basket next to the main sanctuary doors. WPC staff will pray for your request at our weekly meeting and throughout the week.

## **SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK SOCIAL TODAY!**

All are welcome to a fried Chicken luncheon in Covenant Hall following 11:00 am worship the 2nd Sunday of each month. Cash donations for fried chicken welcome, bring a pot luck side or dessert to the kitchen during the Sunday School hour to share. Be filled with fellowship.

## **CHICKEN AFTER CHURCH FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH**

High School Youth are invited to walk to Kickin' Chicken for a meal after 11:00 am worship, Sunday, October 8, 12:00 - 1:00 pm at Kickin' Chicken. We will have "Chicken after Church" one Sunday a month. We hope to see our high school youth there!

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST AND BIBLE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 AT 8:00 AM**

Men of all ages: Join us for Breakfast and Bible Study from 8:00 - 9:00 am 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 1 Corinthians 3; join us for the Fellowship and Encouragement!

## **WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY DINNER UPDATE!**

We are excited that THIS WEEK we are having two great offerings! First, dinner will be prepared by Ms. Pamela Reid from S&P Catering. Pamela caters a host of regular meals around town including the Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club. This week she'll be preparing garden salad, green beans, fried/baked chicken, red rice, and cake! Second, it is a WINK! night! Preschool and elementary children will be invited to enjoy Bible games with Ms. Claire around 6:30 pm while the grown-ups get to enjoy fellowship.

## **THE ELEMENTARY CHOIR**

Elementary Choir (children in grades 1-5) will sing on October 15 at the 11:00 service! Practice this afternoon in the choir room. 5:00-5:45 pm. Please contact Nancy Parrish for more information. Hope to see you there.

## **TRUNK OR TREAT**

Children, Youth, Family and Friends are invited Sunday, October 15, 4:00 - 5:30 pm for a fun afternoon of Trunk & Treating in your Halloween costumes at Westminster. We are inviting you to park in the front parking lot and walk the carpool loop along the back of the Church Campus to visit all the trunks along the way. We are recruiting volunteers who are willing to decorate their trunk and pass out treats. Contact Claire Winkles for more information.

## **WORSHIP PREP**

1st Graders, Sundays, October 1 - November 23, following Time for Children at 11:00 am worship service. One of the ways we keep the vows we make when our children are baptized is to give thought, effort and prayer to their participation in worship. Good worship experiences don't "just happen." If children feel loved, included and accepted in worship, it is because both the church and you have been faithful to their tasks. To that end, we will talk about where we worship, why we worship, how we worship and about prayer. We will also learn about both sacraments celebrated in the Presbyterian Church, Baptism and Communion. At least one parent or grandparent must attend class with their child. If you have any questions, please call Dee Bee Wright at 843-729-7005.

## **REGISTER NOW!**

Please follow the Enews link to complete your family registration for the Bethelwoods Churchwide Retreat Friday, November 3 - Sunday, November 5! All ages are welcome! <https://forms.gle/4GEbpQGGvFJAQtaJA>

## **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.

## **NEW HERE? MAKE SOME CONNECTIONS AT WESTMINSTER**

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 October 29. 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 October 29 Connections class by emailing [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org).

## **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](http://www.neighborstogether.org).

## **COMMUNITY SUPPORT NUMBERS**

Mental Health Crisis Hotline 988

Community Resource and Support Hotline 211

My Sister's House (domestic abuse) 843-744-3242

Al-Anon 843-762-6999

Narcotics Anonymous 843- 852-3001

Wake-Up Carolina (support for families and individuals battling substance abuse) 843- 972-8154

## **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.

## **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Soap bars, toothpaste, individually packaged toothbrushes, deodorant, small bottles of shampoo

## This Week at Westminster

### Sunday, October 8

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
11:20 am	Worship Prep for First Graders
12:00 pm	Second Sunday Lunch
12:00 pm	Chicken After Church - High School Youth
12:45 pm	Mission Committee
5:00 pm	Mid High Youth
5:00 pm	Elementary Choir practice
6:00 pm	Senior High Youth
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Monday, October 9

11:30 am	Pastor Lunch at the Village
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### Tuesday, October 10

8:00 am	Men's Breakfast and Bible Study
10:00 am	Staff Meeting
10:00 am	Circle 4 meeting
10:00 am	Circle 5 meeting
7:00 pm	Handbell Choir

### Wednesday, October 11

6:00 pm	Wonderful Wednesday
6:30 pm	WINK
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Thursday, October 12

1:00 pm	SAMS Steering Committee meeting
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### Friday, October 13

### Saturday, October 14

### Sunday, October 15

#### *Stewardship Commitment Sunday*

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
11:20 am	Worship Prep for First Graders
3:30 pm	All Youth Groups assisting in Trunk or Treat
4:00 pm	Trunk or Treat
5:00 pm	Elementary Choir practice
6:00 pm	Session Meeting
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

## WESTMINSTER PRAYS

Cary Alexandre	Will Edwards	Fran Ligon	Kevin Ritzel
Joyce Aydlette	Bob Ferguson	Evan McMillian	Jim Seay
Daryn Barker	Edward Fitzgibbon	Frances McLean	Liz Shelor
Mary Ashley Barbot	Nikolai Fruth	John Martschink	Mark Stender
Ronald Booth	Harold Fountain	Mary Martschink	Ginger Stoke
Gary Brooks	Terry Garrett	Christina Miller	Pat Skees
Maryann Brown	Charlotte Griggs	Love Moody	Rachel Singletary
Steve Buddin	Molly Griggs	Joe Nuchols	Judy Tag
Merrily Burnette	Bruce Hamilton	Libba Palmer	Bryan Thomas
Brian Carolow	Judy Hatch	Nancy Plowden	Towne Family
Susie Cashion	Megan Hatfield	Suzy Pitsey	Gloria Underhill
Lydia Crosby	Jennifer Holladay	Brayden Preus	Dick Unger
Harper Croft	Rev. Chris Huff	Monnie Privette	Maryalice Vann
Sandi Daniels	Maurice Jackman	Reed Family	Nancy Waller
Martin Davis	Brenda Jonsson	Charles Reeves	Lisa Wilcox
Rose Derrick	Mildred Kennerly	Nita Rodemann	Laura Wilson
Cynthia Ebigwei	David Kerr	Gloria Ricoma	Robbie Yarnall
			Robin Zemp

### PRAYER LIST UPDATED OCTOBER 2023

If you need to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please email Suzann at [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org)

<b>College Student of the Week</b>	<b>Friend of the Week</b>	<b>Mission of the Week</b>	<b>Church Family</b>
Ashleigh Smith 2275 University Station 4577 Lightsey Clemson, SC 29632	Love Moody 1318 New Castle Street Charleston, SC 29407	Water Missions International 1150 Molly Green Way Bldg. 1605 N. Charleston, SC 29405	Nathan & Ashley Snider -Andrew and Miles

## WESTMINSTER SESSION MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES

**Administration:** Tom Whetstone and Matthew Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Matt Teitsort and Randy Davis; **Christian Education:** Lindy Coleman and Laura Patrick; **Fellowship:** Jonathan Bazzle, Betsy McLaughlin, and Mike Niblock; **Finance:** Norman Hook and Chuck Towne; **Membership:** Beth Georgen and John Dounian; **Missions:** Dee Bee Wright and Mary McAbee; **Preschool:** Abbie Mobley; **Worship:** Allyn Bruce and Ashley Snider; **Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Lindy Coleman; **Treasurer:** Nancy Dixon; **Assistant Treasurer:** Patty Stokes

### **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

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Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, [dsmoak@wpccharleston.org](mailto:dsmoak@wpccharleston.org)

Rev. Lissa Long, Associate Pastor, [mlong@wpccharleston.org](mailto:mlong@wpccharleston.org)

Ms. Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, [cwinkles@wpccharleston.org](mailto:cwinkles@wpccharleston.org)

Mr. Robin Zemp, Director of Music, [rzemp@wpccharleston.org](mailto:rzemp@wpccharleston.org)

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