

February 2024



THE GOOD NEWS

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Worship Joyfully. Serve Faithfully. Give Generously. Live Worthily.



First Communion, December 2023



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

Earlier today, the news of Pastor Lissa's move was shared with the Session and the congregation. I've been thinking about it the last few days, bouncing around the stages of grief: shock, denial, bargaining, anger, acceptance. (Grief is not a neat process, and there are more than 5 stages, but you get the idea.) What can we say right now?



First, I am glad for her faith and the faith of her family. Grahame has been offered a job tailor-made for him, and he's being faithful and prayerful in responding to the call to Colonial Williamsburg. At the same time, Lissa and the girls have some unknowns in front of them. I'm reminded of God's call to Abram in Genesis 12: "Go to the land I will show you..." Abram has few details about what will happen, but he does know the LORD will go with him and the LORD will reveal those details in good time. Faith is taking the first step.

Second, I am thankful for good ministry here in the past 6 years. I've learned so much from her, and I know you have too. We can give thanks together that our faith is stronger because of her.

Third, there is some time. She won't be moving until the summer, so in some ways, it will be "business as usual" around here for a while. In other ways, we'll be working together to get ready for what is next- both in the short term and the long term. Session will be prayerful in developing that plan and communicating it. Transitions in growing, healthy churches are nothing to be nervous about.

And fourth, I go back to some of the lessons we've learned together in these last years. There are some things that change, and there are some things that do not change. When transitions come, our footing is firmly planted in Jesus. That won't change, and his grace is sufficient for our every need.

Relying on the promises of God,

Pastor Daniel

WORSHIP JOYFULLY

From the Pulpit

We're engaged in a verse-by-verse study of the Gospel of Matthew.

February 4

Matthew 20:1-28

"Striving to Finish Last "

In God's Kingdom, the last shall be first and the first shall be last.

February 11

Matthew 20:29-34

"Helping Us to See Clearly"

Jesus gives sight to two blind men: an indication of what he wants to do with us.

February 18

Matthew 21:1-11

"The King Has Come "

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem fulfills several OT prophecies: He is surely the king.

February 25

Matthew 21:12-17

"Clearing the Temple"

Jesus has no tolerance for the "religion of man" that stands in the way of true faith.

March 3

Matthew 21:18-32

"Bearing Fruit"

Jesus wants followers who bear fruit for the Kingdom.

March 10

Matthew 21:33-46

"From Praise to Rejection"

The parable of the tenants is a warning for the ones who reject God's son and his work.



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



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

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14, 2024

8:00 - 8:15 a.m. & 12:15 - 12:30 p.m.

Brief gatherings in the sanctuary to pray and be marked with the ashes of repentance.

6:30 - 7:15 p.m.

Ash Wednesday worship where we hear God's word of hope and are marked with the ashes of repentance. In Covenant Hall following 6:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday supper.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent. It's called Ash Wednesday because as a sign of repentance, believers through the centuries have received the mark of an ashen cross on their forehead. The ashes remind us of God's words to Adam when he sinned- "remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," and it reminds us of the Old Testament practice of wearing sackcloth and having ashes placed on the head as a sign of spiritual poverty.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER WORSHIP

Palm Sunday Worship

Sunday, March 24

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, March 28, 7:00 p.m.

The darkness falls as we worship- remembering the night Jesus was betrayed and arrested. We'll share the Lord's Supper.

Good Friday Worship and Lunch

Friday, March 29, 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 Worship

Sunday, March 31

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.

WELCOMING DISCIPLES TO WESTMINSTER

New Members

Roger and Karen Lobitz

Jon and Gail Schier

David and Peggy Jump

Debbie VanDeventer

Kristin Cook

Christopher Lynch

Logan Winkles

Timothy Alan Montgomery

In the Hope of Resurrection

David Andrew Bednarczyk;

October 31, 2023

Shirley Venning Kruger;

December 23, 2023

Baptisms

Archer "Archie" Thomas Winkles
on January 14

Son of Josh and Logan Winkles

Grandson of Dan and Elyn

Winkles

Great Grandson of Tom Harvey



LIVE WORTHILY

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP & FELLOWSHIP



Senior Adult Ministry Trip to Mepkin Abbey, November 2023

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.

February 7

Guest Speaker from EmpowHer and Journey Collegiate Ministries
Menu: Salad, Red Rice, Vegetable, Chicken (fried and baked), Desserts

February 14 (Ash Wednesday)

Menu: Salad, Chicken Bog, Vegetable, Dessert

February 21

Guest Speaker from Mary Ford Early Learning Center
WiNK, Wednesday Night Kids
Menu: Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Pork Loin, Dessert

February 28 (Backpack Buddies)

Menu: Salad, Baked Spaghetti, Vegetable, Garlic Bread, Dessert

Want to help in the kitchen? Please email Betsy McLaughlin
betsymclaughlin@hotmail.com.

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ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Anchor Class

Room 15, CE Building

Cary Grayson Class

Room 4, Covenant Hall

Christianity 101

Covenant Hall

LENTEN JOURNEY

What if you spent this season of Lent praying for a member of our church? Beginning February 1, there will be a basket in the Narthex and in Covenant Hall to put your name if you would like to be in a prayer for someone else. The Christian Education Committee will take those names and contact participants with the name of someone to pray for over the course of Lent. Join us! We look forward to sharing the prayer-filled Lenten journey with you.

CHURCH LIBRARY

Old Sunday School or Bible Study books cluttering your home? Bring them to WPC! We are still collecting for our church library and would love to keep building class sets. Please drop books in the WPC Library when you bring them by.

CHRISTIANITY 101

Sunday School Class

Join Pastor Lissa in walking through the highlights of being a Christian Disciple in the Presbyterian Church. We will walk through PCUSA polity, worship, sacraments, discipleship and so much more all to prepare us for writing and sharing our statements of faith with one another. Our class will meet in Covenant Hall from 10:00-10:45 a.m.

January 28 Sin and How We Turn from It

February 4 Who is your Lord and Savior?

February 11 Biblical Discipleship

February 18 Polity 101

February 25 How We Worship

View Full List of class topics in the insert in this newsletter.

READ GOOD BOOKS IN 2024!

Join Pastor Daniel in reading any (or all!) of these books in 2024. A variety of topics, authors, and genres, the choices are designed to stimulate the heart and mind and be a catalyst for growth in discipleship. Read each in preparation for the group discussion at 5:00 p.m. on the 4th Sunday of every other month. Books may be purchased online or at church (\$5 for Carved in Ebony).

On February 25th we'll discuss Jasmine Holmes's Carved in Ebony: Lessons from the Black Women Who Shape Us. This book is about

lesser-known Black women who were shining beacons of devotion in a world that did not value their lives. They worked to change laws, built schools, spoke to thousands, shared the Gospel around the world. And while history books may have forgotten them, their stories can teach us so much about what it means to be modern men and women of faith. *A Young Reader's edition (ages 9-12) is available.

View a Full List of Books we'll study in 2024 in the insert in this newsletter.

SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK SOCIALS

*Sunday, February 11
following 11:00 a.m.
Worship*

All are welcome to a fried chicken & potluck luncheon following 11:00 a.m. worship the 2nd Sunday of the month. We ask folks to bring a side dish to share (enough that would feed your family), side dish can be dropped off during the Sunday School Hour in Covenant Hall. Cash donations welcome for the fried chicken!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

*Second Tuesday of
every Month
Tuesday, February 13
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!

LIVE WORTHILY

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



Senior High Youth Group "Chicken after Church" at Kickin' Chicken, November 2023

NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL

Winter showed up this year in Charleston with lots of cold days. No Snow so far but it is the dream of all the Preschool students and some of the teachers too. When snow doesn't fall teachers make it happen with snow crafts, activities and even a pretend snowball fight. The units have been full of snow creatures like penguins and polar bears as well as getting ready for Valentine's Day. All holidays are a big deal in Preschool, hearts are a useful tool for matching numbers and letters. The older children get to practice writing their names on valentines and some can even write their friends names. It is also a great time to talk about how we are loved by God and how God loves us.

This month we open our Registration to the Public on February 5th. We currently need 3- and 4-year-olds, our twos have been filling up quickly with siblings from our current students. Please refer any interested families to our email preschool@wpccharleston.org or call the office at 843-571-0321. Our goal is to fill up by the Summer.

Blessings,
The Preschool

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

CLUB 3,4,5

Sunday, February 4

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.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Sunday, February 11

Each year, around the time of the Super Bowl football game, "Souper Bowl of Caring" mobilizes youth to collect dollars and cans for hunger-relief organizations in their local communities. 100% of the money they collect goes directly to the charity of their choice. None of the money comes to the national headquarters.

Please mark your calendars to bring a donation of canned goods or a financial donation for the Youth of WPC to collect following worship services on February 11. All of the donations will go directly to assisting people with food insecurities in our community.

WiNK

Wednesday Night Kids

Wednesday, February 21

6:30 - 7:00 p.m. in Covenant Hall

Children ages 3 and up are invited to participate in WiNK in one of the classrooms off of Covenant Hall from 6:30-7:00 p.m. following Wonderful Wednesday dinner. During that time, parents and adults can intently listen to a presentation from our mission partners at Mary Ford Elementary School.

SAVE THE DATES

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 23

More details to follow.

Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, March 24

For 7th and 8th Grade Youth!

Vacation Bible School

June 23 - 27

Note it's Sunday thru Thursday.
Registration will open in April!

High School Montreat

Youth Conference

June 9 - 15

Westminster's Week

at Bethelwoods

July 21 - 27

WPC youth discipleship

January 28

Senior High Chicken After Church at Kickin' Chicken

5:00 p.m. Dinner

5:30 p.m. Middle & High School Youth Group

February 4

5:00 p.m. Dinner

5:30 p.m. Middle & High School Youth Group

February 11

Souper Bowl of Caring!

No Youth Group tonight.

February 18

No Youth Group due to holiday weekend.

February 25

5:00 p.m. Dinner

5:30 p.m. Middle & High School Youth Group

March 3

5:00 p.m. Dinner

5:30 p.m. Middle & High School Youth Group

March 10

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

All Youth Oscar Party at the Wright's House

March 17

5:00 p.m. Dinner

5:30 p.m. Middle & High School Youth Group

SERVE FAITHFULLY

MISSIONS & OUTREACH



MARY FORD EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDHOOD CENTER

The garden is growing nicely at Mary Ford with the help of Wayne Hansel. The children continue to thrive with the support of WPC volunteers adopting classrooms and offering to volunteer during the week. Thank you to all who helped sponsor 125 children for Christmas through the Angel Tree Project.

Wonderful Wednesday Special Guest Wednesday, February 21

Mary Ford teachers and faculty will be sharing in a program about Mary Ford on Wednesday, February 21 during our Wonderful Wednesday Supper. Mark your calendars! Nursery and WiNK will be happening as well for all children so parents and adults can listen intently.

MISSION PARTNER DISBURSEMENTS

November - December

- Backpack Buddies
- Food Pantry
- Hands of Christ
- Mackay Mission Ministries
- Mary Ford Early Childhood and Development Center
- Metanoia
- Neighbor's Together
- Thornwell
- Water Missions

WAYS TO SERVE

Volunteer Opportunities with our Mission Partners

VOLUNTEER

at Backpack Buddies

Wednesday, January 31 and February 28

Following Wonderful Wednesday dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Pack bags for children with food insecurity to have food on the weekends. Join us for Wonderful Wednesday dinner at 6 and packing at 6:30 p.m. Mark your calendars for the upcoming packing nights: January 31, February 28, March 27 and April 24.

VOLUNTEER

at Neighbors Together

Wednesday, February 21

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

6-8 WPC Volunteers needed the third Wednesday of every month. Serve a hot meal or provide groceries to our neighbors in need at Neighbors Together; 2105 Cosgrove Ave, North Charleston, SC 29405. For details or sign up, email our Suzann in the church office, office@wpccharleston.org.

WALK

for Water Missions

Walk for Water

Saturday, March 23

Walk for Water is just around the corner on Saturday, March 23! Please register with our WPC Team and join in providing clean, safe drinking water for all. <https://walkforwater.rallybound.org/2024-walk-for-water>

PROVIDE A MEAL OR SPONSOR A BIBLE STUDY

for Journey and EmpowHer College Ministries

If you are interested in helping with the next Journey meal or sponsoring an EmpowerHer study (one week, one month, one year) please contact Jane Warner jane.warner99@comcast.net.

DONATE ITEMS

for Westminster Food Pantry & Blessing Box

Our Food Pantry and Blessing Box are always in need. Please reach out to Suzann Lilienthal at office@wpccharleston.org for a list of items to donate.

WALK

for Healing Farms

Walk and Roll: We See Ability

May 2024

More information to come so all can join in the celebration of the ministry Healing Farms provides for the young adults under their care.

MISSION PARTNER UPDATES

Better North Bridge

Charleston County Council voted unanimously to pursue a federal grant application for the Better North Bridge project! Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Thornwell Home for Children

Thank you for the incredible offering of \$2334.00 during our Christmas Eve offering!

In addition to sending out the disbursement, our Confirmation Class was also able to see Thornwell while on their retreat. For these children we have prayed.

Journey and EmpowHer College Ministries

Many thanks to the crew that fed Citadel Cadets at a Journey meeting at the beginning of October and continue walking in discipleship with them this year.

The College of Charleston EmpowHer groups continue to meet for Bible study and fellowship as well.

GIVE GENEROUSLY

TITHES, OFFERINGS & BLESSINGS



The Lighthouse Ministry in Sao Paulo, Brazil

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

David Bednarczyk
Pat Skees (Tommye Owen's sister)

In Honor of

Peter & Karen McInnes for Thornwell Home

Given By

Gary & Joyce Flowers
Joan Leon
Richard & Monica Lloyd
Priscilla Holtzclaw
Charlie & Meg Powell
Cindy Stanton
Paula Hinton
Mike & Carol Roper
Tom & Deborah Nelson
Roy & Donna Heissenbottle

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Mental Health Crisis Hotline
988

Community Resource and
Support Hotline
211

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

AI-ANON
(843) 762-6999

Narcotics Anonymous
(843) 852-3001

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

AA Meets at WPC Sunday and
Wednesday evenings at
7:00 p.m. in Covenant Hall

NEWS FROM OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Felipe and Laura Matias in Sao Paulo, Brazil

The Christmas season was extra special this year since it is our first Christmas at the Lighthouse Ministry. We have done all the Christmas things! We put up a Christmas tree, made various Christmas crafts, had a Christmas party, we distributed Bibles and Christmas gifts to the faithful Lighthouse participants (sponsored by generous donors, thank you!), and most importantly, we have shared how the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, is the true reason for the season.

The first week in December we also had special visitors from the USA serving together with us at the Lighthouse (Pastor Daniel, Amy, and Matthew Smoak). They also helped share this wonderful Christmas message to the kids and visited families in the slum community. We had an amazing time together! We personally felt very encouraged by our dear friends and their visit. They and their church (Westminster Presbyterian Church, Charleston, SC) are long-time supporters, and they wanted to see our lives and ministry in person to be able to better support what the Lord is doing here in Brazil.



GIVE NOW



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ONLINE
wpccharleston.org



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Sundays at Westminster _____

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
Nursery Available

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Children, Youth and Adult Classes Available

11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Livestream Available
Nursery & Children's Church Available

Westminster Session _____

Class of 2024
Norman Hook
Abbie Mobley
Beth Georgen
Laura Patrick
Chuck Towne
Dee Bee Wright

Class of 2025
Lindy Coleman
Betsy McLaughlin
Mike Niblock
Matthew Patrick
Matthew Teitsort
Tom Whetstone

Class of 2026
Jonathan Bazzle
Allyn Bruce
John Dounian
Mary McAbee
Ashley Snider
Randy Davis

Clerk
Assistant Clerk
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer

Carole Russell
Lindy Coleman
Nancy Dixon
Patty Stokes