



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

The Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

9:00 a.m.

GATHERING

*Please greet each other warmly as the congregation gathers for worship.
Take a moment and sign the friendship register.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ SONG OF PREPARATION NO. 626 As the Deer

As the deer pants for water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield;
To you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

FROM PSALM 34

One: I will bless the Lord at all times;
 his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
All: **My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
 let the humble hear and be glad.**
One: Oh, magnify the Lord with me,
 and let us exalt his name together.
All: **Let us worship God!**

◆ PRAYER

◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Lord, we confess our constant effort to get you on our side. Rather than looking for ways to align our thoughts with your thoughts, we assume you think the same way we do and you are happy with our opinions because they must be mirror images of yours. Keep us humble in our approach to faith and life, and remind us that we are not the Lord. You are.

◆ SONG OF CONFESSION

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

◆ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE

The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

◆ 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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Administered to Charlotte Elizabeth Alexandre, daughter of Cary and Mary Alexandre
Brenda Jonsson, Assisting Elder*

◆ DECLARATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

Laura Patrick

SPECIAL MUSIC

Change My Heart, O God
Molly Griggs

RANEY/ESPINOSA

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 21:12-17

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 23

SERMON

Clearing the Temple

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 269

Lead On, O King Eternal!

MOMENT FOR MISSION

BackPack Buddies

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 No. 80

The Trees of the Field (Isaiah 55:12)

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands (*clap! clap!*)
the trees of the field will clap their hands; (*clap! clap!*)
the trees of the field will clap their hands (*clap! clap!*)
while you go out with joy.

SENDING OUT

◆ BLESSING

◆ *Please stand, if able*

LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY: Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor; Nancy Parrish, Music.

Acolyte: Evan Ford
Ushers: Nancy Dixon, Jim Drennan

11:00 am Livestream at www.wpccharleston.org, YouTube (Westminster Presbyterian Charleston)

You may also listen to the weekly sermon by utilizing *Sermon By Phone* and calling 843-252-0146.
Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI License #2778901

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE.

Please take a moment to sign and pass the Friendship Register in the pews. There is a virtual option for those who are worshipping online. Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to open or find on our website under the Quick Links, Virtual Friendship Register. Want to get involved? Fill out and return a "Using Your Gifts" form in the 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.

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 April 14. 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 April 14 Connections class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org.

A WORD ABOUT LENT

Today is the Second Sunday in LENT. The word *lent* is from the Anglo-Saxon *lencten* which means *spring* or the *springtime*. Literally, it means the time of the year when the days *lengthen*. In the church, Lent is the 40-day period during which Christians rededicate themselves to follow Jesus Christ as His faithful disciples, and prepare to celebrate the Lord's resurrection at Easter. Many Christians vow to give up things (like desserts or TV) during Lent so that when they desire those things, they are reminded of their relationship with the Lord. Other Christians choose to take up something (like daily prayer or acts of kindness) during Lent to strengthen their faith. We're reading the bible together during LENT. The reading schedule, also with readings from *The Jesus Storybook Bible* for children is available in the Narthex. This week:

(Adults and Youth)

February 25 *Catch-up on your reading*

February 26 Exodus 14-15

February 27 Exodus 16-17, 19-40

February 28 Joshua 3 and 6

February 29 1 Samuel 17

March 1 1 Samuel 17

March 2 Psalm 51, 2 Samuel 7, Psalm 23

March 3 *Catch-up on your reading*

(The Jesus Storybook Bible)

February 25 *Catch-up on your reading*

February 26 God makes a way

February 27 Ten Ways to be Perfect

February 28 The Warrior Leader

February 29 The Teeny, Weenie...True King

March 1 The Young Hero and the Horrible Giant

March 2 The Good Shepherd

March 3 *Catch-up on your reading*

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO JOIN THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY?

Here's how you can do it.

1. Fill out a New Member Form and put it in the offering plate in the narthex. Forms are available at the Hospitality Table in the narthex, or you may fill one out online 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.



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.

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.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship and Backpack Buddies on February 28. Our dinner menu will be Salad, Baked Spaghetti, Vegetable, Garlic Bread, and Dessert. See you at 6:00 p.m. Adults \$7, children \$4 and a family cap of \$20 via cash, card or check.

CHRISTIANITY 101 SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

10:00 - 10:45 a.m. in Covenant Hall, January 14- April 28

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.

READ GOOD BOOKS IN 2024!

Join Pastor Daniel in reading good 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*)

- TODAY (the 25th) we gather to discuss our first book **Carved in Ebony** by Jasmine Holmes. It is a terrific read. We meet in the Anchor Classroom in the Education Building at 5:00. We'll start the conversation with chapter 6, Maria Fearing, and the rich lessons we learn from her life and witness. Books are still available in the church workroom- please join us even if you only have a chance to read chapter 6.

FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT: We're studying the Gospel of Matthew.

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|-------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| February 25 | Matthew 21:12-17 | Clearing the Temple |
| March 3 | Matthew 21:18-32 | Bearing Fruit |
| March 10 | Matthew 21:33-46 | From Praise to Rejection |
| March 17 | Matthew 22:1-14 | On Having the Wrong Clothes |
| March 24 | Matthew 22:15-46 | Three Attempts to Trick Jesus |

GLOBAL MISSION OPPORTUNITIES!

We are so glad for growing Global Partnerships at Westminster.

+In **Guatemala**, the Presbyterian Church is renewing their commitment to building the LaPatria School. We're discerning the part we might play in that good work.

+In **Mexico**, we're learning about the Cistern Ministry of Todd Luke in the Yucatan. Todd works with local families in building rainwater cisterns so families can have a year-round supply of safe water. The church identifies the needs and works alongside families and mission teams to construct needed cisterns. Pastor Daniel and Ms. Claire are leading a team of older students (who missed the opportunity for global mission because of Covid) July 1-7, 2024.

+In **Brazil**, we partner with Felipe and Laura Mathias in their ministry to the children in the slums of Sao Paulo. Life in the slums is hard, but the Lighthouse is a beacon of hope where children can learn about Jesus and experience the love God has for them. Pastor Priscilla Holtzclaw is leading a team of adults July 17-24, 2024.

To indicate your interest in being a team member, fill out the online application by Today. (See the ENEWS) The total cost of each trip is about \$1900, and the cost will be divided between participant contribution, the church's Global Mission Fund, and group fundraising.

WATER MISSIONS WALK FOR WATER COMING SOON!

Since 2006, thousands of walkers have raised millions of dollars to fight the global water crisis through Walk for Water events. The Water Mission Walk for Water started in Charleston, SC, and has expanded to Walk events across the United States and in more than 35 countries around the world. Walk for Water is just around the corner on Saturday, March 23, Riverfront Park! Please register with our WPC Team and join in providing clean, safe drinking water for all. <https://walkforwater.rallybound.org/2024-walk-for-water>.



BACKPACK BUDDIES

WPC provides a weekend backpack of easy-to-prepare food to children at risk for weekend hunger. Westminster's partnership is currently with Goodwin Elementary School. We are packing food for children whose weekend meals are funded by grant partners. All together we pack food once a month for 110 children each weekend...or to look at it from our perspective on Wednesday nights, we are packing about 440 bags each month. We also partner with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church by providing funding while they provide the labor to pick up, pack and deliver the food to Stono Park Elementary School.

Backpack Buddies is not supported though the budget here at Westminster. The support comes through designated donations and your giving was strong for the first fifteen years...but that has changed! I am here today to remind you that we need your donations to continue feeding the children we are feeding today! It takes about \$25,000 each year. Perhaps you could sponsor a child or two in honor of your own child or grandchild. Sponsoring one child each school year would cost \$200. Perhaps you could honor a confirmation partner or Sunday School teacher by donating in their honor. Perhaps your children could host a lemonade stand in their neighborhood to help! Please remember that this is not a one-time plea but an ongoing need.

To summarize, you can help in two ways:

- come help pack on designated Wednesday nights, the next one is February 28! Dinner is at 6 pm and packing starts about 6:30 pm. We normally finish by 7:00 pm.
- donate what you can! You can designate Backpack Buddies in the dropdown menu at wpcharleston.org or on the memo line of your check! Please contact Dee Bee Wright (843.729.7005) if you have any questions!

GIFT OF WARMTH

Our mission partner, Mary Ford Early Childhood Center, is looking to help students keep warm on the playground. Needs include new or VERY gently used outer clothing (coats, sweaters, gloves, caps, and socks) sizes 2T-Children 8. Clothing can be dropped off in baskets located in the narthex. Thank you!

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. Email Jim Frye at fecr1@yahoo.com to receive emails about our regular Wednesday group.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Soap bars, toothpaste, sealed individually packaged toothbrushes, and deodorant

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.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT NUMBERS

Mental Health Crisis Hotline 988

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

Community Resource and Support Hotline 211

Al-Anon (843) 762-6999

Narcotics Anonymous (843) 852-3001

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

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, February 25

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| 9:00 am | Worship Service |
| 10:00 am | Sunday School |
| 11:00 am | Worship Service |
| 5:00 pm | All Youth Discipleship |
| 5:00 pm | Confirmation Dinner/Class |
| 5:00 pm | <i>Carved in Ebony Book</i> Group in Anchor Classroom |
| 7:00 pm | AA Meeting, Covenant Hall |

Monday, February 26

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| 6:00 pm | Congregational Nominating Committee Meeting |
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Tuesday, February 27

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| 10:00 am | Staff Meeting |
| 7:00 pm | Handbell rehearsal |

Wednesday, February 28

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| 1:00 pm | Women's Biblical Book Club CH Room 4 |
| 6:00 pm | Wonderful Wednesday & Backpack Buddies |
| 7:00 pm | Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal |
| 7:00 pm | AA Meeting, Covenant Hall |

Thursday, March 1

Friday, March 2

Saturday, March 3

Sunday, March 4

| | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 9:00 am | Worship Service |
| 10:00 am | Sunday School |
| 11:00 am | Worship Service |
| 4:00 pm | Club 3,4,5 |
| 5:00 pm | All Youth Discipleship |
| 7:00 pm | AA Meeting, Covenant Hall |

SAVE THE DATES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH!

Westminster's children and youth have a lot of great opportunities for growing in discipleship and having fun! Please be sure to mark your calendars for the following events!

Children's Ministries Dates to look forward to!

- 3-23-24 Easter Egg Hunt at Westminster from 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Youth Dates to look forward to!

- 3-10-24 Youth Oscars Party at Ms. Dee Bee's House!
- 3-23-24 All Youth Help with Easter Egg Hunt! More details to follow!
- 3-24-24 Confirmation Sunday for 7th and 8th grade youth!

Youth and Children's Ministry Summer Dates to note:

- 6-23-24 through 6-27-24 Vacation Bible School at WPC!
- 6-9-24 through 6-15-24 Sr. High Montreat Retreat
- July 14-19 Middle School CROSS Mission Trip in Charlotte N.C.
- 7-21-24 through 7-27-24 Westminster's Week at Bethelwoods!

WESTMINSTER PRAYS

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Cary Alexandre | Harold Fountain | Christina Miller | Judy Tag |
| Joyce Aydlette | Bruce Hamilton | Love Moody | Towne Family |
| Daryn Barker | Judy Hatch | Roy Nickles | Gloria Underhill |
| Mary Ashley Barbot | Megan Hatfield | Joe Nuchols | Maryalice Vann |
| Gary Brooks | Jennifer Holladay | Nancy Plowden | Lisa Wilcox |
| Maryann Brown | Rev. Chris Huff | Suzy Pitsey | Rob Wilcox |
| Brian Carolow | Maurice Jackman | Monnie Privette | Robbie Yarnall |
| Susie Cashion | Brenda Jonsson | Reed Family | Robin Zemp |
| Lydia Crosby | Mildred Kennerly | Charles Reeves | |
| Sandi Daniels | David Kerr | Lee Robertson | |
| Martin Davis | Adam Kozel | Nita Rodemann | |
| Rose Derrick | Fran Ligon | Gloria Ricoma | |
| Cynthia Ebigwei | Jane Livingston | Kevin Ritzel | |
| Pat Finn | Walker Lundy | Jim Seay | |
| Edward Fitzgibbon | Evan McMillian | Mark Stender | |
| Frasier Family | John Martschink | Ginger Stoke | |
| Nikolai Fruth | Mary Martschink | Rachel Singletary | |

PRAYER LIST UPDATED FEBRUARY 2024

If you need to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please email Suzann at office@wpccharleston.org

College Student of the Week

Robert Dounian
USC Mail#84320
1300 Wheat Street
Columbia, SC 29225

Friend of the Week

Lynne MacPherson
c/o Heather Parrott
2 Queens Street
Huntington, NY 11743

Mission of the Week

Neighbors Together
2105 Cosgrove Avenue
North Charleston, SC

Church Family

Barry and Debbie Baskin

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
Rev. Lissa Long, Associate Pastor, mlong@wpccharleston.org
Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, cwinkles@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
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