



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 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. 515 Come with Joy

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

FROM JOHN 15

One: Jesus said, "Abide in me, and I will abide in you. Just as a branch cannot produce fruit unless it stays joined to the vine, you cannot produce fruit unless you stay joined to me."

All: We want to stay connected to you!

One: "I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you stay joined to me, and I stay joined to you, then you will produce lots of fruit. But you cannot do anything without me."

All: We want to stay connected to you and produce fruit for the Kingdom!

One: "Stay joined to me and let my teachings become part of you. When you become fruitful disciples of mine, my Father will be honored."

All: We want to be your disciples and bring honor to God's name!

◆ PRAYER

◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 14 For the Beauty of the Earth

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and forgive us that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

◆ 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

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

Claire Winkles

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lord of the Dance
Jordan Mae Bazzle

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 21:18-32

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 23

SERMON

Bearing Fruit

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

◆ COMMUNION SONG NO. 507 Come to the Table of Grace

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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. 450

Be Thou My Vision

SENDING OUT

◆ BLESSING

◆ *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)

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

Acolyte: Thomas Robinson

Ushers: Dee Bee Wright, John Wright, Robinson Family

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to share in the bread and the cup. Elders will serve the congregation in the pew with bread and juice. WPC is a safe place for those in recovery- we serve grape juice only. Gluten free is available. Children are invited to the table provided they've had instruction at home or in Westminster's worship prep class (1st grade).

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 Third 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)

March 3 *Catch-up on your reading*

March 4 2 Kings 5

March 5 Isaiah 9,11,40,50,53,55,60

March 6 Daniel 6

March 7 Jonah -1,4, Hebrews 1:1-2

March 8 Nehemiah 8-10, Malachi 1,3,4, Ezra 7

March 9 Luke 1;2:1-7

March 10 *Catch-up on your reading*

(The Jesus Storybook Bible)

March 3 *Catch-up on your reading*

March 4 A Servant Girl and the Proud General

March 5 Operation "No More Tears!"

March 6 Daniel and the Scary Sleepover

March 7 God's Messenger

March 8 Get Ready!

March 9 He's Here!

March 10 *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 on March 6. Our dinner menu will be Chicken Tetrazzini, Green Beans, Corn, Salad, and Dessert. See you at 6:00 p.m. Adults \$7, children \$4 and a family cap of \$20 via cash, card or check.

SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL POTLUCK

Sunday, March 10! All are welcome to a fried chicken luncheon in Covenant Hall following 11:00 a.m. 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.

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 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 *The Jesus I Never Knew*)

- On **April 28th** we'll discuss Philip Yancey's *The Jesus I Never Knew*. From the manger in Bethlehem to the cross in Jerusalem, Yancey presents a complex character who generates questions as well as answers—a disturbing and exhilarating Jesus who wants to radically transform your life and stretch your faith. We'll cut through some preconceptions and cultural appropriations of the most important person who ever lived.
- On **June 23rd** we'll discuss Elizabeth Speare's *The Bronze Bow*. *This is a great book for readers as young as 6th grade.
- On **August 25th** we'll discuss Kaitlyn Schiess's *The Ballot and the Bible: How Scripture Has Been Used and Abused in American Politics and Where We Go From Here*.
- On **October 27th** we'll discuss Skye Jethani's *What if Jesus Was Serious about Heaven*.
- On **December 22nd** we'll discuss Keith and Kristyn Getty's *Sing!*

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

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

PAUSE AND REFRESH FOR CONGO MISSION ON SUNDAY MARCH 17TH AT 10:00 IN COVENANT HALL

We're so glad to welcome PCUSA Mission Workers Jeff and Christi Boyd to Westminster on March 17th. They are Presbyterian missionaries in Congo, Africa. They are here in Charleston as part of the Congo Mission Network Conference hosted by our Presbytery, and it is so good for them to join us for Sunday School and worship.

The Presbyterian Church in Congo has perhaps 2,250,000 members (roughly 2x the size of the PCUSA) and has thousands of churches, over a thousand elementary schools, medical clinics and hospitals, a seminary and university.

They'll be leading an educational experience in Covenant Hall during Sunday School on the 17th from 10:00 - 10:45. All are welcome!

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 through the budget here at Westminster. It takes about \$25,000 each year. 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, there is one tomorrow and the next one is March 27! 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 wpccharleston.org or on the memo line of your check! Please contact Dee Bee Wright (843.729.7005) if you have any questions!

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, individually sealed 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, March 3

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

Monday, March 4

6:00 pm	Congregational Nominating Committee Meeting
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Tuesday, March 5

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

Wednesday, March 6

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

Thursday, March 7

Friday, March 8

Saturday, March 9

Sunday, March 10

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
12:00 pm	Second Sunday Lunch
5:00 pm	Oscars Youth Party
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	Nikolai Fruth	Mary Martschink	Mark Stender
Joyce Aydlette	Harold Fountain	Christina Miller	Ginger Stoke
Daryn Barker	Bruce Hamilton	Love Moody	Rachel Singletary
Mary Ashley Barbot	Judy Hatch	Maria Morrow	Judy Tag
Gary Brooks	Megan Hatfield	Roy Nickles	Towne Family
Leslie Brown	Jennifer Holladay	Joe Nuchols	Gloria Underhill
Maryann Brown	Rev. Chris Huff	Nancy Plowden	Maryalice Vann
Brian Carolow	Maurice Jackman	Suzy Pitsey	Lisa Wilcox
Susie Cashion	Brenda Jonsson	Monnie Privette	Rob Wilcox
Lydia Crosby	Mildred Kennerly	Donna Purcell	Robbie Yarnall
Sandi Daniels	David Kerr	Reed Family	Robin Zemp
Martin Davis	Adam Kozel	Charles Reeves	
Rose Derrick	Fran Ligon	Lee Robertson	
Cynthia Ebigwei	Jane Livingston	Nita Rodemann	
Pat Finn	Walker Lundy	Gloria Ricoma	
Edward Fitzgibbon	Evan McMillian	Kevin Ritzel	
Frasier Family	John Martschink	Jim Seay	

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

Stella Wood
101 S Court Street
Athens, OH 45701

Friend of the Week

Mary Martschink
1218 Durham Place
Charleston, SC 29407

Mission of the Week

EmpowHer Campus
Ministries

Church Family

Jonathan & Rebecca Bazzle
-Jordan Mae & Judson

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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