



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

April 28, 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

God Welcomes All

God welcomes all,
strangers and friends;
God's love is strong
and it never ends.

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

FROM I JOHN 4

One: Beloved, let us love one another because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

All: Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

One: God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we
might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son
to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

All: Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

One: God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God,
and they abide in God.

**All: So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.
God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God,
and God abides in them.**

One: There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear;

All: We love because he first loved us.

◆ PRAYER

◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 396 Brethren We Have Met to Worship

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Dear Lord, you have created us in your image and given us more than we deserve. Yet, instead of responding to your goodness with love, we turn away from you and your will for our lives. You give us gifts and abilities to serve your Kingdom, but instead we use them to serve our own interests. We are a selfish people, thinking more about what we can get than what we can give. Lord, we need your help to transform our hearts and our minds so we can live for you. We need your help to set us free from the trap of self-involvement. Forgive us and give us the desire to live for you instead of for ourselves. Help us, Lord. We are in great need.

◆ 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

Claire Winkles

SPECIAL MUSIC

How Great Thou Art
Brenda Clarey

You are invited to sing the verses and sign and sing the refrain.

O Lord, my God; when I, in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

When through the woods and forest glades I wander And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze,
(Refrain)

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin
(Refrain)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

◆ DECLARATION OF FAITH

TAKEN FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (1983)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!

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. 761

Called As Partners in Christ's Service

SENDING OUT

◆ BLESSING

◆ *Please stand, if able*

LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY: Bill Stanfield, Preacher; 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 May 19. 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 May 19 Connections class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org.

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 May 1. Menu will be baked spaghetti, broccoli, 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.

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.

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!

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 Bethelwood

FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT

April 28		Rev. Bill Stanfield from Metanoia, Guest Preacher
May 5	Matthew 24:1- 25:13	The King Returns <i>Jesus prophecies about his return to earth and encourages his disciples to keep watch and be ready.</i>
May 12	Matthew 25:14-30	Waiting on His Return <i>The parable of the talents gives us specific guidance about how we can wait for his return: by bearing fruit.</i>
May 19	Matthew 25:31-46	Sheep and Goats <i>True faith, the kind that flows from the heart, shows a concern for 'the least of these.'</i>
May 26	Matthew 26:1-16	Deception, Love, and Betrayal <i>Leaders plan to kill Jesus; Mary anoints him for burial, and Judas betrays him.</i>

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.

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!*

ELEMENTARY CHOIR SPRING DATES AND SPECIAL MUSIC:

Do you have a child in 1st-5th grade who loves to sing and worship the Lord? Then mark your calendars for the following Children's Choir practices! Children are invited to come practice and sing with Ms. Nancy, Ms. Claire, and Mrs. Mellany on a variety of Wednesday and Sunday nights in the month of May. Wednesday practices will be from 5:30-6:00, and Sunday practices will be from 4:30-5:00 in the sanctuary. Finally, on Sunday June 2nd the children will lead special music and sing, "I Love To Tell the Story" at the 11:00 service. We encourage your children to participate in these fun practices as much as they can before singing for the congregation! If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Claire at cwinkles@wpccharleston.org. We hope to sing with your children soon!

Practice Schedule:

Wednesday May 1st; Sunday May 5th; Wednesday May 8th; Wednesday May 15th; Sunday May 19th; Wednesday May 22nd; Sunday May 26th-immediately following 11:00 worship.; Sunday June 2nd- children will sing at 11:00 worship.

CALLING MEN WHO SING OR MEN WHO TRY TO SING!

We are looking for all Men's voices to sing together on June 2! This is a "make a joyful noise" group that has been a real blessing in the past. We plan to practice for 20 minutes after the 11:00 service on May 12, May 19 and May 26. Meet at the piano as soon as service is over. We'll sing with the Elementary Choir on Sunday, June 2. Contact Nancy Parrish with any questions at steelesowell@gmail.com.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, May 5 for the purpose of electing deacons, elders, an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, and a Congregational Nominating Committee. We will meet in the sanctuary at 11:00- just prior to the worship service.

The Nominating Committee will be recommending a slate of 6 Elders (Sarah Schumann, Michael Patrick, Cathy Grills, Cameron Baker, Deborah-Anne Ferguson, and Joshua Robinson), 12 Deacons (Sandy Pennekamp, Nita Rushton, Janie Daniels, Sonya Willemse, Ellyn Winkles, Hilary Parrish, Ashley Chandler, Amy Kuenzel, Sherry Niblock, Susanna Hopkins, Elaine Tucker, Laura Patrick (1 year term)), 6 members of the APNC (Natasha Akery, Mark Patrick, Andrew Hopkins, Lindy Coleman, George McAbee, and Sandy Pell), and 4 people for the Nominating Committee (Brad Earnst, David Morris, Sara Dwyer, and Kendall Ramsay). Nominee information will be available prior to the meeting.

WOULD YOU LIKE A CROSS CREATED FROM THE OLD WESTMINSTER DOORS?

This summer, Westminster is sending mission teams to Brazil and Mexico. The teams look forward to learning from and working alongside our mission partners.

In Brazil, the team will work with Felipe and Laura Matias in their ministry to children living in the slums of Sao Paulo. In Mexico, the team will work with Todd Luke, who has been coordinating water ministry programs in the Yucatan for years. That group will be working with new friends and concrete to build rainwater cisterns. These teams are able to go through a combination of their own financial commitment, Westminster mission funds, and team fundraising. You can help with the fundraising. If you'd like to contribute, please make your check payable to: Westminster and mark it 2024 Mission Trips. If you support with cash, please be sure to put your name on the envelope. You can also give online at wpccharleston.org Choose 2024 Mission Trips on the dropdown menu.

Anyone who supports the teams with \$250 or more will receive a "Thank You" gift of a beautiful wooden cross, created from the old church doors by Gary Flowers. Anyone who supports the teams with a gift of \$25 or more will be entered in a drawing for the chance to win one of the remaining crosses. Thank you in advance for your support!

Mexico July 1-6: Daniel Smoak, Claire Winkles, Joshua Robinson, Macie Long, Lauren Smoak, Mattie Housley.

Brazil July 17-24: Priscilla Holtzclaw, Dee Bee Wright, John Wright, Jane Warner, Ashley Snider, Debbie Redmon, Andrew Smoak

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

On Sunday, May 12, we will collect the Mother's Day Offering for the benefit of Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina. For over 60 years, this offering has been an important act of support for this unique ministry of SC Presbyterians to older adults. The proceeds are used solely to support residents at Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina who have outlived their life savings through no fault of their own and now depend on the kindness of others. The average cost of Charitable Care in from 2013 to 2023 was \$1,212,000, covering 19 residents whose average age is 90. You may drop your offering in the plate that morning, mail it in to the church, or give online at wpccharleston.org. Checks payable to Westminster, or choose "Presbyterian Home" on the online menu. Thank you!

SENIOR NIGHT AT WPC

On Wednesday, May 15 following Wonderful Wednesday Supper (6:00 p.m.), we're celebrating our High School Seniors. Join us for supper and a short program to acknowledge the accomplishments of and pray for Olivia Niblock, Macie Long, Ella Patrick, and Cole McLaughlin.

TODAY WE WELCOME REVEREND BILL STANFIELD TO WESTMINSTER

Rev. Bill Stanfield is a founder and CEO of Metanoia. Bill loves reading, writing, exercising and spending time with his family. He and his wife, Rev. Evelyn Oliveira (a co-founder of Metanoia with Bill) have two sons.

About Metanoia: In 2002, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of South Carolina (CBFSC) desired to invest in transformative efforts to address childhood poverty within the state. CBFSC's coalition of churches hired Urban Ministers Evelyn Oliveira and Bill Stanfield to spend a year listening to residents and leaders within South Carolina's North Charleston neighborhoods with the highest concentration of childhood poverty (per 2000 US Census).

Collectively, CBFSC decided to focus its efforts on Chicora-Cherokee in North Charleston, a small community of under 3,000 people. To Evelyn and Bill, Chicora-Cherokee was, most importantly, a vibrant place, resilient, and fundamentally strong. Many residents and families had lived in the neighborhoods for generations and aspired to continue to build the community for future generations. Metanoia was born out of this year of listening and maintains to this day a deep commitment to listening to neighborhood residents and families, who hold the true expertise about community challenges, aspirations, and solutions.

Metanoia seeks to amplify opportunities for a thriving community with families in Chicora and surrounding historically Black neighborhoods by honing the unique assets that exist here. Their efforts focus on Youth Leadership, Affordable Housing, and Economic Development.

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

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Soap bars, toothpaste, individually packaged toothbrushes, and deodorant

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, April 28

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	Book Group Meeting in Education Building
5:00 pm	All Youth Discipleship
5:30 pm	Security/Hospitality Committee Meeting in Parlor
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, April 29

Tuesday, April 30

10:00 am	Staff Meeting
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Wednesday, May 1

1:00 pm	Hands of Christ Steering Committee Meeting, Covenant Hall
5:30 pm	Elementary Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary
6:00 pm	Wonderful Wednesday
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Thursday, May 2

Friday, May 3

Saturday, May 4

Sunday, May 5

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
4:30 p.m.	Elementary Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary
5:00 pm	All Youth Discipleship
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

WESTMINSTER PRAYS

Cary Alexandre	Niklolai Fruth	Walker Lundy	Nita Rodemann
Joyce Aydlette	Harold Fountain	Evan McMillian	Gloria Ricoma
Daryn Baker	Sandra Gorman	John Martschink	Kevin Ritzel
Mary Ashley Barbot	Bruce Hamilton	Mary Martschink	Elizabeth Shelor
Gary Brooks	Judy Hatch	Christina Miller	Jerry Smoak
Leslie Brown	Megan Hatfield	Love Moody	Mark Stender
Maryann Brown	Jennifer Holladay	Maria Morrow	Ginger Stoke
Brian Carolow	Rev. Chris Huff	Roy Nickles	Rachel Singletary
Susie Cashion	Maurice Jackman	Joe Nuchols	Judy Tag
Lydia Crosby	Brenda Jonsson	Sylvia Peek	Towne Family
Martin Davis	Mildred Kennerly	Nancy Plowden	Gloria Underhill
Rose Derrick	David Kerr	Pratt Family	Jim Wade
Cynthia Ebigwei	Debbie Kieffer	Monnie Privette	Bonum Wilson
Pat Finn	Sheryl Klinger	Donna Purcell	Robbie Yarnall
Edward Fitzgibbon	Adam Kozel	Reed Family	Robin Zemp
Frasier Family	Fran Ligon	Charles Reeves	
Joan Frye	Jane Livingston	Lee Robertson	

PRAYER LIST UPDATED APRIL 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	Friend of the Week	Mission of the Week	Church Family
Andrew Smoak Charleston Southern University 9200 University Boulevard North Charleston, SC 29406	Judy Tag 201 W 9 th North Street Summerville, SC 29483	Metanoia 2005 Reynolds Avenue North Charleston, SC 2940	Gus Bradsher

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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Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, cwinkles@wpccharleston.org
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Sarah Shayban, Assistant Director of Music
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