



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

February 9, 2025

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. 630 Fairest Lord Jesus

Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise and adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine.

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

From Psalm 36

One: How precious is your unfailing love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
All: They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.
One: For with you is the fountain of life;
All: In your light we see light.

◆ PRAYER

◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 37 Let All Things Now Living

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

As God's people, we are called to your service, to live our lives in the light of Christ. As sinful people, we confess that we struggle and often fail. You call us to be merciful, to be kind, to be humble. But in our busy and distracted lives, we are often blind to those around us and fail to show them the love of Jesus Christ. You call us to forgive, and yet we tend to hold a grudge and nurse hurt feelings, failing to remember that you forgive us freely. You call us to be loving to all that we come in to contact with, but we tend to pick and choose who we love. You call us to be thankful always for what Christ Jesus did for us, but often we dwell on what we do not have instead of being grateful for what we do have. Have mercy on us Lord. In your loving kindness, cleanse us from our sin and give to us new hearts filled with the light of Christ.

-Silent Personal Confession -

◆ 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

I Will Lift My Eyes
Chris Dorsel

SCRIPTURE

John 8:12

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 101

SERMON

Light of the World

Felipe Matias

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 377 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

◆ DECLARATION OF FAITH

CONFESSION OF 1967

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

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. 744

Arise Your Light Is Come !

SENDING OUT

◆ BLESSING

◆ *Please stand, if able*

LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:

Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate; Nancy Parrish, Music;
Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries

Acolytes: Catherine Patrick, Riley Gentry

Ushers: Joe Jeter, Laura Nunn, Sherry Niblock

11:00 am Livestream at www.wpccharleston.org, YouTube (Westminster Presbyterian Charleston)
Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI License #2778901

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Carol Cummings 80th birthday by Lynn Cummings*

*The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God in memory of Carol Cummings 80th birthday
by the Cummings Family*

WE WELCOME WPC MISSION PARTNER FELIPE MATIAS TO THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT

Today we are excited to welcome guest preacher and mission partner, Felipe Matias. Felipe, along with his wife Laura and their four children, live in São Paulo, Brazil, where they lead the Lighthouse Ministry. The ministry serves as a beacon of hope, offering children from the slums of São Paulo the opportunity to learn about Jesus and experience God's love.

TODAY IS SCOUT SUNDAY!

A special welcome at the 11:00 service is extended to the scouts of Pack and Troop 79 and their families. The Scouting program at Westminster is more than just an activity for youth to learn about the outdoors. Scouting provides fun, fellowship, and training to our youth as well as youth in our community. It emphasizes honesty, self-reliance, and respect. Through a year-round program, it affects character, citizenship, and personal fitness. But the success of our Scouting depends on our volunteers, who serve in a variety of leadership roles so that our young people may benefit from our Scouting ministry. Today we salute the splendid volunteers who serve as Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, and in many other positions of leadership.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING FEBRUARY 9!

Youth Collecting Canned Goods & Donations through "Souper Bowl" Sunday

As we gear up for the biggest football night of the year, 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. The money that Westminster raises will be utilized to feed the community members who receive bags from the Westminster Food Pantry here at church!

Ways to Help:

- Bring in canned goods or donations starting at Wonderful Wednesday, February 5th.
- Canned goods and donations can be dropped off in the Church office during regular hours on Thursday or Friday.
- On Sunday, February 9th, the youth will be taking a special Souper Bowl offering during worship as well as Second Sunday Social.

For Fun:

We will have boxes for the Chiefs and the Eagles so you can decide who the "winner" will be by placing your canned goods in your team's box!

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

Please take a moment to sign and pass the Friendship Register in the pews. If you are visiting and wish to learn more about Westminster, leave your contact information. If you are interested in becoming a member, check 'wish to join' and a pastor will be in touch with you.

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 March 2. 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 March 2 Connections class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org.

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.

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.

FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT:

We're going to take a quick tour of the book of Exodus. The delivery of God's people from the bonds of slavery is a fulfillment of the promises God made long ago, a window into the future Christ the deliverer, and descriptive insight into human nature and the power and character of God.

February 9	Mission Partner Felipe Matias from Brazil is preaching.
February 16	Mission Partner Bill Stanfield from Metanoia is preaching.
February 23	Exodus 14-17: Fickle. From the joy of the Red Sea to the grumbling in the wilderness.
March 2	Exodus 18: Leadership. A community of leaders is formed in the appointment of Elders.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship February 12! Menu will be Meatloaf, Rice, Okra & Tomatoes, Green Beans, Garden Salad, and Dessert. Adults \$8, children \$4 and a family cap of \$25 via cash, card or check.

This week we're celebrating Valentines Day.

SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH TODAY!

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!

YOU'RE INVITED! ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Anchor Class: This class emphasizes fellowship, good discussion, and growth. For 12 weeks, they will be studying the Gospel of Luke using J.I. Packer's series entitled "Knowing the Bible." Class is led by David Jump and meets in Room 15 of the Education Building.

The Cary Grayson Class: This class is facilitated by a team of leaders that engage in a study and reflection of the Bible. The current book being reviewed is 2 Samuel. A variety of outlooks are always welcome! Class meets in Room 4 of Covenant Hall.

The New Class: We are going to dive into the book of Jonah. For 6 weeks, we'll see ourselves in the story of the reluctant prophet who just had to do things his own way. Emphasis is on fellowship, prayer, study, and learning how to study the Bible. This class is led by Pastor Daniel and Lindy Coleman. It meets in the Church Parlor.

Facing Racism:

Limited to 12 participants for 6 weeks. Participants will learn about racism in the context of Christianity through curriculum designed by PC-USA. This class is full.

READ GOOD BOOKS IN 2025!

Join Pastor Daniel in reading any (or all!) of these books in 2025. 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 (\$10 for *Jesus and the Disinherited*)

- **On February 23rd** we'll discuss Howard Thurman's landmark book, *Jesus and the Disinherited*. Thurman was the first to claim that Jesus Christ – who was born in poverty as part of a powerless minority – lived a life that spoke directly to Black Americans. Martin Luther King, Jr. not only regularly attended Thurman's services, but he carried Thurman's writings with him on the historic marches to Selma and Birmingham. King found Thurman to be a treasure and often drew from him in his own speeches and writings. Congressman John Lewis called Howard Thurman the "patron saint" of the Civil Rights Movement.
- **On April 27th** we'll discuss Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*.
- **On June 22nd** we'll discuss Peter Aelred's *To Melt a Golden Calf*.
- **On August 24th** we'll discuss C.S Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*.
- **On October 26th** we'll discuss John Mark Comer's *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*.
- **In December (date TBD)** we'll discuss Fleming Rutledge's *Advent*.

SAM'S CHILI COOKOFF/SOUP LUNCH AND LEARN

The next SAMs event is a Soup and Chili Potluck **February 20, 1pm in Covenant Hall**. There will be a contest for the best chili, so bring your best recipe! Any leftovers will go to "Help the Deacons Fill the Freezer." We'll pack up extra for the freezer that the deacons can distribute to families in need of a quick meal. **Please bring the recipe for your soup so the deacons can check for food allergies that the recipients may have.**

After lunch, we will have a brief presentation from Kelly Tours on potential trips of interest to SAMS, such as The Bible Experience in LaGrange, Georgia. A signup sheet is posted in the Administrative Hallway to bring chili, soup, bread, cornbread, or desserts.

GLOBAL MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITIES IN 2025!

- In **Mexico**, we're returning to share in 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. There are two opportunities in 2025:
 - a team of adults March 17-22 led by Pastor Daniel (Deadline has passed)
 - a team of High School Juniors and Seniors led by Ms. Claire July 7-12. (\$200 deposit due 2/14/25)
- In **Brazil**, we partner with Felipe and Laura Matias 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.
 - We are returning with a team of adults and youth/children (with a parent) July 16-23. (\$200 deposit due 2/14/25)

The total cost of each trip is about \$2000, and the cost will be divided in thirds between participant contribution, the church's Global Mission Fund, and group fundraising. To indicate your interest in being a team member, speak with Pastor Daniel dsmoak@wpccharleston.org or Pastor Priscilla.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

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!

MONTREAT WORSHIP & MUSIC CONFERENCE 2025

June 15-20, 2025. We invite congregants of Westminster to the first week of this intergenerational conference for children, youth, adults, pastors, directors, organists, singers, ringers, worship leaders, and church members. **All are welcome!** The Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) works in cooperation with Montreat Conference Center to offer a conference guided by the principles of Reformed worship, conferees explore opportunities for vital worship experiences and enriching the liturgical life of their local church. For more information please reach out to our Director of Music, Sarah Shayban, sshayban@wpccharleston.org.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, FINDING GOD FAITHFUL

(A study on the life of Joseph, Old Testament) Wednesday, February 5• 12:15pm -1:30 pm

Covenant Hall-1-Classroom 4. Trace the path of Joseph's life in the book of Genesis to observe how God's sovereignty reigns, even in our darkest moments. Learn to recognize when God is working during periods of waiting, trust God's plan when life doesn't make sense, and rest in the sufficiency of His presence in every circumstance. Please contact Brenda Clarey if you would like to attend 8 sessions of this study. Books are available in the church office.

NEWS FROM THE APNC

Please remember your Associate Pastor Nominating Committee in your prayers. Here's where they are in the search process:

- ✓ Session formally requests approval from Charleston Atlantic Presbytery's Commission on Ministry (COM) to begin the process of seeking an Associate Pastor.
- ✓ Congregation elects the members of the APNC.
- ✓ APNC is trained by COM representative.
- ✓ MDP (Ministry Discernment Profile) is prepared by the APNC. It is a document that describes Westminster, the AP job description, and the kind of AP we're seeking.
- ✓ MDP is reviewed by the Session and the COM and then becomes active in the PCUSA's Church Leadership Connection (CLC) call system.

The APNC receives Personal Discernment Profiles (PDP's) from candidates through referrals and the CLC. Through prayer and interviews, the APNC narrows the field of candidates.

The APNC extends a call to a candidate.

The candidate accepts the terms of call.

The candidate is examined by the Commission on Ministry.

The candidate is called by the congregation.

The candidate is installed as the new Associate Pastor at WPC!

The APNC: Natasha Akery, Lindy Coleman (Chair), Andrew Hopkins, George McAbee, Mark Patrick, Sandy Pell.

REGISTER NOW FOR THE KNOW BETTER BREAKFAST: BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS COMMUNITIES

Join us on Saturday, March 1 at Westminster for the Know Better Breakfast, a morning of connection, learning, and inspiration. Beginning with food and fellowship at 9:00 a.m. and followed by a panel discussion at 9:30 a.m., this event invites you to engage with Chicora families—our sister community across the Ashley River—and explore the challenges and opportunities facing families in the region.

Hear powerful stories from local changemakers, experience a documentary video created by Metanoia, and learn about innovative work in youth leadership, affordable housing, and economic development.

Together, we'll dive into the history and systemic barriers shaping the community and discover how partnerships, like the one between WPC and Metanoia, create transformative impact.

RSVP at wpccharleston.org or call/email the church office.

COLLECTING CANDLES FOR MIDDLETON PLACE

Have used candles that you would like to donate to repurpose? There is a box in the Narthex for them! These will go to Middleton Place for their candle making workshops. Candles in glass containers will not be accepted.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, February 9

9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
12:00 pm Second Sunday Lunch
5:00 pm No Youth Group due to Super Bowl
7:30 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, February 10

10:00 am Hooks & Needles, Covenant Hall
11:30 am Village Luncheon
1:00 pm Hands of Christ Steering Committee Meeting, Covenant Hall

Tuesday, February 11

6:30 am Toastmasters, Covenant Hall
8:00 am Men's Bible Study, Trotter's Restaurant
10:00 am Staff Meeting
10:00 am Circle 5, Parlor
10:30 am Circle 4, Covenant Hall

Wednesday, February 12

11:00 am Hands of Christ Ops Meeting, Covenant Hall/Room 4
12:15 pm Women's Bible Study, Covenant Hall/Room 4
6:00 pm Wonderful Wednesday
6:30 pm Hand Bell Rehearsal
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Thursday, February 13

10:00 am Smocking Guild

Friday, February 14

Saturday, February 15

Sunday, February 16

9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
4:00 pm Club 345
5:00 pm All Youth Dinner
5:00 pm Diaconate Meeting
6:00 pm Session Meeting
5:30 pm Middle and High School Fellowship
7:30 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary, please contact the church office or access the flower calendar on the church website. The cost is \$60. A member of the Flower Committee will contact you regarding your flower preference. You may take the arrangement home after worship or share it for pastoral care visits made by our pastors and deacons. The flower committee will create and place the arrangement for the sanctuary on Sunday with a take-home liner or break down flowers into vases to share with our members.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT NUMBERS

Al-Anon (843) 762-6999

Neighbors Together (843) 747-1788

Community Resource and Support Hotline 211

Narcotics Anonymous (843) 852-3001

Mental Health Crisis Hotline 988

WESTMINSTER PRAYS

Cary Alexandre (WPC)	Janie Hammersmith (WPC)	Nita Rodemann (WPC)
Joyce Aydlette (Becky Grafton)	Megan Hatfield (Debbie McQueeney)	Gloria Ricoma (Karen McInnes)
Daryn Baker (Jane Acker)	Harter Family (Jennifer Binnicker)	Kevin Ritzel (Neil Ritzel)
Mary Ashley Barbot (Lisa Couch)	Betsy Henson (Ashley Snider)	Rushton Family (WPC)
Ron Booth (WPC)	Chris Huff (Gloria Purcell)	Jim Seay (WPC)
Sissie Brigman (WPC)	Debbie Kieffer (Daniel Smoak)	Tradd Shepard (WPC)
Susie Cashion (WPC)	Mary Laird (Ashley Snider)	Rachel Singletary (Sara Bobo)
Childs Family (Paige Dadin)	Fran Ligon (WPC)	Jerry Smoak (WPC)
Lauren Choate (Sara Dwyer)	Jane Livingston (Tom Livingston)	Rab Snider (Ashley Snider)
Cherie Couche (Dana Tumbleston)	Ray Long (Ellen Bollinger)	Dave Stanton (WPC)
Lydia Crosby (WPC)	John Martschink (WPC)	Towne Family (WPC)
Martin Davis (Kevin Mikles)	Mary Martschink (WPC)	Gloria Underhill (Laura Nunn)
Rose Derrick (Brenda Clarey)	Love Moody (WPC)	Jacqueline Vance (Sara Dwyer)
Hosanna Eadie (Katie Baturin)	Jennifer Morgan (Susie Cashion)	Aileen Wiese (WPC)
Roxanne Eadie (Katie Baturin)	Roy Nickles (WPC)	Janet Wilson (Gloria Purcell)
Debbie Eastwood (Jill Lundgrin)	Joe Nuchols (Debbie McQueeney)	Donnie Woods (Presbytery)
Julia Fletcher (Niblock Family)	Nancy Plowden (WPC)	Robbie Yarnall (WPC)
Pat Finn (Dee Bee Wright)	Pratt Family (WPC Preschool)	Zemp Family (WPC)
Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye)	Monnie Privette (Robert/Sylvia Coker)	
Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard)	Donna Purcell (WPC)	
Joan Frye (WPC)	Reed Family (Dee Bee Wright)	
Eleanor Grayson (WPC)	Charles Reeves (Carol Patrick)	

PRAYER LIST UPDATED FEBRUARY 2025

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

Friend of the Week	College Student	Mission of the Week	Church Family
Roy Nickles 194 Spring Street. Room 431 Charleston, SC 29403	Olivia Niblock 4151 Pyxis Lane Orlando, FL 32816-8033	Healing Farms 703 Yew Street Charleston, SC 29407	Rachel Parrish

ELDERS AND SESSION COMMITTEES

Administration: Tom Whetstone and Michael Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Matt Teitsort and Randy Davis; **Christian Education:** Lindy Coleman and Cathy Grills; **Fellowship:** Mike Niblock, Betsy McLaughlin and Jon Bazzle; **Finance:** Sarah Schumann and Joshua Robinson; **Membership:** John Dounian and Cameron Baker; **Missions:** Mary McAbee and Matthew Patrick; **Preschool:** Ashley Snider; **Worship:** Allyn Bruce and Deborah-Anne Ferguson; **Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Lindy Coleman; **Treasurer:** Nancy Dixon; **Assistant Treasurer:** Patty Stokes

Westminster Presbyterian Church

1157 Sam Rittenberg Boulevard
Charleston, SC 29407
www.wpccharleston.org (843) 766-8311

Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, dsmoak@wpccharleston.org
Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate, pwholtz@gmail.com
Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, cwinkles@wpccharleston.org
Sarah Shayban, Director of Music, sshayban@wpccharleston.org
Suzann Lilienthal, Office Administrator, office@wpccharleston.org
Tommye Owen, Financial Administrator finance@wpccharleston.org
Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director, preschool@wpccharleston.org
Meg Dorsel, Communications Coordinator, mdorsel@wpccharleston.org