



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

August 17, 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

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.

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

One: We gather in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the Light of the World.

All: **He is the Light no darkness can overcome.**

One: Come, let us worship Jesus, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

All: **Let us worship Jesus, who is the Bread of Life, the one who nourishes our souls.**

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, the risen Lord, we come to offer our praise and thanksgiving.

All: **Let us worship the one who has conquered death and offers us new life in him.**

◆ 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 OF PRAISE NO. 15

All Creatures of Our God and King

Verses 1 and 2: All

Verse 3: Men

Verse 4: Women

Verse 5 & 6: All

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Christ calls us to stand with the least and the last, yet we cling to power and privilege. We fear worldly consequences for faithful action. We make excuses for ourselves, for our lack of action, for our fears when we face oppression. We fail to follow where Christ leads. Forgive us, God, and push us to take the risk of following Christ when we are called. Amen.

-Silent Personal Confession -

◆ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 447 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

Our Hope in Life and Death
Chris Dorsel

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Colossians 2:6-7

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 200

SERMON

We Walk With Jesus

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 738

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

◆ DECLARATION OF FAITH

CONFESSION OF 1967

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful humanity. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 1

PEW BIBLE O.T. PAGE 489

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

◆ SONG NO. 643

Now Thank We All Our God

SENDING OUT

◆BLESSING

◆ *Please stand, if able*

LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:

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

Music: Nancy Parrish

Acolytes: Eleanor Akery, Jane Akery

Ushers: Matt Akery, Taffy Tamblyn, Robert Tamblyn

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

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! ALL ARE WELCOME

We are called to be and to make disciples who love God and who love our neighbors. We are all neighbors no matter our age, race, language, culture, gifts and challenges, gender identity, or sexual orientation. We strive to be a safe and supportive community where all people are included, celebrated, and loved as we grow as disciples together.

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.

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.

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.

WE ARE SCHEDULING SPECIAL MUSIC FOR THE 9:00 WORSHIP SERVICE.

Do you sing or play an instrument? Young people and old, beginners and those with experience, we know you are out there with gifts to share. God is praised when you use your gifts and when the church intentionally develops worship leaders. If you'd like to be on the schedule for the coming months, please reach out to Pastor Daniel at dsmoak@wpccharleston.org

AMAZING THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU SING WITH THE CHOIR!

In 1973, inventor Arthur Fry attended a seminar given by 3M scientist Spencer Silver on an adhesive Silver had "accidentally" developed years earlier. In an attempt to create a strong adhesive to be used in the aerospace industry, Silver ended up creating a weak, temporary adhesive that had yet to be put to practical use. Fry was an avid singer in his church choir, and used bookmarks to organize his choir folder and hymnal. One Sunday, as his bookmarks clumsily slipped out of place, it occurred to Fry that Silver's weak, reusable adhesive could perfectly hold his bookmarks in place without damaging his music, and the Post-It was born. You never know what amazing things might happen if you join the choir. You may invent something that changes the world! At the very least, you will learn a lot, enjoy fellowship, and enhance the worship of all who attend WPC. We rehearse Wednesday at 7- make yourself a post-it!

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO JOIN THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY?

Here's how you can do it.

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.



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.

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.

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.

S.T.E.P.S!

S.T.E.P.S.- Studying + Teaching + Equipping + Praying + Serving: This presbytery-wide event is a wonderful opportunity for high school youth and adult church members, teachers, ministry teams, worship/music leaders, officers and staffs to enrich their faith and understanding of the church. S.T.E.P.S. will take place Saturday, August 23rd at the Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church. Check-in begins at 8:45 and the day will conclude at 12:40, with an optional lunch/workshop until 1:40. Participants may choose two workshops and have worship in between. The Rev. CeCe Armstrong is preaching, and our own Natasha Akery is leading a workshop entitled "Sharing Power." You can register at the event (\$35). Brochures are in the Admin hallway or check out capresbytery.org for more information.

FOOD PANTRY/TOILETRY ITEMS

Needed for our food bags: toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, and soap bars.

WE WALK WITH JESUS: DISCIPLESHIP IN COLOSSIANS

From the Westminster Pulpit

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|----------------|--------------------|---|
| • August 17 | Colossians 2:6-7 | We Walk with Jesus: Kickoff Sunday |
| • August 24 | Colossians 1:1-14 | We Walk with Jesus: Abounding in Thanksgiving |
| • August 31 | Colossians 1:15-20 | We Walk with Jesus: In Praise of Jesus Christ |
| • September 7 | Colossians 1:21-23 | We Walk with Jesus: Reconciled |
| • September 14 | Colossians 1:24-29 | We Walk with Jesus: Christ in You |
| • September 21 | Colossians 2:1-7 | We Walk with Jesus: Rooted and Built Up |
| • September 28 | Colossians 2:8-12 | We Walk with Jesus: Beware the Deceivers |

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 on the 4th Sunday of every other month. Books may be purchased online or at church (\$5 for *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*)

- On August 24th we'll discuss C.S Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. Four adventurous siblings—Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy Pevensie—step through a wardrobe door and into the land of Narnia, a land frozen in eternal winter and enslaved by the power of the White Witch. But when almost all hope is lost, the return of the Great Lion, Aslan, signals a great change . . . and a great sacrifice. This is the second book in C. S. Lewis's classic fantasy series, which has been drawing readers of all ages into a magical land with unforgettable characters for over sixty years. **This is a GREAT book for kids' summer reading!**
- 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*.

NEWS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

We will kickoff Wonderful Wednesday meals and programming on Wednesday, September 3. That night we'll share a great meal together at 6:00 and serve together by packing WePack food kits for area school children. Second Sunday Social Potluck meals will resume on September 14th. If you'd like to get involved with planning, hosting, and serving at Fellowship activities, please contact Jon Bazzle or the church office. office@wpccharleston.org.

WESTMINSTER WELCOMES OUR NEW OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR, KATE COWART

After a search that included several well-qualified applicants, multiple interviews, and much prayer, we are glad to announce Kate Cowart as Westminster's new Office Administrator. The Spirit surely provided guidance in the process, and we couldn't be more pleased. Kate has been a member at Westminster for several years, and we have found her to be a perfect combination of kindness and productivity. Her heart for the Lord and the church is evident. Kate will begin on August 18. Kate says: "My husband, Allen, and I have been married for 15 years this October, and we have 3 children, 11 year old boy/girl twins and a 9 year old boy. I have felt at home at Westminster from Day 1. And as time has passed I have felt a tug to be more involved in the life of our church. I just wasn't sure how exactly that was going to take shape. After noticing the "advertisement" for a new office administrator both in the bulletin and in the e-news letter, I began to wonder if it might be a good fit for me, my family, and the church. As they say, one thing led to another, and after prayerful consideration from all parties, I am delighted to accept the role and absolutely thrilled to embark on this new journey!"

TODAY IS KICKOFF SUNDAY: WE WALK WITH JESUS!

Today is Kickoff Sunday. Covenant Hall will turn into a Ministry Fair 10:00 -10:45 a.m. with refreshments and varying informational tables for all the different ministry committees, groups, and adult classes available. There will be opportunities to sign up to help with events, for new member and visitor outreach, to provide meals for youth, and more! Children and Youth Sunday School kicks off with "Meet the Teacher" 10:00-10:30 a.m. Sunday School students of all ages are invited to visit their classrooms, meet their teachers, and mingle with their classmates. Parents can drop off children and youth to their classrooms to stay for a fun activity. At 10:30, teachers will lead their classrooms to Covenant Hall for the Ministry Fair and reunion with parents.

WE WALK WITH JESUS: GROWING IN STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP THROUGH SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

August 24: Pause and Refresh on "Sharing Power"

What do the writers of the Creation Story want us to know about God's ways? Participants will be introduced to the literary features and narrative details in Genesis 1 that reveal a God who shares power. Participants will consider what power looks like in their lives, examine when it has been withheld or shared, and determine next steps for embodying ways of a creative and generous God. Led by Natasha Akery; for youth and adults. We meet in Covenant Hall from 10:00 - 10:45.

August 31: Classes have organizational Meetings

September 7: Classes begin!

- **The Anchor Class:** This class emphasizes fellowship, good discussion, and growth. They will be studying the book of Acts, using resources from Bible scholar N.T. Wright. Trace the development of the early church and the power of the Holy Spirit, drawing parallels to the ways we follow Jesus today. Facilitated by David Jump; Class 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 peers bring their ideas, knowledge, and understanding of the Bible to accentuate on their outlook of the Lord's teachings. The current book being reviewed is 2 Kings. A variety of outlooks are always welcome! Class meets in Room 4 of Covenant Hall.
- **The LIFE Class:** Want to know more about the Bible and how to study it? We'll spend 7 weeks using Donald Griggs's *The Bible from Scratch: The Old Testament for Beginners*. We'll review themes and people, explore the foundations of our faith, and learn how to study the Bible for ourselves. Class is facilitated by Lindy Coleman and Pastor Priscilla and meets in the library.
- **The After Party:** A 6-week video and discussion course designed to help Christians navigate today's challenging political environment. It's no secret that the church has been challenged by extreme polarization, entrenched tribal affiliations, and the broken relationships that often result. This course is both inspiring and practical and will help you reorient your heart and mind towards a Christ-centered political identity. We'll consider the "how vs. the "what" of politics, and explore what the Bible has to say about it all. Facilitated by Daniel Smoak and Natasha Akery. Limited enrollment; Sign up by calling or emailing dsmoak@wpccharleston.org. More info at redeemingbabel.org/the-after-party.

DEACONS AT WESTMINSTER

At Westminster, Deacons are called and ordained to a ministry of service and caring. From the days of the early church, Deacons have been men and women of compassion, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for all people, especially the ones with special needs. There are 33 Deacons at Westminster, elected by the congregation for 3 year terms. Our Deacons are divided into 4 Teams

- **THE SUNSHINE TEAM** sends birthday cards and care notes out to everyone in the Westminster family. We want everyone to feel loved, included, and affirmed on special occasions.
- **THE HOPE TEAM** reaches out to the ones in the Westminster family who are homebound, facing or recovering from medical issues, pregnancy and birth, walking through a season of grief, or having other special needs. This care may come in the form of calls/texts/mail, visits, or coordinated meals. (HOPE stands for Helping Other Presbyterians Everyday).
- **THE HOSPITALITY TEAM** helps visitors and new members find their way in the life and ministry of Westminster. Special care is offered to people for about a year after becoming part of the Westminster family: inviting them to special events, answering questions about the church, and making sure they have a friendly face they can rely on in the congregation.
- **THE DEACONS ON DEMAND TEAM** helps the Westminster family with immediate needs; visits to the hospitalized, transportation to appointments, special errands, or a quick meal.

Deacons also coordinate funeral receptions, organize special days of caring, and seek ways to be of service to the congregation.

2025-2026 DEACONS

Co-Moderators: Jennifer Binnicker and Sherry Niblock; Secretary: Susana Comte-Walters

The Sunshine Team (5): Christine Towne, Ashley Chandler, Amy Kuenzel*, Laura Nunn, Elaine Tucker

The HOPE Team (13): Ellyn Winkles, Jill Lundgrin, Sandy Pennekamp, Margaret Head, Meredith Boyd, Peggy Jump*, Tommye Owen, Janie Daniels, Debbie McQueeney, Nita Rushton, Hilary Parrish, Amy McCabe, Susanna Hopkins.

The Hospitality Team (6): Alissa Ferguson, Annie Klingshirn, Sonya Willemse*, Karen Lobitz, Lexi Frazier, Doug Garrett

The Deacons on Demand Team (6): Deb Brown*, Mark Burckhalter, John Wright, Debbie Ponton, Mary Davis, Liz Crosby
*team coordinator

DEACONS NEED YOUR HELP!

We want to do our best to serve the congregation, and we need your help! If you have a special need or are aware of someone with a special need, please let the church office know! That way, the right team can be activated to respond in kind.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF ELEMENTARY-AGED CHILDREN

You will receive a letter soon about our Worship Preparation Classes which will be held September 14-November 2, 2025. The class will meet on Sunday mornings after the children are dismissed following the Time to Shine at the 11:00 a.m. service. While we are inviting first graders, older elementary aged children are welcome if they have not previously completed this class. One of the ways we keep the vows we make when our children are baptized is to give thought, effort and prayer to their participation in worship. Good worship experiences don't "just happen". If children feel loved, included and accepted in worship, it is because both the church and you have been faithful to their tasks. To that end, we will talk about where we worship, why we worship, how we worship and about prayer. We will also learn about both sacraments celebrated in the Presbyterian Church, Baptism and Communion. At least one parent or grandparent must attend class with your child. If you have any questions or do not receive the letter, please call Dee Bee Wright or the church office. Thank you!

SAM'S BROOKGREEN GARDEN'S NIGHT OF A THOUSAND CANDLES

Join us Thursday, December 11 from 1:30 - 9:30 for a trip to Murrells Inlet for an early dinner and evening at Brookgreen Gardens for a walking tour lights display. Board passenger vans at 1:30 at church. Tickets are \$40 and must be reserved in advance. Sign-up deadline is August 27 with payment (cash/check only) due by September 3 to the church office. Sign-up sheet is in the Admin. Hallway until August 27. Only 27 spots are available.

SAVE THE DATE! SAMS LUNCH AND LEARN

September 18 @ 1pm in Covenant Hall for a light lunch, \$5 per person. Dr. George Dickinson, Sociology Professor from the College of Charleston will speak on "The American Way of Dying" No sign-up required!

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, August 17

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Kickoff Ministry Fair
11:00 am	Worship Service
4:00 pm	Deacon's Leadership Meeting, Room 4
5:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting, Covenant Hall
6:00 pm	Stated Session Meeting, Room 4
7:30 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, August 18

Tuesday, August 19

7:30 am	Preschool Staff Meeting
10:00 am	Staff Meeting
10:00 am	Volunteer Neighbors Together

Wednesday, August 20

7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Thursday, August 21

Friday, August 22

Saturday, August 23

Sunday, August 24

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
	Pause and Refresh on "Sharing Power"
11:00 am	Worship Service
3:00 pm	Troop 79 Court of Honor
5:00 pm	Youth Group
7:30 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

FEED THE YOUTH

Interested in providing a meal for our Youth Discipleship Group on Sunday Nights? Remember you don't have to have youth to feed the youth. They are happy with home cooked or hot-N-ready. Scan the QR Code for a list of dates to signup to feed the youth on Sunday Nights from 4:45 - 5:30 p.m. If you have questions, Clair Winkles cwinkles@wpccharleston.org



WESTMINSTER PRAYS

Cary Alexandre (WPC)
Joyce Aydlette (Becky Grafton)
Daryn Baker (Jane Acker)
Mary Ashley Barbot (Lisa Couch)
Ron Booth (WPC)
Sissie Brigman (WPC)
Diane Byers, (Deb Frasier)
Susie Cashion (WPC)
Lauren Choate (Sara Dwyer)
Pat Coggins (WPC)
The family of Rachel Crews
Cherie Couche (Dana Tumbleston)
Lydia Crosby (WPC)
Martin Davis (Kevin Mikles)
Rose Derrick (Brenda Clarey)
Hosanna Eadie (Katie Baturin)
Roxanne Eadie (Katie Baturin)
The Earnst Family (WPC)
Ann Farrar (Beth Georgen)
Ellen Farrar (Beth Georgen)
Julia Fletcher (Niblock Family)
Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye)
Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard)

Debra Frasier (WPC)
John Gilbert (WPC)
Mona Gilbert (WPC)
Keith Gordon (WPC)
Janie Hammersmith (WPC)
Megan Hatfield (Debbie McQueeney)
Harter Family (Jennifer Binnicker)
Hedgepeth Family (Abbie Mobley)
Betsy Henson (Ashley Snider)
Chris Huff (Gloria Purcell)
Janssen Family (WPC)
Lynn Koger (WPC)
Mary Laird (Ashley Snider)
Fran Ligon (WPC)
Jane Livingston (Tom Livingston)
Ray Long (Ellen Bollinger)
John Martschink (WPC)
Mary Martschink (WPC)
Jay Massalon (Dana Tumbleston)
David McEachern (Debra Luhn)
Gavin McLeod (Dana Tumbleston)
Love Moody (WPC)
Jennifer Morgan (Susie Cashion)

Roy Nickles (WPC)
Joe Nuchols (Debbie McQueeney)
Patty O'Bryan (Becky Grafton)
Nancy Plowden (WPC)
Pratt Family (WPC Preschool)
Donna Purcell (WPC)
Charles Reeves (Carol Patrick)
Kevin Ritzel (Neil Ritzel)
Nita Rodemann (WPC)
Liz Shelor (WPC)
Cliff Shelor (WPC)
Tradd Shepard (WPC)
Rachel Singletary (Sara Bobo)
Jerry Smoak (WPC)
Dave Stanton (WPC)
Towne Family (WPC)
Gloria Underhill (Laura Nunn)
Kathy Unger (Keith Gordon)
Jacqueline Vance (Sara Dwyer)
Mark Warner (Kendall Ramsay)
Tom Whetstone (WPC)
Aileen Wiese (WPC)
Janet Wilson (Gloria Purcell)

Brazil Families: Cirleine, Rayssa, Samuel, Milo, Kathlyn, Wellington

PRAYER LIST UPDATED AUGUST 2025

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

Friend of the Week

Carolyn Drose
201 W. 9th North Street
Summerville, SC 29483

Mission of the Week

Neighbors Together
2105 Cosgrove Ave.
N. Charleston, SC 29405

Church Family

Thomas and Sarah Sams
Kate, Ellie

ELDERS AND SESSION COMMITTEES

Administration: Michael Patrick and Paul Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Randy Davis and Tim Fox; **Christian Education:** Cathy Grills and Kevin Mikles; **Fellowship:** Jon Bazzle, Janie Bruce and Michael Scruggs; **Finance:** Sarah Schumann and Joshua Robinson; **Membership:** John Dounian and Cameron Baker; **Missions:** Mary McAbee and Natasha Akery; **Preschool:** Ashley Snider; **Worship:** Allyn Bruce and Deborah-Anne Ferguson; **Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Cathy Grills
Treasurer: Tim Fox

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

Nita Rushton, Interim 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