

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

September 28, 2025

11:00 a.m.

Please greet each other warmly as the congregation gathers for worship.

Take a moment and sign the friendship register.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment For Ministry

CAJM

PRELUDE

♦ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ- by grace you have been saved-

All: God raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

One: For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

All: For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

♦ INVOCATION 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

♦ HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 610

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

◆ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we are often aware of the big sins in our lives, but we ignore the sins we think are small. We ask your forgiveness for times when we have been apathetic, indifferent, impatient, judgmental, dismissive, entitled, and mean. We pray for the ways we have been blinded by our possessions, blinded by our anger, and blinded by our loyalty to self instead of to you. Forgive us, and remind us that being a disciple means dying to ourselves so we can live for you. With assurance of your grace, we pray. Amen.

♦ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

♦ 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.

♦ SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbor

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

Claire Winkles

Following Children's Time, children ages 2-3K (Wee Church) and 4-5 K (Children's Church) will gather in the narthex with adult leaders and then be led to the Children's Building.

Parents may pick them up following the service.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Colossians 2:8-12

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 200

SERMON

We Walk With Jesus: Beware the Deceivers

♦ HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

TAKEN FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (1983)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

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!

- One: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity and, in whose spirit, there is no deceit.
- All: While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
- One: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
- All: Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.
- One: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.
- All: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- One: Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.
- All: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

♦ HYMN NO. 542

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

GOD BE WITH YOU

- **♦** BENEDICTION
- ◆ Postlude
- ♦ 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, Pianist Acolytes: Mac Ferguson, Harper Lewandowski Children's Church: Sarah and Jairus Schumann Wee Church: Annelise and Michael Scruggs

Ushers: Carole Russell, Rae Tompkins, Dana Tumbleston, Jim Frye, Nathan Ward

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.

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. 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. The next Connections Class will be held Sunday, December 7th.

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.



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.

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.

WE WALK WITH JESUS: DISCIPLESHIP IN COLOSSIANS

From the Westminster Pulpit

- September 28 Colossians 2:8-12 We Walk with Jesus: Beware the Deceivers
- October 5 World Communion Sunday WPC Mission Partner, Ellen Smith preaching
- October 12 Colossians 2:13-23 We Walk with Jesus: Jesus and the Law
- October 19 Colossians 3:1-17 We Walk with Jesus: A Higher Calling, Part 1

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING IN THE CHURCH OFFICE?

We are looking for helping hands Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Our helpers assist with food pantry clients, answering phones, and other little "projects" necessary in order to keep our busy church running smoothly. If you would like to assist us, please contact the office at (843) 766-8311 or email office@wpccharleston.org.

ADOPT THE BLESSING BOX

Adopt the WPC Blessing Box located at the end of the carline loop by the bus stop. Adopt for two weeks at a time, making sure it's stocked and replenishing items as needed. If you would like to drop your food and/or supplies off to the church office we are happy to stock the box for you! This is a great opportunity for Circles, Sunday School classes, neighbors, and families. Use the QR Code provided to sign up.



ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH W.E. PACK!

We have officially kicked off another year of snacks (<u>Weekend Eats</u>) for students! After supper on the first Wednesday of every month, we take about 30-45 minutes to pack snack kits for Goodwin and Mary Ford students who are facing weekend food insecurity. We pack enough for 300 students a week to go home with a bag of nutritious snacks. It is a fun and meaningful mission opportunity for all ages. You can support this important ministry financially. The cost to send snacks home for one child for the month is \$10 or \$90 for the year! Make checks payable to WPC and marked "WePack" or on the WPC website. Click "Give" and choose WEPack on the drop-down menu. Thanks!

JOIN US FOR WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY!

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. This week is Pasta Night! There will be pasta along with garden salad and dessert. Adults \$8, children \$4 and a family cap of \$25 via cash, card or check.

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 (\$10 for *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*)

- On October 26th we'll discuss John Mark Comer's *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*. Philosopher Dallas Willard said "Hurry is the great enemy of spiritual life in our day, and we must ruthlessly eliminate from our lives." Carl Jung said "hurry is not of the devil; it is the devil." Corrie Ten Boom said, "If the devil can't make you sin, he'll make you hurry." In this popular title from recent years, Pastor Comer explores how to stay emotionally healthy and spiritually alive in the chaos of the modern world. He makes the case that love, joy, and peace are at the heart of all Jesus is trying to grow in the soil of your life, and all three are incompatible with hurry. If you are frustrated with and drained by the relentless pace of life, this is a book you need to read.
- In December (date TBD) we'll discuss Fleming Rutledge's Advent.

GLOBAL MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY IN 2026!

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:

- adults February 23-28
- a team of High School Juniors and Seniors and Adults June 29-July 4

The total cost of each trip is about \$2100, and the cost will be divided in thirds between participant contribution, the church's Global Mission Fund, and group fundraising. These teams are intentionally small-no more than 8 people per team, so indicate your interest ASAP. Speak with Pastor Daniel dsmoak@wpccharleston.org or Pastor Priscilla.

PAUSE AND REFRESH ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5: SUNDAY SCHOOL WITH WPC MISSION PARTNER, ELLEN SMITH

We are so glad to welcome (recently retired) PCUSA mission worker and long-time WPC mission partner, Ellen Smith, to Charleston. Ellen served as the regional liaison for Eastern Europe and helped coordinate our ministry partnership with the Church of the Transfiguration in Perm, Russia. She's helped us understand what is happening in that part of the world, most recently Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Ellen's husband Al is also a retired PCUSA mission worker. Ellen will be preaching on October 5th and also leading an informative Sunday School time in Covenant Hall at 10:00am.

Please join us for lunch following the 11 o'clock service at Ms. Rose's! If you'd like to be included in our reservation, please contact Dee Bee Wright or the church office office@wpccharleston.org.

AT WESTMINSTER, FREE COUNSELING SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH LOWCOUNTRY PASTORAL COUNSELING CENTER

The need for quality mental, emotional, and spiritual care today is undeniable. Pastoral Counseling enables individuals, couples, and families to receive quality counseling that acknowledges the value of faith in the healing process. Whether you need someone to listen, help you process challenges, or simply walk with you through a season of life, help is available. Westminster is partnering with Lowcountry Pastoral Counseling Center and can refer you for counseling, providing up to 5 sessions at no cost to you. Check out Lowcountry Pastoral Counseling Center at www.lowcountrypastoral.org and reach out to Pastor Daniel or Pastor Priscilla for a referral.

SAVE THE DATE! SAMS LUNCH AND LEARN

• November 13, 2025 @ 1pm in Covenant Hall for Lunch and Learn. The speaker will be from the College of Charleston's Center for Creative Retirement. Lunch plans are forthcoming!

CIRCLE 4 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS UNDERWEAR DRIVE

The Presbyterian Women's Circles will once again participate in the Christmas women's underwear drive for the Leeds Avenue Detention Center. Circle members are asked to participate by donating a pack of **WHITE ONLY**, regular, cotton briefs (in their own size so that we get a variety of sizes). Underwear can be dropped off at the church office until the 15th of December. If you have any questions please contact Barbara Lundy at (843) 607-2102.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2025-2026!

It is time once again for us to have a confirmation class for our current 7th and 8th graders. We are looking forward to helping these students either affirm or re-affirm their faith through study, fellowship, and writing their statements of faith. If your youth would like to be confirmed this year, please reach out to Ms. Claire at cwinkles@wpccharleston and attend our informational meeting on September 28th from 12:15-1:00 in Covenant Hall.

ELEMENTARY CHOIR

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 on a variety of Wednesday nights in the month of September and October. Wednesday practices will be from 5:30-6:00 and Sunday practice times will vary. Finally, on Sunday October 19th the children will lead special music and sing at the 11:00 service. The following practice dates are available. 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.

Schedule:

Practice 1: Wed. 9/24 at 5:30 Practice 2: Wed. 10/1 at 5:30 Practice 3: Sun. 10/5 at 12:00 Practice 4: Wed. 10/8 at 5:30 Practice 5: Sun. 10/12 at 12:00 Last Practice: Wed. 10/15 at 5:30

Special Music: October 19th at 11:00 service

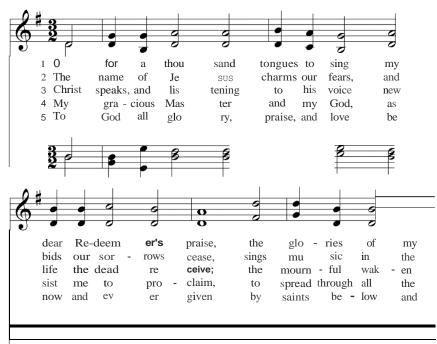
WPC HOUSE MEETINGS WITH CAJM: YOUR VOICE MATTERS

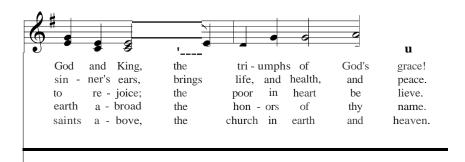
Join us for upcoming House Meetings with the *Charleston Area Justice Ministry*—safe spaces to share your stories, concerns, and hopes for our community. This is your chance to connect with neighbors, name the issues that matter most, and help shape what justice looks like—from the ground up. Childcare available if needed. **Scan the QR Code to Register – all are welcome!**

- Wednesday, October 8 at 6:30pm (after Wonderful Wednesday)
- Sunday, October 19 at 12:15pm (following Worship)



0 for a Thousand Tongues to Sing $\, f 610 \,$





SPANISH

1 Mil voces para celebrar a mi Libertador, las glorias de su majestad, los triunfos de su amor.



This text comes from an eighteen-stanza hymn the author wrote to mark the first anniversary of his life-changing conversion experience. It is now customarily the first hymn in Methodist hymnals worldwide. This tune, adapted from a German composer, is the usual North American setting.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura; Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001 MUSIC Carl Gotthelf Glaser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839 Spanish Trans.© 1989 The United Mechodis! Publishing House (admi11.The Copyright Company) AZMON CM

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



As was his custom, the author ""rote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16--17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1-4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, A Collection of Sacred 8all.1ds, 1 790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie MUSIC: Columbian H-1rmony, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Klowa, Creek, and Choctaw® Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;

542 God Be with You Till We Meet Again



After writing the first stanza of his "Christian Good-bye," the author sent it to two composers, one celebrated and one unknown, to see how each would set it. This is the second person's tune, which the author found more effective and used for the hymn's first publication.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, September 28

9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service

11:15 am Worship Prep Class, Covenant Hall

12:15 pm Confirmation Informational Meeting, Covenant Hall

5:00 pm Youth Group

7:00 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, September 29

Tuesday, September 30

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, October 1

5:30 pm Elementary Choir Practice, Sanctuary 6:00 pm Wonderful Wednesday, Covenant Hall

6:30 pm Handbell Choir 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

7:30 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Thursday, October 2

Friday, October 3

Saturday, October 4

Sunday, October 5

9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service

11:15 am Worship Prep Class, Covenant Hall 12:10 pm CE Committee Meeting, Library

4:00 pm Club 345

5:00 pm Youth Group, College Care Package Night

7:00 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

COMMUNITY SUPPORT NUMBERS

Al-Anon (843) 762-6999

Community Resource and Support Hotline 211

Neighbors Together (843) 747-1788

Narcotics Anonymous (843) 852-3001

Mental Health Crisis Hotline 988

PostPartumsupportchas.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) Allyn Bruce (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) Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye) Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard)

Debra Frasier (WPC)

John Gilbert (WPC) Keith Gordon (WPC) Janie Hammersmith (WPC)

Megan Hatfield (Debbie McQueeney) Harter Family (Jennifer Binnicker) Hedgepeth Family (Abbie Mobley) Betsy Henson (Ashley Snider) Anna Hewitt (Dee Bee Wright) 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) Marley Miller (Dee Bee Wright)

Love Moody (WPC)

Jennifer Morgan (Susie Cashion) Joe Nuchols (Debbie McQueeney) Patty O'Bryan (Becky Grafton) Julie Pell (Sandy & Debbie Pell)

Nancy Plowden (WPC)

Crystal Pluck (Jennifer Binnicker) 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) Betty Winter (Dee Bee Wright)

Church Family

Rob & Ronda Seav

Robbie Yarnall (WPC)

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

PRAYER LIST UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2025

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

Friend of the Week Heather MacInnes 504 Shem Butler Court Charleston, SC 29414

Mission of the Week Water Missions Int'l Bldg. 1605

1150 Molly Greene Way N. Charleston, SC 29405 Student of the Week Charlotte Griggs 350 Maple Dr. SW Apt. 807

Washington, DC 20024

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, 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 Kate Cowart, 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