

## Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

November 16, 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

Acolyte Recognition

♦ SONG OF PREPARATION

Jesus Loves Me!

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me: Tes, Jesus loves me: Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago, taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."

Yes Jesus loves me! Yes Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

♦ WORDS OF PRAISE

One: The Lord is our light and our salvation; who shall we fear?

All: The Lord is the strength of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?

One: But if we still worry...what should we do?

All: When we are filled with anxiety and fear, we can bring our requests to God.

One: We bring our requests with thanksgiving, for God is faithful!

All: We come to worship, and to rest in the peace that surpasses all understanding, Knowing that God's strength will uphold us and Jesus loves us.

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us worship God.

#### ♦ 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 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. 20

All Things Bright and Beautiful

#### **CONFESSION**

#### **♦** CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Dear God, we want to say we're sorry. We are sorry for not always letting love be the first thing we do. Sometimes we hurt feelings, and sometimes we turn away from you. We are sorry for all of the ways we make bad choices. We ask for your forgiveness and for your help to do the right thing. Lord, we come to you in prayer.

-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

#### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Administered to Ian Theodore and Willow Josephine Cathey Laing, son and daughter of Joshua and Spencer Laing.

Dee Bee Wright, assisting Elder

#### DECLARATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

Claire Winkles

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 6:25-29

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 6

**SERMON** 

Do Not Worry

#### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

♦ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 465

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

♦ Song No. 175

Seek Ye First

**♦** BLESSING

#### LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:

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

Nancy Parrish, Pianist Acolytes: Eleanor & Jane Akery Ushers: Taffy Tamblyn, Robert Tamblyn, Matt Akery

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

The flowers in the Sanctuary are in celebration of the future of our church, our children.

Arrangements on the chancel steps have been created and provided by the Children of Westminster in honor of Children's Sunday.

#### 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.

<u>LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER</u> 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 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### 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

- November 16 Matthew 6:25-29 Children's Sunday
- November 23 Colossians 4:7-18 We Walk with Jesus: Final Greetings

#### THANK YOU TO THE ACOLYTES!

We're so glad for the students who participate in worship by being acolytes. It's a visual reminder of the light of Christ in our midst and our calling to carry the light of Christ out into the world. Special thanks to the older students who are "retiring" today and to Dee Bee Wright, who coordinates the effort. Students are: Eleanor Akery, Catherine Patrick, Thomas Robinson, Mac Ferguson, Matthew Smoak, Will Patrick, Emma Camburn, Henry Ramsay, Nicholas Patrick and Emma Klingshirn.

#### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY MEETS THIS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

Men of all ages: Join us for Breakfast and Bible Study from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 18th. We are meeting for breakfast at Trotters Restaurant at Town and Country Inn and Suites (2008 Savannah Highway). Pastor Daniel will be leading-continuing our study of Revelation. Join us for the Fellowship and Encouragement!

#### THE NARTHEX IS FILLING UP WITH WPC DISCIPLES WHO ARE WALKING WITH JESUS!

Jesus is over the entry into the sanctuary, and he's holding hands with everyone who has returned their 2026 Estimates of Giving. For every card returned or online response we get, another "person" will appear connected to and walking with Jesus. So far, we have received 138 cards for a total of \$677,000.00. Your gifts make a difference, and your participation strengthens our faithful response to God's call for our church. Make your commitment with the card in the Friendship Pad or on the WPC website. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!!

#### **JOIN US FOR WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY!**

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship at 6:00 p.m. This week we will be having Thanksgiving favorites with all the trimmings and dessert. Adults \$8, children \$4 and a family cap of \$25 via cash, card or check.

#### SUPPORT A WPC MISSION PARTNER AND LEARN ABOUT HOW METANOIA MATTERS!

Join the WPC table at Metanoia's "Live Well Luncheon". This is a chance to come together with 250+ neighbors, business leaders, and changemakers to lift up the spaces and people that make North Charleston home. We'll be diving into the heart of what it means to live well: gathering places that welcome us, homes we can afford, and local leadership that rises from within. The luncheon is set for Thursday, December 4, 2025, from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM at Trident Technical College. Contact the church office to sign up.

#### CHURCH OF THE ARTS: OUR PARTNER NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT IN PARK CIRCLE

Opportunity to learn and support:

• Attend the grand opening worship on Sunday, November 23 at 11am. If you know someone who might be a good fit for Church of the Arts, please spread the news. This church welcomes and includes the damaged, the outside-the-box people, the ones who don't fit in traditional worship styles. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, it will be great if Westminster sends LOTS of our folks over for this special opening worship.

# YOU CAN SUPPORT THE WESTMINSTER FOOD PANTRY and be a BIG help to those in our community with growing food insecurities.

The Westminster food pantry is one way we seek to love our neighbor. Every week 45 food bags are prepared for distribution to families in our community. Each bag is full of non-perishable food items like canned meat, pasta, vegetables, cereal, peanut butter, and fruit. Laundry detergent and diapers are also offered. The contents are more valuable than what it costs us to purchase in bulk and assemble each bag. During Thanksgiving and Christmas, we are also distributing certificates for a free turkey or ham in area grocery stores. So far this year, we've distributed \$22,000 in food to the community.

There is a growing need, and you can help.

- \* A gift to the food pantry by check (payable to WPC) or online (text "charlestonwpc" to 73256 and choose "food pantry" on the drop-down menu. We can make your donation go a long way.
- \* Pick up an empty bag from the shopping cart in the narthex and return it with any items we distribute (a list is provided).Bring in other needed items
- \* Remember the Blessing Box on the corner of the church property. You can adopt it for a week at <u>wpccharleston.org</u> or drop things off there anytime.
- \* Bring in other needed items we distribute, such as: bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, and conditioner. Thank you for the part you play in showing kindness and love to our neighbors.

#### **READ GOOD BOOKS IN 2025!**

On December 21, we'll discuss Fleming Rutledge's Advent. In her collection of writings and sermons, Rutledge will help us get ready. As the midnight of the Christian year, the season of Advent is rife with dark, gritty realities. In this book, with her trademark wit and wisdom, Rutledge explores Advent as a time of rich paradoxes, a season celebrating at once Christ's incarnation and his second coming, and she masterfully unfolds the ethical and future-oriented significance of Advent for the church. We'll read prescribed portions of the book in preparation for discussion on Sunday December 21 at 4:00. Books are \$25 and available in the narthex.

#### SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS: A SEMINAR ON GRIEF DURING CHRISTMAS

Wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas? Are you dreading the holidays, knowing that everything has changed and that happy memories from past years can't be recreated?

Our Griefshare Surviving the Holidays seminar is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. Whether ongoing or new grief, you'll learn:

- ➤ How to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays
- What to do about traditions and other coming changes
- ➤ Helpful tips for surviving social events
- ➤ How to discover hope for your future

We're offering the seminar on Sunday, November 23 from 5-7. Please RSVP by contacting Pastor Daniel <a href="mailto:dsmoak@wpccharleston.org">dsmoak@wpccharleston.org</a>

#### OYSTER ROAST TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

The much anticipated and highly loved Annual Oyster Roast is Wednesday, November 26. We begin with Thanksgiving worship at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary (Pastor Lissa is Preaching!), and at 6:30 we move to Covenant Hall and the lawn for food and fellowship. It is a great event for all ages. Tickets are available for sale on Sunday mornings and in the office during the week.

- \$20 Adult (12 & over) Oyster/Shrimp, Hotdog/Chili & Sides
- \$10 Adult (12 & over) Hotdog/Chili and Sides
- \$10 Child (4-11 years old) Oyster/Shrimp, Hotdog/Chili & Sides
- \$5 Child (4-11 years old) Hotdog/Chili and Sides
- 3 and Under FREE
- Sides: Red Rice, Cole Slaw, Chips and S'mores for dessert!

#### YOU ARE INVITED! WESTMINSTER IS HOSTING CHARLESTON AREA JUSTICE MINISTRY

(CAJM's) COMMUNITY PROBLEMS ASSEMBLY on Monday, November 17th from 6:30 – 8:00. CAJM is a local faith-based nonprofit dedicated to advocacy, social justice, and equality. The organization focuses on community issues like affordable housing, ethical governance in education, racial bias in police practices, and environmental protection. At this meeting, Westminster will be received as an official CAJM partner congregation, and all CAJM partners will hear some of the stories we and our neighbors are facing, voting on the campaigns we tackle for the coming year. After hosting over 70 house meetings (including 2 at WPC), our team leaders voted and identified the three most pressing problems facing our community:

- Transportation
- Homelessness
- Food Insecurity

Final voting is at this Community Problem Assembly. Only Network Members can vote, but it's not too late to commit (you can join at the assembly!). Also supporters are welcome (and encouraged!) to attend, even if you can't join CAJM yet. It's a great opportunity to see what this organization is all about!

#### SAMS UPCOMING EVENTS

• Christmas Drop-In December 7, 2025 from 3-5pm at Pastor Priscilla's house (43 South Hampton Drive, Charleston, SC 29407 in Sandhurst neighborhood). Bring a sweet or savory treat to share. Christmas sing-along at 4pm!

#### SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Thanksgiving Centerpiece Workshop. Please bring payment, \$20 cash or check made payable to WPC, and your own pair of scissors to the event. Contact Carole Russell, the church office, or scan the QR code to sign up!

#### **JOIN THE CHOIR FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS!**

As we prepare our hearts for the Advent and Christmas season, we invite you to be part of the choir and help lead our congregation in worship through music. Whether you've sung in a choir for years or simply enjoy lifting your voice in praise, we would love for you to join us! We'll be preparing a selection of special music for Advent and Christmas services, and all voices are welcome—no audition required. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the season, build community, and share the joy of Christ's birth through song. Contact Sarah Shayban <a href="mailto:sshayban@wpccharleston.org">sshayban@wpccharleston.org</a> or come to rehearsal on Wednesday nights at 7:15.

#### 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 15<sup>th</sup> of December. If you have any questions please contact Barbara Lundy at (843) 607-2102.

#### COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL DURING ADVENT: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE!

We'll view and discuss portions of the classic movie It's a Wonderful Life.

It's a Wonderful Life is one of the most popular and heartwarming films ever made. Its near universal appeal and association with Christmas has provided a rich story of redemption that has inspired generations for decades. Set on Christmas Eve in a post-World War II small town, it tells a story of the likable and selfless George Bailey, a small town banker who suffers scandal and ruin not of his own making only to be saved in the final act through intervention by God, family, and friends. There's no better time than Christmas to be reminded that every human life has value, and that true wealth - spiritual wealth- comes from a right relationship with God and selfless love toward others.

Everyone is invited. November 30, December 7, 14, and 21 in Covenant Hall at 10:00.

#### **POINSETTIAS**

If you would like to help beautify our sanctuary for this year's Advent and Christmas season through the gift of one or more poinsettias, please complete a Poinsettia order form located in both the friendship pad and the narthex. The cost is \$20 per poinsettia and payment can be made by attaching check or cash to the completed form and placing it in the offering plate or dropping it by the church office. Poinsettias will be placed on the chancel for the December 7 service and may be picked up following the 7:00 Christmas Eve service. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 7, 2024.

#### THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, November 16

9:00 am Worship Service10:00 am Sunday School

10:15 am Final Children's Sunday Practice, Sanctuary 11:00 am Worship Service, Children's Sunday

5:00 pm Youth Group

5:00 pm Deacon's Meeting, Covenant Hall

6:00 pm Stated Session Meeting, Room4, Covenant Hall

7:00 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, November 17

6:30 pm CAJM Meeting, Covenant Hall & Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 18

8:00 am Men's Bible Study, Trotter's Restaurant

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, November 19

10:00 am Volunteer, Neighbors Together

6:00 pm Wonderful Wednesday

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

7:30 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Thursday, November 20

6:30 pm Scout Troop 79 Pack Meeting, Covenant Hall

Friday, November 21

Saturday, November 22

10:00 am Sandhurst Annual Neighborhood Meeting, Covenant Hall

Sunday, November 23

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

3:00 pm Thanksgiving Centerpiece Workshop, Covenant Hall

5:00 pm Grief Workshop, Parlor 5:00 pm NO YOUTH GROUP 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)

Mary Ashley Barbot (Lisa Co Ron Booth (WPC) Sissie Brigman (WPC) Allyn Bruce (WPC) Diane Byers, (Deb Frasier) Susie Cashion (WPC) Lauren Choate (Sara Dwyer)

Pat Coggins (WPC)

Cherie Couche (Dana Tumbleston)

Lydia Crosby (WPC)

Martin Davis (Kevin Mikles) Rose Derrick (Brenda Clarey) Hosanna Eadie (Katie Baturin) Roxanne Eadie (Katie Baturin) Ann Farrar (Beth Georgen) Ellen Farrar (Beth Georgen) Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye) Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard)

Joan Frye (WPC) John Gilbert (WPC) Keith Gordon (WPC) Janie Hammersmith (WPC) Megan Hatfield (Debbie McQueeney)

Betsy Henson (Ashley Snider)
Anna Hewitt (Dee Bee Wright)
Charlie Howell (Debbie Baskin)
Chris Huff (Gloria Purcell)
Janssen Family (WPC)

Emerson Jones (Molly Griggs) 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)

Abbie Mobley (WPC) Moody Family (WPC)

Jennifer Morgan (Susie Cashion) Joe Nuchols (Debbie McQueeney) Patty O'Bryan (Becky Grafton) Julie Pell (Sandy & Debbie Pell) Crystal Pluck (Jennifer Binnicker) Pratt Family (WPC Preschool)

Donna Purcell (WPC)

Stan Rich (Suzanne & Tim Fox)

Nita Rodemann (WPC) Cliff Shelor (WPC) Tradd Shepard (WPC)

Rachel Singletary (Sara Bobo) Jerry Smoak (WPC)

Ray Thomas (Sara Dwyer)
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)

Robbie Yarnall (WPC)

### PRAYER LIST UPDATED NOVEMBER 2025

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

Friend of the Week
Aileen Wiese
110 Ashley Villa Circle, Apt. B
Charleston, SC 29414

Mission of the Week WePack Student of the Week Madison Evans 2284 Ashley River Rd., Apt. 1220 Charleston, SC 29414 Church Family Neil & Christina Shepard Cameron, Cyrus

#### 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
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