



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

February 8, 2026

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

What Does the Lord Require of You?

What does the Lord require of you?  
What does the Lord require of you?

To seek justice and love kindness  
and walk humbly with your God.

### ♦ WORDS OF PRAISE

from Micah 6:6-8

One: With what shall we come before the Lord?  
What shall we bring into the presence of our God,  
as an expression of our worship and praise?

All: Shall we bring him all that we own—  
our finest possessions, our life-savings,  
our investments and property?  
Would God be satisfied if we brought everything we possess?

One: No, that's not what God is looking for.  
God has told you what is good,  
and what he expects of you:

All: To do justice.  
To love mercy.  
To walk humbly before him.

### ♦ PRAYER

### ♦ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 2      Come, Thou Almighty King

## CONFESION

### ♦ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Merciful God,  
You have shown us what is good: to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you.  
Yet we confess that we have often chosen the path of pride over humility,  
self-interest over justice, and indifference over mercy.

(Continued)

You call the poor in spirit blessed, but we chase after wealth and status.  
You bless the peacemakers, but we have sown division with our words and actions.  
You honor those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
but we have been content with comfort and complacency.  
Forgive us, Lord. Renew our hearts by your Spirit,  
that we may live as citizens of your Kingdom,  
seeking justice, showing mercy, and walking humbly in the way of Christ,  
in whose name we pray. 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

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 5:1-12

PEW BIBLE NT PAGE 4

## SERMON

## The Beatitudes

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 175

## Seek Ye First

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

## ◆ INVITATION

#### ♦ DECLARATION OF FAITH

### from the Nicene Creed (381)

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.  
All: And also with you.  
One: Lift up your hearts.  
All: We lift them up to the Lord.  
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

### 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.

### SENDING OUT

#### ◆ SENDING SONG NO. 750

Goodness is Stronger Than Evil

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate.  
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.

Victory is ours; victory is ours; through God who loves us.  
Victory is ours; victory is ours; through God who loves us.

#### ◆ BLESSING

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#### ◆ Please stand, if able

### LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:

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

Nancy Parrish, Pianist

Acolytes: Lydia Crosby, Elsie Crosby

Ushers: Joe Jeter, Laura Nunn, Sherry Niblock

11:00 Livestream at [www.wpccharleston.org](http://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.

## **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](http://wpccharleston.org). Text: "charlestonwpc" to 73256. Thank you for giving.

## **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](http://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.



## **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.

## **FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT**

- February 8      Matthew 5:1-12      The Beatitudes show the nature of the Kingdom of God.
- February 15      Matthew 5:13-20      We are called to be salt and light.

## **TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER**

All who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to share in the bread and the cup. Elders will serve the congregation seated in the pews; you may partake as soon as you are served. WPC is a safe place for those in recovery- we serve grape juice only. Gluten free bread is available in the center of the juice tray. Children are invited to the table provided they've had instruction at home or in Westminster's worship prep class (1<sup>st</sup> grade).

## YOU'RE INVITED! ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

- **The Anchor Class:** This class emphasizes fellowship, good discussion, and growth. Studying the book of ACTS. 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. Studying 1 Chronicles. Class meets in Room 4 of Covenant Hall.
- **The Bible from Scratch: 4 weeks in Genesis:** This is a short tour of the first book of the Bible. God makes so many promises in Genesis- how are they fulfilled then, now, and in the time to come? If you would like a quick and accessible look into the foundations of our faith, join us for any or all of these sessions (1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15). Meets in the library with the LIFE Class. Pastor Priscilla and Lindy Coleman, leaders.
- **And Starting February 22:** Be on the lookout for 2 new options: a Lenten study on the 7 Last Words of Jesus from the Cross and a "No Prep Required" Bible study emphasizing good discussion around the biblical text.

**A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** has been called for today immediately following the 11:00 worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to review the financial reports from 2025, review the Session-approved budget for 2026, and in accordance with G-2.0804/G-1.0501 review and vote on changes in the terms of call for our pastor. We will also convene briefly for a **Meeting of the Corporation**. There is no business, but an annual meeting is required by SC law.

## GROUNDED IN PRAYER

If events in your life, our community, our nation, or the world are stirring a desire for a more deeply rooted prayer life, you are not alone. You are invited to join others who feel the same way.

On Sundays from **5:00–5:45 pm**, we gather in the **WPC Sanctuary** for a time of prayer together. Each week will include:

- A brief devotional teaching from a pastor on the nature of prayer.
- Guided prayer shaped by the Psalms and the Lord's Prayer.
- Learning and practicing how biblical prayers can inform both personal and communal prayer.
- Taking steps to allow the Holy Spirit to lead us from prayer into action.

We begin **Sunday, February 8**. Whether you come as an active participant or a quiet observer, you are welcome. Join us any Sunday.

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY on February 10

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!

## JOIN US FOR WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY!

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship at 6:00 p.m. This week join us for baked spaghetti, garden salad, and dessert. Adults \$8, children \$4 and a family cap of \$25 via cash, card or check.

## CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

Did You Know? In an effort to keep everyone safe, we have a Child Protection Policy. All staff, officers, and youth and children volunteers are required to have annual training and background checks at WPC. There are three upcoming opportunities for training:

- 12:00-12:15 in the Sanctuary on February 15
- 10:00-10:15 in the Sanctuary on February 22
- 12:00-12:15 in the Sanctuary on February 22.

Ms. Claire leads the training. We appreciate your help in keeping our youth and children safe!

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES (SAM'S) SOUP POTLUCK LUNCH AND LEARN

Save the Date! Thursday, February 19 at 1:00 in Covenant Hall. Bring your favorite soup to share or bread, corn muffins, fruit, dessert. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Admin. Hallway. Our guest speaker is Chris Stinson, Chief Information Officer for the Charleston City Police Department, who will speak on scams occurring in the Charleston area, how to protect yourself and when to call the police. Join us for this important information and a time of fellowship.

## READ GOOD BOOKS IN 2026!

Join Pastor Daniel in reading books covering a variety of topics, authors, and genres. The choices are designed to stimulate the heart and mind and to be a catalyst for growth in discipleship. Read in preparation for the group discussion at 4:00 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every other month.

**On February 22nd we'll discuss Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*.** With more than twenty million copies sold and translated into fifty-seven languages, *Things Fall Apart* provides one of the most illuminating and permanent monuments to African experience. The story follows the tragic life of a high-performing but deeply flawed African native inhabiting an exalted place within his traditional Umuofia society which is under threat from European imperialists. Themes covered are: Colonialism and Cultural Change, Masculinity and Identity, and Tradition vs. Change. (Books are \$10 and available online or in the Narthex.)

## SUPPORT YOUR MEXICO MISSION TEAM

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. Team 1, Daniel Smoak, George McAbee, Andrew Hopkins, Susanna Hopkins, Jerry Crites, Bob Georgen, Tommey Owen, Deb Brown, and Christine Bednarczyk, is preparing to head to Xpujil from February 23-28. You can support the team and the cistern ministry by making a gift. Checks payable to WPC and marked "Mexico Mission" or on the WPC website, choose "Give" and "2026 Mission Trips" Thank you for your support!

## IT'S WOW RETREAT TIME!

Please join the Women of Westminster (WOW) for a fun filled weekend or day at Edisto. The retreat will take place March 6th-8<sup>th</sup>; March 7th will be the day of the main program. You can either spend the weekend or just come for the day on Saturday. There will be carpooling opportunities for those who wish. If you would like to stay for the weekend, the cost is \$75. This cost includes accommodations and meals, except for the dinner outing Saturday night. If you choose to just come on Saturday, the suggested cost is \$20. The cost does not include the dinner outing on Saturday night. The cost does include lunch, crafts, and goodies. Please sign up on the Sign-Up Genius link below. Please sign up for either a "Full Weekend Guest" slot or a "Saturday Only Guest" slot. Please make the check payable to WPC and mark it Women's Retreat, or you can drop off cash at the church. More info to come soon! Please contact Paige Dadin with any questions or concerns [paigedadin@yahoo.com](mailto:paigedadin@yahoo.com) or 843-270-0393.



## THE WESTMINSTER SOAP BOX

We invite you to help support our food pantry clients by donating bars of soap each month for the grocery bags they receive. This small but meaningful gift helps families meet a basic need and reminds them they are cared for beyond just food. Donations can be placed in the collection box in the church foyer or in the workroom at any time. Thank you for helping us extend compassion and dignity to those we serve.

## WITH THANKSGIVING, WE WELCOME WESTMINSTER'S DIRECTOR OF ADULT DISCIPLESHIP: JANIE BRUCE

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) began its work in April 2024 with prayerful hope and patience. Over eighteen months, God clarified not only the needs of Westminster, but also the kind of leader who would best serve our congregation. We sought someone who would partner well with Pastor Daniel, bring creativity and enthusiasm to adult discipleship, and help strengthen the spiritual foundation of our church. Over time, it became clear that God was already at work—right here among us.

Independent of the APNC's search, Janie Bruce experienced a growing call toward adult ministry through her work with Charleston Atlantic Presbytery and Charleston Youth Mission. With the affirmation of Westminster's Session, she will begin Lay School this spring, working toward commissioning as a Lay Pastor. As Janie's journey came into focus, the committee recognized that God had been preparing someone who deeply loves Westminster, knows our people, works well with our pastoral staff, and is ready to step into leadership with vision and joy.

The APNC is deeply grateful for the Spirit's guidance throughout this process and gives thanks for its members: Lindy Coleman (Chair), Mark Patrick, Andrew Hopkins, George McAbee, Sandy Pell, and Natasha Akery. We rejoice that God has led Janie Bruce to this role and look forward to the ministry ahead.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Sunday, February 8

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service/Scout Sunday
12:00 pm	Second Sunday Social, Covenant Hall
12:00 pm	CAJM Meeting, Covenant Hall (Room 4)
4:00 pm	Club 345
5:00 pm	Grounded in Prayer, Sanctuary
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Monday, February 9

10:00 am	Hooks & Needles, Covenant Hall
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### Tuesday, February 10

8:00 am	Men's Bible Study, Trotter's Restaurant
10:00 am	Staff Meeting
10:00 am	Circle 4 Meeting, Covenant Hall
10:00 am	Circle 5 Meeting, Parlor
1:00 pm	Bridge Group, Covenant Hall
5:30 pm	Exchange Club of Charleston Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Wednesday, February 11

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, February 12

10:00 am	Lowcountry Smockers Guild, Covenant Hall
5:30 pm	Charleston County Public Works Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Friday, February 13

### Saturday, February 14

10:00 am	Charleston Area Multiple Myeloma Group, Preschool
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### Sunday, February 15

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
12:00 pm	Child Protection Training, Sanctuary
5:00 pm	Deacons Meeting, Covenant Hall
5:00 pm	Grounded in Prayer, Sanctuary
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)  
Acker Family (WPC)  
Daryn Baker (Jane Acker)  
Mary Ashley Barbot (Lisa Couch)  
Binnicker Family  
Allyn Bruce (WPC)  
Diane Byers (Deb Frasier)  
Susie Cashion (WPC)  
Lauren Choate (Sara Dwyer)  
Cherie Couche (Dana Tumbleston)  
Allen Croft (Gwen Croft)  
Lydia Crosby (WPC)  
Martin Davis (Kevin Mikles)  
Hosanna Eadie (Katie Baturin)  
Roxanne Eadie (Katie Baturin)  
Ann & Ellen Farrar (Beth Georgen)  
Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye)  
Randleson Floyd/Daniels (Gloria Purcell)  
Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard)  
Keith Gordon (WPC)  
Margaret Ellen Hamman (Suzanne Fox)

Janie Hammersmith (WPC)  
Clara Hanger (Gloria Purcell)  
Megan Hatfield (Debbie McQueeney)  
Betsy Henson (Ashley Snider)  
Anna Hewitt (Dee Bee Wright)  
Charlie Howell (Debbie Baskin)  
The Hudson Family (Priscilla Holtzclaw)  
Chris Huff (Gloria Purcell)  
Emerson Jones (Molly Griggs)  
Lynn Koger (WPC)  
Mary Laird (Ashley Snider)  
Fran Ligon (WPC)  
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)  
Jennifer Morgan (Susie Cashion)

Julie Pell (Sandy & Debbie Pell)  
Powell Family (WPC)  
Pratt Family (WPC Preschool)  
Donna Purcell (WPC)  
Paula Ruth (Debbie McQueeney)  
Cliff & Liz Shelor (WPC)  
Tradd Shepard (WPC)  
Rachel Singletary (Sara Bobo)  
The Jerry Smoak Family (WPC)  
Ray Thomas (Sara Dwyer)  
Towne Family (WPC)  
Gloria Underhill (Laura Nunn)  
Kathy Unger (Keith Gordon)  
Jacqueline Vance (Sara Dwyer)  
Mark Warner (Kendall Ramsay)  
Aileen Wiese (WPC)  
Janet Wilson (Gloria Purcell)  
Betty Winter (Dee Bee Wright)  
Robbie Yarnall (WPC)

## PRAYER LIST UPDATED FEBRUARY 2026

If you need to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please email [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org)

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

**Mission of the Week**  
Mary Ford Early Learning Center  
80 Thomasina McPherson Blvd.  
N. Charleston, SC 29405

**Student of the Week**  
Daniel Dounian  
1437 Ashley Garden Blvd.  
Charleston, SC 29414

**Church Family**  
Nathan & Ashley Snider  
Andrew, Miles

## 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**  
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Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, [dsmoak@wpccharleston.org](mailto:dsmoak@wpccharleston.org)  
Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate, [pholtzclaw@wpccharleston.org](mailto:pholtzclaw@wpccharleston.org)  
Janie Bruce, Director of Adult Discipleship, [jbruce@wpccharleston.org](mailto:jbruce@wpccharleston.org)  
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Tommye Owen, Financial Administrator, [finance@wpccharleston.org](mailto:finance@wpccharleston.org)  
Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director, [preschool@wpccharleston.org](mailto:preschool@wpccharleston.org)  
Meg Dorsel, Communications Coordinator, [mdorsel@wpccharleston.org](mailto:mdorsel@wpccharleston.org)