



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

August 16, 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 NO. 647 Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. (2x)

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" (2x)

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE from Thessalonians 5:16-18

One: Rejoice always!
All: We rejoice because we have an abundance of joy!
One: Pray continually
All: We pray because we cannot do it by ourselves.
One: Give thanks in all circumstances;
All: We give thanks because nothing can separate us from God's love.
One: This is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
All: We walk with Jesus in joy, in prayer, and in thanksgiving!

◆ PRAYER

◆ HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 35 Praise Ye the Lord, The Almighty (verses 1 & 2)

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and forgive us that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

-Silent Personal Confession-

◆ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 35 Praise Ye the Lord, The Almighty (verse 3)

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.

◆ 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

1 Corinthians 1:1-17

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 165

SERMON

Connected in Christ: Called to Be Saints Together

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 321 The Church's One Foundation

◆ 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.

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

OFFERING

Moment for Mission

Offerings of Time, Talent, and Treasure

Bring your offering to the offering plates as we sing

◆ Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

◆ Prayer of Dedication

LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:

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

Nancy Parrish, Pianist
Acolytes: Jane Akery, Riley Gentry
Ushers: Mark Friedrichs, Tracy Friedrichs, 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 given to the glory of God
and in memory of Peggy Inabinet by her family.*

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.

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 center aisle.
Online: Click the "Give Now" button in the top right of our homepage wpccharleston.org. Text: "charlestonwpc" to 73256.
Thank you for giving.

TIME OF OFFERING

Today we introduce a new Time of Offering during worship. As followers of Christ, we are called to offer more than our financial gifts. In worship, we bring our whole selves—our time, talents, resources, prayers, and lives—to God in grateful response to his grace. Each week, following the sermon, a brief Moment for Mission will highlight how Westminster is living out our mission in the community and around the world. You will then be invited to place your offering envelope, prayer requests, personal commitments, or kid's artwork in the offering plates (located in the center aisle) as we sing the Doxology and offer a Prayer of Dedication. Prayer requests will be shared with the staff and faithfully lifted in prayer throughout the week. Artwork will be posted on the bulletin board in Covenant Hall.

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



NEW HERE? MAKE SOME CONNECTIONS AT WESTMINSTER

Connections: An opportunity for those visiting or new who want to meet others and learn more about LIFE at Westminster. The next Connections Class is Sunday, August 23. 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. Email office@wpccharleston.org to reserve your place.

FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT: CONNECTED IN CHRIST: A STUDY OF 1 CORINTHIANS

August 16	1 Corinthians 1:1-17	Connected in Christ: Called to Be Saints Together
August 23	1 Corinthians 1:18-2:16	Connected in Christ: We All Need the Spirit
August 30	1 Corinthians 3:1-4:21	Connected in Christ: Building on the Foundation
September 6	1 Corinthians 5:1-6:20	Connected in Christ: When Immorality Threatens Purity
September 13	1 Corinthians 7:1-40	Connected in Christ: Married or Single: We Honor God

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR IN AUGUST: JOIN US AT 10:00 EVERY SUNDAY!

August 16	Kickoff Sunday: Ministry and Connections Fair for everyone.
August 23	Adult Classes meet for the first time / Connections Class
August 30	Friends from Thornwell and Presbyterian College share encouraging stories from our partnerships.
September 6	Anchor Class meets for the first time

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES THIS FALL AT WESTMINSTER:

- The Anchor Class:** This class emphasizes fellowship, good discussion, and growth. Studying Psalm 23.
- The Cary Grayson Class:** This class is engaged in a study and reflection of the Bible. Studying 2 Chronicles.
- The LIFE Class:** This class is full of deep questions and deep answers. Currently using a study titled, *The Distorted Images of God*.
- The No Prep Class.** By "no prep" we mean no preparation on the part of the participants. During this class we will read and discuss Jesus' parables in a Bible study format. Participants don't need to prepare ahead, don't need to be experts, and don't need to make a commitment to being present every week.

KICKOFF SUNDAY: CONNECTED IN CHRIST

TODAY is Kickoff Sunday at Westminster. Covenant Hall will be transformed into a Ministry & Connections Fair 10:00 - 10:45 a.m. with refreshments and varying informational tables for all of the different ways that we can connect with each other in ministry. There will be opportunities to learn about and sign up to participate or help with events, meals, music, Bible studies, and more! Children and Youth will promote up to their new Sunday School classes on this day. Sunday School students are invited to visit their new classrooms, meet their teachers, and get to know each other

NEW: QUARTERS EVERY QUARTER

Collection banks for our Quarters Every Quarter offering are available in the narthex. This simple practice is designed to help households cultivate stewardship and generosity at home. Place the bank in a visible spot, collect your spare change throughout the quarter, and use it as an opportunity to talk about giving as a family. Four times each year, we will receive the Quarters Every Quarter offering during worship to support a designated Westminster mission or ministry. Our first collection will be Sunday, September 13 to support WePack food kits for school kids in need. Whether you're a family with young children or an individual looking for a simple way to practice generosity, we invite you to pick up a collection bank and join us in this joyful act of giving. There is no charge for collection banks for the ones who participate.

COME SING WITH US!

"He who sings prays twice." – St. Augustine

Singing has always been at the heart of the Christian faith. Scripture is filled with invitations to sing—to praise God, to encourage one another, and to give voice to the joy and hope we have in Christ. That's what we experience in the Westminster choir. Choir is more than making music; it is a way of praying, growing in faith, serving the church, and enjoying one another's company. And you don't have to be a seasoned musician or have perfect attendance to join us. If you love to sing or have always wanted to sing with a choir, we'd love to have you. Wednesday evening rehearsals resume August 12 at 7:15 PM. Come give it a try and discover the joy of making a joyful noise together!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

As we begin a new school year, we will be Blessing of the Backpacks at both the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services today! During our regular *Time to Shine*, students are invited to come forward with their backpacks as we pray together, asking for God's guidance, wisdom, protection, and presence throughout the 2026-2027 school year. Whether you're starting preschool, heading to college, or anywhere in between, we hope you'll join us as we send our students into the new school year surrounded by prayer and encouragement.

YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP PREVIEW NIGHT: TODAY | 4:00-5:00 P.M. | COVENANT HALL

All 6th-12th grade youth and parents are invited to join us as we kick off a new year of youth ministry! This gathering is for all participating families—new and returning—as we share our vision, schedule, and exciting opportunities for the year ahead. While parents learn more about what's coming, youth will enjoy games and time connecting with their youth leaders. Please RSVP to Ms. Claire at cwinkles@wpccharleston.org.

YOUTH GROUP KICKOFF NIGHT! AUGUST 30 | 5:00-6:30 P.M. | COVENANT HALL

All 6th-12th grade youth are invited to join us for Youth Group Kickoff Night as we begin the year exploring our theme "Connected in Christ!" Come enjoy dinner, fellowship, games, and a fun night of reconnecting with friends and youth leaders. In order for us to have an estimated head count please RSVP by emailing Ms. Claire at Cwinkles@wpccharleston.org. Bring your excitement and get ready for a great year ahead!

YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM NOMINATIONS

This year, we are excited to launch our first-ever Youth Leadership Team for high school students! We invite congregation members to help us identify and encourage 9th-12th grade youth who have a passion for serving, sharing their ideas, and helping shape the future of our youth ministry. The Youth Leadership Team will work alongside youth leaders to plan events, provide feedback, and help create a welcoming, faith-filled community for all youth. Congregation members are encouraged to nominate youth they believe would be a great fit by emailing Ms. Claire at cwinkles@wpccharleston.org. Nominated students will then be invited to complete an application that includes a letter of recommendation from a member of the congregation. Please note that nominations and letters of recommendation should come from a congregation member that is not related to the nominated youth. Applications will be reviewed by Ms. Claire and other adults involved in youth discipleship. We are thrilled to see how God will use our 2026 Youth Leadership Team to point our youth and adults toward loving God and loving neighbor!

FEED THE YOUTH

Sunday Nights starting August 30th

4:45 - 5:30 p.m.

Interested in providing a meal for our Youth Discipleship Group on Sunday Nights? Remember you don't have to have a youth to feed the youth. They are happy with home cooked or hot-N-ready. Click link below for a list of dates to sign up to feed the youth on Sunday Nights August - May from 4:45 - 5:30 p.m.



ATTENTION PARENTS OF ELEMENTARY-AGED CHILDREN

You will receive a letter soon about our Worship Preparation Classes which will be held September 13-November 1, 2026. 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!

ACOLYTES-LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

If you are a rising third through rising sixth grader and are interested in serving as an acolyte, please call Miss Dee Bee at (843) 729-7005. Training will be Sunday, October 11 from 12:15-3:30 p.m. We will do our training in the Sanctuary after we have pizza in Covenant Hall. Your parents may leave you after church, or they may stay with us. We will need your parents back by 2:15 so that they may watch you practice and will know how to help you when you serve! The schedule will be distributed to you shortly after training, and you may switch with others as necessary. Please let me know if you are coming to training so I will have enough pizza! Please call me if you have any questions, and I look forward to working with each of you.



Previously trained acolytes do not need to be present for this training. I will be doing the schedule for November 2026-October 2027 and will email the new schedule to you. Thank you! Miss Dee Bee

RIVERDOGS FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT AT THE JOE

Join us on Saturday, August 22nd for Faith & Family night. Gates open at 5pm with the first pitch at 6:05 pm. We sold out our first 50 tickets but were able to secure 20 more! Use the link in the E-News to purchase yours! Tickets must be picked from the church office by Wednesday, August 19th.

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 29th 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 1:30. Participants may choose two workshops and have worship in between. The Rev. Tony Larson is preaching, and Natasha Akery and Pastor Daniel are leading workshops. Pre-registration deadline is August 12, and the registration fee is \$25. (\$20 if by 7/22) We encourage you to pre-register, but if your plans change and you can attend at the last minute, you may register at the event (\$35). Brochures are in the Admin hallway or check out capresbytery.org for more information.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS ARE BACK BEGINNING AUGUST 19th

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. The menu this week is pasta, garden salad and dessert. \$10/person or \$35/family via cash, card or check.

READ GOOD BOOKS IN 2026!

Join Pastor Daniel as we read books that stretch our minds, deepen our faith, and encourage us in the journey of discipleship. Throughout the year, we'll explore a variety of authors, topics, and genres, choosing books that spark meaningful conversation and help us grow as followers of Christ.

Our current selection is **You Are What You Love** by James K. A. Smith. This is one of those rare books that changes the way you see everyday life. Smith argues that our lives are shaped less by what we think and more by what we love—and that our loves are formed by the habits and practices we engage in every day. Whether we're aware of it or not, everything from shopping malls to social media to Sunday worship is shaping our hearts. Written with warmth, humor, and theological depth, *You Are What You Love* invites us to rediscover Christian worship as God's way of reordering our desires so that we love God—and our neighbors—more faithfully. If you've ever wondered why it's so difficult to live out what you believe, or how spiritual growth really happens, this book offers fresh insight, practical wisdom, and plenty to discuss together.

We'll meet at **6:00 p.m.** on **September 27** and **October 25**.

- September 27: Discuss pages 1–82
- October 25: Discuss pages 83–188

Books are \$15 and are available in the Narthex or through online booksellers. New readers are always welcome!

TABLE TALK WITH THE SMOAKS

Looking for a relaxed evening of good conversation? Join Pastor Daniel and Amy Smoak for Table Talk, a casual gathering where everyone is welcome. Whether you're new to the church, have been here for years, or are simply looking for a place to ask questions and connect with others, we'd love to have you.

We'll gather on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at The Garden by Charles Towne Fermentory (1331 Ashley River Road).

Upcoming Dates:

- September 8
- October 13
- November 10
- December 8

We'll have a general topic each night, but bring your thoughts and questions. The conversation is informal, and there's always room for whatever is on your mind. Drinks are available for purchase, there are tables for food you bring or have delivered, and plenty of space for kids to romp. We hope you'll pull up a chair and join us!

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, August 16

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Kickoff Sunday: Ministry and Connections Fair, Covenant Hall
11:00 am	Worship Service
4:00 pm	Youth & Parent Info. Night, Covenant Hall
5:00 pm	Deacons Meeting, Covenant Hall
6:00 pm	Stated Session Meeting, Room 4
7:30 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, August 17

Tuesday, August 18

10:00 am	Staff Meeting
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Wednesday, August 19

10:00 am	Volunteer, Neighbors Together
6:00 pm	Wonderful Wednesday, Covenant Hall
7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Thursday, August 20

8:00 am	Preschool Staff Meeting, Covenant Hall
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Friday, August 21

Saturday, August 22

6:00 pm	Riverdogs Faith & Family Night at the Joe
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Sunday, August 23

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
7:30 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

The Alexandre Family (WPC)
Daryn Baker (Jane Acker)
Mary Ashley Barbot (Lisa Couch)
Bob & Angelle Beaty (WPC)
The Boyd Family (WPC)
Allyn Bruce (WPC)
Susie Cashion (WPC)
Lauren Choate (Sara Dwyer)
Allen Croft (Gwen Croft)
Lydia Crosby (WPC)
Martin Davis (Kevin Mikles)
Hosanna Eadie (Katie Baturin)
Roxanne Eadie (Katie Baturin)
Ann & Ellen Farrar (Beth Georgen)
Art Fields (Gloria Purcell)
Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye)
Randleson Floyd/Daniels (Gloria Purcell)
Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard)
Emma Fruth (WPC)
Bob Georgen (WPC)
Family of Keith Gordon (WPC)
Margaret Ellen Hamman (Suzanne Fox)

Janie Hammersmith (WPC)
Megan Hatfield (Debbie McQueeney)
Betsy Henson (Ashley Snider)
Anna Hewitt (Dee Bee Wright)
Richard Holtz (WPC)
The Hudson Family (Priscilla Holtzclaw)
Perry Hunter (Kate Cowart)
Emerson Jones (Molly Griggs)
Lynn Koger (WPC)
Mary Laird (Ashley Snider)
Fran & John Ligon (WPC)
Ray Long (Ellen Bollinger)
Joe Marchiney (Carole Russell)
Susie Martin (Beth Georgen)
John Martschink (WPC)
Mary Martschink (WPC)
Jay Massalon (Dana Tumbleston)
David McEachern (Debra Luhn)
Marley Miller (Dee Bee Wright)
Carolyn Niblock (WPC)

Ottery Family (Sara Dwyer)
Julie Pell (Sandy & Debbie Pell)
Powell Family (WPC)
Nancy Plowden (WPC)
Pratt Family (WPC Preschool)
Donna Purcell (WPC)
Joyce Reeves (Sue Smoak)
Paula Ruth (Debbie McQueeney)
Marlowe Schneider (D. Tumbleston)
Sarah Schumann (WPC)
Tradd Shepard (WPC)
Rachel Singletary (Sara Bobo)
Ray Thomas (Sara Dwyer)
Gloria Underhill (Laura Nunn)
Kathy Unger (John Dounian)
Jacqueline Vance (Sara Dwyer)
Justin Welch (Kristin Dounian)
Aileen Wiese (WPC)
Janet Wilson (Gloria Purcell)
Betty Winter (Dee Bee Wright)
Peggy Winter (Dee Bee Wright)
Robbie Yarnall (WPC)

PRAYER LIST UPDATED AUGUST 2026

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 Cir., Apt.B
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29414

Mission of the Week

Boy Scout Troop 79

Student of the Week

Lincoln Gilbert
8036 Thoroughbred Rd.
Pensacola, FL 32526

Church Family

Nathan and Meghan Ward
Marshall, Lucas,
Zachary

ELDERS AND SESSION COMMITTEES

Administration: Michael Patrick and Paul Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Tim Fox and Ben Whitener; **Christian Education:** Natasha Akery and Kevin Mikles; **Fellowship:** Michael Scruggs, Andrew Hopkins, Joe Tompkins; **Finance:** Sarah Schumann and Norman Hook; **Connections:** Cameron Baker and Lindy Coleman; **Missions:** Dee Bee Wright and Joshua Robinson; **Preschool:** Rick Baturin; **Worship:** Deborah-Anne Ferguson and Cathy Grills; **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, pholtzclaw@wpccharleston.org
Janie Bruce, Director of Adult Discipleship, jbruce@wpccharleston.org
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