



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

September 20, 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

The Gift of Love
Jordan Mae Bazzle, violin

HOPSON

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

One: We gather as one body, joined together in the love of Christ.
All: **We are many, but we belong to one another.**
One: Let us love one another, not only in words,
but in the ways we welcome, serve, and care for one another.
All: **We will seek the good of our neighbors and make room for one another.**
One: Christ calls us to live in unity, bearing with one another in love.
So let us worship God together, with open hearts and generous spirits.
All: **Come, let us worship the God who gathers us together in love.**

◆ PRAYER

◆ SONG OF PRAISE NO. 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

CONFESSION

◆ CONFESSING OUR SIN AND BROKENNESS

Gracious and loving God, you have called us to be one body, to love one another as Christ has loved us, and to welcome our neighbors with open hearts. Yet we confess that we fall short. We choose our own comfort rather than making room for others. We are quick to notice differences and slow to see the image of God in those who are not like us. Forgive us when our words divide rather than unite, and when our actions fail to reflect the love we proclaim. Make us a people who listen, forgive, welcome, and love. Bind us together in the unity of your Spirit, and teach us to see every person as your beloved child. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. 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 8:1-10:22

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 171

SERMON

Connected in Christ: We Consider the Spiritual Needs of Others

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE

Oh How Good It Is

Oh how good it is, when the family of God, dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love, are the fruit of His presence, here among us.

REFRAIN

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord. And with one heart we'll live out his word.
Till the whole earth sees, the Redeemer has come, for he dwells in the presence of his people.

Oh how good it is, on this journey we share, to rejoice with the happy, and weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace, when we offer the blessing of belonging. (REFRAIN)

Oh how good it is, to embrace his command, to prefer one another; forgive as he forgives.
When we live as one, we all share in the love, of the Son with the Father, and the Spirit. (REFRAIN)

◆ DECLARATION OF FAITH

From A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, who calls us to be one people and makes us members of one body. We believe that in Christ we are reconciled to one another, and that the Holy Spirit gathers us into one church. We are called to be one in Christ, to love one another as Christ has loved us, and to live together in the unity for which Christ prayed. With all God's people, we proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord. 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

Youth Leadership Team

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; Natasha Akery, Elder;
Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries

Nancy Parrish, Pianist
Acolytes: Jane Akery, Riley Gentry

Ushers: Robinson Family, 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

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

At WPC, we have a 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 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 aisles) 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. 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 Connections 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, October 18th. 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

TODAY	1 Corinthians 8:1-10:22	Connected in Christ: We Consider the Spiritual Needs of Others
September 27	1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1	Connected in Christ: We Do All to the Glory of God
October 4	1 Corinthians 11:17-34	Connected in Christ: Communion is Communal

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES THIS FALL AT WESTMINSTER:

- The Anchor Class: This class emphasizes fellowship, good discussion, and growth. Studying Psalm 23. This class meets in Room 4.
- The Cary Grayson Class: This class meets in the Parlor and is engaged in a study and reflection of the Bible. Studying 2 Chronicles.
- The LIFE Class: This class meets in the Library and is full of deep questions and deep answers. Currently using a study titled The Distorted Images of God.
- The Come As You Are Class: This class is designed to meet adults wherever they are in their journey with the Bible. If you're new, been studying for years, or anywhere in between, just come as you are. The class will read and discuss Jesus' parables. Participants don't need to prepare ahead. This class meets in Room 15 of the Education Building.

WHAT IF YOU COULD STUDY THE BIBLE LIKE A LITERATURE COURSE? Join Natasha Akery in reading the book of Jonah as a satirical text that critiques exclusionary grace. Participants will learn the basics of literary inquiry and how this approach to the Bible can expand theological depth and our appreciation of the world's most beautiful work of literature. This study starts today, but there are a few spots left. The session will run September 13 - October 18 on Sundays at 5 pm in the Parlor. Because of the limited number of spaces available, full participation in the class is expected and appreciated. Please reach out to Natasha Akery or Janie Bruce, jbruce@wpccharleston.org, for more information or to join the class.

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 the menu is pork loin, garden salad, and dessert! \$10/person or \$35/family via cash, card or check.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES-SAMS-LUNCH AND LEARN-OCTOBER 8 AT 1:00

Join us for a **salad potluck lunch**. Bring your favorite salad to share (potato, chicken, pasta, tuna, vegetable, congealed, etc.). Beverages/Desserts will be provided. Our speaker is Tim Fox who will share Smart Tax Savings Strategies for Seniors.

No sign-up needed.

FEED THE YOUTH

Sunday Nights, 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.



GLOBAL MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY IN 2027!

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 2027:

- o a team of adults February 15-20.
- o a team of High Schoolers June 28-July 3.

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. Save your spot on the February team with a conservation with Pastor Daniel and a \$200 deposit payable to WPC by October 31.

BETHELWOODS FAMILY RETREAT

Due to some scheduling conflicts, we have rescheduled the Bethelwoods Family Retreat from October 16-18 to January 15-17, 2027

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 13th of December. If you have any questions please contact Barbara Lundy at (843) 607-2102

BOOK CLUB - Interested in reading fiction books and chatting with others in an informal setting? Join us!

- Selection: *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi
- Meeting time: Sunday, October 4 @ 12:30pm
- Meeting place: TBones Restaurant West Ashley
- RSVP to Janie Bruce at jbruce@wpccharleston.org by Friday, October 2.
- Future selections & dates
 - *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans on Sunday, November 1
 - TBD on Sunday, December 6

WoW LUNCHEON: All Women of Westminster are invited to connect with each other before we enter the busy holiday season at a luncheon in Covenant Hall on Sunday, September 27 immediately following 11:00 worship. Main dish will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share. There is no additional cost for this event and childcare is available. Use the QR code to RSVP and find out more information. Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 23.



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

Second Tuesday of each month; 6:30 p.m. at The Garden by Charles Towne Fermentory

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: 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!

QUARTERS EVERY QUARTER!

Last week was the Quarters Every Quarter collection, and we collected more than 40 pounds of change (yet to be counted) for WePack. If you brought your bank today, there is a bucket in the narthex. The next collection is December 13. 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 receive the Quarters Every Quarter offering during worship to support a designated Westminster mission or ministry. 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.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, September 20

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
4:00 pm	Youth Leadership Meeting, Covenant Hall
5:00 pm	Youth Group
5:00 pm	Bible as Literature Class, Parlor
5:00 pm	Deacons Meeting, Covenant Hall
6:00 pm	Stated Session Meeting, Room 4
7:30 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, September 21

6:30 pm	Circle 1 Meeting, Library
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Tuesday, September 22

10:00 am	Staff Meeting
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Wednesday, September 23

6:00 pm	Wonderful Wednesday, Covenant Hall
6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Thursday, September 24

11:30 am	CAJM Clergy Meeting, Covenant Hall
6:30 pm	Scout Troop 79 Pack Meeting, Covenant Hall

Friday, September 25

5:00 pm	Scout Troop 79 Movie Night, Covenant Hall
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Saturday, September 26

Sunday, September 27

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
5:00 pm	Youth Group Night Out
5:00 pm	Bible as Literature Class, Parlor
6:00 pm	Read Good Books, Pastor Daniel's Office
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)
Carol & Price Jackson (Sara Dwyer)
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)
Jim Mobley (Mobley Family)
Carolyn Niblock (WPC)

Ottery Family (Sara Dwyer)
Nancy Plowden (WPC)
Powell Family (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 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

Friend of the Week
Lynn Koger
129 Chadwick Drive
Charleston, SC 29407

Mission of the Week
Thornwell Home for Children
302 South Broad St.
Clinton, SC 29325

Student of the Week
Macie Long
Student Box 51489
207 E. Maple Street
Clinton, SC 29325

Church Family
Ben & Myra Whitener
Noelle, Ava

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