# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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# Sunday, April 7, 2024 |On Demand on Facebook & YouTube|9a & 11:15a



Second Sunday of Easter Preparation for Worship

Almighty and eternal God, by your grace you have called us to this time and place to be your servant people as we follow our servant Lord. Send your Holy Spirit to move within us and among us, that together we may live a new life in the crucified and risen Christ. Bind us together in faith, so that as we receive and share the spiritual gifts needed to fulfill our calling, we may support one another in common ministry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# Gathering and Preparing for God's Word

Welcome and Announcements

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. People: And also with you.

Prelude	I Know that My Redeemer Lives	Held
Choral Introit, Hymr	243 "Be Not Afraid"	Taizé
* Call to Worship		Ephesians 4:4-6

Leader: There is one body and one Spirit.

- People: Just as we were called to the one hope of our calling:
- Leader: One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.
- People: Who is above all and through all and in all.

All: Let us worship God!

"That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright" \* Hymn 254 Puer Nobis Nascitur

- \* Prayer of Confession
  - Merciful and loving God,

you have called us to be your people

and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ.

We confess that we have not lived up to our calling

- to proclaim the good news in word and deed.
- We are quick to speak when we ought to listen
- and remain silent when it is time to speak.
- We put too much faith in our own actions
- and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit.
- O God, forgive our foolish and self-indulgent ways.

Renew us once again to follow Christ's way in the world.

By your Holy Spirit,

give us grace to be your faithful and courageous disciples, ready to go where you send us

and to let go of that which we no longer need to carry.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

\* Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

\* Gloria Patri, Hymn 581

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.



11:15a Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

#### Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Ille	umination	
First Scripture Lesson, John 20:19-23		p. 883
Second Scripture Lesson, Acts 9:10-19a		p. 893
	The Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	
Sermon	"Does God Still Send People?"	

### Responding to God's Word

\* Affirmation 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, 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. Ordination and Installation of Elders 11:15a Presentation of Candidates For Ordination and Installation Ben Bloodworth George Howell Creighton Likes Elizabeth Timmons Carrie Marguet For Installation

Ben Dillard Will Edwards Kathrvn Freedman Mary Gentry Claire Gilliland Trey Morrow Mandv Pruitt Sam White. Jr. Leader: There are varieties of gifts. People: But it is the same Spirit who gives them. Leader: There are different ways of serving God. People: But it is the same Lord who is served. Leader: God works through each person in a unique way. People: But it is God's purpose that is accomplished. Leader: To each is given a gift of the Spirit

to be used for the common good. People: Together we are the body of Christ,

and individually members of it.

Statement on Ordination & Installation Constitutional Questions Laying on of Hands & Prayer Charge & Welcome

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. Offertory 9a Let Us Cheer the Weary Traveler Spiritual, arr. Burleigh Offertory 11:15a Send Out Thy Light Balakireff/Cherwien

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession The Lord's Praver Offering

\* Prayer of Dedication

- \* Hymn 295 \* Charge and Benediction
- \* Benediction Response, Hymn 740
- \* Postlude

Ben Dorr, preaching Leigh Stuckey, liturgist David Golladay (9a), Ben Edwards (11:15a), scripture readers Nikki Grumbine (9a), Emily Cole (11:15a), sponsors Todd Monsell, *organist/pianist* The Sanctuary Choir Derek Pitman (9a). soloist Parks Workman (9a), Rance Bryan (11:15a), head ushers Jacob Barker, Marian Carpenter, Lindsey Donlan, Carroll Farmer, Zach Freeman (9a), greeters Susan Robbins, Ginny Reed, Jordan Smith, Tom Vanderbloemen, Parks Workman (11:15a), greeters Quinn Ray (9a), Mary Eliza Duncan (11:15a), acolytes

# WORSHIP NOTES

## NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment for children. The Nursery is located on the mezzanine level. The entrance is at Westminster Drive, at the columbarium or near the Westminster Weekday School offices. The Family Lounge, located down the stairs from the front office and straight down the hallway on the right, is available for any child caregiver and includes worship livestream, comfortable seating, and a changing table.

# WELCOME TO WPC!

Please fill out a name tag and find more information about WPC at the Welcome Table in the Atrium. First time visitors are also invited to take home a WPC mug.

The Sacrament of Baptism 9a

Charles Lockett Cheney

\* Doxology Hymn 606

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.

"Go to the World!"

"Lead Me, Guide Me"

Trumpet Tune on Morganlied

SINE NOMINE

OLD HUNDREDTH

Lead Me. Guide Me

Lasky \*All who are able may stand

# Leading Worship this Morning

# Join Us in Welcoming

## BAPTISMS

This morning at the 9a worship service, we welcome into our fellowship Charles Lockett Cheney, son of Scott & Jordan Cheney.

## We Remember in Prayer

Libba Lowery on the death of her father, Marion Beacham, Jr., on Monday, April 1, 2024, in Greenville.

## SERMON SERIES: THEN AND NOW

During the Easter season, our sermon series will explore the question, "What does the early church have to teach us?" We will look at how the early church is described in the New Testament, and explore how those descriptions are related to being God's church in the 21st century. Our topic this Sunday is being sent.

# OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

### BAPTISM CLASS

If you would like to have your child baptized at Westminster, our next Baptism class is scheduled for Sunday, April 7, at 4:30p. Please notify the church office if you would like to attend, and we will be glad to send you the information for this class.

# Spring Choristers Musical

The Junior and Senior Choristers. accompanied by a trio from the Greenville Jazz Collective, will present their spring musical, Wise Guys: A Musical Play Based on the Book of Proverbs in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, April 14 at 4p. The musical will be preceded by a presentation from the Cherub Choir. All are invited to come out in support of our musical WPC children!

### **CONNECTIONS GROUP**

Connections, a lunch group for singles and couples, will meet at Stella's Southern Bistro (684 Fairview Rd, Simpsonville) on Sunday, April 14, at 12:45p after the 11:15 worship service. RSVP to ruthiohnst51@ gmail.com by Friday, April 12. Newcomers are always welcome!

### **2024 CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE**

Mark your calendars! We are thrilled to announce the 2024 Lowcountry Civil Rights Pilgrimage, from October 11-14, Continuing our tradition of educational experiences that enrich our faith and challenge our present discipleship, we will travel to Charleston to learn more about the Gullah-Geechee community of South Carolina, visit Mother Emmanuel AMC, worship with a historically Black PCUSA congregation organized during Reconstruction, and visit the newly opened International African American Museum in Charleston. Watch the Harbinger and eNews for details and to sign up. Email Leigh Stuckey with questions.

#### A PILGRIMAGE TO SCOTLAND CELTIC SPIRITUALITY AND OUR SCOTTISH ROOTS MARCH 12-23, 2025

Join Westminster members and families on our inaugural international pilgrimage! The 12-day journey provides a deep dive into the Scottish roots of the Presbyterian Church as well as its contemporary expression in the Church of Scotland. Highlights include Edinburgh and Glasgow, the Isle of Iona with its evocative abbey, and key sites related to the life and ministry of John Knox in St. Andrews and Edinburgh. Travelers of all ages are welcome. The trip is designed to partially overlap with Greenville County Schools Spring Break. Spots are limited and can be reserved at the Progressive Pilgrimage portal [https://progressivepilgrimage.com/westminster/]. The estimated cost is \$5971/person with a single supplement of \$950. Round trip airfare, entry fees, transportation-in-country, daily breakfasts, five lunches, seven dinners, and all tips are included. Contact Leigh Stuckey for more information.

Texts for vocal solos and choral music may be found online by 白が形 scanning this QR code.

#### MEN OF WESTMINSTER RETREAT MONTREAT CONFERENCE CENTER April 26-28, 2024

All men of Westminster are invited to the second annual men's retreat in Montreat, NC. Presbyterian College's Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual Life. The Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon, will be the guest speaker. The cost is \$255. Sign up online at wpc-online.org. For more information, contact Tony Threatt (tony.threatt@gmail.com).

#### WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CIRCLE MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 9 Circle 3, at the home of Susan Colvin (101 Kimborough St) at

- 2p. Circle Chair: Dee Malone (dee05m@gmail.com). Wednesday, April 10
- Circle 6, at the home of Liz Einstein (223 Camille Ave) at 9a. Circle Co-Chairs: Liz Éinstein (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) and Sherry Tate (sherrytate63@ gmail.com).

Tuesday, April 16

Circle 7, at the home of Terri LeGrand (16 N. Brookwood Dr) at 6p. Circle Chair: Josie Williams (jgwilliams1803@gmail com).

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# 语灯 @ ( ) wpcgreenville | wpc-online.org | 2310 Augusta St.

### THE HARBINGER

Westminster Presbyterian Church 2310 Augusta Street Greenville, South Carolina 29605 (864) 232-2424 www.wpc-online.org THE HARBINGER: (USPS No. 764160) Published weekly by the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2310 Augusta Street, Greenville SC 29605. Periodical postage paid at Greenville SC 29605.

#### **Church Staff**

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Wendy Bagley Secretary wendy@wpc-online.org

Aly Friend Director of Nurseries alyfriend@wpc-online.org

Steve Phillips Building Supervisor sphillips@wpc-online.org CALENDAR OF EVENTS April 7 - 14, 2024

# Sunday, April 7

- Second Sunday of Easter 9:00a Worship Service 10:00 One Adult Sunday School WestConnect (Leigh Miller) WestConnect (George Howell) WestConnect (Kathleen Reynolds) 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting Worship Service w/Ordination 11:15 & Installation of Elders 4:30p **Baptism** Class 5:00 Middler Youth Group 5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal Connect, Serve, and Grow 6:00 Task Force Meeting Youth Dinner WestConnect (Heather Dorr) 6:30 Middler Choir Rehearsal Senior High Youth Group
- Monday, April 8
  - 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous
- Tuesday, April 9
  - 12:00p Al-Anon Meeting  $2:00^{-1}$ Circle 3 Meeting

#### Wednesday, April 10

- 9:00a Circle 6 Meeting
- 10:15 Weekday Chapel
- 2:15p It's Elementary
- 3:30 Cherub Choir
- 4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 7:00
- Thursday, April 11
  - 10:00a Thursday Bible Study
  - 12:00p Finance Committee Meeting
  - 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous
- Friday, April 12

4:00p Weekday School Carnival

# Sunday, April 14

Third Sunday of Easter 9:00a Worship Service Creation Stewardship Meeting Membership Committee Meeting Witness & Service Committee Meeting 10:00 One Adult Sunday School Confirmation Class #7 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting 11:15 Worship Service **Connections Group** 12:45p Cherub Choir & Choristers 4:00Spring Programs 5:00 Middler Youth Group 5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal 6:00 Youth Dinner Middler Choir Rehearsal 6:30 Senior High Youth Group



# VOLUME LXXVI | April 7, 2024 | No. 51



# From the Pews, John MacCarthy

In John 20:19-23, Jesus comes to the disciples on a Sunday evening following his resurrection. They are hiding in the night and fearful of persecution. He gives them the gift of peace (shalom), shows them his wounds, and sends them out into the world to spread his Word. The passage closes with Jesus giving them the gifts of the Holy Spirit to guide them and the power to forgive sins.

In the passage preceding this, Mary Magdalene is weeping outside our Lord's tomb, feeling hopeless and abandoned. Jesus comes to her and lets her know that he has risen and asks her to go to the disciples and let them know as well, which she immediately does.

In the passage following this, Thomas doubts that it is really Jesus, and expresses a need to actually touch the wounds. Jesus invites him to do so and says: "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Wow! What a perfect message for US following Easter. As I reflect on these passages, there is so much here that I hardly know where to start.

It is certainly important to know that Jesus was resurrected and that the disciples witnessed this first hand. But I think it is even more important for us to take the lessons that Jesus taught into our own hearts and act on them. WE are given the gifts of God's grace and peace. WE are given Jesus' request to go into the world and act on his Word. WE are given God's gift to forgive. And WE are asked to act on these gifts in OUR lives.

The passages that bracket this passage also have much to teach us. There are times in our lives that seem hopeless, that we are living in fear and feel alone and abandoned. But Jesus is here with us, though it may be difficult to see or believe. And it is alright for us to question whether he is truly here and to want to be able to prove this by touching his wounds. But, unlike Thomas, we need to be among the blessed "who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

#### INTERESTED IN JOINING WESTMINSTER?

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster and joining the church are invited to attend our New Member Class from 9-10:30a on Sunday, April 21. Those who attend the class are invited to become members and be introduced during the 11:15a worship service that same day or on a future new member Sunday. Childcare is available. Please contact Leigh Stuckey (lstuckey@ wpc-online.org) at 232-2424 to learn more and RSVP.

# HANDS ON GREENVILLE [HOG] DAY

Join folks from across our congregation and community for Hands on Greenville Day on Saturday. April 20. Projects supporting Soteria, United Ministries, and World Relief are available for all ages and abilities. Service projects will be followed by a lunch and celebration at Fluor Field. Read more about each project and register on WPC's website.

# THORNWELL SUPPLY DRIVE:

Westminster is a proud supporter of Thornwell. Join our supply drive to support Thornwell's Foster Care Program, which works to provide children in need with safe homes to support trauma recovery and healing while their families cope with crisis. For a list of needed items, visit https://grco.de/betsMV or scan the QR code. You can drop off items at WPC throughout the month of May.



SUPPLY DRIVE

### HOSPITALITY TEAM

Are you a worker bee with a gift for welcoming others? Join WPC's Hospitality Team! Volunteers receive regular invitations to help with receptions (including donuts!), meals, and other church-wide events. To sign up, contact Wendy Bagley at wendy@wpc-online.org.

### WESTMINSTER ACADEMY, 10A SUNDAYS

### God's Servants, the Prophets Room 209

Join us for the annual Westminster Academy Series throughout the month of April. This year's lecturer, Dr. Bryan Bibb, will focus on the challenge and promise of the Hebrew Prophets.

Westminster Academy, led each year by local academics, exists to cultivate theological imagination. Adults will meet at 10a for one unified Sunday School class (the class will also stream at wpc-online.org). Past lecturers have included Dr. Peter Hobbie (2019, 2020, 2022) and Dr. Bob Bryant. This year's lecturer, Dr. Bryan Bibb, is a Professor of Religion, with a specialty in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. A 1994 graduate of Furman. Brvan received his MDiv and PhD degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary, and returned as a member of the Furman faculty in 2000. During his career, he has been awarded both the Furman Standard Research Grant and the Alester G. Furman Jr. and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Teaching. Bryan has served as the President of the Southeastern regional of the Society of Biblical Literature, as the Board Chairman of the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion, and as a research fellow with the Nida Institute of the American Bible Society. Having written books about Leviticus and about the Hebrew Prophets, Bryan's current area of research is the history and ideology of Bible translation, and he is also writing a major academic commentary on the book of Numbers for the Word Biblical Commentary series.

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#### THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet in the Charter Room on Monday, April 22, at 7p. Nikki Grumbine will lead the discussion of Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants, by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Nikki is presenting the program on behalf of the WPC Creation Stewardship Group. Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

#### MEN OF WESTMINSTER

The Men of Westminster will hold their annual Thursday at the Masters on Thursday, April 11, at Yee-Haw Brewing (307 E McBee Ave), starting at 5:30p. Join us for fellowship and golf talk. Contact Tony Threatt (tony.threatt@gmail.com) for more information.

### WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

Our next WoW social will be Wednesday, April 17, 6p at Tacozzini (1818 Augusta Rd). Grab a friend or two, a new member, and come join us for fellowship and fun.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ANNUAL LUNCHEON SUNDAY, APRIL 28, AT 12:30P

Please join us for the Annual Women's Luncheon on Sunday, April 28, at 12:30p in the Fellowship Hall. This year's speaker will be Lisa O'Connell Hall, CEO of Jasmine Road and Jasmine Kitchen. Lunch will be catered and all Women of Westminster are invited to attend. Sign ups begin online Tuesday, April 9 -Wednesday, April 24. Contact Jill Fairey (803-920-2071) with any guestions.

> **Our Vision: Open Minds Open Hearts Our Pillars:** Hospitality Generosity Justice Imagination Joy **Our Goals:** *Connect* Serve Grow

# GREENVILLE ORGANIZED FOR ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP (GOAL)

The relationship between faith and social justice is historical and diverse. Faith communities have long been involved in direct action for justice and civil rights. Greenville Organized for Accountable Leadership (GOAL) is a group of twenty-nine local congregations, including Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Bahai's, and Unitarians. We unite with the shared purpose of promoting and showing up to demand a healthy and prosperous Grenville for all.

The faith-at-work community has long demonstrated that spirituality motivates us to action. In March of 2023, over 1600 people showed up to the Nehemiah Action, where our local leaders agreed to work toward significant funding for affordable housing. Additionally, state Senator, Ross Turner, helped us secure legislative commitment of \$3.9M to fully fund the suicide crisis line (988).

This year, we continue our work to ensure that our demands remain fulfilled. The research committee has determined that the Mental Health Crisis Line actually requires \$4.1 million, so we will be reaching for that amount through our legislators. This year's Nehemiah Action is April 15 at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Simpsonville. WPC sent 116 attendees last year, and we hope that we will have an even larger number at this year's Nehemiah Action. The WPC bus will be available for this trip and we encourage carpooling among members and their invitees.

If you are interested in joining GOAL, or would like additional information, contact Julia Bellew (juliabellew@gmail.com) or Bill Holt (billholt71@aol.com).

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# MEN OF WESTMINSTER

The Men of Westminster will hold their annual Thursday at the Masters on Thursday, April 11, at Yee-Haw Brewing (307 E McBee Ave), starting at 5:30p. Join us for fellowship and golf talk. Contact Tony Threatt (tony.threatt@gmail.com) for more information.

# WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

Our next WoW social will be Wednesday, April 17, 6p at Tacozzini (1818 Augusta Rd). Grab a friend or two, a new member, and come join us for fellowship and fun.

# GREENVILLE ORGANIZED FOR ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP (GOAL)

The relationship between faith and social justice is historical and diverse. Faith communities have long been involved in direct action for justice and civil rights. Greenville Organized for Accountable Leadership (GOAL) is a group of twenty-nine local congregations, including Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Bahai's, and Unitarians. We unite with the shared purpose of promoting and showing up to demand a healthy and prosperous Grenville for all.

The faith-at-work community has long demonstrated that spirituality motivates us to action. In March of 2023, over 1600 people showed up to the Nehemiah Action, where our local leaders agreed to work toward significant funding for affordable housing. Additionally, state Senator, Ross Turner, helped us secure legislative commitment of \$3.9M to fully fund the suicide crisis line (988).

This year, we continue our work to ensure that our demands remain fulfilled. The research committee has determined that the Mental Health Crisis Line actually requires \$4.1 million, so we will be reaching for that amount through our legislators. This year's Nehemiah Action is April 15 at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Simpsonville. WPC sent 116 attendees last year, and we hope that we will have an even larger number at this year's Nehemiah Action. The WPC bus will be available for this trip and we encourage carpooling among members and their invitees. If you are interested in joining GOAL, or would like additional information. contact Julia Bellew (juliabellew@gmail.com) or Bill Holt (billholt71@aol.com).

# WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ANNUAL LUNCHEON SUNDAY, APRIL 28, AT 12:30P

Please join us for the Annual Women's Luncheon on Sunday, April 28, at 12:30p in the Fellowship Hall. This year's speaker will be Lisa O'Connell Hall, CEO of Jasmine Road and Jasmine Kitchen. Lunch will be catered and all Women of Westminster are invited to attend. Sign ups begin online Tuesday, April 9 -Wednesday, April 24. Contact Jill Fairey (803-920-2071) with any guestions.

<b>Our Vision:</b>
Open Minds
Open Hearts
Our Pillars:
Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy
Our Goals:
Connect
Serve
Grow