

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 7, 2018

9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Epiphany Sunday

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

If you are curious, and have come to see
If you are weary, and have come to rest
If you are grateful, and have come to share
If you are hurting, and have come for solace
If you are listening, and have come to pray
If you are seeking, and have come for answers
WELCOME

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMON CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Paul Grier

** CHORAL INTROIT

Woodward

“What Star Is This, with Beams so Bright”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God comes to judge the people with righteousness,
the poor with justice.

People: The weak receive pity, and the needy are saved.

Leader: Praise God for goodness, and give thanks for salvation.

People: We thank God, who brings comfort and hope.

Leader: Let us worship God.

* HYMN No. 151

KINGS OF ORIENT

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Source of salvation and Bringer of light, we fail to sense the mystery of your
love. We bear grudges against our neighbors, while it is your nature to forgive.
We hold tightly to our possessions, while Christ blesses the poor. In him you
have spoken peace, yet we live in turmoil. We care little for this planet, which
you in goodness created for our habitation. In mercy forgive us, and help us
to amend our ways.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 581)

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.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

**CALL TO PRAYER

Woodward

“What Star Is This, with Beams so Bright”

MORNING PRAYERS

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Hymnal page 35, Traditional

K5 and first grade children leave for Children’s Church following the prayer.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SOLO/ANTHEM

Pote

“Arise, Shine, for your Light Has Come”

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON — Isaiah 60:1-6 (Page 690) David Golladay

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON — Matthew 2:1-12, 16 (Page 2)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Ludwig Weaver

“Where Is the Child?”

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* 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, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried; 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.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Offertory

“The Three Kings”

Young

* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 606)

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

* Prayer of Dedication

* HYMN No. 150

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

DIX

* BENECTION

** CHORAL RESPONSE

Buchanan

“Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace”

* POSTLUDE

arr. Phillips

“Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him”

*All who are able may stand

** 11:15 a.m. service only

HEAD USHERS:

9:00 a.m.

Pete Sweeny

11:15 a.m.

Danna Rohleder

SPONSOR:

11:15 a.m.

Hank Sanders

GREETERS:

9:00 a.m.

Walter Hinton, Susan McLeod

Julia Bellew

11:15 a.m.

Catherine Blount, Coleman Kirven

Becca Donohue

LITURGIST:

Leigh Stuckey

ACOLYTES:

9:00 a.m.

Rollins Beck, Charlie Ratterree

11:15 a.m.

McCrae Mattice, Anna Puntch

If you are visiting this morning, we extend a special welcome to you.
Westminster Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a community of faith
open to all who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PARKING

We have permission to use the parking
lots at the Uniform Shop and Augusta
Commons Mall.

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be
on duty from 9:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. to
help people cross the street from the
other side of Augusta Road.

STREAMING

All worship services at Westminster
are broadcast via live video streaming.
Navigate to the home page of the
church website at www.wpc-online.org
and click the link “Worship via Live
Streaming.”

CHURCH NOTES

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday
are:

Nancy Smith, organist

9:00 a.m.

Emily Sweezey, soprano

11:15 a.m.

Sanctuary Choir

During the worship service, children
in K5 - 1st grade follow one of our
ministers out for Children’s Church in
Room 206. The leaders for Children’s
Church this Sunday, January 7:

9:00 a.m. Charlie & Heather Reynolds

11:15 a.m. Phillip & Laura Cox

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through
four-year kindergarten. Our childcare
program provides safe, secure nurseries
for our babies and toddlers during worship
services. Our nurturing staff of experienced
caregivers and parent volunteers offers a
welcoming environment to all children.

BIRTH

A daughter, Hattie Ruth Muller, was born
to Wylie & Caroline Muller on Saturday,
December 23, 2017, in Portland, Maine.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, January 14, 2018,
immediately following the 11:15 a.m. worship service. The order of business will be:
(1) To elect twelve elders for the Class of 2021, (2) To elect one trustee for the Class of
2023, (3) To act upon proposed changes in the ministers’ terms of call, (4) To answer
questions concerning the 2018 budget.

SESSION NOMINEES

During the Congregational meeting on Sunday, January 14, the Nominating Committee
will nominate the following to serve on the Session:

Class of 2021

Kristin Burrell

Elizabeth McElveen

Phillip Cox

Grier Mullins

Ted Gentry

Pete Roe

Philip Land

Gaye Sprague

Brad Lucas

Catherine Stoddard

David Massey

Freddie Williams

Class of 2023 Trustee: Vernon Anderson

HEALTH MINISTRY

We are offering free blood pressure
screenings this Sunday, January 7.
The screenings will take place in the
Friendship Court following the 9:00
a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services. If you have
any questions or if you are a healthcare
professional and would like to help,
please contact Tim Miller at 627-0725.

NURSERY

PARENT SCHEDULE

FOR JANUARY 7

9:00 a.m.

Crib Alex & Pace Clayton

Toddler Stephen & Allison Kitterman

K2 Rick & Paige Hawks

K3 Austin & Paige Eckles

11:15 a.m.

Crib Jacob & Jade Fountain

Toddler Derek & Austin Taylor

K3 Jake & Elizabeth Rasor

K4 McLean & Elizabeth Hicklin

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet
Monday, January 8, at 7:00 p.m. in the
Charter Room. Ann Hicks will lead a
discussion of Fair Labor Lawyer: The
Remarkable Life of New Deal Attorney
and Supreme Court Advocate Bessie
Margolan, written by Marlene Trestman.
Join us for an interesting evening. All are
invited.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

Copies of the 2017-2018 Church Directory
are available to church members in the
Friendship Court. The MyWPC option on
Westminster’s website homepage (www.
wpc-online.org) offers an up-to-date
version of this directory. Also, the church
office will supply an email pdf version to
you upon request. This is available any
time so that information is at its most up-
to-date.

Others may be nominated from the floor. If you plan to do so, please contact the person
beforehand to be certain he/she is willing to serve.

**YOUTH GROUPS
SCHEDULES FOR JANUARY 7**

- No - Middler Group meeting*
- 5:00 p.m. Combined Youth Choirs**
- 6:00 p.m. Senior High Dinner**
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Group meeting**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

- Tuesday, January 9**
- Circle #5:** will meet at **10:00 a.m.** in the **Choir Room**. Circle Leader: *Ilene Schlacht*, rischlacht@att.net.
 - Circle #3:** will meet at **6:00 p.m.** at the home of *Dee Malone* (624 McDaniel Ave.) Circle Leader: *Joanne Sweeny*, swejoa38@gmail.com.
- Wednesday, January 10**
- Circle #6:** will meet at **9:00 a.m.** at the home of *Liz Einstein* (223 Camille Ave.) Leaders: *Liz Einstein*, liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com and *Sherry Tate*, sherrytate63@gmail.com.

- ADULT GROUPS**
- Couples Bible Study Group (ages 50+):**
- Will meet **Wednesday, January 10** at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Choir Room**. Leaders: *Dick & Mary Sargent* (mfsdesigns95@yahoo.com).

BOOK CLUB

The Westminster Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, February 6**, from **7:00-8:00 p.m.** in the **church library** to discuss the book **Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight** by *Alexandra Fuller*. Visitors are always welcome.

2018 Women's Retreat

All women of Westminster are encouraged to join us at the **2018 Women's Retreat, February 23-25**, at **Montreat Conference Center in Montreat, NC**. We will be joined by author and spiritual director, **Jeannie DuBose**, as our keynote speaker. Go to http://premierespeakers.com/jeannie_dubose/bio to learn more about Jeannie. *Judy McKenney* will lead music again this year. Unlike years past, the majority of the program will begin Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. if you are only able to join us for one night. The cost however will remain the same whether you join us for one or two nights. Registration includes breakfast and dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. All rooms are in Assembly Inn and check-in for those arriving Friday will be held from 5-7:00 pm. We will conclude with a worship service on Sunday morning before check-out at 11:00 am.

- Single Occupancy - \$220
- Double Occupancy - \$195 (double occupancy may be either one king or two twins)
- Quad Occupancy - \$175 (quad occupancy may have a shared bath)

Payment is due upon registration. Cancellations before January 20 will be applied to your pledge or considered a contribution to the church. Cancellations after January 20 will be forfeited. Sign up online at <http://www.wpc-online.org/women-of-westminster-retreat.php>.

**INTERESTED IN JOINING
WESTMINSTER?**

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster Presbyterian Church, membership here, and what it means to be Presbyterian are invited to attend our **New Member Class** from **8:45-10:30 a.m.** on **Sunday, January 21**, in the **Choir Room**. Those who have been baptized and who wish to become members may do so at the **11:15 a.m. worship service** or on a future new member Sunday. To RSVP or if you have questions, please contact *Susan McLarty*, Mission Outreach Coordinator (smclarty@wpc-online.org) at 232-2424 ext. 1606. **The next class will be Wednesday, March 14, from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

**WESTMINSTER-CAROLINA
HIGH CONNECTION**

Signups for the seventy-six volunteer positions are underway for our first session on **January 29** from **9-11:50 a.m.** Visit <http://www.wpc-online.org/westminster-carolina-high-connection.php> to see links for the SignUpGenius and required Greenville County School Level II screening. Join us to kick off the largest local off site mission project organized by WPC. There is a place for everyone interested in helping. Contact *Steve Johnson* (stevejohnson.cvm@gmail.com) or *Susan McLarty* with questions.

**THE HARBINGER
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
2310 Augusta Road
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
(864) 232-2424
www.wpc-online.org
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CHURCH STAFF	
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	313-6956
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Parish Associate for Adult Education	Jean Weaver
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	weavjean@aol.com
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Children's Choir Coordinator	Kathryn Knauer
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Mission Outreach Coordinator	Susan McLarty
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	nls1949@aol.com
Weekday School Director	Cara Puntch
	cpuntch@wpc-online.org
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	sherri@wpc-online.org
Office Manager	Michelle Little
	michelle@wpc-online.org
Secretary	Wendy Bagley
	wendy@wpc-online.org
Director of Nurseries	Janell Pitman
	jpitman@wpc-online.org
Director of Hospitality	Lisa Ridge
	lisa@wpc-online.org
Building Supervisor	Steve Phillips
	stevep30@bellsouth.net

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS
January 7-13, 2018**

SUNDAY	9:00 a.m. Worship Service
	9:50 a.m. Health Ministry
	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	11:15 a.m. Worship Service
	11:30 a.m. Middler Retreat returns
	12:15 p.m. Health Ministry
	5:00 p.m. Combined Youth Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m. Senior High Dinner
	6:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
	8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous
MONDAY	9:30 a.m. Weekday Chapel
	9:45 a.m. Weekday Chapel
	5:00 p.m. Uplift
	6:15 p.m. NAMI
	7:00 p.m. Theology Reading Group
	8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
TUESDAY	10:00 a.m. PW Circle #5
	12:00 p.m. AI-Anon Meeting
	6:00 p.m. PW Circle #3
	7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
WEDNESDAY	9:00 a.m. PW Circle #6
	11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
	3:00 p.m. "It's Elementary!" & Tweens
	4:30 p.m. Junior & Senior Choristers Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
	Couples Bible Study Group (ages 50+)
THURSDAY	10:00 a.m. Thursday Bible Study
	12:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting
	8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous



As the holiday season comes to a close, the crowds at the mall subside, and the onslaught of Amazon packages wain, it is in the remaining few days of a slower pace with my family that I truly grasp the extent of this week's scripture. Having searched over the holidays for multiple examples to share with our children on the importance of properly placed values versus the empty promises of brand name commercialism, I had only to look here to find the one lesson I really needed.

In Isaiah 60:1-6, Isaiah reminds all those of Jerusalem to *"Let your light shine for all to see. For the glory of the Lord rises to shine on you. Look and see, for everyone is coming home! Your sons are coming from distant lands: your little daughters will be carried home. Your eyes will shine, and your heart will thrill with joy!"*

And in Matthew 2:1-12 *"When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chest and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."*

In reading, both of these verses I took away two key lessons that took me well into my late 40's to truly grasp.

First, it is of family, friends and relationships that true happiness and the gifts of love, sacrifice and respect can be found — and second, that it is ONLY on God's time, plan and His hand that we have what we need in our lives when we need it. Not by our control or wish.

In the warm company of my in-laws, brother and sister-in-law, new wife and step kids do I finally realize what I have so longingly desired (previously in all the wrong places and all the wrong people) can only now be fulfilled on God's terms.

I believe the scripture is telling me to appreciate not some self or socially appointed promise or prophesy that guarantees marriage, family, joy, happiness but the opportunity to see the blessing he has meant for us on his terms not ours. BUT ONLY when we have the right eyes to see the light he has set for us to follow.

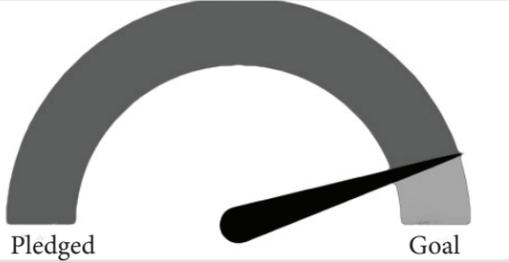
I realized all the while I was trying to enlighten my kids with examples of the true gift of Christmas and that (while hard to say as a parent) until they have experienced disappointment, made mistakes, and had some level of failure, would they truly gain the insight of humility, empathy, respect and gratitude to be open to receiving God's greatest gift. His sacrifice for us.

It took failed and expensive school choices, a broken marriage and poor vetting of past business partners to realize the true value, character and relationships I really needed to appreciate. Money, pride, ownership, accolades and social norms were all things of misaligned priorities in my prior life and only when I was prepared to walk away from them all did God put the right choices in my path.

As I sit here this first Sunday of 2018 surrounded by family and friends and blessed by gifts I could have never imaged, I thank God for the path he's laid before me, in spite of me.

Bill Donohue

**2018 STEWARDSHIP
CAMPAIGN**



As of Tuesday, January 2, we have received \$2,429,299 in pledges toward our 2018 budget goal of \$2,514,739.

For your convenience, pledge cards are in the pews, or you may mail in your pledge or send it by email to the Church Financial Secretary, Sherri Owens at sherri@wpc-online.org.

• We have met 97% of our goal

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

“If a person is in Christ, she is a new creation, the past is finished and done, behold the new has come” (II Cor. 5:17). Not only is the New Year upon us, but so is the possibility to live a new life in Jesus. Come worship, stretch, grow, be mentally and spiritually challenged, laugh, and share with other church members in worship services and adult Sunday School in 2018.

At Westminster, in adult Sunday School, we offer courses on the Bible, theology, social issues, and relationships in a rotation model. Class options change every 6-8 weeks so that members can learn about and discuss our Christian faith and all of its implications. With this model, people of all ages, genders, opinions, and interests are constantly rearranging and getting to know each other. Join us in this vibrant style of Christian adult education.

The following classes will be offered on Sundays, from **10-11:00 a.m.**, starting **January 7** and ending **February 25**.

1. Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End

Medicine has triumphed in modern times, transforming the dangers of childbirth, injury, and disease from harrowing to manageable. But when it comes to the human realities of aging, frailty, and death, what medicine can do often runs counter to what it should do. As Christians, and creatures made by God, how do we protect meaning, purpose, and grace as we age and die, in the face of the temptation to keep medically treating our bodies. Using a book by Atul Gawande, MD, this class will wrestle with these hard questions.

Teacher: *Ted Gentry* **Room:** 209

2. Faith in God in a Scientific Age

This course will probe the tension some feel between their religious beliefs and modern science. The class will look at our understanding of God; ways of knowing in religion and in science, specific challenges to religion raised by science, and whether science makes belief in God “obsolete.”

Teacher: *David Rutledge* **Room:** 211

3. Fierce Women of the Bible and Their Stories of Violence, Mercy, Bravery, Wisdom, Sex, and Salvation

The word for the year 2017 was “feminism” due to the increasing attention on the roles, treatment, and status of women in the modern world. But the issue of how women have been treated, mistreated, and represented is an old, old story; one that shows up frequently in the pages of the Old and New Testaments of our Bible. This class will review some of the known and unknown stories of women in the Bible — from Tamar, Asherah, Deborah, the Marys, and Rhoda — and ask what their stories can teach us as we attempt to honor God and follow Christ.

Teacher: *Jean Weaver* **Room:** 213

4. Good News: The Gospel. Faux News: What’s New? Ethics in Journalism

With a delayed start on **January 14**, this discussion class will look at the news. Ethical journalism strives to ensure the free exchange of information that is accurate, fair and thorough, all the while being done with integrity. Are we in danger of losing this? The Gospel, on the other hand, is to give us information so that we can have faith in Jesus Christ, the very Word of God, and live a life of discipleship. Are we in danger of losing this, too? How do Christians discern and evaluate what is honest, valid and life changing in all the news (religious and secular) that we are bombarded with?

Discussion Leader: *Judith Chandler-Huse* **Room:** 210

5. The Text This Week

Join us each Sunday as we examine more deeply the text from that day’s worship. This is a discussion based class and is an informal way to get to know others and help find your place at WPC. We will enjoy coffee and conversation as we delve into the Sunday Scripture, sermon, and events from the week’s news.

Teacher: *Leigh Stuckey* **Room:** 212

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