

THE ABBEY NEWS



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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MARCH 2023

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We are so blessed to have a loving and caring church family here at WPC! If you would like to be a part of this family, we would LOVE to have you! You are only a visitor once at WPC! There are so many offerings of service through our church. There is one for YOU!



FROM THE PASTOR

Jesus summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it.” —Mark 8:34–35

If we take Jesus’ words seriously, his message and way of being in the world can and should change our lives with its counter-intuitive wisdom. The call that we have in Mark 8 is one that disrupts everything the world would have us to know about success.

The world tells us not to deny ourselves, but to lavish ourselves. I confess even I have fallen prey to the societal temptations to “lavish” myself lately. In my journey to be the healthier, more fit version of myself, I’ve had to buy new clothes. So why not buy the latest and greatest yoga pants that offer support I didn’t know my legs needed?

The world tells us to go our own way, rather than follow the Jesus Way. We thrive on independence and praise the self-starter. We admire the one who forges her own way and scoff at the one that stands on the seashore, waiting for the Savior, because they are “like a sheep without a shepherd.”

Richard Rohr writes, “The way of the cross looks like failure. In fact, we could say that Christianity is about how to win by losing, how to let go creatively, how *the only real ascent is descent*. We need to be more concerned with following Jesus, which he told us to do numerous times, and less with worshipping Jesus—which he never once told us to do.”

As your pastor, that is a toe-stepping statement for sure. But what I hope we can gain as we follow the way of Jesus, is authentic worship that moves us in life-changing and transformative ways. Together, may we follow the path in which we meet Jesus.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Audrey



We will Celebrate Holy Communion on March 26th During worship.

MARCH SERMONS

March 5: “Bridging the Gap” Mark 8:34-35 and Philippians 2:6-8

March 12: Mel Davis preaching

March 19: “The Way of Change” Proverbs 10:29-30 and Mark 5:1-20

March 26: “The Way of Faith” Numbers 35:9-15 and Luke 5:17-26



"I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go into the House of the Lord!'" Psalm 122:1



TREASURER’S REPORT

January Income	\$16,681.80
January Expenses	<u>\$11,747.73</u>
Balance	+ \$4,934.07
We collected \$266.60 for the Souper Bowl of Caring. All proceeds go to Dot’s Kitchen	



Thanks to everyone who gave to the “Pack a Purse” project! It was a success!

We packed many items to be delivered to various charities.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

We were blessed with another wonderful afternoon of sister fellowship, awesome Bible study and tasty treats at our February Circle meeting! Thank you to Nancy Johnston for our Bible study on Bathsheba. Thanks to all the ladies for the delicious meal. Also, thanks to everyone who helped us with our “Pack a Purse” mission project! If you haven’t joined Circle, give it a try! You will be blessed!

Our next meeting will be **March 6th at 4:30 pm** in Gossett Hall. We will be studying Chapter 7 “Mary” in our study book, What My Grandmothers Taught Me. Rev. Audrey will be our Bible study leader. Bring a goodie to share if you would like! Hope to see you there!





Welcome New Elders!

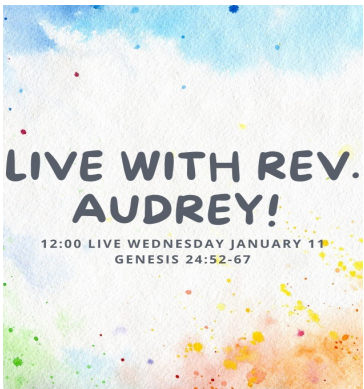


We installed another amazing group of Elders to join Session this year. Thank you so much to Shepherd Chuites and Debbie Therriault for saying, "Yes!" to helping guide our Church through another few years. Shepherd will be serving as our Stewardship and Finance Elder and Debbie will be serving as our new Christian Faith & Development Elder.

Kim Burden will serve as Clerk of Session, Nita McMillan as Mission/Outreach, John Merritt as Property and John Johnston as Congregational Care.

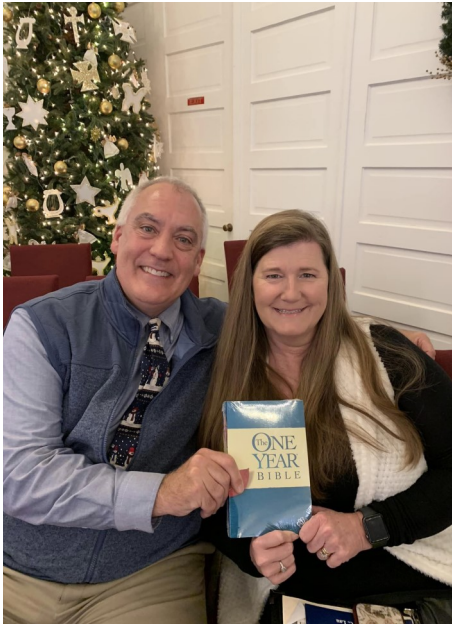
The Session asks for your prayers as we discern God's Will for our wonderful church. If you have ideas or things that you would like to see our church offer, please, please seek out the Elder working in that area and you will see how eager they ALL are to help and better guide our church.

Weekly Devotionals via FB Live



Rev. Audrey will be offering adevotional once a week to introduce some of the topics she will cover in her sermons each week! This is a great time to get together and discuss topics on line and/or just hear a bit of encouragement to get you through the week!

Bible in a Year



We pray that you all are enjoying our Bible in a Year study! We have heard many positive comments as to how our study is uniting us in daily prayer and devotion and it is getting us all into God's Word each and every day! Keep reading, praying, learning and living into those beautiful words!

Scenes from Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper





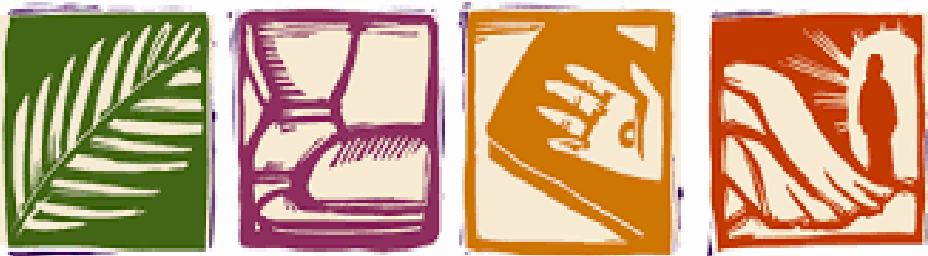
Holy Week Services

One Great Hour of Sharing

Palm Sunday Cantata 11 am during worship. (April 2nd)
Maundy Thursday service will be held at Seneca Presbyterian at 7 pm, (April 6th)
Good Friday service will be held at Westminster Presbyterian at 7 pm. (April 7th)



Please give generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing Mission Project. We will be collecting funds during the Lenten Season.



Town Prayer Meeting
Join us for prayer every Tuesday morning at 9 am at the gazebo in downtown Westminster. There will be a guest minister each week. This was started by one person who felt the need for prayer in our town. It has grown and continues to be a light in our community!



Kathy Darnell, Robbie McClure (Marie Dunnam’s brother) Elizabeth Christensen (Kathy Skillen’s niece), Arthur Skillen (Kathy Skillen’s brother), Joanne Mason, Bob Hartness (Rev. Audrey’s dad), Clifton Mabry, Kathy Skillen, Sam and Edna Dillard, Paula Meades and Shari Waldo’s friend, Jim, Al and Annie Belauskus, Sherry Moates, Erin Wood (Wendy Linhart’s daughter) and Virginia Gordon.
Please continue to pray for Peace in our world and protection for all that are oppressed and in harms way.
Pray for our police, firemen and first responders, doctors and nurses as they put themselves in harms way to help us.

Congratulations Anna Marie!

Westminster Hope ComeUnity!



WHC will meet Wednesday, March 1 at 5:30 in Gossett to review the City Council meeting and discern next steps. We are grateful for the wisdom and leadership of our team, and continue to seek God’s guidance as we explore property, best practices, and how best to meet the needs of the displaced in Westminster.



Congratulations to our very own Anna Marie Moore for winning yet ANOTHER pageant! This was the Miss Clemson/Tiger Town Volunteer pageant. Anna Marie was named Miss. Tiger Town Volunteer and will go on to compete for Miss South Carolina Volunteer next! We wish you all the best, and know that your church family loves you very much!



Dates to Remember!

- 3/1 Dot’s Kitchen
- 3/1 Session reports Due
- 3/1 WHC 5:30
- 3/5 Session
- 3/6 PW 4:30
- 3/14 Dot’s Kitchen
- 4/2 Palm Sunday Cantata
- 4/4 PW Last Supper
- 4/5 Dot’s Kitchen
- 4/9 Easter



Happy Birthday for the month of March

- 4 De French
- 11 Audrey Reese, Sherry Moats
- 16 Paula Meades
- 18 Montez McCall
- 30 Ellen Stancil



**Early birthdays April: 3-Bradley Moore



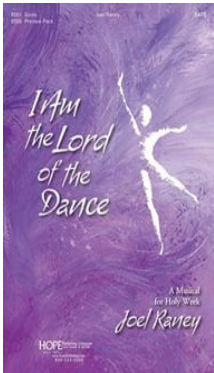
March Flowers

There will be no flowers in the sanctuary during the Season of Lent.

CHOIR NOTES



Hello all Choir members!
We will continue rehearsals during the month of March in preparation for our Palm Sunday cantata on April 2nd. We will meet in the sanctuary each Sunday at 2:30 pm. Thank you so much for sharing your wonderful talent with our congregation!



LUNCHTIME LENTEN SERVICES IN OCONEE COUNTY

Ecumenical Lenten Services at NOON - Theme: "People in Holy Week"

Date	Host Church	Preacher	Text/Title
Feb. 22	Trinity Baptist	Preston Shealy (Seneca Presbyterian)	Judas
March 1	Ascension Episcopal	Todd Davis (St. Mark UMC)	Peter
March 8	Ebenezer Baptist	Ryan Perry (Seneca Baptist)	Chief Priests
March 15	Seneca Presbyterian	Rick Somerville (Ann Hope UMC)	Pilate
March 22	Blue Ridge Community Ctr.	Ryan Wilson (Trinity Baptist)	Herod
March 29	Ann Hope UMC	WC Honeycutt (Ebenezer Baptist)	Mary
April 5	St. Mark UMC	Joel Hafer (Ascension Episcopal)	The Soldiers

BIBLE IN A YEAR SCRIPTURES

Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalms	Proverbs
1	Leviticus 24:1-25:46	Mark 10:13-31	44:9-26	10:20-21
2	Leviticus 25:47-27:13	Mark 10:32-52	45:1-17	10:22
3	Leviticus 27:14-Numbers 1:54	Mark 11:1-25	46:1-11	10:23
4	Numbers 2:1-3:51	Mark 11:27-12:17	47:1-9	10:24-25
5	Numbers 4:1-5:51	Mark 12:18-37	48:1-14	10:26
6	Numbers 6:1-7:89	Mark 12:38-13:13	49:1-20	10:27-28
7	Numbers 8:1-9:23	Mark 13:14-37	50:1-23	10:29-30
8	Numbers 10:1-11:23	Mark 14:1-21	51:1-19	10:31-32
9	Numbers 11:24-13:33	Mark 14:22-25	52:1-9	11:1-3
10	Numbers 14:1-15:16	Mark 14:53-72	53:1-6	11:04
11	Numbers 15:17-16:40	Mark 15:1-47	54:1-7	11:5-6
12	Numbers 16:41-18:32	Mark 16:1-20	55:1-23	11:07
13	Numbers 19:1-20:29	Luke 1:1-25	56:1-13	11:08
14	Numbers 21:1-22:20	Luke 1:26-56	57:1-11	11:9-11
15	Numbers 22:21-23:30	Luke 1:57-80	58:1-11	11:12-13
16	Numbers 24:1-25:18	Luke 2:1-35	59:1-17	11:14
17	Numbers 26:1-51	Luke 2:36-52	60:1-12	11:15
18	Numbers 26:52-28:15	Luke 3:1-22	61:1-8	11:16-17
19	Numbers 28:16-29:40	Luke 3:23-38	62:1-12	11:18-19
20	Numbers 30:1-31:54	Luke 4:1-30	63:1-11	11:20-21
21	Numbers 32:1-33:39	Luke 4:31-5:11	64:1-10	11:22
22	Numbers 33:40-35:34	Luke 5:12-28	65:1-13	11:23
23	Numbers 36:1-Deuteronomy 1:46	Luke 5:29-6:11	66:1-20	11:24-26
24	Deuteronomy 2:1-3:29	Luke 6:12-38	67:1-7	11:27
25	Deuteronomy 4:1-49	Luke 6:39-7:10	68:1-18	11:28
26	Deuteronomy 5:1-6:25	Luke 7:11-35	68:19-35	11:29-31
27	Deuteronomy 7:1-8:20	Luke 7:36-8:3	69:1-18	12:01
28	Deuteronomy 9:1-10:22	Luke 8:4-21	69:19-36	12:2-3
29	Deuteronomy 11:1-12:32	Luke 8:22-39	70:1-5	12:04
30	Deuteronomy 13:1-15:23	Luke 8:40-9:6	71:1-24	12:5-7
31	Deuteronomy 16:1-17:20	Luke 9:7-27	72:1-20	12:8-9