



WEST END TALK

news and happenings of West End United Methodist Church

March/ April 2016



WEST END PRESCHOOL PLANT SALE

How does your garden grow?

With flowers and plants from the Family Fellowship Festival Annual Plant Sale!

This is a great opportunity to add some color and flavor to your garden AND to support the preschool, children's and youth programs at West End UMC! Our 31st annual plant sale is Sunday April 24 – Tuesday 26. This year the Preschool has partnered with the Gardens of Babylon to provide a large variety of plants for our sale. We will fill the gym with hanging baskets, ferns, herbs, perennials, vegetables and even some home grown seedlings!

Located in the Nashville Farmer's Market, Gardens of Babylon is a mission-focused company eager to be the eco-conscious garden market and landscape company whose passion is to inspire our community to create and enjoy a healthier environment and greener lifestyle. Thirty percent of your purchase amount may be deducted from your taxes as a contribution.

Offer Hospitality and Compassion to Grieving Families

When our loved ones pass away, it is an honor for West End to offer services that celebrate the life of each individual, and point to our hope in Jesus Christ. For each funeral or memorial service that takes place in our building, dedicated volunteers provide warm hospitality to the bereaved family and guests during the visitation and service.

Members of the Funeral Committee serve on an as-needed basis whenever they are available. Those who have flexible schedules, or are retired, serve during both weekdays and weekends. Others who work during the week only serve during weekend services. All are needed for this important ministry. The Funeral Committee's tasks include: providing directions to guests, handing out bulletins, helping to usher guests from Reed Hall into the Sanctuary, and making sure that guest books are compiled and ready for the family to take home.

This significant gift of hospitality helps to ease the burden for a grieving family so that they may focus on remembering and celebrating the life of their loved one. If you have the gifts of compassion and hospitality, please consider joining our committed team of volunteers! To volunteer, or for more information, please contact Erin Racine at eracine@westendumc.org or 615.321.8500.

Mission Team Travels To Guatemala

On April 30, a team of 12 people will travel to Guatemala to serve alongside the Organization for the Development of the Indigenous Maya. Most of the team will work on construction of a home for a family in need, with one member helping in the medical clinics. Even if you're not traveling with them, you can be involved by serving as a prayer partner (contact Lisa Gwoc at lgwoc@westendumc.org) and/or by making a financial contribution to the team's construction supply costs and medical supply donation. Financial gifts can be made to the church, designated for "Guatemala." Please keep the team members in your prayers!

Tom Adkinson
Mindy Boyce
Lauren LeSturgeon
Emily Robbins

Harvey Baxter
Lisa Gwoc
Sara Matthews
Tina Thomsen

Bob Boyce
Sean Kennedy
Casey Reed
Sarah Williams



A Story from Open Table Nashville:
One of West End UMC's Missions and Outreach Partner Organizations

Street Outreach and Resource Navigator, Elizabeth Langgle-Martin, shared the following story of her work with Open Table Nashville:

Throughout January and February our team spent countless hours searching for unsheltered individuals in the cold in a desperate effort to minimize exposure related deaths this winter.

During our night canvassing, we connected with a gentleman living alone in the woods with little supplies during very dangerously low temperatures. We were able to provide him with new clothing (he hadn't changed since November), propane for his heater, and emergency meals. For the next few nights, myself or other individuals from our team checked in with him, making sure he was safe and providing emergency supplies while building rapport with this isolated gentleman. One night one of our volunteers found this gentleman at his campsite, which is located at the bottom of a very steep, wooded incline. He had badly sprained his ankle and was unable to walk. Our volunteer recruited help, got him to the hospital and filled prescriptions to address the sprain and other health issues. He insisted on returning to his camp, where I

delivered additional food, cold weather gear and propane the next day. He wasn't able to leave his camp and was struggling to get to his designated restroom area.

Eventually he agreed to come in to Room In the Inn's respite program where he has been able to recover. With the help of a few other community partners, we are piecing together our efforts to start diligently working towards housing for this gentleman. One day as I helped him order his birth certificate, he sat freshly shaven, with a new haircut and clothes that were no longer soiled. He shared the abuse and trauma he had experienced. He has been in and out of incarceration and notes his severe struggle with depression. In reference to his alcoholism and isolation he noted, "I think I was trying to kill myself".

During our meeting, he stated simply "I feel like a human being again". This is just one of the countless incredibly resilient people I am blessed to journey alongside. Even in just a few weeks we have seen such a change in this individual and I can't wait to one day get to hand him the keys to his own apartment.

Thanks for your support of OTN.

5th Annual Great Day of Service

Saturday, April 23 ♦ 8:30 a.m. – Noon

Great Potato or Produce Drop

Join us for our 5th Great Day of Service. This year everyone is invited to work together on one project where we will be bagging a tractor-trailer load of potatoes or produce (whatever is most needed). We'll gather in McWhirter Hall at 8:30 a.m. for a light breakfast and then head to West End's parking lot for bagging. The food will then be delivered to agencies serving the poor.

Society of St. Andrew will arrange for delivery of 30,000 to 40,000 pounds of potatoes or produce for us to bag. We'll need a lot of people to get this project completed. All ages are invited and encouraged to participate. Come and bring your family and friends! (Childcare will be provided for ages 4 and under. Deadline for childcare reservations is Friday, April 15.)



Signups will take place in Reed Hall on Sundays April 3, 10 and 17. You can also sign up online beginning April 4 by visiting westendumc.org/gdos. For more information, contact Lisa Gwock at lgwock@westendumc.org.



Partnership Grant Helps Purchase Hand Chimes for Henderson Settlement

Henderson Settlement expresses gratitude for West End UMC's Missions and Outreach Partnership Grant which, along with a gift from Fountain City UMC in Knoxville, helped make the purchase of hand chimes possible. They have formed a Youth Hand Chime Group and the young people are enjoying being taught to play the chimes. The group was a real hit at the Christmas Party!

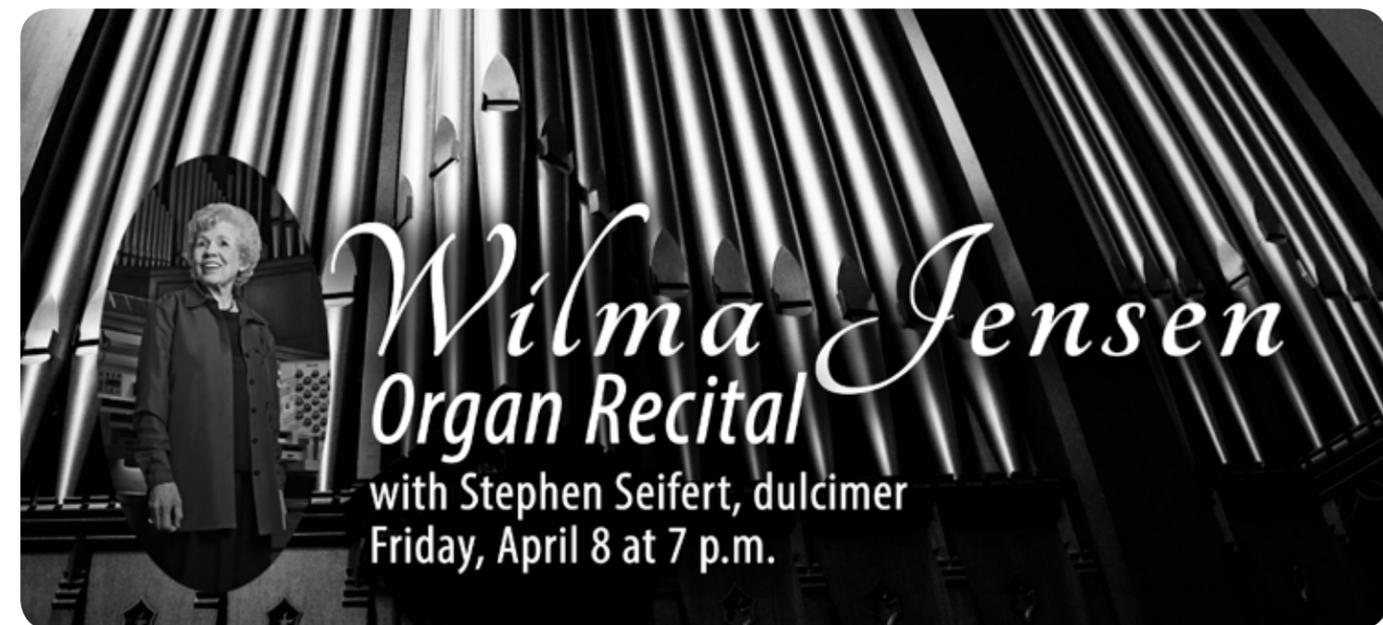


welcome *Sarah*

We are happy to announce that Sarah Monaghan has joined our staff as our new receptionist. Please say hello and introduce yourself to her when you are at the church during the week.

"Hello, my name is Sarah Monaghan, the g being silent. I was born and raised in a very small town in New Hampshire. My husband of 11 years, Ken, and I moved to Burns, TN in 2011. We have no children but enjoy being Uncle Kenny and Auntie Sarah to ten amazing nieces and two incredible nephews. I'm an animal lover and currently have a guinea pig named Penelope and two sugar gliders, Jasper and Jasmin."

"I'm very excited to be given the opportunity to join the West End UMC staff."



Presented in conjunction with the National Headquarters of the American Guild of Organists, join us on Friday, April 8 at 7 p.m. as Wilma Jensen is awarded the American Guild of Organists' Distinguished Artist Award. She will delight in a recital featuring her artistry and celebrating her remarkable career.

West End Belmont Music Camp

July 18-22 ♦ 9 a.m. - 12 Noon ♦ Belmont United Methodist Church ♦ Ages 4 through grade 6

This summer, Belmont UMC and West End UMC will join forces, teachers, and new ideas for a combined music camp to be held at Belmont UMC!! Campers and leaders from both churches will work together and experience a great week that will involve singing, instruments, bells, movement, crafts, and games. Our union reinforces the connectional nature of the United Methodist church, and allows our children opportunities to expand their circle of friends, learn from new teachers, and experience music classes not previously offered. Save the date on your calendar, stay tuned for more details and watch for registration information in the near future. For more information contact Andrew Risinger at arisinger@westendumc.org or 615.983.8821.



Children's Ministry



IT'S THE OEF FINALE TIME

All 4th, 5th, & 6th graders are invited to join the OEF for a time of group building and fun on April 17 as we play Laser Tag together. Meet at the church at 4 p.m., and we will arrive at Laser Quest by 4:30 p.m. The plan is to travel by church bus to Laser Quest Nashville, 166 2nd Ave. North. We will play 2 games of Laser tag, eat pizza and return to the church for pick up no later than 7 p.m.

Please register at westendumc.org/lasertag by April 13. We must have at least 10 to participate in order to receive the group rate.

Parents are needed to help chaperone.

I PROMISE.... SPRING CONFIRMATION RETREAT 2016

All members of the Confirmation class are needed to join us for this weekend retreat May 6-8. Friends in Faith are invited to join us on Saturday, May 7 as part of the guided work on the Confirmation stoles. During this retreat we will celebrate God's claim on us as followers of Jesus through remembering the membership vows of the United Methodist Church, worshipping together and fellowshiping together as the Confirmation year comes to an end. Our retreat will take place at Lakeshore United Methodist Camp and Retreat Center.

The cost for the weekend is \$155 for Confirmation students. Please register online at westendumc.org/springretreat. The deadline of April 6 is firm in order to get accurate numbers to the retreat center.



SURF'S UP! TIME FOR SURF SHACK!

Vacation Bible School 2016

June 20 - 24 ♦ 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. ♦ Monday - Friday

Ages Older 3s (very potty trained) - 3rd grade

Come on! Grab your board! Pack your shades! We are on a Mission forever to shine God's light to others!

While at the Surf Shack, children will have an opportunity to experience God's amazing love, explore God's mission for their lives, encounter powerful water stories from the Bible, and discover ways to live out God's amazing love. Registration begins April 17. You can register online or by returning a registration form with payment. All registrations and payment are due by May 25. Tuition/Supply Fee for VBS is \$25 for the first child, \$15 for each additional child in the family. Please make checks payable to West End United Methodist Church.



GET AMPED! TIME TO DIVE DEEP WITH SCUBA!

Children's Mission Week 2016

June 20 - 24 ♦ 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. ♦ Monday - Friday

Ages Rising 4th - 6th grade

Come On! Get ready to catch the Mission wave of God's amazing love by helping others and spreading God's love around the world.

While at SCUBA, children will have the opportunity to create items and raise funds that benefit both adults and children in the Nashville community and around the world. Each hands-on mission project will help make a difference with its amazing ripple effect as God's love goes out into the community.

Tuition/Supply fee for Children's Mission Week is \$25 for the first child, \$15 for each additional child in the family.

AFTERCARE AVAILABLE

Aftercare is available for families who need it. Aftercare will be 12 - 5 p.m., Monday - Thursday. The rate is \$20 per day per child. We will have paid childcare workers to care for the children. Each child will need to bring a lunch each day.

HOW WILL YOU SERVE DURING VBS WEEK AND CHILDREN'S MISSION WEEK?

Adults, parents, and youth are invited to begin thinking how you will serve during our Vacation Bible School Week. Leaders are needed to help or assist in our Activity Centers: Bible story, Music, Snack, Science, and Crafts. Adults are also needed to assist with age groups of children ages 3 - grade 3.

Can't be there to work with children? Help on Saturday, June 19 to decorate the 4th floor and transform the building into a Beach Party. Go to the website, cokesburyvbs.com, and watch the preview video to find out more about Surf Shack VBS 2016!

Children's Mission Week will also need adults to help lead, guide, and chaperone the older elementary children in their mission/outreach projects. Do you have a heart for Mission and outreach? Help our children develop that same love and passion by offering leadership, June 20-24. **Remember, there is a place for everyone to serve at VBS and Children's Mission Week!**

WHAT: 2016 Sr High Mission Trip - Appalachian Service Project, East Tennessee

WHO: Current 8th-12th graders

WHEN: June 26 - July 2

COST: \$350

REGISTRATION: Non-refundable deposit of \$100 by Monday, April 11. We only have a certain amount of spots available! First come first serve!

REGISTER HERE:
westendumc.org/srhigh

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) provides life-changing short-term Christian mission trip opportunities —bringing youth and adult volunteers into rural Central Appalachia to make homes warmer, safer, and drier for families in need. So come on and join us! You'll raise roofs. Fix floors. And build a whole new you!

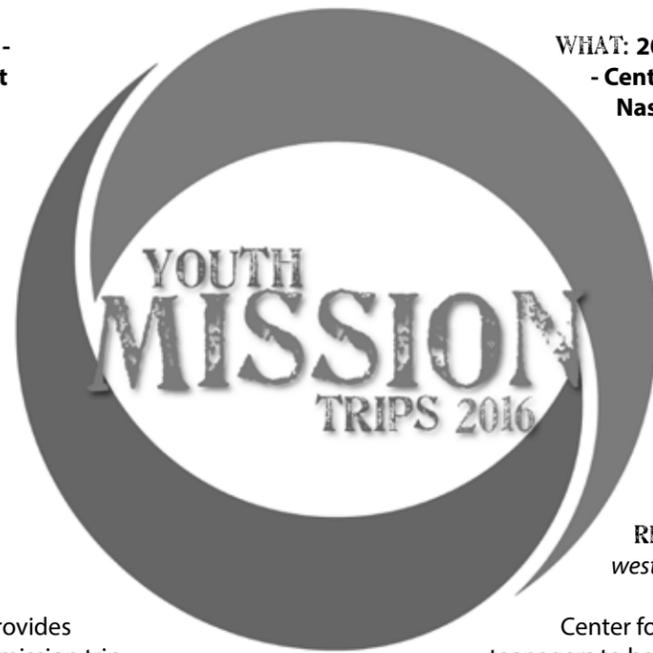
After a few days of hard work repairing homes with ASP, your hands will grow a little tougher, your arms a little stronger, and your relationship with God a whole lot deeper. You'll return home with a passion for service, a renewed compassion for other people, and a fresh appreciation for your place and purpose in this world. Best of all, you'll discover first-hand that regardless of geography, education, or economic class, we are all equal members of the family of God.

TRAINING TIME

We will offer two training times for our mission trips and you are expected to attend one. This will be a time to connect as a team, prepare for the specific work we'll be doing and the environment in which we will serve, and discuss our hopes and motivations for participating in this experience. The dates are Tuesday, April 26 and Thursday, May 12, both from 5:30-8 p.m. Please indicate which time you would like to attend by marking your choice on the registration form.

MISSION TRIPS CELEBRATION

After our summer mission trips, we will once again share about our experiences at the Mission Trips Celebration. We will invite our church, as well as any family and friends, to join us for pictures, stories, worship and more from our weeks of service. All participants are expected to be present for this, August 7 in McWhirter Hall during Sunday School, and might also be asked to write a reflection, bring food or help in other ways.



WHAT: 2016 Jr High Mission Trip - Center for Student Mission in Nashville, TN

WHO: Current 6th-7th graders

WHEN: June 5 - 10

COST: \$350

REGISTRATION: Non-refundable deposit of \$100 by Monday, April 11. We only have a certain amount of spots available! First come first serve!

REGISTER HERE:
westendumc.org/jrhigh

Center for Student Mission (CSM) allows teenagers to be a part of an effective urban ministry experience that transforms lives, influences churches and communities, and honors Christ.

We are serving in our own backyard this summer! With CSM we will experience the city of Nashville. We live in the city - experiencing firsthand the sights, sounds, smells, and texture of urban life. Housing is located in the heart of the city and we will eat at local ethnic restaurants. We learn about the city - unique issues and problems that city dwellers face and what God is doing in the city, through the indigenous organizations that operate on the front lines of urban ministry. We become part of the solutions for the city - by offering our time, energy and sweat. We will serve in a variety of hands-on ministry opportunities, ensuring that our time in the city is spent supplying substantive help to God's people in the city.

You are invited to our annual

Easter Breakfast



Sunday, March 27 ♦ 9:45-10:45 a.m. ♦ West End UMC Gymnasium

Join us for food and fellowship! This also serves as the kick-off for our annual Habitat for Humanity build. The breakfast is free of charge, but all are invited and encouraged to help us reach our \$30,000 fundraising goal by making a contribution at the breakfast.

Holy Week at West End UMC

Maudy Thursday Service ♦ Thursday, March 24 ♦ 7:30 p.m. ♦ Sanctuary

A service of Holy Communion as we remember the Last Supper Jesus shared with his disciples in The Upper Room. Lectionary readings for the evening are Psalm 116:1-4; Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; and John 13:1-17, 31b-35.

Good Friday Service ♦ Friday, March 25 ♦ 12 p.m. ♦ Sanctuary

A musical presentation of Heinrich Schutz's "Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross" with members of the Chancel and Sanctuary choirs with a meditations and selected readings from Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12.

Easter Services ♦ Sunday, March 27 ♦ 8:45 and 11 a.m. ♦ Sanctuary

We will celebrate the day with two identical services with the Chancel Choir and Joy Ringers leading in worship. Dr. Michael Williams will be preaching. The reading is Luke 24:1-12. There is no children's or adult Sunday School this morning.



Brewed Theology

Brewed Theology is an informal gathering to discuss God, philosophy, ethics, and ideas over beer or coffee. Join other young professionals at the Jackalope Brewery on March 29. We'll meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month until August. Gather around 5:30ish and conversation starts at 6 p.m. Mark your calendar: March 29 · April 26 · May 24 · June 28 · July 26 · August 23. Contact nhawthorne@westendumc.org for more info.

Pilgrimage Experience in the 4th Story Theater (April 15-17)

Pilgrimage Experience is an immersive walk through arts experience highlighting the stories and experiences of modern pilgrimage with an emphasis on local refugees and our homeless population. Through your interactive journey in the 4th Story Theater space, you will gain greater understanding of marginalized people groups and also be challenged to reach out and make a difference in our Nashville community through the concepts of "doing, being, learning and caring." Pilgrims are encouraged to register online at westendumc.org/pilgrimage for their 15 minute time slot for Friday, April 15 (5-8 p.m.), Saturday, April 16 (1-3 p.m.), or Sunday, April 17 (1-3 p.m.).



WEST END MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

MEMORIALS

Living Church Fund

- ♦ Adelaide Shull Davis by Elisabeth C. Morrison
- ♦ Harris Elledge by Hank and Gloria Gildemeister by Elizabeth W. Earthman by Peggy Downing by Jane and Sam Stumpf by Eleanor Templeton by Mary Palmer D. Thompson
- ♦ Eunice Doty by Edward and Valerie Nicholson

- ♦ Val Brooks by Ann and Kirby Davis by Jane and Sam Stumpf by Denise Brooks by Hank and Gloria Gildemeister by Douglas Henry by Kim Joyner
- ♦ Kathryn Anderson by Joyce DeRorre
- ♦ Jeanne Riddell by Mary Palmer D. Thompson
- ♦ Alden Smith by Matt and Betty Dobson

Music Ministry Fund

- ♦ Eunice Doty by Charles and Joy Hambrick
 - ♦ Harris Elledge by Pat Wallace
 - ♦ Julie Hutton by Pat Wallace
 - ♦ Val Brooks by Pat Wallace
- #### Minister's Discretionary Fund
- ♦ Chris Magee by Bobby N. Williams

Local Outreach Fund

- ♦ Mike Ritenour by Julie and Heath Jones

HONORARIUMS

Living Church Fund

- ♦ The baptism of Valla Marie Wilson by Ann and Kirby Davis
 - ♦ The birth of Jacob Banker by Ann and Kirby Davis
 - ♦ Andrew Risinger's 20th Anniversary at WEUMC by Ann Woodmore
- #### Youth Ministry Fund
- ♦ Jean Byassee's birthday by Dot Byassee

WEST END TRANSITIONS

Deaths

- ♦ Marilyn and Earl Henry are mourning the death of Marilyn's brother-in-law, *Lackey Stephens*, who died February 17 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
- ♦ Carol, Paul, Lindsey and Rachel Ballenger are mourning the death of Carol's father, *James Allen Crawford, Jr.*, who died February 20 in Goodlettsville, TN.
- ♦ E. Dan and Sue Smith are mourning the death of E. Dan's brother, *Alden H. Smith, Jr.*, who died February 25 in Nashville.
- ♦ *Vallie Carlton Brooks* died February 25. Among his survivors are his children, Meg Clawson, Chip Brooks and Leah Wehby, and grandsons, Trey and Sam Brooks.
- ♦ Pat and Stephanie Brakefield are mourning the death of Pat's father, *Dr. James Brakefield*, who died February 27 in Nashville. He is survived also by his grandchildren, Hendrix, Braxton and Mary Cayten Brakefield and Anna Claire Britton.

Births

- ♦ *Jacob Armentrout Banker* was born February 16 in Murfreesboro to P.G. and Leah Banker. He is welcomed also by his big brother, John Banker, and grandparents, Jean Ann and Barry Banker.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

It's time! The "visual" part of The Legacy Campaign has begun!

Ceiling tiles have been removed on the 3rd floor to prepare for installation of the fire sprinkler system and work will begin in the Lower Level next week. Also, our commercial kitchen in McWhirter Hall has been cleaned out and is ready for renovation to start there as well.

Following Easter services on March 27, things will begin to move more quickly. Know that each weekend and week night, our contractors will have areas cleaned, secured and accessible as much as possible, but over the next six months you will see many signs of construction throughout the building. We are excited about the results these signs will bring!

