WEST END
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Order of Worship
November 16, 2025 at Eight Forty-Five
College Sunday

GATHERING

Voluntary: Adantino .....Frank Bridge

Welcome.....Aimee Baxter
Please take a moment to let us know you are here today by either filling out the attendance form in the pew or by visiting westendumc.org/attendance. If you are a first-time guest with us today, please share a way to connect so that we can share more information about West End UMC with you!

Introit: Come, Ye That Love the Lord ..... arr. Alice Parker

† Processional Hymn No. 152: I Sing the Almighty Power of God .....Forest Green

† Call to Worship .....Katie Jo Gelasco
Liturgist: Sometimes life takes us where we don't expect.
People: Sometimes God takes us where we don't expect.
Liturgist: In worship, we gather to get in touch with God's bigger narrative.
People: In worship, we gather to expand our hearts.
Liturgist: So, let us worship the God of faithful promises.
People: Let us worship the God of love.

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession
Gracious God,
it is devastating to live in the reality that following you does not grant us immunity from the pain of the world.
We confess that sometimes we lose sight of your promises amidst our pain.
We confess that sometimes we abandon your holy work for our human-made agendas.
We confess that sometimes we hold onto your promises as excuses to disconnect from the world around us.
Forgive us, and show us how to hold onto both: the hope of tomorrow with the work of today.

† Silent Confession

† Words of Assurance
Liturgist: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
All: Glory to God. Amen.

† Passing the Peace
Liturgist: As a forgiven and reconciled people, let us exchange signs of reconciliation and love. The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

† Gloria Patri.....No. 71
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.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination .....Naomi Porter
Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit that, as the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

A Lesson from the Old Testament.....Jeremiah 29:10-14

Response to the Lesson
Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Children's Moment .....Amber Lewis
Children's church is located in Scales Chapel, which is down the hall from the sanctuary.
If it's your first time, a grown-up should please follow us after the children's moment to drop off.
Pick up will at the same location immediately following the service.

Sermon: Bloom Where You Are Planted..... Daniel Cantrell

† Affirmation of Faith .....Cole Morrison

We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made Flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Joys and Concerns of the Church

Salutation
Liturgist: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Liturgist: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
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: Many Gifts, One Spirit ..... Allen Pote

Many gifts, one spirit, many songs, one voice.
Many reasons, one promise, many questions, one choice.
O God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above.
In our differences unite us in the circle of your love.
O God, remind us we are not alone.
Though we move on different pathways, we are walking to your throne.
Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand.
We are members of one family, growing strong by joining hands.
Take our many ways of working, blend the colors of each soul
into the beauty of a rainbow, give us life, Lord, make us whole.

† Doxology ..... No. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 140: Great Is Thy Faithfulness ..... Faithfulness

† Benediction .....Molly Borneman

† Benediction Response: God Be With You Till We Meet Again ..... Randolph

God be with you till we meet again,
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you,
God be with you till we meet again.

Voluntary: Prelude and Fugue in E minor, BWV 533 ..... J. S. Bach

The postlude is the final Alleluia of our worship.
All are invited to remain for a time of joyful prayer.

† *The congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.*

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God with gratitude for the dedicated staff who prepare our worship space each week.

Today's liturgy was written by Mackenzie Rice, Vanderbilt Wesley student.

Worship Service Participants
Rev. Aimee Baxter
Molly Borneman
Students: Katie Jo Gelasco, Naomi Porter, Amber Lewis, Daniel Cantrell, Cole Morrison

Music Participants
Sanctuary Choir
Andrew Risinger: Director / Organist
Matthew Phelps: Assisting at Organ

Today's Music

Thomas Chisholm, author of "Great is Thy Faithfulness," led a pretty ordinary life. He did not write this hymn during a period of intense grief nor after encountering God in a profound way. Instead, he found truth in the words he encountered in Lamentations 3:22-23: "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Bulletin Cover Art

"The Prophet Jeremiah" is a 1968 painting by Marc Chagall, a Jewish artist born in Russia, who escaped the antisemitism there to settle in France. This painting depicts Jeremiah with a long beard and holding a book. He is surrounded by an orb in which an angel of the Lord appears to him. Against a dark background, we also find a crescent moon with a glow around it.

Prayer Requests

Our neighbors in South Nashville, immigrants and refugees, and those whose family members have been detained by immigration officials; individuals in the hospital having procedures, recovering from illness, those in treatment, and the families that are caring for them; peace in Palestine/Israel, Iran, Haiti, Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine.

If you have an emergency and need to contact one of the pastors after hours, please call 615.321.8500, Ext. 8853. The Pastor-on-Call for Nov. 17-23 will be Rev. Stacey Harwell-Dye. To submit a prayer request, visit *westendumc.org/prayerrequest*.

MINISTRY FAIR // UNTIL 12:30 PM TODAY

Visit our Gym this morning to see the multitude of ministry opportunities to participate in the ministries of West End! The WEUMC Ministry Fair is open to all members and visitors who are exploring ways to engage with our church and community in alignment with their passions and gifts.

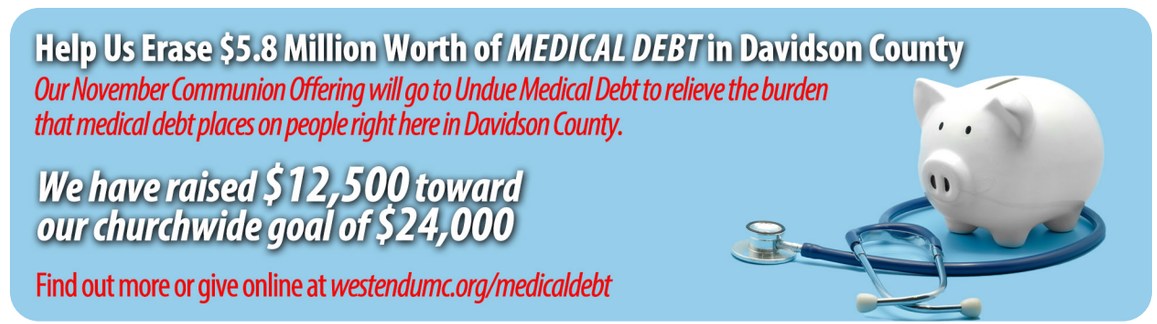
Use this QR code to let us know ways you would like to be involved at West End UMC.

CHAT & CHEW LUNCH // TODAY

All local Nashville undergrad and grad students are invited to attend lunch at a local restaurant each Sunday after the 11 a.m. service throughout the semester (with student ID). Contact Rev. Aimee Baxter at *abaxter@westendumc.org* to find out more.

TAIZE SERVICE OF PRAYER AND HEALING // TONIGHT @ 5:00 PM

Come and be still through a contemplative service rooted in the music of the Taizé community of France. Our worship service will include a space for healing prayer. Experience with contemplative worship or the music of Taizé is not required to fully engage in our liturgy. All are welcome to join us at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



November's Communion Offering will go to Undue Medical Debt. We have a goal of $24,000 which will wipe out $5.8 million of our neighbors' debt right here in Davidson County. Over 100 million people in the U.S. struggle under the weight of medical debt, together owing at least $220 billion in past-due medical expenses. Undue leverages donations to buy large, bundled medical debts at steep discounts, providing immediate relief to financially vulnerable families.

Our very own Emily Dougherty works with Undue and will be happy to talk with you more about how they do this either at a table in Reed Hall on November 23 or by email at *emily.dougherty@unduemedicaldebt.org*. To give, *visit westendumc.org/medicaldebt* to give online at our website or directly to the West End campaign at the Undue website.

West End is joining with other communities of faith to support Second Harvest Food Bank because it is one of the largest hunger relief organizations in TN that has the broadest reach, supplying many of the local food banks our neighbors rely on. Here is how we can help: 1) Raise money. Simply put, they can do more with our money than we can when it comes to bulk buying power. To give money, visit westendumc.org/food. 2) Bring canned chicken or tuna. One of the six items Second Harvest identified that they needed the most is canned meat. West End is collecting canned chicken or tuna. Look for donation bins in the lobby.

FIRST ANNUAL NOVEM-BURR COAT DRIVE

The Mercy and Justice Committee has two distinct coat needs to keep our neighbors warm this winter: 1) HG Hill Middle School has requested navy or black coats in adult sizes small, medium, and large for their students. 2) Our own clothing closet could use jackets in all adult sizes and colors to keep up with demand this winter from both Room in the Inn and Quiet Place guests. Bring coats to the Clothing Closet blue bins located in the lobby next to the elevator.

SUPPORT OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS DURING FINALS WEEK

Show our local college students some love at the end of the semester. Consider donating a $10 gift card to a local restaurant or coffee house to be included in a care package given to students at West End and Vandy Wesley. Contact Aimee Baxter at *abaxter@westendumc.org* or bring the gift cards to the church office by November 23.

BUILDING ON THE BEDROCK - FAITHFUL GIVING 2026

Our church depends on the financial support of its members to carry out the ministries and programs that allow West End UMC to be the loving light of Christ, connecting, transforming. By turning in your 2026 Estimate of Giving, you help our church staff and leaders plan and budget for the coming year. You can find a estimate card in the pew back or visit *westendumc.org/estimatenow.*

As of November 11, we have received 238 Estimates of Giving for 2026 for a total of $1,688,017.54.

FINANCIAL UPDATE FROM OUR FINANCE COMMITTEE

We are blessed by habits of generosity in our congregation, inspired deeply by the remarkable ministries that have a significant impact on the lives of our congregation and community. Thank you to those who so generously participate through financial gifts and/or who make other contributions of time and talent that enable our mission to "live the light, the loving light of Christ, so that lives and communities are transformed by God's grace." God has been good to our congregation. Here is a summary of the church's general fund through October 31. ***To achieve our 2025 revenue budget, we need gifts of $850,900 in the remainder of the year.***

Year-to-date revenue and expenses (through October 31)

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Estimated Giving	$1,801,843	$1,869,288	($67,445)
Non-estimated Giving	$354,971	$ 428,572	($73,600)
Grants, Fees, Other	$193,423	$95,148	$ 98,275
Total Revenue	$2,350,238	$2,393,008	($42,770)
2025 Budgeted Revenue		$3,201,138	
Expenses YTD	$2,537,088	$2,678,731	$141,643
2025 Budgeted Expenses		$3,216,597	

SEASONED SENIORS TRIP TO FOOD BANK // NOVEMBER 20

In this time of folks going without food, our Seasoned Seniors group will be taking a trip to Second Harvest Food Bank to see their operation and do some simple food sorting on Thursday, November 20 at 1 p.m. Mark your calendar and watch for more details following planning at our meeting this Thursday, November 13.

Join us on December 3 from 6:15-8:15 p.m. for a creative workshop led by Lanecia Rouse, a visiting artist with the Vanderbilt Curb Center this Fall. Lanecia will invite us into the sacred practice of Visio Divina before guiding us through the process of creating Advent icons using the collage medium. We will also have dinner starting at 5:15 p.m. Registration is limited, so sign up now at *westendumc.org/firstwednesday*.

Join us as we gather in the gym to make wreaths to prepare for the Advent season of waiting and hoping for the birth of Christ. We hope to see everyone there, no registrations required!

The wreath making event will include an Advent worship time, celebrating the 2nd Sunday of Advent! Resources and devotional materials will be available for church families to observe lighting the Advent wreath candles in their homes during the Advent season. We'll also have crafts, cookies and cocoa, and a mission station!

Our mission is twofold this year:

1. We'll be making Christmas cards to spread messages of hope to our homebound members.
2. We'll be collecting diapers and baby wipes for Nashville Diaper Connection to support their work of providing diapers to families in Nashville who need them.

MAKE SOMEONE'S DAY, DELIVER A POINSETTIA

Each year, West End UMC delivers Christmas Poinsettias to members of the church who are homebound or have experienced the death of a loved one in the last year. If you would like to shine a light of love from our church to one or a few people by delivering the poinsettias the week of December 9-12, register at *westendumc.org/poinsettiadelivery*. Deliveries do not require long visits and can also be done on your schedule. For more information, contact Cindy Siemer at *csiemer@westendumc.org*.

WEBINAR SERIES AND DISCUSSION ON SAND CREEK MASSACRE

Church and Society invites you to participate in its Fall 2025 Webinar Series, "The Sand Creek Massacre Remembered: Truth-Telling as a Path to Healing." This two-part webinar series will be an opportunity to learn about the Sand Creek Massacre, the importance of truthful history telling, and to explore what it means to speak truth to power. The webinars will be held on Tuesday, November 18 and Thursday, November 20 from 1-2:15 p.m.

West End Members, we will be in Room 306 to watch both webinars if you would like to watch them with others, and then on Thursday, November 20, we will debrief what we've learned and share in a time of discussion from 2:30-3:30 p.m. on zoom or in person. To find out more or to register for the webinars if you would like to watch them at home, visit *westendumc.org/sandcreek*.

YOUNG ADULT BASKETBALL // MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

All young adults are invited to join the Young Adult Basketball Group every Monday and/or Thursday from 6-8 p.m. in the gym. Just show up to participate! If you have any questions, contact Aimee Baxter at *abaxter@westendumc.org*.

CHARGE CONFERENCE // TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

We will hold our annual Charge Conference on Tuesday, December 16, at 5:30 p.m. in McWhirter Hall. This meeting, hosted by our District Superintendent, is the time when we finalize our roster of leaders for 2026, approve clergy salaries, finalize the 2026 budget, and celebrate the ministries of 2025. Everyone is invited!

A Warm Welcome

Welcome to West End United Methodist Church!

We seek to be the loving light of Christ in Nashville and beyond.

We gather as the people of God with a wide range of religious backgrounds, education levels, political, and theological perspectives, and we value that diversity. We welcome and celebrate the gifts God has given to all without regard to gender identity, race, sexual orientation, economic or family status, ethnicity, or mental or physical ability.

Scan this QR Code or visit westendumc.org/links to register your attendance with us, find out more about our Sunday Morning Classes, sign up for our weekly email, and learn more about the different ways to give at West End.

We believe that God loves everyone unconditionally!

West End Staff

Members of West End UMC ..... *Ministers*

Rev. Dr. Carol Cavin-Dillon ..... *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Will McLeane ..... *Spiritual Formation*
Rev. Aimee Baxter ..... *Young Adults*
Rev. Shannon Baxter ..... *Hospitality and Operations*
Rev. Stacey Harwell-Dye ..... *Mercy and Justice*
Rev. Maggie Jarrell ..... *Children and Families*
Emily C. Robbins ..... *Minister of Youth*
Dr. Matthew Phelps ..... *Minister of Music*
Andrew Risinger ..... *Associate Minister of Music*
Katelyn Glass ..... *Music Ministry Intern*
Rea Green ..... *Pastoral Intern*
Rev. Seulbin Lee ..... *Pastoral Intern*
Melody Suite ..... *Youth Ministry Intern*
Cindy Siemer ..... *Senior Administrative Assistant*
Andrew Callis ..... *Administrative Assistant*
Whitney Jones ..... *Administrative Assistant*

Shannon Meffert ..... *Human Resources Director*
Lazaro Kapella ..... *Church Financial Officer*
Shelley Kuhlmeyer ..... *Communications Director*
Stephen Lackey ..... *Multimedia Coordinator*
James English ..... *Building and Property Manager*
Ronnie Franklin ..... *Building Superintendent*
Andy Ulm ..... *Safety and Security Coordinator*
Richard Thomas ..... *Custodian*
Tosha Jackson ..... *Receptionist*
Kathryn Ware ..... *Receptionist*

West End Preschool

Corye Nelson ..... *Executive Director*
Christina Shoptaw ..... *Operations Manager*
Karina Gurgenidze ..... *Childcare Coordinator*

WEST END
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2200 West End Avenue ◆ Nashville, Tennessee 37203 ◆ 615.321.8500 ◆ westendumc.org

If you need to contact our security coordinator, Andy Ulm, to report any activity, please use the following phone number: 615-617-9010.