WEST END
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Order of Worship
August 23, 2026 at Eleven o'clock
Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost

GATHERING

Voluntary: Slow Air ..... Herbert Howells

Welcome..... Carol Cavin-Dillon

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: Let Us Praise Thee ..... Richard Farrant

† Processional Hymn No. 103: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise ..... St. Denio

† Call to Worship ..... Will McLeane

Liturgist: O God, who created us in love,
People: create us anew as we worship you.
Liturgist: O Jesus Christ, who has redeemed this world in grace,
People: free our hearts to fully love as we worship you.
Liturgist: O Holy Spirit, who guides us in the way of justice and mercy,
People: transform us today as we worship you.

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession and Silent Confession

Merciful God,
for the times we have followed the path of wrongdoing,
stood complicit with those who do harm,
or sat quietly and allowed injustice to happen, forgive us.
In your Spirit, empower us to lead courageously in Christ's way of peace
so that this world might be transformed by his love.

† 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.

Anthem: O How Amiable..... Ralph Vaughan Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing
to enter into the courts of the Lord:
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house:
they will be always praising thee.
The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:
prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handywork.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.
(from Psalms 84 & 90)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination ..... Claudia Nygaard

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 Pauline Epistles..... Colossians 1:1-23

Response to the Lesson

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

Children's Moment

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 be at the same location immediately following the service.

† Hymn No. 568: Christ for the World We Sing ..... Italian Hymn

Sermon: Lead Courageously.....Carol Cavin-Dillon

† Affirmation of Faith .....Shannon Baxter

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: Be Thou My Vision .....Stephan Chatman

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that thou art.
Thou my best thought by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
Be thou my wisdom, thou my true Word;
I ever with thee, thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.
High King of Heaven after victory won,
may I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'ns Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

† 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

Commendation and Welcome of New Members

Liturgist: Family of God, Philip is now entrusted to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase his faith, confirm his hopes, and perfect him in love.
People: We give thanks for all that God has already given you, Philip, and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to participate faithfully in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

† Recessional Hymn No. 438: Forth in Thy Name, O Lord.....Duke Street

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Spirit of the Living God ..... Daniel Iverson

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me,
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me,
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Voluntary: Trumpet Tune in C .....Mark Shepperd

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 today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ronald Kidd - husband, father, friend, baseball enthusiast - by his wife and daughter.

Today's Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession were written by Rev. Will McLeane.

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

Today's Music

"Forth in Thy Name, O Lord" was originally titled, "Before Work," no. 32 in the section "Hymns for Believers," *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, 1749. The hymn was first included in our hymnals in 1838 with a selection of five stanzas of the original six. This hymn is a prayer that our work every day, including Sundays for church workers, may be done in faithful response to the stirring within us of God's Holy Spirit. (Carlton Young)

Prayer Requests

Emily Ruth, daughter of Helen Gaye Brewster; Emily and John Robbins in their continued displacement from their home since Winter Storm Fern; Christal Haner; victims of gun violence; our Muslim friends and neighbors; the sick, the unhoused, the lonely; those affected by flooding and natural disasters; those who choose hate over love; immigrants and refugees; individuals in the hospital having procedures, recovering from illness, those in treatment, and the families that are caring for them; peace in Venezuela, Palestine/Israel, Iran, Haiti, Sudan, Lebanon, Tanzania, Syria, and Ukraine.

AUG. COMMUNION OFFERING // PUBLIC SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Our August Communion Offering benefits H.G. Hill Middle School. We are partnered with H.G. Hill to support students, teachers, and families. A portion of this money is used to provide teachers with gifts and meals of appreciation each year.

H.G. HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL
Panther Strong

NEW SCHOOL YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT HG HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

We are looking for individuals interested in being tutors at HG Hill Middle School. Tutoring is easy, fun, and it only takes an hour a week on Tuesdays or Thursdays at 9 a.m. Tutoring is in either reading or math, depending on your preference, and we'd love to have a few Spanish speaking tutors, as well. All tutors are background-checked and receive preliminary training through our partner, United4Hope. Reach out to Anne Underhill if you have any questions or are interested in getting started with this incredible school at *annerunderhill@gmail.com*.

FINANCIAL UPDATE THRU JULY 2026

Total Contributions Received Year to Date $1,487,044
2026 Expenses Year to Date $1,902,798
Difference ..... (-$415,754)

***Contributions include tithes, offerings, investment income, and building usage fees**

2026 Total General Fund Budget.....$3,319,917

HABITAT BUILD / FALL 2026

It's time for Habitat! We are partnering once again with other Methodist churches to help build a home. Our build dates for 2026 are 9/12, 10/3, 10/25. Sign ups are now available at *westendumc.org/habitat*. If you or your group of friends would be interested in providing food for one of our build dates, contact Stacey at *sharwelldye@westendumc.org*.

FALL RETREAT // SEPTEMBER 25-27

We are excited for our annual Church-Wide Fall Retreat! This year's Fall Retreat will be Friday evening to Sunday mid-morning, September 25 through 27. All ages are invited to join us at Beersheba Springs Assembly, less than two hours away in Beersheba, Tennessee. Campfires, hikes, times of worship and prayer, slow meals at the table, and rocking chair visits with one another will set our agenda for the weekend as we seek connection across the generations of our community. Don't miss this intergenerational time of study, fellowship, and fun!

Register now at *westendumc.org/fallretreat*

KNOW OUR NEIGHBORS // TODAY

How can we, as a congregation, be better neighbors with the people who live and work in our Midtown community? Join us for a "Know Our Neighbors" training after the service from 12:15-2:00 p.m. in McWhirter Hall. We'll make plans to go speak with the people around us, to discuss hopes, concerns, and opportunities, as we as a church discern how to lean into the United Methodist vision to love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously! We will provide you the support and tools to do this well. RSVP at *westendumc.org/neighbors* for lunch and if you need childcare.

ACOLYTE TRAINING // TODAY

The acolyte ministry at West End is an opportunity for children and youth to lead in our worship services each week. This afternoon, there will be a training for new Acolytes in the Sanctuary from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Acolytes carry the light of Christ into the sanctuary and back out into the world in both of our worship services each week. Kids who are currently in 3rd grade and older are invited to participate. Email Maggie Jarrell at *mjarrell@westendumc.org* to register!

OEF KICKOFF // TODAY

All 4th, 5th, and 6th graders are invited to join us for older elementary fellowship (OEF) this year! We meet monthly during the school year for different fun activities and service projects. Kids AND parents are invited to join us for the kickoff from 5-7 p.m. in McWhirter Hall.

CHILDREN'S SABBATH AND BIBLE SUNDAY // AUGUST 30

We're excited to continue the tradition of our annual Children's Sabbath, where children will take on all the worship leader roles and children's choirs will sing. We will also be presenting Bibles to our 3 and 4 year olds AND our 3rd graders in worship.

- **Children's Sabbath Opportunities -** Children have opportunities to serve as greeters, ushers, liturgists, scripture readers, acolytes, preachers, and to lead us in music with handbells and our the childen's choirs. If your child wants to help, contact Maggie Jarrell at *mjarrell@westendumc.org* to sign up!
- **Preschool Bible Milestone -** All 3s and 4s will receive a Spark Story Book Bible to read with their families in the hopes that they will begin to develop a love for God and scripture by connecting with God through reading the stories of the Bible.

  Register your child to receive a Bible at *westendumc.org/preschoolbible*.
- **Third Grade Bible Milestone -** Our 3rd graders will receive a Deep Blue Kids Bible to continue the long-held tradition of giving Bibles to our 3rd graders as they continue to grow in their faith and begin to read and discover God's word for themselves. Register your older child to receive their Bibles at *westendumc.org/3rdgradebible*.

WEST END LUNCH FORUM AT SWETT'S // SEPTEMBER 1

The West End Lunch Forum meets on the first Tuesday of every month from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Reservations are not needed, but we would like a count. RSVP at *westendumc.org/swettslunchforum*. All church members are invited to meet with our Pastor for food, fellowship, and conversation at Swett's Cafeteria on 28th Avenue.

FIRST WEDNESDAY // SEPTEMBER 2

Writing as a Spiritual Practice with Andrew Breeden - Writing can be a spiritually formative activity and a wonderful means to engage scripture and personal life experiences in a deep, creative, and meaningful way. Andrew Breeden is a WEUMC member with a passion for equipping others to tell their stories through his work as Senior Editor at *The Upper Room*. On September 2 from 6-7 p.m. in McWhirter Hall, Andrew will lead a writing workshop designed to help you think about the small, seemingly ordinary moments in your life that have ultimately shaped your spiritual journey and then to capture those experiences in words. He will talk about devotional writing, journaling, spiritual autobiography, and the relationship between visual art and spiritual writing. Don't think you're a writer or that you have nothing important to say? You should come anyway so that Andrew can change your mind.

We will have our first Wednesday Night Dinner of the Fall before Andrew's presentation. Dinner will be served in McWhriter Hall starting at 5:15 pm. Registration is required for dinner at *westendumc.org/firstwednesday*.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP THIS FALL // BEGINS SEPTEMBER 10

If you are walking through a season of grief and looking for others to share the journey, you are invited to join our 6-week grief support group. A trained counselor will guide the conversation as we share support and care. We will host a Grief Support group on Thursday evenings from 6 - 7 p.m. starting on September 10 through October 15. Sign up at *westendumc.org/griefgroup* or email Pastor Carol at *ccavindillon@westendumc.org*.

PEER-LED LGBTQIA+ GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP SECOND AND FOURTH MONDAYS

A new peer-led LGBTQIA+ grief support group will begin on September 14th at 5:30 p.m. in Bishop's Parlor and welcomes anyone in the LGBTQIA+ community to receive support from their peers as they grapple with living- or death-related loss. Registration is required. If you have any questions or want to register for the group, please contact *griefpeerhere@proton.me*.

COLLEGE MINISTRY EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

- **August 23: Move-in Weekend for Vanderbilt** -Take home a prayer card for students and be on the lookout for new faces in worship!
- **August 26: Welcome Week Game Night** - All undergrad and graduate students are invited to a game night and free dinner to start the semester off from 6-7:30 p.m. in Room 318.
- **August 30: First Chat & Chew of the semester** - Chat & Chew is a free meal for all local college students after the 11 a.m. worship service each week during the school year.
- **September 20: College Sunday** - Students will lead worship in both services. Everyone is invited to represent their school by wearing your favorite college swag.

COLLEGE SWAG NEEDED

College Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, September 20 and we want to deck out the sanctuary in some school swag. If you have flags, pom poms, towels, etc. from any of our local colleges/universities and would be willing to lend them to us for that day, please contact Rev. Aimee Baxter at *abaxter@westendumc.org*.

VANDY WESLEY DINNER AND DISCUSSION WEDNESDAYS

Vandy Wesley hosts Dinner & Discussion every Wednesday in Room 318 from 6-7:30 p.m. throughout the academic year. Undergrad and graduate students are invited for a free meal and faith discussion.

BREWED THEOLOGY // SEPTEMBER 1

All young adults are invited to a time of fellowship around the table to discuss which book/topic to study on Tuesday evenings through the Fall. September's meeting is Tuesday, September 1 at 6:30 p.m. at Martin's BBQ (2400 Elliston Place). For more information, email Rev. Aimee Baxter at *abaxter@westendumc.org*.

SALTY SENIORS UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

The Salty Seniors are older adults of retirement age who seek to find fellowship and service in our church and for our God. We have several plans, but we need some volunteers! Below are the dates, events, and the coordinators whose contact information is in One Church (OCS).

- **September 13** - Potluck Lunch with our college students immediately after church: Anita Schmidt, coordinator.
- **Date TBD** - Training for composting assistants at meals in McWhirter Hall - Gay Vekovius, coordinator. This team is open to people of all ages.

VOICES OF RESILIENCE: COMMUNITY LAUNCH & POTLUCK RECEPTION

Sunday, August 30, 2026 | 1 – 3 p.m. All Nashvillians are welcome to the table. *Voices of Resilience* — the traveling multimedia exhibit centering the stories of those most impacted by climate change, often first and hardest — makes its next tour stop at West End United Methodist Church on August 30. The exhibit will be in the 4th Story Theater Gallery through the end of September. Join us for a community potluck luncheon, a panel conversation with featured voices from the exhibit, and an afternoon of art, food, and connection. ***What to Expect:***

- **Community Potluck** — Bring a dish to share that reflects your own food tradition, culture, or community. All are welcome at this table.
- **Panel Conversation** — Featured *Voices of Resilience* storytellers will share their experiences of climate resilience, community, and what it means to build something together in the face of change.
- **Bread Exchange** — Bring a baked loaf of bread — homemade or store-bought, no judgment here. Leave a loaf, take a loaf. A simple, generous act of community.
- **Food Drive** — Bring non-perishable food donations to contribute to a curated food drive benefiting neighbors in need right here in Nashville.
- **Gallery Walk** — Tour the *Voices of Resilience* exhibit panels, experience the artwork, and encounter the stories at the heart of this project in community.

This is not just a lunch. It is a reception — for the voices, for the stories, and for the city that holds them. Come hungry. Come curious. Come ready to belong to something.

Free and open to all. Bring a dish. Bring a friend. Bring bread to take and eat. Be part of the *Voices of Resilience* story.

Questions? Contact Pastor Stacey at *sharwelldye@westendumc.org*.

RICE FOOD DRIVE FOR THE STORE

As part of our *Voices of Resilience* launch on August 30, we are asking that all guests bring an item to donate to The Store. They are asking us for Knorr Rice Sides (5.6 oz - any flavor- individual packets only please!). We will have a box in the entryway to the church, but will also have one in the theater the day of the Community Launch. People can bring the Knorr Rice Sides any time before the end of the month.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Alex and Kevin Stevens

Philip Byard (pictured with family)

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*
Mai Htay ..... *Children's Ministry Intern*
Melody Suite ..... *Pastoral Intern*
Xandria Flores ..... *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*
Molly Borneman ..... *Development Associate*
Shelley Kuhlmeyer ..... *Communications Director*
Stephen Lackey ..... *Multimedia Coordinator*
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: 515-333-1717.