

# WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# ORDER OF WORSHIP JANUARY 19, 2025 AT EIGHT FORTY-FIVE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

#### **GATHERING**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession

Most Merciful God,

we confess that in our thoughts, words, actions, and inactions we have sinned against you.

In the messiness of our lives, we have missed your voice calling out to us.

We have failed to love you wholeheartedly, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

By the power of your Holy Spirit, tune our hearts to the rhythm of your ways and guide us toward deeper love and connection.

† 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.

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 .......Brant Phillips

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit that,

as the Sariptures are read and the Word proglaimed.

as the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

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 at the same location immediately following the service.

Sermon: Discerning and Doing.......Carol Cavin-Dillon

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 The Lord be with you. Liturgist: And also with you. People: 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.

Set me as a seal upon thine heart. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it; for love is strong as death. Song of Solomon 8:6, 7 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!

#### **SENDING FORTH**

† Recessional Hymn No. 127: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah ......Cmw Rhondda

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Bind Us Together......Bind us Together

Bind us together Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken, bind us together Lord, bind us together Lord, bind us together in love.

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

#### **ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE**

She's five! The altar flowers are given in memory of Francie Wiegand for her birthday by her parents, Jane and Martin, and her siblings, Tripp, Nell and Fred.

Today's liturgy was written by Hampton Randall, Youth Ministry Intern.

#### **Music Participants**

Sanctuary Choir
Andrew Risinger: Director / Organist

#### **Bulletin Cover Art**

"The Wedding at Cana" by Jesus Mafa, a Christian group in Cameroon who, some years ago, determined that the stories in the Gospels could best be told by acting them out. After some period of doing that, they then decided that paintings of their acting the Gospel stories would help spread those stories. "The Wedding at Cana" was created in the 1970s. We have used their art in the past for bulletin covers. In today's art, we see a village celebration with men, women, and children dressed in brighly colored robes of red, blue, green, and pink, and others in white or tan. There are musicians playing music in the background, and in the foreground we see jugs and cisterns of the water that is to be turned into wine.

#### **PRAYER REQUESTS AND CONCERNS**

- **Sympathies** to Fern Richie and family, as they mourn the death of Dr. Bob Richie who died Monday, January 13. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, January 25 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary with visitation in Reed Hall preceding the service at noon.
- **Prayer Requests:** Nancy Jones; Kathy Osten; our unhoused neighbors looking for a warm place to sleep; individuals in the hospital having procedures, recovering from illness, those in treatment, and the families that are caring for them; the US government and the peaceful change of leadership; peace in Palestine/Israel, 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 January 20-26 will be Rev. Stacey Harwell-Dye. To submit a prayer request, visit *westendumc.org/prayerrequest*.

#### **JANUARY COMMUNION OFFERING**

Our January Communion offering will benefit Project Transformation. Project Transformation connects the three C's - churches, children and college students — to help children improve their literacy, social-emotional, and spiritual development through participating in high-quality, out-of-school time programs led by young adults. Each summer we participate in this program through helping with a reading week, so be on the lookout for ways to serve in this ministry in the summer.

#### CHAT & CHEW LUNCH // TODAY

All local Nashville undergrad and grad students are invited to attend lunch at a local restaurant (West End's treat!) each Sunday after the 11 o'clock service throughout the Spring semester. Contact Rev. Aimee Baxter at abaxter@westendumc.org to find out more.



#### **WEST END FAMILY MEET UP // JANUARY 26**

Families are invited to join us for pancakes and play time in the gym on Sunday, January 26 from 11 am to 1 pm.

#### **BREWED THEOLOGY // FEBRUARY 4**

Young Adult Gathering 1st Tuesday of the Month
- Brewed Theology will meet Tuesday, February 4 at 6:30 pm at Hi-Fi Clyde's on Church Street for trivia night. All young adults are invited to join us for a laid-back conversation around a particular theological topic each month. For more information, contact Rev. Aimee Baxter at abaxter@westendumc.org.

#### FIRST WEDNESDAY: THE WESLEYAN WAY // FEBRUARY 5

Join us on February 5 for fellowship and learning around the table. The Rev. Shannon Baxter will lead our programming on how we are called to embody the Wesleyan Way today. Pastor Shannon will share experiences and discoveries from his recent Wesley Pilgrimage. If you ever wonder what it means to be a "Methodist" today, this event is a great starting place! Supper starts at 5:15 pm, and the event begins at 6 pm Register for dinner and the event at *westendumc.org/firstwednesday*.

#### **WEST END WALKING GROUP // MARCH 8**

The West End Walking Group will begin meeting again in March. Our first hike of the year will be at Edwin Warner Park on Saturday, March 8. We will meet at the nature center at 9 am. Watch the bulletin to learn where the group will be hiking next or contact Andrew Breeden for questions at agarlandbreeden@gmail.com.

#### YOUNG ADULT TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday Young Adult Study Group will be studying *Bible Stories for Grown Ups* by Josh Scott (a speaker at TheoEd Nashville) this semester. They meet on Tuesday nights from 6:30-7:30 pm in Room 317. Contact Aimee Baxter for more information at *abaxter@westendumc.org*.

## MEET OUR NEW SPOTLIGHT ORGANIZATION

For 2025-2027 we will be focusing money, time, and talent with Nashville Launch Pad. We will celebrate the start of our new partnership with our Great Day of Service at their location on March 1. Want to volunteer directly with them before then? Visit *nashvillelaunchpad.com/* 



*volunteer*. We will be sharing more ways to collaborate in the days to come but for now we celebrate this amazing organization dreaming and making possible a world of street-free sleep for young adults aged 18-26 in Nashville.

#### **JOIN A SMALL GROUP**

Ever since the earliest days of the people called "Methodists," small groups have been the way we practice growing in love of God and neighbor. Small groups at West End center around a particular theme, activity, or covenant commitment. If you would like to know more or are interested in joining a small group, let us know at westendumc.org/smallgroups.

#### **CLOTHING AND OTHER SUPPLIES NEEDED**

Our guests have access to our clothing closet, and we can always use your gently used men's clothing, shoes, and sock donations. We always need new donations of underwear and undershirts. You can find an Amazon wishlist with our top needs on it at westendumc.org/clothingcloset.

#### **RECYCLING AT WEST END UMC**

Thank you to church members who have been recycling plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Additional thanks go to the dedicated team of volunteers who pick up the recycling. Please remember to empty bottles and cans before adding them to the recycling bins. Please rinse out anything that is sticky. Also, plastic cups or straws are not recyclable in Nashville at this time.

### **WEST END LUNCH FORUM**

*First Tuesday of the month ◆ 11 a.m.* 

A time when any of our church members can meet with our Senior Pastor for food, fellowship, and conversation, the West End Lunch Forum meets the first Tuesday of each month at Swett's Cafeteria on 28th Avenue. To receive reminders, RSVP online at westendumc.org/swettslunchforum.





#### **DONATE TO THE FLOWER FUND**

We are so fortunate at West End to have many generous donors who provide flowers each Sunday to enhance our worship space. The 2025 schedule is being developed and there are still some available dates if you are looking for a special way to mark an important occasion. We would love to hear from you! Contact Allison Wills Brooks at eatbetter@gmail.com, Jennifer Hoffman at jenniferhoffman@outlook.com, and Amy Lynch at lynchamy@comcast.net to find out more.

#### **SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS AND MUSIC CAMP 2025**

While making your Summer 2025 plans, be sure to save the dates for our 2025 VBS and Music Camp! VBS will happen June in the evenings for ages 3 thru rising grade 5.

After a hiatus, Music Camp will make its debut again this summer. Camp happens during the week of July 21-25 with Sunday, July 27 for our Musical Presentation. Music Camp is for kids entering grades 1-7 in Fall 2025. Visit *westendumc.org/musiccamp* to be put on a contact list for when Music Camp registration opens.

## ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITY: KEEP SUMMER EBT IN 2025 & BEYOND

Tennessee is at risk of losing Summer EBT for families in 2025. Governor Bill Lee and DHS do not plan to opt into Summer EBT for families next summer. In 2024, Summer EBT served over 650,000 children in Tennessee and brought nearly \$79 million into the state economy. Tennessee children aren't going anywhere. They will continue to need food during the summer months in 2025 and beyond. Please send a letter to the Governor and TDHS Commissioner Clarence Carter asking them to adopt this much-needed program for 2025 and beyond! You can find a form letter online at westendumc.org/ebtletter.



#### DON'T MISS TheoEd NASHVILLE // FEBRUARY 23

West End UMC is joining Emory's Candler School of Theology to host TheoEd Nashville on February 23 at 4:30 pm at the Woolworth Theater!

TheoEd is a faith-based speaker series that brings together leading thinkers in the church and the academy to give the talk of their lives in 20 minutes or less. Its speakers deliver neither sermons nor traditional lectures. Rather, they offer highly polished, no-notes, TED-style talks that seek to spark conversations about God, religion, and the power of faith to change lives and communities. The speakers for TheoEd Nashville are Julian Davis Reed, Lanecia Rouse, Josh Scott, and Suzanne Stabile.

Learn more about TheoEd and get tickets to this event at theoed.com.

#### MLK DAY CELEBRATIONS IN NASHVILLE

Let's join our hearts and feet with those across the city for the annual Martin Luther King Jr Day march and convocation. On Monday, January 20, the march begins at 9 a.m. and the convocation starts at 10 a.m. at the Gentry Center at TSU and will run till roughly noon. For more details, including any weather cancellations or delays, please see: <a href="https://mlkdaynashville.com/2025-event-schedule/">https://mlkdaynashville.com/2025-event-schedule/</a>

## FAITHFUL GIVING 2025

Have you made your giving estimate for 2025 yet?

As of January 15, we have received 321 Estimates of Giving for 2025 for a total of \$2,058,850.

#### Help our church thrive and grow in 2025.

Our church depends on the financial support of its members to carry out the ministries and programs that allow West End United Methodist Church to be the loving light of Christ, connecting, transforming. By turning in your 2025 Estimate of Giving, you help our church staff and leaders budget for the coming year.

#### It's not too late to make your 2025 Estimate of Giving!

You can find a card in the pew back, scan the QR code below, or visit *westendumc.org/estimatenow* to turn in your estimate.

Our budgeted goal for Estimates of Giving for 2025 is \$2,393,662 We need \$335,000 in additional estimates to reach our goal.

We celebrate that we have 48 new Estimate of Giving for 2025 totaling \$234,920.

There are 54 pledging households for 2024 who have not yet made an estimate of giving to contribute financially in 2025.

161 households increased their estimate of giving from 2024 to 2025!







#### **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 OMC	
D D C   C D:	Ci Dt
Rev. Dr. Carol Cavin-Dillon	
Rev. Will McLeane	Spiritual Formation
Rev. Maggie Jarrell	Children and Families
Rev. Stacey Harwell-Dye	Mercy and Justice
Rev. Shannon Baxter	Congregational Connection
Rev. Aimee Baxter	Young Adults
Emily C. Robbins	
Dr. Matthew Phelps	Minister of Music
Andrew Risinger	Associate Minister of Music
Dr. Tammy Lewis Wilborn	
Rea Green	Pastoral Intern
Hampton Randall	Youth Ministry Intern
Nico Zavala	
Shelley Kuhlmeyer	Communications Director
Lazaro Kapella	Church Financial Officer

Members of West End LIMC

Jim Raver	Property Operations Manager
Shannon Meffert	HR Generalist
Corye Nelson	Preschool Executive Director
	Preschool Operations Manager
Cheryl Reeves	Preschool Curriculum Coordinator
Karina Gurgenidze	Childcare Coordinator
Cindy Siemer	Senior Administrative Assistant
Andrew Callis	Administrative Assistant
Tosha Jackson	Receptionist
Kathryn Ware	Receptionist
Chase Bencin	Media Coordinator
Ronnie Franklin	Building Superintendent
Andy Ulm	Safety and Security Coordinator
Richard Thomas	Custodian

