













#### **GATHERING**

(Silence during the Prelude is requested in preparation for worship.)

About the Prelude

The Prelude is a musical offering to help move the hearts and minds of the gathering community from the daily struggles of life to the worship of God.

About Hymn 396

This hymn comes out of the early 19thcentury southern camp meeting experience, where believers were invited to pray for new converts, often likened to biblical characters such as Paul's jailer (Philippians 1:12-13).

**PRELUDE** 

G.F. Handel

Allegro, Op. 4, no. 1

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

Happy are those who fear the Lord, who delight in God's commandments. They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright. Those who love God are gracious. merciful, and righteous. They are generous, sharing freely what they have received. It is well with those who live in justice. Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid. Let us praise the Lord!

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lord of Hosts, King of Kings, you sit in the place of honor. We pray that we might have a seat near you today, not to boost our egos or build ourselves up, but so that we might draw closer to the hopes you have for us, so that we might gain understanding of the kin-dom1 you desire. through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(The Cross and Bible lead the procession, symbolic of the centrality in worship of Jesus Christ - the Living Word, and the Bible - the written Word.)

\*HYMN 396 Holv Manna

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship

## Brethren, We Have Met to Worship 396



- 1 Breth-ren, we have met to wor-ship and a dore the Lord our God.
- 2 Sis ters, will you come and help us? Mo-ses' sis-ter aid ed him.
- 3 Is there here a trem-bling jail-er, seek-ing grace and filled with fears?
- 4 Let us love our God su preme-ly; let us love each oth er, too.



Will you pray with all your pow - er while we try to preach the word? Will you help the trem-bling mourn-ers who are strug-gling hard with sin? Is there here a weep-ing Mar - y pour-ing forth a flood of tears? Let us love and pray for sin - ners till our God makes all things new.



All is vain un-less the Spir-it of the ho-ly One comes down. Tell them all a - bout the Sav-ior. Tell them that he will be found. Breth-ren, join your cries to help them; sis-ters, let your prayers a - bound! Christ will call us home to heav-en; at his ta-ble we'll sit down.





This hymn comes out of the early 19th-century southern camp meeting experience, where believers were invited to pray for new converts, often likened to biblical characters such as Paul's jailer (Philippians 1:12–13). As its name shows, the five-note tune was created for this text.

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

We turn away from God, often not knowing any better. Yet God keeps inviting us and keeps reaching to us in love. In penitence and faith, let us turn towards God and seek forgiveness.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
in Jesus you show us a way that is humble
and that seeks the good of others.
We confess that we go our own way;
we elevate ourselves and ignore the needs of others.
Free us from the temptation
to pursue our own pleasure only.
Help us to live in harmony
with all your people,
sharing one world
and eating around one table,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

(Silent confession)

Kyrie

Hal H. Hopson

(Sung responsively by the choir and congregation)

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the Good News: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

#### \*The Peace

Since God in Christ has forgiven us, let us also forgive one another.

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

(Please exchange the peace with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you.") Call to and Prayer of Confession

A call to confession expresses God's initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity, and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace.

About the Kyrie The Kyrie (Greek "kyrios" [Lord]) is a corporate musical prayer for grace.

Assurance of Pardon

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God's mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus' name. The liturgist pours water into the font, which reminds us of the grace and cleansing of our Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.

#### CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

(Everyone is asked to sign the Friendship pad, which is located on the center aisle end of each pew.)

#### THE WORD

Children's Time will happen at both services when we do not have communion or baptisms.

#### CHILDREN'S TIME

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Hear the Word of God! Our ears are open.

#### **Proverbs 25:6-7**

(Old Testament, page 607 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

**Psalm 112,** Hymn 755 (All sing) WEISSE FLAGGEN Alleluia! Laud and Blessing

#### Luke 14:1, 7-14

(New Testament, pages 77 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Friend, move up higher!" Donovan Drake

(A moment for meditation)

HYMN 529

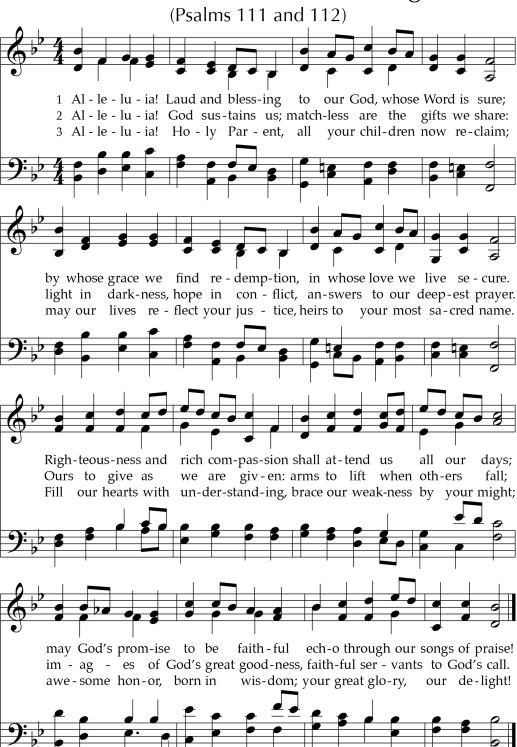
Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

UNION SEMINARY

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ

## Alleluia! Laud and Blessing



Psalms 111 and 112 are appropriately brought together in this paraphrase. Both form acrostics: each poetic line begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet in order. In addition, both psalms begin with "hallelujah," and they share much vocabulary as well as a theme of praise.

TEXT: Michael Morgan, 2011 MUSIC: Tochter Sion, 1741 Text © 2011 Michael Morgan (admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources)

## Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether 529



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This communion text calls attention to the inherent sacramental nature of all meals and the communal dimensions of all human interaction. The tune, originally composed for an anthem setting of this text, honors the institution where the composer was trained and later taught.

in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations. and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.** 

#### **THANKSGIVING**

#### **OFFERING**

Anthem

Felix Mendelssohn arr. O.C. Christiansen

The Lord is a Mighty God

The Lord is a mighty God and a mighty ruler over all false idols.

#### \*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen

#### Offering

The collection of tithes and offerings takes place as a response to the Word. These actions are signs of our gratitude for the grace of God proclaimed in the gospel.

To give, please scan the QR code below:



#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

God's grace elicits our heartfelt gratitude. We respond to the good news of forgiveness with joyful acclamations of praise!

#### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

For all that God can do within us, for all that God can do without us, **Thanks be to God!** 

For all in whom Christ lived before us, for all in whom Christ lives beside us, **Thanks be to God!** 

For all the Spirit wants to bring us, for where the Spirit wants to send us, **Thanks be to God!** 

Christ has promised to be with us in the world as in our worship.

Thanks be to God!

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Singing together)

(Please refer to the inside back cover of your hymnal for words and music to this hymn.)

#### **SENDING**

\*HYMN 306 DENNIS

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

#### \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** 

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

"Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals" à la Handel

About the Postlude

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

<sup>\*(</sup>Those who are able may stand.)

### Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306



\*Or "Maker's"

Written to express a pastor's unwillingness to leave a beloved congregation, this hymn is frequently used as an expression of Christian fellowship, especially at the conclusion of the Lord's Supper. The tune is attributed to an influential Swiss musician and publisher.

TEXT: John Fawcett, 1782 MUSIC: Johann Georg Nägeli, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1845

#### **Today @ Westminster**

#### **Worship Leaders**

#### **Preaching**

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake Pastor and Head of Staff

#### Liturgist

Sophie Maness Executive Director of Children's & Community Life Ministries

#### **Lay Liturgists**

8:30 AM Julie Wilson 11:00 AM Rachel Hosé

#### Music

8:30 AM Chamber Choir 11:00 AM Westminster Choir

John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries

Stephen Cook Guest Organist

#### **Flower Dedication**

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jim Crafton by Kim and Elizabeth Crafton and Mary Helen and Matt Daeley.

The flowers in the Parlor are given to the glory of God and in honor of our faithful choir section leaders by Kelly and Bill Christie.

#### **Mask Policy**

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville is mask optional.

#### **Hearing Assistance**

We offer personal FM Receivers with an earpiece, located in the Narthex and in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser. Instructions can be found at each location.

#### Large Print Hymns

Looking for large-print hymns? They can be found in the Narthex at the Sanctuary entrance or in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser.

#### **Recorded Worship Services**

To watch a service at a later time, go to www.nashvillewpc.church and scroll down to the Worship Service Archive. Click on the service you would like to view.

#### Dial-a-Sermon

Dial 629.206.1073 after 10:15 AM each Sunday morning to listen to the sermon. The sermon will be available all week.

#### Childcare

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:15 AM to 12:00 PM.

Nursery - Room 146

Toddlers - Room 152

2s and 3s - Room 151

#### **Copyright Information**

The music used in the service this morning is copyrighted under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc., No. 1121525.

#### **Our Mission**

Ordinary people testifying to the extraordinary light found in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us."

(2 Corinthians 4:6-7)



But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.

Luke 14:10

How would you describe the feeling of humility?

When have you been humble towards another?

Who in this world has eyes to see the humility of others?

Imagine God saying to you, "Friend, move up higher."

#### Welcome

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. Any who are interested in joining us in this journey are invited to contact one of the pastors on staff by calling 615.292.5526, the church office.

#### **Elder Nominations**

Nominations for next year's Elder class and Legacy Fund Trustees (the Class of 2029) are requested from Westminster members. To nominate a church member, complete a suggestion form.

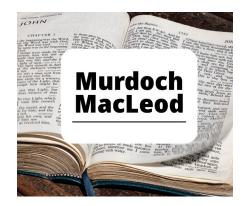
Forms can be found in the Parlor by the wooden ballot box or online at nashvillewpc. church, click on the forms tab. Nominations close on October 5, 2025. For more information, please contact Joanna Hall, halljoanna70@gmail.com, or Terri Eckert, teckert@nashvillewpc.org.



#### Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM

#### **Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall**

Please join us for fellowship in the Parlor this Sunday.



#### Murdoch MacLeod ● Library

We will discuss this week'sgospel lesson.

For more info, please contact Paul DeWitt, pdewitt@comcast.net.



#### **Sunday School**

Join us for devos and donuts this morning.

No Youth Group tonight.



#### **Children & Youth Choirs**

Labor Day Weekend. No rehearsals. We will see you next weekend.

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

#### 8:30 & 11:00 AM ● Worship Services

#### **Children and Worship**

Childcare is available for children who are infants through kindergarten during both services. While childcare is available, children are always welcome in worship. There are quiet toys and worship bags for children. They may be found in baskets in the Parlor and in the back of the Sanctuary. The bags have plain paper, crayons, a pencil and a children's bulletin.

#### 9:45 AM ● Sunday School

2s are in room 149 3s are in room 161 4s are in room 163

Godly Play/Kindergarten in 183

4th & 5th Grade in room 292

1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapel first and then will be picked up in rooms.

### LIVING OUT THE WORD

#### Questions for Children and Their Families:

When has someone noticed that you were sad? What happened next?

When have you noticed someone else feeling bad? What happened next?

Draw a picture of someone noticing something beautiful.

#### The Banquet

#### YGOCZTFGD E R S X W X Ρ G Ν S Ε D 1 1 0 Ν L U D ٧ Н U Τ Ε Ν D MLGO В S E M WGXBN S Υ D X H U D O N OVAEQWHO Υ R C В MMSTWFTTYNLD

#### Word Search

See if you can find these words in the puzzle on the left.

crippled dinner friends guests higher honor humble invited Luke luncheon move neighbors poor table

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Busy Week @ WPC This Week**

**Monday - Labor Day - Campus Closed** 

#### Wednesday

4:00 PM Musik Garten Begins

Join your child in developing a musical bond. For ages newborn through 3 1/2 years old. Registration is required.

4:00 PM Café Activities

Enjoy Scrabble, UNO, chess, pom pom making, puzzles, clay fun, and open gym time (when it rains). Parents stay with their children with a come-and-go schedule. Then, stay for dinner.

5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner

Reservations required by Monday at noon.

We are having Taziki's. Hope to see you there. Scan OR code to reserve your spot.

6:30 PM Special Class

When Roles Reverse: Becoming A Loved One's Caregiver

Caring for aging loved ones is something many of us will become familiar with very soon (if not already). Navigating this role reversal (where you become the caregiver to someone who has cared for you) is not for the faint of heart but doesn't have to be one to dread. Join us for a conversation with Stephanie Boaz as she helps us think through this stage of life to come. Registration required.

#### **Thursday**

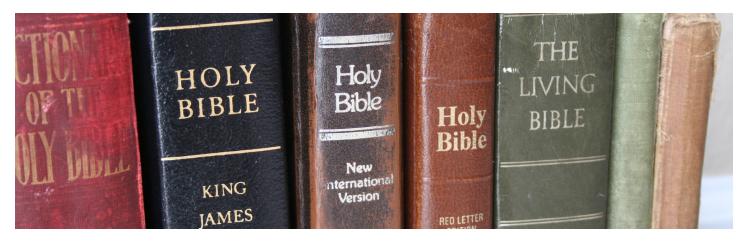
7:00 AM Disciple I starts

9:30 AM Mid-Morning Mom's Group Begins THIS Week

Our mid-week mom's group is a place for moms of littles who need a little break. Join us for the next six weeks for good conversation, devotion, and a weekly project. Meet us in the cafe to meet some new friends, take a breath, and do something fun for yourself in the middle of a busy season. Childcare provided for kids not yet in school.

(Registration required for childcare.)





#### **New Bible Studies This Fall**

Bible studies are available throughout the week. Different times and groups are available for men and women.

#### **Sundays**

For women in their late 20s to early 50s

#### Women's Bible Study: Making Space When it Doesn't Make Sense

Starts September 7

Sunday | 7:00 PM | Kim Crafton's Home

Meets every other Sunday

W.B. Yeats once said, "Things fall apart." They do. But we believe, in the words of Craig Barnes, that "God is not nearly done pulling together the things that have fallen apart." Join us for a 7-part series where we make space to wrestle with the things that fall apart and the One that holds all things together.

Leader: Ashley Higgins Contact: Dana Hildebrand, dana.m.hildebrand@gmail.com

For men in their late 20s to early 50s

### Men's Bible Study: Scripture for Today

Starts September 14

Sunday | 7:00 PM | Magnolia Room

Meets every other Sunday

This group will have discussion centering on the week's lectionary text. Conversation will dig into scripture and its implications for us today. Leaders:

Donovan, Guy and Will Wellman.

Contact: Blake Brookshire, b.brookshire@vumc.org

#### Other Available Studies

#### Wednesday

7:00 AM | Overlook Room Leader: Hank Abbott habbott@parkinghotline.com

#### Thursday

10:00 AM | 214 Leader: Guy Griffith ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org

#### Friday

7:00 AM | Overlook Room Leader: Donovan Drake ddrake@nashvillewpc.org

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**







Exterior painting and wood repair for the church, including the steeple is now underway. Rainy weather slowed the painting down earlier in the summer, but good progress has been made.

Once finished, this will complete the work on campus slated for this summer.

If you have questions on these or any of the projects done on the church campus this summer, please contact Greg Cornish, gkcmhs@msn.com, or Jo Ann McFarlin, jmcfarlin@nashvillewpc.org.

# **JOY IN LEARNING**

Joy in Learning creatively shares God's gifts of play through the arts and other activities. As we gather in community, we promote connection, understanding and caring relationships. This is a welcoming environment for all ages as well as those from diverse cultural, ethnic and economic backgrounds.







Scan the QR code to register.





Tuesdays
September 16 October 28
Pottery With A Message
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
\$50 for all 7 weeks,
including supplies

To learn more about this class, please scan the QR code.





# Tuesdays Oil Painitng with René Poe

Intermediate and Advanced Painters Sept. 9-Nov. 4 (skipping Oct. 7) 9:00 AM - Noon \$50 for 8 days (includes supplies)

Scan the QR code to register.



# CAFÉ ACTIVITIES



Tuesday - Friday 8:00 AM - Noon

Be our guest! Park in the north entrance parking lot by the blue outdoor umbrella. Enjoy specialized coffees, various teas, and cold drinks along with homemade yummies. High chairs available for our little guests.

# Intergenerational Activities

September



Starts September 3
Wednesdays
4:00 - 5:30 PM
Westminster Cafe

Enjoy Scrabble, UNO, chess, pom pom making, puzzles, clay fun, and open gym time (when it rains).

Parents stay with their children with a come-and-go schedule. Then, stay for dinner.

**Songwriter's Circle** 

**Wednesdays & Thursdays** 



10:00 AM - Noon Songwriters Song Circle

Registration required.
Please scan the QR code below. A SignUp genius link will then be sent to you to pick a day.



#### **Stuffing Envelopes**

September 2, 3



Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00 - 10:30 AM

Would you be willing to help with Westminster Home Connection mailings? If you can help, please let Beth Drake, beth@westminsterjoy.org, know you can!

## **MISSION OPPORTUNITIES**



#### **Habitat Build**

September 6, 7, 20, 21 October 18, 19 November 1, 2

Join us in the ministry of affordable housing.

Scan the QR code to register.



#### **Time to Order Coffee**

**Get Your Café Justo Coffee!** Deadline: Monday, September 1

Just Coffee. . . filled with justice and love, fair for everyone - Café Justo One pound bags are \$12 each, and payment is by credit/debit card only. Coffee is expected to arrive

around the end of the September.





### **Donate to Help Others**

Did you know that one pint of blood has the ability to help three people?

Westminster will be holding a blood drive on October 2 from 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM in Goodpasture Hall.





4TH ANNUAL
WESTMINSTER GOLF OUTING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
Scan QR Code to Register.





Under the Rio Moon: Bossa Nova Night with Sam Levine & Friends

Friday, September 19
6:00 PM - Cafe opens for coffee and dessert
7:00 - 8:15 PM - Show and Dancing
\$25.00 per person
Westminster Café

Featuring Sam Levine (saxophones), Jim Ferguson (upright bass and vocals), John Mock (classical guitar), & Chris Brown (drums and percussion)

With songs by Antonio-Carlos Jobim, Luiz Bonfa, Marco Valles, Roberta Flack and even Stevie Wonder. Familiar music will include *The Girl from Ipanema*, *You Are the Sunshine of My Life*, *Theme from Black Orpheus*, *Corcovado*, *One Note Samba*, and *Killing Me Softly*.

Proceeds benefit HERO (Metro Nashville Public Schools Homeless Education Resource Office) to support unhoused families.

In addition to the show ...

If you would like to learn a few basic Salsa, Samba and Cha-Cha steps from Lisa Levine, come by the Café on Friday, September 12 from 10:00 AM - Noon. We will have fun dancing with the live music performed on September 19th!

### **MINISTRY TEAM**



Donovan Drake Pastor ddrake@nashvillewpc.org



Sophie Maness Executive Director of Children's & Community Life Ministries smaness@nashvillewpc.org



Stephanie Boaz Associate Pastor for Congregational Care sboaz@nashvillewpc.org



Adam DeVries Parish Associate for Youth adevries@nashvillewpc.org



Guy D. Griffith Associate Pastor for Adult Faith Formation ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org



Hannah Norris on maternity leave Youth & Missions Program Coordinator hnorris@nashvillewpc.org



Ashley Higgins Associate Pastor for Young Families ahiggins@nashvillewpc.org



John Semingson Director of Music Ministries johns@nashvillewpc.org



Will Wellman on paternity leave Director of Theology and Community Initiatives wwellman@nashvillewpc.org



Dale Nickell Associate Director of Music Ministries and Organist dnickell@nashvillewpc.org

# THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

#### Sunday, August 31

8:30 AM Worship

9:45 AM Sunday School

11:00 ам Worship

#### Monday, September 1

- Campus Closed -

#### Tuesday, September 2

7:30 AM Bible Study

8:00 AM Westminster Café

#### Wednesday, September 3

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

8:00 AM Westminster Café

9:30 AM Westminster Bells

Ladies Bridge

10:00 ам Таі Chi

4:00 рм Musik Garten

Café Open Activities

5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner

6:30 PM When Roles Reverse

7:00 PM WPC Choir Rehearsal

Men's Basketball

#### Thursday, September 4

7:00 AM Disciple I

8:00 AM Westminster Café

9:30 AM Women's Bible Study

Mid-Morning Mom's Group

10:00 AM Knitting & Crocheting

#### Friday, September 5

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

8:00 AM Westminster Café

10:00 AM Tai Chi

5:00 PM Pickleball

#### Saturday, September 6

11:30 AM AA

Starts September 14

# **New Members & Inquirer Class**

9:45 AM • Goodpasture Hall For more info, please contact: Kathleen Simcoe, kathleenmsimcoe@gmail.com

Ken Larish klarish@mainlandcompanies.com

Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org

Guy Griffith ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org

# Starts September 10 **Westminster Academy**

6:30 pm • Overlook Room



Join us for a discussion on "Irish Poetry of Place" with Kacie Hittle (Belmont English Dept)

Over the course of four weeks, we will look at Yeats' "The Lake Isle of Innisfree"; Heaney's "The Peninsula"; Boland's "Pomegranate", final week will feature poems by Moya Cannon (including "Orientation") and Vona Groarke (including "Spindrift"), two contemporary Irish poets.

For more info, please contact Guy Griffith ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org.

