

299 You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim



This hymn resembles many 18th-century drawings that show parallels between worship on earth and worship in heaven, especially as described in Revelation 7:9–11. This 18th-century tune has had many names; the one used here honors the dynasty of British monarchs, 1714–1901.

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.

Worship on the Lord's Day

Worship begins as the people gather - greeting one another, praying in silence, or offering music to the glory of God. The act of assembling in Jesus' name bears witness to the Church's identity and mission as Christ's body in the world.

About Hymn 299

This hymn resembles many 18th-century drawings that show parallels between worship on earth and worship in heaven, especially as described in Revelation 7:9–11. This 18th-century tune has had many names; the one used here honors the dynasty of British monarchs, 1714–1901.

PRELUDE

Felix Mendelssohn

Sonate VI: Sostenuto e legato, Andante

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

O people of God, praise the Lord!

Blessed is God's name forever.

From break of day to setting sun,
let us praise the name of the Lord.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth 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.)

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 299

HANOVER

You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

CALL TO CONFESSION

In a dark world we live; from a dark world we come to worship, God of light. We have come to confess that we believe Jesus Christ to be our Lord and Savior. Let your light by the Spirit shine out of us wherever we go.

Let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.

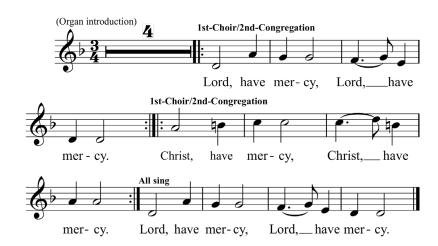
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
you made us in your image,
with a mind to know you,
a heart to love you,
and a will to serve you.
But our knowledge is imperfect,
our love inconstant,
our obedience incomplete.
Day by day, we fail to grow in to your likeness.
In your tender love, forgive us
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Silent confession)

Kyrie

James MacMillan



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.

Act of Praise

The Act of Praise brings together the choir and congregation to sing God's praise in response to the Assurance of Pardon as the last phrase.

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

Scripture

The scriptures bear witness to the word of God, revealed most fully in Jesus Christ, the Word who "became flesh and lived among us." (John 1:14) Where the word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the living Word is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day.

*ACT OF PRAISE

GLORIA PATRI

(Singing together Hymn 581)

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.

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! Our ears are open.

Luke 16:1-13

(New Testament, pages 79 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Psalm 113 AUSTRIA

Bless the Lord. O Saints and Servants

Bless the Lord, O saints and servants, praise the might of God's great name: ageless, matchless, filled with wonder, yesterday, today, the same.

When the dawn receives the sunrise till the night returns its rays, shall the glory of God's goodness be the theme of all our praise.

Who in heaven can be God's equal, who on earth with God compare?
Who can raise the poor from ashes, lift the needy from despair?
God alone invites the helpless with the strong to share reward;

fields once barren yield a harvest, tongues once silent praise their Lord.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

(New Testament, page 208 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"First of all, then..."

Donovan Drake

(A moment for meditation)

*HYMN 792

BALM IN GILEAD

There Is a Balm in Gilead

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us personal lives that are centered in God and open to God's reality and rule. Christ teaches us to put obedience to God above the interests of self, family, race, or nation; to offer God joyously our money, ability, and time. We are charged to pray for ourselves and others with gratitude, boldness, and persistence, confident that God hears and answers our prayers in ways best for us all. Life in God's presence issues in life for others, for if we do not love sisters and brothers whom we see, we cannot love God whom we do not see.

(From A Declaration of Faith)

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

Hal H. Hopson

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

About hymn 792

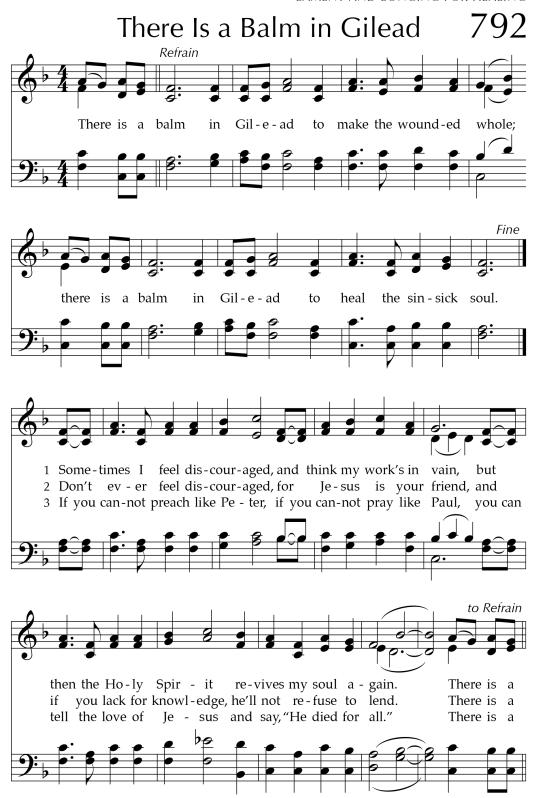
This African American spiritual offers a longdelayed answer to the prophet Jeremiah's question, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah 8:22). No earthly remedy can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul."

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:





This African American spiritual offers a long-delayed answer to the prophet Jeremiah's question, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah 8:22). No earthly remedy can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul."

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; For I am your God, and will still give you aid. I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go, The rivers of woe shall not you overflow; For I will be with you, your troubles to bless, And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

The soul that flees to me for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to the foes;
That soul, though all hell shall endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

How firm a foundation...

*DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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!

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creator of light, we rejoice in the sunrise of each day, whether veiled with clouds or brilliant with the colors of morning.

We celebrate your glory revealed in the face of Jesus Christ.

We live in the light your Spirit spreads in our minds and our hearts, thankful for new understanding of your purposes for us, for fresh courage to face adversity, for new moral life as our sins are put to death.

We praise you, Light above us, Light beside us, Light within us. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Singing together)

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

SENDING

*HYMN 366

HYFRYDOL

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Johann Pachelbel

Toccata & Fugue in C Major

About hymn 366

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

About the Postlude

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

^{*(}Those who are able may stand.)

366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.



Today @ Westminster

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake Pastor

Liturgist

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

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Ann Neely 11:00 AM Bob Hines

Music

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

Susan Kelly Guest Conductor

Dale Nickell Organist and Associate Director of Music

Flower Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of W. Miles Warfield, Sr. by his family.

The flowers in the Parlor are given to the glory of God and to celebrate Ferrell Wilson's 19th brithday from her parents, Julie and Tom Wilson.

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)



When do you pray?

If God's desire is for everyone "to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth," what is the evidence that is our desire, too?

How do you think prayer works? Put another way, what is your theology of prayer?

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.



TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

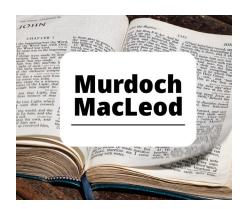
Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM



Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall

Westminster welcomes back Kem Hinton, FAIA to teach about Egypt after traveling there last year. An architect, urban designer, visual artist, historian, public speaker, and author, Kem was born in Nashville and raised in nearby Murfreesboro. He received the Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Tennessee (recipient of Torchbearer Award) and Master of Architecture degree from the University of Pennsylvania and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. During his 35-year career with Tuck-

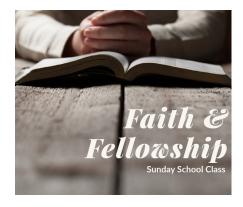
Hinton Architects, Kem was responsible for the design of educational facilities, private homes, theaters, museums, churches, parks, and memorials. Award-winning structures designed by their firm include the Country Music Hall of Fame, Frist Art Museum, Nashville Public Square, Girl Scout Center, Woodmont Hills Church of Christ, Tennessee Aguarium IMAX Center. Kem's most known accomplishments as lead designer are the Tennessee Bicentennial Mall, Civil Rights Room and Votes for Women Room (both in the Nashville Public Library), Tennessee World War II Memorial, and Tennessee State Library & Archives. He brings his keen architectural eye to the temples of Egypt and puts them in historical conversation with the Biblical story from both the Old and New Testaments.



Murdoch MacLeod • Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.

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



Faith & Fellowship • 214

The Bible and Justice -From Amos, Adam & Eve, through Jesus; How does the Bible handle Justice?

For more info, please contact Donna Schwaber, dkschwaber@gmail.com.



Journevs • **Overlook Room**

Putting On Your Mask First

Led by Ashley Higgins

For more info, please contact Krissie Self, krissiebself@gmail.com.

TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



New Member & Inquirer Class

9:45 AM • Goodpasture Hall

This class series is for people exploring Westminster, those feeling ready to join, and recent new members. It offers a small group experience, covers a wide range of topics and includes a special class dinner.

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



Children, Youth & Intergenerational Choirs

4:00 рм Rehearsals

Gloria Alleluia Jubilate Tintinnabulation

5:00 рм Rehearsals

Laudate Choir Chiming Children

KOINONIA YOUTH MINISTRY





YOUTH TEAM

Adam DeVries Associate Pastor for Youth adevries@ nashvillewpc.org

Hannah Norris hnorris@ nashvillewpc.org on maternity leave

Jessie King Youth & Pastoral **Care Fellow WPCKoinonia** staff@gmail.com

Julius Hooper **MLC Youth Ministry** Resident **WPCKoinonia** staff@gmail.com

Nathan Scott Youth Ministry Intern **WPCKoinonia** staff@gmail.com







9:45 AM • **Sunday School** • Koinonia Youth Café

Sunday School for sixth, seventh graders and high schoolers.

Confirmation Class for eighth graders.

6:00 PM ● **Youth Group** • Koinonia Youth Café

Middle Schoolers join us for fun, food and fellowship tonight.

Small Groups Have Started

We have groups for girls and guys ninth - twelfth grades.

Please contact Jessie, Julius or Nathan for more info.

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

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

LIVING OUT THE WORD

Questions for Children and Their Families:

Some ways to pray... Help, Thanks, Wow

What would you like to ask God to help you with today?

Can you think of something special to tell God 'thank you'?

What makes you want to say, 'Wow, God, that's amazing!'?

1 Timothy 2:1-7

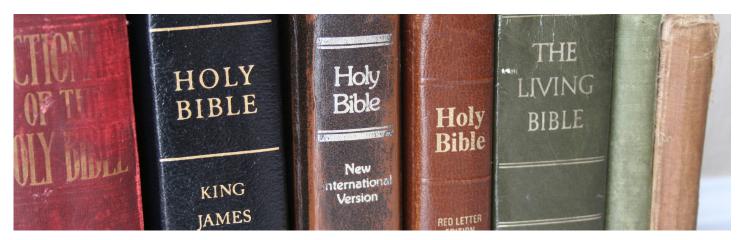
F G Y W Z L E MGO 0 С Ε Κ S G Ν Н С G X M Μ Ν 0 S 0 R U Ε A C H EΥ OMEDIATORIRBQSLMS

Word Search

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

gentiles	good
intercession	kings
mediator	peaceful
petitions	prayers
savior	teacher
thanksgiving	witnessed

ANNOUNCEMENTS



September 21

For women in their late 20s to early 50s

Women's Bible Study: The Anchor That Holds

7:00 PM

Meets every other Sunday

The study starts tonight at Kim Crafton's home.

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

For more information, contact Dana Hildebrand, dana.m.hildebrand@gmail.com.

October 3, 4

Partnership + Marriage Through the Eyes of the Enneagram Westminster Café

Friday, October 3 | 6:30 - 9:00 pm | No childcare Saturday, October 4 | 8:30 Am - noon | Childcare available

Led by Sophie Maness (accredited Enneagram coach), and Adam DeVries and Ashley Higgins.

Curious about the Enneagram? Want to grow deeper in relationship with your partner/spouse? This retreat will be both delightful and an opportunity to grow individually and together. Join us for a Friday evening session (includes dinner) and a Saturday morning session as we dig deeper into knowing ourselves and our partners.

Scan QR code to register. Cost \$120.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



September 24 **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.

Sept 24: Boland

• Oct 1: Cannon and Groarke

September 24 **Westminster Café** 4:00 PM

Enjoy Scrabble, UNO, chess, pom pom making, puzzles, clay fun,

Parents stay with their children with a come-andgo schedule.

September 24 **Wednesday Night** Dinner

5:30 AM • Café

Join us for Martin's.

Scan QR code to make reservations.



Westminster Book Group 9:30 AM • Fellowship 10:00 AM • Presentation

The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon

Presenter: Susan Hassell

The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon recounts stories of the people and events that took place in 1789 in and around the new community of Hallowell, Maine. The The Frozen River characters are fictional, but their stories are inspired by historic diary entries preserved in Maine. The diary entries are a detailed record of daily births, medical care and deaths. The diaries document the work of Martha Ballard, an 18th century midwife and healer in the town and countryside around Hallowell.

🟥 JOY IN LEARNING/CAFÉ NEWS



Wednesdays, September 17 - October 29 **Pottery Wheel Class**

5:30 - 8:30 рм

\$50

Instructor: Meredith Callis

Each class includes demonstrations, hands-on instruction, and open studio time to practice. You'll leave with several finished, food-safe ceramic pieces and the skills to keep

creating.

Scan the QR code to register.







Game Night for All Ages Wednesdays, Sept. 17, 24 4:00-5:30 p.m.



ACTIVITIES

Pick up a game of Chess.

Invite someone for Scrabble! Create at the clay station.

Form a pom pom

Gather for a game of UNO!

Playground/gym time



Then stay for dinner! (register with church)



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



Habitat Build

October 18, 19 November 1, 2

We need folks for September 21. Join us! Scan the QR code to register.



FORE

September 23 **Westminster Golf Outing**

1:00 PM ● Hermitage Golf Course

Grab your friends and fill up a golf cart for our fourth annual golf outing bennefitting Westminster Home Connection. Scan QR code to register.





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.





Faith & Food

A conversation about stewarding the church's land & feeding our neighbors.

EveryoneWelcome!

November 15

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Chapel & Fellowship Hall

Breakfast & Lunch Provided

\$20-\$25 Suggested Donation

Scan the QR code below to register and let us know you are coming for lunch.

Westminster is hosting the second annual Food & Faith Conference. This one-day conference will encourage church leaders to consider the role of church lands, especially in the context of feeding our hungry neighbors. We will also have numerous opportunities to learn about ways congregations can engage in this important work.

For more info, please contact Jeannie Hunter, jeannie.hunter@gmail.com

THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

Sunday, September 21 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 4:00 PM Choir Rehearsals 5:00 PM Choir rehearsals 6:00 PM Youth Group 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study Monday, September 22 10:00 AM Таі Chі 11:45 AM Centuring Prayer 5:00 PM Pickleball Tuesday, September 23 7:30 AM Bible Study 8:00 AM Westminster Café 9:15 AM Harvard Handbells 9:30 AM WPC Book Study Wednesday, September 24 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 8:00 AM Westminster Café Photini's Well 8:15 ам 9:30 ам Westminster Bells Inspired Book Study Tai Chi 10:00 AM Musik Garten 4:00 рм Café Open Activities 5:30 рм Wednesday Night Dinner 6:30 рм Westminster Academy 7:00 PM WPC Choir Rehearsal Men's Basketball Thursday, September 25 7:00 AM Disciple I 8:00 AM Westminster Café Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM Mid-Morning Mom's Group Thursday Morning Theology 10:00 AM **Knitting & Crocheting** Disciple III 11:30 ам Friday, September 26 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 8:00 am Westminster Café 10:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Pickleball

Saturday, September 27

11:30 AM AA



November 15

Food & Faith Conference

Fellowship Hall 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Westminster is hosting the second annual Food & Faith Conference. This one-day conference will encourage church leaders to consider the role of church lands, especially in the context of feeding our hungry neighbors.

We will also have numerous opportunities to learn about ways congregations can engage in this important work. Breakfast and lunch provided. Please scan the QR code to register.

For more info, please contact jeanne Hunter, jeannie.hunter@gmail.com.



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 Education & Spiritual Nurture 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



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



WPC Blood Drive

Give **Blood.** Save a **Life.**

October 2 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Goodpasture Hall

Register here:



Please scan the QR code and use the code WestminsterPres 19.

