

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 Advent

"Advent" means "coming" or "arrival." The season of Advent begins with an emphasis on final things (eschatology). We watch and pray with expectant hope for the establish-ment of God's justice and the return of the Prince of Peace. As the weeks of Advent progress, the focus shifts to thanks and praise for the birth of the one who has already come - Jesus Christ our Savior. The primary symbolism of the Advent candles has to do with light growing in darkness - leading up to the coming of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (Hymn 102) BWV 599 & 660

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

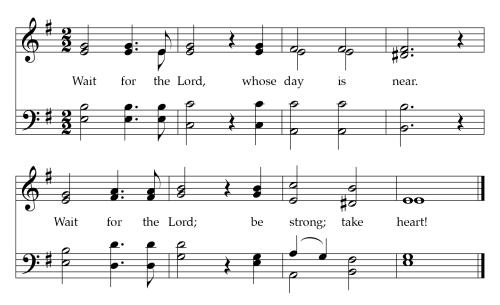
As the light is brought into the Sanctuary, and the candle on the Advent wreath is lighted, the congregation is invited to sing the following:

HYMN 90

PRELUDE

WAIT FOR THE LORD

J.S. Bach



*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

Let us worship God

Wake up; wake up! The day of God is near.

We do not know the hour,

so we will live as if the time is here and now.

We shall beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks;

Nations shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

God of justice, God of peace, even now you are breaking into our weary world. Make your presence known to those who wait and watch for you. Send your Spirit of justice rolling over the earth; sweep away all war and suffering so that all of your creation can glorify you in peace. 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 367

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

CALL TO CONFESSION

Friends, the season of Advent is a time of preparation: Preparing to welcome Emmanuel to our midst. Part of that preparation is the honest practice of confessing our sins before God and one another. Together, let us confess our need for forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving and Merciful God, we confess the ways we have caused others to feel hopeless.

Some feel the hopelessness of hunger because of our greed.

Others feel the hopelessness of violence because of our apathy.

Still others feel the hopelessness of racism because of our ignorance.

Forgive us, gracious God. Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

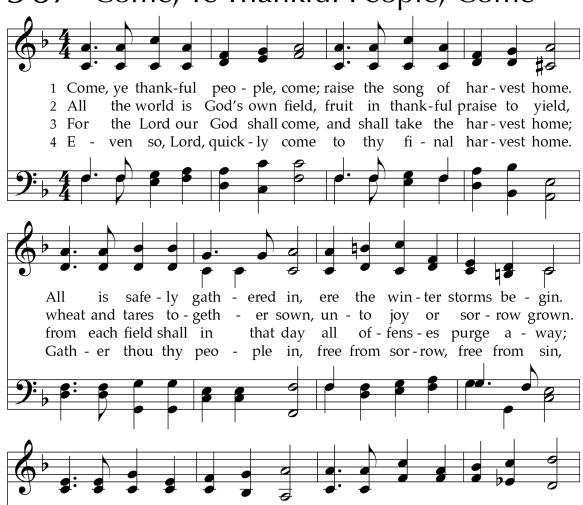
This we pray in the name of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Silent confession)

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.

367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup-plied. First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear. give the an - gels charge at fire the tares to last in the cast, there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres-ence to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home. Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be. but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more. come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo-rious har - vest home!



Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

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

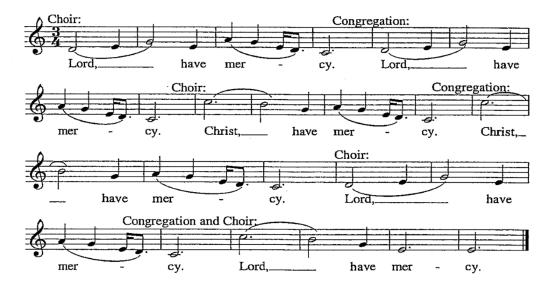
Assurance of Pardon

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.

Kyrie

James MacMillan

(Sung responsively by the choir and congregation)



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.")

ACT OF PRAISE

WINCHESTER NEW

All praise to You, eternal Son, Whose advent has our freedom won, Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Spirit, evermore.

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! Our ears are open.

Matthew 24: 36-44

(Old Testament, page 725 in your pew Bible)

Choir: Lord Jesus, come soon!
Congregation: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Psalm 122, Hymn 400, All Sing

ENGLAND

Isaiah 2:1-5

(New Testament, pages 200 in your pew Bible)

Choir: Lord Jesus, come soon!
Congregation: Lord Jesus, come soon!

SERMON

"You may need it!"

Donovan Drake

(A moment for meditation)

*HYMN 757

KINGSFOLD

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

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 Dav.

757 Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples



This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

THE EUCHARIST

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:



OFFERING

Anthem

arr. Gustav Holst

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in his hand, Christ our Lord to earth descendeth our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood, Lord of Lords, in human vesture in the Body and the Blood He will give to all the faithful His own Self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way As the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day That the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye, Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya Lord most High Amen

*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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of justice and peace, from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness, that all on earth may stand in awe and wonder before your marvelous deeds.
Raise our heads in expectation, that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord and stand without blame before your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Prayed in unison)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN 83 STUTTGART

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*BENEDICTION

Choir: Lord Jesus, come soon!
Congregation: Lord Jesus, come soon!

POSTLUDE J.G. Walther

Gottes Sohn ist kommen, versets 1&2

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

About the Postlude

Walther composed these organ pieces on the melody of this advent hymn. A translation of verse 1 reads: "The Son of God came for the benefit of us all, here on this earth, in humble gestures, so that from sin he might free and deliver us."

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

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



- 1 Come, thou long ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo ple free;
- 2 Is rael's strength and con so la tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
- 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet
- thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;





from our fears and sins re-lease us; let us find our thee. rest in dear de-sire of ev-ery na-tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart. born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring. thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us thy glo - rious throne.



With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin adventus = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744 MUSIC: Witt's Psalmodia Sacra, 1715, alt. **STUTTGART** 8.7.8.7

(alternate tune: HYFRYDOL, 82)

Today @ Westminster

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.

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake Pastor and Head of Staff

Liturgist

8:30 AM Jessie King 11:00 AM Hannah Norris

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Julius Hooper 11:00 AM Bob Hines

Advent Wreath Lighters

8:30 AM Joe and Lochiel Gaines 11:00 AM The Hines Family

Music

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

John Semingson Director of Music Ministries

Dale Nickell Organist and Associate Director of Music Ministries

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)





He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

Isaiah 2:4

How many grudges do you hold?

What does it take to turn a grudge into something beautiful?

Can you love a God who wants you to make peace?



Generosity Chairs

Cullen Douglass cullen.douglass@nm.com

Bob Hines hine7742@bellsouth.net

Generosity 2026

Each year at Thanksgiving, as we reflect on our blessings, our community of faith at Westminster is at the top of our lists. We are deeply grateful that we are a congregation who, through Christ, live with joy, even on life's hardest days. We are a people who, through Christ, marshal our resources—our time, talent, and treasure—to give life to the ministries of our church, reach deeply into the communities we serve, and prayerfully discern how best to steward new resources that flow to us, through us, and on to others.

As we continue our Generosity campaign, let us remember that our giving is rooted in the abundance of God's provision. It is easy to succumb to a fear of scarcity—the worry that there will not be enough to meet the needs before us. Through your faithful giving, Westminster continues to grow, thrive, and move forward in faith as part of the family of Christ. It is a testament to God's work among us, placing us together to support one another on this journey. What a precious gift.

Each of us is called to give as we are able, in faith and gratitude. Every gift matters, because what we can do together is far greater than what any of us could accomplish alone. It is often through this shared ministry that God's love and strength become tangible in our lives. Thank you for your careful and prayerful attention to this year's campaign.

Sunday School begins at 9:45 AM Adult Sunday School Classes

Covenant Class • Sundays, November 30th – December 21st • Fellowship Hall Advent, Incarnation, and the Call to Community

Advent is often spoke of in multiple tenses—past, present, & future. It is a season when the church looks backward to celebrate the birth of Christ, looks to the present for signs of Christ among us, and, lastly, looks forward in anticipation of Christ's return.

This class will explore these various "tenses" of Advent through a theological and Biblical examination of incarnation and community. We'll discuss the meanings of Advent and how this season calls us to a new, shared life in Christ. All are welcome! Led by Will Wellman

Faith & Fellowship ● 214

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

Murdoch MacLeods ● Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.

Journeys

Please join us in Fellowship Hall for the Covenant Class.

Youth

9:45 AM • Koinonia Youth Café

Donuts and Devos

6:00 PM ● Youth Group

GROG plus High School Youth Group after dark

Children, Youth & Intergenerational Choirs

4:00 PM Rehearsals

Gloria, Alleluia, Jubilate Tintinnabulation not rehearsing

5:00 PM Rehearsals

Laudate Choir, Chiming Children



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

No Sunday School this Sunday.

Nursery is available for both services.



LIVING OUT THE WORD

Questions for Children and Their Families:

We are now in the season of Advent. This is the time to we get ready for baby Jesus birth.

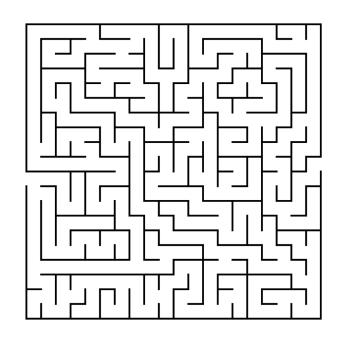
What do you do to get ready when people come to your house?

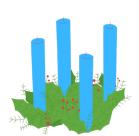
What do you do to get ready for Christmas?

There are different colors in the Sanctuary now. What color do you notice? What is different? How is the church getting ready for Jesus?

Can you help the mom and child find the way to light the first candle?







ANNOUNCEMENTS



The *Thursday Morning Theology Group* is starting a new book on January 8th!

We will be reading through Jaroslav Pelikan's *The Christian Tradition*, Volume I. This book traces the historical development of Christian doctrine from the Church's beginnings in 100AD up to 600AD when an Orthodox consensus is achieved. The Christian Tradition is an accessible but detailed account of this important period in Christian history and a great introduction for folks interested in learning more about the early Church and our theological origins.

Books are available for purchase in the office. Contact Will Wellman, wwellman@nashvillewpc.org, to get on the class email list.

December 3 Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30 pm • Fellowship Hall

Join us for breakfast as our own Troy Carpenter cooks up your favorite morning foods.

Dress in your favorite ugly Christmas sweater and compete for the ugliest with our children as judges.

We will make Advent wreaths, too.

Scan QR code to make reservations.



Upcoming Events

Sunday December 7 7:00 PM | Sanctuary

Service for Hope and Healing

Friday
December 12
7:00 PM | Sanctuary

Light in the Darkness Concert Thursday
December 18

11:15 AM | Goodpasture

Westminster Bells Christmas Program



🔛 CAFÉ EVENTS/JOY IN LEARNING

Café Hours 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.





Joy in Learning Class Starting in January 2026 Winter Watercolor Classes

Beginners Instructor: Nancy Beveridge

Experienced Instructor: Missy Perry Scan QR code for dates, times and costs.





Needed: Knitted and crocheters to make dishcloths and scrubbys.

For many years, a bag with a bottle of Palmolive dish soap, a knitted dishcloth, and a crocheted/knitted scrubby have been given to homes that Westminster Home Connection has worked on. The thank you notes have been heartwarming! If you can help, please let Beth Drake, beth@ westminsterjoy.org, know you can!



Thursdays Fill My Cup: **A Post-Sermon Reflection Study**

8:15 AM • Meet and Greet 8:30 AM • Percolating conversation. Come when you can. No sign up necessary. We will revisit the previous Sunday's scriptures, reflect on the sermon, and share thoughts about the probing questions in the bulletin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



December 7, 14, 21 Alternative Christmas Gift Market Parlor

Give Christmas gifts to friends and family while also giving to those in need – visit us at the market or from the comfort of your own home.

The Alternative Christmas Gift Market offers a different way to give gifts to friends and family while also giving to those in need. Nineteen non-profit agencies and WPC missions have provided "shopping lists" that offer gifts to enhance the quality and faith-based nature of gift-giving this holiday season. You can "purchase" gifts from the participating groups in honor of family members and friends. Scan to connect to order form.



December 7 Youth Bake Sale Parlor

Looking for homemade cookies, brownies, holiday breads and your favorite Christmas treats? Come to the Parlor and stop at the Youth Bake Sale! Your support will fund SCHOLARSHIPS for upcoming Youth trips, including outreach opportunities and Montreat Youth Conference.

Bring your cash and checks to purchase these delicious homemade goodies --

Enjoy right away or freeze for the holidays!

THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

Sunday, November 30

8:30 AM Worship

9:45 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

4:00 PM Children's Choirs Rehearsal

Tintinnabulation

5:00 PM Laudate Choir Rehearsal

Chiming Children

6:00 PM Youth Group

7:00 PM Men's Bible Study

Monday, December 1

10:00 AM Tai Chi

11:45 AM Centuring Prayer

5:00 рм Pickleball

Tuesday, December 2

7:00 AM Daybreak Believers

7:30 AM Bible Study

8:00 AM Westminster Café

9:15 AM Harvard Handbells



Poinsettias will once again grace our Sanctuary for Christmas Eve worship services.

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a friend or family member, please place your order online, complete a form available at the Information Desk or email Terri Eckert at teckert@nashvillewpc.org.

A donation of \$10 per name is requested. The deadline for submitting names to be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins is Sunday, December 7, 2025.



Wednesday, December 3

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

8:00 AM Westminster Café

8:15 AM Photini's Well

9:30 AM Westminster Bells

Inspired Book Study

10:00 ам Таі Chi

4:00 PM Musik Garten

6:00 PM RITI

7:00 PM WPC Choir Rehearsal

Men's Basketball

Thursday, December 4

8:00 AM Westminster Café

8:15 AM Fill Your Cup

9:30 AM Women's Bible Study

Mid-Morning Mom's Group Thursday Morning Theology

10:00 AM Knitting & Crocheting

Friday, December 5

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

8:00 AM Westminster Café

10:00 ам Таі Chi

5:00 PM Pickleball

Saturday, December 6

10:00 AM Youth Bake Sale Prep

11:30 AM AA



2026 Sanctuary and Parlor Flowers

Reserve your date now to provide arrangements in the Sanctuary or Parlor in 2026.

Celebrate your friendships and honor your loved ones with arrangements provided by our talented Flower Guild members.

Email or call Terri Eckert to select your special Sunday. Please note that reservations for flowers do not carry over from year-to-year. (teckert@nashvillewpc. org or 615.292.5526).

ADVENT SCHEDULE

December 3
5;30 pm • Fellowship Hall
Wednesday Night Dinner
Make Advent wreaths and Ugly
sweater concert.

December 5
6:00 PM • Westminster Café
A Special Evening of Music and Art

December 7 9:45 AM • Parlor Youth Bake Sale

December 7, 14, 21 9:45 AM • Parlor Alternative Gift Christmas Market

December 7 7:00 рм • Sanctuary Hope & Healing Service

December 12
7:00 PM • Sanctuary

A Light in the Darkness
A concert of choral and instramental music for Advent and Christmas.

December 14
5:00 PM • North Parking Lot
Christmas Caroling in the
Neighborhood

December 18 10:00 AM • Goodpasture Hall Westminster Bells Program December 24

Christmas Eve Services

2:00 PM – The Family Christmas Eve Service with the Children's Choirs

5:00 рм – Candlelight Service and Communion with the Westminster Choir

8:00 рм – Candlelight Service and Communion with the Westminster Choir

10:30 PM - Candlelight Service and Communion with the Laudate Youth Choir & Alumni (9:15 PM rehearsal)

December 28 11:00 AM • Sanctuary Sunday Morning Service PLEASE NOTE: One service only

Christmas Music & Art Show



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025

PAINTINGS • SONGWRITERS • SING-A-LONG

6:00 p.m. | Café Opens, Art on Display 7:00 p.m. | Music Begins

Westminster Café | \$10 per person





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 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
Director of Theology and
Community Initiatives
wwellman@nashvillewpc.org



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

