

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 22, 2026

Can these bones live?

GATHERING

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

As children of God, we dwell in the Spirit,
and the Spirit dwells in us.

**We are alive in the Spirit
through the righteousness of God.**

In humility and faith, we come to worship the One
who gives us life, hope, and healing.

**God has brought us to this moment
and will guide us still.
Praise the Lord!**

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.

PRELUDE

arr. Sondra K. Tucker

A Lenten Meditation

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**Living God,
we come to you today in humility and need.
We pray for life for our wounded souls
and for our hurting world.
Call us out of discouragement and despair
to rise up in courage and love.
Let your light shine upon our faces,
so that, forgiven and renewed,
we may live again as your people, holy and whole,
singing praises and serving with joy
through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

About Hymn 223

This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts' desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.

*HYMN 223

HAMBURG

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 223

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts's desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Christ is nearer to us than we can imagine.
Jesus' power is not just for a distant past and a far-off future.
Jesus is here for us here and now.
Because there is forgiveness with God, let us call upon the Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We know the power of death.
We have seen its works, we have felt its sting.
We have been to the valley of despair,
and felt like there was no chance for life.
We do not believe in your power to resurrect.
We do not believe in your power to redeem our pain,
and fashion something beautiful in this world.
Forgive us.
We cry from the depths—
however faint our call may be,
we pray you hear our voice.**

(Silent confession)

Kyrie

James MacMillan

(Sung responsively by the choir and congregation)

Choir: Lord, have mer - cy. Congregation: Lord, have
mer - cy. Choir: Christ, have mer - cy. Congregation: Christ,
have mer - cy. Choir: Lord, have
Congregation and Choir: mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

*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.

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.

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.")*

INTERLUDE

Morning Poem

Sandra Eithun

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

John 11:33-44

(New Testament, page 104 in your pew Bible)

(Sung responsively after each scripture reading.)

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Psalm 51:10

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Renew a right spirit within me.

Renew a right spirit within me.

Psalm 130

Daniel Nelson

Out of the Depths

Out of the depths I cry to thee.

O Lord, hear my voice!

If thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities,

O Lord, who shall stand?

But there is forgiveness with thee,

that thou might be feared.

My soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning.
O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is plenteous redemption.
And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Out of the depths I cry to thee.
O Lord, hear my voice!

Ezekiel 37:1-14

(Old Testament, page 806 in your pew Bible)

SERMON

Donovan Drake

"You shall know!"

(A moment for meditation)

***HYMN 809**

SHIMPI

Why Has God Forsaken Me?

Verse 1 sung by Choir alone
Verses 2-4 sung by All

About Hymn 809

To offer an answer to this hymn's opening question, this New Zealand author leads us through events at the end of Jesus' life that help us grasp "the love which conquers fear." The tune, whose name is Japanese for "mystery," uses a five-tone Japanese scale to convey that quality.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world
as God's reconciling community.
This community, the church universal,
is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation
and shares God's labor of healing the enmities
which separate people from God and from each other.
Christ has called the church to this mission
and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.
The church maintains continuity
with the apostles and with Israel
by faithful obedience to his call.**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.31

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Why Has God Forsaken Me? 809



- 1 "Why has God for - sak - en me?" cried our Sav - ior from the cross
- 2 At the tomb of Laz - a - rus Je - sus wept with o - pen grief:
- 3 As his life ex - pired, our Lord placed him - self with - in God's care:
- 4 Mys - tery shrouds our life and death but we need not be a - fraid,



as he shared the lone - li - ness of our deep - est grief and loss.
grant us, Lord, the tears which heal all our pain and un - be - lief.
at our dy - ing, Lord, may we trust the love which con - quers fear.
for the mys - tery's heart is love, God's great love which Christ dis - played.

To offer an answer to this hymn's opening question, this New Zealand author leads us through events at the end of Jesus' life that help us grasp "the love which conquers fear." The tune, whose name is Japanese for "mystery," uses a five-tone Japanese scale to convey that quality.

TEXT: Bill Wallace, 1980

MUSIC: Taihei Sato, 1981

Text© 1981 W L Wallace

Music© 1983 Christian Conference of Asia (admin. CIA Publications, Inc.)

SHIMP!

7.7.7.7

***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.

God of grace,
you have gifted us with life in Christ.
Today we bring the gifts of our work
and the gifts of our hearts.
May all that we bring and all that we are
be your means of grace in the world,
that all people may encounter your good news. 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 250**

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

PROMISE

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Renew a right spirit within me.
Renew a right spirit within me.

POSTLUDE

Divertissement, Op. 31, no. 11

Louis Vierne

**(Those who are able may stand.)*

About Hymn 250

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T.S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning." Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

About the Postlude

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

Please be seated to listen to the postlude or exit quietly.

In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise

Capo 3: (0)

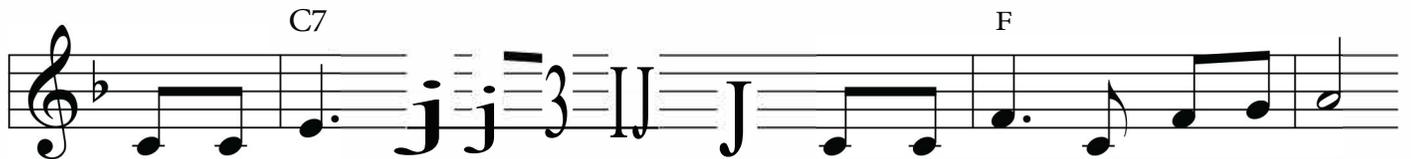
(Em)



1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

(A7)

(0)



In co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 In our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

(07)

(G)

(Em)

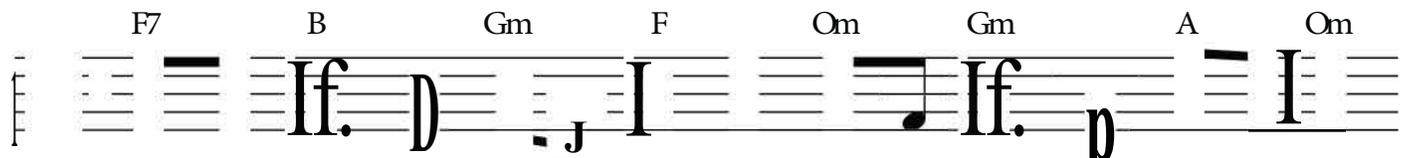
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(Bm)

(Em)

(F#)

(Bm)



In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vie - to - ry,

(G)

(Em)

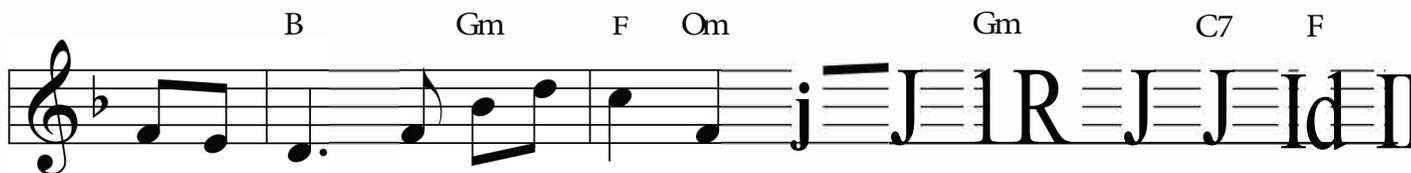
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un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning."
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Today @ Westminster

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake
Senior Pastor

Liturgist

Rev. Ashley Higgins
Associate Pastor for Young Families

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Suzie Lane
11:00 AM Scott Carey

Music

Harvard Handbells
Jennifer Barnes, Director

Tintinnabulation Handbells
Jennifer Barnes, Director

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

John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries

Guest Organist
Stephen Z. Cook

Mask Policy

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville is mask optional. The balcony remains masks required.

Hearing Assistance

We offer personal FM Receivers with an ear-piece, 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)



TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?"
I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know."
Ezekiel 37:3

How do you see yourself in the story? Being Ezekiel who does what God has asked, being a "dried up and hopeless," being raised from the dead, or...?

Who are some people that you give up on?

What power is in being raised from the dead?

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, please contact Rev. Stephanie Boaz, 615.292.5526, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org.

Are you up-to-date on all the WPC news?

We send emails out to the congregation and community three plus times a week. On Monday, we send an email about our mission work. On Wednesdays, we send info about all the events we have going on throughout the month. On Fridays, the Sunday info is included in the email. We also have emails from our Children's, Youth and Young Families ministries. Please scan the QR code to sign up for the emails you would like to receive.



Update Your Membership Contact Info

Contact Hannah Boles, Membership Secretary, hboles@nashvillewpc.org, to update your contact info or your photo. Hannah can also help you to access the online church member directory.



Time to Order Lilies

Lilies will grace our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026. If you would like to purchase a lily (\$10) in memory or in honor of a friend or family member, please scan the QR code.

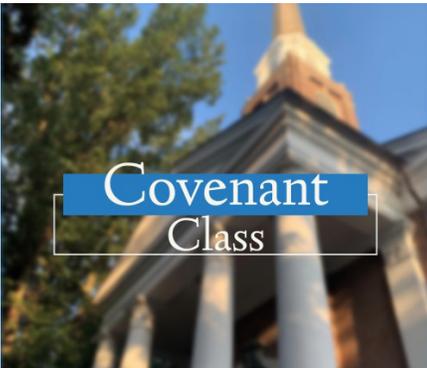
Deadline: March 22





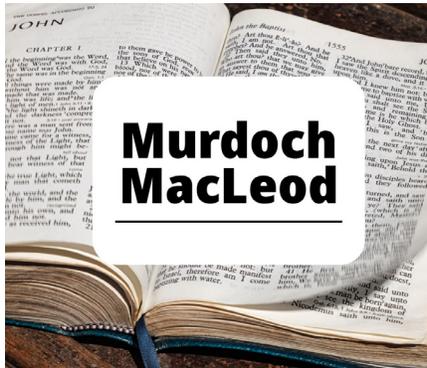
TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM



Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall

Nations Ministry Center's Executive Director Chris Lovingood will lead the class in an engaging discussion about the current state of immigration policy and enforcement and provide some on insight on the headlines.



Murdoch MacLeod • Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.

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



Journeys • Overlook Room

Join us today for conversations with Sophie.

Bring your parenting stories and wonders- you'll be in good company. We love having her with us and hope you'll join us.



KOINONIA YOUTH MINISTRY



YOUTH TEAM

[Adam DeVries](#)
Parish Associate
for Youth
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[Hannah Norris](#)
Youth & Missions
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[Jessie King](#)
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Care Fellow
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[Julius Hooper](#)
MLC Youth Ministry
Resident
WPKKoinonia
staff@gmail.com

[Nathan Scott](#)
Youth Ministry
Intern
WPKKoinonia
staff@gmail.com



9:45 AM •
Sunday School •
Koinonia Youth Café

Sunday School resumes



6:00 PM •
Youth Group •
Koinonia Youth Café

Join us for fun and fellowship.



Lenten Prayer & Community Hours
Wednesdays •
2:30 -4:30 PM •
Koinonia Youth Café

Join us for reflection and refreshments
through the Lenten season.



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:

This is an odd story. God is trying to give hope to people who have no hope.

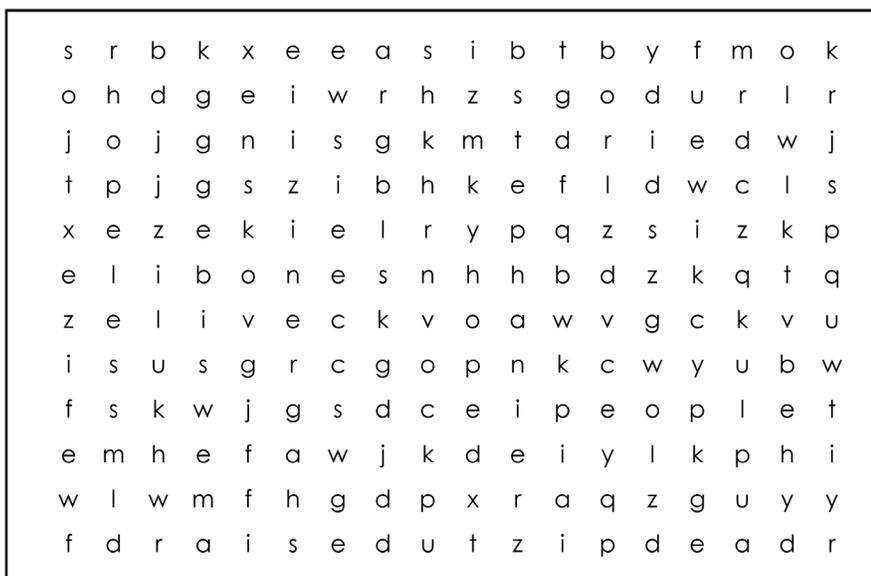
The way God does that is something no one has seen before. Only God could do this!

What is something you think only God could do?

What do you think is the most odd part of this story?

Draw a picture of some part of this story.

Raised Up



WORD SEARCH

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

- | | |
|----------|---------|
| bones | dead |
| dried | Ezekiel |
| God | hope |
| hopeless | live |
| people | raised |



Let's go to NaCoMe



Two
Days

APRIL

18
19

Come for One Day
Come for Both Days

CAMP . FOOD . MUSIC . ADVENTURE



nashvillewpc.church



615.292.5526





MUSIC MINISTRY



Sunday Rehearsals

Children, Youth & Intergenerational Choirs

4:00 PM Rehearsals

Tintinnabulation
Alleluia
Gloria
Jubilate

5:00 PM Rehearsals

Chiming Children
Laudate

Music Camp 2026

Enroll your kids for Music Camp 2026, June 8-14!

Music Camp is a fun-filled week of singing, games, arts & crafts, costumes, and performing a biblical musical for the congregation on Sunday with opportunities for acting roles with lines and solos. All children, rising grades 1st-7th, are welcome, even if they are not currently involved in Children's Choir.

This is an amazing opportunity for them to socialize, have fun, and present a high-level Musical with professional instrumentalists, costumes, staging, and props! It also strengthens their involvement in Church Choir throughout the entire year with their overall musical development.



WPC MENTOR BREAKFAST

FOR ALL 8TH -12TH
GRADERS AND THEIR
CONFIRMATION
MENTORS

MARCH 29TH
9:45-10:45 AM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

RSVP by scanning the
QR code or emailing
wpckoinoniastaff
@gmail.com





ANNOUNCEMENTS



March 29 - April 5 Holy Week

March 29 - Palm Sunday

8:30 and 11:00 AM
Procession of Palms

April 2 - Maundy Thursday

6:00 PM Dinner
7:00 PM Service

April 3 - Good Friday

7:00 PM Service

April 5 - Easter

7:30 AM Service with Communion
9:15 AM Service
11:00 AM Service

March 24
Westminster Book Group
9:30 AM • Fellowship
10:00 AM • Presentation
Goodpasture Hall

Join us as Ray Berry presents
The Hare with Amber Eyes: A Family's Century of Art and Loss
by Edmund De Waal

The Hare with Amber Eyes
is a 2010 memoir by British ceramicist Edmund De Waal, tracing his family's history through a collection of 264 Japanese netsuke (miniature carvings) that survived the Holocaust. The book chronicles the rise and fall of the wealthy Ephrussi banking dynasty, from 19th-century Paris and Vienna to the devastation of WWII.

March 28 Easter Egg Hunt

10:00 AM • Youth Café

The Egg Hunt will begin at 10:15 AM. Do not bring a basket. We will give everyone bags to decorate as they arrive.

April 2 Maundy Thursday

7:00 PM

Holy Communion
Stripping of the Chancel
Laudate Youth Choir

April 3 Good Friday

7:00 PM

Choral Service of Darkness
Westminster Choir



JOY IN LEARNING/CAFÉ



Join us for fun, food and fellowship in the Westminster Café or in a Joy in Learning Class. Please scan the QR code, where appropriate, for more info and to register.

OnGoing Events

Wednesdays

• **Watercolor Painting** | 10:00 AM - Noon | Westminster Café
Learn from each other. Come and go activity.



Thursdays

• **Fill My Cup** | Westminster Café
8:15 AM Meet and Greet | 8:30 AM Coffee/tea and percolating conversation
Come when you can. No sign ups necessary. Join other women in the Café to fill your spiritual cup. We will revisit the previous Sunday's scriptures.

Thursdays

• **Glazing Demo Overview** | March 19, 26; April 2 | 9:30 AM - Noon
Wilson Wing
Demo, discussion and some hands-on-practice on available items.



Next Week

Wednesday and Thursday

• **Westminster Home Connection Stuffing** | March 25 and 26
9:00 - 10:30 AM | Westminster Café

Please join us for fellowship as we stuff WHC's spring mailer to go out to the community.

Email Beth Drake, beth@westminsterjoy.org.

Starts Next Month

Thursdays |

• **Pottery Hand-Building** | April 9, 16, 23, 30 | 9:30 AM - Noon
Wilson Wing

For all Levels (Beginning and Experienced)

A fun time for hand-building items to keep, give away, or donate to the church!





MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



Save The Date

FaithWorks
April 25

Join us for our annual day of community service. More info to come.

Golf Classic

Looking for a fun way to serve and play at the same time? Support Preston Taylor Ministries by signing up for their Golf Tournament which will take place on March 30th. You can make a difference in the lives of the children and youth PTM serves, helping them to discover and pursue their God inspired dreams.



Looking for Volunteers



NeedLink Nashville, a local non-profit that helps our neighbors meet basic needs in times of crisis by providing short-term assistance and links to other resources, is located at WPC on the Wilson side. They are looking for volunteers to help them greet/welcome people coming for assistance on Monday/Tuesday from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. If you are interested in helping, please contact Lee Ann Wills, lawills@needlink.org.

Every Member Has a Mission – What’s Yours?



A small group service project or fundraiser:
Need help covering the cost of supplies?



A youth-led mission project:
Passionate about a cause and ready to make a difference?

APPLY FOR A HANDS ON MISSION MINI GRANT:

- Up to \$500 to help fund your project
- Support to help you form your plan and connect with others
 - Open to all ages and group sizes



Using your talents to help others:
Love baking, creating, or organizing? Turn your skills into a mission project!



“Live out the Word” and serve others:
What’s your God-inspired mission?

For questions and more details, contact: Janet Kuhn at janetkuhn@mac.com

MINISTRY TEAM



Donovan Drake
Pastor
ddrake@nashvillewpc.org



Sophie Maness
Executive Director of Children's
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Ashley Higgins
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John Semingson
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Will Wellman
Director of Theology and
Community Initiatives
wwellman@nashvillewpc.org

