



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

November 19, 2023

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Preparing for worship

Hot take: My least favorite thing about this upcoming holiday season is the American cultural understanding of what is appropriate to eat on Thanksgiving and Christmas. If I'm honest, I'd rather have Mariano's fajitas for Thanksgiving and Jimmy's lasagna for Christmas. My plate typically consists of a heaping portion of my Aunt Jane's cheesy potatoes and a vegetable, because I must. Perhaps I feel this way because I have yet to be invited to YOUR family's table that has the most amazing smoked turkey ever.

For the last month, we've spent time curating our favorite Wilshire memories. The act of remembering is a faithful spiritual discipline, an act God calls us to throughout the Scriptures. So while I share my least favorite thing about this upcoming holiday season, it seems appropriate to also share my most favorite thing: this congregation's generosity and your collective response to Dr. Reddie's main sermon thesis last week — to care for the least of these.

This is my 11th holiday season with you, and your year-round generosity continues to inspire me to be a better minister and mother. Your generosity inspires me to continue to cultivate

a spirit of giving in my own children, who are developmentally egocentric. Your generosity inspires me to continue pushing for justice even when the world feels so broken and I want to give up. Your generosity makes me a better minister to our community. And for that I'm overwhelmed with gratitude.

Howard Thurman, one of the great mystics, reflects, "How moving is the sheer wonder of being necessary to the life of another! The giving of a gentle word when you did not know that such a word was desperately needed; the sharing of so little at the crucial point of acute urgency."

Tomorrow, for the 11th year in a row, I'll pick up a 15-foot U-Haul at 8 a.m. and load it full of turkey baskets to deliver to the Wilkinson Center. The food will be shared with families who are working toward a better future.

So perhaps you, too, don't enjoy the forced holiday meals, but I hope during this season of gratitude and giving you find the wonder of sharing your life with the world.

—Heather Mustain



4316 Abrams Road | Dallas, Texas 75214 | 214-452-3100 | wilshirebc.org

Building a Community of Faith Shaped by the Spirit of Jesus Christ

Partnered with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Member, Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists

On the cover: *Churinga (pure light, glory of God)*, Frank Wesley, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville.

November 19, 2023

11:00 a.m.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Chiming of the Hour

The people of Wilshire gather this morning to worship God. In order for this service to be focused upon that purpose, please silence all electronic devices.

Welcome to Worshipers

Katie Murray

Prelude

Prelude on "Old Hundredth"

arr. Jeff Brummel

Opening Sentences

Matt Howell

Living God, we come to worship this morning faced with our own unique joys and challenges. Peace feels fraught with worry; love with anger. Yet your presence made obvious through the majesty of all creation. May the meditations of our hearts move us to declare your praise. For you are worthy and wonderful, living and lovely. There is none like you.

+Congregational Song

Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him
No. 335

HYFRYDOL

Psalm Reading — Psalm 123

Carol Cabaniss

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, until he has mercy upon us. Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

Anthem

None Like You
Sanctuary Choir

Craig Courtney

Creator of the moon and stars, of mountains reaching high,
Creator of the galaxies who hears a baby's cry,
Eternity, with all its years, stands present in your view.
Alpha and Omega, Lord, there is none like you.

You make the wilderness to bloom and in the desert sand,
Provide the gentle, soaking rain, refreshing thirsty land.
You send the warming of the sun, the fragile snowflake too.
We bow in gratitude, O Lord, there is none like you.

+All congregants who are able are invited to stand.
Hearing devices are available in the Narthex and South Atrium.

You paint the rainbow on the storm and tell the wind to cease,
You reach out with tender hand, creation is at peace.
You speak your Word and it is done, the universe obeys,
But we are free to choose, your children sing your praise.

Missions Moment Heather Mustain

Prayers of the People John Kelly

+Congregational Song *Now Thank We All Our God* NUN DANKET
No. 371

Offertory *Count Your Blessings* arr. Dan Miller

+Epistle Reading — 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Rick Hibbs

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
And for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God!

Message "Awake or Asleep" Timothy Peoples

We pause in silence to reflect and to be attentive to the Spirit of God

+Congregational Song *God Who Made Us, Christ Who Calls Us* GALILEE
No. 387

Sharing of Decisions Timothy Peoples

Benediction Timothy Peoples

Postlude Improvisation on themes of the day Jeff Brummel

Meet today's worship leaders

Carol Cabaniss joined Wilshire in 1992 and is married to Kevin. They are the parents of Peyton, a young adult living in Boston; Tanner, a graduate student at the University of Oklahoma; and Trace, a sophomore at Texas A&M University. Carol is a deacon, attends Epiphany Class and serves on the Library Committee and the Hospitality Team. She works at Wilshire as spiritual formation coordinator.

Rick Hibbs and his wife, Susan, joined Wilshire in 2007. They have two sons, Wesley and John. Rick is director of Concordia Class and serves on the Committee on Committees. Professionally, he is director of licensing for MCR Hotels.

Matt Howell and his wife, Donna, joined Wilshire in April and are members of Epiphany Class. They have two adult sons. Matt is retired from a career in banking.



Connect with Wilshire. Scan the QR code using your smartphone camera to make a financial contribution, fill out our online guest card or submit a prayer request. You may also use the response card or offering envelope found in the pew rack. These items can be placed in the offering plate or in one of the secure offering boxes located near the Sanctuary exits.

Staff contacts

Phone numbers: 214-452- followed by extension shown below. **Email addresses:** first letter of first name and full last name followed by @wilshirebc.org (example: tpeoples@wilshirebc.org). Staff members without phone extensions do not have Wilshire email addresses.

Communications

- Mark McKenzie, Communications Director (3169)

Congregational Care

- Barbara Clayton, Pastoral Care Assistant (3125)
- Linda Garner, Parish Nurse (3151)
- Carolyn Murray, Coordinator of Congregational Life (3170)
- Heather Mustain, Associate Pastor (3110)

Early Childhood Learning Center

- Kelly Akins, Assistant Director and Curriculum Specialist (3139)
- Ramona Randle, Director (3140)
- Victoria Thompson, Administrative Assistant (3115)

Finance

- Lori Gooden, Director of Finance (3131)

Food Services

- Luke Munion, Food Service Staff
- Haley Robinson, Food Service Director (3117)
- Gillian Tinsley, Food Service Staff
- Elias Vasquez, Food Service Staff
- Leyvi Vasquez, Food Service Staff
- Wilfredo Velasquez-Cruz, Food Service Staff

Hospitality & Facilities

- Maricela Escutia, Facilities Supervisor
- Holly Irvin, Director of Hospitality (3150)
- Daniel Latin, Facilities
- Leticia Medina, Facilities
- Kevin Sierra, Facilities
- Leticia Vega, Facilities
- Glenda Williams, Receptionist (3165)

Missions & Advocacy

- Abbey Adcox, Missions and Advocacy Coordinator (3127)
- Heather Mustain, Associate Pastor (3110)

Music & Worship

- Jeff Brummel, Associate Minister of Music/Organist (3122)
- Charlie Fuller, Interim Minister of Music (3123)
- Shana Gaines, Wilshire Winds Director (3163)
- Ralph Manuel, Handbell Coordinator (3161)
- Candy McComb, Children's Choir Coordinator (3124)

Operations & Technology

- Rene Altamirano, Maintenance Technician
- Merik Gillett, Operations Director (3146)
- Eric Mirochna, IT Manager (3136)

Pathways to Ministry

- John Kelly, McIver Fellow (3156)
- George Mason, Director of Pathways to Ministry and Senior Pastor Emeritus (3133)

Senior Pastor

- Debby Burton, Executive Assistant (3132)
- Geri McKenzie, Executive Director of Administration (3159)
- Timothy Peoples, Senior Pastor (3132)

Spiritual Formation

- Carol Cabaniss, Spiritual Formation Coordinator (3106)
- Darren DeMent, Associate Pastor (3102)
- Julie Girards, Minister to Children (3104)
- Staci Langley, Childcare Coordinator
- Katie Murray, Minister to Senior Adults (3129)
- Barbara Peterson, Librarian (3114)

Tapestry



News & Announcements
November 19, 2023

Thanksgiving **FOOD DRIVES**

Boxes for Wilkinson Center due by Nov. 20

Wilshire has committed to provide 100 boxes for families in our community through the Wilkinson Center. A box costs \$50 to \$75 to assemble and is a great service opportunity for Sunday School classes, other groups or individuals. Boxes should be brought to the South Lobby today, Nov. 19, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. or to the south parking lot Monday morning, Nov. 20, between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. Scan QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/events/food-drives to sign up and see full instructions. For more information, contact Abbey Adcox at aadcox@wilshirebc.org.



Minister of music candidate here Dec. 15–17

The Minister of Music and Personnel Committees announced last week that a candidate to become Wilshire's next minister of music will participate in a call weekend from Friday, Dec. 15, through Sunday, Dec. 17. You can meet and hear from the candidate at one of three Meet and Greet events, all to be held in Community Hall:

■ **Meet and Greet 1:** Friday, Dec. 15, 10:15–11:30 a.m.

■ **Meet and Greet 2:** Saturday, Dec. 16, 8:30–9:45 a.m. This session will be focused on families with preschoolers, children and youth. Childcare available.

■ **Meet and Greet 3:** Saturday, Dec. 16, 11:45 a.m.–1 p.m.

On Sunday, the candidate will participate in worship, and voting on the recommendation to call the candidate will occur in a special called business meeting after worship. Ballots can be picked up in James Gallery between 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

Information about the candidate will be available beginning Friday, Dec. 1, and more details about the call weekend and vote will be provided in the coming weeks.



Sundays: Worship at 11 a.m. Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Our service livestreams at youtube.com/wilshirebaptist and at wilshirebc.org/worship/livestream. Keep up with Wilshire by subscribing to our YouTube channel and following us on Facebook and Instagram.

No Wednesday activities Nov. 22

There will be no Wednesday offerings at Wilshire on Nov. 22, the day before Thanksgiving. Sanctuary Choir will rehearse Tuesday, Nov. 21, at 7 p.m.

Called to Care on Nov. 29; handled grocery bags needed

When Wednesday Night Live returns on Nov. 29, all ages will work together on a Called to Care mission activity. Following Koinonia Café, we will stay in Community Hall to prepare weekend meal packs for Lipscomb Elementary students and to assemble backpacks for distribution during Housing Forward's 2024 homeless count. We need 100 handled brown grocery bags, so donate your used bags and consider asking for extras when checking out at Central Market, Whole Foods or Trader Joe's. Bags in good shape may be dropped off near the main office until Nov. 29. On the 29th, preschoolers in choir will rehearse for their pageant in their classrooms at 6 p.m. Children will report to KidConnect rooms at 6 for attendance to be taken, then will return to Community Hall.

New around here?

Time with Tim, an informal chance for guests and new members to meet and visit with Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples, will be held Dec. 10 at 9:45 a.m. in Timothy's office. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org).

November Sunday School series

McIver Fellow John Kelly is leading a special Sunday School series in Community Hall through Nov. 26. In *Loved by a Still-Faced God*, John is exploring the relationship between our stories, our attachment styles and our feelings of connection — or disconnection — with God. The class, which starts at 9:45 a.m., is a good option for anyone not connected to a class or new to Sunday School.

WILSHIRE SINGS

Gratitude amid conflict

BY RALPH MANUEL

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices ... and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed ...
—“Now Thank We All Our God”

What must it be like to live in a world where war and conflict are all around us? At times we feel as if we are in such a world, given the events we hear on the news every day. However, for Martin Rinkart, a pastor in Eilenburg, Germany, during the Thirty Years' War (1618–48), war was a constant companion. In 1637 alone, he officiated nearly 4,500 burials, including that of his wife.

Yet, amid all that suffering, Rinkart wrote this incredible hymn of gratitude to God. His words were set to music some 10 years later by Johann Crüger, cantor of the Lutheran Cathedral of St. Nicholas in Berlin. Over the years this hymn became one of the most widely sung hymns in Germany.

The musical version of this hymn we sing today comes from the harmonization of Crüger's tune made by Felix Mendelssohn in his *Symphony No. 2* called *Hymn of Praise* (1840).

■ *Wilshire Sings* is an occasional feature about our loved hymns and spiritual songs.

Adventurers San Francisco trip

Plans for the September 2024 Adventurers trip to San Francisco are underway! We hope you'll consider joining us for a time of sightseeing, exploration and community — including visits to Alcatraz, Muir Woods, Napa Valley and Sausalito. So we can gauge your interest, please complete our interest form at wilshirebc.org/san-fran or in the main office. By registering your interest you are NOT committing to the trip but are communicating that you are strongly considering going. Those who fill out the form will be the first to receive final trip details and registration information. Registration and collecting of deposits will take place in January. The cost will be, at maximum, \$2,500 per person, which covers transportation, lodging, entry to all attractions and some meals. Wilshire Adventurers plans social and education opportunities for those 60 and older. Guests are welcome.



Calling all Wilshire authors

Have you written and published a book? If the answer is yes, we need you for the first-ever Wilshire Author Fair on Sunday, Jan. 14. Hosted by Wilshire's Library Committee, this will be an opportunity to show and sell your books to the Wilshire community and beyond. We've already compiled a list of amazing Wilshire authors, but we're looking for anyone we may have missed. If you haven't been contacted, email Jeff Hampton at jefton@aol.com so you can get all the details.

Someone to talk with.

If you are facing a life challenge and would like to have a spiritual friend to walk alongside you for a season of healing, perhaps you would benefit from a Stephen Minister.

Stephen Ministry pairs trained lay people with individuals in need of Christian companionship during times of life crisis.

Wilshire has trained Stephen Ministers available. To learn more about receiving care from a Stephen Minister, reach out using our dedicated email address, stephenministry@wilshirebc.org, or call 214-452-3176.

stephen
MINISTRY.



Hope for a weary world / Advent 2023

The world's weariness abounds. It seems to be everywhere and in everything. Unattended, this weariness settles deep into our bodies, creating exhaustion, resentment, apathy and possibly even despair. Advent is a season when God fully embraces all that we are — our weariness included. We hope you'll join us this season in reflecting on how the incarnational presence of Jesus offers hope for a weary world.

Celebration of the Green

Sunday, Dec. 3 | 6:30 p.m. | Sanctuary | Kick off the season with Christmas music from Wilshire's choirs and ensembles: Sanctuary Choir, Nova, Youth Choir, Shekinah, New Song, Carillon Ringers, Wilshire Winds and Children's Choirs.

Parents Night Out: Friday, Dec. 8

■ **Children's Christmas Tree Decorating Party** | First through sixth graders are invited to the home of Timothy Peoples and Valerie Lott for decorating and festive fun, 7 to 9 p.m.

■ **Preschool Parents Night Out** | Free childcare at Wilshire for infants through kindergarten from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

■ **Registration required** for the above by Dec. 3. Find Realm link at wilshirebc.org/advent.

Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, Dec. 13 | 6 p.m. | Sanctuary | Kindergarten, Pre-K and 3-Year-Old choirs will be in costume as they sing and act out the nativity. Also featuring Children's Choirs and the new Wilshire Bells handbell group.

Beer & Carols

Saturday, Dec. 16 | 5-8 p.m. | Oak Highlands Brewery | Carol singalong with a live band led by Associate Pastor Darren DeMent.

Dec. 17 choral music

Morning worship on Sunday, Dec. 17, will feature Sanctuary Choir and chamber orchestra in a presentation of *Magnificat* by the American composer Mark Hayes.

Adventurers theater outing

Sunday, Dec. 17 | 2 p.m. | Wilshire Adventurers will head to the theater on Sunday, Dec. 17 for a matinee presentation of the musical *White Christmas* at Richardson's Courtyard Theater. \$31.50 per person. Adventurers is a fellowship group for those 60 and above. Registration required by Dec. 13. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/adventurers-theater.

Blue Christmas service

Sunday, Dec. 17 | 4 p.m. | McIver Chapel | A contemplative service for those carrying pain or loss during this season of celebration.

Christmas Eve

Sunday, Dec. 24

■ No Sunday School or morning worship.

■ 4 p.m. Christmas Eve family service.

■ 11 p.m. Christmas Eve liturgical service with Lord's Supper. Youth Choir and alumni singing.

New Year's Eve

Sunday, Dec. 31 | Worship at 11 a.m.

No Sunday School.

Poinsettia orders due Nov. 26



Help decorate the Sanctuary for Advent by ordering a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one. Dedications will be listed in the Dec. 3 worship folder. Each plant costs \$12, and donors

may take them home after Christmas Eve services. Order by Nov. 26 using a form in the office or at wilshirebc.org/poinsettias.

Sign up kids to build nativity

Children in kindergarten through grade 6 can help build the Sanctuary nativity scene by carrying an element to the chancel during worship. We will begin the first Sunday of Advent, Dec. 3, and build the scene week by week until it is complete at the 4 p.m. Christmas Eve service. See the sign-up link at wilshirebc.org/nativity.

Giving Tree is up

Visit Wilshire's Giving Tree in James Gallery, select a tag and fulfill a Christmas wish for a child or adult served by one of our local mission partners. Please note due dates and other instructions as they vary by agency. Each tag has a QR code you can use to let us know which tag you selected, enabling us to send you a due-date reminder. We also have a Virtual Giving Tree; find the link at wilshirebc.org/giving-tree.

Recognizing God's call

BY SARAH STAFFORD

I felt God's call on my life as a high school student. I didn't know what it looked like, but I knew I had been called. The only female mentor I had was in my home church; she, of course, was not called a minister, although she was a minister to me and so many. She was the music assistant and organist. There were many twists and turns in my working career: teaching school, attending seminary and serving at three other churches. I was never called a minister in the other three churches I served, but I knew I was ministering to the many children, leaders, parents and senior adults.

On April 25, 2005, I came to serve on the Wilshire staff as music assistant — to coordinate the children's choirs, coordinate the handbell choirs and to begin a senior adult choir. Shortly after arriving, I attended the ordination of Carolyn Shapard as Wilshire's minister to adults. I will always remember sitting on the end of one of the center pews and weeping, not believing this was a church who recognized God's call on women and ordained them into the ministry. I never dreamed that could really happen.

On the afternoon of Sunday, Aug. 8, 2010, I was surrounded for my own ordination by precious friends from three previous churches, family and friends who had supported me through the years. We had a children's ensemble sing, New Song Community Choir sang, my dearest friend from junior high school days, who is still serving as a missionary in Spain, Susie Frazier Dixon; the children's minister I served with at Park Cities Baptist Church, Tommy Sanders; Pastoral Resident Tasha Gibson; Carolyn Shapard, Preston Bright, Paul Skelton, Nelda Williams (she was the children's minister at my home church, First



Baptist Church of Midland, when I was a sixth grader) and my precious family. It was a day that forever changed my life.

When I was allowed to lead the music in worship, it was an incredible privilege I never took lightly. I knew that if a little girl who attended Wilshire felt God calling her to serve in the ministry of music, at least she had seen one at Wilshire.

■ **Sarah Stafford** is director of New Song Community Choir and served on Wilshire's music staff from 2005 to 2018.

■ Stop by our **Stewardship of Memory** displays in the South Lobby and North Atrium to see all the memories submitted during the campaign, including many from Wilshire's children that haven't been seen elsewhere.

Foundations of Faith to start new series in 2024

Foundations of Faith Class will spend 2024 getting better acquainted with some of the less prominent figures in both the Old and New Testaments, from Abednago to Zacchaeus; Deborah to Tamar (and Tamar!). As is true of every one of us, each of these men and women were important to God. We will look for our place in conversations thousands of years old as we explore their stories and their respective relationships with God. Theologian Frederick Buechner wrote in the introduction of *Peculiar Treasures: A Biblical Who's Who* how he tried to shake the dust off these familiar faces but "They were the ones who shook the dust off me." We hope to do the same. Foundations of Faith will start this 52-week study on Jan. 7, 2024. The class meets in Room 3303.

Ever thought about becoming a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministers are congregation members who provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a life difficulty such as grief, divorce, job loss or chronic or terminal illness. Stephen Minister training is a Christ-centered experience that equips participants with essential caring and relating skills. Training for new Stephen Ministers will take place starting in January. Interested? Talk with one of Wilshire's Stephen Leaders: Gail Brookshire, Linda Garner, Micki Lacker, Debbie Meripolski or Tim Morgan. You can find a Stephen Minister application at wilshirebc.org/stephen-ministry.

Subscribe to sermon podcast

Sermons from Timothy Peoples and other Wilshire preachers are available as a weekly audio podcast on all major podcast platforms. To find the podcast, search "Wilshire Baptist Church" on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Google Podcasts or iHeartRadio.

How to Give

Your gifts are changing lives inside and outside our walls. Below are several methods you can use to contribute financially. Thanks for your generosity.

ONLINE. Set up a recurring or one-time gift charged to your debit or credit card or as an ACH from your checking account. Get started at wilshirebc.org/give.

REALM CONNECT APP. Easily make gifts and see past giving on your mobile device. Available at your device's app store. Find download links at wilshirebc.org/realms.

AUTOMATIC BANK PAY. Visit your bank's website and set up Wilshire as a payee. The bank will send the church a check.

MAIL. Send to Finance Director Lori Gooden's attention at Wilshire.

TEXT. Text WILSHIRE and a dollar amount (ex: WILSHIRE 50) to 73256.

DONATE STOCKS. Contact Lori to learn how to donate appreciated stocks.

FROM YOUR IRA. For those over 70.5 years old, tax-free IRA gifts offer a financial benefit and may reduce future tax burdens.



Scan QR code with your
smartphone camera
to make an electronic
contribution.

Wilshire Baptist Church, through its senior staff and the Finance Committee acting in accordance with the Bylaws, has discretion and control to reallocate designated funds to the greatest needs or equivalent under its Unified Budget.



Let's play mahjong!

Join other Women of Wilshire for mahjong on the first Friday of each month at 10 a.m. or the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. All skill levels welcome. Please sign up; SignUpGenius link at wilshirebc.org/events/mahjong.

Women of Wilshire book clubs

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** meets monthly at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor. On **Dec. 12**, the group will enjoy a holiday cookie exchange and discuss *The Christmas Pearl* by Dorothea Benton Frank. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org).

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** meets one Thursday a month at noon in Room 1205-L. On **Dec. 7**, the group will discuss *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org).

Register for WOW retreat

Registration is open for the Women of Wilshire 2024 retreat, to be held Feb. 9 - 11 at the Prothro Retreat Center on Lake Texoma. Jillian Ma-son Shannon will serve as retreat pastor. See full de-tails and register at wilshirebc.org/events/wow-retreat-2024 or scan QR code.



This Week

Sunday, Nov. 19

- WSM Fall Retreat, Cross Point Camp, Oklahoma
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Building & Grounds Committee, Comm. Hall 305, noon
- Finance Committee, Comm. Hall 312, noon
- Library Committee, Comm. Hall 307, noon
- Missions Committee, Comm. Hall 306-308, noon
- Personnel Committee, Comm. Hall 311, noon
- Wilshire Bells, Handbell Room, 12:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2:15 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 20

- Wilshire Winds, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 21

- Wilkinson Center Pantry Assistants, noon
- Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 23

- Building closed; staff holiday

Friday, Nov. 24

- Building closed; staff holiday

Sunday, Nov. 26

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Children's Choir Snack Lunch, 2221, noon
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Pathways Committee, 1205-L, noon
- Wilshire Bells, Handbell Room, 12:30 p.m.
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Children's Choirs, 12:35 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.

Margaret Rice

Hometown: Kenedy, Texas

Present City: Dallas

Education: BS, Baylor; MRE, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Texas A&M

Occupation: Minister and university administration/faculty

Tell us about your family.

I married Gene Rice in 1976 while he was attending seminary. He pastored four churches in 38 years of ministry, retiring due to the challenges of Parkinson's disease. We have two children: Kristen, founding director of Color Me Empowered in Dallas, and Justin, an architect in Los Angeles. Justin is married to Lindsay, also an architect and an all-around fabulous addition to our family. Kristen has two wonderful sons, Eric and Elliott.

How about your work or volunteer life?

I had the privilege of working on staff with Gene at two churches he pastored. My positions were part-time, and in 1999, as our daughter began her second year at Baylor, I had the epiphany that I must bring in a larger income. After praying about it, I saw a job posting by the University of Houston-Victoria for a director of a new program called Letting Education Achieve Dreams. Realizing that the described position lined up with my personal mission of helping others develop their God-given potential, I applied and was hired. I loved my 17 years of various administrative and teaching roles. While working there, I continued to be active in ministry and served on several community and state boards of directors. Following retirement from university life and our move to Dallas, I now serve on two nonprofit boards of directors and



help manage some family properties.

Tell us about your faith journey.

My spiritual journey began with dedicated Christian parents and a nurturing church. My commitment to Christ and Christ's church strengthened during my teen years, becoming foundational for my life. I have experienced God's presence through every aspect of life.

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

When we moved to Dallas in 2020, we joined Wilshire. Our daughter and grandsons were already members here, and we had a longtime connection with George Mason through Gene's and my association with the Christian Life Commission of the BGCT. Wilshire's openness to "every body" drew us in. We are excited to be part of this body of believers as Pastor Tim brings his leadership gifts to our church. We joined Koinonia Class and are grateful to study the Bible through Joe Haag's dedicated preparation and presentation. I also serve on the Christian Advocacy Committee and help with KidConnect. Earlier this year when I was diagnosed with lymphoma, I felt surrounded by the love and concern poured out by fellow members and church staff who prayed for me and provided personal touches of concern as I moved into remission. Thank you, Wilshire!

PRESCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR



EARLY BIRD

CAFÉ AND PLAY

YOU'RE UP EARLY, SO COME ON OVER!

UNSTRUCTURED FELLOWSHIP TIME FOR
FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN.

COFFEE PROVIDED.

FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR
OWN BREAKFAST.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10
8:30 AM | COMMUNITY HALL

