



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

January 14, 2024

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Preparing for worship

I remember my first missions trip like it was yesterday. I was a freshman at the University of Colorado and had recently come to know Christ. Eager to live into this new life, when the opportunity to spend my spring break in Jamaica serving at a children's home presented itself, I jumped on it. It combined all the things I was growing to love at the ripe age of 18; travel, culture and service. Looking back, I was naive and ignorant to things like toxic charity and the pervasiveness of Western colonialism that can and did accompany these trips.

The narrative around short-term missions for far too long has been crafted to be about others when the truth more closely resides in the fact that these experiences are more about those who go. Scholars and social researchers alike have proven this to be true. When we continue to believe and promote this fallacy, our missions trips are full of toxic ideologies like paternalism, white superiority and cultural arrogance.

So then, why does Wilshire continue to promote and lead these types of short-term missions trips? It's not lost on me that many of you will never participate for reasons I have already mentioned, but I hope it is at least beneficial for you to know the why behind our continued involvement.

First, I won't lie to you; the short-term missions experiences through Wilshire will be more about you than the people you will meet. And that's OK. We need to reframe these experiences as opportunities for our own discipleship, learning and transformation.

Second, everything Wilshire does we do in partnership. Our intention is to never recreate or duplicate efforts. Every short-term experience is connected to something larger, something ongoing and to someone whose presence will remain after we leave.

Lastly, experiencing the movement of God through the lens of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel, another culture or community can propel and encourage us to be change agents in our own context. We open ourselves to seeing God in new ways, we learn new methodologies, and perhaps we even feel nudged to do something about those mutual problems that keep us from going on a trip in the first place.

There is a lot to learn in this vast and expansive world. God is working in ways we will never know unless we go. And you're right; you don't have to go far, but I do hope you'll go somewhere this year. Take a look in the *Tapestry* and you will find many meaningful ways to engage in service the next few months!

—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: *Listening*, Jan Richardson, charcoal.

January 14, 2024
11:00 a.m.
Second Sunday after the Epiphany

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

Heather Mustain

Prelude

Voluntary on “If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

arr. Gordon Young

Call to Worship

Christina Evans

Leader: God calls us by name in our dreaming

People: and our waking;

Leader: in the Divine voice

People: and human voices.

Leader: God comes to us in the quiet

People: and the noise;

Leader: in the calm

People: and the chaos.

Leader: Always, God calls to us.

People: Always, God comes to us.

Leader: Let us now call God’s name.

People: Let us now come to God.

All: Let us worship together.

—Rev. Joanna Harader, SpaciousFaith.com

+Congregational Song

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
No. 295

NETTLETON

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

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” and ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

Prayers of the People

Jane Ballard

Congregational Song

He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought
No. 68

HE LEADETH ME

Children’s Moment

Julie Girards

Choral Offertory

Lord of the Small
Sanctuary Choir
Amy Pottkotter, piano

Dan Forrest

Praise to the Lord of the small broken things,
Who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing,
Who loves the lame child, and the wretch in the street,
Who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet.

Praise to the Lord of the faint and afraid,
Who girds them with courage and lends them his aid.
He pours out his Spirit on vessels so weak
That the timid can serve and the silent can speak.

Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill,
Who heals their afflictions or carries them till
They leave this tired frame and to paradise fly,
To never be sick and never to die.

Praise him, O praise him, all ye who yet live,
Who’ve been given so much and can so little give,
Our frail, lispng praise God will never despise:
He sees his dear children through mercy-filled eyes.

—Johanna Anderson

Then the LORD said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever.” Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” He said, “Here I am.” Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, “It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.” As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

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!

Solo

I Love the Lord
 Joslyn Henderson
 Amy Pottkotter, piano

Richard Smallwood

I love the Lord.
 He heard my cry and pitied every groan.
 Long as I live and troubles rise I’ll hasten to his throne.
 I love the Lord.
 He heard my cry and pitied every groan.
 Long as I live, while troubles rise I’ll hasten to his throne.

Message

“From Dan to Beersheba”

Timothy Peoples

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

+Congregational Song

Be Thou My Vision
 No. 71

SLANE

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

Postlude

Old 134th: Stand Up and Bless the Lord

arr. Robert J. Powell

Bill Jernberg, guest organist

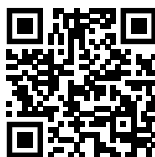
Meet today's worship leaders

Jane Ballard and her husband, Kyle, joined Wilshire in 2016 and attend Labyrinth Class. They are the parents of Benjamin, a fourth grader; Ann Marie, a second grader; and Eleanor, who is in PreK. Jane is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in private practice at Sparrow House Counseling, providing therapy to adults and couples. She also co-hosts the *Mindful Sobriety Podcast*.

Lance Currie and his wife, Rebecca, joined Wilshire in 2010. They are the parents of Ashleigh, an eighth grader, and Logan, a fifth grader. Lance and Rebecca attend Labyrinth Class, and Lance has participated in Faith in 3D. He is a partner in the law firm Carrington Coleman.

Christina Evans and her husband, Mark, have been visiting Wilshire since last summer and officially joined the church this month with their two kids, Liam, age 5, and Ellie, 2. Christina and Mark are members of Labyrinth Class. Christina works part-time as an office assistant for Emerald City Band.

Joslyn Henderson is director of worship arts at Christ City Church in Northeast Washington D.C. As a nationally celebrated gospel singer and worship leader, she infuses her performative ministry with her scholarship on Black sacred music. Joslyn is a 2021 graduate of Baylor University, having earned her Master of Divinity and Master of Music in Church Music. She is a Lovelace Scholar and Deborah Carlton Loftis Ambassador of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, having led multiple workshops on the subject of Black hymnody.



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)
- Carole McClung, Administrative Assistant (3115)
- Ramona Randle, Director (3140)

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 and 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 and Advocacy

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

Music and Worship

- Jeff Brummel, Associate Minister of Music/Organist (3122)
- Carol Cabaniss, Music and Worship Coordinator (3106)
- 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 and Technology

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

Pathways to Ministry

- George Mason, Pathways to Ministry Alumni Director 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

- 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
January 14, 2024

2023 giving results in surplus

Thanks to strong year-end giving, Wilshire not only met its 2023 budget but exceeded it by \$252,726, the church's largest giving surplus since 2014. Our budget for 2023 was \$3,850,000, and revenue totaled \$3,926,388. Expenses for the year were held under budget at \$3,673,662.

Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples reported on 2023 giving in an email to the church on Jan. 6. "From the bottom of my heart," he wrote, "thank you for the ways you give your heart, talents, time and treasure as we continue to build upon the kingdom of God."

Wilshire began December needing \$967,326 to make budget and wound up receiving \$1,016,690, a \$338,212 increase over giving in December 2022. In 2023, 430 family units made financial contributions, up from 369 the previous year. New members and prospects gave \$103,000.

In Wilshire's Unified Budget approach, funds received over the revenue budget are applied at the discretion of the Finance Committee. More information about plans for the 2023 surplus will be shared at the Annual Church Conference on Jan. 21, as will a proposed budget for 2024.



MLK Day Meal Packing tomorrow

Join us on the MLK Day holiday, Monday, Jan. 15, as we partner with Rise Against Hunger to pack healthy meals for those in need. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to noon in Community Hall. Our goal is to pack 15,120 meals, which is doable with Rise Against Hunger's fun assembly-line approach. This project is for everyone, with tasks appropriate for children and opportunities to serve while seated or standing.

Volunteers are also needed to help set up Community Hall starting at 8:30 a.m. and clean up after the event.

Signing up in advance is recommended. Registration was closed earlier this week but should be open again. Scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/events/mlk-meals.



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.

Wilshire Author Fair



Today, Noon–2 p.m.
Community Hall

Come browse and buy titles from more than two dozen church member authors at the first ever Wilshire Author Fair on Sunday, Jan. 14, from noon to 2 p.m. in Community Hall. Titles span a wide range of genres and topics: short fiction and novels; stories for children; and nonfiction including music, poetry, memoirs, culture, lifestyle, devotionals, photography, recipes, heritage, sermons, self-help and biblical commentary. Presented by the Wilshire Library. For a list of authors and titles, visit wilshirebc.org/events/author-fair.

New members

Christina and Mark Evans with Liam and Ellie

Condolences to

Susan Clarke on the death of her father, **Bob Bozeman**, Jan. 11.

Church Conference next Sunday

Our Annual Church Conference will be held in Community Hall after worship on Jan. 21. We'll adopt a budget, elect deacons and committees, consider church bylaws revisions and hear updates about the church. Lunch will be provided.

■ A packet of conference materials will be emailed to the congregation during the coming week and will be available at wilshirebc.org/events/church-conference.

■ Zoom will be available, but only in-person attendees will be able to vote. Look for the Zoom information at wilshirebc.org/events/church-conference closer to Jan. 21.

■ Register for childcare (infant–grade 6) by today at wilshirebc.org/events/church-conference.

■ Children's and Youth Choirs will rehearse as normal on Jan. 21.

New deacons recommended

The Deacon Nominating Committee has recommended eight Wilshire members to be ordained as new deacons: Lauren Anne Cove, Laurie Diffe, Mary Lu Hare, Rick Hibbs, Mary Morgan, Steven Murray, Rob Roden and Price Tinsley. Eight deacons were nominated to return to active service: Leigh Ann Brown, Fred Cullum, Bill Jernberg, Richard Luttrell, Sam Tinsley, Rhonda Walton, Megan Wilson and Alison Wingfield. Nominations will be voted on at the Annual Church Conference on Jan. 21, and new deacons will be ordained during worship on Jan. 28.

2024 deacon officers

Deacon officers for 2024 will be: Paula Woodbury, chair; Gina Ortegon, chair-elect; and Luke Willson, vice-chair.

Wilshire Welcome next Sunday

Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn what the church is all about, will meet Sunday, Jan. 21, at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near McIver Chapel. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org).

Adventurers afternoon movie



On Monday, Jan. 22, at 1 p.m. the Wilshire Adventurers will enjoy the movie *Enola Holmes* in Community Hall. Popcorn, cookies and drinks will be provided. No charge. No reservation needed. *Enola Holmes* is a 2020 mystery starring Millie Bobby Brown as the teenage sister of Sherlock Holmes. Adventurers is a fellowship group for anyone 60 or above.

Save the date for Faith in 3D

Wilshire's Faith in 3D initiative will present *The Christians*, a dramatic play by Lucas Hnath, on Thursday, Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 17, at 2:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Nancy Poynter is directing the cast of five Wilshire actors, and Ralph Manuel is directing a 30-voice choir. *The Christians*, which explores the aftermath of a controversial sermon delivered by a megachurch pastor, has been called "a gripping and introspective examination of faith, belief and the consequences of theological shifts within a congregation" (*Oklahoma Gazette*). A *New York Times* reviewer called playwright Hnath "one of the brightest voices of his generation." This year's production marks the 10th anniversary of Faith in 3D.

Puerto Rico trip planned



Wilshire will return to Puerto Rico for a mission trip from Feb. 24 to March 1. Monica Mullins will lead the group, which will partner with a church in San Juan. No experience necessary; there will be work for all skill levels.

The trip will cost \$400 plus airfare. Sign up at wilshirebc.org/events/puerto-rico. Contact: Abbey Adcox (aadcox@wilshirebc.org).

Join team for Point in Time Count

HUD's annual Point in Time Count for Dallas County will take place Thursday, Jan. 25, starting at 6 p.m. Volunteer teams will be deployed under the direction of Housing Forward to take a census of unhoused neighbors, and Wilshire is forming a team to be led by Heather Mustain. Contact Abbey Adcox (aadcox@wilshirebc.org) to learn more or register.

Souper Bowl of Caring is Feb. 4



The annual Souper Bowl of Caring, benefiting the Phil Strickland Hunger Offering, will be held Sunday, Feb. 4, at noon in

Community Hall. Join us for soup and all the fixings, and donate an amount equal to what you would spend at a nice restaurant for lunch. This year's beneficiary is **Twelve21 Global's Farm School Project**, which aims to establish a sustainable food source to benefit Twelve21's two schools in Tanzania and the communities they serve for years to come. Learn more at wilshirebc.org/events/souper-bowl.



**For everyone.
Now every week.**

**Join us each Wednesday
11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
Community Hall**

All ages are welcome for a buffet lunch (\$10 each) and minister-led Bible Study.

Pay at the door. No RSVP needed.

Contact: Barbara Clayton
(bclayton@wilshirebc.org)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

JAN. 17

Koinonia Café | 5–6 p.m. | **Community Hall** | Buffet-style dinner for the whole family. Pricing at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **Jan. 17:** Meatloaf, roasted red potatoes, green bean casserole, French onion soup, salad, rolls, desserts. **Kids:** Chicken nuggets, mac and cheese.

Music, Missions & More | 6–7 p.m. | **Age 3–Pre-K** | Preschool choir, plus fun activities focused on God’s love.

KidConnect | 6–7 p.m. | **K–Grade 6** | A rotation of art, music and more to help kids learn how to love God and others.

Bible Study: The Work of Christmas Begins | **Jan. 10–31** | 6–7 p.m. | **Community Hall** | In his poem “The Work of Christmas,” Howard Thurman reminds us the work of Christmas doesn’t happen during Advent in our waiting and preparation, but after all the pomp and circumstance. When things seem to have calmed down and become quiet is when we need to get out the hammers, saws and drills to make noise and create an atmosphere of justice. Join Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples as we discuss how we can contribute to the work.

Watershed | 6:30–7:30 p.m. | **Grades 7–12** | Bible study and music in the Youth Center.

Sanctuary Choir | 7 p.m. | **Choral Hall** | No audition. New singers welcome.

Childcare for infants to 2-year-olds whose parents are involved in church activities is offered 6–7:15 p.m.

Adventurers San Francisco trip

Plans for the September 2024 Adventurers trip to San Francisco are underway! Join us for sightseeing and community building, including visits to Alcatraz, Muir Woods and Napa Valley. Please complete our interest form at wilshirebc.org/san-fran or in the main office. This doesn't commit you to going but tells us you're strongly considering it. Registration will start soon. The cost will be, at most, \$2,500 per person, covering transportation, lodging, attractions and some meals. Wilshire Adventurers plans social and education opportunities for those 60 and older. Guests are welcome.

ECLC open house on Jan. 16

Wilshire's Early Childhood Learning Center will hold an open house on Tuesday, Jan. 16, from 4 to 5 p.m. Registration for the 2024-2025 school year will open to current ECLC families on Jan. 22 and to the general public on Jan. 29. ECLC is a licensed early care program offering a comprehensive approach to education for infants to Pre-K. Learn more at wilshirebc.org/eclc.

Subscribe to sermon podcast

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

Chronic illness support group

Wilshire's support group for those experiencing a chronic or undiagnosed illness meets on Zoom the second and fourth Tuesdays every month at 7:30 p.m. To learn more, contact Annette Miller at annette.a.miller@gmail.com.



Register by today for retreat

Life Worth Living is the theme for the 2024 Women of Wilshire Retreat, to be held Feb. 9-11 at the Prothro Retreat Center on Lake Texoma. Jillian Mason Shannon will serve as retreat pastor. See full details and register at wilshirebc.org/events/wow-retreat-2024 or scan QR code. The deadline for registering is Sunday, Jan. 14.



Let's play mahjong!

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

WOW book clubs

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** meets monthly at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor. On **Feb. 13**, the group will discuss *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org).

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** meets one Thursday a month at noon in Room 1205-L. On **Feb. 1**, the group will discuss Christy Lefteri's *The Beekeeper of Aleppo*. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org).



Art exhibit opens Jan. 21

Conversations, an art exhibit intended to spark dialogue on racial justice, will be on display in the South Lobby from Jan. 21 through Feb. 28. The 24 watercolor and scratchboard pieces in Vikki J. Martin's *Clotilda* series use the life cycle of the cotton plant to memorialize the enslaved people transported to the U.S. by the schooner *Clotilda*, the last known slave ship to bring captives from Africa to the American South.

Vikki J. Martin grew up in Oklahoma, earned a BFA in painting from the University of Tulsa and an MFA in drawing from UT Austin. From 1983 to 2017 she taught art and art history at the Episcopal School of Dallas. Her work has won numerous awards, is included in many public and private collections and has been shown regionally and nationally in galleries and museums.

Read Martin's statement about the work at wilshirebc.org/events/conversations.

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.

Jeanne Spreier

Hometown: Nowhere in particular
Present City: Dallas
Education: University of Kentucky, BA in Communications
Profession: Manage scholarships at UT Dallas

Tell us about your family.

Scott Spreier and I have been married for 38 years. We have three children: Mary Lu Hare is active at Wilshire and lives in Fort Worth with her husband, Thomas; Wilson Spreier, his wife, Shelley, and their three children live in San Antonio (and belong to Woodland Baptist Church); and Joel Spreier lives near Denver.

How about your volunteer life?

I've always been engaged in civic life. It might be because for a part of my time growing up, I lived overseas. I'm very engaged in voter registration, access to the polls and awareness of elections and voting opportunities.

Favorite hobbies?

I love to camp (in a tent), hike and snowshoe. I try to garden. I'm old enough that I'm leery of activities where I could get really banged up.

Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

I've taught preschool Sunday School off and on (mostly on) for about 12 years. Now I'm with 1+ year olds. We always have room for more! In between, I'm in Epiphany Class, which was Young Adult 3 or 4 when we started at WBC in 1996. I take part in WOW — lately mahjong and Tuesday Evening Book Club. All these activities remind me of the great community I have at



WBC across generations that I wouldn't have without this church.

What has surprised you most about Wilshire?

Surprise isn't quite the right word. I'm most in awe of our willingness to be "that kind of church." We're not perfect and

we're not always good at a lot of stuff, but we're willing to work at it and (hopefully) make room for more people in the pew — or wherever they intersect with our church family. As the world and our families evolve, I've become interested in how to build community that doesn't demand 11 a.m. Sunday attendance. I know "church" requires some sort of worship as a group. Based on my WBC experiences, I know we're going to figure this out. Church is grounding for me. I know a lot of people who would benefit from the peace I get just from walking into our building. The question, of course, is how do we as a congregation extend that welcome.

What do you think God is up to in your life right now?

I don't know. I keep waiting for an email!

What's something interesting most people would not know about you?

I hitchhiked a couple times in college. It absolutely is not something I would recommend. But it shows we all did stupid stuff in our youth.

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.

At Wilshire, we use a one-fund approach to giving called the Unified Budget. Your gifts support the basic mission, ministry and operations of the church. Once the Unified Budget is fulfilled, gifts overflow into visionary aspects of our mission.

This Week

Sunday, Jan. 14

- Third/Fourth Grade Sunday School Open House, 2225, 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Author Fair, Community Hall, noon
- Children's Choir Snack Lunch, 2221, noon
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Children's Choirs, 12:30 p.m.
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 15

- Office closed, staff holiday
- MLK Day Meal Packing, Community Hall, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 16

- Wilkinson Center Pantry Assistants, noon
- Faith in 3D Choir Rehearsal, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 17

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Ukulele Group, Choral Hall, 11 a.m.
- Lunch & Learn, Community Hall, 11:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music, Missions & More, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 18

- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.
- WOW! Knitters Evening Group, Peggy Tinsley Home, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 19

- MOPS, James Gallery, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 20

- Discovery Class Party, James Gallery, noon



WILSHIRE ADVENTURERS

SAN FRANCISCO

SEPT. 10-15, 2024

Details and registration at wilshirebc.org/san-fran

