



**April 28, 2024** *Fifth Sunday of Easter* 

# **Preparing for worship**

As you prepare for worship today, take a moment to reflect on what brings you here. Why do we gather for worship? What are our hopes as we open our hearts and minds for this sacred time together?

Let's explore the essence of worship. Corporate worship is a dedicated time where we collectively acknowledge the presence of the Divine in our lives. In our context, we structure our worship using sacred elements rooted in ancient traditions that have evolved over millennia. The book of Acts illustrates the early church's commitment to fellowship, teaching, prayer, Communion and offering. This foundation encourages our gathering to listen for God's voice, communicate with God, receive divine gifts and reciprocate by offering our gifts to God and one another.

At its essence, worship is a dynamic practice of nurturing and honoring relationship. It's a dedicated time to foster, celebrate and deepen our bond with God and our community. It's not a passive act of observation but of active engagement. Like any significant relationship, worship requires an open heart and mind, inviting us to be responsive to the Divine. Our weekly gathering should reflect the ongoing work of the Spirit in our lives, drawing us closer to God and each other.

You may notice subtle shifts in our service order in today's worship. These adjustments reflect our ongoing pursuit to engage more intentionally with God's voice through word, song and prayer. As you join in our worship, stay attuned to where you may encounter God's presence in fresh and transformative ways.

Let our prayer resonate with the words of our hymn: "Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled [heart]. Finish then [a] new creation; pure and spotless let us be. Let us see [your] great salvation perfectly restored in [us]."

—Ariel Merivil



4316 Abrams Road | Dallas, Texas 75214 | 214-452-3100 | <u>wilshirebc.org</u> 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:** Ethiopian processional cross, 15th century. Collection of the Walters Art Museum, Baltimore.

#### **April 28, 2024** 11:00 a.m. Fifth Sunday of Easter

#### Chiming of the Hour

We gather in community this morning to worship God. To help center our focus in worship, please silence all electronic devices.

#### Welcome to Worshipers

Prelude

Toccata in B Minor

Baptism — Maddie Campbell

+Congregational Song

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

High voices 1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heav'n to earth come down, Low voices 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov ing Spir - it in to ev - ery trou - bled breast! -Choir 3. Come, Al - might - y de - liv er, all thy life \_\_\_\_\_ re - ceive; to let us cre - a - tion; pure ALL 4. Fin - ish, then, thy new and spot - less let\_\_\_ us be; thy hum - ble dwell - ing; thy faith - ful fix in us\_ all mer - cies crown. Let us all in thee in - her it, let us find the prom - ised rest. re - turn, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave. sud den - ly\_ and nev er, re - stored in thee: let us see \_\_\_\_ thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly thou all com - pas - sion, pure, un bound - ed love thou art; Je sus. art Take of and\_Oа way the love sin - ning; Al - pha me - ga be; Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, 'til in heav'n we take our place, ev - ery trem-bling heart. vis it us \_\_\_\_ with thy\_\_\_\_\_sal - va tion; en ter end of faith. as its \_\_\_\_ be - gin ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty. pray, and praise thee in \_\_\_\_\_ thy per - fect love. with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry

#### **Children's Moment**

'til\_\_\_\_we

Julie Girards

won - der, love, and praise.

+All congregants who are able are invited to stand.

cast

Hearing devices are available in the Narthex and South Atrium.

our

thee, lost

in

crowns be - fore \_\_\_\_

Katie Murray

Timothy Peoples

Eugène Gigout

HYFRYDOL

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent God's only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent God's Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and God's love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in God and God in us, because God has given us of the Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that God has sent the Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as God is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because God first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from God is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Offertory	<i>Guide My Feet</i> Tyrese Byrd, soloist; Ariel Merivil, pianist	arr. Jacqueline B. Hairston
	Guide my feet, Lord, while I run this race. For I don't want to run this race in vain.	
	Hold my hand, Lord, while I run this race. For I don't want to run this race in vain.	
	Stand by me, Lord, while I run this race. For I don't want to run this race in vain.	
+Reading from Acts — Acts 8:26-40		LeAnn Hampton

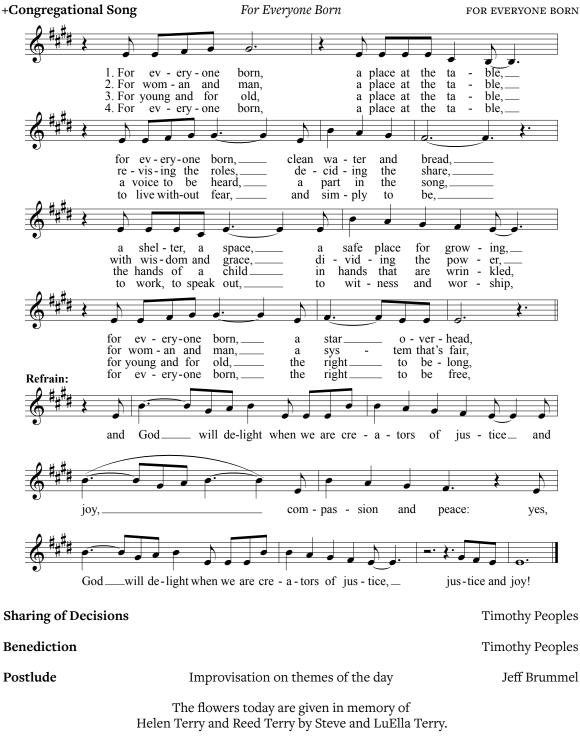
An angel of God spoke to Philip and said, "Be ready to set out at noon along the road that goes to Gaza, the desert road." So Philip began his journey. It happened that an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official in charge of the entire treasury of Candace, the ruler of Ethiopia, had come to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage and was returning home. He was sitting in his carriage and reading the prophet Isaiah. The Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and meet that carriage." When Philip ran up, he heard the eunuch reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" "How can I," the eunuch replied, "unless someone explains it to me?" With that, he invited Philip to get in the carriage with him. This was the passage of scripture being read: "You are like a sheep being led to slaughter, you are like a lamb that is mute in front of its shearers: like them, you never open your mouth. You have been humiliated and have no one to defend you. Who will ever talk about your descendants, since your life on earth has been cut short?" The eunuch said to Philip, "Tell me, if you will, about whom the prophet is talking — himself or someone else?" So Philip proceeded to explain the Good News about Jesus to him. Further along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look, there is some water right there. Is there anything to keep me from being baptized?" He

ordered the carriage to stop; then Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came out of the water, the Spirit of God snatched Philip away; the eunuch didn't see him anymore, and went on his way rejoicing. Philip found himself at Ashdod next, and he went about proclaiming the Good News in all the towns, until he came to Caesarea.

	For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God among us, And for the Word of God within us, <b>Thanks be to God!</b>			
+Congregational Song	More Love to Thee No. 365	MORE LOVE TO THEE		
Message	"Going Down Deserted Roads"	Timothy Peoples		
Anthem	What Does the Lord Require Sanctuary Choir	Eric Nelson		
What does the Lord require for praise and offering? What sacrifice, desire or tribute bid you bring? To do justice; love mercy; and walk humbly with your God.				
Rulers of earth, give ear! Should you not justice know? Will God your pleading hear, while crime and cruelty grow? Then do justice; love mercy; and walk humbly with your God.				
How shall our life fulfill God's law so high? Let Christ endue our will with grace. How shall our life fulfill God's law? What does the Lord require? Walk humbly with your God.				
Prayers of the People		Darren DeMent		
Silence				
We pause in silence to reflect and to be attentive to the Spirit of God				
The Lord's Prayer				
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 sins, As we forgive those who sin against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,				

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory forever. Amen.



# Meet today's worship leaders

**Bill Bruster** and his wife, Charlotte, joined Wilshire in 2000. They are members of Compass Class. Bill had a long career as a Baptist pastor and before retirement worked with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, encouraging churches in their cooperative missions.

**Tyrese Byrd**, our guest soloist today, is a tenor from Greenville, South Carolina, known for his expressive tone and musicianship. He has performed with various opera companies and orchestras, including Toledo Opera and Madison Opera, and is a graduate student at the University of Michigan. Passionate about promoting the music of Black composers, Tyrese is involved in the Singing Justice research team. He completed his undergraduate studies at Furman University and has a repertoire that includes works by Bach, Mozart and Mendelssohn. **LeAnn Hampton** joined Wilshire in 1983. She and her husband, Jeff, are members of Epiphany Class. LeAnn is a deacon, serves on the Funeral Ministry Team, plays flute in Wilshire Winds and teaches Pre-K Sunday School and Pre-K Choir. She also chaired the search committee that brought Minister of Music Ariel Merivil to Wilshire. LeAnn works as a grant writer and consultant.



**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.

Scripture quotations are from: New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America, used by permission, all rights reserved, adapted for inclusive language; or The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation © 2007 Priests for Equality, ©2022 FutureChurch. Used with permission. All Rights Reserved. Music reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under One License #A-739361. All rights reserved. *Guide My Feet* © 1991 J H Productions. *What Does the Lord Require*, 2008, copied by permission from Eric Nelson. *For Everyone Born*, text © 1998 Shirley Erena Murray, Hope Publishing, music © 2006 Brian Mann.

# 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 with phone extensions 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, ECLC Assistant Director and Curriculum Specialist (3139)
- Carole McClung, ECLC Administrative Assistant (3115)
- Ramona Randle, ECLC Director (3140)

# Finance

■ Lori Gooden, Director of Finance (3131)

# **Food Services**

- Luke Munion, Food Service Staff
- Haley Robinson, Food Service Director (3117)
- Shari Spell, Food Service Staff
- Gillian Tinsley, 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
- Rachel Oney, Receptionist (3165)
- Kevin Sierra, Facilities
- Leticia Vega, Facilities

# **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)
- Shana Gaines, Wilshire Winds Director (3163)
- Ralph Manuel, Handbell Coordinator (3161)
- Candy McComb, Children's Choir Coordinator (3124)
- Ariel Merivil, Minister of Music (3135)

# **Operations and Technology**

- Rene Altamirano, Maintenance Technician
- Eric Mirochna, IT Manager (3136)
- Jim Tapley, Audio and Video Coordinator

# Pathways to Ministry

- Debby Burton, Pathways to Ministry Assistant (3158)
- Charlie Fuller, Pathways to Ministry Director and Coach in Residence (3123)
- George Mason, Senior Pastor Emeritus and Pathways to Ministry Alumni Director (3133)

### **Senior Pastor**

- Chelsea Hopkins, 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)
- Sarah Yodh, Spiritual Formation Coordinator (3130)

# Tapestry



News & Announcements April 28, 2024



# **Advocacy project T-shirt making today**

All are invited to Community Hall after worship to make a T-shirt for the Stolen Lives advocacy project. Box lunches will be provided.

This project of advocacy agency Texas Impact aims to build awareness and reduce gun violence through public installations where T-shirts are used to memorialize gun violence victims. Each colored shirt will show the name, age and death date of someone in Dallas County who died of gun violence in the last five years. Each white shirt will represent a suicide and show a crisis hotline number.

Our 200 shirts will be displayed at Wilshire in late May and will be shown alongside those from other churches outside the National Rifle Association convention in Dallas on May 18. The campaign will culminate next year when all shirts are displayed at the state capitol.



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

#### New member Maddie Campbell

### **Congratulations to**

Scott and **Jessica Samuel** on the birth of their daughter, Madison Susan, April 24. Big sister is Victoria; grandmother is **Julie Girards**; uncles are **James Girards** and **Jason Girards**.

### Minister to preschoolers sought

Wilshire is actively seeking applicants for the position of minister to preschoolers, a parttime ministerial role. Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples said, "Last year we began a process of intentionally assessing our ministries from birth to age 18. With learnings from guest speakers, surveys and all-church listening sessions, we now feel we are in a better spot to begin searching for a minister to preschoolers. This doesn't mean we've finished listening or dreaming, but it's time to bring in someone with great expertise to help us continue planning for the future." In accordance with Wilshire's personnel policies, the Personnel Committee will work with Associate Pastor Darren DeMent in the hiring process. A job description and instructions for applying can be found at wilshirebc.org/employment. Applications will be accepted through June 1.

# Choral scholar recital today

Wilshire choral scholar **Wayne Mkhize**, a graduate student at SMU's Meadows School of the Arts, will present a recital today at 6 p.m. in McIver Chapel.

# Graduate info needed by May 8

Wilshire will recognize its 2024 high school graduates during worship on May 19; their photos will be printed in the worship folder along with those of church members who received a bachelor's degree from June 2023 to May 2024. To be included, submit your information by Wednesday, May 8, at <u>wilshirebc.org/graduates</u>. Contact: Sarah Yodh (<u>syodh@wilshirebc.org</u>)

# New program offers rent and utility help

Wilshire has launched a new rental and utility assistance program that will help meet immediate needs in our community. The initiative will be funded by about \$81,000 in Missions Plus funds drawn from surplus giving to Wilshire's 2023 Unified Budget.

The program was born out of learnings from last year's housing advocacy cohort and represents what that group felt we had to offer to Dallas County's housing crisis. Some of the cohort's learnings were:

■ For the first time in three years, money from the pandemic-related federal CARES Act is no longer available to many nonprofit agencies, leaving a large gap in the community for this service.

■ Dallas County residents are being evicted at higher rates now than before the pandemic, and 70% of evictees are single moms.

According to research, when families and individuals remain housed, all other social determinants of health stabilize and lead to greater security.

While the problem is big, expensive and complex, we also feel doing nothing isn't an option. So while we may not be able to contribute to the need for more affordable housing, we do have this to offer: grace in the form of a gift given without expectation; a listening, empathetic ear; a heart to love; and the hope of restoring dignity and worth to those who often go unseen.

The program will serve any neighbor living in Dallas County by helping pay one overdue monthly rent payment or one month's overdue utility payment per calendar year while expecting nothing in return from the neighbor. Since January, we have helped 14 individuals.

Stop by the church office and check out our new cards to learn more. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Abbey Adcox at <u>aadcox@</u> wilshirebc.org. —*Heather Mustain* 



## Every Wednesday 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Community Hall

All ages are welcome for lunch (\$10 each) and minister-led Bible Study. Pay at the door. No RSVP needed. Contact: Barbara Clayton (bclayton@wilshirebc.org)

June 5: The last Lunch & Learn before a summer break will feature New Song Community Choir's end-of-season concert.



**Tuesday Evening Book Club** | May 14 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *Whiskey in a Teacup* by Reese Witherspoon. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org).

**Brown Bag Book Club** | May 2 | Noon | 1205-L | *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. Contact: Carolyn Murray (<u>cmurray@</u> wilshirebc.org).

■ Spring Brunch | May 4 | 10 a.m.-noon | James Gallery | Join us for flower arranging and guest speaker Tammy Johnson, founder and executive director of mission partner Empowering the Masses. Register at <u>wilshirebc.org/</u> events/wow-spring-brunch.

# **WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE** MAY 1

Koinonia Café | 5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet-style dinner for the whole family. Pricing at <u>wilshirebc.org/events/wnl</u>. May 1: Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash brown casserole, biscuits and gravy, fruit salad, pancakes, cinnamon rolls, yogurt parfait. Kids: Cereal and milk.

Music, Missions & More | 6 p.m. | Age 3-Pre-K | Preschool choir and other fun activities.

**KidConnect** | **6 p.m.** | **K-Grade 6** | Each week is different, with art, music and more.

**The Gospel of Aretha Franklin** | 6 p.m. | **Community Hall** | **Final Week** | On Aretha's album *Amazing Grace*, her father, Rev. C.L. Franklin, said "she has never left the church." He chose these words to calm those unhappy with her choice of music styles. Join us as we investigate the songs of the Queen of Soul to see how each one ensured "Good News" for the time.

**Watershed** | **6:30 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.

**Looking Ahead** | On **May 8**, the final WNL before summer break will include an open house in KidConnect rooms and a "Stump the Ministers" Q&A session in Community Hall. Preschool Music, Missions & More will not meet May 8, but childcare will be offered.

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

### Children's, Preschool Choirs year-end program next Sunday

Children's and Preschool Choirs will present a year-end program on Sunday, May 5, at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

■ Music & Missions Fun Day. Any child (K-6) who has participated in choir or KidConnect this school year is invited for a fun outing on Saturday, May 4. The group will meet at Wilshire at 9:30 a.m. and carpool with chaperones to Fair Park, returning at 2:30 p.m. Activities will include Texas Discovery Gardens, Butterfly House and Insectarium, Art in the Park, a picnic lunch and the Leonhardt Lagoon Nature Walk. Register by today, April 28, at <u>wilshirebc.</u> org/events/mmfunday.

# **Spring Valley Elementary support**

Wilshire is supporting RISD's Spring Valley Elementary during Field Day and Teacher Appreciation Week in May. Wilshire's Shana Gaines is assistant principal at SVE, which will close due to consolidation after this school year.

■ Notes of gratitude may be written or dropped off at tables in James Gallery and near the office through Sunday, May 5.

■ On Field Day, Friday, May 10, we will provide classroom coverage from 11 a.m. to noon so staff can enjoy lunch together. Volunteers will provide supervision while students eat lunch



and participate in an activity. Spanish speaking is a plus but is not required. Sign up via QR code or <u>wilshirebc.org/events/sve</u>.

# Marriage Connections is May 10

Timothy Peoples and Valerie Lott are hosting a gathering at their home for the final Marriage Connections of the school year on Friday, May 10. Free childcare (infant-grade 6) will be provided at the church from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Registration is required by May 5; visit <u>wilshirebc.</u> <u>org/events/marriage-connections</u>.



## Single, Adoptive and Foster Care Parents Night Out, May 10

Wilshire will offer free childcare (infant-grade 6) for single, adoptive and foster parents on Friday, May 10, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Registration is required and closes May 5; visit <u>wilshirebc.</u> <u>org/events/pno</u>.

# Sign up for May 8 Blood Drive

The Carter BloodCare bus will be at Wilshire for a blood drive on Wednesday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are recommended. Visit <u>wilshirebc.</u> <u>org/events/blood-drive</u> for the appointment link or scan the QR code in the ad on page 16.

# **Adventurers to Meadows Museum**

The Adventurers will tour the Meadows Museum at SMU on Thursday, May 16, at 10 a.m. Parking is free, and the group will gather at the entrance at 9:50. After the docent-guided museum tour, the group will have lunch nearby. A \$10 per-person cost covers museum entry. Register by May 13 at <u>wilshirebc.org/</u> <u>events/meadows-museum</u>.



Details and registration at wilshirebc.org/summer-camps

#### **Vacation Bible School**

June 10–14 | 9 a.m.–noon Age 3–grade 6 | Register by June 3

#### **Cooking Camp** SOLD OUT! Waitlist available

July 8–12 | 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Grades 1–6 | Register by June 30

# Listen to Your Art!

July 8–12 | 12:30–5 p.m. Grades 1–6 | Register by June 30

#### Full-Day: Cooking Camp and Listen to Your Art! SOLD OUT! Waitlist available

July 8–12 | 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Grades 2–6 | Register by June 30

#### **Passport Kids Camp**

July 27–30 | Overnight camp in Brownwood, Texas Grades 3–6 | Register by June 30

#### **Creation Station**

July 22-25 | 9 a.m.-noon Age 3-Kindergarten Register by July 14

# realm HELP DESK

Still not sure what Realm is all about? Need help downloading your giving statement? Wilshire staffers will be available at the times listed below to answer your Realm questions and offer hands-on training. If needed, they'll even take your photo and help you upload it.

- Sunday, May 5, from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. in James Gallery.
- Wednesdays, May 1 and May 8, from 11 to 11:30 a.m. in Community Hall.

Realm is a secure online platform connected to our member database. Wilshire members use it for giving and event registrations. It also serves as our church directory, so having your photo there is helpful to new members and staff members. You can access Realm through a web browser or the free Realm Connect mobile phone app.

# **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 <u>wilshirebc.org/give</u>.

**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 <u>wilshirebc.org/realm</u>.

**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, April 28

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Stolen Lives Project, 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.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Choral Scholar Wayne Mkhize Graduate Voice Recital, McIver Chapel, 6 p.m.

#### Monday, April 29

Deacons Meeting, Community Hall, 6:30 p.m.

#### Wednesday, May 1

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Realm Help Desk, Community Hall, 11 a.m.
- Ukulele Rehearsal, Choral Hall, 11 a.m.
- Lunch & Learn, Community Hall, 11:30 a.m.
- Spanish with a Mission Group, 1205-G, 4 p.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music, Missions & More, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
  Risk Management Committee, 1205-G, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

#### Thursday, May 2

- Stephen Ministry Training, 1100-B, 10 a.m.
- WOW Brown Bag Book Club, 1205-L, noon
- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.

### Friday, May 3

- MOPS, James Gallery, 9 a.m.
- Mahjong, 1205-L, 10 a.m.

### Saturday, May 4

- Kids Music & Missions Fun Day, 9:30 a.m.
- WOW Spring Brunch, James Gallery, 10 a.m.

# Jim Wilshire —

Hometown: Dallas Present City: Dallas Education: UNT, Biology; UNT, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine; Michigan, MBA. Profession: Physician (internist), health care executive

#### Tell us about your family.

I've been married to Rhonda for 43 years. We raised four sons: Steven, married to Ashley with two children, Kennedy, 6, and Carter, 3; Daniel, married to Ami; Benjamin, married to Taylor; and Andrew.

#### How about your work or volunteer life?

I retired in 2023 and now consult for clients working to improve healthcare for Medicaid and the medically underserved. I volunteer on a federal advisory committee focused on Medicare and Medicaid reform. I'm a hospice volunteer for VNA Texas and a visiting professor in Healthcare Disparities and Strategic Management for UTD and Rutgers.

#### **Favorite hobbies?**

Gardening, hiking, scuba diving and reading.

#### What brought you to Wilshire and when?

We moved from Waxahachie in 2013 after our last son left for college. We found Wilshire because of its mature leadership and application of Christian theology around social justice and egalitarianism.

#### Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

Epiphany Class and the Missions Committee.

#### What's surprised you most about Wilshire?

Wilshire's maturity and openness to being an early adopter for how Christian institutions can recognize and respond to the urgent need for diversity,



inclusion and equity in leadership, membership and practice in society.

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

God is teaching me to slow down and recognize the power of developing new relationships with strangers — reducing the distance between myself and

others with different backgrounds and lived experiences and better connecting with what God is up to in the world.

#### Tell us about your faith journey.

Raised as a Methodist, I was influenced by Young Life leaders and became a Christian in 1984. I struggled to express my faith as a husband, father and physician, but in the last decade I've experienced a renewal of faith, coming to a deeper understanding of God's love for both me and the world.

#### Something interesting most people would not know about you?

In Waxahachie, I transitioned from private practice to making "house calls" for impoverished survivors of complex neurotrauma living without health insurance in Dallas. This gave me opportunities to participate on medical teams responding to the healthcare needs created by natural disasters and the long-term consequences of poverty and social injustice.

#### What adjectives best describe you? Curious.

