



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

September 8, 2024

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Preparing for worship

Our opening and closing hymns this morning use very different language to describe God and our relationship to God. Consider some of these words and phrases from “How Great Thou Art”:

Great ... awesome wonder ... rolling thunder ... power ... mountain grandeur ... acclamation ... adoration ...

Now consider these from “’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”:

Sweet ... trust ... rest ... precious ... simple ... peace ... friend ... with me ...

It is not often that we would use these two seemingly disparate sets of words to describe the same thing, but that is exactly what we have in our worship service this morning. These two hymns work together to serve as a testimony that the God that created the universe and is revealed to us in mighty acts of power is the same God that knows us intimately and is available to comfort us individually. These are not two separate gods, but one who can seem both impossibly big and impossibly personal at the same time.

Both of these things are true. I don’t claim to fully understand how this can be, but I am happy to join together with others who likely don’t fully get it either and proclaim that truth.

And if that doesn’t give you enough to ponder during worship this morning, consider our middle hymn, “The Servant Song,” which serves as a beautiful reminder that the Christian life is never just about us as individuals and God. We don’t do this journey of faith alone, but instead have a responsibility to each other. We are in this together. We walk together, pray together, cry together, serve together, sing together, and laugh together. We do all of it, together.

I’m not sure what brought you to Wilshire this morning. Maybe you’ve come to be reminded of the mighty power of God. Maybe you’ve come to rest in the promise of God’s comfort. Maybe you’ve come because you just need to know that you are not alone. Whatever brought you here this morning, I pray that you can find it as we worship together.

—Darren DeMent



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: *Jesus Mural of Faith, Hope, Love and Peace*, Chicago, artist unknown, 20th century. From *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville.

September 8, 2024

11:00 a.m.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Monica Mullins

Prelude

Salvation is Created
Wilshire Brass
Shana Gaines, director

Paul Tschesnokoff/
arr. Tom Fletcher

Opening Sentences

Raylan Loggins

We gather this morning, pulled from the busyness and hurried rush of our day-to-day lives,
to pause and once again consider the greatness of our God. May we allow ourselves to be lost
again in awesome wonder and open our souls to offer praise to our Savior.

+Congregational Song

How Great Thou Art
No. 323

O STORE GUD

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures — Proverbs 22:1–2, 8–9, 22–23

Richard Luttrell

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favor is better than silver or gold.
The rich and the poor have this in common:
the LORD is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,
and the rod of anger will fail.
Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.

Do not rob the poor because they are poor
or crush the afflicted at the gate,
for the LORD pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Offertory

O God Beyond All Praising
Wilshire Brass
Shana Gaines, piano

arr. Dan Forrest/
adapt. Tom Fletcher

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

My brothers and sisters, do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory while showing partiality. For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here in a good place, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit by my footstool,” have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that promised to those who love God? But you have dishonored the poor person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into the courts? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you do well. But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Surely that faith cannot save, can it? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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!

+Congregational Song

The Servant Song
No. 289
Stanza 1: choir
Stanzas 2-5: all

GILLARD

Message

“A Church for All”

Timothy Peoples

Anthem

God Is
Sanctuary Choir

Robert J. Fryson

God is my protection. God is my all and all.
God is my light in darkness. God is my all and all.

God is my joy in the time of sorrow.
God is my all and all. God is my today and my tomorrow
God is my all and all.

God is the joy and the strength of my life. God moves all pain, misery and strife.
God promised to keep me, never to leave me.
God's never ever come short of his word.
I've got to fast and pray, stay in the narrow way.
I'll keep my life clean every day.
I want to go with him when he comes back. I've come too far and I'll never turn back.
God is, God is, God is, God is.
God is my all and all.

Prayers of the People

Heather Mustain

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.**

+Congregational Song

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
No. 570

TRUST IN JESUS

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

Postlude

Postlude on THAXTED

arr. David Cherwien

The flowers today are given by Wilshire Winds in memory of Tom Fletcher. Tom, who died Aug. 31, was a longtime euphonium player with the Winds and arranged the two pieces played by the brass ensemble today. We thank God for the gift Tom was to us as a friend and musician, and we offer our condolences and prayers for peace and comfort to his family.

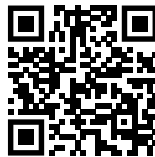
Meet today's worship leaders

Sarah Fuller has been attending Wilshire this year with her son, Rhona, who is 10. Sarah's parents are Wilshire members Cindy and Charlie Fuller. Sarah sings in Sanctuary Choir and attends Odyssey Class.

Raylan Loggins joined Wilshire in 1992 and raised his two adult sons Reagan and Rhys here. Raylan, who is married to Cathy, is a member of Concordia Class and serves on the Finance Committee.

Richard Luttrell joined Wilshire in 2014 and is married to Sally. Richard is a deacon, a member of Epiphany Class and serves on the Building and Grounds Committee and the Hospitality and Funeral ministry teams.

Monica Mullins joined Wilshire in 2015. She is a deacon, plays in Carillon Ringers, sings in Sanctuary Choir and participates in Faith in 3D. Monica works in recruitment and retention at Dallas College.



We're glad you're here. If you're a guest today and would like to let us know, please scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to access our online response card. You can also scan the code to make a financial contribution or submit a prayer request. Response cards and offering envelopes are available in the pew racks and can be placed in the offering plate or offering boxes.

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

- 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
- 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
- Bryant Greer, Building Operations Manager (3146)
- 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)
- Georgia McKee, Pastoral Resident (3152)
- Maggie Morey, Pastoral Resident (3153)

Senior Pastor

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

Spiritual Formation

- Kelly Akins, Minister to Preschoolers (3139)
- Darren DeMent, Associate Pastor (3102)
- Julie Girards, Minister to Children (3104)
- Katie Murray, Minister to Senior Adults (3129)
- Barbara Peterson, Librarian (3114)
- Sarah Yodh, Childcare Coordinator (3130)

Tapestry



News & Announcements
September 8, 2024

Condolences to

- Family and friends on the death of Tom Fletcher, Wilshire Winds member, Aug. 31.
- Family and friends on the death of **Bob Harty**, Sept 5.

Building manager joins staff



Bryant Greer has been hired as Wilshire's building operations manager. He began work at the church on Sept. 5. Bryant has almost 30 years of experience in facilities management and maintenance, including 14 years with the Denver Public Schools.

He has worked for senior living and apartment communities and as an HVAC technician for commercial and residential clients.

Children's choirs start today

Children's Choirs (grades 1-5) begin meeting today for their "fall session," which runs from Sept. 8 to Oct. 6. In this new approach, three sessions of choir will be offered during the school year. Each session will include a few rehearsals followed by a performance. Choirs will meet Sundays from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. after a snack lunch provided by the church. Contact Children's Choir Coordinator Candy McComb (cmccomb@wilshirebc.org) to learn more.



African American history tour is Saturday, Sept. 14

You are invited to join friends from Wilshire and other area churches for a Hidden History DFW tour on Saturday, Sept. 14. The three-hour tour will visit many historic sites that trace the African American experience from the Civil War through the 1960s. You'll learn about the two largest settlements following the Civil War, the role of African Americans in the formation of Deep Ellum and how the southern Dallas migration changed the city forever. Attendees will meet at 9:30 a.m. at Northway Christian Church. The tour ends at 1 p.m. Cost: \$25 per person. Register at wilshirebc.org/events/hidden-history-tour.



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.

Winds resume Monday night

Wilshire Winds will resume rehearsals on Monday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m. in Choral Hall. Brass, woodwind and percussion players are welcome. Contact: Shana Gaines (sgaines@wilshirebc.org).



Register by today for Sept. 13 Marriage Connections

In Marriage Connections, held on select Friday nights at 6:30, free childcare (infant–grade 5) is provided while parents enjoy a short program at the church and then have the rest of the night, until 9:30, to themselves. Registration for childcare is required by Sept. 8; visit wilshirebc.org/events/marriage-connections.

Single, Adoptive and Foster Care Parents Night Out, Sept. 13

Wilshire will offer free childcare (infant–grade 5) for single, adoptive and foster parents on Friday, Sept. 13, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Registration is required and closes Sept. 8; visit wilshirebc.org/events/pno.

Library needs boxes, volunteers

The Wilshire Library needs your help as it prepares for the installation of new shelving.

- Boxes are needed and can be brought to the Library between now and Sept. 14.
- On Saturday, Sept. 14, help is needed to box up books and move them to a classroom for temporary storage.
- As of Sept. 15, the Library's main location will be temporarily closed. The book racks on the third floor and near the Preschool Hall will remain operational, and Librarian Barbara Peterson hopes to open a small temporary location. To learn more or volunteer, contact Barbara at bpeterson@wilshirebc.org.

Deacon nominations sought

The Deacon Nominating Committee asks Wilshire members to submit names of persons to be considered for deacon service. Nominees should be individuals who have modeled consistent, faithful service and leadership and who have been Wilshire members at least one year. You may also nominate deacons in reserve to rotate into active service.

Nominate as many individuals as you wish. New deacons will be ordained and start their three-year terms after being approved at Wilshire's Annual Church Conference in January. The Deacon Nominating Committee appreciates your prayerful consideration.

How to submit nominations:

Online: Scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/deacon-nominations.



Paper Form: Pick up a nomination form in the church office, fill it out and return it to the attention of Chelsea Hopkins.

Deadline: Friday, Sept. 27.

Note: If you have been ordained as a deacon in another church and have not served at Wilshire, please let Chelsea Hopkins know (chopkins@wilshirebc.org).

Poetry workshop begins Sept. 11

Wilshire member and retired English professor Jerry McElveen will lead “Poetry: How to Read and Write This Stuff,” a two-part workshop on Wednesdays, Sept. 11 and 18, at 6 p.m. in Room 1205-G. Come prepared to have an informative and fun time as Jerry pulls back the curtain on this sometimes mysterious and magical form of human expression. “You will learn something,” Jerry says, “and there will be no tests.”

Next Lunch & Learn is Sept. 18



All are invited the first and third Wednesdays every month for a buffet lunch (\$10 ea.) and minister-led Bible study. No RSVP necessary. On Sept. 18, Associate Pastor Darren DeMent will cover

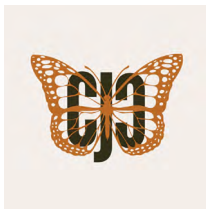
the topic “Samuel: Judge of Prophecy,” based on 1 Samuel 1–12. See the fall schedule at wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn.

Adventurers Fall Kickoff: Sept. 24

James Gallery and the Prayer Garden will be transformed into a state fair for the Wilshire Adventurers’ Fall Kickoff on Tuesday, Sept. 24, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Enjoy midway games, blue ribbon-worthy submissions from your favorite Wilshire artisans, free fair food (corn dogs!) and information about fall Adventurers events. Adventurers is a fellowship group for those 60 and up.

Fellowship Southwest Conference

Wilshire is a sponsor for Fellowship Southwest’s Compassion + Justice Conference, to be held Sept. 20 and 21 at Life in Deep Ellum. Speakers will discuss topics including hunger, native issues, immigration and racial justice. Visit fellowshipsouthwest.org/conference-2024.



Audition for Faith in 3D

Wilshire’s Faith in 3D initiative is creating an original vignette-styled musical for its 2025 production and will hold auditions on Tuesday, Sept. 24.

In Songs and Stories will feature a compilation of songs, predominantly from Broadway musicals, that will not only entertain but also stimulate discussion with the potential to change individuals — and maybe the world.

The show will be performed at Wilshire on Wednesday, March 26, at 6 p.m. and Saturday, March 29, at 2:30 p.m. Director Nancy Poynter is returning for her 11th Faith in 3D production, and Ralph Manuel will serve as musical director. The cast will consist of soloists and storytellers, with everyone as part of the chorus.

The three Ds in Faith in 3D stand for drama, dialogue and dessert. Productions have usually featured a theatrical presentation followed by dessert and a moderated discussion of the show’s themes.

■ To register your interest in auditioning, complete the form at wilshirebc.org/faith-in-3d-auditions by Monday, Sept. 16.



Faith in 3D produced Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible* in 2023.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE SEPTEMBER 11

Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet dinner with kid-friendly options. Cash/check/credit accepted. Prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **Sept. 11:** Sour cream chicken enchiladas, refried beans, Spanish rice, chips and salsa, taco soup, salad, chocoflan, churro cookies and jello. Kids: Taquitos.

Preschool Music & Missions

6 p.m. | Age 3–Pre-K | Preschool choir plus fun activities and lessons focused on God’s love and caring for others.

KidConnect

6 p.m. | K–Grade 5 | A rotation of activities to help kids learn how to love God and others with every part of themselves. Activities include art, music, recreation and more. Kindergartners will have choir as part of KidConnect.

Watershed

6:30 p.m. | Grades 6–12 | Wilshire Student Ministry’s weekly time of Bible study and music in the Youth Center.

Sanctuary Choir

7 p.m. | Choral Hall | New singers are always welcome in our main adult choir. No audition.



Bible Study series

6 p.m. | Community Hall | Have you encountered a Bible story from childhood and thought, “This doesn’t sound the same as an adult”? Have you wondered what the story of Jonah and the whale really means, or why there are two Noah’s ark stories? In this series, Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples and our residents will help us confront these stories with fresh eyes and see them as the cautionary tales they were intended to be, not the tamed down happily-ever-afters we were first taught.

WNL: Virtual Edition

Those who engage with Wilshire primarily online are invited to a minister-led Zoom discussion on Sept. 11 at 6 p.m. Central. The link will be posted at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl-virtual by noon that day. This will be a monthly event.

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

A voter's guide to election season

BY JEANNE SPREIER

Wilshire is a voting congregation. We've learned this from voter registration events we've conducted in the past. Not only are you likely to vote, but you also take the time to research candidates and policies, understanding how they will impact your family and neighbors. As the 2024 election approaches, your commitment to voting is crucial.

But your influence doesn't stop there. As a regular voter, you have the power to inspire others to participate in the democratic process. By encouraging friends, family and coworkers to make a plan to vote, you can help ensure that every voice is heard. Your dedication to informed voting and community engagement can significantly impact the election, amplifying the values we share as a congregation and as citizens.

The information that follows is designed to help you guide new voters as they make their voting plans. For further resources and support, please visit the Christian Advocacy Committee's tables near the main office and in James Gallery today before or after worship.

Why am I getting all this mail?

It's the time of year when half your mail is from some candidate and almost all of their messages are screaming that the world will end if you don't vote for them. Then there are the phone calls and television ads. Sheesh.

Patience, grasshopper. It will all be over on Nov. 5-ish (more about that date later). Here's what you might find interesting:

Campaigns know who you are. If, in Texas, you've always voted for one party over another in primaries, you're one "flavor" of voter. If you switch it up — vote in one party's primary one year, another the next — campaigns label you "persuadable" whether you are or not. You are going to get flooded with "touches" (mail, phone calls, door knocks), and a lot of the mail

and TV ads you get will be driven by your zip code. You may be of a different political persuasion than most of your neighbors, but you'll get candidate mail and ads that look like what they get.

Why do candidates do this? In 2022, more registered Texas voters *did not* vote in the governor's race than voted. In the 2020 presidential election, 67% of registered Texas voters cast a ballot, representing just 52% of the state's voting-age population. Candidates want you to vote.

Want it to stop? Vote early. Campaigns pull early voting records daily and will drop from their call lists people who've already voted. This includes turning in your vote-by-mail ballot.

How to help motivate voters:

The best way to motivate infrequent voters is to knock on their door or call them. Many people find this awkward, but we can all do the moral equivalent: make sure everyone in your circle has a voting plan. That's the tried and tested method to increase turnout. This is the basic script:

You: *I'm going to go early-vote next Wednesday. When are you voting? (Be sure to ask this.)*

Them: *I haven't thought about it.*

You: *Do you want to go with me on Wednesday? I can pick you up.*

Them: *I'm not even sure I'm registered.*

You: *Oh, we can check that right now (at vote.org). Here — check your registration.*

Them: *I guess I am registered.*

You: *Good! Let's go Wednesday and then go out to lunch.*

Them: *Wednesday doesn't work.*

You: *I'm flexible. What about Thursday? (Get them to commit to a day, whether they go with you or not.)*

Research shows that if people commit to vote to a specific person in their circle, they tend to follow through.

If you're voting by mail ...

Fill your ballot out immediately and return it ASAP; either put it in a mailbox or, better yet, drop it off at your county election office.

Here are some startling statistics about mail-in ballots in Texas: In the March 2022 primary, a non-presidential election year, at least 18,000 mail-in votes were rejected in the state's six largest counties. *The Texas Tribune* reported: "The rates of rejections range from 6% to nearly 22% in Bexar County, where almost 4,000 of the more than 18,000 people who returned mail-in ballots saw their votes discarded. In most cases, ballots were rejected for failing to comply with tighter voting rules enacted by Texas legislature in 2021 that require voters to provide their driver's license number or a partial Social Security number to vote by mail."

So who's going to win?

Everyone gets excited about knowing the night of Nov. 5 what election outcomes are, but the presidential race very likely won't be called that evening. Here's why: polls on the West Coast don't close until 9 p.m. Texas time, and six West Coast states — California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington — allow elections to be conducted by mail. It takes longer to count mail-in ballots than in-person ballots, sometimes a lot longer.

This is a fun, exhausting and sometimes challenging time of year. Remember, unless you're a white male landowner over the age of 21, someone fought for your right to vote.

■ *Jeanne Spreier is a Wilshire member and serves as a volunteer deputy registrar.*

Engage further: On the first four Wednesdays in October at 6 p.m., Associate Pastor Heather Mustain and others will lead a series on navigating an election year. More details to come.

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 confidential care from a Stephen Minister, please reach out using our dedicated email address, stephenministry@wilshirebc.org, or call 214-452-3176.

stephen
MINISTRY.

Puerto Rico trip planned for 2025

Wilshire is planning a mission trip to San Juan, Puerto Rico, from Feb. 22 to 28, 2025. This will be our third straight year to serve in San Juan in partnership with First Baptist Church of Rio Piedras. If you're interested in going or have questions, contact Abbey Adcox at aadcox@wilshirebc.org.



Women of Wilshire

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Sept. 10 | 6 p.m. | Parlor | *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Oct. 3 | Noon | 1205-L | *Someone Else's Shoes* by Jojo Moyes. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ Join Women of Wilshire for **mahjong** the first Friday of each month at 10 a.m. Sign up at wilshirebc.org/events/mahjong.

Men's Book Club meets Sept. 17

Wilshire's Men's Book Club will discuss "The Guest," an Albert Camus short story, on Tuesday, Sept. 17, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. The group meets the third Tuesday each month. Contact: Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net).

Wilshire Welcome meets Sept. 22

Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn more about the church, will meet Sunday, Sept. 22, at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near the chapel. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)



HOSPITALITY HINT ☞ *Move to the center of the pew to leave room for guests.*

Children and the Enneagram

Parents, grandparents, teachers and anyone else who works with children will benefit from a special event at Wilshire on Saturday, Nov. 2. Guest speakers Joey and Billy Schewee of the @enneagramparents Instagram account will lead us in exploring how your Enneagram type and that of children in your care inform your engagement and relationships. Prior Enneagram knowledge is not required. The event will be held in Community Hall from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A \$10 per-person cost will cover lunch and snacks. Learn more and register at wilshirebc.org/events/children-enneagram.



Wilshire seeks spiritual formation coordinator

Wilshire is accepting applications for the role of spiritual formation coordinator, a part-time salaried position reporting to Associate Pastor Darren DeMent. Learn more at wilshirebc.org/employment. The role was held by Sarah Yodh, who is now working as childcare coordinator.

Front desk volunteers needed

We are looking for a few volunteers to help in the main office weekly or on a rotational basis. Sunday morning volunteers are needed from 9 to 11 a.m. to greet and assist people and connect them to the appropriate staff member when needed. Volunteers are also needed on Tuesdays from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Contact Geri McKenzie (gmckenzie@wilshirebc.org) to volunteer or learn more.

Subscribe to sermon podcast

Sermons from Timothy Peoples and other Wilshire preachers are available as a weekly audio podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts and other podcast platforms. Search for "Wilshire Baptist Church" on your platform of choice.

David Clanton

Hometown: DeRidder, Louisiana

Present City: Dallas

Education: DeRidder High School; Louisiana Tech, B.A., psychology and English; Southwestern Seminary, M.Div.

Profession: Audiovisual director, Baptist General Convention of Texas; public relations director, Baylor University; designer of Center for Educational Technology, Baylor University; partner in Cross Clanton Cross, Waco; principal in David M. Clanton and Associates; marketing director, Baptist Standard.

Tell us about your family.

Jann and I are retired and have been married for 57 years. We have two grown sons, one living in Washington, D.C., and the other in Houston. We also have three grandchildren.

How about your work or volunteer life?

I have enjoyed working with the Wilshire staff to photograph many events and general pictures that have appeared on the website and in various Wilshire publications. Photography continues to be a fulfilling practice for me. I have a portfolio website at davidclanton.com.

Any favorite hobbies?

Since retiring I have taken classes in drawing and watercolor. I spend a great deal of time in my studio, where I pursue abstract digital photography and watercolor painting. I enjoy taking portraits of people, many of which I use as reference for my watercolor paintings. Digital processes have opened new opportunities for artistic expression. I have also enjoyed study-



ing studio arts, including watercolor and acrylic painting.

Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

I attend Mark Wingfield's Discovery Class online. Mark and I go back several years — we both worked on the *Baptist Standard* staff when Marv Knox was editor.

Tell us about your faith journey.

I've been a Wilshire member for about 16 years. I am in the Fellowship of the Ordained currently. Having worked with Baptists for my entire career, I've traveled widely and have been blessed to experience a wide spectrum of Baptist pastors and denominational workers. Jann and I have been members of several excellent churches in Dallas and Waco. We helped start Church in the Cliff in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas. Today, Jann continues to attend and support a Black women's church in Dallas. Jann is a prolific writer of more than 20 books and hymns, exploring feminine names for God in the Bible.

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

Having deep roots in Louisiana, I have a collection of cookbooks on Cajun and Southern cooking. I love making shrimp-okra gumbo and a pot of red beans and rice when the weather gets cold. I am of the belief these dishes will bless your heart if you let them.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING

Your gifts are changing lives inside and outside our walls. Here are some ways to make a financial contribution to Wilshire.

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 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, Sept. 8

- 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
- Children's Choir, 12:30 p.m.
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2:15 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 9

- Wilshire Winds, Sanctuary, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 10

- Tuesday Evening Book Club, Parlor, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 11

- New Song Kick-off, Parlor, 9 a.m.
- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Adventurers Committee, 1205-G, 1 p.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- WNL: Virtual Edition, Zoom, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- Poetry Workshop, 1205-G, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 12

- Stewpot Meal Service, 11:15 a.m.
- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 13

- Friday Friends, 3301, 10 a.m.
- Childcare for Marriage Connections and Adoptive, Foster and Single Parents Night Out, Preschool Hallway, 6:30 p.m.
- Marriage Connections Program, James Gallery, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 14

- Library Workday, Library, 9 a.m.
- Hidden History Tour, meet at Northway Christian Church, 9:30 a.m.