



**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**October 6, 2024**

*World Communion Sunday*

# Preparing for worship

When I was executive pastor at First Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., we had a set of flags representing the nations of the world. We would place them in hangers above our heads all the way around our sanctuary and leave them up from Pentecost until World Communion Sunday. The many colors and designs were stunning as a contrast to the massive expanse of the high stone walls of the church. They were a sign of welcome to people coming to our nation's capital to visit as well as to our international neighbors who lived nearby and worked at the embassies that dotted the neighborhood.

Today is World Communion Sunday for us here in Texas as well, and as I ponder what that means, I think of those flags. While each one was distinctive, the flags also had much in common. They were made from similar, if not identical, fabric. They were all the same size. They were hung at the exact same angle. While each one was unique, they were more alike than they were different.

World Communion Day is an opportunity for us to view each other across the many ways of being Christian as more alike than different. Some celebrate Communion with plates passed down the row, some by intinction, some

are served by a minister or priest. Some call it Communion, some the Lord's Supper, some the Eucharist. We have different colors, designs and ways of living out the gospel, but the goal of gospel living is the same. We share the spiritual DNA of Jesus.

As the Apostle Paul said in his letter to the church in Ephesus, "I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all" (Ephesians 4:1-6 NRSVue).

As Paul says, today we celebrate ONE communion. Christ's table is not your normal table. As we eat at Christ's table today, we share a table not only with those who surround us in this room, but with others who gather around this same table all around the world.

—Charlie Fuller



4316 Abrams Road | Dallas, Texas 75214 | 214-452-3100 | [wilshirebc.org](http://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:** *Open Table*, Lauren Wright Pittman, 2022. Along with the familiar communion elements and cupped hands ready to receive, this image depicts various plants used to create gluten-free communion bread: buckwheat, rice, amaranth, quinoa, millet and sorghum. The artist writes, "This image represents Christ's ever expanding welcome, as well as the abundance of resources that are available for us to create more open and welcome spaces for everyone to participate in worship and the sacraments."

**October 6, 2024**  
11:00 a.m.  
World Communion Sunday

**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**

Heather Mustain

**Prelude**

*Präludium in C Major, BuxWV 137*  
Katherine Pottkotter, organ

Dieterich Buxtehude

**Opening Sentences**

Mike Korson

Leader: The whole world is in God's hands.

**People: Everything that lives and breathes.  
Everything that simply is. Everything.**

Leader: From the farthest spaces, to the inmost places!

**People: God is with us and we are with God. Alleluia!**

Leader: As people of Christ, gathered at table,  
with our sisters and brothers around the world,  
to remember whose we are, we praise —

**People: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

Leader: Shall we pray?  
With all that we have, with all that we are,  
we worship you, God-of-all-Being.  
Bless this day. Bless this time. Bless this gathering.  
Bless this world, with your overflowing love. Alleluia!

---

+All congregants are invited to stand in body or spirit.  
Hearing devices are available in the Narthex and South Atrium.

Call to Worship

O Sing a New Song to the Lord

David L. Ray

Children's Choir

Candy McComb, director; Bill Jernberg, piano

O sing a new song to the Lord our God. Lift your voices and sing in praise to the King.

O sing a new song to the Lord our God. Shout glory to all the earth.

The Lord is great and highly praised. Proclaim his goodness from day to day.

Let the whole earth praise his name!

Sing a new song to the Lord! O sing a new song to the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord our God. Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice.

O sing a new song to the Lord our God. Creation will celebrate.

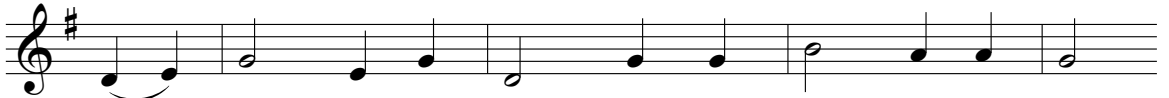
+Congregational Song

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION/arr. Trenney



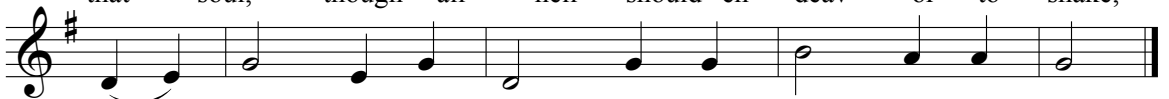
All 1. How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
 High 2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
 Low 3. "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
 All 4. "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
 All 5. "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,



is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
 my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
 I will not desert to thy foes;



What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
 I'll strength-en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on-ly de-sign shake,  
 that soul, though all hell should endeavor to



to you who for refuge to Je-sus have fled?  
 up-held by my right-teous, om-nip-otent hand.  
 and sanc-ti-fy to thee, thy deep-est dis-tress.  
 thy dress to consume, and thy gold to re-fine.  
 I'll never, no, nev-er, no, nev-er for-sake."

Establish justice for me, LORD, because I have walked with integrity. I've trusted the LORD without wavering. Examine me, LORD; put me to the test! Purify my mind and my heart. Because your faithful love is right in front of me — I walk in your truth! I don't spend time with people up to no good; I don't keep company with liars. I detest the company of evildoers, and I don't sit with wicked people. I wash my hands — they are innocent! I walk all around your altar, LORD, proclaiming out loud my thanks, declaring all your wonderful deeds! I love the beauty of your house, LORD; I love the place where your glory resides. Don't gather me up with the sinners, taking my life along with violent people in whose hands are evil schemes, whose strong hands are full of bribes. But me? I walk with integrity. Save me! Have mercy on me! My feet now stand on level ground. I will bless the LORD in the great congregation.

**Prayers of the People**

Georgia McKee

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,  
**All: Hear our prayers.**

**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.**

**Offertory**

*Here I Am, Lord*  
 Sanctuary Choir  
 Abigail Garner, flute

arr. Craig Courtney

For the text to this anthem, please see no. 482 in the hymnal.

**+Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures — Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12**

Carolyn Murray

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days God has spoken to us by a Son, whom God appointed heir of all things, through whom God also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ... Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, "What are humans that you are mindful of them or mortals that you care for them? You have

made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet.” Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

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

**Message** “He is Exalted” Timothy Peoples

**Celebration of the Lord’s Supper** Timothy Peoples

All followers of Christ are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper, whether you are a Wilshire member or not. The bread used this morning is gluten free.

**Passing of the Bread** *One Bread, One Body* ONE BREAD, ONE BODY  
 All join in singing printed refrain as invited.

1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more.
2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all.
3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one, for all.

One bread, one bod - y, one Lord of all,  
 one cup of bless - ing which we bless. And we, though man - y,  
 through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

## Passing of the Cup

*At the Table*  
Ariel Merivil, solo

Benjamin Brody

At the table, all are equal, all approach the feast as guest.  
None sit in the seat of honor; at the table, none are best.  
At the table, none go hungry, none must steal or beg for bread.  
All receive from God's abundance; at the table, all are fed.  
At the table, all are cherished, all are sought at any cost, none abandoned or forsaken,  
At the table, none are lost.  
At the table, none are finished, none sit selfishly content.  
All are called to love in service; from the table, all are sent.

## Passing of the Peace

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## +Congregational Song

*I Love to Tell the Story*  
No. 581

HANKEY

## Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

## Benediction

Timothy Peoples

## Postlude

*How Firm a Foundation*

arr. Carolyn Hamlin



**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.

---

Scripture quotations: 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. Common English Bible © 2011 Common English Bible. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CommonEnglishBible.com. Music reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under One License #A-739361. All rights reserved. *Here I Am, Lord* ©1993 Beckenhorst Press. *O Sing a New Song to the Lord* ©2024 Celebrating Grace Music. *At the Table* ©2024 GIA Publications. *How Firm a Foundation* ©2020 Birnamwood Publications. *One Bread, One Body* ©1978 John B. Foley, SJ.

# Meet today's worship leaders

**Mike Korson** and his wife, Teri, joined Wilshire in 2017 and are members of Epiphany Class, where Mike is one of the teachers. Mike sings in Sanctuary Choir, serves on the Building and Grounds Committee and participated in Faith in 3D this year. He is retired from a career in engineering and now spends his time volunteering in the community. Mike and Teri have three adult children.

**Carolyn Murray** grew up at Wilshire. Her parents are Bob and Charlene Law. Carolyn is mother to an adult son, Mason, who lives in Australia, and Lucy Kate, a sophomore at Santa Clara University. As Wilshire's coordinator of congregational life, Carolyn works to welcome guests and engage members in the life of the church. She directs Journey Class and serves as staff liaison to MomCo (formerly MOPS) and the Committee on Committees.

**Katherine Pottkotter** is the daughter of Kurt and Amy Pottkotter and sister to Joshua and Audrey. The family joined Wilshire in 2019. Katherine is a junior at Lake Highlands High School and has sung in the Texas All State Choir, the Greater Dallas Choral Society and the Dallas Opera Chorus. She sings in Youth Choir and Shekinah and is active in Wilshire Student Ministry. Katherine has studied organ with Jeff Brummel for two years.

**Kit Sloan** and her husband, Weldon, joined Wilshire in 2022 and recently returned after a brief time living in Austin. Their daughter, Betty Ann, is 2. The Sloans are members of Ithaka Class, and Kit teaches Kindergarten Sunday School and serves on the Weekday Education Committee. She works as a technical trainer at the law firm Kirkland & Ellis.



# 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)

# Tapestry



News & Announcements  
October 6, 2024

## Congratulations to

- Robyn and Joshua Huff and big brother William on the birth of Benjamin George, Sept. 19.
- Andrew and Braden Bowles on the birth of Theodore Jack, Sept. 26.

## Register by today for Oct. 11 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 Oct. 6; visit [wilshirebc.org/events/marriage-connections](http://wilshirebc.org/events/marriage-connections).

## Single, Adoptive and Foster Care Parents Night Out is Oct. 11

Wilshire will offer free childcare (infant–grade 5) for single, adoptive and foster parents on Friday, Oct. 11, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Registration is required and closes today, Oct. 6; visit [wilshirebc.org/events/pno](http://wilshirebc.org/events/pno).

## Preschool Playtime at the Park



Preschool families are invited to a Playtime at the Park on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Flag Pole Hill Park (8015 Doran Cir.). This event will be a fun time for families to get to know each other and new Minister to Preschoolers Kelly Akins.

## Rob Lee preaches next Sunday



Pastor, author and public theologian Dr. Rob Lee will preach at Wilshire next Sunday, Oct. 13. As a collateral descendant of Confederate General Robert E. Lee, Rob has been active at the intersection of faith and the public square since the 2017 protests in Charlottesville, Virginia. In 2020 he testified before Congress regarding Confederate monuments, and he has appeared on MTV, MSNBC, ABC, NBC, CNN and NPR. Raised Methodist, Rob was ordained in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and holds standing in the American Baptist Churches. He has preached at Harvard's Memorial Church, the University of Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel, Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Boston's Old North Church and the American Cathedral in Paris.

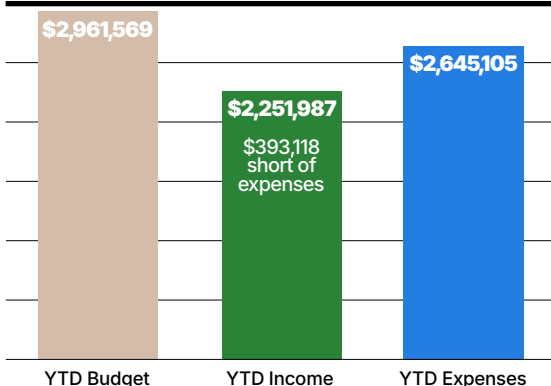
## We're hiring

Wilshire is accepting applications for the role of spiritual formation coordinator, a part-time salaried position reporting to Associate Pastor Darren DeMent. Learn more about the job at [wilshirebc.org/employment](http://wilshirebc.org/employment).



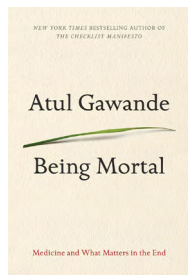
**Sundays:** Worship at 11 a.m. Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Our service livestreams at [youtube.com/wilshirebaptist](http://youtube.com/wilshirebaptist) and at [wilshirebc.org/worship/livestream](http://wilshirebc.org/worship/livestream). Keep up with Wilshire by subscribing to our YouTube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

## Unified Budget Update



Pathways Endowment YTD gifts.....\$35,539  
 Pathways Endowment Sept. balance.....\$10,353,504

## Men's Book Club



Wilshire's Men's Book Club will discuss *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande on Tuesday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. The group meets the third Tuesday each month. Contact: Scott Spreier ([swspreier@gmail.com](mailto:swspreier@gmail.com)) or Mike Meripolski ([meripolski@att.net](mailto:meripolski@att.net)).

## Women of Wilshire

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** will meet for dinner on Tuesday, Oct. 22, at 6 p.m. at Campisi's (5405 W. Lovers Lane).

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Nov. 12 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. Contact: Debby Burton ([dburton@wilshirebc.org](mailto:dburton@wilshirebc.org))

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Nov. 7 | Noon | 1205-L | *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. Contact: Carolyn Murray ([cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto: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](http://wilshirebc.org/events/mahjong).



## The Sacred Art of Ethiopia

Wilshire's latest art exhibit, *The Sacred Art of Ethiopia*, will be on display in the South Lobby through Nov. 17. With works including processional crosses, folding icons and paintings on biblical themes, especially the life of Jesus, the show celebrates the rich artistic heritage of one of the world's oldest Christian civilizations.



Joey & Billy Schewee  
 @enneagramparents

## Children and the Enneagram

Anyone who engages with children will benefit from this event at Wilshire on Saturday, Nov. 2. Joey and Billy Schewee (@enneagramparents on Instagram) will explore how your Enneagram type and that of children in your care inform your relationships. Prior 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. Register at [wilshirebc.org/events/children-enneagram](http://wilshirebc.org/events/children-enneagram).

## Documentary film screening



Join Wilshire, First Presbyterian Church of Dallas and the Thanks-Giving Foundation for a film screening on Thursday, Oct. 10, at 6:30 p.m. in Emmanuel Hall at First Pres. *Join or Die*

is a documentary about why you should join a club — and why the fate of America depends on it. Follow the story of America's civic unraveling through the journey of *Bowling Alone* author Robert Putnam, whose research into American community decline may hold the answers to our democracy's present crisis. To watch the trailer and reserve a spot, visit <https://bit.ly/3Bi6q90>.

## Vidas Robadas email updates



Texas Impact has started a weekly email newsletter to give updates on its *Vidas Robadas* (*Stolen Lives*) gun violence awareness and prevention campaign. Wilshire participated in the effort this year by making and displaying T-shirts to memorialize gun violence victims. To sign up for the emails, scan the code or visit <https://bit.ly/3NinIG1>.

## Front desk volunteers needed

Wilshire is looking for a few volunteers to help in the main office on Sunday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. The only responsibility is to greet and assist people and connect them to a staff member when needed. Volunteers could serve weekly or in rotation with others. Contact Geri McKenzie ([gmckenzie@wilshirebc.org](mailto:gmckenzie@wilshirebc.org)) to volunteer or learn more.



**HOSPITALITY HINT** ☞ *Look for guests before and after worship.*



## CenterPeace conference

Wilshire will host the 2024 CenterPeace Conference, a warm-hearted gathering of LGBTQ+ Christians, their churches and families, from Thursday, Oct. 24, through Saturday, Oct. 26. The conference will feature speakers, worship leaders and storytellers exploring topics related to faith and sexuality. Wilshire's George Mason will lead a pre-conference workshop for pastors and church leaders, and there will also be a post-conference workshop for parents of LGBTQ+ individuals. Wilshire member Sally Gary is executive director of CenterPeace. Register at [centerpeace.net/conference-2024](https://centerpeace.net/conference-2024).

## Next Lunch & Learn is Oct. 16



All are invited the first and third Wednesdays every month for lunch (\$10 ea.) and Bible study. On Oct. 16, Pastoral Resident Georgia McKee will teach on 1 Samuel 16-20. See the fall schedule at [wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn](https://wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn).

## For new members and guests

Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn more about the church, will meet Sunday, Oct. 27, at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near the chapel. Contact: Carolyn Murray ([cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE OCTOBER 9

## Koinonia Café

**5 p.m. | Community Hall** | Buffet dinner with kid-friendly options. Cash/check/credit accepted. Prices at [wilshirebc.org/events/wnl](http://wilshirebc.org/events/wnl).  
**Oct. 9:** Build your own burger, Tater Tots, cheeseburger soup, salad, strawberry cake, cookies, jello. **Kids:** Kids' burgers and tots.

## 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.

## Two 6 p.m. options in October



■ **Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23** | **Children's Stories All Grown Up** continues in Community Hall. Have you encountered a Bible story from childhood and thought, “This doesn't sound the same

as an adult”? In this series, Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples and our residents will help us see these stories with fresh eyes as the cautionary tales they were intended to be.

■ **Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23** | **Navigating the Election** Led by Associate Pastor Heather Mustain and meeting in the Parlor, this series will focus on building community, offering ways we can find hope and love during this tumultuous season and beyond.



## WNL: Virtual Edition this week

Those who engage with Wilshire primarily online are invited to a Zoom discussion hosted by Pathways to Ministry Director Charlie Fuller on Oct. 9 at 6 p.m. Central. The Zoom link will be posted at [wilshirebc.org/events/wnl-virtual](http://wilshirebc.org/events/wnl-virtual) closer to the event.

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

# 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](mailto:stephenministry@wilshirebc.org), or call 214-452-3176.

stephen  
MINISTRY®

## Library closed for renovations

The Library's main location on the first floor is temporarily closed for renovation. The book racks on the third floor and near the Preschool Hall, both with self-checkout, are operational.

## Puerto Rico trip planned

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](mailto:aadcox@wilshirebc.org).

## 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.

## Adam's Baskets

Wilshire's Adam's Baskets ministry was created in memory of Adam Malcik and provides a way for members to assist in keeping our food pantry stocked. Our small pantry meets immediate needs when a neighbor stops by the office for assistance. Proteins, peanut butter and pop-top canned goods are most needed. Non-perishable food items are collected on the second Sunday of each month from the wicker baskets located around the church. You can place nonperishable items in a basket at any time.

## Next Blood Drive is Oct. 30



Carter BloodCare will be at Wilshire from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 30. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are recommended. Scan the QR code or visit [wilshirebc.org/events/blood-drive](http://wilshirebc.org/events/blood-drive) to sign up for an appointment.

# Linda Sacco

**Hometown:** McAlester, Oklahoma

**Present city:** Richardson

**Education:** Baylor University

**Profession:** Retired foreign missionary, childbirth educator, birth and postpartum doula

## **Tell us about your family.**

I was born in Tulsa but grew up in McAlester with a sister and brother. I have five children and 10 grandchildren. My son, Paul Sacco, daughter, Annika Sacco, and their families go to Wilshire.

## **Where are you engaged at Wilshire?**

I'm a MomCo mentor mom, a New Song member and I help in Friday Friends. I led small groups in DivorceCare at my previous church.

## **What are your favorite hobbies?**

I enjoy knitting while watching TV or listening to podcasts.

## **Where is your favorite place to travel?**

As a missionary I lived in Beirut, Lebanon, Cyprus and Poland. I also spent a year in Paris. I'd love to revisit these places, but now I'm enjoying my sons and daughter as well as a son-in-law and daughter-in-law and six grandkids here, my daughter and her husband and three grandkids in Waco, and my youngest son and wife with one four-year-old in Austin.

## **What brought you to Wilshire?**

I wanted to find a church with unconditional love for everyone. I found that here and feel like I have a church home now.



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

Teaching me new ways to love and be involved as a witness to God's love and guidance in my life.

## **Tell us about your faith journey.**

I grew up with parents very active in church, and at our family reunions we sang hymns and shared what God was doing in our lives. I have a memory at 8 years old of hearing that God was the light in darkness that would lead me out of darkness throughout my life. I put my life in God's hands then. I knew God had planned something special for me, but never thought it would be in foreign missions. In spite of many hard circumstances, God has come through for me at every step. I realized while living overseas that Jesus only gave us one command: to love God with all your heart and to love your neighbor the same. That helped me stop listening to rules and judgments and accept every person, loving them for who they are now and not for who I think they should be.

## **What's something interesting most people wouldn't know about you?**

I lived in Beirut during the war there and was evacuated to Cyprus several times by car, by ship and with the Marines by helicopter and ship.

## **What adjectives best describe you?**

Calm, caring, a good listener.

# 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](http://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/realml](http://wilshirebc.org/realml).

**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, Oct. 6

- The Sacred Art of Ethiopia, South Lobby
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Deacon Nominating Committee, 1205-G, noon
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2:15 p.m.

## Monday, Oct. 7

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

## Tuesday, Oct. 8

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

## Wednesday, Oct. 9

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Adventurers Committee, 1205-G, 1 p.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Bylaws Deacon Workgroup, 1205-L, 5 p.m.
- WNL: Virtual Edition, Zoom, 6 p.m.
- Committee on Committees, 1205-G, 6 p.m.
- Navigating the Election, Parlor, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Adult Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

## Thursday, Oct. 10

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

## Friday, Oct. 11

- Friday Friends, 3301, 10 a.m.
- Memorial Service for Pat Tilley, McIver Chapel, 2 p.m.
- Marriage Connections, James Gallery, 6:30 p.m.

## Saturday, Oct. 12

- Preschool Playtime at the Park, Flag Pole Hill Park, 9:30 a.m.
- Memorial Service for Suzanne Cobelle, McIver Chapel, 11 a.m.