

Preparing for worship

As we gather for worship today, we prepare our hearts for a week steeped in tension and possibility. Tomorrow, two significant moments will unfold: the inauguration of a president and the observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. These events call us to reflect on both the struggles and hopes of our shared life, and to consider what it means to live as people of faith in such a time as this.

I am reminded of the words Amanda Gorman shared at the last inauguration in her poem titled “The Hill We Climb”:

*Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true.
That even as we grieved, we grew.
That even as we hurt, we hoped;
That even as we tired, we tried;
That we'll forever be tied together, victorious...
For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to see it
If only we're brave enough to be it*

Pause for a moment. Read those words again. Notice the rhythm, the pauses and the transitions — the way they hold both struggle and possibility.

These spaces of the in-between are spaces we Christians know well, because they're the

very spaces God calls us to inhabit. Resurrection, forgiveness, repentance, transformation — these are not instant; they are processes that unfold in the tension between what is and what could be.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. knew how to live in those spaces. He stood in the gap between the “already” and the “not-yet.” He refused to accept the world as it was and dared to dream of the world as it could be. Even in the face of hatred, violence and fear, he pressed forward with faith, hope and love.

Maybe you've come here today carrying your own fear for the future. Maybe you feel stuck in the “what is.” But let me tell you, Wilshire, we serve a God who specializes in the in-between. We are called to the same sacred work as Dr. King — to stand in the tension, to step boldly into the struggle and to be instruments of God's transformation.

So as we gather for worship today, let us come with open hearts and listening ears, ready to hear the voice of God, so that we might be brave enough to press forward in the “not-yet,” knowing that God is already there leading us forward.

—Georgia McKee



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: *Fruits of the Holy Spirit*, Carla Quigley (Etsy: CarlaQuigleyArt). The artist writes: “In the center of this painting I placed a white dove to represent the Holy Spirit. Surrounding the dove are the flames of the Holy Spirit as Scripture tells us it descended on the day of Pentecost. Beautiful colors and shapes radiate out from this center, just as our good works ripple out from us and create beauty and God's goodness in the world. The words love, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control — the fruits of the Holy Spirit — are hidden in the border around the painting's edge.”

January 19, 2025
11:00 a.m.
Second Sunday after Epiphany

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

Carolyn Murray

Prelude

How Great Thou Art

arr. Dan Miller

+Congregational Song

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
No. 48

FAITHFULNESS

+Call to Worship

Rob Roden

Leader: We gather to worship God,
People: Who creates us and loves us;

Leader: Who gifts us with diversity and makes us for community;
People: Who gives us Jesus Christ to show us how to live;

Leader: Who inspires children, youth, young adults, and people of all ages,
People: To seek justice, share power and live together in love and equality;

Leader: Who invites us to join the struggle for wholeness and well-being for all,
People: And whose presence, grace and love sustain us in our living.

Leader: We gather to worship God.
All: To God be all glory, honor and praise!

+Response in Song

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

MANNA

**There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know that it's the presence of the Lord.**

**Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet Heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us filling us with your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,
when we shall leave this place.**

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

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. You know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Offertory

Goodness of God

Jenn Johnson

Joslyn Henderson, Taryn Beard, Sarah Navy, Ariel Merivil
Stephen Newby, piano

I love you, Lord.
For your mercy never fails me.
All my days, I've been held in your hands.
From the moment that I wake up, until I lay my head,
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

All my life you have been faithful.
And all my life you have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able,
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love your voice,
You have led me through the fire.
In darkest night you are close like no other.
I've known you as a father,
I've known you as a friend,
And I have lived in the goodness of God.

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now,
I give you everything.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.

For Zion's sake I won't keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I won't sit still
until her righteousness shines out like a light,
and her salvation blazes like a torch.
Nations will see your righteousness,
all kings your glory.
You will be called by a new name,
which the LORD's own mouth will determine.
You will be a splendid garland in the LORD's hand,
a royal turban in the palm of God's hand.
You will no longer be called Abandoned,
and your land will no longer be called Deserted.
Instead, you will be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land, Married.
Because the LORD delights in you,
your land will be cared for once again.

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

They'll Know We Are Christians
No. 272

ST. BRENDANS

Message

“Silence is a Dangerous Thing”

Timothy Peoples

Anthem

Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Sanctuary Choir
Joslyn Henderson, soloist
Stephen Newby, piano

Thomas Dorsey/arr. Merivill

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light,
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near;
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall;
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone;
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand;
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

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

Soon and Very Soon

SOON AND VERY SOON

No. 562

After the final stanza, repeat stanza 1.

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

Postlude

Be Strong in the Lord

arr. Ron Boud

The flowers today are given in memory of Arnold Peterson
and in celebration of his birthday by his family;
and in memory of E. Maxey Abernathy by Carole Jean Abernathy and
Paula, Jason, Garrett and Kathryn Woodbury and Sher Moo Ku.



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.

Meet today's worship leaders

Taryn Beard recently graduated with her Bachelor's of Music in music education from Southern Methodist University. She is currently student teaching at two DFW schools to complete her teaching certification. This is Taryn's second academic year as a Wilshire choral scholar.

Joslyn Henderson is a Spelman College alumna with a Bachelor of Arts in music and a celebrated gospel singer and worship leader. She merges her performing ministry with expertise in Black sacred music, bringing her passion for music and ministry into the classroom as a middle school music teacher at Ingenuity Prep Public Charter School in Washington, D.C. Joslyn holds a Master of Divinity and a Master of Music in church music from Baylor University. She is also a Lovelace Scholar and Deborah Carlton Loftis Ambassador of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, where she leads workshops on Black hymnody.

Amy Lee joined Wilshire in 2003. She is married to Thomas, and they are the parents of Hamilton, a second grader, and Eleanor, who is 3. Amy plays French horn in Wilshire Winds, directs the Kindergarten Choir and attends Odyssey Class. She works as manager of community outreach at Ryan, a tax services firm.

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 and the Belong Team.

Sarah Navy is in her third year as a Wilshire choral scholar. A Houston native, she is a student at SMU's Meadows School of the Arts, where she earned a master's degree in voice performance in 2024 and is now pursuing a performance diploma. Sarah is also in her third year performing as an Education Outreach Artist with the Dallas Opera.

Stephen Newby serves as the Lev H. Prichard III Endowed Chair in the Study of Black Worship and Professor of Music at Baylor University, where he also works with the Black Gospel Music Preservation Program. A Detroit native, Stephen holds degrees in vocal music education, jazz composition and theology, along with a doctorate in music composition. He has over 35 years of experience in church music ministry and is a celebrated composer and conductor.

Rob Roden has been a Wilshire member since 1998. He and his wife, Michelle, attend Journey Class and have two adult children, Henry and Emma. Rob is a deacon, serves on the Personnel Committee and is a member of the Lord's Supper and Hospitality Ministry Teams. He works as an executive recruiter at PwC.

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

- Haley Garcia, Food Service Director (3117)
- Luke Munion, 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)
- Becky Bridges, Spiritual Formation Coordinator (3130)
- 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
January 19, 2025

Rise[®] AGAINST HUNGER MLK Day Meal Packing

Monday, Jan. 20
10 a.m.–Noon | Community Hall

Join us on the MLK Day holiday, Monday, Jan. 20, as we partner with Rise Against Hunger to pack healthy meals for those in need. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to noon in Community Hall.

This project is for everyone and includes ways to serve while seated. Children are a great help collecting completed bags with help from a parent.

Rise Against Hunger's mission is to create immediate, long-term solutions to hunger by

building resilience, self-sufficiency and empowerment in communities worldwide.

Everyone will need to register and complete a waiver either in advance (preferred) or upon arrival. Visit events.riseagainsthunger.org/wilshirebaptistchurch2025 or scan the QR code to get signed up.

Volunteers are also needed for set up and clean up. Contact Abbey Adcox if you can help (aadcox@wilshirebc.org).



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.

Condolences to

Laurie Diffie on the death of her husband, **Michael Diffie**, Jan. 10.

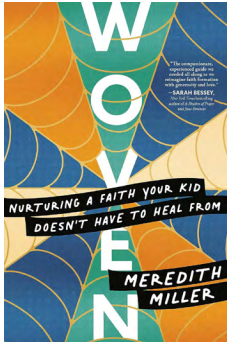
New deacons recommended

The Deacon Nominating Committee has recommended seven Wilshire members to be ordained as new deacons: Jane Alloway, Jessica Brookshire, Cindy Estee, Shana Gaines, Kathryn Keller, Raylan Loggins and Michael Shepard. Seven deacons were recommended to return to active service: Chris Adcox, David Duncan, Jeff Hampton, Gabe Leal, Suzy McLaughlin, John Parnell and Debbie Rampey. Recommendations will be voted on at the Annual Church Conference on Jan. 26, and new deacons will be ordained on Feb. 2.

2025 deacon officers

Deacon officers for 2025 will be: Gina Ortegon, chair; Rhonda Walton, chair-elect; Kile Brown, vice-chair.

Parent series offered on Sundays and Wednesdays

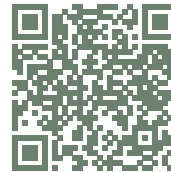


Nurturing faith in kids will be the topic of a series for parents on Sunday mornings from Jan. 26 to March 2 (except Feb. 9). Minister to Children Julie Girards will lead a discussion of the book *Woven: Nurturing a Faith Your Kid Doesn't Have to Heal From* by Meredith Miller. The series will meet

Sundays from 10 to 10:40 a.m. in Room 3208 (Labyrinth Class). Check in with your regular class and then join us. The five sessions will also be offered Wednesdays from Jan. 29 to Feb. 26 at 6:05 p.m. in Room 2230.



Make plans to attend our Annual Church Conference in Community Hall after worship on Sunday, Jan. 26. We'll adopt a budget, elect deacons and committees and hear updates about the church from Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples and others. Lunch will be provided.



Visit wilshirebc.org/events/church-conference for:

Packet of conference materials.

Zoom information. Only in-person attendees will be able to vote.

Childcare registration (due Jan. 22).

Weekly Witness podcast

With the Texas legislative session underway, now is a great time to subscribe to the *Weekly Witness* podcast produced by advocacy agency Texas Impact. The podcast is a way for Texans of faith to learn about important public policy issues through a faith lens and find out timely opportunities to participate in the public policy process. Find out more at texasimpact.org/weekly-witness-podcast-2023.

Men's Book Club meets Jan. 21

Wilshire's Men's Book Club will discuss James Baldwin's novel *Go Tell It on the Mountain* on Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. Contact: Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net)

Women of Wilshire Book Clubs

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Feb. 6 | Noon | 1205-L | *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Feb. 11 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *Washington Square* by Henry James. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

Souper Bowl of Caring is Feb. 9

The annual Souper Bowl of Caring, benefiting the Phil Strickland Hunger Offering, will be held Sunday, Feb. 9, at noon in Community Hall. Join us after worship for soup and all the fixings and donate an amount equal to what you would spend at a nice restaurant for lunch. This year's beneficiaries are Together for Hope and Wilshire's Rental and Utility Assistance Program. Together for Hope is engaged in the 338 counties of persistent rural poverty in America, holistically focusing on four priorities of hope: education, health and nutrition, housing and environment, and social enterprise. Wilshire's Rental and Utility Assistance Program, launched last year with Missions Plus funds, provides crucial one-month support to help local families bridge financial gaps.

MINISTRY TEAMS. SERVE ON YOUR SCHEDULE.

Are you good with receiving an email asking if you are available to serve? If yes, then you're a candidate for any of the fabulous Ministry Teams at Wilshire. They're a great way to get plugged into the life of our church — based on your availability.

For example, the Hospitality Ministry Team email is sent each Monday looking for greeters and ushers for upcoming Sundays. Select the dates and times that work for you! The Funeral Ministry Team will send emails on an as-needed basis.

Wilshire's Ministry Teams will be featured at our Ministry Team Expo next Sunday, Jan. 26, from 9 to 11 a.m. in James Gallery. Come through before or after Sunday School. If you can't make it to the Expo, email Carolyn Murray or complete our online form at wilshirebc.org/serve/serve-at-wilshire.

Ministry Team Expo
Sunday, Jan. 26
9–11 a.m.
James Gallery

Wilshire adopts Godly Play curriculum

BY KELLY AKINS, MINISTER TO PRESCHOOLERS

Today is the first Sunday of ordinary time in the liturgical calendar, and the paraments are green. In the preschool area, we are introducing a new curriculum for our older preschoolers called Godly Play, which centers around the church year. Green was referred to as a “growing time” in our training, and this was a new way to think about ordinary time for me. You can always learn something new!

We have been given commandments from God regarding children in Deuteronomy 6:6-7: “These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (NIV).

In the book *Children’s Ministry and the Spiritual Child*, Karen Middleton has a chapter called “Why Spiritual Nurture of Young Children Matters” that defines our role as parents and a congregation regarding children: “Seizing the opportunity of very young children’s spiritual capacity, parents and the church are called to spiritually nurture children from their earliest days so they may encounter the living God and set them on a trajectory of lifelong faith.”

When we have family dedications at Wilshire, we promise to help parents raise their children, love them and teach them. We have our marching orders, and now the work begins. If anybody wants to volunteer, we have positions open in both the preschool and children’s areas!

We are excited to begin Godly Play, which was developed by Jerome Berryman in the 1970s. It is Montessori-based, has been researched extensively and is developmentally appropriate. Children have already experienced the presence of the mystery of God, but they need the appropriate language to identify, name, value and express what it means. Godly Play aims to give children the language and invite them to partic-

ipate meaningfully in worship. We also model how to wonder. The ability to contemplate is the foundation of wonder, which opens the creative process, which in turns gives us life.

In Godly Play, there is a doorkeeper who sits at the threshold and asks, “Are you ready?” The storyteller sits in the circle and greets the children before beginning the story. Materials are sturdy, well made, kid-friendly and hands-on. So that the children can focus on the story rather than the teller, the storyteller learns to tell the story by heart. This shows the children that the teller loves the story.

There are four genres of Godly Play. The Sacred Stories come mostly from the Old Testament but also include the annunciation and transfiguration. In these stories, God is the main character, and the people meet God’s elusive presence. We are telling the story so children can become the story. The Parables are the timeless quality of Jesus’ words to us. We enter with wonder to live the questions. The Liturgical Action stories are marking life, time and space so that children can know the Holy. They allow others to participate, involving action and all the senses. Children need meaning and companions to share their faith journey. These lessons show them why we do what we do and how we do it. The Language of Silence refers to quiet times for contemplation. We find comfort with silence and an assumption that silence is not empty, but full.

We started the church year with Advent and great anticipation as we waited with hope, peace, love and joy for the coming of the baby. Next came the mystery of Christmas, followed by Epiphany. As we enter ordinary time, think about these wonderings. I wonder where you see yourself during this time. I wonder what will happen during this growing season. I wonder how things will change as you grow. I wonder who you will touch during this season of growth.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE JANUARY 22

Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet dinner. Cash/check/credit accepted. See prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **Jan. 22:** Roasted lemon chicken, orzo with feta and black olives, spanakopita, hummus and pita, vegetable soup, salad, orange cake, cookies, jello
Kids: Chicken nuggets, 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.

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

6 p.m. | Jan. 8, 15, 22 | Community Hall | As we move from Christmas, we move our focus to a different character in the story, one who came in a prophetic manner to prepare a way for the Lord. Not much is known about John the Baptist, but we’ll dive deeper into his life and legacy — his birth, calling and even death.

Vespers on Jan. 29

Wilshire’s pastoral residents will lead a Vespers service on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 6 p.m. in McIver Chapel.

WNL: Virtual Edition on Feb. 12

Those who engage with Wilshire mainly online are invited to a monthly Zoom session hosted by a staff member. Minister of Music Ariel Merivil will host the next meeting on Feb. 12 at 5:30 p.m. Central. Find the link at 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.

Coaching with Charlie Fuller

Wilshire offers a variety of caring ministries, including Stephen Ministry and Care Teams. You can also find the Grief and Loss Center of North Texas and the Center for Integrative Counseling and Psychology under our roof. Along with these resources, Coach in Residence Charlie Fuller is available for free coaching conversations with Wilshire members or friends of Wilshire. Curious about coaching? Coaching is for people who want to:

- become more confident and self-reliant
- establish and follow through on goals
- enhance their relationships
- better handle conflict
- gain better professional satisfaction
- become more fulfilled in their personal life
- think more effectively
- improve their time management
- achieve better work-life balance
- boost their job performance
- increase their effectiveness

You can learn more about coaching at Charlie's website, charliefuller.com. If you're interested in exploring coaching, contact Charlie at cfuller@wilshirebc.org.

Foundations of Faith 2025 plans

The Foundations of Faith Sunday School Class will spend 2025 exploring themes of the Bible such as creation, suffering, struggle, liberation and wisdom — among others. The class will also examine the formation of the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament. Theologian Charles Spurgeon said, "Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years." Consider joining Foundations for part or all of this year as they go wide and deep in exploring the ideas found in God's Word.



Auction items needed

The annual Youth Choir Spaghetti Lunch and Silent Auction will be held Sunday, March 2, in Community Hall after worship. This event will help fund the choir's summer mission tour to Chicago to sing, serve and sightsee. If you'd like to donate items or services to the silent auction, contact Sara Tinsley at saratinsley1@yahoo.com. Suggestions include restaurant gift cards, new household items, sporting equipment and event tickets. Professional services make great donation items, so if you're a musician, tutor, photographer, baker, designer, accountant or have a service to provide, consider donating a gift certificate of your time or service. Donations are kindly requested by Sunday, Feb. 16.

Next Lunch & Learn is Feb. 5



All are invited to Community Hall the first and third Wednesdays every month for lunch (\$10 ea.) and Bible study. Associate Pastor Heather Mustain will teach on Feb. 5. See the schedule

at wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn.

Trish Willingham

Hometown: Stafford, Kansas

Present City: Dallas

Education: Southwestern College,
University of Kansas

Tell us about your family.

Born in 1946, I grew up on a farm in Kansas. Our family was very active in our country North American Baptist Church. My Canadian mother, Helen Bertha Weisser, met and married my father, Otto Kurt Mueller, while visiting her brother, the minister of our church. The farming families were all of German heritage. I attended a two-room schoolhouse for the first seven grades and then went “to town,” which had a population of 1,800 people and one stop light. In 1966, I became a flight attendant for Braniff International. I was based in Kansas City and later in Houston. I met my husband, Chuck Willingham, in 1974, and we married and moved to Dallas. We have two sons, Travis and Carson. Travis, 43, wife Laura and my grandson Ronin live in Los Angeles, and Carson, 39, lives in Dallas. My husband passed away in 1995 when the boys were 10 and 14. I will always be grateful to John Brashier and Darren DeMent, their youth ministers.

How about your work and volunteer life?

I flew with Braniff for 16 years until they went bankrupt in 1982. During my children’s school years I volunteered in PTA, Lakewood Service League and for the musical and theatre arts of J.L. Long and Woodrow. Afterward I worked at law firms for 20 years.

What are your favorite places to travel?

As a child I listened to the sound of a train in the distance and wondered where it was going. On



vacations as a flight attendant, I was able to visit many foreign countries, satisfying my yearning to see the world. The past few years I have so loved the Wilshire Adventurers trips.

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

Chuck and I attended First United Methodist Church in Dallas for many years and appreciated the traditional service, preaching, music and friends we made there. We recognized and found the same things when we returned to my Baptist roots and came to Wilshire in the '90s.

Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

In the past I sang in Sanctuary Choir, served on the New Member Committee and served as preschool teacher, volunteer receptionist and wedding coordinator. Currently I’m part of Discovery Class, the Brown Bag Book Club and the Lord’s Supper Ministry Team.

What adjectives best describe you?

I asked my sons, and they replied “feisty and courageous” and “gives the best hugs on the planet.” I am blessed.

What is something interesting most people would not know about you?

I can plow a field, but Dad used to say my corners were never square.

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.

Marriage Connections is Feb. 14



The next Marriage Connections will be held on Friday night, Feb. 14. In this event, 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 Feb. 9; visit wilshirebc.org/events/marriage-connections.

Single, Adoptive and Foster Parents Night Out

Wilshire will offer free childcare (infant–grade 5) for single, adoptive and foster parents on Friday, Feb. 14, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Registration is required and closes Feb. 9; register at wilshirebc.org/events/pno.

MISSIONS & CHRISTIAN ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

ADVOCACY

ACTION

GROUPS

The 89th Texas Legislature and 119th U.S. Congress convene in January.

Consider joining an Advocacy Action Group to receive educational resources and action alerts regarding local, state and national issues.



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, Jan. 19

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Wilshire Welcome, Prayer Room, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Preschool Education Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Children's Education Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Adventurers Committee, noon, Community Hall
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2:15 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 20

- MLK Day Event with Rise Against Hunger, Community Hall, 10 a.m.
- Offices closed; staff holiday

Tuesday, Jan. 21

- Wilkinson Center Pantry Assistants, noon
- Stephen Ministry Training, 1205-L, 6 p.m.
- Stephen Ministry Supervision, 1100-B & 1205-G, 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Book Club, Parlor, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 22

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, Children's hallway, 6 p.m.
- Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 23

- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 24

- Friday Friends, 3301, 10 a.m.
- Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group, 1205-L, 1 p.m.

2025 Committee on Committees Report

This report of the Committee on Committees will be presented at the Annual Church Conference on Jan. 26. The committee was chaired by Monica Mullins and included Ed Francis, Kim Mason, Steve Melton, Juliana Moore, Rachel Murphy, Monica Mullins, Max Tucker and Price Tinsley. Carolyn Murray was staff liaison.

Red indicates a new member
* indicates chair, ** chair-elect

Building, Interior and Grounds

Terms expiring January 2026

Mark Mihm
Kristin Boyd
Brian Moore
David Coleman
Gail Williams

Terms expiring January 2027

Richard Luttrell*
Dirk Dalhauser
Lee Terry
Barbara Floyd

Terms expiring January 2028

Sheri Brooks
Bill Jernberg
Grant Stewart

*Staff Liaisons: Bryant Greer
and Geri McKenzie*

Children's Education

Terms expiring January 2026

Angela Brindle*
Jeryl Huddleston

Terms expiring January 2027

Julian Vigil
John Skinner
Jennifer Lovejoy
Joan Cullum

Terms expiring January 2028

Adrienne McCann
Drew Easley
Kim Justice

Deacon Nominating

Terms expiring January 2026

Jenny Wolff*
Tracy Sturdivant
Terry Wade

Terms expiring January 2027

Mark Eggert**
David Duncan
Staci McNicholas

Terms expiring January 2028

Julie Francis
Bob Coleman
Mary Lu Hare

Staff Liaisons: Timothy

Peoples and Chelsea Hopkins

Finance

Terms expiring January 2026

Steven Murray*
Raylan Loggins
Sam Murphy

Terms expiring January 2027

Rebecca Cole
Noel Rivenes**
David Colmenero

Terms expiring January 2028

Gabe Leal
Gil Herrick
Sarah Knabe

Staff Liaison: Lori Gooden

*Youth representative: Drew
Perry*

History

Terms expiring January 2027

Barbara Peterson
Steve Terry
Sondra Wallis
Max Post*

Terms expiring January 2028

James Steel
Carter Adcox
Randy Patterson

Staff Liaisons: Chelsea

Hopkins and Carolyn Murray

Library

Terms expiring January 2026

Mary Woods
Carol Cabaniss*
Gail Ashby

Terms expiring January 2027

Angela Brindle
John Parnell

Terms expiring January 2028

Ann Marie Mihm
Amanda Upton
Laura Smith

Staff Liaison: Barbara Peterson

Missions and Christian Advocacy

Terms expiring January 2026

Jim Walton
Linda Lyle
Kevin Cabaniss
Amelia Latham
Courtney Carter
Mike Meripolski
Melanie Beller
Louis Moore
Janis Townsend

Terms expiring January 2027

Julie Bartkoski*
Cindy Estee
Shana Gaines
Charlie Estee
Leigh Ann Brown

David McCoy
Shelby Patterson**
David Beck

Terms expiring January 2028

Keri Mitchell
Amy Dalhausser
Bill Jones
Judy Ward
Vicki Carlisle
Gil Brand
Linda Sacco

*Staff Liaisons: Heather
Mustain and Abbey Adcox*

Pathways to Ministry

Terms expiring January 2026

Rhonda Walton
David Cole
Kathryn Keller

Terms expiring January 2027

Allyson Cook*
Rick Hibbs
Donna Manning

Terms expiring January 2028

Susan Leonard
Monica Mullins
Vic Henry

*Staff Liaisons: Charlie Fuller
and Timothy Peoples*

Personnel

Terms expiring January 2026

Martha Hinojosa-Nadler
Lauren Anne Cove*
Rob Roden

Terms expiring January 2027

Debbie Meripolski**
David Nabors
Bryan Rollins

Terms expiring January 2028

Anne Foster
Weldon Sloan
Ed Francis

*Staff Liaison: Timothy
Peoples and Geri McKenzie*

Preschool Education

Terms expiring January 2026

Alison Wingfield*
Manjeet Schultz
Diana Early

Terms expiring January 2027

Laura Cordell
Linda Eggert
Michael Bufkin

Terms expiring January 2028

Rachel Murphy
Jessica Brookshire
Suzy McLaughlin
Valerie Lott

Staff Liaison: Kelly Akins

Risk Management

Terms expiring January 2026

Phil McNicholas*
Barbara Gass Utay

Terms expiring January 2027

Michael Shepard
Mary Barnes
Matt Mosley

Terms expiring January 2028

Britt McClung
Gary Griffith
Jane Alloway

Staff Liaison: Geri McKenzie

Weekday Education

Terms expiring January 2026

Molly Shepard*
Vanessa Vaughter
Kit Sloan
Mary Morgan

Terms expiring January 2027

Emily Donovan
Patty Latham
Andrew Warden

Terms expiring January 2028

Andy Brookshire
Christine Evans
Phillip Stegner

*Staff Liaisons: Geri
McKenzie & Darren DeMent*

Wilshire Adventurers

Terms expiring January 2026

Becky Waterfield
Jim Wade
Linda Imhoof
Ann Hill

Terms expiring January 2027

Bob Fisette
Linda Martinez
David Slatton

Terms expiring January 2028

Gayle Cox
Laurie Diffie
Sue McElveen
Sam Tinsley
Hank Mitchell

*Staff Liaisons: Katie Murray
and Barbara Clayton*

Committee on Committees

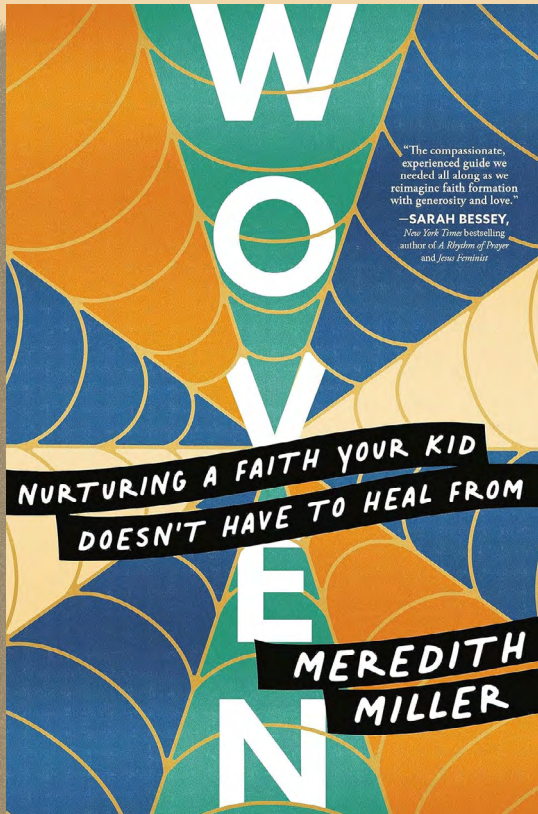
Terms expiring January 2026

Rachel Murphy*
Juliana Moore
Ed Francis
Price Tinsley
Steve Melton

Terms expiring January 2027

Laura Smith
Patty Latham
John Skinner
Jill Granberry

Staff Liaison: Carolyn Murray



"The compassionate, experienced guide we needed all along as we reimagine faith formation with generosity and love."

SARAH BESSEY

SUNDAYS

Jan. 26–March 2
10 a.m. | Rm. 3208

WEDNESDAYS

Jan. 29–Feb. 26
6:05 p.m. | Rm. 2230

Book Series for Parents

Join Minister to Children Julie Girards
for this book study on nurturing faith in kids.

