



**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**January 26, 2025**  
*Third Sunday after Epiphany*

# Preparing for worship

In the vast expanse of the cosmos, amid countless stars and swirling galaxies, there exists a profound paradox of faith: the Creator of all things is also intimately acquainted with our smallest concerns. Today, our worship outlines this remarkable truth.

As we do most Sundays, we begin worship by addressing God directly, acknowledging the magnificent power of our Creator — one who shaped mountains, commanded storms and set the stars in their courses. “To God Be the Glory” and “How Great Thou Art” are enduring hymns of our faith because they remind us of God’s might and sovereign power in our lives and give us reason to praise such majesty.

In a world heavy with division and mistrust, abuse of power, disregard for humanity and those most vulnerable and oppressed, uncertainty seems to be our constant companion. Tom Waits’ folk spiritual, “Come On Up to the House,” extends a personal invitation and reminds us that our earthly struggles are temporary, that we’re “just passing through.” Like a parent calling children in from a storm, we encounter another facet of divine love as God beckons: “Come on up to the house.” “I am shelter. I am rest. I am home.”

The choir’s anthem, “Even Here,” bridges the cosmic glory and intimate nature of God’s

character. In its touching verses, we discover that no place is too distant, no circumstance too dire, no moment too dark for God to find us. The God who orchestrates the universe is the same God who counts the hairs on our heads, knows our rising and our lying down and seeks us in our wandering.

As our worship begins, your anxiety might be drowning out the voice of God. As the world seems to shift beneath our feet daily, it may be difficult to find grounding in worship. And yet, God is still both vast enough to hold the universe and near enough to hold our hearts. No matter where this week has found you — in valleys or on mountaintops, in doubt or in certainty, in grief or in joy — remember that God will find you, even here. Our mighty, majestic God is also our nearest, dearest friend, ever-present and all-knowing, calling us home to divine shelter and love.

My prayer for you today is that you find divine grounding here so that you will courageously go out into the world and ensure that “the othered” may find grounding and hope in the Living God who dwells within you.

Amen.

—Ariel Merivil



**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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**On the cover:** *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor,* Sieger Koder, stained glass window, Holy Spirit Church, Ellwangen, Germany.

January 26, 2025  
11:00 a.m.  
Third 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**

Georgia McKee

**Prelude**

*Rondeau*

Henry Purcell

**+Congregational Song**

*To God Be the Glory*  
No. 349

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**+Call to Worship**

Darren DeMent

Leader: Gathered in this place,

**People: We are the body of Christ.**

Leader: The hands and feet,

**People: The eyes and ears,**

Leader: The heart and lungs —

**People: All parts of the whole,**

Leader: Participating in the miraculous body.

**People: Together we are a body that worships,**

Leader: A body that sings,

**People: A body that works,**

Leader: A body that rests,

**People: A body that rejoices in the wonder of serving and loving God together.**

Leader: We are the body of Christ,

**People: Gathered in this place.**

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**+Response in Song**

*To God Be the Glory*  
Refrain only

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he hath done.**

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

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect, whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

**Children’s Moment**

Julie Girards

**Offertory**

*Fairest Lord Jesus*  
Carillon Ringers  
Ralph Manuel, director

arr. Lloyd Larson

**+Gospel Reading** — Luke 4:14–21

Marc LaChéy

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because God has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. God has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

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**

*How Great Thou Art*  
No. 323

O STORE GUD

**Message**

“Fulfilling the Scripture”

Timothy Peoples

**Anthem**

*Even Here*  
Youth and Sanctuary Choirs

Mark Miller

At the land’s dark roots, in the farthest deep,  
Where the daylight dims, where no one can reach,  
Can the hand of God, can the voice of love  
Find me even here, find me even here?

I have turned away, I have set my fate,  
I have run too far, I repent too late,  
Can the hand of God, can the voice of love  
Find me even here, find me even here?

O, to climb again where the eagle flies,  
Where its nest is set in the sunlit skies!  
Can the hand of God, can the voice of love  
Find me even here, find me even here?  
Will the hand of God, will the voice of love, find me even here?

O forgive me, Lord, may I see your face,  
May I die in peace with a song of praise,  
May the hand of God, may the voice of love  
Find me even here, find me even here.

**Prayers of the People**

Maggie Morey

**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**

*Come On Up to the House*

Tom Waits

Well the moon is broken and the sky is cracked  
**Come on up to the house**  
The only things that you can see is all that you lack  
**Come on up to the house**

All your crying don't do you no good  
**Come on up to the house**  
Come down off your cross; we could use the wood  
**Come on up to the house**

*You got to come on up to the house*  
*Come on up to the house*  
*The world is not my home I'm just passing through*  
*Come on up to the house*

There's no light in the tunnel, no irons in the fire  
**Come on up to the house**  
And you're singin' lead soprano in the junk man's choir  
**Come on up to the house**

Don't life seem nasty, brutish and short  
**Come on up to the house**  
Well the seas are stormy; you can't find no port  
**Come on up to the house**

*Chorus*

There's nothing in the world that you can do  
**Come on up to the house**  
And you been whipped by the forces that are inside you  
**Come on up to the house**

Well, you're high on top of your mountain of woe  
**Come on up to the house**  
Well, you know you should surrender, but you can't let it go  
**Come on up to the house**

*Chorus*

**Sharing of Decisions**

Timothy Peoples

**Benediction**

Timothy Peoples

**Postlude**

Improvisation on themes of the day

Jeff Brummel

The flowers are given in memory of Linda Jean Long  
and in celebration of her birthday today by Ralph Long.

# Meet today's worship leaders

**Marc LaChey** and his wife, Debbie, joined Wilshire in 1990. He is active in Koinonia Class and recently served on the Risk Management Committee. Since retiring in 2020 from a career in insurance, Mark has devoted more time to his main hobby, model railroading. He serves as vice president of the North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs.

**Katherine Stevens** and her husband, Jay, joined Wilshire in 2023 and are members of the Intersection Sunday School Class. Katherine acted in last year's Faith in 3D production and is participating again this year. She works for Baylor University as a marketing copywriter for undergraduate admissions.



**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

- 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

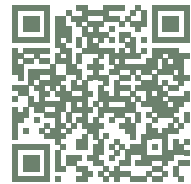


News & Announcements  
January 26, 2025

## Annual Church Conference

**TODAY AFTER WORSHIP  
COMMUNITY HALL | LUNCH PROVIDED**

All are invited to Community Hall after worship today for our Annual Church Conference — our only scheduled “business meeting” of the year. 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. Conference materials will be available on each table, or you can find the PDF at [wilshirebc.org/events/church-conference](https://wilshirebc.org/events/church-conference). The same web page has a link to join the meeting by Zoom, although only in-person attendees will be able to vote.



[wilshirebc.org/events/  
church-conference](https://wilshirebc.org/events/church-conference)



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

## Library is open

The Wilshire Library is open after being closed for the installation of new shelving and other enhancements. Library hours are: Sundays, 9 to 10:45 a.m.; Wednesdays, 2 to 7 p.m.; other weekdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; closed on Saturdays.

## 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 today's Annual Church Conference, and new deacons will be ordained on Feb. 2.

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

## 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](http://wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn).

# 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 today, 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](http://wilshirebc.org/serve/serve-at-wilshire).

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

## Souper Bowl of Caring is Feb. 9



The annual Souper Bowl of Caring 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. Souper Bowl of Caring is the main fundraiser for Wilshire's Phil Strickland Hunger Offering. Strickland was a longtime Wilshire member and a leader in Texas Baptist life.

## Men's Book Club meets Feb. 18

Wilshire's Men's Book Club will discuss Erik Larson's *The Demon of Unrest: A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War* on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. Contact: Scott Spreier ([swspreier@gmail.com](mailto:swspreier@gmail.com)) or Mike Meripolski ([meripolski@att.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:dburton@wilshirebc.org))



## Advocacy Project T-Shirt Making Sunday, Feb. 2

All are invited to Community Hall after worship next Sunday, Feb. 2, as we prepare 200 additional T-shirts for the Stolen Lives (*Vidas Robadas*) advocacy project. Boxed lunches will be provided.

In this campaign created by advocacy agency Texas Impact, each shirt memorializes a local victim of gun violence. Wilshire participated last year by creating shirts and displaying them along Abrams Road.

All shirts from Wilshire and churches statewide will be displayed at the state capitol in Austin on Feb. 27, Gun Violence Awareness Day.

Pastoral Resident Georgia McKee will lead a Wilshire group to Austin for the event. If you'd like to go, contact Georgia at [gmckee@wilshirebc.org](mailto:gmckee@wilshirebc.org).



### **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](mailto: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.

### **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](http://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](http://wilshirebc.org/events/pno).

### **Weekly Witness podcast**

With the Texas legislative session underway, it’s a great time to subscribe to the *Weekly Witness* podcast from 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](http://texasimpact.org/weekly-witness-podcast-2023).

### **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](http://charliefuller.com). If you’re interested in exploring coaching, contact Charlie at [cfuller@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cfuller@wilshirebc.org).

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE JANUARY 29

## Koinonia Café

**5 p.m. | Community Hall** | Buffet dinner. Cash/check/credit accepted. See prices at [wilshirebc.org/events/wnl](http://wilshirebc.org/events/wnl). **Jan. 29:** Pulled pork, baked beans, coleslaw, potato salad, cornbread, cheeseburger soup, peach cobbler, s'mores cookies, jello. **Kids:** grilled cheese, baked beans

## 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.

## Resident-Led Vespers



**6 p.m. | McIver Chapel** | Join Wilshire's pastoral residents for a reflective service focused on themes of care and gentleness to self and others in a turbulent world. Minister to Senior Adults Katie Murray will give a homily on the Beatitudes, and we will share in Communion.

## Coming in February

What does it mean that we're a Baptist church? And why would anyone want to be Baptist? Our 6 p.m. Bible Study during February will explore the Four Fragile Freedoms of Baptist identity. Whether you're new to Wilshire or a lifelong Baptist, this series will deepen our understanding of who we are and why it matters.

## 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](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.



# 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.*

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**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.**

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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. 26**

- Ministry Team Expo, James Gallery, 9 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Book Series for Parents: *Woven*, 3208, 10 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Annual Church Conference, Community Hall, noon

## **Monday, Jan. 27**

- George Gagliardi Memorial Service, Sanctuary, 1:30 p.m.
- George Gagliardi Reception, Community Hall, 2:30 p.m.
- Wilshire Winds, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

## **Tuesday, Jan. 28**

- Stephen Ministry Training, 1205-L, 6 p.m.

## **Wednesday, Jan. 29**

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Bylaws Deacon Focus Group, 1205-L, 4:30 p.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Vespers, McIver Chapel, 6 p.m.
- Book Series for Parents: *Woven*, 2230, 6:05 p.m.
- Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

## **Thursday, Jan. 30**

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

## **Sunday, Feb. 2**

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Book Series for Parents: *Woven*, 3208, 10 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Stolen Lives Project, Community Hall, noon
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2:15 p.m.

# Donna Manning

**Name:** Donna Pearl Manning

**Hometown:** Nacogdoches, Texas

**Present City:** Fort Worth

**Education:** Bachelor of Music, Stephen F. Austin; Master of Religious Education and Master of Divinity, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Post-graduate studies, Brite Divinity School, TCU; Clinical Pastoral Education, Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth.

**Profession:** Retired chaplain

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

I am a single (cat lady) and an only child, so dear friends have become my family. I have one big tom cat, Buddy, who is king of my home.

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

I served with the Federal Bureau of Prisons for 22 years as chief chaplain at both the Federal Correction Institution in Seagoville and the Federal Medical Center in Fort Worth. After Civil Service retirement, I served an additional 14 years as a part-time contract chaplain in various area hospitals, hospices and senior living facilities. I also served as a chaplain in the Army Reserves.

## **Any favorite hobbies?**

I enjoy playing trombone. I play in two community concert bands in addition to Wilshire Winds. I also enjoy reading.

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

I joined on Palm Sunday, 2004. I had been a member of a Fort Worth church but enjoyed George Mason's preaching, and I had many friends who were already Wilshire members.



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

Discovery Class, Wilshire Winds and the Pathways to Ministry Committee.

## **What has surprised you most about Wilshire?**

I don't think it is so much a surprise as a feeling of belonging with like-minded, theologically progressive Christians who keep asking the hard questions of life.

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

My Epiphany star this year is "play." I believe the star is God's way of confirming my enjoyment now in retirement years.

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

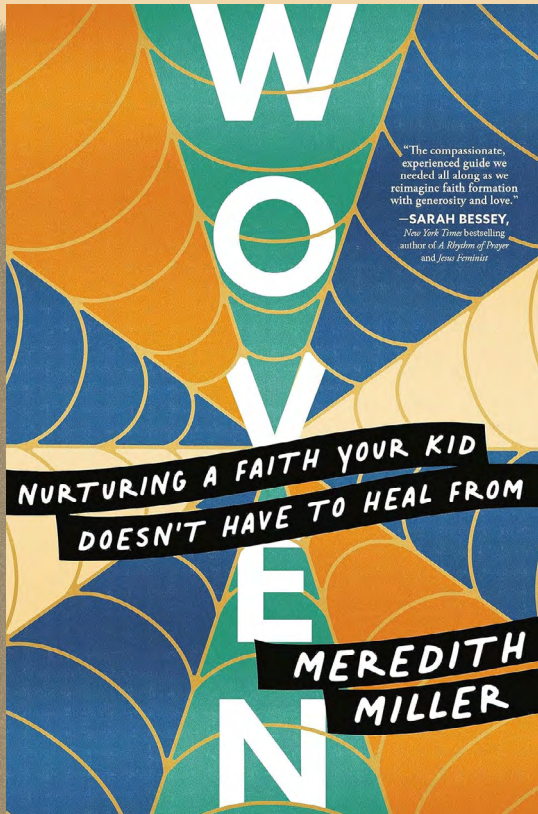
My faith journey began as a child in a small Baptist church in my hometown. As my faith grew, so did my call into ministry, leading to ordination at University Baptist Church in Fort Worth in 1986. I believe I was one of the "women in ministry pioneers" who hopefully paved the way for younger women to embrace their call in Christian ministry.

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

Most don't know I play trombone, but at Wilshire my secret is out.

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

Caring, encouraging, listener.



"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.

