



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

February 16, 2025
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Preparing for worship

Listen for the musical notes of joy, sorrow, darkness and light in today's service.

Now Thank We All Our God was penned in the midst of unimaginable tragedy. It was 1637, and much of Germany was gripped by plague and the Thirty Year's War. In Eilenburg, Germany, there was only one surviving pastor. Lutheran pastor Martin Rinkart presided over 50 funerals per day, and that year there were over 4,000 funerals in the city. One of those was for his own wife.

In the midst of severe loss, Rinkart wrote this hymn. The three stanzas center on love, nearness to God and doxology.

Today's prelude, Bach's *Tocatta in C*, is filled with images of the cross, burial and resurrection. The opening is comprised of three small figures that depict the cross, in this case, three crosses — we know that Jesus was crucified with two others. This pattern of notes includes a moment in which a note crosses back over previous notes in the opposite direction and then reverses again. Don't worry, you will hear it.

As the scale passages commence, we find ourselves plummeting in a downward spiral to burial. The cross figure comes back dramatically in the pedals, almost depicting a wrestling of sorts. But, something happens next — the stone is rolled away, and we hear the resurrection

depicted in the music.

The next section is the meat of the movement, with joyfully ascending scale passages alongside the cross figure. The rest of the movement dances up and down the keys and pedals, impressing us with the profound joy of resurrection.

These two pieces, one vocal and one instrumental, show joy amid sorrow and darkness, and we can connect these two classical works to our anthem. In songwriter Tony Arata's words, we are in the middle of darkness and sorrow, but out of nowhere we see a light. We have glimpses of hope.

Remember the total eclipse last April? The sun was completely gone, the breeze picked up, the air cooled and for four minutes in Wilshire's prayer garden we gazed into the heavens wondering what would be next. Then, the slightest bit of light broke free, which was the most spectacular part of the event. I remember how striking that small pin of light was, literally taking my breath away in its beauty. How quickly the smallest bit of light overtook the darkness of the entire sky and ground. It was instantaneous!

Our music today brings a sliver of light and beauty to our dark world as we sing of hope, joy, vision, gratitude and resurrection.

—Jeff Brummel



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

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: *Landscape*, Carl Newman, ca. 1909–1914, oil on canvas mounted on fiberboard, Smithsonian American Art Museum.

February 16, 2025
11:00 a.m.
Sixth 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

Julie Girards

Prelude

Toccatà in C, BWV 564

Johann Sebastian Bach

+Congregational Song

God of Grace and God of Glory
No. 285

CWM RHONDDA

+Call to Worship

Elly Wagner

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

Leader: Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

People: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

Leader: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

People: The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter; God utters God's voice, the earth melts.

All: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

—from Psalm 46

+Response in Song

God Has Spoken by the Prophets

HYMN TO JOY

**God is speaking by the Spirit, speaking to our hearts again;
In the age-long Word declaring God's own message, now as then.
Through the rise and fall of nations one sure faith is standing fast;
God abides, the Word unchanging, God the first and God the last.**

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

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures — Jeremiah 17:5–10

Vic Henry

Thus says the LORD:
Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.
They shall be like a shrub in the desert
and shall not see when relief comes.
They shall live in the parched places of the
wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.
Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the LORD.
They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.
The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?
I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Offertory

Largo from Sonata No. 3 in C, BWV 1005
Samantha Bennett, violin

Johann Sebastian Bach

+Epistle Reading — 1 Corinthians 15:12–20

Gabe Leal

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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

Be Thou My Vision
No. 71

SLANE
arr. Jeffrey Brummel

Message

“What If We Believed?”

Georgia McKee

Anthem

I Hear a Call

Tony Arata

Virginia DeMent, Amanda Mintz, Molly Shepard
Darren DeMent, guitar

I hear a call; now will I answer
Forsake my all to serve another
Though darkness falls stay a believer
I hear a call; now will I answer

I feel a touch; now will I hold on
Be there with love for those with no one
With a kindness such it lives though I'm gone
I feel a touch; now will I hold on

I see a light; now will I follow
Fill up this life that grows more hollow
Make joy reside where there lives sorrow
I see a light; now will I follow

I hear a call from out of nowhere
And from everywhere I go
I see a light; now will I follow
I feel a touch; now will I hold on
I hear a call; now will I answer

I hear a call from out of nowhere
And from everywhere I go
I hear a call; now will I answer

Prayers of the People

Heather Mustain

Silence

We pause in silence to reflect and to be attentive to the Spirit of God.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins,
As we forgive those who sin against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.**

+Congregational Song

Now Thank We All Our God
No. 371

NUN DANKET

Sharing of Decisions

Georgia McKee

Benediction

Georgia McKee

Postlude

Nun danket alle Gott

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Charlie Fuller, music director

Meet today's worship leaders

Violinist **Samantha Bennett**, praised by the *Chicago Tribune* for her “subtlety and poise,” performs with the Dallas Opera Orchestra and frequently appears with symphonies including Dallas, Fort Worth, Minnesota and Boston. She and her husband, George Nickson, are the founders of ensemblenewSRQ, a contemporary classical music collective in Sarasota, Florida. A graduate of New England Conservatory, Samantha spends her summers teaching at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute and performing with the Santa Fe Opera.

Virginia DeMent grew up at Wilshire. Her parents are Joannah and Darren DeMent, and her younger brother is Elias DeMent, a high school senior. Virginia works as manager of a boutique in Dallas.

Vic Henry and his wife, Candy McComb, joined Wilshire in 2017. Vic is a deacon, and he and Candy direct and teach the Odyssey Sunday School Class. They have two adult sons, Lee and Taylor. Vic is a trial attorney with Henry Oddo Austin & Fletcher.

Gabe Leal and his wife, Courtney, joined Wilshire in 2008 and are members of Seekers Class. They are parents to Nicholas, a recent TCU graduate; Jordan, a student at Colorado State University; and Brooklyn, who is in sixth grade. Gabe is a deacon at Wilshire and works as director of audit services for Tenet Healthcare.

Amanda Mintz came to Wilshire in 2017. She is a member of Ithaka class and sings with Nova. Amanda works for Toyota, where she oversees employee learning and leadership development programs.

Molly Shepard grew up at Wilshire and is married to Michael. Their daughter, Olivia, is 2. Molly's parents are Wilshire members Ed and Linda Francis, and her sister is Julie Francis. Molly is a deacon, a member of Ithaka Class and sings in Sanctuary Choir. She is a senior vice president at Valuation Research Corporation.

Elly Wagner is a freshman at Irma L. Rangel Young Women's Leadership School, where she participates in theater, yearbook, National Junior Honor Society and the NorthPark STEAM Challenge. She volunteers with LULAC and Geo Club and plays on a Bridge Lacrosse team. Elly's parents are Jennifer and Ed Wagner, and she has two older brothers, Haydn and Noah.



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, Prep Cook
- Monique Roberts, Sous-Chef
- Wilfredo Velasquez-Cruz, Steward

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
February 16, 2025

Wilshire-Royal Lane collaboration starts today

Today is the first Sunday of a two-week worship leadership swap between Wilshire and sister congregation Royal Lane Baptist Church.

Wilshire Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples is preaching at Royal Lane today, with Wilshire Minister of Music Ariel Merivil co-leading the music along with combined choirs from both churches. Here at Wilshire, Sunday School and Worship will be held as usual, with Pastoral Resident Georgia McKee preaching.



Victoria Robb Powers

Next Sunday, Feb. 23, Royal Lane Senior Pastor Victoria Robb Powers will preach at Wilshire, and the combined choirs will sing again

Congregants are encouraged to attend their respective churches both weeks. "By participating in this swap with our most like-minded local sister church," Timothy said, "we are embracing our shared faith and practicing what it means to be community as the church universal."

Today's Royal Lane service will be live-streamed on their YouTube channel and can be watched later.

Condolences to

Darla and Mark Roden on the death of Darla's mother, Dianna Stockton. Grandchildren are **Henry and Ellie Roden**.



Super generosity

Wilshire raised \$8,883 at last Sunday's Souper Bowl of Caring for our Phil Strickland Hunger Offering. The funds will go to Together For Hope and our own Rental and Utility Assistance program. Attendees also scanned a QR code to send letters to Texas legislators encouraging the state to adopt Summer EBT, a federal program providing groceries to low-income families. Thank you for your generosity and strong participation in this annual event.

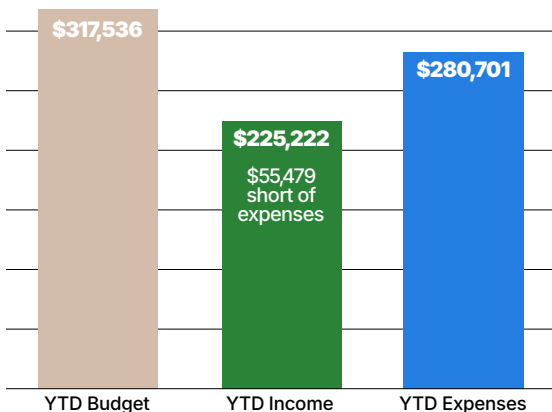
Time with Tim next Sunday

An informal chance for guests and new members to meet and chat with Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples will be held Sunday, Feb. 23, at 9:45 a.m. in Timothy's office. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@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.

Unified Budget Update



Pathways Endowment YTD gifts..... \$1,195
 Pathways Endowment Jan. balance\$10,281,302

SAVE THESE SPRING DATES

Ash Wednesday | March 5

- Noon service as part of Lunch & Learn
- 6 p.m. Family service, Sanctuary

Faith in 3D: *In Songs and Stories*

- Wednesday, March 26, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, March 29, 2:30 p.m.

Youth Spring Retreat

- April 4-6

Maundy Thursday Worship

- April 17, 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday | April 20

- Sunrise Worship, time TBD
- Columbarium Service, 9:30 a.m.
- Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.



Auction items requested by today

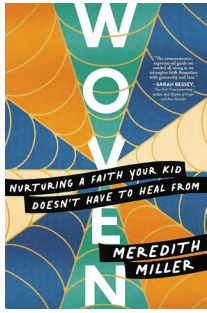
The annual Youth Choir Spaghetti Lunch and Silent Auction will be held Sunday, March 2, in Community Hall after worship. This event will help fund the choir's summer mission tour to Chicago to sing, serve and sightsee.

If you'd like to donate items or services to the silent auction, contact Sara Tinsley at saratinley1@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.

Parent series continues



Nurturing faith in kids is the topic of a series for parents on Sunday mornings through March 2. 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 at 10

a.m. in Room 3208. The series is also offered Wednesdays through Feb. 26 at 6:05 p.m. in Room 2230.

Lunch & Learn meets Feb. 19



All are invited to Community Hall the first and third Wednesdays every month for lunch (\$10 ea.) and Bible study. Pastoral Resident Maggie Morey will teach on Feb. 19. See the schedule at wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn.

Women of Wilshire Book Clubs

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | March 6 | Noon | 1205-L | *Camino Island* by John Grisham. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | March 11 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *Death on the Nile* by Agatha Christie. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

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) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net)



Get ready for Game Night

Bring the whole family and enjoy games for all ages at Wilshire Game Night on Friday, Feb. 28, from 6 to 8 p.m. in Community Hall. We'll have popcorn, and you are welcome to bring your own food, drinks and favorite games. We'll have supervision and a movie available in the Preschool Multipurpose Room for preschoolers, younger children or anyone else.

Wilshire headed to Austin Feb. 27

Pastoral Resident Georgia McKee will lead a Wilshire group to the state capitol in Austin on Thursday, Feb. 27, for Gun Violence Awareness Day. The event will mark the culmination of the Stolen Lives (Vidas Robadas) advocacy project, which uses T-shirts to memorialize victims of gun violence. If you'd like to go, contact Georgia at gmckee@wilshirebc.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE FEBRUARY 19

Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet dinner. Cash/check/credit accepted. See prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **Feb. 19:** Lasagna, zucchini and squash, garlic sticks, tomato basil soup, tiramisu, sugar cookies, jello. **Kids:** Lasagna, veggies.

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. | Community Hall | What does it mean that we’re a Baptist church? And why would anyone want to be Baptist? Our February series will explore the “Four Fragile Freedoms” of Baptist identity as outlined by historian Walter Shurden: Bible Freedom (Feb. 5), Soul Freedom (Feb. 12), Church Freedom (Feb. 19) and Religious Freedom (Feb. 26). Whether you’re new to Wilshire or a lifelong Baptist, this series will deepen our understanding of who we are and why it matters. Pastoral Resident Georgia McKee is leading the series, with Pathways to Ministry Director Charlie Fuller subbing on Feb. 19.

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



2025
Summer

**SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE
CHILDREN'S AND PRESCHOOL EVENTS**

Registration coming soon

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 9-13 | 9 a.m.-noon.
Older preschool-grade 5

COOKING CAMP

July 7-11 | 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Grades 1-5

LISTEN TO YOUR ART!

July 7-11 | 12:30-5 p.m.
Grades 1-5

Full-day Cooking and Art
available for grades 2-5

**KINDERGARTEN
& PRESCHOOL CAMP**

July 7-11 | 9 a.m.-noon
Older preschool-Kindergarten

**PASSPORT KIDS!
PRETEEN CAMP**

July 20-23 | Overnight camp
in Glen Rose, Texas
Grades 3-5

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.



Save the date for Youth Camp

Youth Camp will be held Monday, June 30, through Saturday, July 5, at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center in Little Rock, Arkansas. Youth Camp is for completed sixth through twelfth graders. Registration coming soon.

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. Nonperishable 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.

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®

This Week

Sunday, Feb. 16

- Sunday School Leadership Appreciation Breakfast, 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.
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Missions & Advocacy Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Pathways to Ministry Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Library Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Adventurers Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Faith in 3D rehearsal, McIver Chapel, noon
- Finance Committee, 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.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

- Wilkinson Center Pantry Assistants, noon
- Building Interior and Grounds Committee, 3105, 5:30 p.m.
- Stephen Ministry Training, 1205-L, 6 p.m.
- Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Book Club, Parlor, 7 p.m.
- Faith in 3D rehearsal, 3301 & Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 19

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Lunch & Learn, Community Hall, 11:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Puerto Rico Team, 1205-L, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Bylaws Deacon Work Group, 1205-G, 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, Feb. 20

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

Saturday, Feb. 22

- Puerto Rico Mission Trip
- Stephen Ministry Training, 1205-L, 9 a.m.

Katherine Stevens

Hometown: Wichita Falls

Present City: Dallas

Education: Baylor University

Profession: Undergraduate Admissions
Marketing Copywriter for Baylor University

Tell us about your family.

I was raised in Wichita Falls, Texas, by parents who are very involved in the church. I'm the oldest of three siblings. My husband, Jay, and I met when I was in high school; he asked me to go to prom with him during my junior year, and the rest is history!

How about your work or volunteer life?

I started my current role in 2023 and have never been happier. Working for my alma mater feels like coming home. I write copy all day in the hopes of piquing a prospective student's interest in our school. If your child has received physical or digital recruitment communications from Baylor in the past two years, there's a very high likelihood they came across my desk!

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

We moved to Dallas in 2020 and struggled to find a church that taught God's word rather than the opinions of the man (and it was always a man) behind the pulpit. We found Wilshire through the grace of God in 2023 — the first Sunday we came was Timothy's first Sunday preaching as Wilshire's new senior pastor. As soon as we walked through the doors and into the Sanctuary, we knew we were somewhere special, and we decided to call Wilshire home.



What has surprised you most about Wilshire?

I'm touched by the familial atmosphere. Everyone looks out for one another. Greetings and conversations are genuine. In a world that seems increasingly shallow, Wilshire stands out as a haven of caring.

Tell us about your faith journey.

I am immensely grateful to have been raised in a Christian household. I'm even more grateful that I had the chance to make my faith completely my own when I got to college. I learned that God is not a God of legalism and exclusion, but a God of forgiveness and love. As God's child and follower, it's my job to show others forgiveness and love. That truth is so simple, yet it completely transformed my life.

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

I am a very novice French speaker (thanks, Duolingo).

What adjectives best describe you?

Kind, thoughtful, hardworking, genuine.



MINISTRY TEAMS. **SERVE ON YOUR SCHEDULE.**

Learn more and complete our online interest form ►
wilshirebc.org/serve/serve-at-wilshire

