



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

March 23, 2025
Third Sunday in Lent

Preparing for worship

Wilshire people are the most voracious readers I've ever known. We have multiple book clubs, and books constantly come up in conversation. We are definitely a people who "live in our heads."

That said, in my experience it's not often that the idea of study is considered a spiritual practice. The truth is that study can be an avenue of spiritual growth for both heart and mind.

One ancient practice related to study is *Lectio Divina* (Latin for "Divine Reading"), which involves reading Scripture in specifically contemplative ways. One example is reading a passage and then focusing on a word or phrase that seems important to you. Stop and think over those words. What do they mean to you? Pray over what God might be saying to you in those words or phrases. Then read the passage again and see if that still seems true. There are a myriad of ways of practicing *Lectio Divina*. The point is to read in ways that are intentional in seeking the voice of God, a voice that might not be obvious on the first reading.

With *Lectio Divina* or any type of study, the motive of the study matters. It's important to circle back to the purpose of the activity. While study edifies us in a variety of ways, for study to be a spiritual practice, its intention should in some way be spiritual transformation.

That's not to say our study must always be Scripture or a devotional text. The God who created the universe speaks in a variety of ways in a variety of contexts. For example, I can't read about the formation of the cosmos without being touched and changed some way spiritually.

Furthermore, our study need not be limited to books and reading. To study the world around us, to study nature, to study our fellow humans, to study relationships — these are all only a sample of the amazing ways God shows up when we take the time to look. Study, in its essence, it seems to me, is simply looking up and paying attention to all the many ways our Creator is present in the world around us.

—Charlie Fuller



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: *Fig-tree, Valley of Hinnom*, James Tissot, 1886–1889, ink on paper mounted on board, Brooklyn Museum.

March 23, 2025
11:00 a.m.
Third Sunday in Lent

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

Darren DeMent

Prelude

Siciliana
Carillon Ringers
Ralph Manuel, director

Bach/Callahan

+Congregational Song

God of Grace and God of Glory
No. 285
Stanzas 1-3

CWM RHONDDA

+Call to Worship

Laura Gentile

Leader: Come, you who thirst for grace.

People: Come, you who hunger for justice.

Leader: Come, you who are a stranger in a strange land.

People: Come, you who are like a child at home.

Leader: Come, for Christ welcomes you to this time and place,

People: We have come to worship God.

All: Then let us worship well.

+Response in Song

God of Grace and God of Glory
Stanza 4

CWM RHONDDA

**Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces in the fight to set all free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not man nor Thee!
That we fail not man nor Thee!**

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

*We will use Lectio Divina to inhabit our Scripture more deeply. You can use each pause to focus on **listening** for a word, **pondering** an image and **praying** for insight.*

O God, you are my God; I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

Offertory

My Song Is Love Unknown
Carillon Ringers

arr. Cathy Moklebust

My love is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake my God should take frail flesh and die?

Sometimes they threw down palms and sweetest praise sang.
Hosannas and glad psalms through streets and markets rang.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath, for blood and death they thirst and cry.

I sing my plain belief, one song my heart outpours:
Never was pain nor grief, never was love like yours.
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

—*Samuel Crossman, 1664*

+Gospel Reading — Luke 13:6-9

Barry Preston

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the man working the vineyard, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.' "

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!

Choir 1. Some - times a light sur - pris - es the child of God who sings;
All 2. In ho - ly con - tem - pla - tion we sweet - ly then pur - sue;
All 3. It can bring with it noth - ing but he will bear us through;
All 4. Though vine nor fig tree nei - ther their longed - for fruit should bear,
it is the Lord who ris - es with heal - ing in his wings;
the theme of God's sal - va - tion and find it ev - er new;
who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple, too;
though all the fields should with - er, nor flocks nor herds be there,
when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the soul a - gain
set free from pres - ent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly can say,
be - neath the spread - ing heav - ens no crea - ture but is fed;
yet God the same a - bid - ing, his praise shall tune my voice;
a sea - son of clear shin - ing to cheer it af - ter rain.
"Let the un - known to - mor - row bring with it what it may."
and he who feeds the ra - vens will give his chil - dren bread.
for while in him con - fid - ing, I can - not but re - joice.

Message

"Fertilizing our Faith"

Timothy Peoples

Anthem

Blessed are the Peacemakers

Rosephanye Powell

Sanctuary Choir

Samantha Bennett, violin

Blessed are the peacemakers.
They will be called, "Children of God."

Bear with each other; forgive one another.
Put on love.

Blessed are the peacemakers.
They will be called, "Children of God."

Silence

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

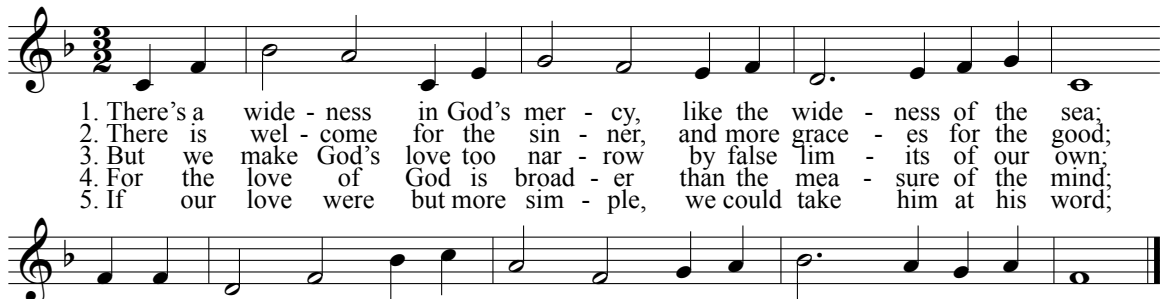
The Lord's Prayer

**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

There Is a Wideness in God's Mercy

WYNETTE
Haney/Brummel



1. There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
2. There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more grace - es for the good;
3. But we make God's love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
4. For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;
5. If our love were but more sim - ple, we could take him at his word;

there's a kind - ness to his jus - tice which is more than li - ber - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and we mag - ni - fy this strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
and our lives would be more lov - ing in the like - ness of our Lord.

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

Postlude

Improvisation on themes of the day

Jeff Brummel

The flowers today are given in celebration of Stan Bullock's 90th birthday
by his children, Allison and Chad Brown and Lauren and Jay Bullock,
and his grandchildren, Forrest, Peyton and Carson Brown and Jack Henry Bullock.

Meet today's worship leaders

Laura Gentile and her husband, Phil, joined Wilshire in 2023 and are members of Journey Class. They are parents to two sons: Tom, a student at Louisiana Tech University, and Sam, a high school senior at Dallas Academy who is active in Wilshire Student Ministry and Youth Choir. Laura works as an audiologist at White Rock ENT.

Barry Preston and his wife, Natalie, are members of Epiphany Class who first connected with Wilshire through their son, Evan, who was active in Wilshire's youth group. Barry recently retired after many years as a language arts teacher and a minister of spiritual formation in Disciples of Christ churches. In addition to working part-time as an academic coach and tutor, he is now a self-employed writer and mindfulness and character strengths coach.

Elizabeth Marshall Thomas joined Wilshire in 2005. She is married to Rob, and they are the parents of a son, Trey, who is in third grade at Lakehill Preparatory School. Elizabeth is a member of Avodah Class. She holds an undergraduate degree in music from Baylor University and a master of divinity degree from Yale Divinity School. She works as a strategist for authors and thought leaders.



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

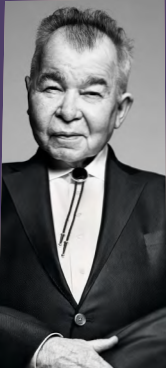
- Kelly Akins, Minister to Preschoolers (3139)
- Darren DeMent, Associate Pastor (3102)
- Julie Girards, Minister to Children (3104)
- Katie Murray, Minister to Senior Adults (3129)
- Barbara Peterson, Librarian (3114)

Tapestry



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

News & Announcements
March 23, 2025



SONGWRITER VESPERS: JOHN PRINE

Today | 4:30 p.m.
Choral Hall

COME BACK THIS AFTERNOON at 4:30 for Wilshire's first ever Songwriter Vespers. This event featuring the songs of the late John Prine is the brainchild of Associate Pastor Darren DeMent, who envisions "a mashup of a coffeehouse performance and a worship service."

Along with readings and other liturgical elements, the service will feature several Prine songs interpreted by Darren and a band of musical associates.

"Prine has been a favorite of mine for many years," Darren said. "His songs are filled with common sense, deep intelligence and a real sense of the things that connect us all as humans." Darren notes that Prine's themes of home, connection, loss and redemption are a natural fit for the Lenten season.

The event will be held in Choral Hall. Coffee and light snacks will be provided.

Condolences to

■ **Scott and Jeanne Spreier** on the death of Scott's sister, Linda Hardgrove, March 7. Niece and nephews are **Mary Lu Hare, Wilson Spreier** and **Joel Spreier**.

■ **Diane Buchanan** on the death of her husband, **Mac Buchanan**, March 20.

Children's Choirs start today

Kindergartners through fifth graders are invited to "Sing This Spring" by participating in the spring session of Children's Choirs, which includes four Sunday rehearsals, two times singing in Sunday worship plus a year-end program. Rehearsals start today and will run from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. after a snack lunch.

■ March 23: rehearsal

■ March 30: rehearsal

■ April 6: rehearsal

■ April 13: sing in worship on Palm Sunday; no rehearsal April 13 or 20.

■ April 27: rehearsal (Pizza Day!)

■ May 4: sing in worship

■ May 7: year-end program and party

Order Easter lilies by April 13

Congregants are invited to provide Easter lilies for the Sanctuary in honor or memory of family members or friends. Dedications will be listed on Easter, April 20. Each plant costs \$20; order at wilshirebc.org/easter-lilies or in the office by Palm Sunday, April 13.



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.



Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet dinner. Cash/check/credit accepted. See pricing at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **March 26:** Pulled pork, baked beans, buttered corn, rolls, broccoli cheddar soup, apple crumble, caramel pecan cookies, jello. **Kids:** Pork, corn, beans.

Faith in 3D performance

6 p.m. | Sanctuary | The performance will take the place of our Wednesday evening faith formation offerings. Children and youth are encouraged to attend; childcare will be available for preschoolers. Sanctuary Choir will not rehearse.

April Series: Mystics & Misfits

Christians throughout history have sought God in radical ways — some by locking themselves in solitude for a life of prayer, others by leaving behind comfort to serve the poor and challenge injustice. Through contemplation and bold action, these mystics and cultural misfits saw God in ways that changed the world. In this series, we'll explore their stories and what they can teach us about faith today.

New missions and advocacy opportunities

Reproductive rights film

Wilshire is joining with Arapaho United Methodist Church to present a screening of *Zurawski v. Texas*, a powerful documentary about the impact of our state's abortion bans. The film will be shown at Arapaho on Friday, March 28, at 6:30 p.m. An OB-GYN featured in the film will be on hand for a discussion that will include suggestions for engaging with the issue during the legislative session. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/zurawski to register (required).

Virtual phone banking

Want to make your voice heard to elected officials but not sure how or what to say? Starting in April, Wilshire will offer help in the form of a weekly Zoom call that will provide encouragement and a briefing on urgent issues. Participants will then have the chance to call their own representatives. Wilshire's virtual phone banking, a project of the Missions and Christian Advocacy Committee, will happen at noon each Wednesday during April. Email Associate Pastor Heather Mustain (hmustain@wilshirebc.org) for the Zoom link.

Grocery distribution

Join a team that will distribute groceries in partnership with Catholic Charities and the Vickery Meadow Youth Development Foundation on the last Friday of each month from 8:30 to 11:45 a.m. Contact Associate Pastor Heather Mustain (hmustain@wilshirebc.org) if you're interested in serving.

Faith in 3D this Wednesday, Saturday

WILSHIRE'S 2025 FAITH IN 3D PRODUCTION, *In Songs and Stories*, will be performed in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, March 26, at 6 p.m. and again on Saturday, March 29, at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free.

This original vignette-styled musical features spoken word and a compilation of songs, most from Broadway musicals, that will not only entertain but also stimulate discussion with the potential to change individuals — and maybe the world.

The songs in the show come from a wide range of sources: from Rodgers and Hammerstein to Pete Seeger, from Sondheim to *Sesame Street*, from *Carousel* to *Dear Evan Hansen*.

Wilshire member Nancy Poynter is directing her 11th Faith in 3D production, and Ralph Manuel is serving again as musical director. The 20 Wilshire folks in the cast serve as storytellers or soloists, with all singing in the chorus.

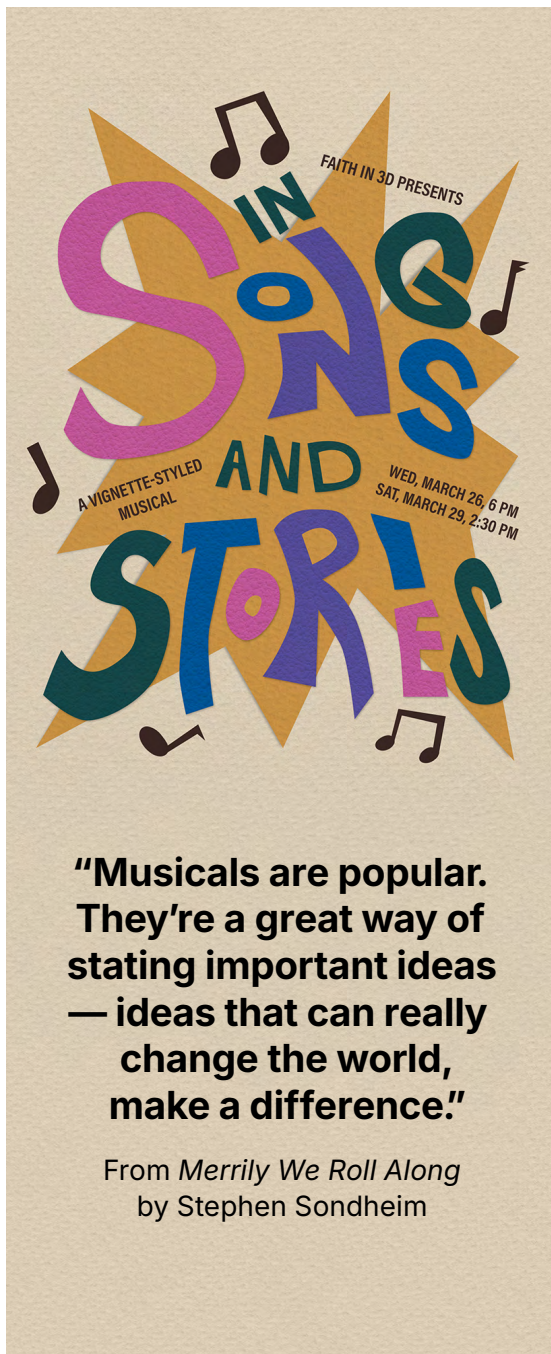
The 3D in Faith in 3D stands for drama, dialogue and dessert. Each performance will be followed by a moderated discussion, and dessert will be available in the Narthex.

In Songs and Stories

■ **Wednesday, March 26 | 6 p.m.** | The Wednesday performance will take the place of Wilshire's usual faith formation offerings. Youth and children are encouraged to attend; childcare will be offered for preschoolers. Dinner will be served in Koinonia Café at 5 p.m.

■ **Saturday, March 29 | 2:30 p.m.** | Saturday's show will be livestreamed on Wilshire's YouTube channel but will not be available after.

■ **Cast:** Carol Cabaniss, Kevin Cabaniss, Lynette DeBose, Darren DeMent, Laurie Diffie, Shayne Grant, Mike Korson, Ann Meripolski, Ariel Merivil, Laura Mirochna, Monica Mullins, Drew Murray, David Nabors, Sarah Navy, Amy Pottkotter, Katherine Pottkotter, Brad Russell, Katherine Stevens, Megan Wilson, Alison Wingfield.



**"Musicals are popular.
They're a great way of
stating important ideas
— ideas that can really
change the world,
make a difference."**

From *Merrily We Roll Along*
by Stephen Sondheim



PREPARE THE WAY | Wilshire Lent 2025

Sacred Space

Sundays through April 13 | 9-9:30 a.m. | McIver Chapel |

Join us each Sunday in Lent for a time of quiet contemplation and spiritual practice. Each gathering will begin with a brief prompt, but the focus will be on creating space to quiet your mind and engage in the spiritual practices we're exploring this season. Led by Associate Pastor Darren DeMent, Minister to Senior Adults Katie Murray and Pastoral Resident Georgia McKee.

Lenten playlist

Our Lenten playlist can be found on the digital music service Spotify under the name "Prepare The Way - Wilshire Lent 2025." Find the direct link at [wilshirebc.org/lent](https://www.wilshirebc.org/lent).

Lenten book focus

All are invited to read along as we study N.T. Wright's *From Wilderness to Glory: Lent and Easter for Everyone*. Many Sunday School classes are using the book, but it is also appropriate for individual study. To connect with a class, contact Associate Pastor Darren DeMent or Minister to Senior Adults Katie Murray.

Resources

The following resources are available at [wilshirebc.org/lent](https://www.wilshirebc.org/lent):

- Wilshire ministers and staff have compiled a **Lenten resource guide** focused on spiritual practices.
- Our **family Lenten guide** has ideas for parents about how to engage in spiritual practices with children.

Holy Week: Stations of the Cross

Visit McIver Chapel during Holy Week for a Stations of the Cross exhibit featuring the art of Scott Erickson. The exhibit, which invites us to reflect as we walk with Jesus on his journey to the cross, will be introduced on Palm Sunday, April 13, at the 9 a.m. Sacred Space gathering and can be seen when the church is open through Good Friday at 3 p.m.

Palm Sunday worship

April 13 | 11 a.m. | Sanctuary |

Music from Sanctuary Choir, Youth and Children's Choirs, Carillon Ringers and brass.

Maundy Thursday

April 17 | 7:30 p.m. | Sanctuary |

Always one of the year's most moving worship services, Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper with readings and the Lord's Supper, then carries through to the crucifixion, ending in darkened silence. This year's service will include music by Sanctuary Choir and Nova.

Easter Sunday

April 20

- Sunrise Service, T. & P. Hill at White Rock Lake, 6:30 a.m.
- Columbarium Service, 9:30 a.m.
- Worship, 8:30 and 11 a.m.
- Visit the Flowering Cross.

[wilshirebc.org/lent](https://www.wilshirebc.org/lent)

Special business meeting on bylaws amendments: March 30

All Wilshire members are encouraged to attend a special business meeting after worship on Sunday, March 30. In February, the deacon bylaws workgroup presented the deacons with amended church bylaws for their review. By a unanimous vote, the deacons recommended the amended bylaws be presented to the church for their vote of approval. The sole purpose of the March 30 meeting will be to adopt the



amended bylaws to replace the bylaws currently in effect. Lunch will not be served. Scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/bylaws for details of the amendments.

Next Lunch & Learn is April 2



All are invited to Community Hall the first and third Wednesdays every month at 11:30 a.m. for lunch (\$10 ea.) and Bible study. Minister to Senior Adults Katie Mur-

ray will teach on April 2. See the schedule at wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn.

Internet safety presentation



The rate of technological expansion provides us with both opportunities and challenges. Wilshire member Teri Walker, who works in this ever-evolving space, will lead a presenta-

tion on Internet safety after worship on Sunday, April 6, in Community Hall. You'll learn how to protect yourself and your information in email, social media, text messaging and more. Lunch is available for \$10. Registration is encouraged, not required. This event is hosted by the Adventurers but is open to anyone. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/life-and-tech to sign up.

Adopt-a-Book coming April 6

At the Wilshire Library's Adopt-a-Book event on Sunday, April 6, you can help the Library defray the cost of new books by purchasing a dedication in honor or memory of a loved one. Dedications will be printed on plaques placed inside the books. Not sure who to honor? The Library will have lists of teachers, children's leaders, ministers and staff. Stop by the South Atrium from 9 to 10:45 a.m. or after worship.

Child safety training on April 13

Wilshire member Dawn Hallman will lead a child safety training session after worship on Sunday, April 13. The training is open to anyone but is required for those who work with kids under 18, including teachers, volunteers, parents and deacons. The training will be held after worship and will end by 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Childcare for preschoolers is available by registration; contact Minister to Preschoolers Kelly Akins (kakins@wilshirebc.org) by April 6.

Women of Wilshire events

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | April 8 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *Framed* by John Grisham and Jim McClosky. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

■ The **Brown Bag Book Club** canceled its April 3 meeting and will next meet on May 1 for a discussion of Leila Meacham's *Dragonfly*. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ Women of Wilshire will hold a **Mini-Retreat** on Saturday, April 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Wilshire. Register at wilshirebc.org/events/wow-mini-retreat.

Men's Book Club meets April 15

The Men's Book Club will discuss Frank Bruni's *The Age of Grievance* on Tuesday, April 15, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. Contact: Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net)

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/realml.

AUTOMATIC BANK PAY. Visit your bank's website and set up Wilshire as a payee. The bank will send the church a check.

MAIL. Send to Finance Director Lori Gooden's attention at Wilshire.

TEXT. Text WILSHIRE and a dollar amount (ex: WILSHIRE 50) to 73256.

DONATE STOCKS. Contact Lori to learn how to donate appreciated stocks.

FROM YOUR IRA. For those over 70.5 years old, tax-free IRA gifts offer a financial benefit and may reduce future tax burdens.



Scan code with your
smartphone camera
to make an electronic
contribution.

At Wilshire, we use a one-fund approach to giving called the Unified Budget. Your gifts support the basic mission, ministry and operations of the church. Once the Unified Budget is fulfilled, gifts overflow into visionary aspects of our mission.

This Week

Sunday, March 23

- David Clanton Art Exhibit, South Lobby, through April 20
- Sacred Space Gathering, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Wilshire Welcome, 1100-B, 9:45 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Belong Team, 1205-L, noon
- Children's Choir Snack Lunch, 2221, noon
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Children's Choir, 12:30 pm.
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Memorial Service: Cissy King, Sanctuary, 2 p.m.
- Songwriter Vespers, Choral Hall, 4:30 p.m.
- New Member Fellowship, Home of Valerie and Tim, 6 p.m.

Monday, March 24

- Deacons Meeting, Community Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 25

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

Wednesday, March 26

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Bylaws Deacon Work Group, 1205-L 5:30 p.m.
- Faith in 3D presents *In Songs and Stories*, Sanctuary, 6 p.m.

Thursday, March 27

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

Friday, March 28

- Friday Friends, 3103, 10 a.m.
- Documentary Screening: *Zurawski v. Texas*, Arapaho United Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 29

- Faith in 3D presents *In Songs and Stories*, Sanctuary, 2:30 p.m.

Tina Johnson

Hometown: Houston

Present City: Dallas

Education: B.A., Journalism and English, M.A., English literature, Baylor University

Profession: Director, Proposal Messaging and Storytelling, Maximus

Tell us about your family.

My husband, Bill, and I married in June 2011. My sons, Drew and Mitchell Easley, grew up at Wilshire. Drew graduated from Austin College in 2024 and is back at Wilshire. Mitchell is a sophomore at Oklahoma University. My step-daughter, Aster, lives in Maine.

How about your work or volunteer life?

My career passion is writing. When my boys were younger, I volunteered in their schools and with Boy Scouts.

Any favorite hobbies?

Board games with my family, reading (when I can), and traveling. I am gardening a little and kayaking with the Wilshire “Ladies Who Yak.”

What are your favorite places to travel?

My husband and I enjoy riding off-road trails in the Ozark Mountains. We’ve loved “family reunion” trips to Rocky Mountain National Park, Glacier National Park and Mexico. The boys and I loved Europe. This summer I’m going to Australia and New Zealand.

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

When a job transfer took me to Plano from Austin in 1996, my friends at First Baptist Church of Austin sent me to their sister church, Wilshire, and I never left.



Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

Journey Class, Sanctuary Choir, three-year-old choir and Stephen Ministry training.

What has surprised you most about Wilshire?

The thoughtfulness and talent in the congregation.

What do you think God is up to in your life?

I am listening for what’s mine to do in a new life phase.

Tell us about your faith journey.

My father led me to Christ as a second-grader, and I grew up intimately connected with my church. In college, I began to make my faith my own, and my grandmother introduced me to CBF Baptists. At Wilshire, many people have challenged me, modeled grace and given me strength to do hard things. Chief among them is Miriam Henry, who welcomed me as a young adult, sent copies of the order of worship when I briefly lived abroad and became a “bonus grandmother” to my family. She was a dear friend and spiritual mother in the faith for 25 years.

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

I grew up near NASA, where my friends’ parents brought the space program to life. The can-do spirit and sense of possibility was contagious.

What adjectives best describe you?

I am a good listener, a hard worker and Mama Bear to my family.



2025 Summer CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL

VBS: CAMP FIRELIGHT

Mon.-Fri., June 9-13, 9 a.m.-noon

This year's Vacation Bible School is a summer camp-themed adventure where kids learn to trust God no matter what life brings. Older preschool (age 3 by 9/1/24) through completed grade 5. Free. Advance registration ends June 1. Walk-ins as space allows.

KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL CAMP

Mon.-Fri., July 7-11, 9 a.m.-noon

With "Listening to God" as our theme, we'll use Godly Play to explore Bible stories. Art and science too! Older preschool (age 3 by 9/1/24) through completed Kindergarten. \$50. Register by June 30.

COOKING CAMP

Mon.-Fri., July 7-11, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Completed first through fifth graders will learn about food safety and nutrition and prepare a three-course lunch daily. \$100. **Sold out; waitlist available.**

LISTEN TO YOUR ART!

Mon.-Fri., July 7-11, 12:30-5 p.m.

Creative arts camp with music, visual art, drama, movement, crafts and more. On Friday, kids stay for dinner, and families are invited to a 6:30 p.m. performance and art showcase. Lunch not provided; cost includes T-shirt. Completed first through fifth graders. \$100. Register by June 30.

FULL-DAY COOKING & ART

Mon.-Fri., July 7-11, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Full-day option for grades 2-5. Lunch included. \$175. **Sold out; waitlist available.**

PASSPORT KIDS! PRETEEN CAMP

Sun.-Wed., July 20-23

Completed third through fifth graders will travel by chartered bus to Glen Lake Camp and Retreat Center in Glen Rose for high-energy worship, interactive Bible study, recreation, missions and more, led by camp staff and Wilshire chaperones. \$450. \$50 nonrefundable deposit guarantees a spot. Full payment due July 15.

REGISTER AT [WILSHIREBC.ORG/SUMMER-CAMPS](https://www.wilshirebc.org/summer-camps)

Wilshire Baptist Church | 4316 Abrams Rd. | 214-452-3100

