



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

April 27, 2025

Second Sunday of Easter

Preparing for worship

Today is the second Sunday of Easter. Last week's Easter Sunday worship was an amazing time of great joy and excitement as we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus.

During the Sundays of Lent, our Wilshire Pre-K Sunday School class (4- and 5-year-olds) learned about a different aspect of the life of Jesus. Using the Godly Play curriculum, we started with the birth of Jesus, and the following week we talked about Jesus as a 12-year-old boy learning in the temple. Each week we reviewed what we learned the previous week and added another important aspect of the life of Jesus. This led us to Easter, when we learned about Jesus' death on Friday, followed by the women going to the tomb on Sunday only to find it empty. We told our young friends that just as Jesus was alive with his friends then, he is with us now. Hearing this story, one child's eyes widened as he said, "Well, that's just crazy ... he was dead and then alive? That's crazy!"

How often do my young friend's words cross our minds when we think about the resurrection? We've never seen a dead person coming back to life, which gives us something in common with Thomas in today's Scripture passage. Although Thomas was interested in his friends' stories of seeing Jesus alive after the crucifixion, Thomas needed a firsthand experience.

What about us? What do we need to help strengthen our belief in the resurrection of Jesus? Somehow worshiping together, hearing the Scriptures, singing about God's attributes and being reminded that "we walk by faith and not by sight" help us to persevere in our own faith journey.

As we told our young friends last week about the resurrection, "It seems crazy, but that's the mystery of Easter and it makes all the difference. The story continues forever."

—LeAnn Hampton



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: *The Sacred Doubting Finger of Thomas*, Scott Erickson, scottericksonart.com.

April 27, 2025
11:00 a.m.
Second Sunday of Easter

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

Christina Evans

Prelude

Joy Dance
Wilshire Winds
Shana Gaines, director

Scott Watson

+Congregational Song

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
No. 319
Stanzas 1–3

LOBE DEN HERREN

+Call to Worship

Linda Lyles

Come God.

Come walk with your people,
For you alone are our strength and glory.

Come walk behind us, beside us, before us,
For you alone are our shelter and direction.

Come seek and find and put us right,
For you alone are the light in darkness

Come God.
We know you are near.
The sound of your footsteps sets us to dancing.
Help us to praise and worship you .

+Response in Song

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore thee.
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him.**

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

One: Praise the LORD!
Praise God in the sanctuary;
praise God in God's mighty firmament!

**All: Praise God for God's mighty deeds;
praise God according to God's surpassing greatness!**

One: Praise God with trumpet sound;
praise God with lute and harp!

**All: Praise God with tambourine and dance;
praise God with strings and pipe!**

One: Praise God with clanging cymbals;
praise God with loud clashing cymbals!

**All: Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD!**

Interview — In Deed and Truth

Abbey Adcox

Offertory

Meditation on Everlasting Life
Wilshire Winds

Rossano Galante

+Gospel Reading — John 20:19–31

Dewey Watson

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now

Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.
But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of
God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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	<i>We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight</i> No. 634	FAITH’S JOURNEY
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Message	“Resurrecting Doubt”	Heather Mustain
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Prayers of the People		Katie Murray
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Prayer Through Music	<i>Pianosong</i> Organ and piano duet	Paul Halley
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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	<i>Christ Is Alive</i> No. 205	TRURO
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Sharing of Decisions		Heather Mustain
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Benediction		Heather Mustain
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Postlude	<i>Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing</i>	arr. Wilbur Held
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The flowers today are given in memory of
Helen Terry and Reed Terry by Steve and LuElla Terry.

Meet today's worship leaders

Abbey Adcox and her husband, Chris, joined Wilshire in 1999. They are the parents of Carter, a member of Intersection Class, Camryn, a junior at the University of Oklahoma, and Collin, a freshman at the University of Georgia. Abbey attends Seekers Class, serves as a deacon and is co-coordinator of Women of Wilshire. She serves on Wilshire's staff as missions and advocacy coordinator and is pursuing a Master of Divinity at SMU's Perkins School of Theology.

Christina Evans and her husband, Mark, joined Wilshire in 2024 with their two kids, Liam, 6, and Ellie, 4. Christina and Mark are members of Labyrinth Class, and Christina serves on the Weekday Education Committee and the steering committee for MomCo.

Linda Lyles joined Wilshire in 2018. She is a member of Compass Class, serves on the Missions and Advocacy Committee, volunteers with Friday Friends and sings in New Song Community Choir.

Dewey Watson and his wife, Sandra, joined Wilshire in 2023 after moving to Dallas from Little Rock, Arkansas. They attend Compass Class and sing in New Song Community Choir. Dewey practiced law for 40 years and continues to serve as a mediator, arbitrator and hearing officer for the Arkansas Contractors Licensing Board. The Watsons have three adult children and six grandchildren.

See page 8 to learn about today's interview subjects, **Emily Rhodes** of the St. Charles Center for Faith + Action and **Shauna Lewis** of E Pluribus Unum.



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)



Worship interview to highlight racial reconciliation efforts

OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, a cohort of Wilshire members has been prayerfully reflecting on our congregation's history and ongoing call to racial reconciliation.

The group was formed when Wilshire was selected to participate in *In Deed and Truth: Interrogating the Legacies of the White Church in America* (IDAT), an initiative of the St. Charles Center for Faith + Action, E Pluribus Unum and the Public Religion Research Institute.

As part of its work, Wilshire's IDAT team has been developing a land acknowledgment that honors the Indigenous peoples who first stewarded this land. The team is also crafting a visual timeline that traces our church's relationship to racial injustice and the ongoing work of repair and reconciliation.

Two leaders of the national IDAT initiative will be interviewed in worship today:

Emily Rhodes serves as director of programs and community engagement with the St. Charles Center for Faith + Action. Her work has spanned affordable housing, criminal justice reform, community engagement, reentry support, workforce development, organizational management and strengthening social support systems. Emily holds a master's degree in justice and advocacy from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Shauna Lewis serves as the community engagement manager for E Pluribus Unum and is responsible for managing strategies and projects to support community organizations across the southern United States. She has worked with populations who have increased vulnerability due to violence, poverty and social exclusion. Shauna holds master's degrees in business and Latin American studies from Tulane University.

Wilshire's IDAT team is planning to share the land acknowledgment and timeline with the congregation in June, when these documents will be on display in a central church space for reflection, interaction and conversation.

The cohort also plans to host a series of focus groups in the coming months. These will offer space to listen, reflect and discern together where God may be leading us next — both as individuals and as a church. This is not about having all the answers but about faithfully taking the next right steps.

We invite you to participate with open hearts, thoughtful questions and a willingness to grow together as a beloved community of faith shaped by the Spirit of Jesus Christ and rooted in justice, truth and grace.

—Juliana Moore, Wilshire IDAT team member



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.

New members

Crystal Tucker

Adriene and David Parrish

Condolences to

Doug Havis on the death of his wife,

Calla Havis, April 18.

Graduate info needed by May 7

Wilshire will recognize 2025 high school graduates during worship on May 18; their photos will be printed in the worship folder along with those of church members who received a bachelor's degree from June 2024 to May 2025. To be included, submit your information and a photo by Wednesday, May 7, at wilshirebc.org/graduates. Contact: Chelsea Hopkins (chopkins@wilshirebc.org)

Preschool Playdate at the Park

Preschoolers and their families are invited to a playdate at Coffee Park (3400 Northwest Parkway) on Saturday, May 3, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Contact: Minister to Preschoolers Kelly Akins (kakins@wilshirebc.org)

Music and Missions zoo outing

KidConnect and Children's Choir participants will celebrate the end of the school year with a fun day at the Dallas Zoo on Saturday, May 3, from 8:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. The outing will include a photo scavenger hunt, a picnic lunch with the animals and more. See details and register by May 1 at wilshirebc.org/events/zoo.

Next Lunch & Learn is May 7



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 Murray will teach on May 7. See the schedule at

wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn.



Hannah Service offered May 4

As much as we celebrate the gift of mothers in our lives, Mother's Day can bring feelings of grief to those who have experienced infertility, miscarriage, death of an infant or child, adoption loss, abortion, family estrangement or the death of a mother. With this in mind, Wilshire will offer a Hannah Service on Sunday, May 4, at 2 p.m. in McIver Chapel. For those who grieve and the loved ones who support them, the service will give space to lament and remember. To register for childcare, email Kelly Akins at kakins@wilshirebc.org.

Volunteer opportunity at WRCH



Wilshire is assembling a team of 20 volunteers for White Rock Center of Hope's food distribution on Saturday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to noon. To sign up, scan the QR code or visit

bit.ly/4ilg7n8 or contact Abbey Adcox (aadcox@wilshirebc.org).

New Song concert next Sunday



New Song Community Choir will hold a 20th-anniversary benefit concert at Wilshire on May 4 at 6:30 p.m. “You’re never too old to make a

new friend or learn a new song” is the motto of the choir, a vibrant group of senior adults led by Sarah Stafford. With over 80 singers from 28 churches, eight senior living facilities and 10 Metroplex communities, the group performs regularly at senior centers, churches and community organizations, offering both sacred and secular music to uplift audiences. New Song began at Wilshire in 2005 and became a stand-alone nonprofit in 2020 with generous seed funding from Wilshire, which provides the choir rehearsal, storage and office space. New Song is funded mostly by grants and donations. Learn more and donate at newsongchoir.org.

Women of Wilshire book clubs

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | May 1 | Noon | 1205-L | *Dragonfly* by Leila Meacham. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | May 13 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

Sign up for May 14 Blood Drive



Carter BloodCare will be at Wilshire for a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14. There is a critical need for several blood types, including A+, A-, O+, O- and B-. Walk-ins are welcome; appointments are recommended. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/blood-drive to make an appointment or scan the QR code.

WILSHIRE IN THE PARK

Churchwide Picnic
Sunday, May 18
5–7 p.m.
Flag Pole Hill Pavilion

Don’t miss our annual picnic with food, face painting and fun at Flag Pole Hill’s inclusive playground. The pavilion and picnic tables are ours to use; bring your own lawn chairs or picnic blankets.

Wilshire will provide fried chicken, rolls and drinks. The rest of the meal is potluck with these assignments by last name:

- A–F, fruit
- G–Q, veggies or salad
- R–Z, dessert

Please use disposable containers and serving utensils and bring enough food to serve at least eight.

Volunteers are needed. Sign up at wilshirebc.org/events/wilshire-in-the-park.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

APRIL 30

Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet dinner. Cash/check/credit accepted. See prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **April 30:** Pulled pork, baked beans, buttered corn, rolls, broccoli cheddar soup, apple crumble, caramel pecan cookies, jello. **Kids:** Pork, beans and corn.

Preschool Music & Missions

6 p.m. | Age 3–Pre-K | Preschool choir plus activities and lessons focused on God's love.

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.

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.

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



Resident-led Vespers

6 p.m. | McIver Chapel | This time of prayer, music and communion will mark the close of our recent emphasis on spiritual exploration and mysticism. The service will include a reflection on the Pathways team's recent experience at the Monastery of Christ in the Desert.

May 7: Children's Choir and KidConnect year-end program

The final Wednesday night this spring will include the year-end program for Children's Choir and KidConnect at 6 p.m. in Community Hall. This will take the place of other 6 p.m. programming, but Koinonia Café will be served at 5 p.m. as usual.

Pathways heard the sound of silence

BY CHARLIE FULLER

SO, WHAT'S A SILENT RETREAT? Silence, you say? How can anyone find silence in this crazy, busy, crowded world? One way to find silence is to travel to the high desert and spend some time with the Benedictine monks at the Monastery of Christ in the Desert in New Mexico.

So, what's the sound of silence? Silence at the monastery has a soundtrack. Imagine the sound of boots crunching gravel as one walks around the monastery grounds. Imagine the honking of geese, the chirping of birds. Imagine a chapel bell tower calling folks to prayer in the morning at 5, 6:20, 7 and 9:15 and in the afternoon at 1, 5:20, 5:50 and 7:15. The soundtrack also includes the singing of Psalms in Gregorian chant. Maybe the most beautiful sound of silence is the wind passing through the aspen and cottonwood trees, sometimes like a gentle zephyr, sometimes with commanding force.

Imagine that wind as part of a clear, clean, blue sky perfumed with a hint of juniper and piñon. Imagine experiencing that silence at the head of a magnificent canyon of multicolored stone and a scattering of juniper and pine. Imagine what Georgia O'Keeffe thought and felt when she first found this country.

Imagine being in a place with no cell service. No email, texts, Facebook or Instagram. Imagining the silencing of social media and the entire Internet. Imagine eating meals in total silence without a single word of conversation.

It's hard to imagine a place more suited to meeting with God. And in addition to the beauty, silence is one of the keys. Removing the din of conversation is often required to make room to hear the voice of God.

A monastery is not a resort. The accommodations are comfortable, but in no way luxurious. There are no concierges on site to plan your day. The food is healthy, but not extravagant. The day is simply prayer, meals, reading, meditating and



optional work with the monks.

Why do ministers need times and places like this? Because ministers are called to help people experience the voice and presence of God. And one of the best ways to empower ministers to do this work is for them to learn to do it themselves. A silent retreat might be one of the most important ways for ministers to clear their own clutter of mind and heart in order to show up as the people they need to be, to lead their congregations into the presence of God. As a part of Pathways to Ministry, this is also a way for us to help young ministers learn the importance of self-care, whether it involves a week at a monastery in the high desert or some other way to disconnect and find God.

From April 7 to 11, Senior Pastor Timothy, residents Georgia and Maggie and I spent a few days doing the holy work that God had for us. We're grateful beyond words for the privilege and the opportunity made possible by Wilshire. May the spiritual work we've done while away contribute to the work we will do in the weeks and months to come. We say thanks to Wilshire and thanks be to God!



CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL

VBS: CAMP FIRELIGHT

Mon.–Fri., June 9–13, 9 a.m.–noon

KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL CAMP

Mon.–Fri., July 7–11, 9 a.m.–noon

COOKING CAMP

Mon.–Fri., July 7–11, 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Sold out; waitlist available.

LISTEN TO YOUR ART!

Mon.–Fri., July 7–11, 12:30–5 p.m.

FULL-DAY COOKING & ART

Mon.–Fri., July 7–11, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sold out; waitlist available.

PASSPORT KIDS! PRETEEN CAMP

Sun.–Wed., July 20–23



REGISTER AT
WILSHIREBC.ORG/SUMMER-CAMPS

Marriage Connections is May 9

The final Marriage Connections of the school year will be a celebration of outgoing mentor couple Patty and Paul Latham on Friday, May 9. Free childcare (infant–grade 5) will be provided at the church from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Registration for childcare is required by May 4. 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, May 9, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Registration is required and closes May 4; register at wilshirebc.org/events/pno.

Men's Book Club

The Men's Book Club will discuss Scott Spreier's novel *Resurrecting St. John the Rancher* on Tuesday, May 20, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. The group meets the third Tuesday every month. Contact Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net).

Adventurers to Audubon Center

The Wilshire Adventurers will visit the Trinity River Audubon Center on Thursday, May 22. Wilshire's own Grady Hinton will serve as guide to the birds and wildflowers that can be seen from the center's walkable trails. The group will meet at Wilshire at 8:30 a.m. to carpool. The event is free, but registration is required. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/audubon.

Free yoga class May 17

Wilshire member Mary Lu Hare will offer a free yoga class in the Youth Center on Saturday, May 17. The one-hour session will start at 10 a.m. and is suitable for all experience levels. Bring a yoga mat, water and a friend.

WSM YOUTH CAMP

June 30–July 5 | wilshirebc.org/events/youth-camp-2025



"Youth camp is the BEST week of the year where you have opportunities to grow relationships with Christ as well as friends."

Parker Mosley, 12th grade



It's time to sign up for Wilshire Student Ministry's best week of the year. The group will again travel to Ferncliff Camp near Little Rock, Arkansas, which provides great lodging, meeting space and recreation — hiking, nature trails, a swimming pool, lake activities, disc golf, sand volleyball and more. Mix in great adult leaders and good friends and you have everything you need for a fun, meaningful week. We're excited to welcome back Jared Jagers as camp pastor. Jared is a former Wilshire pastoral resident and intern now serving on staff at the American International Church in London.

How much does it cost?

This year's cost of \$500 covers meals, lodging, activities, transportation and a fantastic T-shirt.

How does lodging work?

Youth will stay in cabins assigned by grade.

How are we getting there?

As usual, we'll travel by bus. The trip takes about 6.5 hours.

Are scholarships available?

Yes. We never want money concerns to keep any youth from attending youth camp. For more information, please contact Darren (ddement@wilshirebc.org).

Are guests welcome?

Absolutely! Camp is a great way to introduce someone to WSM.

How do I sign up?



Register and pay online. Get started by scanning the QR code or visiting wilshirebc.org/events/youth-camp-2025.

Is there a deadline?

We'd love to have everyone signed up and paid in full by June 25. The earlier you sign up, the easier it is for us to plan an awesome week.

Michael Sheaffer

Hometown: Yukon, Oklahoma

Present City: Dallas

Education: Undergraduate in music with minors in biology, chemistry, psychology and physics; master's in music pedagogy and performance; master's in business administration

Profession: Senior director of strategic accounts, Yardi Systems

Tell us about your family.

My wife, Dawn, and I have been married for 26 years and have one daughter, Elle, who is 16. Dawn and I met in college, where we were in the same choir and toured together well before we started dating. I'm fortunate to have both Dawn and Elle in my life as they continue to make me a better person. We also have a 6-year-old Labrador, Walter, who helps balance out the house.

How about your work or volunteer life?

Yardi, an accounting and ERP software company, values giving back to the communities that surround their offices. For 15 years I have been the nonprofit lead for our Dallas office, which has allowed me to create relationships with many great nonprofit organizations in the area and I'm fortunate to have personal connections to many of them (Dallas Casa, Minnie's Food Pantry and Texas Conservation Alliance to name a few). My work hobby for years has been to find new ways to engage our teams to do time-based volunteering to supplement our corporate financial sponsorship for these organizations and help educate our employee base on the various efforts and causes of our nonprofit partners.



Any favorite hobbies?

Spending time with Walter, our 6-year-old Labrador, road biking and playing piano. Being home during the pandemic reintroduced me to my love of cooking.

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

We came in 2009 shortly after the birth of Elle. We wanted to have a church home for Elle, and Wilshire checked all the boxes. Joan Hammons is the individual who encouraged us to trust the preschool wing during service, which was our first step to membership.

Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

I participated in the recent Songwriter Vespers and enjoyed using my musical talents with that group. For several years, I helped with Young Musicians and Kindergarten Sunday School and sang in Sanctuary Choir. In the past 5 to 7 years I've been unable to be as active with choir and music due to work travel. I try to engage in the music ministry when I am able and do miss it.

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

One of my jobs during college was cantor at the Oklahoma City Catholic Pastoral Center, which had a Tridentine Service (all-Latin mass) each Sunday. This is where I learned more about the liturgical calendar and got to regularly sing music written in neumes, the precursor to notes on a musical staff.

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, April 27

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Children's Choir Snack Lunch, 2221, noon
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Adventurers Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Children's Education Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Compass Class Curriculum Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Missions & Advocacy Committee, 3301, noon
- One Starry Night Steering Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Pathways to Ministry Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Preschool Education Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Children's Choir, 12:30 pm.
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2:15 p.m.

Monday, April 28

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

Tuesday, April 29

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

Wednesday, April 30

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Vespers, McIver Chapel, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music, Missions, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary, 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 1

- Friday Friends Volunteer Training, 3103, 9 a.m.
- WOW Brown Bag Book Club, 1205-L, noon
- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.

Friday, May 2

- MomCo, Community Hall, 9 a.m.

Saturday, May 3

- Music & Missions Outing to Dallas Zoo, 9 a.m.
- New Song, Sanctuary, 9 a.m.
- Preschool Playtime, Coffee Park, 9:30 a.m.