



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

October 5, 2025
World Communion Sunday

Preparing for worship

In his book *Food and Faith: A Theology of Eating*, Norman Wirzba writes, “The ministries of Christ demonstrate that the path to full or abundant life is not a magical path. It is a practical journey that begins with eating. Table fellowship is among the most powerful ways we know to extend and share in each other’s lives.”

When I lived in Waco, one of my friends invited me to get together with two of her close friends for a monthly dinner club. Each month one person would host everyone in their home and prepare a main dish for all of us to share.

If you were not hosting, you were expected to volunteer to bring either a side dish, a bottle of wine or a dessert to round out the menu for the evening. The host would let the group know what the main dish would be, and then everyone else would determine what other items would best complement the entrée.

The first time I joined came shortly after a time when social gatherings had been scarce, and I was longing for opportunities to be with others in community. I remember how the other people in the dinner club welcomed me so kindly,

and the conversations we had around the shared meals were a treat. This monthly practice was something I always looked forward to, especially when I got the opportunity to welcome and host these new friends into my home. The event gave me opportunities to practice giving and receiving hospitality, experiment with different flavors and recipes and taste some really delicious food prepared by people who I grew to know more deeply. There was something deeply special and transformative about feasting on a meal that would come together dish by dish in the company of friends.

Today is World Communion Sunday, a day in the life of the Church where we set aside time to remember that Christians and congregations across the world are connected by our faith. We are reminded that we are made one in Jesus Christ. As we partake in the Lord’s Supper this morning, I invite you to meditate and consider the ways in which our practice of eating this sacred meal forms, transforms and unites us together to God, Christ and the Holy Spirit.

—Amanda Hines



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
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship | Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists

We acknowledge that this land where we gather once held the sacred voices of Indigenous peoples and bore the suffering of the enslaved.

On the cover: *Communion Cruciform*, Scott Erickson. scottericksonart.com

October 5, 2025
11:00 a.m.
World Communion Sunday

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

Becky Waterfield

Prelude

Improvisation on THAXTED

arr. Asriel Davis

+Congregational Song

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON



1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re-deem - er's praise,
2. The name of Je - sus charms our fears, and bids our sor - rows cease,
3. Christ speaks, and lis - tening to his voice new life the dead re - ceive;
4. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,

the glo - ries of my God and King, the — tri - umphs of God's grace!
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.
the mourn - ful wak - en to re - joice; the — poor in heart be - lieve.
to spread through all the earth a - broad the — hon - ors of thy name.

+Call to Worship

Connie McDaniel

One: The table is prepared.

All: The feast awaits us.

One: Let us gather at the table that has no edges.

All: Let us gather at the table that stretches around the globe.

One: Let us eat the bread broken for the brokenness of the world.

All: Let us drink from the cup that holds the salvation of the nations.

One: Christ invites us to this Holy Feast.

All: All are welcome!

+Response in Song

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

**To God all glory, praise and love be now and ever given
By saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.**

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

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

Prayers of the People

Georgia McKee

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.**

Offertory

We Have Come Together
New Song Community Choir
Sarah Stafford, director; Ralph Manuel, piano

Lyrics: George Gagliardi
Music: Ralph Manuel

Children of the Lord, we have come, come together.
Come to worship him, worship him who shares his grace.
Lift your voice in praise, in singing Alleluia.
Let the Spirit of his love be in this place.

Brothers of the faith, we have come, come together.
Come to put aside, put aside unkind words and deeds.
Open up your eyes: the world is at your shoulder.
Oh, let’s reach out our hands and heal a world that bleeds.

Sisters of the faith, we have come, come together.
Come to lend our strength, lend our strength, sharing his command.
Listen every day, for he is always speaking.
Let’s learn how to love, to help us understand.

Children of the Lord, we have come, come together.
Come to worship him, worship him who gave himself.
And, when we have sung our songs of holy praises,
Let us dare to share ourselves with somebody else.

We have come, come together!

+Psalm Reading — Psalm 137:1-8

Katie Murray

By the rivers of Babylon —
there we sat down, and there we wept
when we remembered Zion.
On the willows there
we hung up our harps.
For there our captors
asked us for songs,
and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying,
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”
How could we sing the LORD’s song
in a foreign land?
If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither!

Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth,
if I do not remember you,
if I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy.
Remember, O LORD, against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem’s fall,
how they said, “Tear it down! Tear it down!
Down to its foundations!”
O daughter Babylon, you devastator!
Happy shall they be who pay you back
what you have done to us!

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!

Message

“Memory and Witness”

Maggie Morey

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Maggie Morey

All followers of Christ are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper, whether
you are a Wilshire member or not. The bread used this morning is gluten free.

Passing of the Bread

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Ralph Manuel, piano

arr. Dan Forrest

Passing of the Cup

Benedictus

Alec Rowley

Passing of the Peace

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

+Congregational Song

God of Grace and God of Glory
No. 285

CWM RHONDDA

Sharing of Decisions

Maggie Morey

Benediction

Maggie Morey

Postlude

Improvisation on AZMON

Ariel Merivil

Sarah Stafford, congregational song leader
Ariel Merivil, organist

About this morning's offertory:

Today marks the first public performance of *We Have Come Together*, written by two Wilshire members, Ralph Manuel and the late George Gagliardi. Ralph said, "During the pandemic, George gave me these words and asked if I would set them to music. I took up the challenge but had trouble figuring out an ending and set it aside. When I returned to the anthem, the pandemic was over. George approved the final result, and I'm happy that New Song Community Choir, of which George was a member, agreed to present this music. I find George's lyrics especially relevant to today's fragmented world as we are invited to 'come together' in the worship of the Lord."

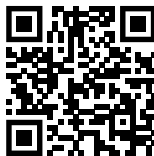
Meet today's worship leaders

Chris Klemme and his wife, Kelly, joined Wilshire in 2019. They are members of Journey Class and have two adult children. An avid golfer, Chris works as a senior vice president and DFW Trust Department manager for American National Bank & Trust.

Ralph Manuel and his wife, Donna, joined Wilshire in 2018. They are members of Cord of Three Class, and Ralph sings in Sanctuary Choir. A composer, former minister of music and missionary, Ralph serves as handbell coordinator at Wilshire and directs Carillon Ringers.

Connie McDaniel and her husband, Steve, joined Wilshire in March after returning to Dallas from Morocco, where they lived for 35 years. They are the parents of Wilshire member Angela Brindle and grandparents to Nicolette. The McDaniels attend Cord of Three Class. Connie teaches ESL at Dallas College and previously taught art at an international school.

Becky Waterfield joined Wilshire in 1995 and is married to Joe. They have two adult daughters. Becky attends Compass Class, sings with New Song Community Choir and serves on the Hospitality Team, the Adventurers Committee and the lay support team for Pastoral Resident Amanda Hines.



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)
- Katie Murray, Minister of Pastoral Care and to Senior Adults (3129)

Finance

- Shaffon Alexander, 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)
- Amanda Hines, Pastoral Resident (3154)
- George Mason, Senior Pastor Emeritus and Pathways to Ministry Alumni Director (3133)
- Georgia McKee, Pastoral Resident (3152)
- Jordann McMahan, Pastoral Resident (3155)
- Maggie Morey, Pastoral Resident (3153)

Senior Pastor

- Chelsea Hopkins, Executive Assistant (3132)
- Timothy Peoples, Senior Pastor (3132)

Spiritual Formation

- Kelly Akins, Minister to Preschoolers (3139)
- Darren DeMent, Associate Pastor (3102)
- Julie Girards, Minister to Children (3104)
- Carole McClung, Spiritual Formation Ministry Assistant (3130)
- Katie Murray, Minister of Pastoral Care and to Senior Adults (3129)
- Barbara Peterson, Librarian (3114)



Contemplative worship to be offered weekly at 9 a.m.

New service in McIver Chapel will explore spiritual practices

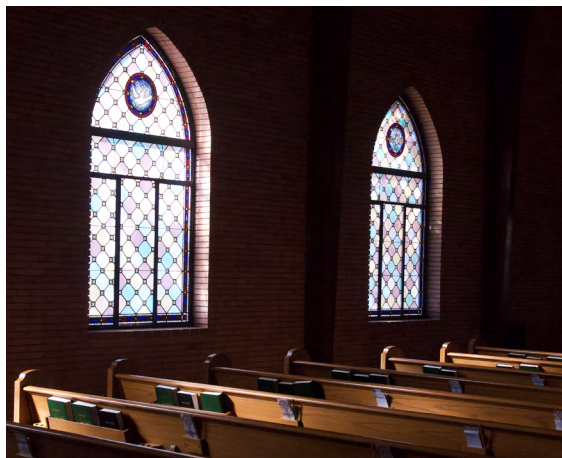
STARTING SUNDAY, NOV. 9, Wilshire will offer a weekly 9 a.m. service in McIver Chapel focused on contemplative practices. The service will last 35 to 40 minutes and will include Scripture, music, a homily and prayer, with a different spiritual practice explored each month.

“This new service,” Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples wrote in an email to congregants, “will provide a sacred space where we can step away from the busyness and noise of daily life to slow down, be still and cultivate a deeper connection with God. ... participants will be invited to listen inwardly and engage with the Divine in a way that nourishes the soul and renews the spirit.”

The chapel service will be completely different from Wilshire’s 11 a.m. Sanctuary worship. The ministerial staff conceived the new service after receiving positive feedback from contemplative experiences offered at 9 a.m. in recent years during Advent and Lent.

Timothy and the pastoral residents will share homily duties for the 9 a.m. service, and spiritual practices to be explored include Visio Divina, Lectio Divina and the Examen.

One thing 9 a.m. worship will have in com-



mon with 11 a.m. worship: Communion will be offered the first Sunday each month.

Timothy said, “This is an invitation to explore a quieter, more reflective way of worship that meets us where we are and helps us grow in our faith journey. We look forward to seeing how this experiment unfolds and hope it will become a meaningful part of our spiritual life together.”

Childcare for preschoolers will be offered each week during the 9 a.m. service.



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 member

Joshua Huff

Congratulations to

Megan and Luke Willson on the birth of their son, Jake Hayes, Sept. 28. Grandparents are **Shellie and Hank Thompson**; aunt and uncle are **Melinda and Grayson Orr**.

Register by today for Oct. 10 Marriage Connections

Marriage Connections will be held Friday, Oct. 10, at 6:30 p.m. Free childcare (infant–grade 5) will be provided while parents enjoy a short program at the church and then have the rest of the night, until 9:30, to themselves. Registration is required for childcare and closes Sunday, Oct. 5. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/marriage-connections.

Single, Adoptive, Foster Parents Night Out

Free childcare (infant–grade 5) will be provided for single, adoptive and foster parents on Friday, Oct. 10, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Registration is required and closes Sunday, Oct. 5. Sign up at wilshirebc.org/events/pno.

Mission partner meet and greet



Whosoever Wilshire Class will host a meet and greet with a Wilshire mission partner on Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m. in Room 3105. Tammy Johnson, founder and executive director of

Empowering the Masses, will tell the story of the nonprofit — when it was founded, who it serves and what it does, from training classes in phlebotomy to job application help to a market for food-insecure families. All are welcome to come meet Tammy and mingle with the “Whosoever.” Light refreshments will be served.

The Plymouth Choir + Wilshire Sanctuary Choir

Sing Glory to the Name of God

A FESTIVAL OF HYMNS



Hymn festival on Oct. 18

The Plymouth Choir from First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, will be joined by Wilshire’s Sanctuary Choir to present a hymn festival here on Saturday, Oct. 18, at 7:30 p.m. In *Sing Glory to the Name of God: A Festival of Hymns*, the choirs will bring a message of hope in a program celebrating the many names we offer God. Attendees will be invited to raise their voices in beloved hymns, and the choirs will sing spiritually powerful, expressive music by Margaret Bonds, André Thomas and Plymouth Choir conductor Tom Trenney. Ariel Merivil served at First-Plymouth before joining Wilshire as minister of music.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Mission partners foster hope

ON THIS WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, we celebrate the global Church and particularly the ways Wilshire's courageous and perseverant partners, alongside God's Spirit, are healing the world.

It can be hard to find goodness, beauty, mercy, justice or compassion in today's headlines, but the hope is this small report will serve as a reminder that it all can be found and that it all exists. We just have to look for the helpers.



■ **Bukabwa, Tanzania:** This year 80 new students with **Twelve21 Global** will be enrolled in kindergarten, putting the total school enrollment for 2026 at 553 students. These are children from families facing extreme poverty, abandonment, trauma and spiritual darkness. Many come from homes where food is scarce, education is out of reach and hope feels like a distant dream.

■ **Skopje, Macedonia:** Jeff and Alicia Lee, **Cooperative Baptist Fellowship** field personnel, continue to build a beloved community as their adult friends with developmental delays at Poraka help harvest their first season in the vineyards and distribute food boxes to those in need. All profits from the vineyard will be used to help with economic and agricultural development work.



■ **Gaza City, Gaza: Bright Stars of Bethlehem** continues to enroll students at the only arts and culture university in Palestine. As the region has faced genocide and indescribable devastation, Dar-al-Kalima students hosted the first



Cinema of the Camp initiative, where 120 boys and girls from Gaza City sat together under the open sky and viewed films that reminded them that their voices

matter, their dreams are valid and joy is still possible, even in the harshest of circumstances.

■ **Dallas:** On any given Sunday at **Gaston Christian Center**, church services are held in seven different languages. GCC is also home to 21 nonprofit organizations that provide important programs and services to the Dallas community.

■ GCC tenant **Gateway of Grace** continues to minister to refugees by providing critical services that are no longer provided by other local refugee resettlement agencies. Through Gateway of Grace, refugee women are empowered through education, men are equipped with the language to find meaningful work and children laugh safely once again.

■ **Light of Hope Immigration Law Center**, also housed at the Gaston Center, provides reliable legal assistance, free citizenship classes and a safe space for immigrant families to dream big.

Hope is being found, beloved community is being made and lives are being changed. Let us not forget the joy and love that flows from the people of God all around the world. And let us not forget to join them and pray with them.



—Heather Mustain

Preschool Playdate on Oct. 11

Preschoolers and their families are invited to come play with Ms. Kelly at Flag Pole Hill Park (8015 Doran Cir.) on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Let's Organize! meets Oct. 15



Are you interested in working with others to create positive change in our community? Join Abbey Adcox and Georgia McKee on Wednesday, Oct. 15, at 6 p.m. for the next meeting of Let's

Organize!, which is held in the Parlor the first and third Wednesdays each month.

Oct. 15 is next Lunch & Learn



All are invited to Community Hall at 11:30 a.m. the first and third Wednesdays every month for a buffet lunch (\$10) followed by Bible study. Associate Pastor Darren DeMent will teach on Oct.

15. No RSVP needed; pay at the door.

Monthly service opportunities

■ A Wilshire group serves the fourth Friday morning each month at the **Vickery Meadow Youth Development Foundation's Mobile Food Pantry**. If you can help, contact Charlie Estee at cesteedallas@gmail.com.

■ Cindy Estee coordinates volunteers to serve as food pantry assistants at the **Wilkinson Center** the third Tuesday afternoon each month. Contact Cindy at cesteedallas@aol.com.

■ Wilshire volunteers serve lunch at the **Stewpot** the second Thursday every month. Contact David Cossum at dc@cossum.com.

Gaston Center open house Oct. 19



Mission partner Gaston Christian Center will hold an open house on Sunday, Oct. 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. All are invited to tour the facility, meet staff and board members and learn how

GCC is a resource hub for the community. The center is located at 8515 Greenville Ave.

Texas Impact to hold event on state constitutional amendments

On Sunday, Oct. 12, faith-based advocacy agency Texas Impact will host a discussion about several proposed amendments to the Texas constitution. The session will provide an overview of 17 amendments that will appear on the November ballot, helping attendees understand them and what they could mean for our communities. The event will be held at Arapaho United Methodist Church from 12:30 to 2 p.m. and can also be accessed online. Register at arapahoumc.org/texas.

Wilshire Welcome meets Oct. 12

Wilshire Welcome, a one-session class to help guests and new members learn about the church, will meet Sunday, Oct. 12, at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near McIver Chapel. No RSVP is needed; for more information, contact Carolyn Murray, coordinator of congregational life, at cmurray@wilshirebc.org.

Middle School Bells starts Oct. 19

Middle School Bells is a new opportunity for students in grades 6–8 to learn more about reading music and developing musicianship in a low-pressure setting. Starting Oct. 19, the group will rehearse in the Handbell Room from 1:30 to 2 p.m. on Sundays. Jeff Brummel, who has years of college and private teaching experience, will direct. Contact Jeff with questions at jbrummel@wilshirebc.org. Note: Jeff is on sabbatical until Oct. 13.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE OCTOBER 8

Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet dinner with kid-friendly options. Cash/check/credit. Prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **Oct. 8:** Butter chicken, basmati rice, roasted vegetables, hummus and naan, vegetable curry, mango lassi, garam masala cookies, jello. **Kids:** Chicken, rice and 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, plus Kindergarten choir.

Watershed

6:30 p.m. | Grades 6–12 | Bible study and music in the Youth Center.

Sanctuary Choir

7 p.m. | Choral Hall | Wilshire's main adult choir rehearses weekly. New singers are always welcome, and there's no audition.



Bible Study

6 p.m. | Community Hall | This series during September and October will highlight the voices of various women in the Bible, using feminist insights to show the expansive ways these women's unique experiences reveal the work of God and witness to the gospel.

■ **Oct 8:** Esther

■ **Oct. 15:** Deborah and Jael

■ **Oct. 22:** Lydia and Phoebe

■ **Oct. 29:** Vespers in McIver Chapel

■ **November:** Next month we will study Kaitlin Curtice's *Living Resistance*. Consider deepening your experience by purchasing and reading the book in advance.

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

Heather on panel for SMU event

Associate Pastor Heather Mustain will be one of four panelists discussing the intersection of faith, housing and human dignity at SMU on Thursday, Oct. 23. The event will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Moody Hall on the SMU campus. Learn more about the event and register at bit.ly/4nm7H1W.

Adventurers event on Oct. 29

Wilshire Adventurers will enjoy lunch (\$10 ea.) and a presentation from Texas Master Gardener Fran Powell at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 29. No reservation required. In “Language and Legends of Flowers,” Powell will share about the rich symbolism of flowers as inspired by myths, legends, religion, world cultures and literature. Adventurers is a fellowship group for anyone 60 and up.

WOW: Bubbles, Bites & BWNA

Join Women of Wilshire on Thursday, Oct. 30, for a casual evening with friends while learning about the work of Baptist Women of North America and their Education Equity Program, which provides period products in Africa. The come-and-go (or come-and-stay) gathering will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the home of Carolyn Murray (9930 Caribou Tr.). Please RSVP at wilshirebc.org/events/bwna.

Women of Wilshire book clubs

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Nov. 5 | Noon | 1205-L | *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margo* by Marianne Cronin. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Oct. 14 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *Year of Wonders* by Geraldine Brooks. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

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/realm.

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 Shaffon Alexander's attention at Wilshire.

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

DONATE STOCKS. Contact Shaffon 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.

Gene Rice

Hometown: Yoakum, Texas

Present City: Dallas

Education: Doctorate of Ministry from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary by way of Victoria College, TAMU, Baylor (BA, Religion) and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (MDiv).

Tell us about your family.

In January Margaret and I will celebrate 50 years of marriage. We have two children and three grandchildren. We moved to Dallas to be near our daughter, Kristen, and her sons, Eric and Elliott, who attend Wilshire. Kristen is the director of Color Me Empowered, a nonprofit organization that provides art education for children. We live about three blocks from them in a wonderful Oak Cliff neighborhood. Justin, our son, is married to Lindsay, and they live in Los Angeles. They are both architects and are parents to our newest grandson, Alvie.

How about your work or volunteer life?

I was a pastor for 38 years, pastoring four churches, one of which was a new church start. I loved pastoring and helping people grow in their faith. One of my interests was active involvement in the communities where I served. I was on the board of a number of nonprofit organizations and was instrumental in starting several. I was a longtime member of Rotary and an adjunct professor of philosophy at Victoria College for 16 years. Also, beginning in seminary, I was active with the Christian Life Commission of the BGCT, which is how I met several Wilshire members, including George Mason and Joe



Haag, whose Sunday School class we now attend.

What are your favorite places to travel?

I enjoy visiting with people, and my favorite place to travel is Los Angeles to see our kids there.

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

God is showing me how broad and inclusive God's love is, and I have a place to celebrate this understanding in the Wilshire community. I believe God is using me to encourage others who have Parkinson's Disease.

Tell us about your faith journey.

I was blessed to grow up in the Christian faith with parents who were devoted to church and family. I was active in all aspects of church — I was not given a choice. For the most part, I enjoyed church life, but my Sunday School teachers didn't always enjoy me. I was active in our youth group and served as a summer missionary in the Rio Grande Valley after my sophomore year in college.

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

I did part-time work as an electrician for over 20 years, starting in my teens.

Men's Book Club

Oct. 21 | 7 p.m. | Parlor | *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Contact: Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net).

Medical personnel sought



Parish Nurse Linda Garner is compiling a list of Wilshire medical personnel to serve in case of an emergency or to simply be a resource. If you are a physician, registered nurse,

nurse practitioner or any kind of healthcare professional, please contact Linda at lgarner@wilshirebc.org.

New in the Wilshire Library

NONFICTION

- *Going Eight Rounds: Fighting Parkinson's and Lewy Bodies*, Mark Drewan
- *History Matters*, David McCullough
- *Pinholes of Light*, Jerry McElveen
- *Strong Ground: the Lessons of Daring Leadership, the Tenacity of Paradox, and the Wisdom of the Human Spirit*, Brené Brown

BIOGRAPHY

- *107 Days*, Kamala Harris
- *Awake: A Memoir*, Jen Hatmaker

FICTION

- *Buckeye*, by Patrick Ryan
- *Circle of Days*, by Ken Follett
- *The Iron Storm: Clive Cussler*, Jack Du Brul
- *The Secret of Secrets*, by Dan Brown
- *Smuggler's Cove*, Fern Michaels
- *The Girl With Ice in Her Veins*, Karen Smirnoff

BOOK CLUB BOOKS

- *Little Bee: a Novel*, Chris Cleave
- *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot*, Marianne Cronin
- *The Joy Luck Club*, Amy Tan

This Week

Sunday, Oct. 5

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Belong Team, 1205-L, noon
- Children's Choir Snack Lunch, 2223, noon
- Deacon Nominating Committee, 1205-G, noon
- Amanda Hines Lay Support Team, Parlor, noon
- Children's Choir, 12:30 p.m.
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2:15 p.m.
- Jordann McMahan Lay Support Team, home of Leigh Ann and Kile Brown, 6 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 6

- Wilshire Winds, Sanctuary, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 7

- Stephen Ministry CE/Supervision, 1205-G, 1205-L, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 8

- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Committee on Committees, 1205-G, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 9

- Stewpot Meal Service, 11:15 p.m.
- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 10

- Marriage Connections, James Gallery, 6:30 p.m.
- Childcare for Marriage Connections and Single, Adoptive and Foster Parents Night Out, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 11

- Preschool Playdate, Flag Pole Hill Park (8015 Doran Cir.), 9:30 a.m.
- Library Volunteer Brunch, Parlor, 10 a.m.