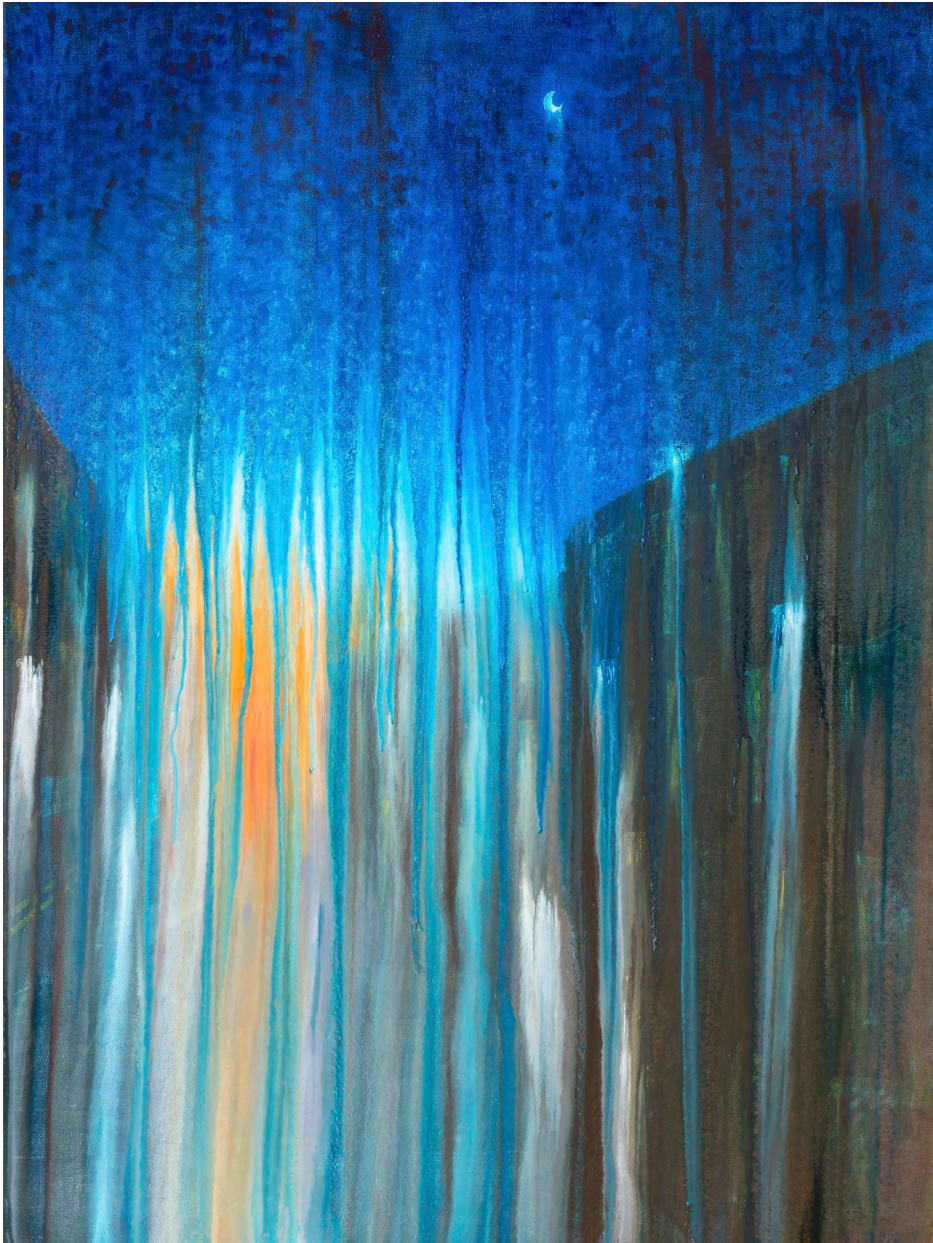




Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

October 26, 2025
Reformation Sunday

Preparing for worship

Today's readings ring familiar to me, especially the one from the Hebrew Scriptures, which I first heard in the rural church I grew up in on the arid plains of western Kansas. Although we were town folk, most of the congregants were dryland farmers. Many, including my dad, were children of the Dust Bowl, descendants of German-Russian immigrants who arrived in Kansas with their red wheat to homestead 80 acres of prairie sod, transforming it into farmland.

From the stories my parents and grandparents told, it was a harsh, unforgiving life. While still in grade school, my dad worked the land with a horse-drawn plow and drove wagon loads of newly harvested wheat seven miles to town. By the time I was that age, in the 1950s, tractors and technology had made farming easier, but it was still unpredictable. Droughts were frequent. Some years, the 160 acres my mom had inherited produced a good wheat crop. But often as not, it was mediocre or poor.

In the spring of those lean years, our pastor would read God's message to the Israelites about the end of the drought and the promise of a better future. Around our Sunday dinner table, someone would offer a blessing asking for much-needed rain but also thanking God for all

God had given us. Looking back, I realize I was witnessing a quiet, unassuming faith and trust in God — a faith honed through hard labor, even suffering, but also patience, humble acceptance and most important, a never-ending trust in the future, in God and in mankind.

In this time of national and global turmoil, we tend to be selective in whom we place our faith, often limiting it to people "in our tribe." Others? We avoid, ignore or ridicule them — or worse.

And faith in God? Even those of us who profess faith in a Creator tend to ignore God until times of crisis, as if God was some sort of heavenly fairy godfather. Let's be honest, how can we claim to trust in God if we can't have faith in our brothers and sisters, whom God also created?

We've come a long way since my ancestors landed in America. We've even come a long way in our lifetimes. We've put men on the moon, made discoveries to prolong and save lives, even ushered in the digital age and artificial intelligence.

But now is not the time to forget who created us and the world we live in. As we worship, let us reflect on our faith and ask God to help us strengthen and live through it as our forefathers did.

—Scott Spreier



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: *Early Lights in Rain*, Rachel Brask, oil on canvas, 2022. rachelbraskrainydays.art

October 26, 2025
11:00 a.m.
Reformation 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

Charlie Fuller

Prelude

Crown Him with Many Crowns
Carillon Ringers; Ralph Manuel, director

arr. Lloyd Larson

+Congregational Song

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
No. 418

EIN' FESTE BURG

Stanzas 1-2: all

Stanza 3: choir

Stanza 4: all

+Call to Worship

Ethan Howland

One: Let us lift up our praise to God,

All: A never-failing place of safety and protection.

One: Even when things seem completely out of control

All: We will trust that God can restore order.

One: Therefore we will not give in to fear and anxiety,

All: Because God's rock-steady presence is with us always.

One: Let us lift up our praise to God,

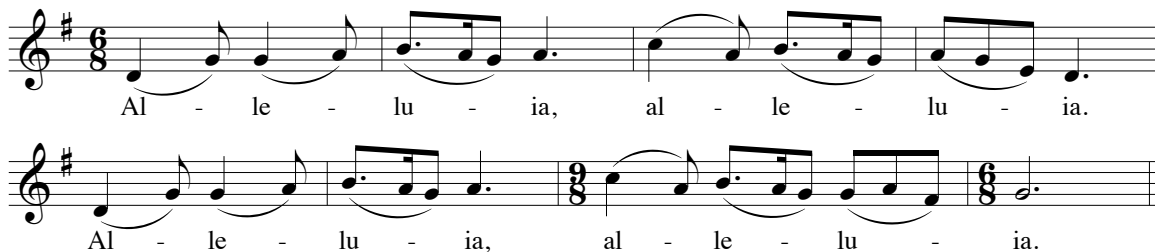
All: Our fortress and our strength.

+Response in Song

Celtic Alleluia
First time: choir

O'Carroll/Walker

Second and third times: all



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

O children of Zion, be glad,
and rejoice in the LORD your God,
who has given the early rain for your vindication;
and who has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.
The threshing floors shall be full of grain;
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army that I sent against you.
You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied
and praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.
You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.
Then afterward
I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.

Children's Moment

Julie Girards

Offertory

Brother James' Air
Carillon Ringers; Susan Kimball, flute

arr. Anna Laura Page

+Epistle Reading — 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18

Mary Kay Jackman

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. ... At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for the heavenly kingdom. To God be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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>How Great Thou Art</i> No. 323	O STORE GUD
Message	“Second Line”	Timothy Peoples
Anthem	<i>Even When He Is Silent</i> Nova Candy McComb, director	Kim André Arnesen
I believe in the sun even when it’s not shining. I believe in love even when I feel it not. I believe in God even when he is silent.		
Prayers of the People		Ariel Merivil
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>Arise, Your Light Is Come</i> No. 87	FESTAL SONG
Sharing of Decisions		Timothy Peoples
Benediction		Timothy Peoples
Postlude	<i>In dir ist Freude, BWV 615</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach

The flowers today are given in memory of Cathy Jones
by her sister, Lucinda Jones.

Meet today's worship leaders

Bob Coleman and his wife, Judy, have attended Wilshire since 1975 and are members of Compass Class. They have two adult children and three grandchildren. Bob is a deacon, a Faith in 3D performer and served on the search committee that brought Timothy Peoples to Wilshire. Bob is retired after 54 years practicing law.

Ethan Howland is a senior at Woodrow Wilson High School, where he is a member of the golf team, Young Men's Service League and National Honor Society. He also competes in golf tournaments with North Texas PGA and the Texas Junior Golf Association. At Wilshire, Ethan is active in student ministry and sings in Youth Choir. His parents are Ashley and Matthew Howland, and he has a younger brother, Lucas.

Mary Kay Jackman came to Wilshire in 2005. She directs Whosoever Wilshire Class, volunteers for Friday Friends, sings in New Song and is a deacon emerita. Mary Kay is retired from SMU, where she taught rhetoric, life writing, and business writing. Currently, she is finishing a mystery-adventure novel cowritten with former Wilshire member Julie Owen.



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)

Tapestry



News & Announcements
October 26, 2025

Can you host a fireside chat?



Hosts are needed for Wilshire's Fireside Chats on Sunday evening, Nov. 16, from 5 to 6:30 or 6:30 to 8. This annual church-wide social event aims to

deepen relationships while expressing our collective gratitude in an intimate setting. Hosts can determine the number of guests (20 max) at their home, and Wilshire will provide a gratitude liturgy, refreshments and logistical help. If you can host or have questions, contact Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org) by Nov. 1.

Baylor's Malcolm Foley here Nov. 9



Malcolm Foley, a pastor, author and special adviser to the president of Baylor University, will be at Wilshire for a talk over lunch on Sunday, Nov. 9. He will discuss his 2025 book, *The Anti-Greed Gospel: Why the Love of Money is the Root of Racism*

and *How the Church Can Create a New Way Forward*. Foley holds a PhD in religion from Baylor and an MDiv from Yale Divinity School. In addition to his role at Baylor, he serves as co-pastor of Mosaic Waco, an intentionally multicultural, nondenominational church. Lunch is free; childcare is available for preschoolers. Register for lunch and childcare at wilshirebc.org/events/foley.



Chapel worship starts Nov. 9

Starting Sunday, Nov. 9, Wilshire will offer a weekly 9 a.m. service in McIver Chapel focused on contemplative practices. The 30-to-45-minute service will include Scripture, music, a homily and prayer, with a different spiritual practice explored each month. "This new service," Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples said, "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." The chapel service will be completely different from Wilshire's 11 a.m. worship but will include Communion the first Sunday each month. Childcare for preschoolers will be offered.



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.

A ministry of caring

New Stephen Ministers needed; training starts in January

What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministries is an independent Christian organization founded in 1975 and based in St. Louis, Missouri. It draws its name from the book of Acts, where in chapter 6 Stephen is chosen to provide caring ministry to those in need.

The mission of Stephen Ministry is summed up in Ephesians 4:12-13: "To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ."

Stephen Ministry is found in congregations from more than 190 Christian denominations across the U.S., Canada and 30 other countries.

What is a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministers are lay members trained to offer one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficulty such as grief, divorce, job loss, illness, aging, financial worries, issues with children or elderly parents or questions about spirituality. A Stephen Minister has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person, ideally once a week, to listen, care, pray, encourage and offer emotional and spiritual support.

New Stephen Ministers are well prepared through 20 weekly training sessions over five months. A few examples of the 25 training topics are: Distinctively Christian Caring, Listening, Feelings, Assertiveness, Boundaries, Crisis Theory and Practice, and Confidentiality. The communication skills learned are valuable for relationships in general, and the friendships that develop with other Stephen Ministers are priceless.

How does it work?

Potential care receivers first meet with our outreach coordinator, who assesses their needs



and matches them with a Stephen Minister. Care receivers must be 18 or older. If there is concern that the life difficulty falls outside our mission or ability to help, referrals to counseling or

other resources are given. Once a relationship is established, it lasts as long as the need persists. ALL communication between care receivers and care givers is confidential.

Another benefit of Stephen Ministry is that it supports our pastors by deepening and extending the caring capacity of our church. Stephen Ministers can provide ongoing care for more people than the pastors could provide alone.

Become a care receiver

We currently have capacity to assist more care receivers. We hope you'll remember Stephen Ministry as a resource for yourself or people you know. To inquire about receiving care, email stephenministry@wilshirebc.org or call our dedicated line, 214-452-3176.

Become a Stephen Minister

A training class for new Stephen Ministers begins in January. If you are looking for an opportunity to serve in a meaningful way, this could be the experience you are seeking.

To learn more, contact Linda Garner at 214-452-3151. You can also fill out our Stephen Minister application form, found at wilshirebc.org/stephen-ministry, and return it by mail to Linda's attention at Wilshire or by email to lgarner@wilshirebc.org.

WILSHIRE ADVENTURERS

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. Powell will discuss the rich symbolism of flowers found in myths, legends, religion and literature. Adventurers is a fellowship group for anyone 60 and up.

Free exercise classes

TWU physical therapy students are leading a series of free classes geared toward fall prevention at Wilshire. Classes will be held Mondays through Nov. 24 from 10 a.m. to noon. Covering balance, cardio, strength training and more, the classes will be a great way to stay active and have fun in a supportive environment. Contact: Parish Nurse Linda Garner (lgarner@wilshirebc.org)

Columbarium prices to rise Jan. 1

Since being dedicated in 2010, Wilshire's Columbarium has become the resting place for many Wilshire members and their loved ones. We are proud to house this space as a place to memorialize and remember those who have left us. Over the years, we have kept prices steady, but with rising maintenance costs and the necessity to hire a new engraver, we are going to raise the price of single and double niches as well as the price of remembrance markers. Prices will change as follows: a single niche, now \$1,500, will cost \$1,750; a double niche, now \$3,000, will cost \$3,500; a remembrance marker, now \$500, will cost \$750. New prices will take effect in January. Act soon to purchase a niche or marker at the current price. Contact: Chelsea Hopkins (chopkins@wilshirebc.org)



One Starry Night takes a village

IMAGINE THE VILLAGE OF BETHLEHEM the night Jesus was born — bustling with merchants and artists, musicians and storytellers, beggars and royalty. Now imagine you are a baker, potter, weaver, carpenter, scribe or palace guard, and you're welcoming guests who have come to shop in the colorful tents, register for the census and hear the news about the baby.

You can do that and more on Dec. 19, when One Starry Night fills Community Hall with the sights and sounds of a first-century village. It's an interactive outreach event for the community and an intergenerational experience for church members and their families.

It takes a village to pull off a village such as this, and there are many ways to be involved. Volunteers are needed for a variety of booths and activities: census, palace, scribe, stargazing, Bible storytelling, the manger, musicians, Bethlehem Inn, baker, carpenter, weaver, painter, potter, jeweler, herbs and spices. Help is also needed to set up before and clean up afterward.

Will you consider joining the effort and joining the fun? You can volunteer as an individual, a family, a group of friends or a Sunday School class. If you're ready to sign up, scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/osn-volunteer.



If you've already volunteered, watch the *Tapestry* and your email for more details. To learn more, contact LeAnn Hampton at kitel@tx.rr.com or 214-693-7335.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

Vespers on Oct. 29

Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet dinner with kid-friendly options. Cash/check/credit. Prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **Oct 29:** Lasagna, roasted vegetables, garlic bread, tomato basil soup, salad, espresso cake, cinnamon cookies, jello. **Kids:** Lasagna, veggies.

Preschool Music & Missions

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

KidConnect

6 p.m. | K–Grade 5 | A rotation of activities to help kids learn how to love God and others, 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.



Resident-Led Vespers

6 p.m. | McIver Chapel | Join Wilshire's four pastoral residents for a time of worship in the intimacy of McIver Chapel. The service will include a homily, music, readings and celebration of the Lord's Supper.

November book study



On Nov. 5, 12 and 19 we will study Kaitlin Curtice's *Living Resistance: An Indigenous Vision for Seeking Wholeness Every Day*. In the book, Curtice reclaims resistance as a basic human calling for every human who longs to see their neighbors' holistic flourishing.

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

Let's Organize! meets Nov. 5



The Wednesday Let's Organize! group has identified four advocacy areas of emphasis: gun violence, human rights, immigration and public education. Over the past four sessions, partici-

pants have been breaking these complex challenges into concrete, actionable goals. Together, they are co-creating a safe space to process our current political climate, cultivating hope and equipping one another to be agents of change. In November, the groups will move from discernment to action, finalizing next steps. You're invited to join for the final two sessions, Nov. 5 and 19 at 6 p.m. in the Parlor.

Next Lunch & Learn: Nov. 5



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. Pastoral Resident Amanda Hines will teach Nov. 5.

No RSVP needed; pay at the door.

Texas constitutional amendments

On Nov. 4, Texans will vote on 17 amendments to the state constitution — the most at one time since 2003. The measures address issues like property taxes, education and workforce funding, public safety and judicial reform, parental and voting rules and health research. The constitution can only be changed again through another legislative supermajority and state-wide vote — making these decisions long-lasting. Learn about the proposals at texasimpact.org/2025-constitutional-amendments. Register, verify your registration and find polling locations at goelect.txelections.civixapps.com. Early voting is underway.

Marriage Connections is Nov. 14

Marriage Connections will be held Friday, Nov. 14, at 6:30 p.m. Free childcare (infant–grade 5) is provided while parents enjoy a short program at the church and then have until 9:30 to themselves. Registration is required for childcare by Nov. 9. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/marriage-connections.

■ The same childcare is available to **single, adoptive and foster parents**. Register at wilshirebc.org/events/pno by Nov. 9.



WOW: Bubbles, Bites & BWNA

Join Women of Wilshire on Thursday, Oct. 30, for a casual evening with friends while learning about Baptist Women of North America and their efforts to provide period products in Africa. The come-and-go gathering will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the home of Carolyn Murray. RSVP at wilshirebc.org/events/bwna.

Register for 2026 WOW retreat

Registration is open for Women of Wilshire's 2026 retreat, set for Friday, Feb. 20, through Sunday, Feb. 22, at the Prothro Retreat Center at Lake Texoma. Get away and find community, encouragement and time with God through worship, art, learning and fun. Details and registration at wilshirebc.org/events/wow-retreat-2026.

Women of Wilshire book clubs

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Nov. 6 | Noon | 1205-L | *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margo* by Marianne Cronin. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Nov. 11 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *Little Bee* by Chris Cleave. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

Youth Fall Retreat

Wilshire Student Ministry's Fall Retreat will be held Saturday, Nov. 22, to Sunday, Nov. 23, at Camp Copass in Denton. A cost of \$125 covers bus transportation, lodging, meals and a T-shirt. Register at wilshirebc.org/events/fall-retreat.

Puerto Rico trip planned for 2026

Wilshire is forming an intergenerational team to serve in San Juan, Puerto Rico, during Spring Break. Families with youth ages 13 and up are encouraged to serve together alongside others who have served in Puerto Rico in past years. Proposed trip dates are March 14–20. The trip will cost an estimated \$400 per person plus airfare. Scholarships are available. Contact: Abbey Adcox (aadcox@wilshirebc.org)

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.

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.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING

Your gifts are changing lives inside and outside our walls. Here are some ways to make a financial contribution to Wilshire.

ONLINE. Set up a recurring or one-time gift charged to your debit or credit card or as an ACH from your checking account. Get started at wilshirebc.org/give.

REALM CONNECT APP. Easily make gifts and see past giving on your mobile device. Available at your device's app store. Find download links at wilshirebc.org/realms.

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

MAIL. Send to Finance Director 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.



Save the dates

Saturday, June 13, 2026
Special Event, 4:45–7:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 14, 2026
Worship Celebration, 11 a.m.



To get involved: Scan code
or visit wilshirebc.org/75.

This Week

Sunday, Oct. 26

- Third and Fourth Grade Sunday School
Open House, 2225, 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Children's Choir Snack Lunch, 2223, noon
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- One Starry Night Steering Committee, 1205-L, noon
- Deacon Nominating Committee, 1205-G, noon
- Children's Choir, 12:30 p.m.
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 27

- Exercise Classes, 3103, 10 a.m.
- Wilshire Winds, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 29

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Adventurers: Language & Legends of Flowers, Community Hall, 11:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- Vespers, McIver Chapel, 6 p.m.
- Committee on Committees, 1205-G, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 30

- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.
- WOW: Bubbles, Bites & BWNA, Home of Carolyn Murray, 5:30 p.m.

Mark McKenzie

Hometown: Fort Worth

Present City: Dallas — for a couple more days

Education: UT Austin, bachelor's in advertising

Profession: Advertising/Communications

Tell us about your family.

Geri and I met in high school and married in 1992 after college. Our daughter, Harper, is 26 and recently finished a master's degree at Syracuse University. My parents live in Fort Worth.

How about your work or volunteer life?

I do creative work in advertising, marketing and communications. After many years at a Dallas ad agency, I worked in-house for a retail chain and have also been a freelancer. When Mark Wingfield left Wilshire's staff in 2020, I took over communications work for the church — the *Tapestry*, website, social media, advertising, etc.

Aren't you leaving or something?

It's true. After 20 years on staff at Wilshire, Geri accepted a job at Loyola University Maryland, and we're moving to Baltimore. I will be continuing my Wilshire work remotely. We'll miss being here but are excited about the new adventure and being closer to Harper.

Any favorite hobbies?

I play saxophone, with a focus on jazz. I didn't study music in college and didn't start learning jazz improvisation until my late 30s. I still have lots to learn, but I've been fortunate to play gigs around town with my own groups and others. Wilshire has played a big part in my musical journey, and for that I'll always be grateful.

Favorite places to travel?

As a jazz fan and lover of art and culture, I enjoy



New York City, and now it'll be a three-hour train ride away. Texas will become a frequent destination to see family and friends.

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

We joined in 1992. We were young and not too savvy about denominational

matters or the Baptist battles of the era, but we knew what we didn't want: fire-and-brimstone fundamentalism or shallow contemporary music. We saw Wilshire in the Yellow Pages and decided to try it. Of all the churches we visited, it was the only one we liked enough to come back.

Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

I joined Wilshire Winds in '94 or '95; if I hadn't, my horn might still be in a closet. I'm also a deacon, but my work feels like the main way I'm engaged these days. With the pandemic and all the staff transitions, the five years I've been on the job have been eventful, and I'm proud of my role in keeping the church informed.

What's surprised you most about Wilshire?

Nothing surprised me much along the way, but looking back, it's amazing how much the church has changed while retaining its essential DNA.

Tell us about your faith journey.

I grew up in a couple of Baptist churches very different from Wilshire. I got away from church during college, and I'm not sure what would have happened if we hadn't found this place. Wilshire changed the way I see faith, and I'm a better person for being here all these years.

Thanksgiving **FOOD DRIVES**

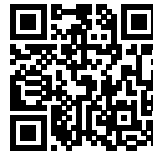
The Wilkinson Center



Wilshire has committed to provide 100 boxes for families in our community through the Wilkinson Center. A box costs \$50 to \$75 to assemble and is a great

service opportunity for Sunday School classes, other groups or individuals. Scan the above QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/events/food-drives to sign up and see full instructions. Boxes should be brought to Wilshire's South Lobby on Sunday, Nov. 16 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. or to the South Parking Lot on Monday, Nov. 17, between 8 and 9 a.m.

White Rock Center of Hope



Wilshire continues a long tradition of providing canned goods for families served by White Rock Center of Hope. Pick up the designated brown paper

bags and shopping list, then fill the bags and return them. Bags brought before Sunday, Nov. 16, can be placed on a table outside the church office. Bags brought on Nov. 16 should be taken to the Sanctuary chancel steps. You can also shop an Amazon wishlist and have items sent directly to WRCOH; scan QR code or find the link at wilshirebc.org/events/food-drives.

Bags needed. We welcome your donations of handled brown paper grocery bags like those used at Central Market and Whole Foods.

Contact: Abbey Adcox (aadcox@wilshirebc.org)