



**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**March 8, 2026**  
*Third Sunday in Lent*

# Preparing for worship

Sometimes our arrival in worship is gradual. Our bodies may be present, but our attention lags behind. Slowly, our minds settle into stillness, grounding us where we are.

In today's choral anthem we will hear these words from Psalm 46: "Be still and know that I am God." In Scripture, those words appear amid upheaval, not tranquility. The psalm speaks of roaring waters and shaking mountains before it speaks of stillness. The invitation to be still is not about avoiding life's demands, but a reminder to loosen our grip and stop striving. We are reminded that the world does not ultimately rest in our hands.

Yet stillness is something we must learn. The world's noise, life's pace and our burdens scatter our attention. In this way, stillness becomes the doorway to awareness — turning our attention toward what is here and toward the God who meets us.

Philosopher Simone Weil wrote that attention may be the purest form of prayer. It is not simply a skill. To her, attention was a moral and spiritual practice. By stepping outside ourselves, resisting distraction and truly noticing the world and people before us, we approach

her ideal. Practicing attention shapes how we respond to others — especially those who are suffering.

Rushing, multitasking and persistent productivity undermine deep attentiveness. Life instills the urge to move quickly. Accomplish the next task. Keep going. Attention asks something else — patience, humility and slowing down to truly see what is before us.

In worship, together, we practice this attention. Especially with the demands of daily living, worship anchors us, centering us in God's presence and the surrounding community.

As we move through Lent, our theme invites us to become rooted again. This is a time to remember who we are and whose we are. Stillness helps those roots grow, and so does attention. When we slow down and notice God's presence, we remember the deeper ground that holds us.

And so, sometimes in the still moments of worship, we find our attention has finally caught up with where we are. Suddenly, we realize, we have arrived in the presence of God.

May it be so.

—Abbey Adcox



4316 Abrams Road | Dallas, Texas 75214 | 214-452-3100 | [wilshirebc.org](http://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.*

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**On the cover:** *Christ and the Samaritan Woman (The White Flower Bouquet)*, Odilon Redon, oil on canvas, ca. 1895.

**Sunday, March 8, 2026**

11:00 a.m.

Third Sunday in Lent

**Chiming of the Hour**

We gather in community this morning to worship God.  
To help center our focus in worship, please silence all electronic devices.

**Welcome to Worshipers**

Timothy Peoples

**Prelude**

*Wondrous Love*  
Wilshire Winds  
Shana Gaines, director

arr. Greg Danner

**+Congregational Song**

*I Love to Tell the Story*  
No. 581

HANKEY

**+Call to Worship**

Darren DeMent

One: We gather together this morning to hear again the story of God's Love

**All: A love that offers us new life and possibilities**

One: A love that offers acceptance and inclusion

**All: A love that gives hope in the face of despair**

One: A love that never gives up or gives out

**All: A love that we are called to share with the world**

One: So come, let us worship and tell the old, old story

**All: Of Jesus and his love.**

**+Response in Song**

*I Love to Tell the Story*

HANKEY

**I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory  
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

**Epistle Reading** — Romans 5:1-8

Susan Leonard

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time

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

Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

**Missions Interview** — Derek Ross

Heather Mustain

**Offertory**

*Beach Spring*  
Wilshire Winds

arr. Andrew Bruhn

**+Gospel Reading** — John 4:5-29

Kile Brown, Susan Leonard, Ariel Merivil

So Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"

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**

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

TOPLADY



1. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.  
 2. Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill the law's de - mands.  
 3. Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling;  
 4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when my eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side which flowed  
 Could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
 na - ked, come to thee for dress, help - less, look to thee for grace;  
 when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse from guilt and make me pure.  
 all for sin could not a - tone. Thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
 foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

**Message**

“Holy Questions”

Jordann McMahan

**Anthem**

*Be Still*

Mary McDonald

New Song Community Choir  
 Sarah Stafford, director  
 Crysta Jones, accompanist

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am with you.

Be still and know that I will comfort you when you come to me in your hour of need.

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am here for you; and I will wipe your tears; you will be renewed.

Come unto me, my child, be still, and know that I will give you rest, I am present in your pain.  
 and I always will remain your Comforter and Friend.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

Peace. Peace. Peace.

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still. Be still. Be still.

**Prayers of the People**

Julie Girards

**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**

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*  
No. 186

HAMBURG  
arr. Jeffrey Brummel

**Sharing of Decisions**

Jordann McMahan

**Benediction**

Jordann McMahan

**Postlude**

*Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

arr. Michael Burkhardt

Sarah Stafford, congregational song leader

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Howard Marsellus  
by his wife, Nancy Stretch, and daughters, Megan Marsellus and Rachel Marsellus.

# Meet today's worship leaders

**Kile Brown** and his wife, Leigh Ann, joined Wilshire in 1997. The couple has four adult children who grew up at Wilshire: Chelsea, Ali and Blake Brown and Mu Lar Hso. Kile is a deacon, teaches youth Sunday School and serves on the Lay Support Team for Pastoral Resident Jordann McMahan. He works as a business executive for Kigen, an IoT-focused cybersecurity company.

**Susan Leonard** joined Wilshire in 2005. She attends Discovery Class, serves as a deacon, sings in Sanctuary Choir and is a member of the Pathways to Ministry Committee and the Lay Support Team for Pastoral Resident Jordann McMahan. Susan is a licensed counselor and marriage and family therapist.

**Derek Ross**, our special guest today, serves as Indigenous Scholar in Residence at Baylor University. He is an elder of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, Waco Tawakoni Keechi, and grew up in Anadarko, Oklahoma. You can learn more about Derek on page 9 and hear more from him after worship over lunch in Community Hall.

**Sarah Stafford** is the director of New Song Community Choir and will lead our congregational singing today. Sarah was Wilshire's associate minister of music from 2005 to 2018, leading children's music, directing handbells and founding New Song as a senior adult choir. Still based at Wilshire, the choir now operates as an independent nonprofit group with singers from many churches and denominations. Sarah and her husband, Allan, have two adult children and five grandchildren.



**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)
- 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

- 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)
- 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  
March 8, 2026

## Lunch talk today with Baylor's Derek Ross

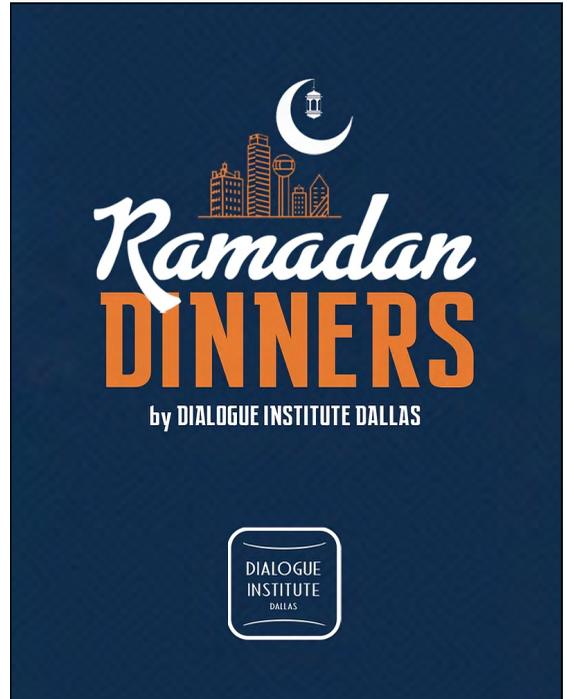
**D**EREK ROSS, Indigenous Scholar in Residence at Baylor University, is our special guest at Wilshire today, March 8. He will be interviewed during 11 a.m. worship, and all are invited to a dialogue over lunch in Community Hall.



An elder of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, Waco Tawakoni Keechi, Derek believes that spreading awareness about Native Americans who were stewards of this earth long before Anglo inhabitants and helping raise the educational aspirations of Indigenous students are a major part of his Christian calling.

Derek grew up in Anadarko, Oklahoma, where the Wichita were forcibly moved in 1859 from their ancestral lands near present-day Waco. He and his wife, Amanda, served as Baptist missionaries in the Philippines for two decades.

Lunch is free while supplies last. Priority will be given to those who registered. Childcare is available for preschoolers.



### RSVP to attend Friday, March 13

Join us at Wilshire on Friday evening, March 13, to share fellowship and a Ramadan meal with our friends from Dialogue Institute Dallas. The event will begin at 6:45 p.m. in Community Hall, with the meal served when fast is broken at sundown. Please RSVP by visiting [wilshirebc.org/events/ramadan-dinner](http://wilshirebc.org/events/ramadan-dinner).



**Sundays:** Chapel Worship, 9 a.m. Sanctuary Worship, 11 a.m. Sunday School for all ages, 9:45 a.m. Our 11 a.m. service livestreams at [youtube.com/wilshirebaptist](http://youtube.com/wilshirebaptist). Keep up with Wilshire by subscribing to our YouTube channel and following us on Facebook and Instagram.

# Fuller announces retirement

**C**HARLIE FULLER WILL RETIRE as director of Pathways to Ministry effective May 31. He and his wife, Cindy, will remain Wilshire members, and Charlie will continue to serve as Wilshire’s coach-in-residence on a volunteer basis.

“My gratitude to Wilshire and Timothy is beyond words,” Charlie said. “Wilshire has provided me a place of ministry that has been an incredible and unexpected extension to my season of professional ministry. What a privilege it’s been to work with the residents and interns.”

Charlie first came to Wilshire as interim minister of music in 2023, covering the period between Doug Haney’s retirement and the arrival of Ariel Merivil in early 2024. A longtime educator, college administrator and pastor, Charlie was then named director of Pathways to Ministry.

In this role, Charlie managed the rebuilding of the pastoral residency program after a pause for evaluation during Wilshire’s senior pastor transition. He also oversaw the creation of a new Pathways office area on the north end of



the second floor.

“While I’m a bit sad this season is coming to an end,” Charlie said, “I have a peace about this timing. It’s time for Wilshire to begin the next season of Pathways to Ministry.”

Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples said, “It was February 2023 when I made a call to someone I had never met. From that first conversation, Charlie became more than a colleague; he became a lifelong friend, someone I can trust, confide in and turn to with the hard questions of life and ministry. His integrity, steady leadership and unwavering commitment have shaped our team in ways that will be felt for years to come.”

Charlie will be recognized during 11 a.m. worship on May 31, and a reception will be held after church. Timothy will work with the Personnel and Pathways to Ministry Committees to determine the best staffing for Pathways moving forward.

## Condolences to

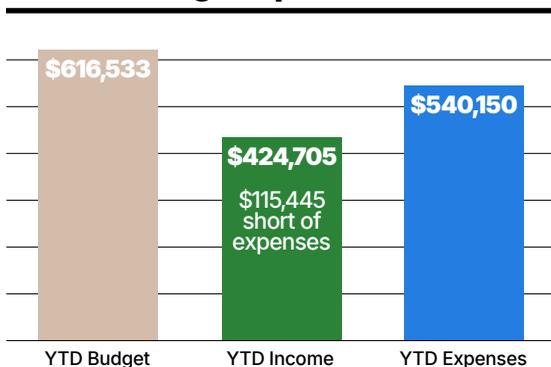
■ **Vanessa Vaughter** and **Woody Weilage** on the death of Vanessa’s mother, Charlotte Vaughter, Feb. 26.

■ **Sherri Mosser** on the death of her sister-in-law, Mary Udouj, March 4.

## Wilshire seeks summer interns

Wilshire invites college students to apply for 2026 summer internships in these areas: children’s ministry with Julie Girards, preschool ministry with Kelly Akins and children’s music with Candy McComb. Contact these staff members or Charlie Fuller, director of Pathways to Ministry, for application instructions.

## Unified Budget Update



Pathways Endowment YTD gifts..... \$4,731  
 Pathways Endowment Feb. balance ..... \$11,404,054

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE MARCH 11

## Koinonia Café

**5 p.m. | Community Hall** | Buffet dinner with kid-friendly options. Cash/check/credit. Prices at [wilshirebc.org/events/wnl](http://wilshirebc.org/events/wnl). **March 11:** Poppy seed chicken, mashed potatoes, peas, rolls, cream of mushroom soup, peach cobbler, cookies and jello.

## 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

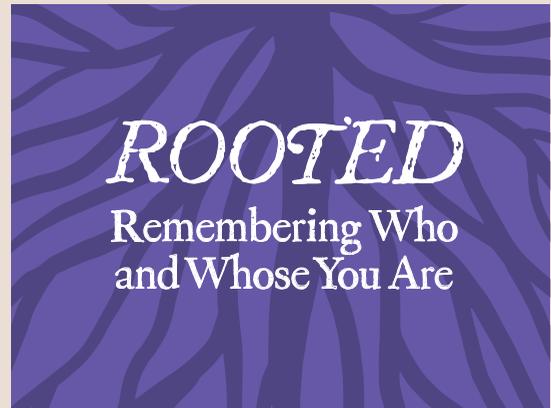
**6 p.m. | K–Grade 5** | A rotation of activities to help kids learn how to love God and others.

## 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.



## Lenten Bible Study

**6 p.m. | Community Hall** | Join us March 11 for the first of a two-part Bible Study based on our Lent theme, *Rooted: Remembering Who and Whose You Are*. The second session will be held April 1.

## Looking ahead

■ **March 18:** No Wednesday Night Live activities due to Spring Break. Sanctuary Choir will rehearse as usual.

■ **March 25:** Resident-Led Vespers at 6 p.m. in McIver Chapel.

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

## Sign up for emergency alerts

The Risk Management Committee has launched Alert Aware, a mass notification system designed to quickly share critical information during emergencies in or near our building. The system allows key staff to contact first responders and send location-specific alerts about security incidents, weather closures and other urgent updates. This is an opt-in service. To enroll, scan the QR code, complete the form and follow the emailed instructions to download the app and create an account. Once activated, you'll automatically receive Wilshire alerts. Contact Associate Pastor Heather Mustain ([hmustain@wilshirebc.org](mailto:hmustain@wilshirebc.org)) with questions.



## Time to order Easter lilies

You are invited to provide Easter lilies for the Sanctuary in honor or memory of family members or friends. Dedications will be listed in the worship folder on Easter. Each plant costs \$20. Order in the office or at [wilshirebc.org/easter-lilies](http://wilshirebc.org/easter-lilies) by Palm Sunday, March 29.



## Do you have a Library book?

Due to a glitch in the Library's computer system, Librarian Barbara Peterson is asking anyone with a book currently on loan to bring it in or email her ([bpeterson@wilshirebc.org](mailto:bpeterson@wilshirebc.org)) with the book title and a photo of the Library bar code. You will be able to keep the book checked out.

■ The Library is operating under **reduced hours** while Barbara recovers from surgery. The Library is open Sundays, 9:30–10:45 a.m. and Wednesdays, 6–7:15 p.m.

## Art auction benefits Youth Choir

A selection of art donated by Wilshire member Larry Harrington is currently on display in the South Lobby. The pieces will be up for auction, with proceeds benefiting the Youth Choir's summer trip to Kansas City. To bid, use your bidder number from the Spaghetti Lunch and Silent Auction or sign up for a new number at the exhibit. Bidding is open through Easter Sunday, April 5.



## Adventurers to DMA

The Wilshire Adventurers will explore the Dallas Museum of Art and enjoy lunch at the museum's café on Thursday, March 26. We'll enter together at 11 a.m. Those wishing to carpool can meet at Wilshire's south parking lot to depart at 10:15. Museum admission is free for the DMA's standard exhibits. Lunch and tickets to special exhibits are up to you. Adventurers is a fellowship group for anyone 60 and above. Register at [wilshirebc.org/events/dma](http://wilshirebc.org/events/dma).



## Boston trip has room

Sign-ups are underway for the Adventurers Sept. 20–25 trip to Boston, and we still have room for a few more. Visit [wilshirebc.org/events/boston-trip](http://wilshirebc.org/events/boston-trip) to learn more, and email Barbara Clayton ([bclayton@wilshirebc.org](mailto:bclayton@wilshirebc.org)) to learn how to register through our travel partner, Road Scholar.

# ROOTED

## Remembering Who and Whose You Are

LENT 2026 / WILSHIRE BAPTIST CHURCH

**T**HESE DAYS, it's easy to feel unsure about things we once knew or felt confident about. Uncertainty shapes our days, leaving us to question our relationships, our faith, and even our sense of self. We may feel adrift, searching for steady ground.

In moments like these, it is good to become rooted again in truths that do not waver — to remember the steady presence that carries us when everything feels unsettled. In that remembering, we find our footing and our rest. We are held, and we are not alone.

[wilshirebc.org/lent](http://wilshirebc.org/lent)

### Lenten book focus

All are invited to read along as we study *An Unlikely Lent: Extraordinary People of the Easter Story* by Rachel Billups. Many Sunday School classes are using the book, but it is also appropriate for individual study. The book is available at Amazon and other sellers.

### Lenten playlist

Our eclectic Lenten playlist is available on the digital music service Spotify. For the best experience, listen to the playlist in order. Visit [wilshirebc.org/lent](http://wilshirebc.org/lent) to find the link or search for “Rooted - Wilshire Lent 2026.”

### Good Friday Tenebrae Service

**April 3 | 7 p.m. | Sanctuary** | At the heart of Holy Week lies Good Friday, a day we set apart to stop, remember and be present to what Christ bore for our sake. We invite you to observe it with us through the ancient service of



Tenebrae, in which candles are extinguished gradually as we keep watch together through the gathering darkness and the silence of the tomb. Sanctuary Choir will present excerpts from Fauré's *Requiem* woven throughout the service with anthems and hymns. Joining the choir as soloist will be **Lwazi Dlamini**, baritone with the Dallas Opera, whose voice has graced stages across South Africa and the United States. Come, keep watch and pray.

■ Preschool childcare will be offered; sign up at [wilshirebc.org/events/good-friday-service](http://wilshirebc.org/events/good-friday-service).

### Easter Sunday | April 5

■ Sunrise Service, White Rock Lake, 6:45 a.m.

■ Columbarium Service, 9:45 a.m.

■ Sanctuary Worship, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

(Our 9 a.m. McIver Chapel service will not meet on Easter Sunday.)

## Next Lunch & Learn is April 1



Lunch & Learn will skip March 18 due to Spring Break and resume its “first and third Wednesdays” schedule on April 1. Everyone is invited to Community Hall at 11:30 a.m. for lunch (\$10) and Bible study. No RSVP needed.

## Monthly service opportunities

■ A Wilshire group serves the fourth Friday morning each month at the **Vickery Meadow Youth Development Foundation Mobile Food Pantry**. Contact: Charlie Estee ([cesteedallas@gmail.com](mailto:cesteedallas@gmail.com))

■ Wilshire volunteers serve as food pantry assistants at the **Wilkinson Center** the third Tuesday afternoon each month. Contact: Cindy Estee ([cesteedallas@aol.com](mailto:cesteedallas@aol.com))

■ Wilshire volunteers serve lunch at the **Stewpot** the second Thursday every month. Contact: David Cossum ([dc@cossum.com](mailto:dc@cossum.com))

## Serve with our mission partners



To see ways you can serve alongside other Wilshire members with one of our mission or advocacy partners, scan the QR code or visit [wilshirebc.org/serve](http://wilshirebc.org/serve).

## Baptism Team seeks larger pool of volunteers

Looking for an easy way to serve? The Baptism Ministry Team is seeking volunteers. Team members are contacted as baptisms are scheduled and may serve as a baptism host — meeting with the individual being baptized, showing them to the baptistry and lighting the candle — or by helping with robe and towel laundry afterward. These roles require minimal time but offer meaningful support to those being baptized. Contact: Chelsea Hopkins ([chopkins@wilshirebc.org](mailto:chopkins@wilshirebc.org))

## Men's Book Club

Tuesday, March. 17 | 7 p.m. | Parlor | *The Challenge of Acts* by N.T. Wright. Contact: Scott Spreier ([swspreier@gmail.com](mailto:swspreier@gmail.com)) or Mike Meripolski ([meripolski@att.net](mailto:meripolski@att.net))

## Women of Wilshire book clubs

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | March 10 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *The Thursday Murder Book Club* by Richard Osman. Contact: Debby Burton ([debbyb0929@gmail.com](mailto:debbyb0929@gmail.com))

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Thursday, April 12 | Noon | 1205-L | *Welcome to Murder Week* by Karen Dukess. Contact: Carolyn Murray ([cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

# Someone to talk with.

If you're facing a life challenge and would like a friend to walk alongside you for a season of healing, perhaps you would benefit from a Stephen Minister. This ministry pairs trained lay people with those in need of confidential companionship during times of crisis. To reach out, email [stephenministry@wilshirebc.org](mailto:stephenministry@wilshirebc.org) or call 214-452-3176.

stephen  
MINISTRY.

**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
*Celebrating 75 Years*



**Saturday, June 13**

4:45–7:30 p.m. | Special event at Wilshire

**Sunday, June 14**

11 a.m. | 75-minute worship celebration



**Learn more  
and get  
plugged in**

[wilshirebc.org/75](http://wilshirebc.org/75)



# Family Lenten Experience Palm Sunday, March 29, 9–11 a.m. | Community Hall



Travel the path of Jesus during his last week on earth in this interactive event. Make and wave palm branches, taste the Passover meal and more.

**Sign up** to enter  
at 9 or 9:15 a.m.

*Older preschoolers and K-5 classes  
will visit during Sunday School.*





# 2026 Summer CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL

## **VBS: #KIDSCONNECT**

**Mon.-Thu., June 15-18, 9 a.m.-noon.** As kids learn and create, they'll connect with Jesus, build meaningful relationships and follow his example of welcoming all. Older preschool (age 3 by 9/1/25) through completed grade 5. Free. Advance registration ends June 7. Walk-ins as space allows. *No Friday VBS due to Juneteenth holiday.*

## **KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL CAMP**

**Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 9 a.m.-noon** With "In the Beginning" as our theme, we'll use Godly Play to explore Bible stories. Art and science too! Older preschool (age 3 by 9/1/25) through completed Kindergarten. \$50. Register by June 24.

## **COOKING CAMP**

**Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** Completed first through fifth graders will learn about food safety and nutrition and prepare a three-course lunch daily. \$125. *Sold Out! Waitlist available.*

## **LISTEN TO YOUR ART!**

**Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 12:30-5 p.m.** Creative arts camp with music, visual art, drama, movement, crafts and more. On Friday, kids stay for dinner, and families are invited to a 6:30 p.m. performance and art showcase. Lunch not provided; cost includes T-shirt. Completed first through fifth graders. \$125. Register by June 24.

## **FULL-DAY COOKING & ART**

**Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.** Full-day option for grades 2-5. Lunch included. \$225. *Sold Out! Waitlist available.*

## **PASSPORT KIDS! PRETEEN CAMP**

**Sun.-Wed., July 19-22.** Completed third through fifth graders will travel by chartered bus to Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat for high-energy worship, interactive Bible study, recreation and missions led by camp staff and Wilshire chaperones. \$450. \$50 nonrefundable deposit guarantees a spot; \$25 discount for those who register by April 30. Full payment due June 30.

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



# 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.*

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**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](http://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](http://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.

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

# *This Week*

## **Sunday, March 8**

- Worship, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Wilshire Welcome, Prayer Room, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Children's Choir Snack Lunch, 2223, noon
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Derek Ross Lunch Talk, Community Hall, 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.

## **Monday, March 9**

- Wilshire Winds, Sanctuary, 7 p.m.

## **Tuesday, March 10**

- WOW Tuesday Evening Book Club, Parlor, 6:30 p.m.

## **Wednesday, March 11**

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- Let's Organize: Immigration Meeting, 1205-L, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

## **Thursday, March 12**

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

## **Friday, March 13**

- Friday Friends, 3103, 10 a.m.
- Ramadan Dinner, Community Hall, 6:45 p.m.

## **Saturday, March 14**

- Puerto Rico Mission Trip Begins

# Spencer Long

**Name:** Spencer Haley Long

**Hometown:** Dallas

**Present City:** Dallas

**Education:** I've attended five different colleges: Savannah College of Art and Design, Richland College, Brookhaven College, UNT and Kaplan College. One medical coding certificate. Zero degrees, but LOTS of life experience.

## **Tell us about your family.**

My sweet husband is Dwayne, and we've been together 15 years (married for 10). Our son, Cooper Colt, is 6. My brother is Michael Haley, and my infamous mother is Pam Haley.

## **How about your work or volunteer life?**

I started a new job this year with Kelli Poremba at Edward Jones after being in the dental field for 10+ years, and I'm very excited to learn something new! I've also been the den leader for Cooper's Cub Scout group for the last two years, which is always entertaining.

## **Any favorite hobbies?**

I love anything art related, mostly painting and drawing. I really love creating things for my friends and family or creating something with Cooper. I also love being outside with my family: hikes, walks, parks, etc.

## **What are your favorite places to travel?**

I like going anywhere new. When I was a teen, I went with Wilshire to Africa, where we helped with a local orphanage. It was life-changing. Dwayne and I took a road trip from Vancouver



to Banff, and as a family we love the Pacific Northwest, specifically Oregon.

## **What brought you to Wilshire and when?**

I joined Wilshire with my family in 1990 when I was 3 months old. I left for a handful of years during my early twenties, but having my son slowly brought me back with open arms.

## **Where are you engaged at Wilshire?**

I've served on the Library Committee, and I'm in the Ithaka Sunday School Class and love every second of it. This year, I was ordained as a deacon.

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

She is making me pay attention to nothing and everything all at once. Trying to be more conscious of my actions, my words and how I interact with the world.

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

I can remember lots of plant names but can't remember people's names ... but I love learning about people and their stories. I'm the most comfortable and myself around babies and children, and I love writing poetry, specifically about nature.



# Contemplative Worship

**9 A.M. WEEKLY | MCIVER CHAPEL**

“This new service 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.”

—*Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples*



Childcare available for preschoolers