



**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**April 5, 2026**  
*Easter Day*

# Preparing for worship

Through word and song today we proclaim that resurrection is not only something that happened to Jesus long ago — it is something still unfolding among us.

In our tradition we understand resurrection not as an escape from the world, but as God's deep and abiding commitment to transform it. Resurrection life is found wherever love refuses to die, wherever justice rises from the ashes of oppression and wherever hope breaks through even the heaviest grief.

We find resurrection in the spaces where communities choose compassion over fear. When neighbors show up for one another — feeding the hungry, advocating for the marginalized or simply listening with open hearts — new life is being born. Easter reminds us that the power of death-dealing systems — violence, inequity, exclusion — is real, but not ultimate. God is always at work bringing life out of what seems lifeless. The question is, are we awake to it?

Resurrection is also deeply personal. It is present in the quiet courage to begin again after failure, in the healing that comes after loss and in the strength to forgive when bitterness would be easier. The empty tomb does not

erase suffering; it declares that suffering does not have the final word. In our own lives, resurrection may look like mended relationships, renewed purpose or the rediscovery of joy after seasons of despair.

As a community of faith, we are called to embody resurrection together. This means being a church that tells the truth about pain and injustice while also daring to imagine and work toward a more just and loving world. It means trusting that God meets us not only in mountaintop moments, but in the valleys — and that even there, life is stirring.

On this Easter Sunday, we celebrate that resurrection is not confined to a single morning, but is a way of living. It calls us to be people of hope, to participate in God's ongoing work of renewal and to trust that love — persistent, courageous and unrelenting — will always rise again.

As you place your flower on the cross this morning, sing familiar hymns or listen to Scripture, may God's love stir a resurrection within you.

—Heather Mustain



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:** *let him easter in us #2*, Corita Kent, 1963, serigraph. Used by permission of Corita Art Center, Los Angeles, [corita.org](http://corita.org).

April 5, 2026  
8:30 a.m. / 11:00 a.m.  
Easter Day

**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**

Ariel Merivil

**Prelude**

*Fairest Lord Jesus*  
Easter Festival Orchestra

arr. Mark Hayes

**\*Baptism** — Ann Marie Ballard

Timothy Peoples

**+Processional Song**

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*  
No. 194

EASTER HYMN/arr. Rutter

**+Call to Worship**

Amanda Hines / Darren DeMent

One: Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!

**All: Alleluia! He is risen indeed!**

One: Come, people of God, from places of sorrow and joy, from doubt and from hope —

**All: We come to witness the power of resurrection!**

One: The stone has been rolled away, death has been defeated, and new life has begun.

**All: Alleluia! Christ is alive, and hope is reborn!**

One: Sing praise with all creation — heaven and earth rejoice this day!

**All: Alleluia! Our hearts rise with Christ in joy and thanksgiving!**

One: Come, let us worship the Risen One, who brings life out of death and light  
into the darkness.

Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed!**  
Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed!**  
Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed!**

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\*11 a.m. service

+All congregants are invited to stand in body or spirit.

Hearing devices are available in  
the Narthex and South Atrium.

**+Response in Song**

*Raise a Song of Gladness*

JUBILATE DEO

The choir sings first.

**Join in singing as invited.**

Musical notation for the song "Raise a Song of Gladness". The score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/2 time. The lyrics are: "Raise a song of glad - ness, peo - ples of the earth. Christ has come, bring - ing peace, joy to ev - ery heart. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!"

**Reading from Acts — Acts 10:34-43**

Jordann McMahan / Julie Girards

Peter said, "I really am learning that God doesn't show partiality to one group of people over another. Rather, in every nation, whoever worships God and does what is right is acceptable to God. This is the message of peace God sent to the Israelites by proclaiming the good news through Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all! You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism John preached. You know about Jesus of Nazareth, whom God anointed with the Holy Spirit and endowed with power. Jesus traveled around doing good and healing everyone oppressed by the devil because God was with him. We are witnesses of everything he did, both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him up on the third day and allowed him to be seen, not by everyone but by us. We are witnesses whom God chose beforehand, who ate and drank with him after God raised him from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

**Prayers of the People**

Heather Mustain / Katie Murray

**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.**

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth:  
pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts:  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

**+Gospel Reading** — Matthew 28:1–10

Maggie Morey / Carol Cabaniss

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

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!**

**Anthem**

*O Love*  
Sanctuary Choir

Elaine Hagenberg

O Love, that will not let me go  
O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
That in thy ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.  
O Joy, that seeks me through the pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain  
That morn shall tearless be.  
O Love, that will not let me go.

**Message** "Spoiler Alert: He Did it Again" Timothy Peoples

**Celebration of the Lord's Supper** Timothy Peoples

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** *Like Him We Rise* Tom Trenney  
Katherine Pottkotter and Elle Sheaffer

He came down that we may have love. He came down that we may rise.  
"Come unto me," our Savior said. "Ye weary, come, I'll give you rest."  
From stable room and manger bed to paradise forever blessed.

*Refrain:*

Made like him, like him we rise! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,  
Light and life to all he brings risen with healing in his wings.

"Come, all who thirst, be satisfied with water I alone can give."  
Upon the cross, "I thirst," he cried, conquering death that we might live! (*Refrain*)

"When in the shadow, do not fear. I am your light, your lamp, your sun."  
The sting of death shall disappear. The fight is fought! The battle won! (*Refrain*)

He came down that we may rise.

**Passing of the Cup** *O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus* Daniel D. Marino  
Easter Festival Orchestra

**Passing of the Peace**

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

**+Congregational Song** *All Hail the Power of Jesus Name* DIADEM/arr. Sterling Procter  
No. 340

**Sharing of Decisions** Timothy Peoples

**Benediction** Timothy Peoples

**Postlude** *Toccata from Symphony No. 5 for Organ* Charles-Marie Widor

## Easter Festival Orchestra

Mark Miller, violin  
Lucas Raulino, violin  
Tonia Bricker Pilliod, viola  
Jason Mooney, cello  
Roger Fratena, bass  
David Hall, trumpet  
Elaina Garza, trumpet  
Brian Brown, horn  
Matt Ethier, trombone  
Topy Nguyễn, trombone  
Jonah Payne, percussion

Amy Pottkotter, keyboard  
Ralph Manuel, piano

# Meet today's worship leaders

**Carol Cabaniss** joined Wilshire in 1992 and is married to Kevin. They are the parents to three young adults: Peyton, Tanner and Trace. Carol is a deacon, attends Journey Class and participates in Faith in 3D. She works at Wilshire as the music and worship coordinator and also assists with funerals.

**Katherine Pottkotter** is a senior at Lake Highlands High School and has sung in the Texas All State Choir, the Greater Dallas Choral Society and the Dallas Opera Chorus. A Wilshire member since 2019, Katherine is active in Wilshire Student Ministry, sings in Youth Choir and Shekinah and studies organ with Jeff Brummel.

**Elle Sheaffer** is a senior at Woodrow Wilson High School, where she is active in student council, National Honor Society and performing arts. She also sings in the Mixed Youth Choir of the Greater Dallas Choral Society and is serving this year as president of Wilshire's Youth Choir. In the fall, Elle will attend the University of Oklahoma.



**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.

**W**ilshire Baptist Church acknowledges those who gave Easter lilies to beautify our Easter service. The love expressed through these flowers is dedicated to our Lord and Savior in celebration of the resurrection.

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**In memory of**

	Bobbie Coleman by Cindy and David Coleman
E. Maxey Abernathy by Carole Jean Abernathy	Diane Thedford Collins by Bryan Rollins and Robert Rollins
E. Maxey Abernathy by Paula, Jason, Garrett and Kathryn Woodbury and Sher Moo Ku	T.J. Collins by Kit and Weldon Sloan
Paul Abernathy by Carole Jean Abernathy	Uncle Spencer by Barron Cordell
Charles F. Ackerman by Betty Ackerman	Spencer Cordell by the Cordell family
Jann Aldredge-Clanton by Lyn and Ross Prater	Spencer Cordell by Laura and Barron Cordell
Paul Alloway by Sue, Paula and Jane Alloway	Spencer Cordell by Lisa and Elton Cordell
Kay Barnes by Mary Barnes	Thomas DeBose Sr. by Lynette DeBose
Mimi Basden by Jenyce Gush	Leon DeMent Sr. by Joannah, Darren, Virginia and Elias DeMent
C. Allen Bashour by Kathryn, Chase and Hannah Thompson	Mike Diffie by Laurie Diffie
Art and Opal Blohm, Emma Blohm, Geneva Blohm McElyea by Betty Blohm Ackerman	Margaret Duncan by David Duncan
Maxine Bradford by Cindy and David Coleman	Emery Evans by the Evans family
Grace and Bob Bozeman by Susan Clarke	Jesse Evans by the Evans family
Mac Buchanan by Diane Buchanan and family	Josephine H. Finan by Paige Finan and Frank Finan
Bobby J. Bunch by Jeff, David and Brian Bunch	Sue Fisetite by Robert Fisetite, Sheri Brooks and Jennifer Kitto
Deanna Bunch by Jeff, David and Brian Bunch	Eva Frey and Arthur E. Frey Sr. by Margie Lynn

Sasha Nicole Hallman by Dawn and  
Steven Hallman

Calla Havis by Douglas Havis

Alexandra Headifen by Isabelle Finan and  
Paige Finan

Jill Gush Hrcir by Jenyce Gush

Cathy Jones by Lucinda Jones

Joanna Ching-Ping Wong Jones by Bill Jones  
and family

Julian Kampfschulte by Paula, Jason, Garrett  
and Kathryn Woodbury and Sher Moo Ku

Gloria Lopez-Stafford by Katherine Sanchez

Doris and Dick Luttrell by Sally and  
Richard Luttrell

Robert McBride Jr. by Kathryn, Chase and  
Hannah Thompson

Frankie and Bob Meripol by Debbie and  
Mike Meripolski

Jackson Mihm and Spencer Mihm by  
Mary Carver

Marilyn Williamson Moore by Angie Moore

Michael Moore by Angie Moore

Sheila Duncan Moore by David Duncan

Sheila and Gene Moore by Carole Jean  
Abernathy

Margo O'Meara by Mary Barnes

Arnold Peterson by Barbara Peterson

Kathy Peterson by Barbara Peterson

Pauline and Olen Plunkett by Vickie Conn

Candy Walling Post by Max Post and family

Christina Principe by the Wilson family

Joan and Ken Ransom by Debbie and  
Mike Meripolski

Marian Rollins by Bryan Rollins and  
Robert Rollins

Stephen Rollins by Bryan Rollins and  
Robert Rollins

Wells Rollins by Bryan Rollins and  
Robert Rollins

Shirley Sanders by Laurie Diffie

Jean Shepard by Molly, Michael, Olivia  
and Caitlin Shepard

Mary Lou and Don Socher by Sally and  
Richard Luttrell

Jim Spell by Pam Spell

Doris "Meme" Swift by Jeff, David and  
Brian Bunch

Dean Thedford by Bryan Rollins and  
Robert Rollins

Donna Martin Thompson by Kathryn, Chase  
and Hannah Thompson

June and Rex Timms by the Worley family

Charlotte and Sam Vaughter by Vanessa  
Vaughter and Woody Weilage

Nancy Wegar by Glen Larson and Paige Finan

Louise and Alvin Weilage by Vanessa Vaughter  
and Woody Weilage

Jim White by the B.E.S.T Sunday School Class

Tom Worley by the Worley family

Jenna Worthen by Jenyce Gush

## **In honor of**

Barbara Baker by the Barker family

Claudia and Joe Barner by Janice and  
Bill Jernberg

Dorothy Boyd by Lynette DeBose

Monna Brown by Sarah and Allan Stafford

Jeff Brummel by Katherine Pottkotter

Maggie, David, Mason, Charlie, Bennett and  
Reed Carver by Mary Carver

Mig and John Coates by Jeri Baker

Compass Sunday School Class by Jenyce Gush

Pat Cullum by Barbara Peterson

John Dyer by Abi Dyer

Davanel Fitzgerald by Sarah and Allan Stafford

Charlie Fuller by Monica Mullins

Linda Garner by Jeri Baker

Lavonda and David Mann by Jeri Baker

Donna and Ralph Manuel by Laurie Diffie

Debbie and Mike Meripolski by Jenyce Gush

Rachel, Eddie, Sophia, Lucy and Esme Moreno  
by Mary Carver

Maggie and Jonathan Morey by Lyn and  
Ross Prater

Heather Mustain by Lyn and Ross Prater

Nancy Poynter by Faith in 3D Casts Past  
and Present

Nancy Poynter and Faith in 3D by Janice and  
Bill Jernberg

Nancy Poynter by Laurie Diffie

David Slatton by Jeri Baker

Sarah and Allan Stafford by Jeri Baker

Shiloh Rain Thomas by Glen Larson, Paige  
Finan and Isabelle Finan

Ellen Grace Wilkerson by Lori Reid

Wilshire Sanctuary Choir by Lauren Anne Cove

Wilshire Staff by Lauren Anne Cove

Judy and Charles Yarbrough by Lauren  
Anne Cove

# 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  
April 5, 2026

## EASTER AT WILSHIRE

### Service of Remembrance

**9:45 a.m. | Columbarium** | This brief service is geared toward those with loved ones memorialized in the Columbarium, which will be open for visits from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Flowering Cross



Stop by to place a flower into the mesh-wrapped wooden cross outside the Sanctuary. Bring your own fresh-cut flowers or take one from a limited supply provided by the church. Don't miss this favorite photo opportunity!

### Office closed tomorrow

The church building will be closed for a staff holiday on Monday, April 6.

### New member

Ann Marie Ballard

### Wilshire Welcome next Sunday

Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn about the church, will be held at 9:45 a.m. next Sunday, April 12, in the Prayer Room near McIver Chapel. No RSVP necessary. Contact: Carolyn Murray ([cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

### 75th anniversary shirts, caps



New Wilshire T-shirts commemorating our 75th anniversary have arrived and are available for purchase. Adult and youth sizes cost \$15; toddler sizes cost \$10. Baseball caps are also available for \$20. Items will be for sale in James Gallery from 9 to 10 a.m. Sundays,

in Community Hall on Wednesday nights and at the April 10 Trivia & Tacos event. Contact: Carolyn Murray ([cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

### Lunch & Learn meets April 15

Everyone is invited to Community Hall the first and third Wednesdays every month at 11:30 a.m. for lunch (\$10) and Bible study. No registration or RSVP necessary.



**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](https://youtube.com/wilshirebaptist). Keep up with Wilshire by subscribing to our YouTube channel and following us on Facebook and Instagram.



# Trivia

# &



# Tacos

**Wilshire Trivia! Free Taco Bar!**  
Friday, April 10 • 6:30–8 p.m.

## A WILSHIRE 75TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Get ready for our 75th anniversary with this fun evening of Wilshire trivia in Community Hall (formerly called the Fellowship Hall, don'tcha know). Associate Pastor Darren DeMent will be our emcee. There will be questions for all skill levels, so everyone's welcome — whether you were baptized by Bruce in the chapel or every service you remember ended with “exhale!”

■ **Childcare** shared with Marriage Connections is available by registration for infants through grade 5. **Sign up by today** at [wilshirebc.org/events/trivia-and-tacos](http://wilshirebc.org/events/trivia-and-tacos).



## David Stern and George Mason lunch dialogue on April 26

Rabbi David Stern, senior rabbi of Temple Emanu-El in Dallas, will be featured in conversation with George Mason, Wilshire's senior pastor emeritus, over a free lunch in Community Hall on Sunday, April 26. Rabbi Stern will preach in Wilshire's 11 a.m. service that day, the first Sunday Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples will be away on sabbatical. Register for lunch and preschool childcare at [wilshirebc.org/events/stern-mason-lunch](http://wilshirebc.org/events/stern-mason-lunch). Other preachers during Timothy's sabbatical will be:

■ **May 3:** Pam Durso, president, Central Seminary, Overland Park, Kansas

■ **May 10:** Meredith Stone, executive director, Baptist Women in Ministry

■ **May 17:** Greg Garrett, professor of literature and culture, Baylor University

■ **May 24:** George Mason, senior pastor emeritus at Wilshire

## Music event set for April 26

*Sing and Ring Our Song of Praise: A Choral and Handbell Vespers* will be held Sunday, April 26 at 4:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Join us for an evening of music and community as the handbell and sanctuary choirs of Northridge Presbyterian, Lake Highlands United Methodist and Wilshire come together as combined choirs to offer praise in song and sound. The congregation will also be invited to raise their voices in a community hymn sing. All are welcome.

## Adventurers Arboretum outing

The Wilshire Adventurers will visit the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden on Monday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to see *Bunnies, Birds & Butterflies*, large-scale installations by artist Hunt Slonem. Tickets are free; optional picnic lunch available (\$5 ea.). Carpool from Wilshire at 9:30 a.m. Please register at [wilshirebc.org/events/arboretum](http://wilshirebc.org/events/arboretum) by April 22.

## Last day for art auction benefiting Youth Choir tour

You can support the Youth Choir's summer tour to Kansas City by bidding on artwork donated by Wilshire member Larry Harrington, currently on display in the South Lobby. Many reserve prices have been lowered. Bidding ends today, April 5.

■ You can also support Youth Choir tour by buying remaining items from the Spaghetti Lunch and Silent Auction. Items include gift certificates and fun sign-and-go events; no bidding. Scan the QR code.



## Firearm disposal event April 18



Wilshire is co-hosting a Guns to Gardens firearm disposal event on Saturday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Royal Lane Baptist Church. This is a chance for anyone with unwanted

firearms to anonymously and safely dispose of them. The guns will be disabled and later forged into garden tools, art and jewelry. Gift cards are available on a first-come, first-served basis and will be distributed based on the type of firearm brought. Guns to Gardens is a national movement working to reduce gun violence, and Wilshire helped start a local chapter last year.

■ Volunteers are needed to staff the event. Visit [wilshirebc.org/events/guns-to-gardens](http://wilshirebc.org/events/guns-to-gardens) to sign up. Contact: Pastoral Resident Jordann McMahan ([jmcmahan@wilshirebc.org](mailto:jmcmahan@wilshirebc.org))

## Preschool Playdate on April 18

Preschoolers and their families are invited to a playdate with Ms. Kelly at the Dallas Arboretum on Saturday, April 18, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Contact: Minister to Preschoolers Kelly Akins ([kakins@wilshirebc.org](mailto:kakins@wilshirebc.org))



# Wilshire's 75th Anniversary Weekend

## Saturday, June 13

### Homecoming Celebration

■ **4:45-7:30 p.m.** | Catch up with friends, explore the building and browse history displays at featured stops, with a time for reflections and remembrances in the Sanctuary at 6.

■ **7-10 p.m.** | Extended come-and-go fellowship at Times Ten Cellars. *6324 Prospect Ave.*

## Sunday, June 14

### Worship Celebration

■ **11 a.m.** | Our special 75-minute worship service in the Sanctuary will include a message by **Rev. Kelly Brown Douglas**, canon theologian at Washington National Cathedral and a visiting professor at Harvard Divinity School.

## 75 Minutes of Service

**Saturday, April 25 | 8:30-10:30 a.m.** | Save the date and join us for an hour or two of beautifying our campus as we look forward to our 75th anniversary weekend. There will be coffee and donuts, of course! Project coordinators are needed. Visit [wilshirebc.org/75](http://wilshirebc.org/75) to find the SignUpGenius link.



To see how you can be involved in our big celebration, scan the QR code or visit [wilshirebc.org/75](http://wilshirebc.org/75) for the link to our SignUpGenius.

## This Week in Wilshire History

**April 4, 2021.** Wilshire held Easter worship outdoors during COVID-19. The previous week's outdoor worship on Palm Sunday was the church's first in-person morning service since the pandemic arrived in March 2020.

**April 5, 1953.** Wilshire recorded its highest Sunday School attendance to date, 250.



**April 5, 1954.** Bricks for Wilshire's new chapel were sold to children for 5 cents each. The kids then watched as the bricks bearing their names were laid in the walls.

**April 10, 2010.** More than 200 people participated in Wilshire's Missions Blitz.

# 2026 Summer

## CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL

### VBS: #KIDSCONNECT

Mon.–Thu., June 15–18, 9 a.m.–noon.  
Older preschool through completed grade 5. Free.

### KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL CAMP

Mon.–Fri., July 6–10, 9 a.m.–noon  
Older preschool through completed Kindergarten. \$50.

### COOKING CAMP

Mon.–Fri., July 6–10, 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
Completed grades 1 through 5. \$125.  
*Sold Out! Waitlist available.*

### LISTEN TO YOUR ART!

Mon.–Fri., July 6–10, 12:30–5 p.m.  
Completed grades 1 through 5. \$125.

### FULL-DAY COOKING & ART

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

### PASSPORTKIDS! PRETEEN CAMP

Sun.–Wed., July 19–22.  
Overnight camp for completed grades 3 through 5. \$450.

Full details and registration at

[WILSHIREBC.ORG/SUMMER-CAMPS](http://WILSHIREBC.ORG/SUMMER-CAMPS)

## Register by today for April 10 Marriage Connections

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

■ The same childcare is available to single, adoptive and foster parents. Register at [wilshirebc.org/events/pno](http://wilshirebc.org/events/pno) by April 5.

■ Note: Instead of going out, consider attending Wilshire’s free **Trivia & Tacos** event in Community Hall.

## Men’s Book Club welcomes author

Darwin Payne, author of *Behind the Scenes: Covering the JFK Assassination*, will be in attendance to discuss the book at the next Men’s Book Club meeting on Tuesday, April 21, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. Payne, a professor emeritus at SMU, covered the 1963 assassination as a young reporter for the *Dallas Times Herald*. 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

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Thursday, May 7 | Noon | 1205-L | *The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn. Contact: Carolyn Murray ([cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | April 14 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery. Contact: Debby Burton ([debbyb0929@gmail.com](mailto:debbyb0929@gmail.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).

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE APRIL 8

## 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). **April 8:** King Ranch casserole, Mexican corn, chips and salsa, tortilla soup, chocoflan, cookies, 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

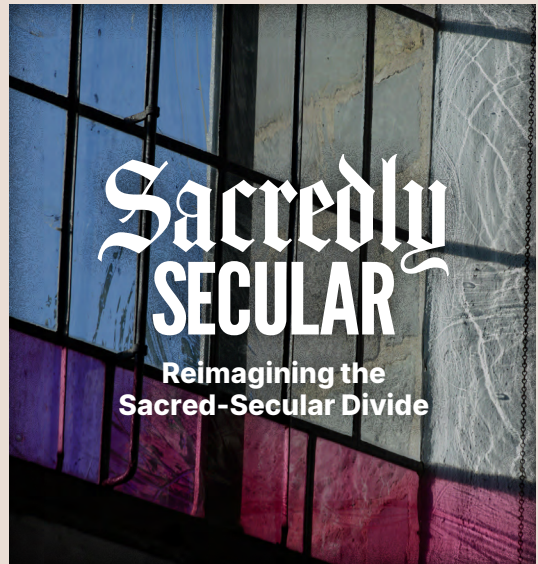
**6 p.m. | K–Grade 5** | A rotation of activities to help kids learn how to love God and others.

## Watershed

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

## No Sanctuary Choir April 8

**7 p.m. | Choral Hall** | Wilshire's main adult choir will take a break this week. Rehearsals resume April 15. No audition.



## New Series

**April 8, 15, 22 | 6 p.m. | Community Hall** | Associate Pastor Darren DeMent will lead adults in *Sacredly Secular: Reimagining the Sacred-Secular Divide*, a three-week series that will invite us to reconsider the categories that have shaped how we understand meaning, purpose and presence in our everyday lives.

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

# Steve Brookshire

**Hometown:** Temple  
**Present City:** Dallas

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

I met my wonderful wife, Gail, at Wilshire, and our son Andy met his lovely wife, Jessica, through Wilshire connections (thanks Mary Lu!). The four of us gratefully serve as deacons here. Andy and Jessica are parents to my brilliant, handsome, talented, amazing and kind grandson, Callum, who is two years old.

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

These days I work in commercial real estate. I was inspired years ago, with help from George Mason, to view my work as vocation — which makes a difference as to how I approach it. I stay invested in social justice and ministry initiatives, which is how God seems to use me best.

## **Any favorite hobbies?**

I'm an avid golfer and enjoy reading.

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

Great cities in Europe, high deserts anywhere and great golf courses in North America and the U.K.

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

I found Wilshire shortly after graduating from Baylor and moving to Dallas and stayed the next 40+ years for the people and theology.

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

I've served in many roles through the years. Currently I'm a member of the Epiphany class.



## **What has surprised you most about Wilshire?**

How my life and sense of self became inextricably tied to this community.

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

For the first time in a long while, I sense a change in the wind, but I don't yet know where it is leading me. Stay tuned.

## **Tell us about your faith journey.**

My faith journey is alongside saints here who teach me the same big lessons year after year. Thanks to Wilshire, I aspire to stand with the vulnerable, the marginalized and the disenfranchised. I try to hold everything loosely. I seek to cultivate awe and gratitude and to live comfortably with mystery. I willfully resist anxiety. I know from observing myriad firsthand examples that neither love nor peace are passive.

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

I've tried skydiving and scuba diving with minimal instruction (less than 30 minutes in each case).

## **What adjectives best describe you?**

I have high ideation, I'm organized and I think strategically. I am an open book emotionally. I enjoy humor. I spend a lot of mental time in the future, which is a strength and a weakness.

# 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, April 5**

- Easter Sunrise Service, T. & P. Hill at White Rock Lake, 6:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 8:30 a.m.
- Remembrance Service, Columbarium, 9:45 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.

## **Monday, April 6**

- Staff Holiday, Building Closed

## **Tuesday, April 7**

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

## **Wednesday, April 8**

- New Song, McIver Chapel, 9:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, James Gallery, 5 p.m.
- Bible Study, James Gallery, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.

## **Thursday, April 9**

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

## **Friday, April 10**

- Friday Friends, 3103, 10 a.m.
- Marriage Connections, James Gallery, 6:30 p.m.
- Trivia & Tacos: A 75th Anniversary Event, Community Hall, 6:30 p.m.

## **Sunday, April 12**

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

# benedictio: a good word



**WSM  
Youth Camp**  
June 29–July 4  
Ferncliff Camp  
Little Rock

**“Camp is such a phenomenal experience that everyone in the Wilshire Student Ministry should have a chance to enjoy.”**

Crosby Cole, 8th grade

**W**E OFTEN THINK of a benediction as the final moment of a worship service — a blessing as we depart. But the term comes from the Latin *benedictio*, meaning “a good word.” At its core, a benediction is about speaking goodness over what comes next.

In Genesis, a steady refrain echoes through the creation story: “and it was good.” Those words ground us in the powerful truth that goodness lies at the heart of everything God made.

And yet, so much of our attention today settles on what

is wrong — what is broken, corrupted or evil.

Perhaps we need to be reminded that goodness is the original word spoken over creation. Brokenness is not the starting point; it is a distortion of what was first made good. Maybe we simply need to hear that good word again.

At camp this summer, we want to reimagine the benediction. What if it’s not just a conclusion, but a beginning — a good word that sends us out to live and see differently and to carry that goodness with us into whatever comes next?

## **Camp Pastor**

We are excited that **Georgia McKee** will be our camp pastor this year. Georgia is no stranger to Wilshire; she recently completed her pastoral residency with us and now serves as Associate Pastor at Glencoe Union Church near Chicago. Georgia is married to Sophia, and they have two dogs, Goose and Dolly.



**Registration:**  
[wilshirebc.org/  
events/youth-  
camp-2026](http://wilshirebc.org/events/youth-camp-2026)