



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

Preparing for worship

In middle school, we had to run a mile every month in gym class. If you know me, you know sweating is not something I enjoy. Our school sat in the middle of cornfields, and our coach would stand in the road with a timer in one hand and a whistle in the other. At the sound of the whistle, we would all take off running.

But there was one detail everyone knew: Coach had bad cataracts.

So, we came up with a plan. We would run about a quarter mile — maybe less — and then slip into the cornfields. We'd wait there for a while, careful not to come back too soon. After all, we didn't want him thinking we could run a lightning-fast mile, raising his expectations. Then we'd reappear, jog back down the road and finish the race.

It worked many times. Until it didn't.

One day, we started the same plan, but something felt off to me. So, I decided to just run the full mile. Sure enough, as the others disappeared into the cornfields, Coach shouted from the road and told them all to run an extra mile. When we got back, he looked at us and said, "I got surgery." Then he chuckled: "I can see now!"

Our Scripture from Luke today tells the "Road to Emmaus" story. Two disciples walked along

the road with Jesus himself, yet they did not recognize him. It wasn't until they sat at the table with him — when he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them — that their eyes were opened. Only then did they see him for who he truly was.

As we prepare for worship, I wonder how often we find ourselves in a similar place. We assume we see clearly. We assume we understand what God is doing. We assume we would recognize Jesus if he showed up in our lives.

And yet, how often do we miss Jesus? What has been blurring your vision from seeing God? What are the cataracts of your faith?

Many of us are still living in the glow of Easter morning. But if we're honest, we've also lived in the reality of that road — walking forward, uncertain, sometimes discouraged and not always aware that Christ is right there with us.

Christ is still at work. Still moving among us. Still choosing to be in communion with us.

The question is not whether he is present.

The question is: Will our eyes be opened enough to see him?

—Timothy Peoples



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: *Walk to Emmaus*, Frank Wesley, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library.

April 19, 2026
11:00 a.m.
Third Sunday of Easter

Chiming of the Hour

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

Welcome to Worshipers

Darren DeMent

Prelude

We See Thy Light
based on *Ermuntre dich, mein schwacher Geist*
from J.S. Bach's "Vierstimmige Choralgesänge"
Nova
Michael Capps, director

Michael Capps

We see thy light how fair and bright. Our hearts you nourish with grace, truth and right.
Our Lord and Savior, you have won our hearts to serve you for all to see.
Awake from sleep, arise from death. We see thy light is glowing.
Awake, and hail our Savior, who shows us our path till all of his truth we see.

+Call to Worship

Kim Justice

One: We need your presence on the long road, Lord —

All: The road between fear and hope,

One: The road between the place where all is lost and the place of resurrection.

**All: Guide us on the path toward our destination,
and renew our strength as we walk with you.**

One: Open our eyes —

All: So we may see the signs of your presence around us.

One: Open our hearts—

All: So we may receive your peace and your love.

One: Empower us, Lord—

**All: To share with others the grace you have so freely given to us.
Stay with us, Lord, on the journey, and lead us into new life.**

+Congregational Song

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
No. 198

LLANFAIR

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

I love the LORD because the LORD has heard
my voice and my supplications.
Because God inclined God's ear to me,
therefore I will call on the LORD
as long as I live.
The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.
Then I called on the name of the LORD,
"O LORD, I pray, save my life!"
...
What shall I return to the LORD
for all the LORD's bounty to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD;

I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.
Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of the LORD's faithful ones.
O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.
You have loosed my bonds.
I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the LORD.
I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people,
in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise the LORD!

Presentation of First Grade Bibles

Julie Girards

Children's Moment

Jordann McMahan

Offertory

Come Tear Down the Walls
Ariel Merivil

Common Hymnal

Come and tear down the walls I've built up, every wall I've built up.
For you deserve every piece of my heart, every piece of my heart.

Lord, I am trusting that you are a faithful father and all that you have, it is good.
You're a generous giver, your love's like no other, won't you come and break through to me.

Over and over and over again, I am bringing my heart to you with open hands.
Closer and closer, you're drawing me in as the depths of my heart lay before you again.

I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it told thy love to me;
But I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer drawn to thee.

Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where thou hast died;
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to thy precious, bleeding side.

There are depths of love that I cannot know 'til I cross the narrow sea.
There are heights of joy that I may not reach 'til I rest in peace with thee.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

It Is Well With My Soul
No. 573

VILLE DU HAVRE

Message

“Still, He Rises”

Timothy Peoples

Anthem

Alleluia
Nova
Candy McComb, director
Bill Jernberg, accompanist

Ralph Manuel

Prayers of the People

Amanda Hines

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

O God Beyond All Praising
No. 366

THAXTED

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

Postlude

Improvisation on themes of the day

Jeff Brummel

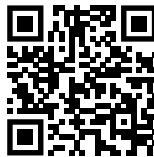
Today's flowers are given by Timothy Peoples and Valerie Lott in gratitude to Wilshire Baptist Church and Wilshire staff members for who you are and the ways you exude Christ in a very dark world. Thank you as well for the blessing of this sabbatical season.

Meet today's worship leaders

Nellson Burns and his wife, Melissa, have been attending Wilshire since last summer with their two kids, Kate, a fourth grader, and Jack, a sixth grader. Nellson and Melissa attend the Labyrinth Sunday School Class. Nellson works as managing partner for an IT staffing firm.

Kim Justice and her husband, Clint, have been Wilshire members since 2023 and attend Labyrinth Class. Their three kids are Jonathan, a fifth grader, Joel, a fourth grader, and Rinnah, who is in first grade. Other family members at Wilshire include Kim's parents, Mary and Kenton Keller, and sister Kathryn Keller. Kim is a couples therapist at Dallas Therapy Collective.

Grant Stewart joined Wilshire in 2020 with his family, parents Chris and Al and siblings Curtis, Emery and Isla. Grant teaches in First Grade Sunday School. He earned a B.F.A. in wood-working from Tennessee Tech University and is the owner and operator of a bespoke furniture studio.



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.

Scripture quotations: New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America, used by permission, all rights reserved, adapted for inclusive language. Common English Bible © 2011 Common English Bible. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CommonEnglishBible.com. Music reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under One License #A-739361. All rights reserved. *Alleluia* ©1987, Hinshaw Music. *We See Thy Light* ©2026 Michael Capps.

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

Maggie Morey called to Omaha church

PASTORAL RESIDENT MAGGIE MOREY has accepted a call to become associate minister of care, connection and formation at Countryside Community Church in Omaha, Nebraska.



She will complete her two-year Wilshire residency on Sunday, May 10. The 11 a.m. worship service that day will include a time of blessing for Maggie and her husband, Jonathan.

“I am incredibly grateful for Wilshire and the Pathways program!” Maggie said. “Over the last two years, with your care and support, I have learned and grown in my ministry. You have prepared me for this next step of my call.”

Countryside, founded in 1949, is affiliated with the United Churches of Christ. Since 2019 it has been part of of Omaha’s Tri-Faith Initiative, which brings together a synagogue, church and mosque on one campus.

Maggie came to Wilshire in 2024 after completing a Master of Divinity degree at Duke Divinity School.

Maggie said, “This is an exciting time for Jonathan and me as we move to Omaha and start new jobs, but it’s also bittersweet—it’s hard to believe that our time here is coming to an end. Come visit us in Omaha!”



A CHORAL
AND HANDBELL
VESPERS

Sing and Ring Our Song of Praise



Wilshire, other churches join for music event next Sunday

Sing and Ring Our Song of Praise: A Choral and Handbell Vespers will be held Sunday, April 26, at 4:30 p.m. 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.



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. Keep up with Wilshire by subscribing to our YouTube channel and following us on Facebook and Instagram.

New member

Jane Martin

Condolences to

- Family and friends of Judy Ann Wiley, April 2.
- Mary Pfalzgraf on the death of her husband, Gene Pfalzgraf, April 12. The Pfalzgrafs are former Wilshire members.

Tim's sabbatical starts this week

Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples will be on sabbatical from April 22 through May 26. If you have emergency pastoral care needs during this time, contact Katie Murray (kmurray@wilshirebc.org). Timothy's assistant, Chelsea Hopkins (chopkins@wilshirebc.org), can help with any other matters.

Building projects update

- As you may have noticed, progress is being made with our **water intrusion** project. The north side of the Narthex has been reopened, and work has progressed to the front steps and the south side. Some spots in the south parking lot will be unavailable while work continues, but this part of the project should not take long.
- Regarding the **south elevator**: There are multiple issues that need to be resolved, and instead of doing it piece by piece, we made the decision to do these repairs all at once. We are waiting for parts and hope to have this work completed as soon as possible. In the meantime, the elevator can be used by choice, but we will continue to move any programming that requires the use of the elevator to the first floor.
- We have upgraded our **Internet** infrastructure and added new **WiFi** access points to help support our church's needs; this equipment will also make our network more secure. If you notice any difference, good or bad, please let me know.—*Heather Mustain, associate pastor*



Next Sunday: Rabbi David Stern preaches, joins George Mason for lunch dialogue

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 next Sunday, April 26. Stern will preach in the 11 a.m. service that day, the first Sunday Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples will be on sabbatical.

A longtime friend of Wilshire and George, Stern last preached here in 2014 during George's 25th anniversary celebration. The two men led an interfaith trip to the Holy Land in 2012.

To register for lunch and preschool childcare, look for the link at wilshirebc.org/events/stern-mason-lunch.

Other guest 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



Let's spruce up the place

Day of Service | Saturday, April 25

8:30–10:30 a.m. | Join us for an hour or two of beautifying our campus as we look forward to our anniversary weekend. Coffee and donuts will be available starting at 8:15 in James Gallery, where we'll all meet and get our instructions. To see the tasks and sign up, scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/75.



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.

This Week in Wilshire History



April 2002. A Wilshire team led by Minister of Missions Karen Gilbert built a home in West Dallas through Habitat for Humanity.

April 21, 2016. Sanctuary Choir sang Howard Goodall's *Eternal Light: A Requiem* in a concert benefiting the Grief and Loss Center of North Texas.



April 22–25, 1979. Wilshire presented Springtop, an outreach event, at Flag Pole Hill. Among the acts was Cynthia Clawson, a one-time Wilshire member who would win a Grammy in 1981.

Kids Friendship Party is April 24

Children in kindergarten through grade 5 are invited to a party with crafts, games, music and a movie on Friday, April 24, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friends are welcome. Please register Wilshire kids and friends by April 22 at wilshirebc.org/events/kids-friendship-party.

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. Tickets are free; optional picnic lunch available (\$5 ea.). Carpool from Wilshire at 9:30 a.m. Register at wilshirebc.org/events/arboretum by April 22.

Library anniversary event May 3

Wilshire's Library will mark its 73rd anniversary and dedicate its renovated space with an event on Sunday, May 3. "The Library opened two years after the church started, and it's very rare that a church library this old still exists and is as vibrant and utilized as ours," said Librarian Barbara Peterson. "We recently completed a major renovation with shelving donated by Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas. We thought it appropriate to celebrate on May 3 when Pam Durso, president of the seminary, is here to preach." After 11 a.m. worship, all are invited to James Gallery for cake and a brief dedication. The Library will be open during the event.

Graduate info needed by May 10

Wilshire will recognize 2026 high school graduates in worship on May 17; their photos will be printed in the worship folder along with those of church members who received a bachelor's degree from June 2025 to May 2026. To be included, email Carole McClung (cmclung@wilshirebc.org) with the student's name, school name, future plans and a photo by May 10. For college grads, submit a photo plus the college name and degree or major.



MARQUEE EVENT. *Wilshire's fourth and fifth senior pastors attended our Trivia & Tacos 75th anniversary event on April 10. This replica of the Wilshire Theater sign, representing an early church meeting site, was created for the church's 60th anniversary in 2011. Left to right: Valerie Lott, Timothy Peoples, Kim Mason and George Mason.*

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) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net)

Wilshire Welcome is May 17

Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn about the church, will next meet at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, May 17, in the Prayer Room near McIver Chapel. No RSVP necessary. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

2026 Summer

CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL

VBS: #KIDSCONNECT

Mon.-Thu., June 15-18, 9 a.m.-noon.

Free. Space remains in K-5th grade classes. Preschool classes are full; preschoolers of VBS volunteers will be accommodated.

KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL CAMP

Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 9 a.m.-noon

Older preschool through completed Kindergarten. \$50.

LISTEN TO YOUR ART!

Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 12:30-5 p.m.

Completed grades 1 through 5. \$125.

PASSPORTKIDS! PRETEEN CAMP

Sun.-Wed., July 19-22.

Overnight camp for completed grades 3 through 5. \$450. \$50 nonrefundable deposit guarantees a spot; Register by April 30 and save \$25. Full payment due June 30.

Cooking Camp and the full-day option for Cooking Camp and Listen to Your Art are sold out, and waitlists are closed.

Full details and registration at

WILSHIREBC.ORG/SUMMER-CAMPS

Next Lunch & Learn is May 6

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.

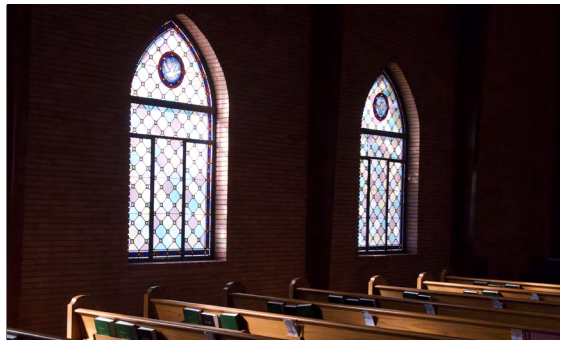
Serve with our mission partners

To see ways you can serve alongside other Wilshire members with one of our mission or advocacy partners, visit wilshirebc.org/serve.

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)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | May 12 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *American Gospel: God, the Founding Fathers, and the Making of a Nation* by Jon Meacham. Contact: Debby Burton (debbyb0929@gmail.com)



Contemplative Worship

9 a.m. Weekly | Mclver Chapel



Childcare available for preschoolers

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE APRIL 22

Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | James Gallery | Buffet dinner with kid-friendly options. Cash/check/credit. Prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **April 22:** BBQ pulled pork, buns, beans, coleslaw, potato chowder, apple crumble, 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. Timothy Peoples and the pastoral residents are leading Watershed while Darren DeMent teaches adult Bible Study on April 8, 15 and 22.

Sanctuary Choir

7 p.m. | Choral Hall | Wilshire's main adult choir rehearses weekly. New singers are welcome. No audition.



Bible Study

April 8, 15, 22 | 6 p.m. | James Gallery | 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.

Vespers on April 29

6 p.m. | McIver Chapel

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

Ed Wagner

Hometown: Summit, New Jersey
Present City: Oak Cliff, Texas (we like to think that the OC still has its own identity)
Profession: Software developer

Tell us about your family.

I am married to Jennifer and we are fortunate to have three children — Noah, Haydn and Elly. This Yankee never expected to live in the same house with so many Texans.

How about your work or volunteer life?

I grew up in New Jersey and lived six years in the Boston area before moving to Dallas in 1995 to co-found an Internet consulting company, just as the Internet was becoming commercialized. My plan was to experience Dallas for five-ish years and then move somewhere else, but as year five rolled around, I met Jennifer and here we still are.

Any favorite hobbies?

Two hobbies I've rekindled recently are playing trumpet and flying small planes. Both require a lot of practice, although the consequences of not staying proficient in each are wildly different.

What are your favorite places to travel?

As much as I enjoy new experiences, for a relaxing vacation I prefer going to familiar places. Two of our favorites are the mountains in Estes Park, Colorado, and the rugged Atlantic coast of Rockport, Massachusetts.



What brought you to Wilshire and when?

I did not grow up going to church and only began wondering about a deeper meaning of life in my mid-20s. I met Jennifer about that same time and she was searching for a new church. I

joined Jennifer for a few of her visits to see what this church thing was all about. No church connected with me until we dropped by Wilshire one Sunday in 2000 and never left. I was baptized here in 2004, and our children have grown up with the warm support of so many Wilshire members over the years. Regardless of our religious beliefs or struggles at any point in time, we feel recharged by this community every week and the journey of curiosity we share together.

Tell us about your faith journey.

I became a Christian later in life and still view things differently than a lot of other Christians. I love that the Wilshire community is interested in hearing my perspective, just as I am interested in learning from everyone else's experiences and faith. While uncertainty can be unsettling, it is comforting to dance with it side by side with each of you.

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

While generally mild-mannered, I do have a competitive streak that rears its head when swimming or playing board games.

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.

This Week

Sunday, April 19

- Worship Service, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Children's Choir Snack Lunch, 2223, noon
- Finance Committee, 2202, noon
- Personnel Committee, Pastor's Office, noon
- Missions & Advocacy Committee, 1205-L, noon
- Adventurers Committee, 1205-G, noon
- Children's Choir, 12:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2 p.m.

Monday, April 20

- Deacons Meeting, James Gallery, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21

- Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, April 22

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, James Gallery, 5 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Bible Study, James Gallery, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 23

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

Friday, April 24

- Friday Friends, 3103, 10 a.m.
- Kids' Friendship Party, Children's Classrooms, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 25

- WSM Spring Retreat, Camp Crucis
- Day of Service, 8:30 a.m.