



**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**May 3, 2026**  
*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

# Preparing for worship

The summer after my freshman year of college, I served as a camp counselor in Glorieta, New Mexico. All summer staff was asked to report to the camp weeks before the first groups arrived in order to go through all the necessary training. Those first few weeks were spent studying the summer curriculum, getting trained on the activity elements and building relationships with the rest of the summer staff.

One responsibility all the staff had to learn was how to be expert trail guides for the many trails that spanned the approximate 2,500 acres of the camp property. We would familiarize ourselves by going on multiple hikes a day and take turns leading each other to different campsites on the grounds. It wasn't uncommon to have multiple trails cross paths with each other, so having specific markers came in handy.

If you've spent time hiking, you've probably seen what is called a cairn, pronounced like the name "Karen." Cairns are human-made piles or stacks of rocks primarily used to mark trails and guide hikers to their destination. Historically, cairns have also been used to denote sacred spaces, memorials or burial grounds. Cairns are meant to signify and communicate some-

thing important to anyone who spots them, so it's important not to knock them over or build any additional cairns of your own so you don't confuse others.

I imagine you could think of your own significant "spiritual cairns" that mark meaningful moments of your own faith journey. Perhaps notable life events or milestones serve as big cairns, and there are probably small moments that have shaped your faith, like a hymn or story from Scripture you return to that brings you back into God's presence.

The music we'll sing and hear this morning offers some markers for us to reflect on. As we worship in this season of Eastertide, we're reminded of the truth of Jesus Christ as the foundation for the church as she proclaims, "One Lord, one faith, one birth." When we meditate on the beloved song "Jesus Loves Me," we are given the comfort that Jesus remembers us. Even through doubts, fears and changes in life, Christ still hears us when we cry out and walks with us as a dear friend.

Let us join in worship together as we remember the living stones of our faith.

—Amanda Hines



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:** *Several Circles*, Wassily Kandinsky, oil on canvas, 1926.

May 3, 2026  
11:00 a.m.  
Fifth 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

Angela Brindle

## Prelude

*Lift High the Cross*

arr. Carolyn Hamlin

## +Congregational Song

*The Church's One Foundation*  
No. 246  
Stanzas 1-4

AURELIA

## +Call to Worship

June McNicholas

One: Beloved children of God, we gather today

**All: However glad or out of sorts we may be.**

One: We rejoice in Jesus

**All: Our cornerstone and light.**

One: We journey together as a community

**All: To build a church where all are welcome.**

One: Let us taste and see that God is good.

**All: God's mercies endure forever. Amen.**

## +Response in Song

*The Church's One Foundation*

AURELIA

**Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won;  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.**

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

Happy are those  
who do not follow the advice of the wicked  
or take the path that sinners tread  
or sit in the seat of scoffers,  
but their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on God's law they meditate day and night.  
They are like trees  
planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.  
The wicked are not so  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.  
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the  
judgment nor sinners in the congregation of  
the righteous,  
for the LORD watches over the way  
of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

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.**

Offertory

*Yes, Jesus Loves Me!*  
Sanctuary Choir

arr. Tim Osiek

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

As a child on my knees, Jesus was a friend to me.  
Does he still remember me?  
Yes! Jesus loves me, this I know. As he loved so long ago.  
Taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."

But what about my doubts and fears?  
How I've changed throughout the years?  
When I cry out, does he hear?  
Yes! Jesus loves me, walking with me on my way.

Wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live,  
God's light and love!

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation — if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” and “A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

For the Word of God in Scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
And for the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Message** “Living Stones” Rev. Dr. Pam Durso  
**Celebration of the Lord’s Supper** Jordann McMahan

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** *Meditation on “He Lives”* arr. Jeffrey Brummel  
**Passing of the Cup** *My Jesus, I Love Thee* arr. Dan Forrest  
**Passing of the Peace**

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

+**Congregational Song** *Be Still, My Soul* FINLANDIA  
No. 57

**Recognition of Jeff Brummel** Ariel Merivil

**Sharing of Decisions**

Julie Girards

**Choral Benediction**

*Go Out With Joy*  
Children's Choir  
Candy McComb, director  
Bill Jernberg, accompanist  
Katie Murray, percussion

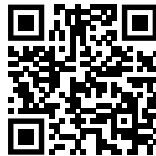
Cindy Berry

You will go out with joy and be led forth in peace;  
The mountains and the hills before you will burst into singing.  
You will go out with joy and be led forth in peace;  
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! All creation sings to God.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! All his works we now applaud.

**Postlude**

*Toccata on "How Firm a Foundation"*  
Ariel Merivil

Craig Phillips



**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.

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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. *Yes, Jesus Loves Me!* ©2020 Choristers Guild. *Go Out With Joy* ©2018 Celebrating Grace Music.

# Meet today's worship leaders

**Angela Brindle** first joined Wilshire in 2014 and rejoined in 2022 after living out of state for a few years. Her daughter, Nicolette, is a fourth grader. Angela is a member of Genesis Class and the Library Committee. During the week she is the librarian at the upper campus of Dallas International School. Her parents, Connie and Steve McDaniel, are also Wilshire members.

**Pam Durso**, our guest preacher today, is president of Central Seminary in Overland Park, Kansas. Before joining Central in 2020, she spent 11 years as executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry. An expert on Baptist history, Pam is the author or editor of 10 books and has taught at Campbell University Divinity School and McAfee School of Theology.

**June McNicholas** is in fourth grade. Her parents are Staci and Phil McNicholas, and she has three sisters: Tess, a seventh grader, Nell, a third grader, and Lena, who is in kindergarten.

**Laura Smith** and her husband, Dennis, joined Wilshire in 2001 and together direct the Foundations of Faith Class. Laura is a deacon, chairs the Library Committee and serves on the Committee on Committees and the Belong Team. She recently was part of the lay support team for Pastoral Resident Georgia McKee. The Smiths have two adult children and two grandchildren.

# 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 McCrae, 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  
May 3, 2026

## Wilshire Library

### 73rd Anniversary Celebration & Dedication

Today after worship | James Gallery



**W**ILSHIRE'S LIBRARY will mark its 73rd anniversary and dedicate its renovated space with an event today after worship.

"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 ceremony of dedication. The Library will be open for visits during the event.

### Library Key Moments

- **Aug 23, 1953.** Library started at Pastor Huber Drumwright's suggestion.
- **Jan 31, 1954.** Official opening.
- **1970.** Library enlarged.
- **1984.** Library moved to its present location during building renovations.
- **2020.** Curbside book pickup during pandemic.
- **2024.** Remodeling with shelves donated by Central Seminary.

### Librarians and Library Directors

*In order of service*

Marguerite Ford  
Jane Managan  
Frances Hileman  
Frances and Al Hagler  
Nelda McDaniel  
Janice Byrd  
Sara Evans  
Vivian George  
Kathy Cabaniss  
Karen Mars  
Marilyn Brand  
Betty Skelton  
Yvonne Knight  
Jeri Baker  
Barbara Peterson



**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.

# Jeff Brummel marks 20 years at Wilshire

**A**SSOCIATE MINISTER OF MUSIC and Organist Jeff Brummel marked his 20th anniversary as a Wilshire staff member on April 24 and will be recognized during 11 a.m. worship on Sunday, May 3.

Jeff is the longest-serving organist in Wilshire's 75-year history and among the longest-serving music staffers ever at Wilshire. Since his arrival in 2006, he has grown from part-time organist to full-time minister. Jeff became associate minister of music in 2018 and was ordained around the same time.

Minister of Music Ariel Merivil said, "Behind Jeff's lighthearted and sometimes comedic exterior is a quiet, steady presence. For 20 years, he has shown up fully as organist, accompanist and minister, bringing creativity to our hymn singing, energy to his voluntaries and genuine care to every corner of our music ministry. From Youth Choir to Children's Choir to summer music camps and caring for our instruments, Jeff is always where he is needed. At his core, he is a relationship builder who loves this congregation deeply."

In addition to playing for worship and various ensembles, Jeff supervises Ralph Manuel, handbell coordinator, and Shana Gaines, director of Wilshire Winds. Jeff directed Youth Choir and Shekinah for many years and still serves as accompanist. "I still get to go on tour, which is fun," he said. "Now I don't have the headache of all the planning!" he added with a smile. "Of course I'm happy to support Ariel in any way I can."

In recent years, Jeff has taken on a new responsibility as Wilshire's ministerial point person for funerals. "I'm the first point of contact, and I work with families directly, along with Carol Cabaniss," he said. Jeff leads the planning of funerals and memorial services, helping select music and coordinate clergy and other participants.

"It's very meaningful to be there for families during that difficult time in their lives," he said.



"Most of them have never planned a funeral, and I can sense the stress leave the room as we start talking through things and they realize they don't have to carry everything themselves."

Born and raised in the Eugene, Oregon, area, Jeff earned a bachelor's degree in music education from College of the Ozarks in Missouri. He moved to Texas in 2004 to attend Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, earning a master's degree in 2007 and a doctorate in 2015. He studied with legendary organ professor Al Travis and, after Travis' retirement, with Yoon-Mi Lim.

"I was Al's last student and one of the last to come out of Southwestern with a mindset of church music similar to what Wilshire has," Jeff said. He worked at two area churches before coming to Wilshire.

"I never thought I would be here 20 years,

but then again, I never thought I wouldn't be," he said. "When I was in high school, I heard a preacher say never to go into a church job expecting that you're going to leave. It's not that you anchor there no matter what, but that you don't approach it as something temporary. You're called to be fully present in that community. And then, in God's good time, if it's time to go, that will become clear.

"As you begin a role like this, new areas of ministry open up," he added. "If they match your gifts and abilities, you step into them — sometimes even learning new skills along the way."

Jeff said "transition" is the one word he would use to describe Wilshire's music ministry in recent years. "With Doug Haney retiring and other roles turning over, one thing I bring to the table is stability."

He is quick to point to the congregation's role. "The congregation is so supportive. They're always eager to participate in our ministries. They show up and go the extra mile. It's always incredible to be with them."

Some of Jeff's favorite moments come from hearing the congregation sing. "It helps me play," he said. "It inspires me. And I love being in a place that loves singing hymns."

"There's something about the day-to-day rhythm of church staff life that I've always enjoyed," he added. "It makes me whistle on my way to work — just being around these people and seeing what they do. They're highly qualified and deeply committed."

Jeff is also mindful of the many people behind each moment in worship. "I get a lot of kudos because of the visibility of what I do, but I know it takes far more than just me," he said. "Someone has to keep the room comfortable, prepare the worship folders and handle countless other details. It takes a whole team to make those moments happen."

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

May 6: Final WNL before summer break

### Koinonia Café

**5 p.m.** | James Gallery | Buffet dinner with kid-friendly options. Cash/check/credit. Prices at [wilshirebc.org/events/wnl](http://wilshirebc.org/events/wnl). **May 6:** Chicken pot pie, green beans, vegetable soup, salad, cheesecake, cookies, jello.



### Children and Preschool Year-end Program

**6 p.m.** | Community Hall | The final Wednesday night this school year will feature a year-end program for Children's Choirs, Preschool Music & Missions and KidConnect. All are invited to enjoy music from preschool and children's choirs, missions displays and presentations and ice cream sundaes to end the evening.

■ **WSM Watershed** will meet for the final time this spring on May 13.

## BWIM's Meredith Stone preaches next Sunday



Meredith Stone, executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry, will preach for the 11 a.m. service next Sunday, May 10. Stone is an ordained minister and has previously served in congregational ministry, with other Baptist organizations and as associate dean at Logsdon Seminary at Hardin-Simmons University. She received bachelor's and master's degrees from Hardin-Simmons and a Ph.D. from TCU's Brite Divinity School. Other guest preachers during Timothy's sabbatical will be:

- **May 17:** Greg Garrett, professor of literature and culture, Baylor University
- **May 24:** George Mason, senior pastor emeritus at Wilshire

## Timothy on sabbatical

Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples is on sabbatical through May 26. If you have emergency pastoral care needs during this time, contact Katie Murray ([kmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:kmurray@wilshirebc.org)). Timothy's assistant, Chelsea Hopkins ([chopkins@wilshirebc.org](mailto:chopkins@wilshirebc.org)), can help with any other matter.

## Pastoral resident alumni moves

- Jay Hogewood will begin July 1 as pastor of University United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- Jenna Sullivan accepted a call to become youth pastor at First Baptist Church in Austin.

## Preschool Playdate at Arboretum

Preschoolers and their families are invited to a playdate on Saturday, May 16, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Dallas Arboretum. Contact: Minister to Preschoolers Kelly Akins ([kakins@wilshirebc.org](mailto:kakins@wilshirebc.org))

## 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 ([cmcclung@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmcclung@wilshirebc.org)) by May 10 with the student's name, school name, future plans and a photo. For college grads, submit a photo plus the college name and degree or major.

## Sharing Sacred Spaces site visit



Wilshire is participating in a local interfaith cohort through the national organization Sharing Sacred Spaces. The mission of SSS is to overcome bias, misunderstanding and

polarization through immersive education and training that makes vivid our common humanity. Participating faith communities are invited to host the cohort and other guests for a meal and a discussion of the history and architecture of their sacred space. Wilshire will host on Tuesday, May 12, from 6 to 9 p.m.

- Register to attend at [sharingsacredspaces.org/events](https://sharingsacredspaces.org/events).
- Associate Pastor Heather Mustain is looking for 10 volunteers to help with hospitality. Contact Heather at [hmustain@wilshirebc.org](mailto:hmustain@wilshirebc.org).

## Shirt and hat sales



Our new 75th Anniversary T-shirts and baseball caps will be for sale this Sunday in James Gallery before Sunday School and in the office after church. Adult and youth shirts, \$15; toddler sizes, \$10; caps, \$20. Contact: Carolyn Murray ([cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))



## This Week in Wilshire History

**May 2006.** New Song Community Choir began as Wilshire's senior adult choir.



**May 3, 2020.** The Mission-Vision Room was named for Bill O'Brien, a music minister here in the 1950s who became a renowned missions expert and spent his later years back among us.



**May 5, 2010.** The Community Tapestry was unveiled in the South Atrium.

**May 6, 1984.** Wilshire held an open house and tour of its facilities after a round of major renovations that included the addition of the third floor.

## Your voice wanted!

- *What's something Wilshire has taught you to appreciate?*
- *Who have you known the longest at Wilshire?*
- *When was a time you felt loved at Wilshire?*

These are a few of the questions you may get asked by Darren DeMent or others who will be roaming the building looking for congregants to share their thoughts on video. It's all part of our 75th anniversary celebration, and the videos will be edited and shared on our social media platforms. There's no pressure to participate, but we'd love to capture as many of your thoughts as possible.

## 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.

# WILSHIRE IN THE PARK

Churchwide Picnic  
Sunday, May 17  
5–7 p.m.  
Flag Pole Hill  
Pavilion

Don't miss our annual picnic with food, face painting and fun at Flag Pole Hill's inclusive playground. The pavilion and picnic tables are ours to use; bring your own lawn chairs or picnic blankets. Wilshire will provide fried chicken, rolls and drinks. The rest of the meal is potluck by last name:

- A–F, salad
- G–M, dessert
- N–S, fruit
- T–Z, veggies

Please use disposable containers and serving utensils and bring enough food to serve at least eight.

**Volunteers** are needed, and we could use a truck or two. Sign up at [wilshirebc.org/events/picnic](http://wilshirebc.org/events/picnic).

## 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](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

## 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](http://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](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | May 12 | 6:30 p.m. | 1205-G | *American Gospel* by Jon Meacham. Contact: Debby Burton ([debbyb0929@gmail.com](mailto:debbyb0929@gmail.com))

## Men's Book Club

Tuesday, May 19 | 7 p.m. | Parlor | *Jesus and John Wayne* by Kristin Kobes Du Mez. Contact: Scott Spreier ([swspreier@gmail.com](mailto:swspreier@gmail.com)) or Mike Meripolski ([meripolski@att.net](mailto:meripolski@att.net))

## Kitchen hiring for three roles

The Wilshire kitchen is seeking applicants for three roles: Sous chef (full-time), prep cook and steward. Find the job descriptions at [wilshirebc.org/employment](http://wilshirebc.org/employment).

# Advocacy update: Immigration



## ICE vigil marks one year

Monday, May 4, marks the one-year anniversary of a weekly clergy- and neighbor-led vigil at the Dallas ICE field office. CLEAR DFW (Clergy League for Emergency Action and Response) is an interfaith coalition of faith leaders united around social justice advocacy from a faith perspective. All people of good will are welcome to join this Monday — or any Monday.

## Souper Bowl of Caring impact

Wilshire's Souper Bowl of Caring in February raised \$10,600 in support of local grassroots advocates providing mutual aid to immigrant families with detained loved ones. Here's how those funds and efforts made an impact:

■ **Whistle Kits:** Supplies were provided to Vecinos Unidos to assemble 500 kits. Wilshire's Let's Organize! immigration group also assembled 500 kits, and our student ministry assembled an additional 100 during Watershed. Each Whistle Kit includes a whistle, basic "know your rights" information, hotline numbers and guidance on how to safely support someone being targeted by ICE. **Whistle Kits are available** for you to pick up in the North Atrium and outside the Main Office. Keep them on hand, share with neighbors or drop some off at your workplace or volunteer site.

■ **Court Support:** Wilshire serves as a pickup location for supplies that court observers can bring to young children waiting at court with their parents.

■ **Donations:** Children's books, crayons and supplies were donated to La Colectiva.

■ **Direct Grants:** Unidos Vecinos and La Colectiva each received \$4,000.

## Volunteering as a courtroom observer: a firsthand account

By GLADYS KOLENOVSKY

AS FEDERAL IMMIGRATION COURT observers, we arrive before the first docket cases begin in order to help the court respondents find their way to their assigned courtroom. If they are late, they will be considered absent and immediately removable. The relief when they arrive at the correct courtroom is momentary. The gravity of the situation returns. Once in the waiting rooms, we share coloring books, fidget toys and stuffies with the children who will be there for hours. The smiles from the children and their parents do not require a translation app. They have been seen as neighbors, not criminals.

Volunteers receive training from the American Bar Association and through Vecinos Unidos DFW (Neighbors United) to document courtroom proceedings and report unusual or questionable procedures.

As cases are called, we follow the respondents into the courtroom and identify ourselves as community observers. Observations and concerns are shared in reports, a court observer group chat and in twice-monthly calls with ABA representatives.

As Wilshire volunteer courtroom observers, we do not impact the outcome of immigration hearings, but we bring a calm, caring presence to a highly stressful setting. Our neighbors know someone was there who cared.

# 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 McCrae'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, May 3

- Worship Service, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Adult Sunday School Leadership Appreciation Breakfast, James Gallery, 9 a.m.
- Preschool Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Breakfast, 1304, 9:15 a.m.
- Children's Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Breakfast, 2223, 9:15 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Library Dedication & Celebration, James Gallery, noon
- Preschool Education Committee, 1205-G, noon
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2:15 p.m.

## Monday, May 4

- Wilshire Winds, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

## Tuesday, May 5

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

## Wednesday, May 6

- New Song, McIver Chapel, 9:30 a.m.
- Lunch & Learn, James Gallery, 11:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, James Gallery, 5 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Children's and Preschool Year-End Program, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.
- Choral Scholar Reception, Parlor, 8:15 p.m.

## Thursday, May 7

- WOW Brown Bag Book Club, 1205-L, noon
- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.

## Friday, May 8

- MomCo, James Gallery, 9 a.m.
- Friday Friends, 3301, 10 a.m.