



May 10, 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Preparing for worship

My younger son's pre-K class has been focusing on the Animal Kingdom the last several weeks of school, which means the Murray household has been inundated with conversations around all of life's peculiar creatures. From giant squids to giraffes, bears to butterflies, tadpoles to turtles.

As a result of the conversations James is bringing home from school, we have all become more aware of the creatures around our house. We are attuned to the hoot of the barred owl and the loud croak of the toads in the creek. We laugh as our two standard poodles chase the squirrels, doves and robins in our backyard. We see that same lizard on the fence every day as we eat our snacks after school. Even the more annoying pests are catching our attention, from the housefly that sneaks in anytime we leave the door open too long to the early mosquito sightings and their accompanying bites letting us know summer is almost here.

By complete coincidence we also happened to get some caterpillars last month to raise into butterflies. We released them this week, and my newly minted animal-expert son teared up as

the fifth and final butterfly flew away from the cage where we had watched them grow from caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly. "Why can't they stay in their cage with us forever?" What followed was a conversation about God's design and purpose for butterflies in creation, laying groundwork for future conversations as he learns to discern God's call in his own life.

This morning Wilshire Winds will open our worship with the *Doxology*. I grew up in a church that sang this song every Sunday, and the words are deeply ingrained in me as a result.

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

I love the imagery of all creation praising God and wonder what we can learn from our fellow creatures this morning. What might the butterfly teach us about praising God? May our collective worship help us all to become more attuned to how we can live our lives outside these walls in praise to God.

—Katie Murray



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: *Incarnation*, Tim Joyner, 2021, foraged pigment on board-mounted paper.
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May 10, 2026
11:00 a.m.
Sixth 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

Doxology
Wilshire Winds
Shana Gaines, director

arr. William Himes

Call to Worship

Kathryn Woodbury

One: We gather to sing the mighty power of God;
The God who raised the mountains and spread the seas,
Who fashioned every creature and called them good,
Who set the sun in its course and named the stars.
Look around you:

**All: There is not a plant or flower that does not make God's glory known.
There is not a place we can go
Where God is not already present there.**

One: We lift our voices and our hearts.

**All: Let us worship the God who holds all things
And holds us, in loving care.
Amen.**

+Congregational Song

I Sing the Mighty Power of God
No. 19

FOREST GREEN

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

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?
When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh —
my adversaries and foes —
they shall stumble and fall.
Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.
One thing I asked of the LORD;
this I seek:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in God's temple.

...

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the
LORD in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!

Offertory

Hymn for a Child
Wilshire Winds

James Swearingen

+Gospel Reading — John 9:1-7

Vanessa Vaughter

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of the One who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

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

Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me
No. 236
Stanzas 1-3

ADORO TE DEVOTE

Message

“Who Sinned?”

Rev. Dr. Meredith Stone

Anthem

A Breathing Place
Sanctuary Choir

Heather Sorenson

Your Spirit hovers over me and sings a living song.
With love and mercy, covers me, and bids me sing along.
And deep within that sacred space you take me in your warm embrace.
There I find, find my breathing place, find my breathing place.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Your Spirit dances like a flame and leaps within my soul.
It burns away my guilt and shame, it heals and makes me whole.
A torch that leads through shadowed ways and lights the path with perfect grace.
There I find, find my breathing place, find my breathing place.

Your Spirit comes like whirling wind and lifts our dust on high.
Our wounded clay you mold and break until we learn to fly.
Then soaring on the wings of praise, I see the shining of your face.
There I find, find my breathing place.
There I find, find my breathing place.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Prayers of the People

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.**



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heav'n to earth come down,
2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast!
3. Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be;



fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
Let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.
let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, 'til in heav'n we take our place,



vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
'til we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Recognition of Maggie Morey

Charlie Fuller

Litany of Blessing

Charlie Fuller

One: As a church, we gather today to give thanks to God for the journey with us of Maggie. We are grateful for the family, friends, teachers, churches and mentors who shaped her on her way to us.

All: We give thanks for the seeds of faith planted by others.

One: Through your time of ministry with us, we have sought together to follow Christ and to be Christ's church in this place. You have walked among us, rejoiced with us, wept with us and sought God's truth with us.

All: We give thanks for the seeds of hope you have nurtured among us.

One: Now we prepare to let go, to send forth Maggie with our blessing, praying that she may be salt of the earth and light for the world as she plants new seeds of God's care in other places.

All: We give thanks for the seeds of joy to be sown in the years ahead.

One: It was God who made the seed grow. The planter and the waterer are nothing compared with our God who gives life to the seed. For we are laborers together with God.

All: The Lord bless you and keep you.

One: The Lord make the divine face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

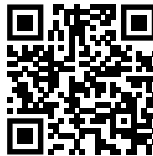
All: The Lord lift up the divine countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Prayer of Blessing	Heather Mustain
Sending Forth and Presentation of Gifts	Lay Support Team
Sharing of Decisions	Darren DeMent
Benediction	Rev. Dr. Meredith Stone
Postlude	<i>Prelude on “Old Hundredth”</i> arr. Fred Bock

Today’s flower dedications

In loving memory of Kathy and Chuck Cabaniss by their daughter, Kristin Cabaniss, their son, Kevin Cabaniss, and his family — Carol, Peyton, Tanner and Trace Cabaniss.

In honor and celebration of Maggie Morey upon the completion of her residency and her departure for her new field of ministry.



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.

Meet today's worship leaders

Peyton Cabaniss grew up at Wilshire and is the daughter of Carol and Kevin Cabaniss and sister to Tanner and Trace. Peyton is a law student at the George Washington University Law School and attends First Baptist Church of Washington, D.C.

Meredith Stone, our guest preacher today, has been executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry since 2020. An ordained minister, Meredith has previously served in congregational ministry, with other Baptist organizations and as associate dean at Hardin-Simmons University's Logsdon Seminary. She received bachelor's and master's degrees from Hardin-Simmons and a Ph.D. from TCU's Brite Divinity School. Meredith is the author of *Empire and Gender in LXX Esther* along with other academic publications and articles related to women in ministry and religious gender justice. She lives in Waco with her husband, James, and their children.

Vanessa Vaughter and her husband, Woody Weilage, joined Wilshire in 2017 and are members of Epiphany Class. Vanessa teaches in various adult Sunday School classes and serves on the Pathways to Ministry Committee and the Lay Support Team for Pastoral Resident Maggie Morey. She works as a licensed clinical social worker and supervisor at The Center for Integrative Counseling and Psychology.

Kathryn Woodbury is a junior at Lake Highlands High School, where she is involved with theater and choir, including the show choir Espree. She also participates in National Charity League and is an Eagle Scout. At Wilshire, Kathryn is active in student ministry, sings in Youth Choir and serves on the Lay Support Team for Pastoral Resident Maggie Morey. Kathryn's parents are Paula and Jason Woodbury, and her siblings are Garrett Woodbury and Sher Moo Ku.

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)

Note: 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). Timothy's assistant, Chelsea Hopkins (chopkins@wilshirebc.org), can help with any other matter.

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 10, 2026

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 chairs or blankets. Wilshire will provide fried chicken, rolls and drinks. The rest of the meal is potluck by last name:

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

Please use disposable containers and serving utensils; bring enough food for eight.

Volunteers are needed. Sign up at wilshirebc.org/events/picnic.

Maggie Morey blessing today



Today's 11 a.m. service will include a time of blessing for Pastoral Resident Maggie Morey on her last Sunday at Wilshire. She and her husband, Jonathan, will soon head to Omaha, Nebraska, where Maggie will become associate minister of care, connection and formation at Countryside Community Church.

Mother's Day reflection table

Today in the Narthex, you'll find a table of candles created as a space for reflection on Mother's Day. While this is not a holiday in the liturgical calendar, we want



to honor the mothers and mother figures in our lives while also acknowledging the variety of feelings Mother's Day can bring. We hope this table can serve as a visual reminder that there is space for all of us at the table. Come light a candle for whatever your heart needs this morning: in honor of your mother, in memory of your mother or child, for comfort during infertility or miscarriage, for hope of healed relationships. All are welcome in this space.



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.

LEARNING QUESTIONING GROWING CELEBRATING 75 YEARS



Homecoming help needed

Many have already volunteered to help with our Homecoming event on June 13, but we could use more folks to make this meaningful day run as smoothly as possible. Scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/75 to sign up for a shift. You won't have to miss the 6 p.m. Sanctuary gathering. Please plan to attend a **volunteer lunch and training** on Sunday, May 31, at noon. (Makeup date: June 3, 6 p.m.)



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

May 9, 1952. Wilshire hosted a hamburger supper for youth at Flag Pole Hill.

May 14, 1978. The men of Wilshire competed in a cake baking contest.



May 14, 1980. Former Baylor and NFL quarterback Neal Jeffrey was hired as Wilshire's youth minister. He served until 1984.



May 16, 1955. Huber Drumwright Jr., Wilshire's first pastor, resigned to focus on his graduate work and teaching at Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth.

Candy McComb to retire from music role

CANDY McCOMB will retire from her role as Wilshire's children's choir coordinator this summer. Her last day will be in July after the conclusion of the Listen to Your Art! creative arts camp.



Candy said, "I began leading a Young Musicians choir when I started college 50 years ago. That's a nice round number, and it seems like a good time to step away."

A former public school choral director, Candy has worked at Wilshire since 2018 overseeing music activities for children and preschoolers.

"I'm proud of the flexibility I've added to our programs by moving rehearsals to Sundays and transitioning MusiCamp to a broader arts camp," Candy said. "It has been such a privilege to serve with our staff and so many wonderful volunteers."

She and her husband, Vic Henry, will remain Wilshire members, and Candy will continue to co-direct the adult choral group Nova and sing in Sanctuary Choir. "I hope to serve in some other ways at Wilshire and in my community," she said, "and I have lots of home projects to complete!"

Wednesday nights on break

Wednesday Night Live dinner and faith formation programs are on summer hiatus. Wilshire Student Ministry's Watershed will meet once more, on May 13. Sanctuary Choir rehearsals continue with some summer breaks planned.

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)

Graduate info needed by today

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) by today with the student's name, school name, future plans and a photo. For college grads, submit a photo, college name and degree or major.

Sacred Spaces visit is Tuesday

Wilshire will host an interfaith gathering Tuesday, May 12, at 6 p.m. as part of its participation in Sharing Sacred Spaces. This organization is dedicated to overcoming bias, misunderstanding and polarization through education and training that highlights our common humanity. Register to attend at sharingsacredspaces.org/events.

■ If you can help host, contact Heather Mustain at hmustain@wilshirebc.org.

Greg Garrett preaches next week

Greg Garrett, professor of literature and culture at Baylor University, will be our guest preacher at the 11 a.m. service next Sunday, May 17. A seminary-trained Episcopal lay preacher, he is canon theologian in residence at the American Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Paris. Greg has been a frequent guest preacher at Wilshire in recent years and has led workshops here on topics including race and film.

■ **George Mason**, senior pastor emeritus at Wilshire, will preach May 24, the final Sunday of Timothy Peoples's sabbatical.

Wilshire Welcome next Sunday

This one-hour session for guests and new members, will meet May 17 at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near McIver Chapel. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

Faith Commons event on May 16

Faith Commons will host a conversation on peace and reconciliation on Saturday, May 16, at 2 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El. Aziz Abu Sarah and Maoz Inon, coauthors of *The Future Is Peace: A Shared Journey Across the Holy Land*, will speak. Register at faithcommons.org/event/the-future-is-peace.

Can you help with VBS?

Vacation Bible School is just one month away, set for June 15–18 from 9 a.m. to noon (with no VBS on Friday in observance of Juneteenth). Everything is in place for a great week — engaging curriculum, enthusiastic kids, creative arts, music, recreation, missions activities, worship, comfortable indoor spaces and a well-stocked volunteer break room. What we still need are enough volunteers to make it happen. If you’ve considered helping, this is a great opportunity. (Did we mention it’s only four days this year?) No experience is needed; training will be provided. To volunteer with elementary classes, contact Julie Girards (jjgirards@wilshirebc.org). To help with preschoolers, contact Kelly Akins (kakins@wilshirebc.org).

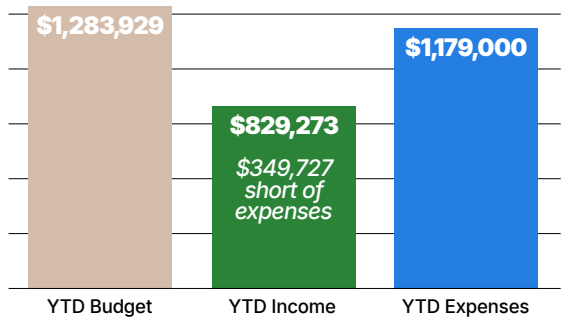
Lunch & Learn is May 20

The final Lunch & Learn before a summer break will be held Wednesday, May 20. All are invited to Community Hall at 11:30 a.m. for lunch (\$10) and Bible study.

Blood Drive makes Sunday return

Carter Blood Care will hold a blood drive at Wilshire on Sunday, May 31, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Their bus will be located on Ravendale Lane. Parish Nurse Linda Garner said, “Since the pandemic, our blood drives have been on Wednesdays. I hope having it on Sunday allows for greater participation, as blood supplies are quite low.” Walk-ins welcome; appointments recommended. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/blood-drive.

Unified Budget Update



Pathways Endowment YTD gifts..... \$6,539
 Pathways Endowment April balance \$11,405,680

This Week

Sunday, May 10

- Worship Service, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Maggie Morey Reception, James Gallery, noon

Tuesday, May 12

- Sharing Sacred Spaces Event, 6 p.m.
- WOW Tuesday Evening Book Club, 1205-G, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13

- New Song, McIver Chapel, 9:30 a.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 14

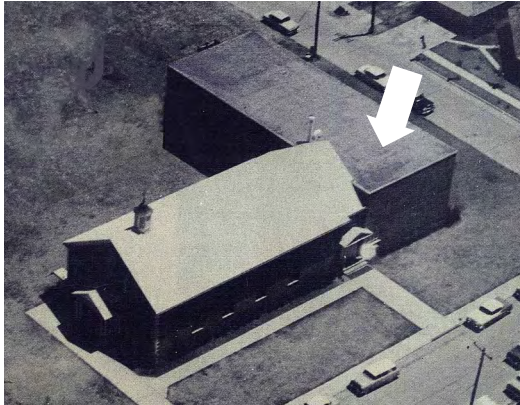
- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 16

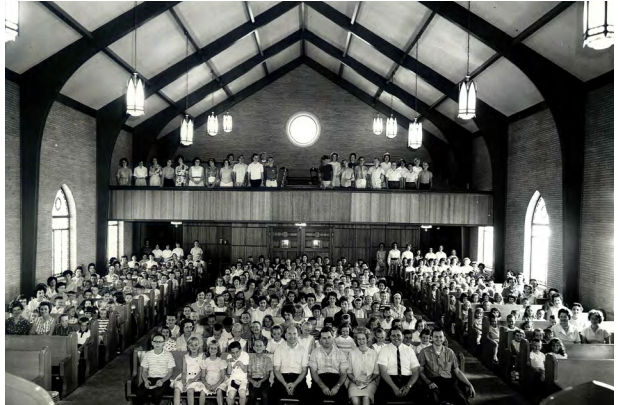
- Preschool Playdate, Dallas Arboretum, 9:30 a.m.



It's true: A church isn't a building. Also true: We're blessed with a great building we all love. In 1952, while meeting in temporary locations, Wilshire bought a three-acre plot of land on Abrams Road and started dreaming. Here's a look at how our facility has grown and changed over the years.



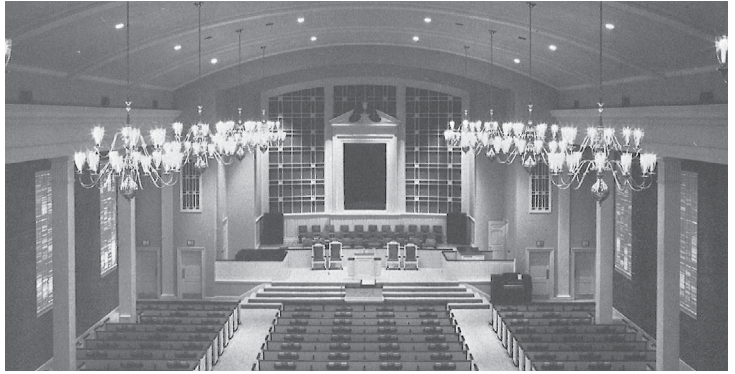
Wilshire's first structure, built in **1953**, was the two-story educational building seen at the top of this photo. These walls today contain the Parlor, classrooms and the second-floor music area.



Work to build a chapel began soon after the first building was completed. It opened in **1954** and was oriented the opposite direction from how we know it today. The photo above was taken from the chancel looking toward Abrams Road.



The original education building was expanded northward in **1957** and again in **1961**. Upper left: groundbreaking for the 1957 expansion. Lower left: The full length of the educational building can be seen as construction begins on the Sanctuary.



Wilshire's new Sanctuary opened, with the Fellowship Hall underneath it, in **1966**, and construction of the two-story north wing was completed soon after. The Sanctuary's organ pipes were uncovered in the early **1990s**, and the chancel was renovated to its present look in **1996**.



In **1983**, a third floor of classrooms was added to most of the building. In **2009**, the third floor was extended to the south end of the building when the new music suite was created.



Built in **1999**, the new James Gallery provided additional connectivity to the north end of the building and gave Wilshire a new space for events.



After expansion of the north parking lot, the area outside the Gallery was converted to the Prayer Garden in **2000**.



In **2009**, Fellowship Hall was converted to the Community Hall we know today. This work included the addition of the north and south atria and staircases.



2009 also saw the creation of a two-story music wing with an all-new Choral Hall, Handbell Room, music library, practice rooms and offices.



The Columbarium, with its benches, fountain and labyrinth, opened in **2010** in a space outside the Parlor, adjacent to Wilshire's original building.

Steve Terry

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

The back seat of my parents' car. I was 10 in 1961 when we moved to Dallas from San Antonio, where we attended Trinity Baptist. Buckner Fanning, the pastor there, had a preaching style similar to that of Bruce McIver, and the open, friendly nature of Wilshire matched that of Trinity.

What was the building like then?

The Sanctuary wasn't built yet. The area where it now sits was grass, and we could play a quick game of baseball called "scrub" or "workup" between Wednesday night supper and RAs.

What ministers have impacted your life?

Certainly Bruce. He baptized me, performed my wedding to LuElla and baptized our kids. But the greater impact was that of Bill James and his wife, Charlene. I've had the pleasure of knowing every music minister from Bill O'Brien to Ariel Merivil. But I was a choir member the entire time of Bill's ministry. In the late '60s our youth minister didn't stay long, so Bill was the constant in our lives. Because of him, Wilshire was where I wanted to be.

What are some favorite memories?

The day my family joined Wilshire was my first defining memory. After Bruce introduced us and invited people to come greet us, he went on to announce that Charlie Watson had claimed the Terry boys for his two daughters. Charlene Watson (now Law) came up to my brother and said she would take him to his Sunday School class. Her sister Mitzi came up to me and, with a less than enthusiastic expression, said "My daddy told me I had to take you to Sunday School." I met others that day who became lifelong friends.



What's something from the early days that might surprise newer members?

The long-term vision and commitment of the members. From 1954 until we completed the third floor decades later, there was an architectural rendering of the master plan. It was displayed prominently to inspire us to move forward, building our community of faith and inviting others to join.

What things are different and what has stayed the same?

While many of the faces have changed, Wilshire remains a community of faith shaped by the Spirit of Jesus. I am confident the closing words of Isaac Watts in his paraphrase of Psalm 23 accurately describe the Wilshire I know: "O may Thy house be my abode, and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; no more a stranger, nor a guest but like a child at home."

Why have you stayed so long?

Not sure any other church would take me; less sure where I would go. This is my church.