



Preparing for worship

Happy birthday, church! You're looking good for being just over 2,000 years old.

As we walk with Jesus through the liturgical year, we experience Jesus' life through Advent, birth, baptism, Lent, death, resurrection, ascension into heaven and now as God's Holy Spirit breathes life into the body of Christ, the church at Pentecost. This is exciting because though Jesus does not walk this earth with two feet, he now walks this earth with millions and billions of feet.

I love the timeless 16th-century prayer attributed to Saint Teresa of Avila:

*Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world.*

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit breathed life into the church. But, it works under one condition, doesn't it? Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Whether we are the tall-steeple downtown church, the bustling neighborhood church, the large multicampus church, the little church in the wildwood or the Sunday morning coffee klatch solving the world's problems, we work best for God when we do so with others.

We are created in God's image, and one side of this image of God is continual communion. God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are eternally in a dance, each partner with its own steps yet elegantly flowing in one beautiful artistic expression of love.

Through Jesus' presence with us, we become part of the dance. I imagine it's like a little child stepping on a parent's shoes while learning the steps. But it's more than that. It's more as if we really step into Jesus' shoes as we carry out the mission of the church. The true miracle is that Jesus' feet are always with us through others who work alongside us.

In worship today we celebrate this gift of the Holy Spirit, inviting us into communion with God and community with others. We commemorate the day of the fiery descent of the Holy Spirit through brilliant red colors and shimmering bells. As we worship together, remember these words by Sydney Carter from his poem "Lord of the Dance":

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

—Jeff Brummel



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: *Birds of the Apse*, installation at New Kilpatrick Parish Church, Bearsden, Scotland, 2013. From *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library.

May 24, 2026
11:00 a.m.
Pentecost Sunday

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

Katie Murray

Prelude

Acclamation of Praise
Carillon Ringers
John Parnell, percussion
Ralph Manuel, director

Joel Raney

Procession of the Tintinnabulum

Britt McClung

+Congregational Song

On Pentecost They Gathered
No. 225
Stanzas 1-3

ST. THEODULPH

+Call to Worship

Ross Prater

One: Come, Holy Spirit,

All: The wind of God, the breath of life.

One: Come, Holy Spirit,

All: Our Advocate, our Counselor.

One: Come, Holy Spirit,

All: Teacher of wisdom, reminder of Christ.

One: Come, Holy Spirit,

All: Granter of forgiveness, giver of peace.

One: Come, Holy Spirit.

**All: May we feel God breathing through our worship
and may we receive the Holy Spirit in this place. Amen.**

+Response in Song

ST. THEODULPH

O Spirit, sent from heaven on that day long ago,
Rekindle faith among us in all life's ebb and flow.
O give us hearts to listen and tongues aflame with praise,
So folk of every nation glad songs of joy shall raise.

Children's Moment

Kelly Akins

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

Offertory

Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God
Molly Shepard, Amanda Mintz, Ariel Merivil

Getty/Townend

Holy Spirit, living breath of God,
Breathe new life into my willing soul.
Let the presence of the risen Lord,
Come renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your Word to come alive in me;
Give me faith for what I cannot see,
Give me passion for your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
Giving life to all that God has made,
Show your power once again on earth,
Cause your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,
That in unity the face of Christ
May be clear for all the world to see.

Holy Spirit, come abide within,
May your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin,
In each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my strivings into works of grace;
Breath of God show Christ in all I do.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures — Numbers 11:28–29

Kim Mason

And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

+Gospel Reading — John 7:37–39

Annie Murray

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive, for as yet there was no Spirit because Jesus was not yet glorified.

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

Breathe on Me, Breath of God
No. 235

TRENTHAM

Message

“Would That All God’s People”

George Mason

Anthem

Rise, Shine!
Sanctuary Choir

Marques L. A. Garrett

Rise, shine for the light is a-comin'; my Lord says he's comin' by an' by.
This is the year of jubilee, my Lord says he's comin' by an' by.
My Lord has set his people free, my Lord says he's comin' by an' by.
Wet or dry, I intend to try, my Lord says he's comin' by an' by.
To serve the Lord until I die, my Lord says he's comin' by an' by.
I intend to shout an' never stop, my Lord says he's comin' by and by.
Until I reach that mountain top, my Lord says he's comin' by an' by.
Oh, rise, shine for the light is a-comin'; my Lord says he's comin' by an' by.

Prayers of the People

Abbey Adcox

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

A Rushing, Mighty Wind
No. 228

FESTAL SONG

Sharing of Decisions

Katie Murray

Choral Benediction

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Carillon Ringers with Sanctuary Choir

Lutkin/Parrish

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord lift his countenance upon you,
And give you peace, and give you peace;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
And be gracious unto you, be gracious,
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you.
Amen.

Benediction

George Mason

Postlude

Cindy Fuller

Meet today's worship leaders

George Mason was Wilshire's senior pastor from 1989 to 2022 and continues to serve as senior pastor emeritus and alumni director for Pathways to Ministry. George is the founder and president of Faith Commons, host of the *Good God* podcast and lead advisor to the Baptist House of Studies at SMU's Perkins School of Theology, where he is an adjunct professor.

Kim Mason joined Wilshire in 1989, when her husband, George, was called as senior pastor. Kim has served on various committees, taught preschool Sunday School and served as a volunteer receptionist. She is retired from a career as a dental hygienist and enjoys traveling to spend time with her and George's three adult children and eight grandchildren.

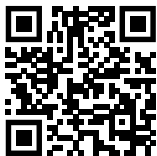
Britt McClung and his wife, Carole, joined Wilshire in 2011 and serve as directors of Genesis Class. They are the parents of Ava, a recent graduate of Rice University; Miriam, who graduated yesterday from Lake Highlands High School; and Ruby, a rising tenth grader at Lake Highlands High School. Britt is a deacon and serves as chair of the Risk Management Committee. He works as litigation counsel for Onity Group.

Amanda Mintz came to Wilshire in 2017. She is a member of Ithaka Class, sings with Nova and participated in Faith in 3D this year. Amanda works for Toyota, where she oversees employee learning and leadership development programs.

Annie Murray is the daughter of Steven and Katie Murray and sister to Drew and James. A rising third grader, Annie is active in KidConnect, sings in Children's Choir and was part of the Faith in 3D cast this year.

Ross Prater and his wife, Lyn, joined Wilshire in 2014 and were also members from 1982 to 2004, when they left to help establish City Church, now called Church in the Cliff. The Praters attend B.E.S.T. Class, and Ross served with Wilshire's mission team in Puerto Rico this March. Ross is a chaplain at Parkland Hospital, and he and Lyn have two adult sons and five grandchildren.

Molly Shepard grew up at Wilshire and is married to Michael. Their two daughters are Olivia, age 3, and Caitlin, who is 11 months old. Molly's family at Wilshire also includes her parents, Ed and Linda Francis, and her sister Julie Francis. A member of Ithaka Class, Molly serves as a deacon and teaches third and fourth graders in Sunday School. She is a senior vice president at Valuation Research Corporation.



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. Call to Worship from Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Church. Music reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under One License #A-739361. All rights reserved. *Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God* © 2005 Thankyou Music. *Rise, Shine!* © 2021 Birnamwood Publications.

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)

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 24, 2026

Timothy preaches next Sunday

Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples will be back from sabbatical and in the pulpit next Sunday, May 31. The May 31 service will include a time of recognition for **Charlie Fuller**, who is retiring as Wilshire's Pathways to Ministry director.

Summer college class meeting

A summer Sunday School class for college students began last week and will run through Aug. 9. The class meets in Room 2202, and Trey Wilson is teaching. All college students are welcome, whether they're around all summer or can only pop in a few times.

WSM summer parent preview



On Sunday, May 31, youth parents are invited to join Darren DeMent in the Youth Center for lunch and a walkthrough of the Wilshire Student Ministry summer calendar. This will be particularly helpful for families entering their first summer with WSM. Summer is the busiest and best time of year for WSM, with Youth Camp plus weekly opportunities for fellowship, service, spiritual formation and building relationships. Darren will explain why summer is so important and discuss events like Study-n-Swim, Tuesday Missions and the Wheel of Lunch. No RSVP needed.

Can you help with VBS?



Vacation Bible School is 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, 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 (jgirards@wilshirebc.org). To help with preschoolers, contact Kelly Akins (kakins@wilshirebc.org).

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 or scan the QR code on page 13.



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.

LOVING WELCOMING AFFIRMING 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 24, 1978. Merle Harrell began as Wilshire's director of preschool education. In 1982, her title changed to minister to preschoolers.

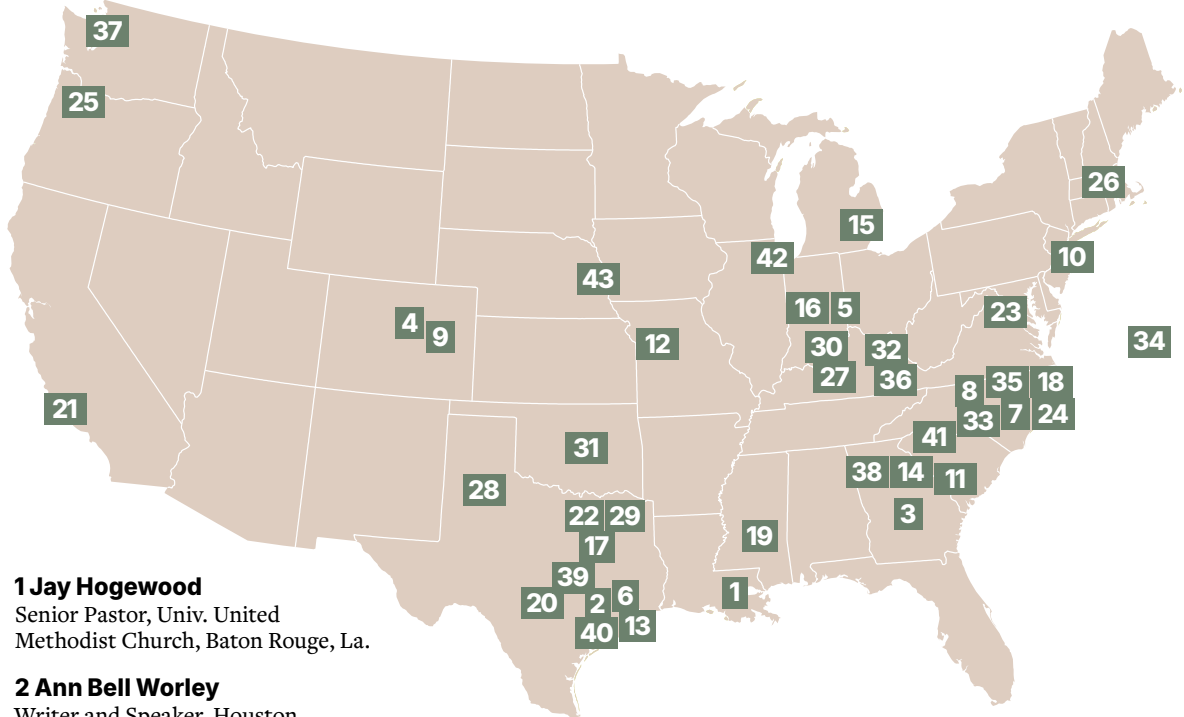
May 24, 2020. Darren DeMent, Doug Haney and Heather Mustain were named associate pastors after Mark Wingfield announced his departure from the Wilshire staff.



May 2020. Solar panels were installed on Wilshire's roof thanks to an anonymous donation.



From the moment Jay Hogewood became our first pastoral resident in 2002, the vision was clear: Wilshire would be a teaching congregation. What wasn't yet clear was how deeply the program would shape us — how fully it would be embraced and how much we would learn from those we set out to teach. Here's a look at where our resident alumni are serving today.



1 Jay Hogewood

Senior Pastor, Univ. United Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, La.

2 Ann Bell Worley

Writer and Speaker, Houston

3 Jake Hall

Exec. Dir., United to End Homelessness (United Way of Central Georgia), Macon, Ga.

4 Andrew Daugherty

Senior Pastor, Pine St. Church, Boulder, Colo.

5 David King

Dir., Lake Inst. and Assistant Professor, Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, Indianapolis, Ind.

6 Brad Jernberg *(music resident)*

Min. of Administration, South Main Baptist Church, Houston

7 Sean Allen

Dir., Finance and Administration, North Carolina Council of Churches, Raleigh, N.C.

8 Amy Grizzle Kane

Greensboro, N.C.

9 Anne Jernberg Scalfaro

Senior Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Denver, Colo.

10 Lara Arp *(Wilshire-sponsored resident, City Church, Dallas)*

Min. of Faith Development & Communications, Reformed Church of Highland Park, N.J.

11 Ryan Heritage *(music resident)*

Min. of Music, First Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga.

12 Jason Edwards

Senior Pastor, Second Baptist Church, Liberty, Mo.

13 Julie Merritt Lee

Spiritual Director, Houston

14 Matt Marston

Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Athens, Ga.

15 D.J. Reed

Hospital Chaplain, Ann Arbor, Mich.



16 Tasha Gibson

Senior Program Manager, Lake Inst., Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, Indianapolis, Ind.

17 Gannon Sims

Senior Pastor, Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Dallas

18 Chris Aho (*Wilshire-sponsored resident pastor, Hillcrest Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.*)
Writer and Consultant, Durham, N.C.

19 Scott Dickison

Senior Pastor, Northminster Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.

20 Garrett Vickrey

Senior Pastor, Woodland Baptist Church, San Antonio

21 John Jay Alvaro

Lead Pastor, First Baptist Church, Pasadena, Calif.

22 Annette Thornburg Owen

Campus Chaplain, Brite Divinity School, TCU, Fort Worth

23 Austin Almaguer

Senior Pastor, Vienna Baptist Church, Vienna, Va.

24 Samuel Gunter

Exec. Dir., North Carolina Housing Coalition, Raleigh, N.C.

25 Britt Carlson Clarno

Portland, Ore.

26 Brent Newberry

Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Worcester, Mass.

27 Erica Whitaker

Assoc. Dir., Inst. for Black Church Studies, Baptist Seminary of Kentucky, Louisville, Ky.

28 Matthew Broyles

Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Plainview, Texas

29 Timothy Peoples

Senior Pastor, Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas

30 Kevin Gardner-Sinclair

Senior Pastor, Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky.

31 Jakob Topper

Senior Pastor, NorthHaven Church, Norman, Okla.

32 Aaron Coyle-Carr

Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Morehead, Ky.

33 Matt Dodrill

Humanities Teacher, Trinity School of Durham and Chapel Hill, N.C.

34 Jared Jagers

Assoc. Min. of Faith Formation, American International Church, London, England

35 Ryan Wilson

Senior Pastor, The Congregation at Duke Univ. Chapel, Durham, N.C.

36 Leanna Coyle-Carr

Morehead, Ky.

37 Leigh Curl-Dove

Co-Pastor, Seattle First Baptist Church, Seattle, Wash.

38 Ashley Robinson

Pastor, Christian Ed. and Community Engagement, Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga.

39 Jenna Sullivan

Youth Pastor, First Baptist Church, Austin

40 Brianna Childs Davenport

Exec. Pastor, Gather Houston

41 John Kelly

Greenville, S.C.

42 Georgia McKee

Assoc. Pastor, Glencoe Union Church, Glencoe, Ill.

43 Maggie Morey

Assoc. Min. of Care, Connection and Formation, Countryside Community Church, Omaha, Neb.

May 31 is final 9 a.m. service before summer break

Wilshire's 9 a.m. contemplative service in McIver Chapel will meet today and next Sunday, May 31, before taking a summer hiatus. The weekly service will resume Aug. 16.

New Song concert is June 3



New Song Community Choir will present a concert at Wilshire on Wednesday, June 3, at 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary. *Then Sings My Soul* is the theme

for the program, which will include sacred and secular favorites. The Wilshire Adventurers will host a reception following the program in James Gallery.

Serve with our mission partners



To see how you can serve alongside other Wilshire members with one of our mission or advocacy partners, scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/serve.

Women of Wilshire book clubs

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Thursday, June 4 | Noon | 1205-L | *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | June 9 | 6:30 p.m. | 1205-G | *Nothing Daunted* by Dorothy Wickenden. Contact: Debby Burton (debbyb0929@gmail.com)

Men's Book Club

Tuesday, June 16 | 7 p.m. | Parlor | *Death to the Archbishop* by Willa Cather. Contact: Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net)

Monthly service opportunities

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

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

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

Counseling on-site at Wilshire

The Center for Integrative Counseling and Psychology provides therapy and psychological assessments for kids, teens and adults. The Center has offices across the Dallas area, including at Wilshire. They take insurance and offer a wide variety of services. Schedule an appointment at thecentercounseling.org or by calling 214-526-4525.



FRIDAY
JUNE 12

Center
Peace

PRIDE
Stories & Tunes

7-9 PM

A CELEBRATION OF LGBTQ CHRISTIANS
HOLDING ONTO FAITH

UNION COFFEE BY OAK LAWN METHODIST
3705 CEDAR SPRINGS RD., DALLAS, TX 75219



BLOOD Drive



Receive a Beach Towel*

Mabel from Richardson, TX
Blood Recipient

Sunday, May 31, 2026
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Wilshire Baptist Church
Carter BloodCare Bus
4316 Abrams
Dallas, TX 75214

Schedule an appointment



CarterBloodCare.org
800-366-2834 | Text CBCDonate to 999-777

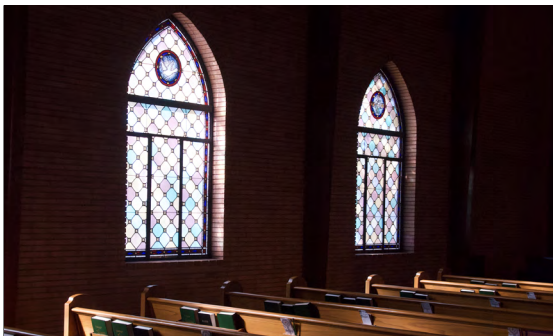
*While supplies last. Appreciation gifts may be substituted for a different gift.

2026 Summer

CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL

Camps are starting to fill up! Find all the details and registration links at

WILSHIREBC.ORG/SUMMER-CAMPS



Contemplative Worship

9 a.m. | **McIver Chapel**
Summer hiatus after May 31



Childcare available for preschoolers

This Week

Sunday, May 24

- Worship Service, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.

Monday, May 25

- Staff holiday, building closed

Wednesday, May 27

- New Song, Sanctuary, 9:30 a.m.
- Cooking Camp Chefs Meeting, Community Hall, 10 a.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 28

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

Saturday, May 30

- WSM Grades 6-8 Pool Party, Shepard Home, 2 p.m.

Sunday, May 31

- Blood Drive, Porte cohere, 9 a.m.
- Worship Service, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Charlie Fuller Retirement Reception, James Gallery, noon
- VBS Volunteers, 1205-G & 1205-L, noon
- 75th Anniversary Volunteer Training, Community Hall, noon
- WSM Parent Meeting, Youth Center, noon
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- WSM Summer Cookout, DeMent home, 5 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir Luau, Candy McComb/Vic Henry home, 5:30 p.m.

Monday, June 1

- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 9 a.m.
- Wilshire Winds, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

benedictio: a good word



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

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

Crosby Cole, 8th grade

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

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

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

is wrong — what is broken, corrupted or evil.

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

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

Camp Pastor

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



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

Pat Cullum

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

I joined with my parents on Nov. 7, 1954. Natalie and Marshal Cook are listed as being members #349 and #350. My name, Patricia Cook, was not listed in the official church roster; I claim age discrimination as I was just two months shy of my 12th birthday. I had been on the cradle roll at Gaston Avenue Baptist Church, and at age 7 I was the first person to be baptized in their new sanctuary.

Who was pastor when you joined?

Huber Drumwright. Although I was not a member of Wilshire from 1965 to 1977, I can proudly say I've been a member during the tenure of every senior pastor we have had.

What was the building like back then?

I think my fondest memory of the old building is Wednesday night prayer meeting in Fellowship Hall. I loved the stage and the permanent side rooms and going through the Wednesday night serving line "cafeteria style."

What ministries or staff members have impacted your life?

Janie Bell was my youth minister, and she led our Sunday night fellowship. My favorite memory was a bus trip she led to Toronto, Canada, for the Baptist World Youth Conference in 1958. After returning to Wilshire, I was greatly impacted by the ministry of Carolyn Shapard. When I called her to complain that there was not a Library Committee, she said, "Well, let's start one, and you are the chair." She was always supportive,



and we worked hard but also had lots of laughs. I also loved working with Jessica Capps and helping her with our homebound ministry. Last but definitely not least, Mark Wingfield was my favorite "let's get stuff done" minister. I had a vision to install wayfinding signage throughout the church, and Mark made it happen.

What things are different and what has stayed the same?

Indeed, we have made lots of changes through the years, like approving women deacons and ministers. But the one thing about Wilshire that has been consistent throughout the years is the welcoming spirit of the congregation.

Why have you stayed so long?

I love this sacred space we call Wilshire. I have no doubt the reason I'm still here is because of the people who care, who support and who share similar values. I come to church for the handshakes, the hugs and the genuine concern. Wilshire makes me smile.