

SCHOOL OF ESSENTIAL WISDOM



FALL TERM



SEPTEMBER *C.S. Lewis Meets John Wesley: "Mr. Wesley, may I introduce my friend Mr. Lewis?"*



Rev. Fred Durham	Director, C.S. Lewis Institute - Dallas
7	Prevenient Grace / Justifying Grace <i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe/</i> <i>The Voyage of the Dawn Treader</i>
14	The Means of Grace <i>Letters to Malcolm, Chiefly on Prayer</i>
21	Sanctifying Grace <i>Mere Christianity (Book 4)</i>
28	Christian Perfection <i>The Great Divorce</i>

OCTOBER *In Search of the Apostles*

Forever Beginning Ministry Team Members	UPUMC
5	Overview of the Apostles Mark Parker
12	Junias Mary Jo McCurley
19	Simon the Zealot Pam Breier
26	Thomas Didymus Maryam Mathis

NOVEMBER *Rediscovering the Holy Land and Holy People*



Re-Discovering the Holy Land and Holy People Rabbi Jack Bemporad
We have Dede Casad to thank for our special guest speaker in this series: During a phone conversation in June, Dede asked Rabbi Jack Bemporad, founder of the John Paul II Center for Interreligious Studies in Rome, to give a lecture at our School of Essential Wisdom this fall. Rabbi Bemporad will speak on November 16 on: "The Decisive Significance of the Book of Amos for Understanding the Literary Prophets in the Hebrew Bible." The other Thursdays will feature tours of archeological sites in the Holy Land, and lessons in biblical history.

BIBLICAL MASTERPIECES BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAYS, 5-6:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 10
and OCTOBER 1



*Luke & Acts:
From Bethlehem to Rome
- Robert Thetford*

OCTOBER 8 -
NOVEMBER 19



*Life-Long Lessons from Ephesians
- Bishop James M. Stanton,
Episcopal Bishop (Ret.)*

FIND US ONLINE: To view detailed information about our Forever Beginning Ministry, and to read the current *Words to the Wise* and past issues (*Senior Spotlight*) of the newsletter please visit our website at www.upumc.org/seniors.

UPUMC SENIORS Words to the Wise

Vol. XXIII

Issue 6 | SEPTEMBER 2023

SHE RAISED US UP!

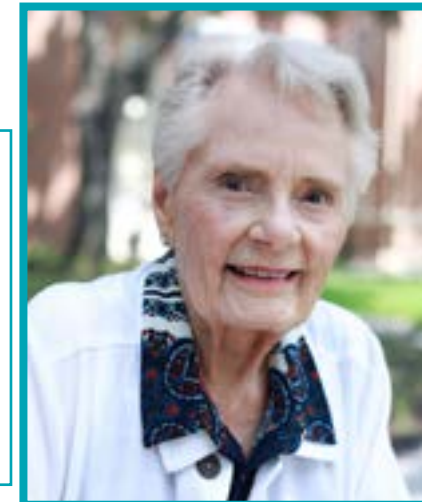


2022 EQUIP Team: Rev. Stephen Fleming, Mary Jo McCurley, Maryam Mathis, Pam Breier.

First EQUIP Conference, Jan. 2019 with Missy Buchanan, Bill Matthews, & Dr. Linus Wright.



Left: EQUIP, 2019 with Rev. Keith Boone, whom Dede knew as a boy at Plymouth Park UMC where her husband was pastor.



Below: Explaining the purpose of the EQUIP initiative.



UWF Christmas Luncheon, 2023, with Diana Wilson. Fiske Miles Librarians, Diana Wilson and Linda Taylor, officed nextdoor to Dede for several years.



Christmas, 2022: w/ Mary Jo McCurley, whose parents, Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Trice, were friends of Dede and Rev. Gordon Casad.



BELOW: January, 2022, announcement of the establishment of the Dr. Dede Casad Education Fund. From left: son, Rev. Vic Casad; his wife, Mary Brooke Casad; daughter, Dr. Connie Casad; grandson, Matthew Malone.



Contributions to this fund can be made on UPUMC'S website under **GIVE**. Choose "Dr. Dede Casad Education Fund" in the drop-down menu at: <https://onrealm.org/UniversityParkU/-/form/give/now>. You may ALSO contact Constance Harp at: (214) 368-1435 or charp@upumc.org.

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July 20th: "Putting Your House in Order"

Rev. John Mollet from the Texas Methodist Foundation presented the TMF's guide through important end-of-life and legacy decisions. Both July and August presentations were followed by catered lunches and by musical selections performed by our own Clinton Bray.



July and August: School of Essential Wisdom

August 17th: "How to Protect Yourself Against Financial Scams and Fraud"

Detectives Angelica Martinez and Christopher Love, along with other members of the Dallas Police Department Financial Crimes Unit, educated attendees about current scams that they can be exposed to through their computers and phones. The detectives also handed out literature designed to help combat these threats. In case you could not attend the August session, here is some basic information you may want to keep handy:

Dallas Police Department Financial Investigations Unit



Beginning of a Musical Collaboration

by Mark Pope

I was first introduced to the remarkable choir, *Inspirata*, a few years ago through Wendell Valdez, one of our esteemed Choral Scholars here at University Park UMC. Inspirata is not your typical choir; it is a semi-professional ensemble with a distinct purpose. Their mission revolves around delivering outstanding performances of sacred music while also sharing their exquisite artistry and spirituality with the wider community.

As I engaged in conversations with the leadership of Inspirata, my enthusiasm grew. The prospect of our University Park UMC choir coming together with Inspirata seemed like a perfect opportunity. We saw this collaboration as a way for our church choir to expand its musical horizons, while also helping Inspirata fulfill their core philosophy. Thus, we decided to devote the entire 2023-24 year to spending quality time together, sharing the joy of music and fostering fellowship.

Throughout the year, we will gather for 2-4 Saturdays, participating in workshops designed to strengthen our musical bonds. These workshops will be guided by the talented members of the Inspirata Choir. The pinnacle of our collaboration will be a joint worship service at University Park UMC, where our voices will unite in harmony and celebration.

We kickstarted this exciting year with an invigorating workshop, on Saturday, August 12, here at the church. The workshop featured great sectional rehearsals led by Inspirata Choir members, several of whom are music educators. The day concluded with a spectacular concert, marked by the powerful synergy of both choirs singing together in a culminating piece: *O Love* by award-winning composer Elaine Hagenberg. It was a remarkable beginning to what promises to be a transformative year of collaboration between Inspirata and the Chancel Choir of UPUMC!

Warm up: breathing exercises, practicing pure vowels and clear consonants.



Basses and Tenors rehearsed together in the sanctuary.



Sopranos read through new music and rehearsed their parts.



At lunchtime, we got to know each other as we refueled for the afternoon.

