



# SCHOOL OF ESSENTIAL WISDOM FALL TERM continues:

## OCTOBER: Justice, Economics, and Power (The Grid, That Is!)

**October 6** **Mark McLeland** *The Most Important Number in the World*  
Mark McClelland is Managing Director of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management's McLeland/Malone Group in Fort Worth. He was named to Forbes "Best-in-State Wealth Advisors" list every year from 2018 to 2022.



**October 13** **C. J. Butler** *Energy and the Texas GRID*  
C.J. Butler is a Commercial Energy Consultant for Priority Power Management, with a background in commercial property management. Mr. Butler will answer our questions about the structure of the GRID, and the roles of ERCOT, the PUC, and Texas government, in its management.



**October 20** **Jessica Trevizo** *The Continuing Evolution of Justice*  
ADA Trevizo currently serves as Chief of the Animal Cruelty and Community Prosecution Division of Dallas County's District Attorney's Office. An alumna of SMU Law school, Ms. Trevizo has also served as Chief of a Felony Court and Deputy Chief of the Family Violence Division.



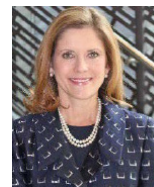
**October 27** **Andrea D. Plumlee** *How My Faith Helps Me in the Administration of Justice*  
A graduate of SMU School of Law, Judge Plumlee currently serves as Presiding Judge of the seven family District Courts in Dallas County. Prior to her tenure on the bench, she was senior attorney with PLUMLEE & ASSOCIATES, a firm whose primary focus was family law and child welfare litigation. She is a frequent guest speaker at Child Welfare conferences.



*A catered lunch will be served after the Oct. 27 presentation. Reserve your spot on the registration page of the UP Academy School of Essential Wisdom.*

## NOVEMBER: Jewels of Dallas: Discovering Treasures in the City

**November 3** **Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum**  
**Mary Pat Higgins**, President & CEO, will present the mission and history of the Museum. She will describe permanent exhibits, highlight special exhibitions, provide information about opportunities for research as well as resources for families and other groups. You will learn how the museum is "AN IMMERSIVE, INTERACTIVE JOURNEY UNLIKE ANY OTHER."



**November 10** **Dallas Parks and Recreation Department**  
**Crystal R. Ross**, Deputy Director, will tell us about the many ways DP&R serves the population of the U.S.'s ninth largest city with outdoor spaces and programming. **Daryl Quarles**, Park Manager for Senior Programs, will share how his department provides opportunities for Dallas' seniors to lead actively engaged, healthy lives.



**November 17** **Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden**  
**Nancy Nance** is a Dallas County Master Gardener, horticulturist, and Arboretum volunteer of the year (2020). She was involved in the planning of A Tasteful Place, the Arboretum's newest garden. Ms. Nance will highlight plants routinely used in the gardens, and give us insights into the creation of some of the special areas.



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FIND US ONLINE: To view detailed information about our Senior Life Ministry, please visit our website at [www.upumc.org/seniors](http://www.upumc.org/seniors)



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## BY THE WAY...

Change is in the air. We notice it in the redirection of the wind, we see it in the leaves as they turn from green to red, and we feel it in our bones when the dampness arouses our arthritis. We have been here many times and we know how to adjust, take a deep breath, and acclimate to these seasonal changes.

This year, the changes seem so striking and we may sense a different dynamic than in previous autumns. First, of all, the Queen has died, and over 56 independent countries in the Commonwealth are in mourning. Second, we have a some national cut-throat political races and a state election that could prove to be a game-changer. Thirdly, the Cowboys lost their first game of the season; their quarterback was injured and is out for five or six weeks; and their prospects are doubtful. These facts will, without question, change the headlines and perhaps affect our worldviews. Yes, change is in the air.

But events can pass almost as fast as calendar pages flip. The changes that challenge us, and make the biggest difference in our lives, are the changes we make *in ourselves*, in our attitude, our gratitude, and our vision for the future.

We Methodists are people of the Book. We believe that the Bible speaks to us regardless of our historical times or our present situation. There is always a deep hunger for what the Bible says to us personally, and as a community. To this end, we have an exciting opportunity coming up in October. Dr. Mike Bennett has agreed to reach three important, apocalyptic books of Scripture: beginning with *Daniel* in October, *Hebrews* in February, and *Revelation* in April. Each session is scheduled for 5:00 Sunday evenings here at the church in Room 103. Mike tells me that there will be informal discussion, so everyone can participate. Please put these dates on your calendar now.

And don't worry about change. It will happen. If we stay true to God by intensely and intentionally studying the Bible, change becomes our friend.

Forever beginning,

*Dede*



## STAFF Spotlight on: Rev. Jennifer Scott

Rev. Jennifer Scott is UPUMC's new Minister of Children and Families. Born at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Jennifer is the second of three children, with an older sister, Margie, and a younger brother, Jeff. She describes herself as a happy kid and a peacemaker in the family. When Jennifer was 5, her parents divorced, and her mom moved with the children to Jenks, a city about 10-12 miles south of Tulsa.

Her uncle, a Presbyterian pastor, had baptized Jennifer; but she was confirmed at Asbury Methodist Church in Tulsa. By the time she was old enough to join a youth group, Jennifer chose the one at her grandparents' Presbyterian church because it was smaller and suited her better. It was there that she had the opportunity to volunteer in the nursery and work VBS in the summers; and it was there that she realized how how much she enjoyed working with "the littles."



From left: Toby's parents, Anne and Charlie Scott, son Charlie, Rev. Scott, daughter Abby, husband Toby. (Sunday, August 28, at the welcome reception.)

Meantime, in high school, Jennifer's favorite subject was government, and she began thinking of teaching the subject after college. So, when she attended OSU in Stillwater, she majored in Political Science. However, God had other plans for her. In April of her junior year, she visited a close friend who had moved to Oklahoma City to attend the OU Health Sciences Center. Since her friend regularly attended Church of the Servant UMC, Jennifer went to church with her that Sunday. And it was there that Jennifer said: "God zapped me!... He put it on my heart that I should pursue Children's Ministry." The experience challenged her, but she felt sure it was His work.

Back in Stillwater, she sought the counsel of Rev. Rusty Williams at the OSU Wesley Foundation. They discussed her "zapping" and whether she should consider going to Perkins after graduation. That summer, when Jennifer went home to Jenks, her mom encouraged her to follow her calling; and that affirmation was key to her decision. But before working toward a Master of Religious Education, there was one more year of college to complete. In the spring of 1995, Jennifer graduated with a Bachelors degree in Political Science.

That fall, she began her studies at Perkins School of Theology; and during her entire two-year master's program, Jennifer was Fellowship of Flower Mound UMC's first Youth and Children's Intern. At that time, becoming a Deacon was considered only a first step in the ordination process for Elders. However, in 1996, the General Conference adopted the practice of ordaining Deacons in Full Connection. So Jennifer began a nine-year-long process of pursuing Diaconal Ministry. It involved meeting with mentor deacons, absorbing the Guidebook for Candidacy (covering Theology, Scripture, and Calling), psychological assessments, a three-year probationary period, and a mountain of academic work.

After Perkins, the newly minted MRE went back to Oklahoma to serve as the Minister of Christian Education at FUMC Perry, a town 64 miles north of OKC. One weekend, she attended a Land Run Celebration in Arkansas and met her husband-to-be. It so happened that FUMC Perry was the church where Charles Tobin (Toby) Scott had been baptised as an infant and where his parents attended. Jennifer and Toby began dating in 1998, then he landed a job in Stillwater (a mere 25-mile drive to the southwest of Perry). They married in April of 2000. In June of that year, the couple moved to Oklahoma City for employment opportunities. Jennifer served the next four years at Wesley UMC, near the Oklahoma City University campus. Fun fact: Once, when she took her Wesley UMC youth group on a trip, they stayed in UPUMC's basement when they stopped in Dallas.

Jennifer was commissioned Deacon in 2001, and finally ordained in 2004, nine years after beginning her studies at Perkins. In June of that year, the Scotts relocated to Fort Worth, where Toby had a new job. Jennifer, having found a church job, started at Coppell UMC. It was the beginning of a new era in the couple's life--in more ways than one. When she began her ministry at Coppell, she was blessed with a "surprise miracle pregnancy." On Superbowl Sunday, 2005, Charlie, her "little Samuel," was born. In April, 2008, little sister Abby -- another miracle -- came into the world three weeks early.

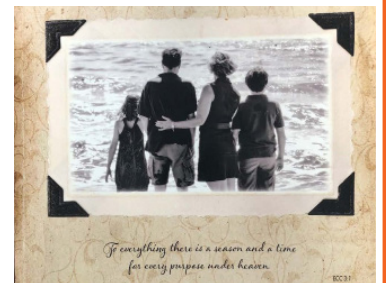
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Abby was a winsome little redhead born with a congenital abnormality: her right leg was half as long as her left. The Scotts sought a pioneering treatment for Abby at the Paley Orthopedic and Spine Institute, renowned for its pediatric care. There was only one hitch: Dr. Paley's institute was in West Palm Beach, Florida. So for three years, the family travelled back and forth from North Texas to Florida. At the age of two, Abby underwent hip and knee reconstruction. At three years, nine months, she had the first lengthening surgery on her right leg. Faced with more procedures and intense physical therapy between surgeries, the family decided to relocate to Florida.

At the Paley Institute, they became friends with other families whose children were undergoing similar procedures. Jennifer felt that her experience in ministry with children and families could be put to good use there. She became the Patient and Family Care Coordinator at the Paley Institute. Meanwhile, Toby was working in the field of distribution (of rocket parts and bearings), and Charlie was active in baseball and soccer, as well as being a supportive big brother. Now at 14, Abby is an accomplished gymnast, who is serious about becoming a veterinarian. Jennifer chronicled those Florida years in several memory books, full of wonderful photographs and inspiring narratives of every phase of Abby's treatment and of the family's blessings.

The Scotts moved back to Oklahoma in 2019, and settled in Lone Grove, a town five miles west of Ardmore. Now that Rev. Jennifer has a ministry in Texas again, the short-term plan is for her to work in Dallas Sunday through Thursday, and drive up I-35 to Lone Grove at "week's end" for family/home time. When Charlie graduates high school in the spring, though, the Scotts look forward to their last move, this time to the Dallas area--all except Charlie, who plans to enter OSU next fall. Toby's parents are already living in North Texas: Lantana (Denton County).

Reverend Jennifer Scott and her family have been on what she describes as a "fascinating, tough, winding and holy journey -- of MOVES!" She proclaims that she is "sticking with BIG D from here on out, (because she is) so grateful to be here."



## BOOK REVIEW by Sharon Christen

*When Memories Go Missing* is a book recently donated to our Fiske-Miles library. I just read it, and it's one of those books I will remember for a long time; and I think you will too. Why? You - or someone you know - may be dealing with the devastating effects of Alzheimer's Disease. AD was first described by the German neurologist, Alois Alzheimer, in 1907. This book was published in 2000; and at that time, the disease was afflicting about 4 million Americans. The cause of the sticky brain deposits that kill off neural cells in the course of the disease (so that memory disintegrates) is unknown.

The author of *When Memories Go Missing* is Mary Ney Gilhooly, who lives at CC Young and is a neighbor and friend of mine. Mary and her husband John brought her mother to live with them in their Dallas home for the last year of her life and subsequent death from Alzheimer's in 1997.

Agnes Rothe Ney, Mary's mother, was born in 1906 on a large cattle ranch in Medina County. She was the sixth child; and at the time of her birth, her father was 60 years old. Her ancestors were a part of the large influx of German immigrants to Texas about the time of the Civil War. She lived on that ranch for 80 years and then in the nearby town of D'Hanis before Mary brought her to Dallas.

As was her mother, Mary Gilhooly is a devout Roman Catholic. Saying the rosary together each day was meaningful to both of them and was a quiet bonding experience for their relationship. Mary said that their time together was "an opportunity for spiritual growth, a time of blessedness, far beyond merely the absence of regret or guilt. It was my year of favor from the Lord."

You will learn, laugh and cry when you read this wonderful love letter from a daughter to her mother. Check it out!

