

Jim describes the journey of faith and transformation he began all those years ago as an awareness that the purpose of his life is to "give back." With that in mind, Jim has established a non-profit organization, called the Trinity Youth Empowerment Fund, which supports educational and arts programs in elementary schools in South Dallas.

How did Jim Mabile become a church Facilities Manager? Well, the pastor at FUMC called for someone in the congregation who could read blueprints to help with a preventative maintenance project. When that volunteer project was underway, Jim became the Director of Operations at FUMC. But how did he get to the church at the corner of Preston and Caruth? Well, you can thank Dub Newman for enticing Jim to come out of his "last" retirement to take on our church facilities. And aren't we grateful that he considers UPUMC another "labor of love"?

Did you know? More projects and happenings this summer...



Lumina Chamber Choir
from University Park United Methodist Church, Dallas
at the Dallas Arboretum
Saturday, June 11, 2022 | 4:00-5:00 PM

The Music Library Restoration Project continues...

BACKSTORY: In the flood in February, 2021, about 45% of our anthems were lost. We salvaged the rest and packed them up for storage until the abatement work was completed. Boxes of "salvaged" music were delivered back to us this spring. So a team of dedicated choir members, and wonderful volunteers (some from United Women in Faith circles, and some from the Hospitality Ministry), have been working on the process of scanning, cataloguing, reboxing, and filing each anthem. When that phase is finished, we will begin putting to rights the other sections of the Music Library: major works, orchestrations, and instrumentals.

Special thanks to Larry and Mickey George's granddaughter, Georgia Miknal, who earned her Girl Scout Gold Star Award by cataloguing our bell choir music.



UPUMC
SENIORS
SENIOR Spotlight

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BY THE WAY

As the cars with Texas license plates head north filled with members of this church, it is time to take note of what wonderful things are still happening here.

Our church does not take the summer off. Our staff does not take the summer off. Our maintenance staff does not take the summer off. We may slow down, scale back, and even sleep late sometimes; but we will always be here if you need us. Carmen does an excellent job of keeping up with those who are ill, as well as those needing pastoral care, while the rest of us add them to our prayer lists.

The summer is often a time for reflection and private musing as well, for mulling over the big questions, like: "What are we doing here, anyway?" To that end, I will be starting a program called LEGACY 101, a 6-week course beginning on the first Wednesday in July at 11:00 a.m. in the Fiske-Miles Library. We will meet on the four Wednesdays in July and the first two Wednesdays in August.

This will involve a different type of legacy than you might think. After six weeks of study and planning, you will have in your portfolio three legacy "wills": your ethical will, your wisdom will, and your personal will. These are in addition to the financial will that your attorney has already created.

This is a "pass it on" project. Through these "wills" you will be passing on to your family and others your knowledge, wisdom, and experience, which as you know, is unlike anyone else's. You have a unique story, and personal experiences, which reveal through your legacy will, your values and personal faith. Believe me, these may be more important to your children than your possessions.

Please let me know if you will be attending. Email me at dcasad@upumc.org, or call me at 214-642-8020.

Stay Cool,

Dede

VBS: Jerusalem Marketplace

The church was humming in early June, when 103 children and 77 youth and adult volunteers came together to learn, pray, and make the Jerusalem Marketplace come alive.



Spotlight on UPUMC Staff: Jim Mabile

Jim Mabile was born in a Memphis, Tennessee hospital. His family attended one of the city's large Southern Baptist churches, so he grew up in that tradition. During his boyhood, Jim loved to play sports of all kinds. But it wasn't until he went to Memphis State University that he started running track and cross-country.

At Memphis State, thinking he would go to medical school, Jim majored in Biology. After two years, he changed his mind about the profession but kept his major; he branched out by minoring in Math, Industrial Engineering, and Classical Languages.

After graduation and a tour of duty in the Navy Reserve, Jim returned to Memphis and accepted a sales position with Allied Chemical Corporation. During that time, he met his wife one afternoon when he was on his way to the hospital to see his terminally ill dentist, but impulsively stopped by the home of some friends where Carole was visiting. It must have been kismet, because Carole also happened to be the head nurse on Jim's dentist's floor. They went out that evening and every evening over the next two months before Jim proposed. Carole and Jim have been married for 54 years. They have a son, Chris, a daughter, Reagan, and two grandchildren.

Jim left Allied Chemical for a division of Johnson & Johnson called Ethicon, Inc., manufacturer of sutures and other wound closure products. Jim loved working with the OR nurses and physicians in hospitals. He was promoted seven times during his 15-year stint with Ethicon. As he climbed the ladder, the Mabile family moved from Nashville to New Orleans to New Jersey and then Dallas to open a new regional office. Again, Jim was promoted back to the home office; but having developed a love for Dallas, he commuted from Texas to the East Coast for six months before accepting an offer from a Dallas firm. He left Ethicon with an unmatched record, one that included Man of the Year, Division and Region of the Year, and sales and management achievements in cardiovascular, ophthalmic, and neurological surgery.

During Jim's weekly commute to New York, a neighbor had told him he should stay in Texas and meet a gentleman he knew. That gentleman turned out to be Trammell Crow. After meetings with Crow and his senior partners, Jim joined the firm as National Marketing Director and later became Vice President of Marketing and firm Partner. He spent the next five years learning real estate development, particularly during trips with Trammell to New York and Boston. He also learned how to develop strong relationships with Fortune 200 firms. All this experience propelled Jim to start his own company when the Trammell Crow partnerships were falling apart.

Jim formed Mabile-Carter & Company in Dallas, followed by Mabile-Carter, LLC Atlanta and Grupo Mabile de Mexico in Monterrey, Mexico. These firms provided Fortune 200 and international firms with facility and operations planning, real estate, architecture and construction services. After over two decades in this venture and projects in all but five US states, the Caribbean, Mexico, and the Panama Canal Zone, Jim retired.

Since he left Ethicon and settled in Texas, something had begun to stir deep inside Jim's soul. He explains it as a kind of "mellowing," a stepping away from his previous 'Type A' personality, and the beginning of his faith journey. Although Carole and Jim lived in Plano, they moved their membership to FUMC Dallas. There, in a class with Rev. Wally Chappell, the group read Marcus Borg's book: *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*. For Jim, it was a turning point. After that, Carole and Jim completed all the Disciple Bible Studies offered at First Church, along with a few friends. When their small group had finished all the courses, they decided to start their own Sunday School class, which is still in existence today -- and growing.



Many thanks to Jennifer Stinchcomb and to Ezri Gomez, Centurion Extraordinaire, for sharing their photo galleries.

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