

## KATHERINE GLAZE LYLE '67

# Distinguished Alumni Award



Reverend Katherine Glaze Lyle is a dedicated Methodist minister whose life's mission is to serve others with compassion, faith, and unwavering commitment. Born in Ft. Worth into a loving family, Katherine's family moved into the Park Cities right before her 9th grade year. Her love of choral music led her to join Lads and Lassies, and the gift of music would continue in every aspect of her life. Academically, Katherine excelled in the classroom and beyond, as a national merit semi-finalist. Upon graduating from Highland Park in 1967, Katherine attended SMU and graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1971.

Her love of learning didn't stop there as she received a Master's Degree in History from SMU in 1973.

As Katherine was raising her children, Sharon and Christopher, in HPISD, her calling to ministry, inspired her to pursue a Master's of Divinity from the Perkins School of Theology at SMU, graduating *magna cum laude* in 1994. Throughout her academic journey, she delved deep into the scriptures, theology, and pastoral care, honing her skills to effectively minister to diverse congregations.

As a United Methodist minister, Katherine has served in various capacities with congregations at Oak Lawn UMC, First UMC DeSoto, First UMC Rowlett and First UMC Dallas. Throughout the many churches she served, Katherine's approach to ministry is to engage in community outreach initiatives and to be inclusive, show empathy and have deep respect for the dignity of all individuals. Whether Katherine is delivering a powerful sermon, providing spiritual guidance, or mobilizing her congregation for social justice, her leadership is characterized by a profound sense of integrity and authenticity.

Beyond her ministerial endeavors, Katherine has been active in many community organizations and has served in leadership roles on several boards. Her intellectual ability to see the broad picture of each organization, and the power of collective action to bring about positive change, shows her commitment to service. Katherine has led and been a board member for Social Venture Partners, Dallas Bethlehem Center, Texas Methodist Foundation, Union Coffee Dallas, The Family Place, Partners for Sacred Places and several other organizations. In 2006, Katherine was awarded the George Washington Medal of Honor from the Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge for her Hurricane Katrina relief work.

Katherine is a compassionate listener, a tireless advocate for justice, and a transformational leader, whose dedication to serve with enthusiasm and advocate for the cause, is why she has made every organization she has served a better place.