

# From Wisdom to Tenderness

# THE CONTINUUM OF CARE MINI-CONFERENCE

Park Cities Presbyterian Church Sponsored by 60+ Community

October 3-4, 2025

# From Wisdom to Tenderness: The Continuum of Care

Featuring Friday's keynote speaker Ann McKinley, Angela Thomas, Ben Kazora, Karen Koop, Lynnora Ratliff, and Steve Benton

Anyone interested in learning strategies to successfully navigate and prepare for aging ...or... Anyone walking alongside a person already on the journey? The DFW area has many resources and support systems. From caregivers and medical professionals to ministry leaders, family, and friends, there will be something for you to learn and apply!

The journey of aging doesn't have to be walked alone. This insightful mini-conference will explore the continuum of care from experts in the field. Designed for family members, caregivers, ministry leaders, and healthcare professionals, this event will offer practical guidance and spiritual encouragement. Please make your reservation no later than noon, Tuesday, September 30.

#### Schedule:

#### Friday, October 3, 2025

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Lunch and Keynote Speaker Ann McKinley, *Dementia Friendly Dallas* (Fellowship Hall)

#### Saturday, October 4, 2025

8:15-9:00 a.m. – Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Breakout Seminars #1 (Level Two)

10:00-10:45 a.m. – Breakout Seminars #2 (Level Two)

11:00-11:45 a.m. – Breakout Seminars #3 (Level Two)

Noon – 1:00 p.m. – Lunch with Faculty Panel Discussion (Fellowship Hall)

#### Location:

Park Cities Presbyterian Church | 4124 Oak Lawn Ave, Dallas, TX 75219

# Registration:

Please make your reservation no later than noon, Tuesday, September 30. Scan QR code to register online on PCPC app or at *pcpc.org/events/*. The conference is free and open to the public.





# ANN MCKINLEY Keynote

Ann McKinley has served in the nonprofit senior living sector for more than 20 years. As the former Chief Advancement Officer at Juliette Fowler Communities, she championed the quest to become an "I'm Still Here" Center of Excellence in Dementia Care. Ann's advocacy for individuals with dementia grew from her personal experiences as a care partner for her parents during their

dementia journeys. An AWARE board member, Ann raises money for local Alzheimer's causes. As co-founder and chairman of Dementia Friendly Dallas, Ann envisions a community where people living with dementia can live, age, and thrive. Ann resides in Dallas where she is a daughter, sister, wife, mom and Grann. She plans to change the world one Dementia Friend at a time!

#### **Seminar** – *Be a Dementia Friend* Fellowship Hall Plenary Session (Level One)

This powerful one-hour presentation equips participants with compassionate and practical skills to support people living with dementia. In this engaging presentation, you'll learn: How to recognize the signs and symptoms of dementia. Effective communication strategies with people living with dementia. The crucial difference between healthy aging and dementia. Five key messages directly from people living with dementia. Join us and turn your knowledge into meaningful action.

CASTING ALL
YOUR ANXIETIES
ON HIM,
BECAUSE HE
CARES FOR YOU.

1 Peter 5:7



# **ANGELA THOMAS**

Angela Thomas, MSN, RN, CMC, is CEO and founder of Caring with Grace, a care management company that has been serving the North Texas area for 17 years. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, Angela has practiced in various specialties, including hospice, labor & delivery and medical-surgical settings. She is a Care Manager, Certified (CMC) and a certified trainer for the End-of-Life Nursing Education

Consortium (ELNEC). She is an Advanced Professional member of the Aging Life Care Association (ALCA) and a Fellow in the Leadership Academy. She also holds memberships in the Hospice and Palliative Care Nurses Association and the Dallas Area Gerontological Society. Angela has served as a Director on the ALCA Board (2019-2023). and is currently the Co-Chair of the ALCA Public Policy Committee. She is passionate about enhancing the quality of life for all people as they age and in training up the next generation of Aging Life Care Professionals.

Married to her husband, Bill, for 48 years, she is the mother of 5 grown children and grandmother of 7. Angela has lived in several different states and overseas and currently resides in University Park, TX. She enjoys gardening and reading about politics and history in her spare time.

Seminar – *Planning Ahead* Cambridge Hall (Level Two)

Planning ahead for life's seasons is a Biblical principle, be it preparing for a career, buying a house, having children, planning for college, etc., we try to be prepared. Growing older can be a new and exciting time in life, with more freedom but also new challenges. How can you prepare for your own aging and maybe help your parents if they are still alive to have a life-giving plan for yourself and your family? And what if you don't have family and are aging alone? It is even more important to learn about how to be prepared and what to do now. This seminar will explore the 5 key steps you can take to give you peace of mind for this phase of life.



# **BEN KAZORA**

Ben Kazora brings a distinctive blend of compassion and technical expertise to the caregiving industry. With over 20 years of experience in caregiving, he is also a trained electrical and computer engineer from Purdue University and holds an MBA from Texas A&M University.

This unique combination of skills fuels his mission to bridge the gap between innovation and human-centered care. As the founder of Etched Quality Care, Ben integrates his business ambition and deep commitment to dignity in aging into every aspect of his company's culture and vision. His work is driven by a passion to reimagine care for aging populations—ensuring it is both compassionate and forwardthinking.

# Seminar – *The Intersection of Technology and Healthcare* Mezzanine A (Level Two)

This section explores how technological innovation is transforming healthcare, enhancing patient outcomes, streamlining care delivery, and enabling more personalized, data-driven approaches. From telehealth and wearable devices to AI-powered diagnostics and remote monitoring, we examine how technology is redefining the future of care.

BEAR ONE
ANOTHER'S
BURDENS, AND
SO FULFILL THE
LAW OF CHRIST.

Galatians 6:2



# KAREN KOOP

Karen Koop serves as the President of AWARE North Texas, a fundraising organization dedicated to supporting nonprofits that provide critical care, resources, and hope to individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's and other dementias. With a heart for caregivers and loved ones walking this difficult journey, Karen is passionate about easing their burden through advocacy, support, and connection.

Her professional background is in education, where she developed a lifelong commitment to nurturing and equipping others. That same spirit carries into her leadership role and her personal mission to encourage and uplift those facing the challenges of aging and memory-related illnesses.

Karen is married to Keith, and together they have three grown sons, two wonderful daughters-in-law, and one beloved granddaughter. A longtime member of Park Cities Presbyterian Church (PCPC), she desires to see the church become a community that embraces aging as part of our walk with Christ and reaches out with compassion to those in need of care and companionship.

Seminar – Actively Navigating Memory Issues: Resources & Hope in the North Texas Community

Mezzanine B (Level Two)

We all want to age well and protect our brains, whether we have been diagnosed with a memory issue or not! This seminar will share the many options available in North Texas, not only to those living with dementia, but also to those seeking opportunities in the Dallas area to focus on brain health.



# LYNNORA RATLIFF

Lynnora Ratliff, PhD, retired after 26 years as a staff psychologist at the Dallas VA Medical Center, where she served older veterans and their families in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Her work included individual and family counseling, assessment of mood disorders, assessment of cognitive functioning, family support groups, interdisciplinary treatment planning, and staff training. She was the staff psychologist for the inpatient Hospice program

and for the Women and Heart Health program at the Dallas VA. She was a member of both the Psychology Doctoral Internship and the Postdoctoral Fellowship training programs at the Dallas VA.

She sponsored a World War II Veterans volunteer group, which provided education and training to enable veterans to serve their fellow veterans who were hospitalized. Dr. Ratliff is a charter member of Park Cities Presbyterian Church, where she has sung in the Chancel Choir since its beginning. She serves as a volunteer in the Homebound Ministry and as the leader of the Women's Circle 6.

In retirement, she is spending more time with her family, including her younger brother, John

(a retired PCA pastor in Austin) and his family, and her nephews and their families in the Dallas area. Travel, fishing, and golf are also on the list.

Seminar – Navigating Family Conflicts Through Care Decisions The Loft (Level Two)

While exploring systems of family dynamics, Dr. Ratfliff will offer insights about conflicts that arise within families experiencing challenging changes.

A NEW
COMMANDMENT
I GIVE TO YOU,
THAT YOU LOVE
ONE ANOTHER...

John 13:34

Who gets to make the rules? Who gets to change the rules? What are the rules? These are a few of the compelling questions that will inform, enrich, and comfort the winding path of care planning.



# **STEVE BENTON**

Steve Benton helps older adults avoid the dangers of financial uncertainty and exploitation as an Elder Financial Safety Center Financial Coach and Counselor at The Senior Source. He specializes in complex cases, including fraud, scams and elder financial abuse.

Steve has been active in the financial services industry for over forty years, including participation on industry boards, business conduct committees, and as a securities industry Arbitrator. Steve began his career as an Investigator for the National Association of Securities Dealers (now FINRA) and retired as Senior Vice President of ING's flagship broker/dealer, Financial Network Investment Corporation, an organization of certified financial planners and other investment professionals.

Steve recently appeared as a Romance Scam subject matter expert on television, has participated on various related podcasts, and been utilized in various local TV News broadcasts focused on senior scams and frauds.

Seminar – *Elder Frauds*, *Scams*, *and Financial Exploitation* Kid's Court (Level Two)

This highly educational, entertaining, and effective presentation, with Q&A, will educate you on the dangers of financial exploitation, steps to take defensively against the scourge of scams and frauds, and what one needs to know to protect oneself and others.

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