

# **First United Methodist Church invites you to Wednesday Night Live PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY:**

## **Invitation to the New Testament**

**beginning 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 21, 2011  
(Brown Bag Dinner at 6:00) in the Fellowship Hall**

*Who is Jesus and what is his significance for our lives?* Participants are invited to join this conversation, to study afresh this story of Jesus, and to learn more about their calling to discipleship and to community.

**This nine-week short-term DISCIPLE Bible Study course** is taught by the pastor of First UMC, Rev. Keith L. Head, who brings many years of experience with the scriptures, including many years leading the full 34-week DISCIPLE course.

**Using Matthew's Gospel as a starting point**, this study explores how the New Testament writers and the early Christian community wrestled with the coming of Jesus — his life, actions, mission, death, and resurrection — and the implications of his arrival for their lives and their communities of faith. Moving through the Gospel of Matthew sequentially, the overarching themes from this story of Jesus provide the conversation topics for each of the eight sessions. Each theme is then traced through other related passages in the New Testament.

### ***Study Contents***

1. Jesus Calls Us Into God's Redemption Story
2. Jesus Calls Us to a Transformed Life
3. Jesus Calls Us to Minister to a Hostile World
4. Jesus Calls Us to Complex Communities of Faith
5. Jesus Calls Us to Serve One Another
6. Jesus Calls Us to a New Relationship With Tradition
7. Jesus Calls Us to Live in Light of His Coming Again
8. Jesus Calls Us to Experience the Gifts of His Dying and Rising

### ***Authors***

**David deSilva** - Professor of New Testament and Greek at Ashland Theological Seminary in Ashland, OH.

**Emerson Powery** - Chair of the Department of Theology and Associate Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at Lee University in Cleveland, TN.

### ***In addition to the authors, video segments feature these scholars:***

**Amy-Jill Levine** - E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School IN Nashville, TN.

**Bishop William Willimon** - Bishop of the Birmingham Area, Southeastern Jurisdiction, The United Methodist Church.

**K. K. Yeo** - Henry R. Kendall Associate Professor of New Testament at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL.

