fort. ENTERTAINING

## DeeDee Dalrymple

DeeDee Dalrymple was born in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Her ease and expertise with entertaining were nurtured early on in a large, extended family with Lebanese-American roots. Family, food, and hospitality were a part of everyday life, and one never knew how many people there might be at the dinner table. Memories include her grandmother making fresh Lebanese bread – what some might know by the Greek word, pita. Other favorites were tabouli, stuffed grape leaves, baked kibbi, and meat and spinach pies. Although the women in her family were the primary cooks, DeeDee's father was also a great cook and taught her some of the fundamental skills she still uses today. DeeDee continued to cultivate her skills by reading and doing.

After earning a degree in history and political science from UNC Chapel Hill, DeeDee enjoyed a successful career in sales and human resources with Charlotte-based Jefferson-Pilot Communications. She then married Ed and together they raised three children, Elizabeth, Carolyn, and Eddie. During that time, DeeDee enjoyed many opportunities to lead and serve in her community. Highlights included serving on the Vestry, the Rector Search Committee, and leading a women's Bible study at Christ Episcopal Church. Among the many organizations DeeDee has had the privilege of serving, she especially enjoyed co-chairing the launch of Close to a Cure, a foundation to raise money for Parkinson's research, as well as serving on the Board of Trinity Episcopal School. She remains dedicated to Communities In Schools, whose mission is "to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and succeed in life." She is inspired daily by the men and women on the front lines of this organization who believe that every child deserves the opportunity to succeed.

DeeDee's life took an exciting turn, both personally and professionally, when good friend Bill Whitley suggested she write a book that would combine her communications and leadership skills with her love for entertaining. *Effortless Entertaining* is the result of years of planning, researching, recipe testing and refining, some mishaps (feel free to ask about those), and informal focus groups – a.k.a dinner parties with friends. It has evolved into a multi-faceted business with a singular mission: to inspire and equip others to easily and graciously welcome others into their homes. In addition to offering the beautiful and practical Effortless Entertaining guide book, and providing members with fresh, relevant content throughout the year, DeeDee also speaks to groups of all sizes and is available for one-on-one consulting.

The most important thing to know about DeeDee? Her favorite word is *welcome*.

Visit MyEffortlessEntertaining.com to learn more.

To inquire about speaking engagements, contact DeeDee by email at DeeDee@MyEffortlessEntertaining.com.