



**Chaires Methodist Church**  
**"A Lighthouse Guiding People to Christ"**

On Friday morning, January 19, 2024, at the Global Methodist Church Conference the laity met with Michelle Tepperer of Alpha. Alpha is an anointed worldwide evangelism/discipleship ministry developed to create a safe space for conversations about faith. Currently 127 denominations are using Alpha.

From Alpha's web page (alphausa.org):  
 "In a world of isolation, anonymity, and keyboard-warriors, Alpha offers content and guidance for churches, ministries, and individuals to create a space for honest and open conversations about life's biggest questions. Everyone is welcome and no questions are off limits.

Creating these spaces for honest, open, and judgment-free conversations for anyone to explore the Christian faith is so important to us that we give all of the digital assets to run Alpha away for free. How can we do this? We have hundreds of donors committed to the important mission."

The Alpha program is about Jesus and offering "front porch" hospitality. Inviting people to our "front porch" (a dedicated space); having Interactive Sessions – food, talk, discussion; and, for the Host and Helpers - learning to Listen – as Jesus listened.

Prayer – for someone who has never experienced the love of Jesus, prayer can change everything.

Evangelism – spreading the Christian gospel.

Discipleship – spend dedicated time with, pray for, build a friendship with and intentionally teach how to grow in faith – winning others to Christ and getting them involved in the process of winning others to Christ.

Belonging, Not Just Welcoming - As we invite people and grow our hospitality, people should feel they are not only welcome, but that they belong.

Michelle told us that the program is designed to fail unless God shows up.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5

My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

Blessings,

*Terry Hatcher, Lay Leader*



**Valentine Banquet Feb. 16@6:30 PM**

This year will feature an Italian feast prepared by our own chefs. The price will be \$14 per person, including beverage and dessert. There are preparations for fun entertainment after the meal. *Sign up by Sunday, Feb. 11 at the information table.*



**The Choir Needs YOU!**

All skill levels are welcome as long as you love music and fellowship with great folks! Practice is on Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM in the sanctuary. For more info, contact: Gerry Nielson (321-652-5361; gerryniel@gmail.com)

**Movies Under the Oaks**

Chaires will host "Movies Under the Oaks" every **Friday starting @ 6:30 p.m.** We will be watching the movie series "**The Chosen**" outdoors on our big 14 ft. inflatable screen.

*February 9<sup>th</sup>: "Indescribable Joy" Season 1 Episode 6*  
*February 23<sup>rd</sup>: "I Am He" Season 1 Episodes 7 & 8*

The Chosen is an American Christian historical drama series that centers on Jesus and the different people who met and followed or otherwise interacted with him.

There will be popcorn, hotdogs, and pretzels for refreshments along with lemonade. So, bring your chairs, your blankets, your appetites, and most importantly, your friends for a family friendly event that is **free** to the public. I hope to see you there!

Pastor Kerry

**Liturgists for Worship**

We would like members of the congregation to participate in the worship service by reading the Call to Worship and the scripture readings. If you are interested, a sign-up sheet is on the long back table.

As we worship in person, all church services will continue to be posted after 1 pm each Sunday through the church website at *chairesumc.com*.

***Chaires Methodist Logo Committee with meet this Tuesday, Feb. 6 from 2:30-4 PM in the adult Sunday School classroom.***

### Adult Sunday School

This class will be meeting each Sunday at 9 AM. You can participate via phone, the dial-in number is (516) 387-8169.

*If you would like to place flowers in the church during, please sign up on the bulletin board opposite the restrooms.*

### Lenten and Easter Season Plans

Plan now to attend in these special events/services in preparation for Easter.

**February 13, 2024:** Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) Pancake Dinner in the multipurpose sanctuary.

**February 14, 2024:** Ash Wednesday Service in the historic Sanctuary.

**February 19, 2024** (Every Thursday) Lenten Devotional Study.

**March 24, 2024:** Palm Sunday Service in multi-purpose Sanctuary.

**March 28, 2024:** Maundy Thursday Service (Reader's Theater) in historic Sanctuary.

**March 29, 2024:** Good Friday Service in historic Sanctuary

### Lenten Devotion Series

Pastor Kerry will be hosting a Lenten Devotional Bible Study starting February 15<sup>th</sup> and will be held every Thursday through March 28<sup>th</sup>. Those attending can attend either the 8:00 a.m. session or the 6:00 p.m. session. The morning session will be held in the Sunday School room of the multi-purpose sanctuary. The evening session will be held at the parsonage and the study will be preceded by a potluck.

This Lenten series will coincide with our Lenten sermon series titles: "Letting Go!" There will be **no cost** because the handout will be provided for the study. If you are interested, please sign up at the back of the church following Sunday service or call the church at (850) 219-9361 and leave a message. You can also send an e-mail to Pastor Kerry at: [pastor.foote@outlook.com](mailto:pastor.foote@outlook.com).



*If you would like Pastor Kerry to call or visit, please let Susan, the secretary, or Pastor Kerry know. His contact information is in the bulletin.*

### Humble House Spotlight

The Humble House Ministries' mission is to help women in addiction by providing a safe, residential environment, discipling them through Bible-centered teaching, and equipping them to live God honoring lives. It is the sister organization to Teen Challenge. We can support these brave women and their decision to accept help in recovery by providing them with supplies through the month of February. There is a supply list on the information table. There are also cards so you can write messages of love and support and leave them in the basket. See Susan Capelouto for more info.

### Local Church Administrative Committee Trainings

Don't miss the following opportunities to train your local church administrative committees with President *pro tempore*, Jay Therrell:

#### **Pastor/Staff Parish Relations Webinar:**

February 20, 2024, at 7pm.

**Trustees:** February 21, 2024, at 7pm

#### **Church Council and Lay Leader:**

February 22, 2024, at 7pm

**Finance Committee:** GMC Denominational CFO/Treasurer, Jeff Pospisil, did a webinar on January 29, 2024 (posted on YouTube).

All trainings will be on the Conference YouTube page so local church committees can watch them together on-demand.

To receive a Zoom Link, please email Senior Administrative Assistant to the Cabinet, Julie Bullerdick, at [jbullerdick@floridagmc.org](mailto:jbullerdick@floridagmc.org).

### Giving Through Our Website

Go to <https://ChairesUMC.com> and just click the blue GIVE button and you will be taken to the church REALM site. The church secretary can help you set up your account.

### Church Membership

Since our church disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church (December 15, 2023) and the acceptance into the Global Methodist Church (January 13, 2024), some people have come to me inquiring about their church membership at Chaires Methodist Church and want to know if they need to do anything about it. All membership at Chaires Methodist Church that was under the United Methodist denomination is automatically transferred over to the Global Methodist denomination unless the church member request to have their membership moved to the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church to be held until they find another United Methodist Church or another denomination to attend. If you do not want your membership to be automatically transferred, please see the pastor so that your membership can be held with the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church.

#### February

Diane Matthews 2  
Wes Leggett 3  
Marilyn Alvarez 7  
David Matthews 8

#### February

Mark & Marilyn Alvarez 6  
Don & Gail Dampier 12

#### Chaires Staff

Pastor	Rev. Kerry Foote
Secretary	Susan Capelouto (secretarychairesumc@gmail.com)
Music Director	Gerry Nielsen
Custodian	Janet Cayson
Audio/Visual	Marty Holland