

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

Easter Brings Hope

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live." --John 11:25

Easter is not about brightly colored eggs, wearing pastels, or enjoying a big meal, although it could include these. Easter is about the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

For some, Easter will be a great day, spent surrounded by family and friends. But for others, it will be a sad day, because Easter is a reminder of a loved one who has died and is now desperately missed.

Death seems so cruel, so harsh, and so final. That is what the disciples were feeling when they saw their Lord, whom they had left everything to follow, hanging on the cross. They were devastated. Death had crushed them. But if they would have gone back in their memories, they would have recalled an important event and statement Jesus had made.

They would have remembered Jesus standing at the tomb of his close friend Lazarus. They would have remembered that Jesus did something completely unexpected: He wept (see John 11:35). Jesus wept, because He knew that death was not part of God's original plan. Humanity was not meant to grow old, to suffer with disease, or to die. But because of the sin of Adam and Eve, sin entered the human race, and death followed with it. And death spread to all of us. Jesus wept, because it broke His heart.

But standing there at Lazarus' tomb, Jesus also delivered these hope-filled words: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live" (John 11:25). Death is not the end. And the resurrection of Jesus Christ proves it.

If you have put your faith in Christ, then Easter means that you will live forever in the presence of God. Easter brings hope to the person who has been devastated by death.

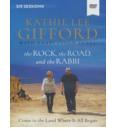


If you would like Pastor Kerry to call or visit, please let Susan, the secretary, or Pastor Kerry know. His contact information is in the bulletin.



Men's Breakfast on April 3 from 8-9:30 AM. Bring a friend! Sign up on the back table.

Sign up for an exciting adventure from April 25-May 30!



Kathie Lee invites you to join her as she visits sites in Israel that have impacted her life. As she shares her story, Rabbi Jason Sobel, a messianic Jewish rabbi who was trained in the ancient rabbinical way, provides fascinating background details into the language, culture and heritage that make the story of the New

Testament come alive. Kathie Lee and Rabbi Sobel will take you and your group beyond the typical "Sunday school" teaching to examine the original texts of the Bible.

Now you can walk with Kathie on a journey through the spiritual foundations of her faith:

- **The Rock (Jesus Christ):** Hear directly from Kathie about her life-changing and ever-deepening connection with Jesus, the Lover of her soul.
- **The Road (Israel):** Explore dozens of ancient landmarks and historical sites from Israel, the promised land of God's covenant.
- The Rabbi (God's Word): Go beyond a Sunday-school approach to the Bible by digging into the original languages and deeper meanings of the Holy Scriptures.



<u>Residing Hope</u>, formerly known as the FL Methodist Children's Home, will be our mission focus for April. We will take a special offering

on Sunday, April 7, and update you on their plans going forward.

Plan to attend the covered dish lunch on Sunday, April 7th.

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 *chairesmethodist.church*.

Adult Sunday School

This class meets each Sunday at 9 AM.



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

The <u>Upper Room</u> for March and April is available on the back shelf in the sanctuary.

Giving Through Our Website

Go to <u>https://chairesmethodist.church</u> 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.

If you would like to receive the newsletter from the Florida Global Methodist Church, go to https://floridagmc.org and you can subscribe at the bottom of the page.

> April Birthdays Wanda Messer 1 Gordon Lightfoot 9 Jeanette Wood 14 Debbie Pahl 15 Barbara Palmer 17 Franklin Chaires 23 Mike Stallings 28

April Anniversaries Michael & Debbie Pahl 9 Dale & Susan Thompson 8

Pastor Secretary Music Director Custodian

Audio/Visual

Chaires Staff Rev. Kerry Foote Susan Capelouto (secretarychairesumc@gmail.com) Gerry Nielsen Janet Cayson Marty Holland



<u>Members</u> Marion Lollie and her husband, Sammie Mike and Carol Stallard

Friends and Family

Brett Roddenberry Jack & Christine Stephens (brother-in-law and sister-in-law of Pete Peters) Esther Harrison Jonathan Crum Debbie Degagne (friend of Terry Hatcher) Daphne Lewis (co-worker of Renee Grubb Pastor Bill Petersen Dennis & Sandra Rackley (brother & sister-in-law of Diane Matthews Donnie Dampier (son of Don & Gail Dampier) Stevie Hubbard (son of Edie Hubbard) Christian Foote & all those who are in military service Pat and Bob McNealy

A praise that my husband's cancer has not spread.

