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## What Dead Faith Looks Like

In James 2, James refers three times to faith without works being dead faith (James 2:17, 20, 26). John MacArthur describes this as “faith that has no product, that gives no evidence,” and he adds, “It is my constant fear, frankly, that many, many people within the framework of Christianity and involved, to one degree or another, in the church possess nothing more than that kind of faith: dead faith.” MacArthur also believes modern evangelism fails to recognize that problem. He referenced the words of Jesus about professing believers who rely on their works to enter the kingdom of heaven—“And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me...’” (Matthew 7:21-23). They do not have genuine faith.

Unlike other New Testament writers, James didn’t focus on legalism but rather on antinomianism. Those who embrace antinomianism think it is sufficient for people to “believe” and then live as they desire. For the antinomian, it’s enough to believe the facts about God, Jesus, and even the gospel. But if there is no hunger for godliness—no desire to live righteously—and no resultant fruit, James labels that “dead faith.” Even adhering to orthodox theology is not enough. Even the demons “believe,” James said (2:19). MacArthur writes, “All demons are orthodox. They are orthodox and they tremble.” But they don’t produce good works from transformed hearts.

James introduced the truth about faith and works in James 1:22: “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” In other words, if there are no deeds of faith to prove genuine spiritual life, a person is deceived and playing the fool. James was deeply concerned about this. “(James) realizes that in the church there are people who can be self-deceived, self-deluded, and ultimately damned, MacArthur said.” Multitudes have professed faith in Christ, but they have never surrendered their life to Him in obedience. They’ve never seen the validation of their salvation in righteous works.

Jews new to the Christian faith had grown up in Judaism’s traditional, often guilt-inducing legalism. Many thought that—since works weren’t efficacious for salvation—they could throw off all restraints under the gospel of grace. They reasoned, “Now I am free in Christ!” Obviously, they went too far as they misunderstood this freedom, and James wisely addressed their faulty theology. As MacArthur explained, James suggested non-saving, dead faith had three marks: empty confession (v. 14), false compassion (vv. 15-16), and shallow conviction (v. 18). In contrast, James then offered illustrations of living faith in verses 21-26.

*-John Fullerton MacArthur Jr. (June 19, 1939 – July 14, 2025) was an American Calvinist Baptist pastor, theologian, author, and broadcaster.*



## Watermelon Ministry

We will be serving up some cold, sliced watermelon for the Lincoln High School marching band on **Sept. 20 @11 a.m. at Gene Cox Stadium**. This particular rehearsal is used as an all-day fund-raiser for the band. So, the students will be more than ready for some refreshments. If you would like to help, please sign up at the information table if you want to join us!



**NO KID SLEEPS  
ON THE FLOOR  
IN OUR TOWN!**

Child bedlessness is a national problem, and as a national nonprofit with chapters spread across the country, SHP has provided the solution. SHP is a volunteer organization that builds beds for kids who are sleeping on the floor and there are multiple ways to get involved. You can check out their Big Bend Chapter website at: <https://shpbeds.org/chapter/fl-tallahassee/>.

Our church will be participating in an Open Build on **September 13<sup>th</sup> at Lowes Home Improvement located at 5500 Commonwealth Blvd from 8:45 am to 12:00 pm**. If you want to participate, please sign up at the following website: <https://volunteer.shpbeds.org/timeslots/qIf85uNePP>.

## Choir Rehearsal



Vacation time is over...school has started back up and so has our choir. We will be having our first choir rehearsal on **August 20<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) at 6:30 p.m.** in the multi-purpose building. The choir will be back to helping lead the congregation in singing on the first Sunday of **September 7<sup>th</sup>**.

## Pastor Visit

If you would like a visit from our pastor, please do not hesitate to call either Susan Capelouto (Administrative Assistant) or Rev. Kerry Foote so that a visit can be arranged.



Residing Hope: Children’s Home

Don’t forget that this is a 5 Sunday month, so we will be taking up a special offering on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday for Residing Hope Children’s Home.

Looking for Testimonies

Listed below are the Scriptures, Titles, and Themes for the month of August. If you have a personal testimony that you would like to share that you believe ties into the sermon, let me know.  
– Rev. Kerry Foote



<b>Date:</b> August 24, 2025 <b>Title:</b> James: Faith and Works <b>Theme:</b> Speaking and Boasting <b>Big Idea:</b> Words are incredibly powerful and carry in them both life and death. <b>Old Testament:</b> Proverbs 18:1-7 <b>New Testament:</b> James 3:1-4:17	<b>Date:</b> August 31, 2025 <b>Title:</b> James: Faith and Works <b>Theme:</b> Waiting and Praying <b>Big Idea:</b> Waiting on God and praying in faith are two of the most powerful actions a believer can take. <b>Old Testament:</b> Isaiah 40:30-31 <b>New Testament:</b> James 5:7-18
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Members

Bobbie Harrison and family / Family of Pete Peters / Family of Barbara Palmer / Milan Novak / Marion Lollie / Debbie Pahl / Jean Lombardi / Mary Alice Linzy /

Friends and Family

Everyone involved in children returning to school... all of us!

Doris Harrison (Marion Lollie) /Veronica & Family (Tiffany Foote) / Tom Murvin, Rich Shine (Lynne & Ed Fannin / Robert Israel (Janet Cayson) / Robert (Rick Davies)/ Pastor Alexander Mack; Michael, our son (Frances Chaires) / Jay Matthews (Diane Matthews) / Family of Dustin Savage, Mark Schroeder (Maggie Hall) / Texas flood victims / Suzan Taylor (Terry Hatcher) / Eddie Doerr, Ron Lance, Beth, Laura Sutliff (Sheila Novak) / Thomas Hatcher (Mike Hatcher) / Elizabeth Brazier (Terry Hatcher) / Randy Harrison, Kris Harrison (Diane Matthews) / Jimmy Cobb (Marty Holland

Please be sure to mark your calendars for Pete Peters’ Celebration of Life on September 27<sup>th</sup>  
...stay tuned for time.

SUNSHINE STATE  
GOOD NEWS TOUR  
WITH WILL GRAHAM

Beginning this October, Will Graham will share the Good News of Jesus Christ through a four-city tour in Florida. This evangelistic outreach depends on believers like you, and they want to join you and Chaires Methodist Church in proclaiming the Gospel message. Will you pray for the upcoming Sunshine State Good News Tour?

**Date:** October 26, 2025  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Tallahassee Automobile Museum

Christian Life and Witness Course

“Always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you.”  
—1 Peter 3:15, NKJV

Leading up to the **Good News Tour** this fall, the Billy Graham Ministry will be providing practical training that will equip Christians to live out their faith and share it with others.

**By attending this free course, participants will learn:** Biblical principles for living a life that pleases God and points other people to Him. / Practical tips and advice for sharing the Gospel. / How to encourage and support new Christians and help them grow in their faith through studying God’s Word. Find a site and day near you:

- Immanuel Baptist Church
  - Sept 8 @ 6:00 p.m. (Session 1)
  - Sept 9 @ 6:00 p.m. (Session 2)
- Killearn Methodist Church
  - Sept 11 @ 6:00 p.m. (Session 1)
  - Sept 13 @ 9:00 a.m. (Session 2)
- Thomasville Road Baptist Church
  - Oct 6 @ 6:00 p.m. (Session 1)
  - Oct 7 @ 6:00 p.m. (Session 2)

(On this particular date we are looking to attend as a group from Chaires Methodist and our pastor will be attending this place and time)

For more information, check out the website below-  
<https://billygraham.org/events/sunshine-state/clwc>

Operation Christmas Child Coming Soon

National Collection Week November 19-24

Chaires filled approximately 68 shoe boxes last year and our goal for this year is 75. Hopefully, we will have volunteers filling 50 shoeboxes and the remaining 25 will be covered with a packing party. HINT: Currently back-to-school supplies are on sale, which can be a good choice for the shoeboxes, and you have a head start on filling the shoeboxes. More information to come later.



Find us on  
Facebook



We don’t know if you have heard...but we are now going live with our Sunday morning service on Facebook. If you cannot make the service in person, you can join our Facebook family. Give us a like and follow us on Facebook to get up to date information about upcoming events and you can access live sermons on Sunday or access our archive.

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Chaires-Methodist-Church-61561720372576/>

<u>August Birthdays</u>	<u>August Anniversaries</u>
Lynne Peters13 Gail Dampier 15 Pat Alley 15 Virgil Hall 16 Amanda Novak 17 Kerry Foote 22 Cathy Lee 26	Mike & Carol Stallard 18 Kerry & Tiffany Foote 22

