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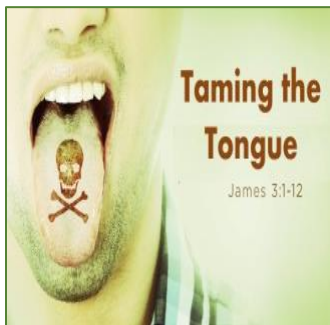
Taming the Tongue

by Pastor Kerry Foote

“People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison.” — James 3:7–8 (NLT)

If you’ve ever said something you regret — a harsh word in anger, a careless comment that wounded someone — you know just how powerful the tongue is. It’s small, but its impact can be enormous. James doesn’t mince words: while we can tame wild beasts, we struggle to control the words that come out of our own mouths.

Why is it so difficult? Because our words reflect something deeper — the condition of our hearts. Jesus taught that “what you say flows from what is in your heart” (Luke 6:45). If we’re honest, it’s not just our vocabulary that needs cleaning up — it’s our attitudes, our bitterness, our pride, our impatience.



Taming the tongue isn’t about speaking less. It’s about speaking **with purpose**. It’s choosing grace over gossip. It’s replacing sarcasm with sincerity. It’s resisting the temptation to win an argument if it means losing your witness.

This is a personal challenge for me as much as it is for you. It’s easy to justify our words — to say “I was just venting” or “they needed to hear it.” But Scripture challenges us to take a higher road. In James 3:10, it says, “And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right!”

So what does taming the tongue look like in everyday life?

It looks like choosing not to join the gossip at work or church.

It looks like building up your spouse with encouragement instead of criticism.

It looks like staying silent when your flesh wants to retaliate.

It looks like apologizing when you know you were wrong — even if your pride resists.

It looks like using your words to heal, not to hurt.

And let’s not miss this: when you do tame the tongue, people notice. The people closest to you — your family, your coworkers, your friends — will sense the shift. Your speech will become a testimony. Your restraint will become a witness. Your kindness, even when it’s difficult, will show that something (or rather, Someone) is working in your life.

So here’s my challenge to you: Don’t ignore the words that come out of your mouth. Don’t downplay them. Ask God to help you use your speech to reflect His love and truth. Because a changed heart will always result in a changed tongue — and a changed tongue can change the world around you.

Let’s commit to this together.

Let’s be people who speak life.



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 13th 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 20th (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 7th**.

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 5th 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



Date: August 31, 2025 Title: James: Faith and Works Theme: Waiting and Praying Big Idea: Waiting on God and praying in faith are two of the most powerful actions a believer can take. Old Testament: Isaiah 40:30-31 New Testament: James 5:7-18	Date: September 7, 2025 Title: Your Work Matters Theme: The sanctity of the workplace. Main Idea: When life starts to feel a little monotonous, we could all use a reminder that our work, no matter how mundane, matters to God. Old Testament: Proverbs 16:3 New Testament: Col 3:23-24
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Members

Bertha Thompson / Bobbie Harrison and family / Family of Pete Peters / Family of Barbara Palmer / Milan Novak / Marion Lollie / Debbie Pahl / Jean Lombardi /

Friends and Family

Kathy (Francis Chaires) / Stan Donaldson (Virgil Hall) / Larry Clark (Virgil Hall) / Many Meuth (Rick and Paula Davies) / Debra Atkinson (Diane Matthews) / Breshard Gallen (Diane Matthews) / 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)

Please be sure to mark your calendars for Pete Peters' Celebration of Life on September 27th ...stay tuned for time.

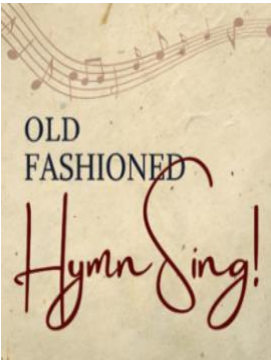
SUNSHINE STATE
GOOD NEWS TOUR
WITH WILL GRAHAM

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



Old Fashioned Hymn Sing

Date: September 21, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Waukeenah Methodist

We will be singing with 3 other churches: Lloyd Baptist, Wacissa Pentecostal Holiness, and Waukeenah Methodist.

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/>

August Birthdays

Lynne Peters13
Gail Dampier 15
Pat Alley 15
Virgil Hall 16
Amanda Novak 17
Kerry Foote 22
Cathy Lee 26

August Anniversaries

Mike & Carol Stallard 18
Kerry & Tiffany Foote 22