



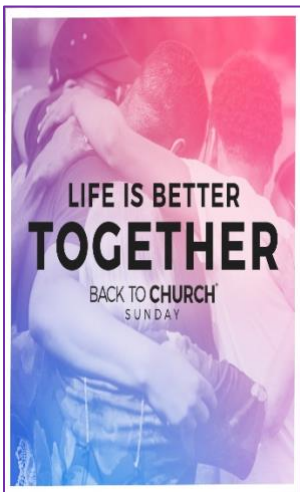
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### **The Church:**

#### **A Family, a Fellowship, and the Body of Jesus Christ**

Can you define what a Christian is without mentioning the church? If you can, then your definition likely doesn't line up with the Bible.

Think of it this way: An orphan doesn't adopt parents—parents adopt the orphan. And once that child is adopted, everything changes. He takes the family name. He eats at the family table. He becomes a brother or sister to the other children. He is not alone anymore.



In Christ, we have been adopted into God's family (Eph. 1:5). Our name is no longer our own; it is "Christian." We belong to the household of God, with brothers and sisters in the faith. The Bible does not picture us as spiritual loners—it pictures us as family, fellowship, body, bride, people, temple. Always together.

That means to call yourself a Christian while refusing to belong to a church is a contradiction. It would be like a finger declaring independence from the hand, or an eye saying it doesn't need the body (1 Cor. 12:21). Such an idea makes no sense in Scripture.

#### **The Local Church Is Not Optional**

Yes, there is the universal church—every believer across time and place. But the New Testament overwhelmingly points us to local churches, real gatherings of real people, meeting in real places. Paul wrote letters not to "all believers everywhere" but to the "church in Corinth" and the "churches in Galatia."

Why? Because faith in Christ is always meant to take flesh in fellowship with others. To join Christ is to join His people. To belong to Him is to belong to them.

The writer of Hebrews gives us a sober warning: "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching" (Heb. 10:25). To neglect the gathering is not a small matter. It's a sign of spiritual danger, of drifting, of hardening hearts.

#### **The Church Is Where Faith Becomes Visible**

Memorizing Bible verses, praying before meals, and listening to Christian music are good. But the true test of the Spirit's work in us is this: Do we forgive? Do we bear with one another? Do we love when it would be easier to walk away?

That can only happen in the mess and beauty of church life. Alone, you cannot practice patience, kindness, forgiveness, or sacrifice. These graces only appear when we live side by side with other believers—sinners like us—who give us plenty of opportunities to display Christ's love.

### **A Call to Action**

Friend, don't fool yourself with vague talk of "believing in God" while living apart from His people. The Bible does not know a Christian who refuses the church. Except for rare circumstances, a true believer plants their life in a local fellowship, worships with them, serves with them, suffers with them, rejoices with them.

This is not about checking a Sunday box. This is about living out who you really are in Christ.

Together, we display the gospel. Together, we show the world that Jesus reconciles sinners—not just to God but also to one another. Together, we shine brighter than we ever could apart.

So do not neglect the church. Do not drift away. Commit yourself. Be present. Take your place at the table. Your family is waiting for you.

### **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.



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/>



### **Old Fashion Hymn Sing**



**Date:** September 21, 2025

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Place:** Cody Pentecostal Holiness Church aka Healing Waters Church  
The church is located at 3812 Tram Rd., Monticello Florida.

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



## Celebration of Life

The Peter's family would like to invite you and your family to participate in a Celebration of Life for Pete Peters on **September 27, 2025**, in the Multi-Purpose building at **11:00 a.m.**

This will be a time of mourning and celebrating the life of Pete Peters and there will be a time during this service in which people will be invited to share stories of Pete Peters and what he meant to them.

Following the service, church members are invited to attend a catered meal and those who desire can bring a dessert to share with others.

## 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 Chairres 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

Deepen your faith in Jesus Christ by discovering practical ways to share the Gospel with others and by learning Biblical principles for living a life that points others to Him.

**Monday, Oct. 6 & Tuesday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m.**  
Thomasville Road Baptist Church  
3131 Thomasville Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

For information, visit [GoodNewsTour.com/CLWC](http://GoodNewsTour.com/CLWC).

SUNSHINE STATE GOOD NEWS TOUR WITH WILL GRAHAM  
A MINISTRY OF BILLY GRAHAM Evangelists' Association  
Always Good News. ©2025 BGEA

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.

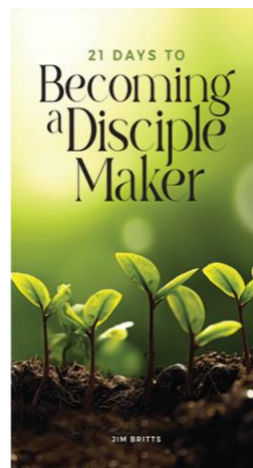
### New Sermon Series (Changing Soils)

**October 2025**



Have you ever wanted to live a more effective and impactful life as a disciple and follower of Christ? Do you long for the "fruitful soil" that Jesus describes in the gospel?

*Changing Soils* is a 4-week series built to speak directly into discipleship and to the encouragement of our congregation to make more disciples.



This sermon series will coincide with the book "21 Days to Becoming a Disciple Maker" by Jim Britts. This particular book will be provided to our church family (Free). We will be handing them out on Sunday mornings before and after worship services.

Please consider following along by taking part in the 21 day challenge and sharpen your skills on becoming a Disciple Maker!



### **Members**

Lynn Peters / Thompson Family / Roger Goram / Harrison family / Peters Family / Milan Novak / Marion Lollie / Debbie Pahl

### **Friends and Family**

Henry Lowery (Linda Minichiello) / Gerald and Beth Kirby (Linda Minishiello) / Danny Chairres (Laura Goram) / Operation Christmas Child (Diane Matthews) / Shirley Harvey (Diane Matthews) / Al and Sheila Godwin (Terry Hatcher) / Peggy John (Terry and Mike Hatcher) / Thomas and Elizabeth (Terry and Mike Hatcher) / Bobby Durden and Paula Winter (Margaret Boyette) / Peter Boogaard (Dorothea Guyette)

### **September Birthdays**

Davies, Rick 2  
Tiffany Foote 2  
Leggett, Ashley 13  
Peters, Edie 13  
Fletcher, Martha 14  
Stallings, Amber 26  
Hatcher, Mike 28

### **September Anniversaries**

Gordon & Lucia Lightfoot 13

**09/21/2025**