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A Challenge from the Pastor

““You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” — Matthew 22:37-40 (NKJV)

When Love is Missing

Church family, I want to speak to you from my heart today. Not as a pastor with a message to deliver, but as someone who has been where some of you might be right now. I have spent the last 36 years of my life in ministry with the Methodist Church. I have given a lot of time and energy —planning, serving, counseling, leading. I thought I was doing everything “right.”

But a few years ago, I found myself in a dark place...burnt out and ready to throw in the towel. I had simply wore myself thin. Looking back, the problem wasn’t my work—it was my heart. I was working hard for God but not always walking with God. And slowly, love—my first love—was replaced by busyness.

Then during a personal devotion time came the piercing words of Jesus in Revelation 2: *“But I have this against you: you have left your first love.”* Those words stopped me in my tracks. I realized I was building something for God without being rooted in God’s love.

The Challenge Before Us

Friends, can I ask you honestly: is love the root of your faith today? Do you come to church because you love God and His people, or because it’s what you’ve always done? Do you serve because love compels you, or because it makes you feel useful? Do you greet others with genuine care, or out of habit?

Jesus said the world will know we are His disciples by how we love one another (John 13:35). That means the growth of this church does not depend on better programs, fancier music, or how polished the sermon is. It depends on whether we actually love—deeply, sincerely, sacrificially. When love is real, people notice. They feel it. And they want to be part of it. That’s when the church truly grows.

Returning to Our First Love

If you hear this and realize, like I did, that your love has grown cold—don’t run from Jesus. Run to Him. He is not angry with you. He isn’t standing with His arms crossed in disappointment. He’s waiting, arms wide open, ready to restore you. And when His love fills your heart, it cannot help but spill into your words, your actions, your relationships. That is the love that heals brokenness, draws people in, and gives the church its true strength.

A Personal Call

So, here’s my challenge to you:

- Ask God this week to search your heart.
- Where you find bitterness, ask Him to plant love.
- Where you find pride, ask Him to grow humility.
- Where you find routine, ask Him to ignite passion again.

And don’t just say you love people—show it. Call that person you’ve avoided. Welcome that new face you don’t recognize. Forgive that old hurt. Serve without being noticed. Because when we love God with all we are, and when we truly love others as ourselves, the church will not only grow in numbers—it will grow in health, in unity, and in power. And that’s the kind of church Jesus is calling us to be.

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: October 19, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Waukeenah Methodist
81 Methodist Church Rd,
Monticello, FL 32344.

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



Chicken Pilau

Be sure to save the date. This year our annual Chicken Pilau will be on **November 13, 2025**, from **4:00 to 7:00 p.m.** Be on the lookout for volunteer sheets and requirements that will be posted in mid-October. More information will be given later.



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.”

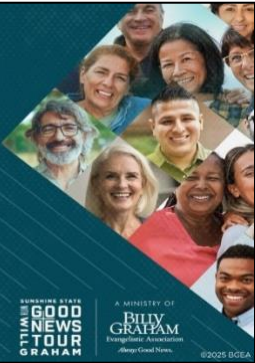
—1 Peter 3:15, NKJV

CHRISTIAN LIFE & WITNESS COURSE

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.



SOMEONE'S STEP
GOOD NEWS TOUR
BILLY GRAHAM

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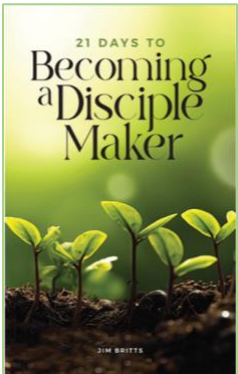
Leading up to the **Good News Tour** this fall, the Billy Graham Ministry will be providing practical training that will equip Christians to live out their faith and share it with others.

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

Franklin Chairres / Russel Clark / Amy Clark / Lynn Peters / Thompson Family / Roger Goram / Harrison family / Peters Family / Milan Novak / Marion Lollie

Friends and Family

Veronica Derksen (Tiffany Foote) / Willie Thompson (Francis Chairres) / Brittani Crum (Francis Chairres) / Thomas (Amy Clark) / Hoyu Family (Amy Clark) / Henry Lowery (Linda Minichiello) / Gerald and Beth Kirby (Linda Minishiello) / Danny Chairres (Laura Goram) / Operation Christmas Child (Diane Matthews) / Shirley Harvey (Diane Matthews)

November 2 is All Saints Sunday

We will have a special service in the historic sanctuary, and we will celebrate by hanging remembrance bells on our outdoor cross and there will be a special time during the service in which we will be able to proclaim the name of the saints who made a difference in our lives and pay them respect.



Charge Conference

Date: November 22, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Historic Sanctuary



A Global Methodist (GM) Charge Conference is an annual meeting where a local church's leaders review its ministry, set goals, and make decisions for the coming year, led by the Presiding Elder (similar to a District Superintendent). The conference comprises the Presiding Elder, appointed clergy, and members of the local church's governing body, like the church council. It serves as the basic governing body for the local church, responsible for adopting objectives consistent with the Global Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Coming Soon / Stay Tuned

PACK A SHOEBOX

National Collection Week

NOV. 17 – 24, 2025

SamaritansPurse.org/occ



October Birthdays

Amy Clark 4
Thompson, Dale 7
Marshall, Joy 23
Messer, Jeff 31

October Anniversaries

Wes & Ashley Leggett 4
Virgil & Maggie Hall 11