



ROOTED IN THE PAST • GROWING FOR THE FUTURE

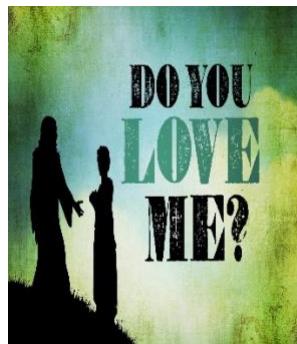
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Do You Love Me / Feed My Sheep

The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.” - John 21:17

Can you hear the urgency in Jesus' question for Peter? The tenderness in the way he pushes Peter past his failure of denying him, and into living a life that continues to honor Jesus as Lord? After reading this exchange, we can all start to see God's heart of love for humanity. He desires Christ-followers to be people who live in service of others!

In John 21, Peter and a few of the disciples decide to go fishing. But after fishing all night, they had no success. In the morning, a man calls to them from the shore asking if they had caught any fish. He then tells them to cast their net on the right side of their boats. When they do, they suddenly catch an abundance of fish! As they are pulling up the net, one that is now packed full of fish, John recognizes the man on the shore as Jesus and shares this revelation with Peter. Peter immediately jumps out of the boat and eagerly swims to shore to meet Jesus!



When Peter gets to Jesus, he sees that Christ is waiting for them with fish and bread, ready to eat. Jesus invites Peter to have breakfast with him and then in verse 17 begins to ask Peter if he loves him. Jesus asks Peter “if he loves him” three times, mirroring how Peter had denied Christ three times

before Jesus was killed on the cross.

Jesus' conversation with Peter is restoring his relationship with Peter, charging Peter to continue the mission of sharing the good news of Jesus with the world, and preparing Peter for what it was going to take to be his follower in the coming months and years. Jesus foretells Peter's death and instructs him not to worry with the fate of the other disciples but to focus his mind on him following Jesus well (John 21:18-22).

As Peter and the disciples huddled around the fire, eating breakfast, this intimate exchange is had. Just as Jesus was feeding them, so his exhortation to them looked like “feeding his sheep.” These men went out from these precious encounters giving their lives to grow the early church.

The repetition of Jesus' question “do you love me” grieved Peter for a few reasons. First, Peter feared that Jesus doubted his sincerity and repentant heart. Next, it brought to mind Peter's denial of Jesus before Jesus' crucifixion. Lastly, it made Peter feel that Jesus may be alluding to a future failure of Peter, as he had when Jesus

predicts Peter's three denials of knowing him. By the end of the exchange is it clear that Jesus is repeating himself to demonstrate to Peter that he has been fully restored to his role as an apostle. As an apostle Peter was commissioned to “feed his sheep.”

To “feed my sheep” can be translated “to give food” but the word used implies more than just physical feeding other others. The text is pointing to Peter to take on the role of a shepherd, who would guide, watch, and defend the sheep as well as feed them. “My Sheep” commonly refers to the church throughout the Bible.

Jesus instructed all his disciples, not only to be fishers of men, by sharing the good news of the gospel with the world, but feeders of the flock, by the edification of saints.

We can each take this charge to care for the church to heart. *How can we better serve one another and our church communities? How can we be people who go after than one lost sheep?* These are questions that all Believers have to prayerfully consider as they choose how to spend their days here on Earth.

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/>



Church Council Town Hall Meeting



Chaires Valentine Dinner

We would be absolutely delighted to have you, and your loved ones join us for our cherished annual Valentine's Day Dinner Extravaganza—an evening created just for the Chaires Methodist Church family and friends—coming up on **Feb. 7, 2026**.

Please consider this your personal invitation to share a night filled with laughter, love, and togetherness.

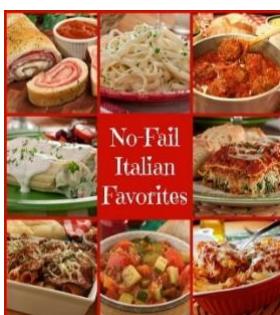
Imagine savoring a delicious meal catered by Seineyard, surrounded by friends old and new, as we celebrate the joy of community and the blessings of friendship. This isn't just a dinner—it's a chance to make wonderful memories together!

Get ready for a night packed with great games, laughter, and exciting door prizes for everyone—you won't want to miss a moment of the fun! To help us make this evening truly special, be sure to sign up on the back table in the multi-purpose building. The cost is \$25.00 per person

We can't wait to celebrate with you—let's make this Valentine's gathering one to remember!



Church Pot-Luck

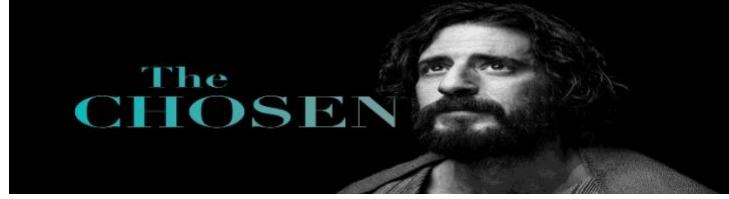


On **February 1, 2026**, we will be having our 1st of the month church potluck in the multi-purpose building. In keeping with the idea of Valentine Day that is approaching, we are having an **Italian theme...That's amore!**

If you need your 2025 giving record, see Susan Capelouto.

Movies Under the Oaks

In mid-February, we will start up our Movies Under the Oaks series, and we will be watching 8 episodes from season 5 of the Chosen.



February 20th (7:00 to 9:30) Episodes 1 & 2

February 27th (7:00 to 8:15) Episode 3

March 6th (7:00 to 8:15) Episode 4

March 13th (8:00 to 9:15) Episode 5

March 20th (8:15 to 9:30) Episode 6

March 27th (8:15 to 9:30) Episode 7

April 2nd (8:30 to 9:45) Episode 8



Members

Diane Matthews / Gorden Phillips / Kerry and Tiffany Foote / Ken Hatcher / Russll Cark / Pat Alley / Theresa Hatcher

Friends and Family

Loren Phillips / Nancy Fannin (Ed Fannin) / Ken Hatcher (Terry & Mike Hatcher) / Brian Mullen (Terry & Mike Hatcher) / Craig Larichiata (Marion Lollie) / Perry Family (Renee Grubb) / David Wilson (Tony Minnichiello) / Henry Lowery (Tony Minnichiello) / Monteen Williams (Francis Chaires) / Brittany Chandler's son (Francis Chaires) / Robert Israel (Janet Cayson) / Kevin Donovan (Mike Donovan) / Carolyn Craig (Janet Cayson)

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 17th (6:00 to 7:30 pm) Multi-purpose Bld
Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday Celebration: There will be all you can eat pancakes with a toppings bar that has everything one would need to top a proper pancake.

February 18th (7:00 to 8:00 pm) Historic Sanctuary
Ash Wednesday Service: This service kicks off our Lenten season and our sermon series titled: Renewed in Mercy. At this service we will have the imposition of ashes

April 2nd (8:30 to 9:45 pm) Outdoor under Oaks
Maundy Thursday The Chosen Viewing: This year we are substituting our normal Maundy Thursday in door service to watching Season 5 episode 8 (The Last Supper) of The Chosen outdoors under the oaks.

April 3rd (7:00 to 8:00 pm) Historic Sanctuary
Good Friday Service
April 4th (9:00 am to 9:00 pm) Historic Sanctuary
Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil
April 5th: (7:00 am) Petrandis Home
Easter Sunrise Service

January Birthdays

Chaires, Frances 17
Lombardi, Jean 23
Grubb, Renee 24
Grubb, Dylan 29
Hall, Maggie 30

January Anniversary

Mike & Terry Hatcher 1
Jon & Dot Berry 4
Sammy & Marion Lollie 23
Jean & Michael Lombardi 29