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## When the Wind Starts Blowing

Pentecost reminds us that the church was never meant to move under its own strength. Before the disciples preached boldly, before the church grew, before the gospel crossed barriers of language, culture, fear, and doubt, the Holy Spirit came. Acts 2 tells us that the Spirit arrived like a rushing wind and rested on each believer like tongues of fire. In other words, God did not simply give the church a mission; God gave the church the power, presence, and purpose needed to live that mission.

That is good news, because most of us know what it feels like to run out of wind. We can get tired. We can get discouraged. We can get busy doing good things and still forget to depend on God for the strength to do them. Sometimes the church can be tempted to operate like a boat with beautiful sails but no breeze. We may have programs, buildings, traditions, meetings, committees, calendars, and good intentions, but without the Spirit of God, we are not going very far. As Charles Spurgeon said, “Without the Spirit of God, we can do nothing. We are as ships without wind.”

The disciples who gathered on Pentecost were not superheroes of the faith. They were ordinary men and women who had followed Jesus, loved Jesus, misunderstood Jesus, failed Jesus, and still found themselves gathered together waiting on the promise of God. That should encourage us. The Holy Spirit did not come because they had everything figured out. The Spirit came because God had more for them than fear, confusion, and hiding behind locked doors.

That same Spirit is still at work today.

The loving challenge of Pentecost is this: let us not simply admire what the Holy Spirit did back then; let us make room for what the Holy Spirit wants to do now. The Spirit still comforts, corrects, empowers, guides, and sends. The Spirit still helps ordinary people do faithful things. The Spirit still gives courage to speak, wisdom to listen, compassion to serve, and unity where division would be easier. The Spirit still bridges gaps between people who may not naturally understand one another.

And that may be one of the great challenges for the church today. Pentecost was not just about noise, wind,

fire, and excitement. It was about communication. People from different places heard the good news in a way they could understand. That means the Spirit does not simply make us louder; the Spirit makes us more faithful witnesses. The Spirit teaches us how to speak the love of Christ in ways our neighbors, families, children, grandchildren, friends, and community can actually hear.

So this week, ask yourself: **Where do I need to stop relying only on my own strength and invite the Holy Spirit to lead me?** Maybe it is in a relationship that needs healing. Maybe it is in a ministry where you have grown tired. Maybe it is in a conversation where God is calling you to speak with grace and courage. Maybe it is in an area of service where you have been waiting for someone else to step forward, when perhaps the Spirit has been gently nudging you.

Another good question is this: **Who needs to hear the love of God in a language they can understand from me?** Not necessarily a foreign language, but the language of kindness, patience, forgiveness, encouragement, service, or presence. Sometimes the most Spirit-filled thing we can do is pick up the phone, write the note, offer the prayer, show up with compassion, or listen without needing to win the conversation.

Pentecost is not just the birthday of the church. It is a reminder that the church is alive because God is alive in us. The Holy Spirit was not given so we could sit safely in the upper room forever. The Spirit was given so we could become witnesses—rooted in Christ, strengthened by grace, and sent into the world with love.

May we be a people with open hearts, lifted sails, and willing spirits. May we not quench the Spirit by fear, pride, apathy, or comfort. May we listen when God speaks, move when God leads, and love when God sends us. And may the wind of God blow through Chaires Methodist Church in such a way that our community can see, hear, and experience the good news of Jesus Christ through us.

## **Pastor Visit**

If you or someone you know is going through a difficult time, facing illness, feeling lonely, or simply in need of prayer and encouragement, please do not hesitate to reach out. Pastor Kerry would be glad to visit, pray with you, and offer support. To arrange a pastor visit, please contact Susan Capelouto (Administrative Assistant) or Rev. Kerry Foote.



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/>



### Humble House Plant Project

The Humble House Plant Project continues to take plant pots and plants in this ongoing project. Susan Capelouto



### **Church Members**

Ken Hatcher / Russ Clark / Gordon Wheeler / Kerry Foote / Mary Alice Linzy / Casey Friel / Russell Clark / Diane and David Matthews / Nancy Hardison / J.D Amason / Edie Peters / Lynn Fannin / Mike and Carol Stallard / Church Choir / Marty Holland / Rick and Paula Davies

### **Friends and Family**

Doratheia Guyette (Kerry Foote) / Holly (Laura Gorman) / Susan Petrillo (Lynne Peters) / Paige Moore (Lynne Peters) / Chris Martinez (Michael Linzy) / Rebecca (Donna Wheeler) / Aunt Renee (Nasir) / Jaquita Murphy (Nasir) / Doris Mathiesen (Maggie Hall) / Thomas Staumbaugh family (Amy Clark) / James Thompson family (Dale Thompson) / Melvin Thompson (Dale Thompson) / Buelah Holmes (Dale Thompson) / Ethan (Jean Ingram) / Sterling Floerke (Terry Hatcher) / Harry Brown (Terry Hatcher)



### Prayer Chain Update



Mike Hatcher is now serving as our **Prayer Chain Coordinator**.

To share a prayer request or praise, or to be added to the prayer chain, please contact Mike directly.

Email: [mhatcher43@hotmail.com](mailto:mhatcher43@hotmail.com)

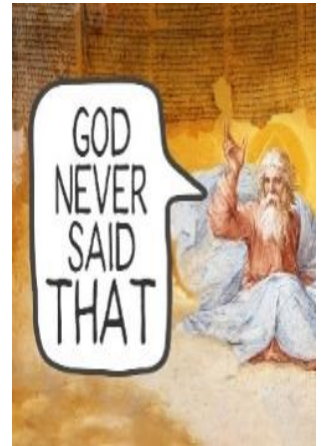
Phone: (850) 728-4960

We also want to thank **Jon Berry** for his many years of faithful service as our Prayer Chain Coordinator. Due to health concerns, Jon has stepped away from this role, and we are deeply grateful for his care and faithfulness in this important ministry.

The prayer chain is a powerful way our church family cares for one another. Thank you for continuing to pray, encourage, and lift one another before the Lord.

### June 2026 Sermon Series

In this 4-week series, "*God Never Said That*," we'll uncover some of the most common cultural myths about God, compare them with the truth of Scripture, and discover the hope and freedom found in what God really does say. Each week helps our congregation trade half-truths for whole truth and build their lives on the solid foundation of God's Word.



### **God Never Said That Small Group / Bible Study**

Join us for a discussion-based Bible study led by Pastor Kerry, following our **God Never Said That** sermon series.

**Starting June 11<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.**

Sunday School Room

(Light breakfast provided)

**Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.**

Parsonage

(Snacks & refreshments provided)

#### May Birthdays

Stallard, Carol 2

Eddy, Alan 5

Mullen, Brian 6

Sheila Novak 29

#### May Anniversaries

Franklin & Frances Chaires 3