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From the Pastor's Desk: Knowing the way

There is something deeply human about wanting clear directions.

We like to know where we are going, how to get there, and what to expect along the way. When life feels uncertain, our instinct is to look for signs—something that tells us we are on the right path. And yet, so often, what we find are messages about where **not** to go rather than a clear sense of where we **can** go.

Faith is not primarily about having all the right answers or perfectly understanding the road ahead. It is about staying close to the One who does. It is about trusting that even when the path feels unclear, we are not walking it alone.

Many of us, if we are honest, resonate with Thomas. We have asked the same question in different ways: **“Lord, we don’t know the way.”** We feel it in moments of uncertainty, in seasons of change, and in times when life does not unfold the way we expected. Yet Jesus does not rebuke the question—He meets it with reassurance. The way forward is found in Him.

That truth is both comforting and challenging.

It is comforting because it reminds us that we do not have to figure everything out before we take the next step. But it is also challenging because it calls us to trust—not eventually, not when everything makes sense—but now.

And that trust is meant to be lived.

Following Christ is not something we reserve for someday. It is not just a future promise; it is a present reality. It shapes how we speak, how we act, and how we love the people around us. The life of faith becomes visible in small, everyday moments—moments where grace is extended, kindness is offered, and hope is shared.

The question we are invited to consider is simple, but not easy: Are we standing at the bus stop, studying the route... or are we willing to step on board?

Because at some point, reflection must become response.

This week, I want to encourage you to take one step—just one. It may be a step of trust, a step of obedience, or a step of compassion toward someone else. It does not have to be large or dramatic. Often, the most meaningful steps rarely are.

What matters is that we take it with Christ.

He is not standing at a distance, waiting for us to figure it out. He is with us—guiding, correcting, encouraging,

and leading us forward with grace. Even when we miss a turn, He does not abandon the journey. He simply leads us again.

And that is the good news. We do not just believe in the way. We walk with Him.

—Pastor Kerry Foote

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/>



Humble House Plant Project

The Humble House Plant Project is currently seeking donations of flowerpots in all sizes, colors, and conditions. If you have extra pots, regardless of their appearance or age, please consider contributing them to the project. We are also gladly accepting plant donations to help further our efforts.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, at least 100 plants have already been donated so far!

-Susan Capelouto





Church Members

Nancy Hardison / J.D Amason / Edie Peters / Lynn Fannin / Mike and Carol Stallard / Church Choir / Diane and David Matthews / Marty Holland / Rick and Paula Davies

Friends and Family

Sterling Floerke (Terry Hatcher) / Harry Brown (Terry Hatcher) / Bob and Margaret Carnley (Tony Minichiello) / Earl Davies family (Francis Chaires) / Dez Katz (Tiffany Foote) / Roger Bell (Kathy Forester) / Cody and Roger (Laura Gorman)



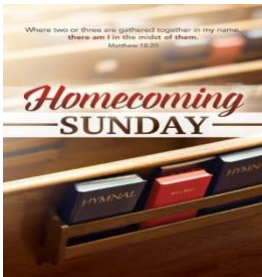
National Day of Prayer

The 2026 National Day of Prayer in Tallahassee will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2026. The event is scheduled to take place from 11:30 AM to 1:15 PM EDT at the Historic Florida State Capitol.

This event will feature worship and prayer for Florida and the nation, with the theme “Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking Him in All Generations.” Attendees are invited to pray for unity, guidance, and blessings for all generations.

Homecoming Sunday – May 17, 2026

Join us for a special **Homecoming Sunday** as we gather in our **historic sanctuary** for a meaningful time of worship and celebration. We are excited to welcome **J.D. Amason** as our guest preacher for this special day.



Following the service, everyone is invited to a **fried chicken luncheon** in the multi-purpose building. The church will provide the fried chicken, and we ask each family to bring a **side dish or dessert** to share.

Homecoming is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect and celebrate what God is doing in our church. Be sure to invite your family and friends to come and be part of this special day with us.

Caring for Nancy Hardison

Nancy Hardison has recently been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer, and we have the opportunity to support her and her family during this time.

Nancy has shared that **Publix gift cards** would be most helpful, allowing them to purchase the groceries they need. Gift cards may be given to Pastor Kerry or Mary Alice for delivery.

She also asks that **visits be arranged by phone in advance**, as there are days she may not feel up to visitors. You may reach Nancy at **(850) 491-7726**. Thank you for continuing to be a church that shows Christ’s love through care and compassion. Let us keep Nancy and her family in our prayers.



Eastertide Small Group Bible Study:

A Season to Grow

Beginning **Thursday, April 16th through May 21st**, Pastor Kerry will lead a weekly, discussion-based Bible study that explores the same themes and scriptures from our Sunday messages. This is a chance to ask questions, share insights, and grow together in faith.

Two meeting times are available each week:

9:00 a.m. (Sunday School Room) – light breakfast provided
7:00 p.m. (Parsonage) – snacks and refreshments provided
We encourage you to make this a priority during Eastertide. Study guides are available at the sign-up table or by emailing Kerry Foote. (pastor.foote@outlook.com)

Women of the Word (WoW) Gathering

All women are invited to join our *Women of the Word (WoW)* ministry on **Saturday, May 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** in the church multipurpose building.

Each gathering includes a meaningful devotion, time for fellowship over good food, and a fun hands-on craft or project. It’s a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith, build friendships, and enjoy a relaxed, welcoming time together.

Come as you are—and feel free to bring a friend!

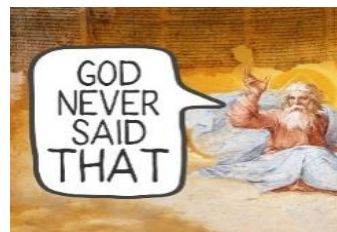


Church Workday

Join us on Saturday, **May 9, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** for a church-wide workday as we get ready for Homecoming Sunday. We’ll be doing some spring cleaning and light projects around the buildings and grounds to help our church look its best.

There will be tasks for everyone, so whether you can stay the whole time or just part of the morning, your help is appreciated.

Afterward, Pastor Kerry Foote will provide lunch with pulled pork sandwiches, corn on the cob, and baked beans. Come serve, fellowship, and help us prepare for this special day!



Stay tuned for our next sermon series that will run the month of June. I promise you will not regret attending.

May Birthdays

- Stallard, Carol 2
- Eddy, Alan 5
- Mullen, Brian 6
- Sheila Novak 29

May Anniversaries

- Franklin & Frances Chaires 3