



Pastor Kerry Foote
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From the Pastor's Desk: When Love Stays With Us

As we move toward Mother's Day and continue our Eastertide series, Stories That Matter, I have been thinking about how some voices stay with us long after the moment has passed. For many of us, that is especially true of our mothers, grandmothers, or other faithful people who helped shape us.

I still find it funny how often we hear those voices in everyday life. We reach for the door and remember, "Don't let all the air conditioning out." We leave the house and think, "Did I take a jacket?" We face a hard decision and suddenly remember a word of wisdom we heard years ago. At the time, we may not have realized how deeply those words were sinking in, but love has a way of staying with us.

That is part of what Jesus promises His disciples in John 14. They are anxious about the future, and Jesus speaks these tender words: "I will not leave you orphaned." He promises that through the Holy Spirit, His presence will remain with them.

That promise still matters for us today. There are seasons when life feels uncertain, when burdens feel heavy, or when we wonder whether we are walking alone. But Christ has not abandoned us. Through the Holy Spirit, God continues to remind us who we are, comfort us when we are weary, and gently guide us back when we lose our way.

The Spirit does not simply comfort us; the Spirit also shapes us. Just as the faithful people in our lives helped form our character, the Holy Spirit forms us into people who carry the love, mercy, and grace of Christ into the world.



This Sunday, as we celebrate Mother's Day, we will give thanks for those whose love helped shape our stories. But even more, we will celebrate the abiding presence of Christ, who continues to live and work in us.

You are not alone. You are not forgotten. And by God's grace, the story of Christ is still being written through us.

-Rev. 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/>

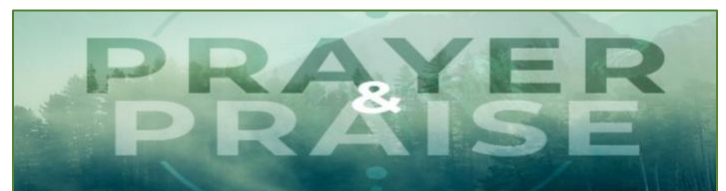


Humble House Plant Project

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

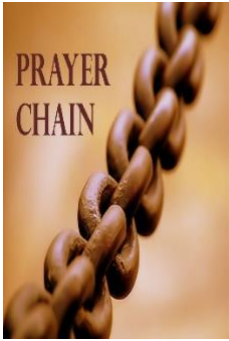
Casey Friel / Russell Clark / Diane and David Matthews / Nancy Hardison / J.D Amason / Edie Peters / Lynn Fannin / Mike and Carol Stallard / Church Choir / Marty Holland / Rick and Paula Davies

Friends and Family

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

Prayer Chain Update

We are thankful to share that **Mike Hatcher** will now be serving as our new **Prayer Chain Coordinator**.



If you have a name, concern, situation, or praise that you would like shared with the prayer and praise chain, please contact Mike directly. Also, if you are not currently receiving prayer chain updates and would like to be added, Mike will be glad to help get you connected.

Mike Hatcher

Email: mhatcher43@hotmail.com

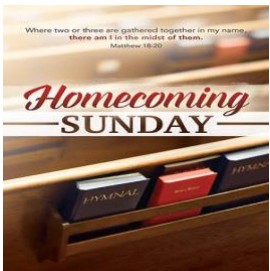
Phone: (850) 519-5009

We also want to express our sincere appreciation to **Jon Berry**, who has faithfully served as our Prayer Chain Coordinator for many years. Jon has recently had to step away from this role due to health concerns, and we are deeply grateful for the time, care, and faithfulness he has given to this important ministry.

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

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. Amazon** 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 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.

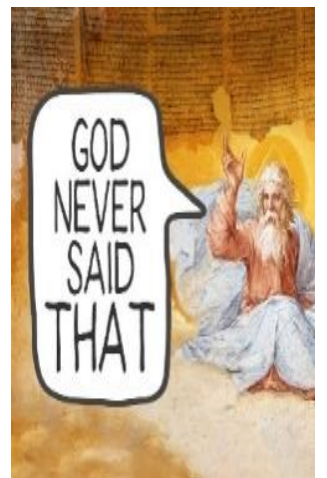


Each gathering includes a meaningful devotion, time for fellowship over good food, and a fun hands-on craft or project. It's a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith, build friendships, and enjoy a relaxed, welcoming time together.

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

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.



May Birthdays

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

May Anniversaries

Franklin & Frances Chaires 3