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Forgiveness Is Not Spiritual Amnesia



Most of us forget things all the time. We forget where we put our keys. We forget why we walked into a room. We forget the one item we actually went to the grocery store to buy, even though we came home with chips, cookies, and three things that were not on the list.

But there are other things we do not forget so easily.

A painful conversation.

A broken promise.

A betrayal.

A wound that still has a way of tapping us on the shoulder when we thought we had moved on.

That is why the phrase “forgive and forget” can sound simple until you are the one who has been hurt. It may fit nicely on a coffee mug, but it does not always fit honestly in a wounded heart.

The good news is that God does not ask us to pretend. Forgiveness is not spiritual amnesia. It is not acting like nothing happened. It is not excusing what was wrong, rushing trust, or stepping back into unsafe places just to prove we are “good Christians.”

Forgiveness is deeper than that. It is the grace-shaped decision to stop letting bitterness be the loudest voice in our lives. It is taking what still hurts and placing it in the hands of the One who sees clearly, loves perfectly, and judges rightly.

Sometimes forgiveness begins with a prayer that does not sound very polished: “Lord, I am not there yet, but I do not want this pain to own me anymore.” That may not sound dramatic, but it is holy. It is the kind of prayer God can work with.

Forgiveness also does not mean we throw wisdom out the window. Boundaries are not a lack of faith. Sometimes they are how faith learns to walk with wisdom. You can forgive someone and still recognize that trust must be rebuilt. You can release bitterness and still make healthy decisions about what comes next.

The challenge for us is this: are we willing to let God have access to the places where we still rehearse old wounds? Not so He can shame us, but so He can heal us. Not so He can force us to forget, but so He can free us from being defined by what happened.

Forgiveness may not change the past, but by God’s grace, it can change the hold the past has on us.

And that is good news for forgetful people like us. We may forget the grocery list, the keys, and occasionally someone’s name five seconds after being introduced. But we do not have to forget the pain in order to be faithful.

We simply have to remember this: bitterness does not get the final word. God does.

-Rev. Kerry Foote

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/>



We still need volunteers to help lead congregational worship, so anyone who would like to continue providing song leadership is encouraged to meet in the choir room on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. to review that day’s hymns.

The Humble House Plant Project has been suspended until they get a license to sell plants.



Church Members

Casey Friel / Clark family (Kerry Foote) / Ken Hatcher / Russ Clark / Gordon Wheeler / Kerry Foote / Mary Alice Linzy / Russell Clark / Diane and David Matthews

Friends and Family

Cheryl (Mike Hatcher) / Michael Pahl (Debbie Pahl) / R.L White (Debbie Pahl) / Alana Denton (Debbie Pahl) / Martha (Susan Capelouto) / Cody Culverson (Laura Gorman) / Chipper Worley (Kerry Foote) / Mary Mercer (Peggy Petrandis) / Moore Family (Mary Alice Linzy) / Shanna Trennepohl (Tiffany Foote) / Cheryl Curley (Tiffany Foote)



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.

Mike Hatcher

Email: 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.



MercyMe Live 2026 Concert Sign-Up

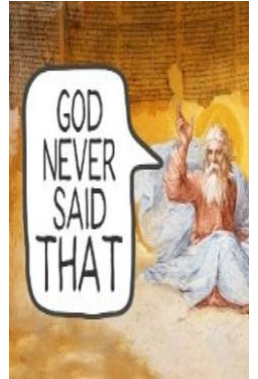


MercyMe, Jeremy Camp, Tim Timmons, and Sam Wesley bring a night of faith-filled music featuring favorites like "I Can Only Imagine," "Even If," and "I Still Believe." The concert is at Donald L. Tucker Civic Center on October 10, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.

Chaires Methodist Church is gathering names of those interested so we can reserve tickets together. Please sign up at the back table of the multi-purpose building.

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

We would love for every church member to be part of this encouraging, discussion-based Bible study led by Pastor Kerry, following our **God Never Said That** sermon series.

Come grow in faith, enjoy fellowship, and invite a friend, neighbor, or family member—everyone is welcome, and a simple invitation can make an eternal difference.

Starting June 11th – July 2nd

Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School Room
(Light breakfast provided)

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

Parsonage
(Snacks & refreshments provided)



Beginning in July and continuing through August, we will begin a new sermon series called **The Questions Jesus Asked**.

Jesus was a master teacher, and one of the ways He taught was by asking questions. His questions opened hearts, challenged assumptions, and invited people to see God, themselves, and others more clearly.

Throughout this eight-week series, we will look at some of the powerful questions Jesus asked and what those questions still ask of us today. These are not just questions from long ago. They are living questions that can shape our faith, our church, and our daily walk with Christ.

Join us this July and August at **Chaires Methodist Church** as we listen for the voice of Jesus in the questions He asks.

June Birthdays

- LaBounty, Verlie 1
- Lollie, Marion 1
- Linzy, Michael 4
- Bob Corson 14
- Davies, Paula 16
- Russell Clark 16
- Stallard, Mike 20
- Casy Friel 25
- Wheeler, Donna 26
- Fannin, Ed 29

June Anniversaries

- Stallings, Mike & Amber 17
- Bob & Donna Corson 21
- David & Diane Matthews 29