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New Eyes for the Week Ahead

Earlier this week, our Hump Day Devotion invited us to pray, **“Holy Spirit, help me see what You want me to see today.”** Then this morning, we met Nicodemus in John 3—a man who knew Scripture and religion well, yet still asked Jesus, **“How can this be?”**

Nicodemus reminds us that faith does not mean having everything figured out. Sometimes faith simply means bringing our questions to Jesus and allowing God to make us new.

Jesus told Nicodemus that being born again is more than becoming a slightly better version of ourselves. It is receiving new life through the Spirit—**new eyes, a new identity, and a new motivation.**

New eyes help us see people differently. Instead of defining someone by a mistake, an opinion, or an irritation, we can ask, *“Jesus, how do You see this person?”*

A new identity reminds us that we are not defined by our failures, wounds, accomplishments, or regrets. In Christ, we belong to God. And as we said this morning, **you are not too old to grow, too broken to be restored, or too far gone for grace.**

A new motivation changes the questions we ask. Instead of only asking, *“What do I want?”* we begin asking, *“What does God desire?”* Instead of, *“What is easiest?”* we ask, *“What is faithful?”*

Jesus compared the Spirit to the wind. We cannot control the wind, but we can position our sails to catch it. So this week, **trim your sails** through prayer, Scripture, listening, and obedience.

Try beginning each morning with three simple prayers:

“Holy Spirit, help me see what You want me to see.”
“Holy Spirit, remind me who I am.”
“Holy Spirit, lead me where You want me to go.”

Our series, *The Questions Jesus Asked*, may be ending, but Jesus’ questions can continue shaping us long after Sunday morning.

Nicodemus came to Jesus in the darkness with questions—and Jesus began showing him the light.

Whatever questions you carry this week, **bring them to Jesus and keep following the wind of the Spirit.**

God Bless and Keep You, **Pastor Kerry**

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.



COMING SOON...STAY TUNED!



Find us on
Facebook



Have you heard the good news? Chaires Methodist Church is now going live on Facebook every Sunday morning! We would love to see you in worship in person, but if you are traveling, homebound, under the weather, or simply unable to make it to church that week, you can still join us online and be part of our worshiping family.

Tune in for the Sunday message, sing along from home, share the service with a friend, and stay connected to what God is doing in our church community.

Please give our Facebook page a like and follow so you can receive updates about upcoming events, special announcements, live worship services, and sermon archives you can watch or share anytime. Whether you join us in the pew or online, there is a place for you at Chaires Methodist Church.

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Chaires-Methodist-Church-61561720372576/>



The flower calendar through October has been posted in the hallway near the nursery.



Church Members

Staff Parish Relation Committee in search of music director / Gail Dampier / Mary Alice Linzy / Margaret Boyette, Gretchen Pennington, Renee Grubb, and Debbie Boyette (Terry Hatcher)

Friends and Family

Many’s Birthday (Rick and Paula Davies) / Heather (Unknown) / Michael Chaires (Francis Chaires) / Don Oxendine (Francis Chaires) / Families on Big Island, HI impacted by hurricane (Diane Matthews) / Kimberly & Family (Unknown) Fannin) / Lance Lindstrom (Lynne Fannin) / Kaila Hardee (Ashley and Dale) / Julie Hewlett (Maggie Hall) / Teachers and Students of new school year.



August Birthdays	August Anniversaries
Peters, Lynne 13	Stallard, Mike & Carol 18
Gail Dampier 15	Kerry & Tiffany Foote 22
Pat Alley 15	
Virgil Hall 16	
Kerry Foote 22	
Cathy Lee 26	



5th Sunday Offering

On Sunday, August 30, our 5th Sunday Offering will support Residing Hope, formerly the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home.



Residing Hope serves children, young adults, and families through Christ-centered care, including residential, foster, independent living, and counseling services.

Please prayerfully consider giving above your regular offering to help bring hope, healing, and Christ’s love to those in need.

Alpha Begins September 10!

Alpha begins Thursday, September 10, 2026, offering a relaxed place to explore life, faith, and the Christian faith through food, fellowship, a short presentation, and honest conversation.

Two Thursday gatherings will be offered:

Morning Alpha — 9:00 a.m.

Church Sunday School Room; food and refreshments provided.

Evening Alpha — 6:30 p.m.

Pastor’s House; food and refreshments provided.



Whether you are longtime follower, still exploring, or simply curious, there is a place for you at Alpha. Sign up at the back table in the Multi-Purpose Sanctuary.

We also need two host homes; if you can help welcome others for conversation and fellowship, please speak with Pastor Kerry Foote.

Come hungry for food, fellowship, and meaningful conversation—bring your questions! We look forward to starting together on September 10!

Safe Families for Children

Our church is exploring a partnership with Safe Families for Children, a faith-inspired ministry that helps keep children safe and supports parents during difficult seasons. Safe Families is not foster care or adoption. Instead, families voluntarily receive support through temporary hosting, meals, transportation, donations, encouragement, mentoring, and prayer.



Galatians 6:2 reminds us to “bear one another’s burdens,” and this ministry offers a practical way for churches to come alongside families in our own community.

FRIEND-RAISER EVENT

LET’S UNITE AND SERVE THE COMMUNITY!

To learn more, Chaires Methodist Church has reserved a table at the Safe Families Friend-raiser on Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Tallahassee. You are invited to join Pastor Kerry and other members of our church for an evening of learning about Safe Families, hearing stories of how the ministry is making a difference and discovering ways we might serve.

If you would like to attend, please sign up at the back table of the sanctuary to reserve your place at our church table.

Please continue to pray about how God may be calling us to surround families with hope, encouragement, and the love of Christ.