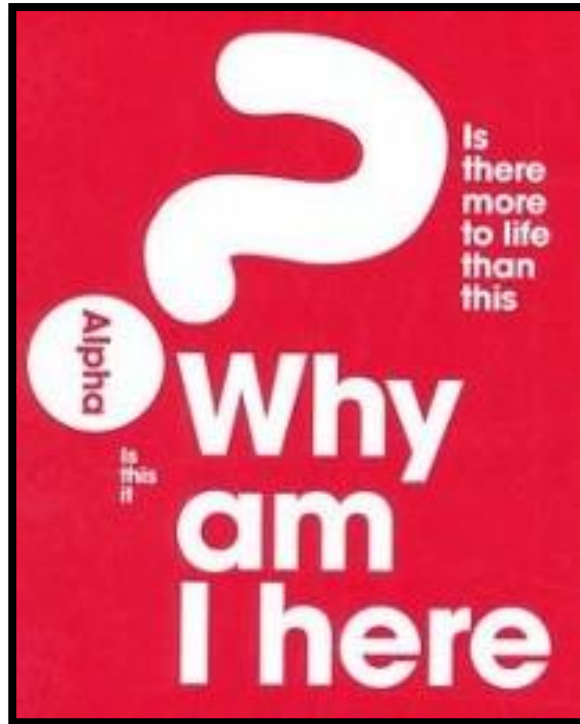




September 6, 2026

Scan to check out our website.



Pastor Kerry Foote
Cell: (305) 407-7040
pastor.foote@outlook.com
Church address: 9243 Parkhill Road
Tallahassee FL 32317
Church Phone: (850) 219-9361
Web site: chairesmethodist.church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN

*OPENING PRAISE AND WORSHIP

God of Wonders

See Screens

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

WELCOME OF GUEST

Pastor

If you are worshiping with us for the first time today, we are especially glad you are here. You do not have to know all the answers or have everything figured out to belong among us.

We hope today you experience the love of Christ and discover that this is a place where you can worship, grow, ask questions, and walk with others in faith.

PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor

What is one thing that makes you feel truly alive?

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Liturgist: We come with busy lives, full schedules, hopes, worries, and questions.

Congregation: We come seeking something more.

Liturgist: God has placed eternity within our hearts and calls us beyond simply existing.

Congregation: We come seeking purpose, grace, and hope.

Liturgist: Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Congregation: Lord Jesus, lead us into the life You came to give.

Liturgist: Come, let us worship the God who gives us life.

Congregation: Let us worship God with open hearts.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing (vs. 1-3)

UMH #400

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Liturgist

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell, the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

UMH #70

OLD TESTAMENT: Ecclesiastes 3:9-14 (NKJV)

Liturgist

The God-Given Task

⁹What profit has the worker from that in which he labors? ¹⁰I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied. ¹¹He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end. ¹²I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, ¹³and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor—it is the gift of God. ¹⁴I know that whatever God does, It shall be forever. Nothing can be added to it, And nothing taken from it. God does it, that men should fear before Him.

Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Jesus, thank You for loving us. Help us fill our lives with Your love, joy, and hope, and teach us to share Your love with others. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: John 10: 7-10 (NKJV)

Liturgist

Jesus the Good Shepherd

⁷ Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

See Screens

PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE

Pastor

Prayer cards are in the chair backs, except the front row. To share a prayer with the congregation, please fill out a card and pass it to the center aisle during the Hymn of Preparation. The pastor will collect and pray over the cards during the service, then share them with the prayer chain for prayer throughout the week.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Amazing Grace (vs. 1,3,6)

UMH #378

PASTORAL PRAYER

SERMON

Pastor

Title: Alpha 101: Is There More to Life Than This?

Theme: More Than Existing

Core Question: What am I really living for?

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES (Celebrating Our Gifts)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God, You have given us more than possessions, more than accomplishments, and more than the things of this world. You have given us life, grace, hope, and purpose through Jesus Christ. Receive these gifts as a sign of our gratitude, and use them to help others discover the abundant life You offer. May we give not only from what we have, but also from who we are, for Your glory and the good of others. Amen.

PASSING THE PLATE

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings

UMH #95

Celebration at the Lord's Table

Pastor: Jesus said, "I came that they may have abundant life." This table is Christ's invitation to abundant life—grace, forgiveness, and hope freely given. Come with faith, doubt, weariness, or longing. All who seek Christ and peace with one another are welcome.

Words of Grace

Pastor: Hear the good news: Jesus Christ came not to condemn us, but to give us life. Through His death and resurrection, we are forgiven, restored, and invited to begin again.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right and joyful to thank You always, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

You made us in Your image and for fellowship with You. Even when we wandered, You sought us, called us home, and promised grace, hope, and new life.

With all Your people and the company of heaven, we praise Your name:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

***Pastor:** Holy are You, and blessed is Jesus Christ, who gives abundant life, welcomes the forgotten, forgives sinners, heals the*

broken, and draws all people to You. By His death and resurrection, Christ broke sin and death and opened eternal life.

On the night He gave Himself for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said: "Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." After supper, He took the cup and said: "This is My blood of the new covenant, poured out for forgiveness. Do this in remembrance of Me."

Remembering Christ's mighty acts, we offer ourselves and proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pastor: Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts. Make us Christ's body for the world. Awaken, strengthen, guide, and fill us with Your grace.

Teach us to live with purpose, love generously, and hope always. Make us one with Christ, one another, and all the world until Your kingdom comes.

Through Christ, all honor and glory are Yours, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

See Screens

Breaking the Bread

Pastor: Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

People: Christ is the Bread of Life.

Pastor: The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

People: Christ is the source of abundant and everlasting life.

Pastor: These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for Christ invites you into life.

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (vs. 1-7)

UMH #57

*COMMISSION / BENEDICTION

Pastor

Pastor: Go now knowing that God has created you for more than simply getting through another day. Go with the grace of Jesus Christ, who came that you might have life and have it abundantly. Go with hearts open to God, eyes open to others, and the courage to ask:

Congregation: "Lord, what more do You have for me?"

Pastor: And may the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit guide you into the fullness of life God desires for you...and all of God's children said...

Congregation: Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Grace, Love, and Fellowship

CEL #233

* Please stand as you are able.

Sermon Notes

ALPHA: Questions That Lead to Life

Week 1 — Is There More to Life Than This?

Theme: More Than Existing

Core Question: *What am I really living for?*

Old Testament: Ecclesiastes 3:9–14

New Testament: John 10:7–10

Main Idea

We were created for more than simply surviving from one day to the next. Jesus invites us into abundant life—a life of relationship with God, purpose, grace, and hope.

1. We Can Have Everything and Still Feel Like Something Is Missing

God has placed **eternity in our hearts**. The things we enjoy in life are gifts from God, but they were never meant to carry the full weight of our happiness, identity, or purpose.

Notes:

2. Jesus Does Not Simply Offer Religion — Jesus Offers Life

Jesus said:

"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." — John 10:10

Abundant life does not mean an easy life. It means that through Jesus we can experience grace in failure, hope in sorrow, strength in weakness, and the presence of God through every season.

Notes:

3. The First Step Is Being Willing to Explore

Faith does not require us to have every question answered. Sometimes faith begins simply by being willing to ask:

Could there be more?

We do not have to be afraid of our questions. We can bring them to Jesus.

Notes:

Take It Home

Ask yourself this week:

1. What am I really living for?

2. What am I expecting to make me happy that may not be able to carry that weight?

3. Where do I see Jesus making a difference in my life right now?

This Week's Challenge

Find a few quiet minutes this week and pray:

“Jesus, if there is more You want for my life, show me.”

Then make room to listen.

One Step I Will Take This Week:

Don't settle for simply existing. Jesus invites you into life.

God has placed a holy longing in every heart—a longing that achievements, possessions, and even good things were never meant to fully satisfy. That longing is not something to ignore; it is an invitation to come closer to Christ, ask honest questions, and discover the abundant life He offers. — Pastor Kerry Foote