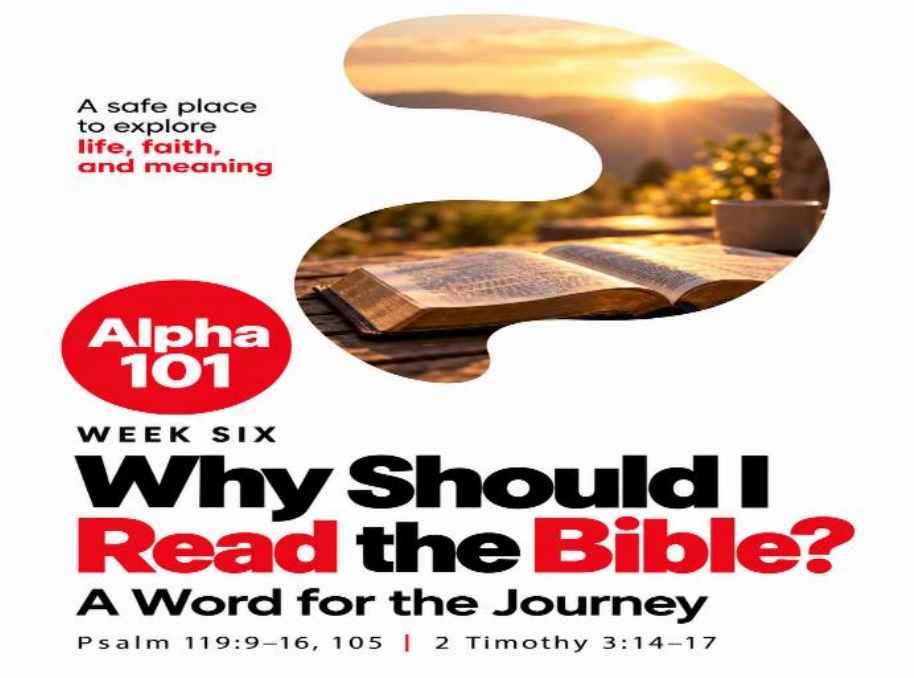
ESTD 1862

CHAIRES Methodist Church

ROOTED IN THE PAST • GROWING FOR THE FUTURE



October 11, 2026

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Scan to check out our website.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN
*OPENING PRAISE AND WORSHIP *Ancient Words* See screens.
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor
WELCOMING 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 Bible verse or story that has stayed with you through the years?"

*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist
Liturgist: Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.
Congregation: Lord, guide us by Your truth.
Liturgist: Your Word teaches us, corrects us, encourages us, and equips us.
Congregation: Lord, open our hearts to Your Word.
Liturgist: Speak to us through the Scriptures and lead us in the way of life.
Congregation: Give us ears to hear and courage to obey.
Liturgist: Come, let us worship the God who still speaks.
Congregation: Let us worship with open hearts and attentive spirits.

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* (vs. 1-4) UMH #64

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH An Affirmation of God's Word Liturgist
We believe in God, Creator of heaven and earth, who has spoken through creation, through prophets, and most fully through Jesus Christ.
We believe the Holy Scriptures bear faithful witness to God's story and reveal His love, grace, truth, and purposes.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the living Word, who shows us the heart of God and calls us to follow Him.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, who opens our minds and hearts to understand God's Word and gives us strength to live it.
Therefore, we will not merely hear the Word, but seek to live it, trust it, and allow it to shape our lives. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI UMH #70

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Psalm 119:9-16, 105 Liturgist
New King James Version
9 How can a young man cleanse his way?
By taking heed according to Your word.
10 With my whole heart I have sought You;
Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!
11 Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.

[12] Blessed *are* You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes.
[13] With my lips I have declared All the judgments of Your mouth.
[14] I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, As *much as* in all riches.
[15] I will meditate on Your precepts, And contemplate Your ways.
[16] I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word.

[105] Your word *is* a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON Pastor
CHILDREN'S PRAYER

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE 2 Timothy 3:14–17 Liturgist
New King James Version
[4] But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them,* [15] and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. [16] All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, [17] that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

MISSION MOMENT
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 *Open my Eyes, That I May See* (vs. 1-3) UMH # 454
PASTORAL PRAYER Pastor
SERMON ANTHEM *Be Thou My Vision* Choir

SERMON Pastor
Title: Alpha 101: Why Should I Read the Bible?
Theme: A Word for the Journey
Core Question: How does God's Word shape my life?

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES (Celebrating our gifts)
OFFERTORY PRAYER
Gracious God, thank You for Your Word that guides our lives and Your grace that provides for our needs. Receive these gifts and use them to share Your truth, love, and hope with others. Amen.
PASSING THE PLATE
*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings* UMH #95

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION *Standing on the Promises* (vs. 1-4) UMH #374

*COMMISION / BENEDICTION Pastor

As you leave today, do not leave God's Word behind in the sanctuary. Take it with you. Read it when you need direction. Return to it when you are discouraged. Listen to it when the world becomes noisy. Allow it to challenge you when you are comfortable and comfort you when you are hurting. And remember: God does not give us His Word simply so that we may know more. God gives us His Word so that we may become more like Christ. May God's Word be a lamp to your feet, a light to your path, and a voice of grace and truth throughout the week ahead. Go in the grace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit…and all of God's children said…Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Grace, Love and Fellowship* CEL#233

* Please stand as you are able.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God

by Bob & Donna Corson.

Sermon Notes

ALPHA 101 — WEEK SIX
Why Should I Read the Bible?
Theme: A Word for the Journey
Core Question: *How does God's Word shape my life?*
Old Testament: Psalm 119:9–16, 105
New Testament: 2 Timothy 3:14–17

Main Idea: The Bible is more than an ancient religious book. God uses Scripture to tell His story, help us recognize His voice, and shape the way we live.

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1. Scripture Tells Us _____ Story

The Bible is not just a collection of separate verses. It tells the larger story of **creation, brokenness, redemption, and restoration**.

Key Thought: Do not confuse the chapter you are in with the ending of the story.

Notes:

Challenge

This week, when you read Scripture, ask:

"What does this passage show me about God and His story?"

2. Scripture Helps Us _____ God's Voice

The more time we spend in God's Word, the more familiar we become with God's character, priorities, grace, and truth.

Scripture does not only comfort us. Sometimes it also corrects and challenges us.

Key Thought: The purpose of God's Word is not to prove that I am right. It is to make me more like Christ.

Notes:

Challenge

Before reading Scripture this week, pray:

"God, show me what You want me to see, even if it challenges me."

Then ask:

What does this teach me about God?

What does this reveal about me?

What may need to change?

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3. Scripture Is Meant to Be _____, Not Merely Read

The goal of Bible reading is not simply to know more Bible.

The goal is to **become more like Jesus**.

Key Thought: Biblical knowledge is meant to lead to biblical living.

Notes:

Challenge

After reading Scripture, ask:

"Because I read this today, what is one thing I will do differently?"

My next faithful step:

TAKE IT HOME

Seven Days in the Word

For the next **seven days**, read a short passage of Scripture each day.

Ask these three questions:

1. What does this show me about God?

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2. What does this show me about myself?

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3. What is one thing God is asking me to do?

Prayer for the Week: Lord, open my mind to understand Your Word, my heart to receive it, and my life to obey it. Show me the next faithful step and give me courage to take it. Amen.