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CHAIRES Methodist Church

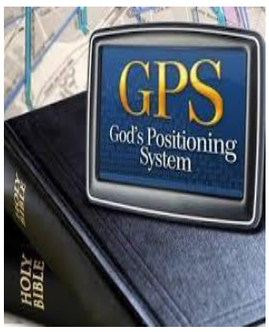
ROOTED IN THE PAST • GROWING FOR THE FUTURE

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When God Doesn't Give Us the Whole Map

This Sunday in our **Alpha 101** journey, we come to Week Seven and ask a question nearly every Christian wrestles with at some point:

How does God guide us?



There are times when we wish God would make the answer unmistakably clear. We would love a spiritual GPS that says, "Turn here," "Wait," "Take this opportunity," or maybe even, "Recalculating."

But God's guidance often works differently.

Proverbs 3:5–6 reminds us to **"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding."** God does not always show us the entire road ahead. Often, He asks us to trust Him enough to take the **next faithful step**.

This Sunday, my friend **Jason Korsiak** will be sharing the message as we explore how God can guide us through Scripture, prayer, the Holy Spirit, wise Christian counsel, and the circumstances around us.

The challenge for the week is not simply to ask, **"God, what is Your complete plan for my life?"** Instead, try asking:

"Lord, what is the next faithful step You are asking me to take?"

Maybe that step is forgiving someone, making a difficult decision, asking for help, beginning something new, waiting patiently, or simply trusting God in an area you cannot yet understand.

One of the dangers in seeking guidance is that we sometimes ask God to bless a decision we have already made rather than truly asking Him to lead us. Genuine guidance requires an open heart willing to hear an answer we did not expect.

So as you move through the coming week, make room to listen. Spend time in Scripture. Pray honestly. Seek wisdom from faithful people. Pay attention to the doors God opens and closes.

And remember: **You may not know the whole road, but you do know the One who walks with you.**

That may be enough for the next step.

-Rev. Kerry Foote

Pastor Visit

If you or someone you know is facing illness, loneliness, hardship, or needs prayer, Pastor Kerry is available to visit, pray, and offer support.
To arrange a visit, contact Susan Capelouto, Administrative Assistant, or Rev. Kerry Foote.

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child shares the love of Jesus with children around the world through shoeboxes filled with toys, school supplies, and personal-care items. We invite you to pick up a box, fill it with gifts, pray for the child who will receive it, and return it to the church.

One small box can be a big expression of God's love!
For more information, talk with or text our Operation Christmas Child Coordinator, **Diane Matthews, at (850) 284-4890.**



Pack a box. Pray for a child. Share the love of Jesus!



We meet in the Sunday School room in the Multi-Purpose Building of Chaires Church



Find us on Facebook

Chaires Methodist Church now streams worship live on Facebook every Sunday morning. If you cannot attend in person, join our worshiping family online.

Hear the Sunday message, sing along, share the service, and stay connected with our church community.

Like and follow our Facebook page for event updates, announcements, live services, and sermon archives. Whether in the pew or online, you have a place at Chaires Methodist Church.
https://www.facebook.com/p/Chaires-Methodist-Church-61561720372576/



The flower calendar through January 2027 has been posted in the hallway near the nursery.



Church Members

Kathy Forester's granddaughter / Kerry and Tiffany Foote / Savannah Foote (cat) / Francis Chaires / Franklin Chaires / Milan Novak / Rene Grubb / Lance Harrison /

Friends and Family

Tamela Benton (Marion Lollie) / Rachel Castillo and baby (Jean Lombardi) / David Lodge (Gail Dampier) / Holly Meuth (Paula Davies) / Wilson Chaires (Carolyne Floerke) /Cooper Lastinger (Barb Lastinger) / Carolyne Floerke (Terry Hatcher) / Joel Rackley (Diane Matthews) / Lindsey Williams (Winnie Barfield) / Dixie (Winnie Barfield)

Alpha Small Groups — Thursdays

Our **Alpha Small Groups** meet each Thursday for food, fellowship, a short video, and honest conversation about the Christian faith. You do not have to have all the answers—Alpha is a place to ask questions, explore faith, and grow together.
Morning Alpha: 9:00 a.m. at the church with breakfast
Evening Alpha: 6:30 p.m. at the parsonage with dinner

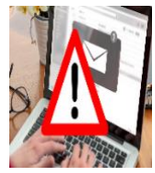
Upcoming Alpha Topics

October 22 — *How Does God Guide Us?*
October 29 — *Who Is the Holy Spirit?*
November 5 — *How Can I Resist Evil?*
November 12 — *Why and How Should I Tell Others? / Does God Heal Today?*
November 19 — *What About the Church? / How Can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life?*

October Birthdays	October Anniversaries
Amy Clark 4	*Wes & Ashley Leggett 4*
Dale Thompson 7	*Virgil & Maggie Hall 11*
Jeff Messer 31	

Please Be Alert to Scam Emails

Church members and other churches have reported scam emails seeking money or church directories.



For unexpected requests for money, gift cards, or personal information, do not reply, click links, or send anything. Call the person at a trusted number to verify.

Notify the church office so we can alert others.

Annual Church Conference

Chaires Methodist Church will hold our annual Global Methodist Church Conference on **Saturday, November 21, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in the historic sanctuary.**

Everyone is welcome as we celebrate where we have been, reflect on our ministry, and prayerfully plan for our future. Join us as we seek God's direction for the next chapter of our church's life—**rooted in the past and growing for the future!**



Help Fill ECHO's Pantry

How ECHO Helps

ECHO provides food and other essential support to neighbors in Tallahassee who are facing hardship.

How You Can Help

Place nonperishable food donations in the collection basket at the back of the church. If you are able, please bring an item on Sunday.

Our Call to Serve

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." — Galatians 6:2

Every Gift Matters

Each donation helps us care for our neighbors and put Christ's love into action.

Edition 10/18/26