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CHAIRES Methodist Church

ROOTED IN THE PAST • GROWING FOR THE FUTURE

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Making Room for the Spirit

This Sunday in our **Alpha 101** journey, we are asking the question, **"Who Is the Holy Spirit?"** That question can sound theological, but its answer is deeply practical because the Holy Spirit is not simply something Christians are supposed to understand. The Spirit is God's presence at work **with us and within us**.

In our Hump Day devotion, we reflected on how easy it is to rely almost entirely on our own strength. We plan, solve, worry, work harder, and sometimes exhaust ourselves before finally remembering to ask God for help.

Maybe one of the invitations of this week is simply to stop living as though everything depends upon us.

The Holy Spirit is present to guide, comfort, challenge, transform, and equip us. Yet experiencing that presence often begins with paying attention. God may already be working in places we have overlooked because we have been too hurried, distracted, or determined to handle everything ourselves.

So instead of making this week about learning more information about the Holy Spirit, consider making it about **creating more room for the Spirit**.

Each morning, try beginning with three simple prayers:

"Holy Spirit, make me aware of Your presence." Notice the people, conversations, interruptions, and opportunities around you. Someone may need encouragement, patience, or simply a listening ear.

"Holy Spirit, change what needs changing in me." This may be the harder prayer. We readily ask God to change others, but the Spirit may want to change our attitude, impatience, bitterness, fear, pride, or unwillingness to forgive.

"Holy Spirit, equip me to serve Jesus today." We cannot follow Christ by willpower alone. God equips ordinary people to serve through everyday acts of love, generosity, courage, and service.

At the end of each day, take a moment and ask:
Where did I notice God today?
Where did I resist God?
Where might God be inviting me tomorrow?

The question to take home from Sunday is not simply, **"Who is the Holy Spirit?"** Perhaps the deeper question is: **"What might God do in me—and through me—if I become more open to the Spirit?"**

May that question stay with us long after worship ends.

-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!

The last Sunday for collections at the church will be November 15, 2026!



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

Help Fill ECHO's Pantry

How ECHO Helps: ECHO provides food and essentials to Tallahassee neighbors facing hardship.

How You Can Help: Bring nonperishable food on Sunday and place it in the basket at the back of the 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

Gail and Don Dampier / Mike Hatcher/ Mary Alice Linzy / Marty Holland / Francis and Franklin Chaires / Kathy Forester grand-daughter

Friends and Family

Gretchen Pennington (Mike Hatcher) / Nancy Whitfield (Terry Hatcher) / Tamela Benton (Marion Lollie) / Rachel Castillo and baby (Jean Lombardi) / David Lodge (Gail Dampier) / Holly Meuth (Paula Davies)

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 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?*



Operation Christmas Child
Help pack Christmas joy! Through Samaritan's Purse, shoeboxes of toys, school supplies, and personal-care items share God's love and the good news of Jesus with children worldwide. Shoebox items for packing will be provided. Join us—one shoebox can make a difference!

The Sci-Fi Gospels with Jason Korsiak Join author and speaker Jason Korsiak to explore how science fiction can reveal spiritual truths and offer a fresh view of the Gospel.

Both activities are free and open to everyone!



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!**

November Birthdays	***November Anniversaries***
Linzy, Mary Alice 4	Lynne Peters & Ed Fannin 29
Cayson, Janet 27	

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