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The Athanasian Creed

As you may have noticed, for the month of June I have been providing articles in the newsletter describing the background of various creeds of Christianity. This was purposely done in conjunction with our sermon series "Christianity and World Religions." During this series, we have been discussing the similarities and differences of Christianity compared to the four other world religions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, and Islam.

One of the ways that we describe and adhere to our Christian faith is contained in the various "Creeds" that have been provided by the saints and church leaders that have gone before us and through the various church councils that have meet in the past to set the parameters of what it means to call oneself a follower of Christ (Christian).

The most common creeds that we know in the Methodist church are the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Modern Affirmation. However, another creed that dates back to the time of the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed is the Athanasian Creed.

Athanasius was one of the "fathers" of the Church who lived in the fourth century and who played an important part in the formulation of the Nicene Creed which was developed at the Council of Nicaea in 325AD.

One of the concerns of that Council was to describe the nature of God. The Athanasian Creed was written by Christians in about the sixth century amidst renewed debates about the nature of God, and it was given the name "Athanasian Creed" in memory of Athanasius.

The creed seeks to stress the unity of the divine essence, one God in three persons. Erwin Lueker in Lutheran Cyclopedia points out that "Luther regarded it as possibly the grandest production of the church since the time of the Apostles" (p. 256). This Creed has been used in the Church since the sixth century. Because of its comprehensive statement on the Trinity, it is often used on Trinity Sunday.

It was the first creed to explicitly state the equality of the three classes of the Trinity. It differs from the Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed in that it includes accusations condemning those who disagree with its statements (as does the original Nicene Creed).

The Athanasian Creed is considered one of the four authoritative creeds of the Roman Catholic Church, and again, it states in terse terms what is necessary to believe in order to be saved. Though the Athanasian Creed does not get as much publicity in Protestant churches, the orthodox doctrines of the Trinity and the incarnation are affirmed by virtually every historic Protestant church.



If you would like Pastor Kerry to call or visit, please let Susan, the secretary, or Pastor Kerry know.



JUNE'S MISSION MOMENTS

TODAY is the last Sunday that we are collecting donations for our Veterans Projects. There are some cards for you to write a personal message to service men and women now serving. Please leave your notes in the basket.

All monetary contributions will be used to pay for postage. Please indicate that on the memo line of your check.

Adult Sunday School

This class meets each Sunday at 9 AM.

Thank you, Marion Lollie, for taking our donations to ECHO. Marion reports that everything was much appreciated.



Church Potluck on July 7th

Worship service will be in the historical sanctuary, followed by covered dish lunch in the fellowship hall/sanctuary. Plan now to bring your summer favorites.

If you would like to receive the newsletter from the Florida Global Methodist Church, go to <https://floridagmc.org> and you can subscribe at the bottom of the page.



The Choir is on SUMMER BREAK!

The choir will be taking a brief break during the summer. There will be no choir practice for the remainder of June and all of July. The choir will start practice back up on Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at its usual time of 6:30 p.m. For more info, contact:

Gerry Nielson (321-652-5361; gerryniel@gmail.com)

As we worship in person, all church services will continue to be posted after 1 pm each Sunday through the church website at chairesmethodist.church.



Plan to set aside some time to fellowship with your brothers in Christ on July 3rd at 8:00 A.M.

Sermon Series

The sermon series this month has been **Christianity and World Religions**. During this series, Pastor Kerry has been preaching on the 5 major world religions: **Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam**. We have learned what we have in common with these faiths of the world and what makes Christianity different from these world faiths. If you have ever had the question, what makes Christianity different...this is a sermon series for you.



Giving Through Our Website

Go to <https://chairesmethodist.church> and just click the blue GIVE button and you will be taken to the church REALM site. The church secretary can help you set up your account.



Members
Dot Spence

Friends and Family

Joy Matthews (relative of Diane Matthews)

Chad Craig (friend of Janet Cayson)

Alex Alley

Don Holly (friend of Martha Fletcher)

Jennifer Baity (niece of Peggy Surles)

Laura Sutliff (friend of Sheila Novak)

Dennis Rackley

Those facing difficulty due to weather, fires & floods



We're Having a Party to Celebrate the 90th

Birthday of Dorothy Cooper Spence

Join us on July 27, 2024, from 3-5 PM

Chaires Methodist Church

Gifts are optional and cards are welcome.

Please RSVP to: Debbie Pahl (850)671-3779.

July Birthdays

Marty Holland 7

Trey Cayson 8

Theresa Smith 13

Victoria Messer 17

Dorothy Spence 24

Don Dampier 26

July Anniversaries

Gordon & Donna

Wheeler 19

Chaires Staff

Pastor

Secretary

Music Director

Custodian

Audio/Visual

Rev. Kerry Foote

Susan Capelouto (secretarychairesumc@gmail.com)

Gerry Nielsen

Janet Cayson

Marty Holland

(6/30/2024)