

## **Pastor's Update** - October 27, 2022

Hello Everyone!

The cooler weather is here, and the sun feels fantastic. I hope you are getting out as much as you can. Halloween is right around the corner! Stay safe and be careful.

This Sunday will be the last day to drop off items for Chaires Elementary School.

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10am will be the cut off time for any All Saints slips and so please make sure to have any names you would like to be read by then. Our All-Saints Service will be Nov 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Nov 6th at 3pm there is an informational meeting for members about the Global Methodist Church. If anyone has specific questions, please email them to Terry by November 1st, so we can send them to Rev. Kellum. Terry's email is [briansmom95@hotmail.com](mailto:briansmom95@hotmail.com).*

At the end of the email will be a more detailed directions on how to do Lectio Divina by yourself or with a small group of people for those who wanted to know more.

*If you would like to join the choir, they have started back up!  
If you have any question Phillip would love to talk-  
His email is [philpatashley@gmail.com](mailto:philpatashley@gmail.com)*

*If you would like a hymnal during the service, please grab one from the back.*

*I would also like us to take a moment to pray for the families and victims, and all those that were at the location or responded to the violence that has happened this year.*

*Service on Sunday Oct 30th*

We have moved to both in-person and online services. The service will be posted on our Facebook page and website (<https://chairesumc.com/worship-service/>) later in the day on Sunday.

### **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL - Sunday morning at 9 AM**

For those who are not comfortable attending in person you will still be able to call in: Phone number is: **(516) 387-8169.**

## **TITHES AND OFFERINGS:**

Your continued faithfulness is appreciated & needed to support the local church and our ministries through your financial giving (tithes & offerings).

As we are In- person and online services, please remember to mail in your tithes and offerings to the church. You can also give securely online at [www.ChairesUMC.com](http://www.ChairesUMC.com)

There will be baskets at the entrances and exits for you to place your tithes and offerings in as you come and go. Thanks to those who have sent in your contributions this past week. May God richly bless you for your faithfulness!

## **Please keep the church informed of your prayer needs and other needs.**

To connect to the church you can send in request to the following:

Church Email: [ChairesUnitedMethodist@gmail.com](mailto:ChairesUnitedMethodist@gmail.com)

Church Secretary: [SecretaryChairesUMC@gmail.com](mailto:SecretaryChairesUMC@gmail.com)

Care Ministries: Maggie Hall [vwhmbh@comcast.net](mailto:vwhmbh@comcast.net)

Pastor Mollie: [Pastormollieb@gmail.com](mailto:Pastormollieb@gmail.com)

Church Number -(850) 219-9361

Prayers for: All that you meet

- **lectio Divina**- There are many ways this can be adopted. For example, it can be done with poetry or music.
  - This is good to help the text speak to you, verses you reading into the text.
  - How it is done
    - **Silencio**- This is the time to quiet your mind and settle into the space, open yourself to the presence of God. Just be for a little bit, turn all your thoughts and concerns, worries over to God
    - **Lectio**- Read a passage, text, listen to a song. Let the words flow over you, sit with them. What word or phrase sticks out to you? read the scripture and be attuned to any thing that catches your attention, has energy to it, confuses you, intrigues you. Reread as many times as needed
    - **Meditatio**- Read or listen again and pay attention to how God is speaking to you through that word or phrase. Allow those words to ponder in your heart, interact with the text, let it speak to your life
    - **Oratio**- Read or listen a third time. Enter into a time of prayer, speak to God about how that word or phrase felt for you, what emotions came up. There is no right prayer, only a response, a dialogue with God. Allowing God to transform you through the word, let yourself be open and honest. How is God present to you in it?
    - **Contemplatio**- Enter into a time of silence and sit with what was discovered. Let the word or phrase settle into your soul.
  - This practice can be done by yourself and with others.
  - It would be a good idea to write what was discovered either in your Bible next to the passage or in your journal if you keep one.
- 50 ways to pray- Book

- Latin- Sacred Reading
- Benedictine Order- Benedict of Nursia in the 5<sup>th</sup> century is where it is commonly traced to but comes from the Jewish traditions
- Listen with the ear of the heart for words, phrases, sounds, or images that hold for us a word from God
- It is about what is evoked in you as you experience the text
- It's time for falling in love with the Word and experience the goodness of God
- Paths to Prayer- Book
  - Seek in reading and you will find in meditation; knock in prayer and it will be opened to you in contemplation- St John of the Cross 1500's
- Spiritual Disciplines- Book
  - Scriptural reference- Deuteronomy 30:14
    - The Word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it
  - Ephesians 3:17-19- example of what Lectio Divina helps us to know
    - I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <sup>18</sup> may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, <sup>19</sup> and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.
  - Questions to reflect on
    - How has your faith journey been characterized by the head-heart split
    - How has God's love moved from being a matter of belief to a real and lived experience
    - How and when have the scriptures been the voice of God to you
    - How have they brought you into the presence of Christ
  - To start you can repeat the phrase
    - Here I am Lord or Open my eyes to see the wonderful things in your word

Many Blessings,  
Pastor Mollie