

# Bethel United Methodist Church

## 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2024

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

### Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Prov 22:1-2,8-9,22-23; Ps 125; Jas 2:1-10(11-13)1-17; Mark 7:24-37

Next Week: Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

**Prelude:** "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

**Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries**

\***Hymn:** "It's Me, It's Me, O Lord" UMH 352

\***Responsive Call to Worship:** *on opposite page*

\***Affirmation of Faith** (Apostle's Creed) UMH 881

\*Gloria Patria UMH 71

**Youth Message** "I Have a Secret!"

**Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

\*Doxology.....UMH 95

**OT Reading:** Psalm 125

**Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer**

**Message:** "We Are Connected"

**Scripture:** Mark 7:24-37

\***Hymn:** "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" UMH 334

\***Benediction and Closing Chorus:** "Bind Us Together"

*\*Please stand if able*

### Call to Worship

Leader: What are you thinking, Jesus? First you insult a woman who really needs you just because she was an outsider, and she gave you back as good as she got. Then you went around touching sick people without gloves and gowns. Jesus, you know what you were thinking. What did you want us to think? Help us!

**Prayer Of Confession: Touching God, we have wrapped ourselves in protective layers to keep the world at bay. We have hidden behind stereotypes to excuse our hardness of heart and believed the worst of people to escape from ministry. We have allowed anecdotes to replace hard scientific fact, listened to talking heads instead of the word spoken aloud in our worship. Strip away our notions, leave us bare to infection by the needs of this world, drench us in the sorrows of your people that we might be made whole and healthy at last. Amen.**

### Calendar of Events

**Today:** 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Fellowship dinner after worship service

**Next Week:** 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**All Week:** Keep Safe and Pray

### Worship, Educational and Outreach Opportunities

**Today:** Interactive Online Service thru link on Bethel Web Site, Service page

### Prayer Concerns

Bethel UMC, The UMC, Our Country, all of those affected by the storms, those in Military Service, Police, Fire, EMS first responders, Healthcare professionals and home caregivers, Teachers, Students; Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone; Kathie & Al Adams; Lexie Allen; Family & friends of Paula Cooksey; Judy Goreau; Ryan Goreau; Savannah Lantz; Nan Lindsey; Tina Rucker; Melanie Worley Sanders; Pat Singletary; Paul Sawyer; Lomax Willis; Lawson Wooley; Lon & Lucy Wright; Howard & Ruth Zody

*Please use a prayer request form, in the narthex, to submit requests for adding to the Prayer Concerns in the worship bulletin*

**Devotionals:** *The Upper Room* and *Our Daily Bread* are daily devotional booklets that are available in the Narthex. Please take one or both and enjoy!

**Bethel Website:** <http://www.bethelumctlh.org>

Recordings of recent sermons are available on the web site

Recordings of sermons or services are available on CD by request

**Contact:** Church phone: (850) 576-1454 email: [bumctlh@gmail.com](mailto:bumctlh@gmail.com)

Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: [wrightstone@embarqmail.com](mailto:wrightstone@embarqmail.com)



1940's



1960's



Today

### The History of Bethel UMC

The earliest historical record of Bethel Methodist Church is that in August of 1834, a campmeeting was held on the banks of Bethel Pond. Church meetings were held in neighborhood homes following this. In good weather brush arbors provided meeting places for these early worshippers. Later, services were held in a small log schoolhouse about a mile north of the present church.

On March 17, 1847, Joseph and Thirza Hale deeded two acres of land to the Methodist Episcopal Church with the provision that Bethel Meeting House be built in the center of the two acres. A small frame church with wooden shutters was built where our Sunday School rooms are today.

In 1909 the congregation started building the present sanctuary. The church building was originally roofed with wooden shingles. The windows contain the original panes with the imperfections of early glass. The interior of the church was not completed until 1947. The narthex was added in 1970 and the steeple in 1972.

The furniture in the Church constitutes one of the most interesting parts of its history. The Pulpit was used by Bishop Joshua Soule on February 6, 1845 when he convened the first Florida Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Trinity Methodist Church, Tallahassee, Florida. Trinity gave the pulpit to Bethel Church circa 1895. The chancel rail, communion table and two of the pulpit chairs were part of Trinity Church during the 1800's and were given to Bethel in 1946. The larger pulpit chair was a gift of John Sullivan, friend of our Church.

*(history prepared for bulletin cover by Thelma Royce, church historian)*



*"Surely the Lord is in this place! This is none other than the house of God"* Genesis 28:16

# Bethel United Methodist Church



**Established 1834**

**1470 Bethel Church Road  
Tallahassee, Florida 32304  
(850) 576-1454**

**"Seeking The Life In Grace As The Way of Life"  
Welcome home!**