

# Bethel United Methodist Church

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

September 22, 2024

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

### Lectionary Scriptures

**This Week:** Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3; Mark 9:30-37

**Next Week:** Esther 7:1-6,9-10;9:20-22; Psalm 124; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

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

**Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries**

**\*Hymn:** "*Open the Eyes of My Heart*" W&S 3008

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

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

**\*Gloria Patri** UMH 71

**Youth Message** "*Save the Children*"

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

**\*Doxology**.....UMH 95

**OT Reading:** *Psalm 1*

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

**Special Music:**

**Message:** "A Private Teaching"

**Scripture:** *Mark 9:30-37*

**\*Hymn:** "*God is So Good*" TFWS 2056

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

*\*Please stand if able*

### Call to Worship

One: Then [Jesus] took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,

All: "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

**Prayer Of Confession:** Choose us last, Lord, for we are busy figuring this servant thing out. Give us a little more time as we claim our place in line. Let us watch others, your saints, your great examples, who live in our midst. Then perhaps we will dance in your kingdom like a child, hollering and shouting without worrying what the world thinks. Like a child, Lord, lead us. Amen.

### Calendar of Events

**Today:** 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; First Day of Autumn, Equinox

**October 13<sup>th</sup>:** Homecoming Service, dinner after the service

**October 14<sup>th</sup>:** Church Conference

**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

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**Established 1834**

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

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