

“Salty Service” Offering

Bethel participates, along with all other churches of the Florida Conference, in a program called “The Methodist Way”. It requires gathering weekly 5 numbers representing “Missional Vital Signs” that reflect different areas of each church's ministry (and reporting the numbers monthly to the conference). The areas reported are: Passionate Worship, Radical Hospitality, Intentional Discipling, Salty Service and Extravagant Generosity. The numbers reported for each are: Worship Attendance, Persons Received into Membership (by Profession or Reaffirmation of Faith), Persons involved in small Discipling Groups, Persons who have been “Salty Servants” during the week and the Offering collected for Budget, Capital and Missional purposes.

Of these, the “Salty Servants” is probably the only one that may require explanation. A “Salty Servant” is anyone who has “Joined Jesus in 'Salty Service' to persons outside the congregation” for at least one hour in the previous week. Those who have, indicate that by placing one of the “Salty Service Tickets” (found in a holder on the back of the pew) in the offering plate when it is passed. That's all. The number received is the number reported to the conference.

“Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness?”
Matt 5:13

What is Salty Service?

1. It is service done for others.
2. The person or persons for whom the service is performed should receive a sense that something has been done for them. (This does not exclude the “anonymous” service that the person may not “see” being performed.)
3. The act of financial giving is *not* “salty service”. That is generosity. “Salty Service” is about giving “time”, not money.
4. “Salty Service” can be a part of our normal “duties”, work-life, or actions that may even result in a personal financial benefit. You should have a sense that the service performed is independent of and has more value in God’s sight than any financial rewards that might be received.
5. The service is *not* done as part of a “bargain with God” or to “reward our ego” or to “win points” in the eyes of God or man.
6. *The service is performed as a love offering to God.*

“Only one life, 'twill soon be past....only what's done for Christ will last.”

Bethel United Methodist Church



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

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

Bethel United Methodist Church

Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

Next Week: Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 31:9-16, Phil 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49

Prelude: “*Sing Alleluia to the Lord*”

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** “Come, Now is the Time to Worship” W&S 3176

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

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

***Gloria Patria** UMH 71

Youth Message: “*A Great Party*”

Offerings of Praise, Thanksgiving

Doxology.....UMH 95

OT Reading: *Psalm 126*

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Music

Message: *The Anointed One*

Scripture: John 12:1-8

Holy Communion

Hymn: “I Love You Lord” TFWS 2068

***Benediction and Closing Chorus:** “Bind Us Together”

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus washed his disciples' feet as a sign of his love and as an example of his servanthood. Mary washed Jesus' feet as an expression of her love and devotion to his ministry. We are called upon to be prepared to wash the feet of those we are to serve in the name of Christ. Come, let us worship the Lord, who has shown us God's love, and set us an example of a ministry of service.

Prayer Of Confession: Father God, sometimes we wonder about the money that is spent on buildings that we call churches. The needs of the world are so great that we are tempted to believe we have no need to spend vast sums on brick and mortar. Then we remember that our churches stand as beacons in the community, bearing testimony to your love and concern for all your children everywhere. They are the ointment by which we show our love for you, and the perfume we carry from being with you goes with us as we reach out to the community to serve your people.

Thanks be to you, O God. Amen.

Calendar of Events

Today: *Fifth Sunday of Lent, Communion*

Wednesday: *Bible Study, 6:00 pm, Around the Table with Jesus*

Next Sunday: *Palm Sunday*

Wednesday, April 16: *5:30 pm, Bible Study with Maundy Thursday observance*

All Week: *Keep Safe and Pray*

Worship, Educational and Outreach Opportunities

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

Wednesday: *Bible Study, 6:00*

Prayer Concerns

Bethel UMC, The UMC, Our Country, those in Military Service, Police, Fire, EMS first responders, Healthcare professionals and home caregivers, those still recovering from the tornadoes; Teachers, Students; Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone; Kathie & Al Adams; Lexie Allen; Judy Goreau; Ryan Goreau and family; Savannah Lantz; Annabelle Pafford and family, David Plate and family; Tina Rucker; Paul Sawyer; Don & Pat Singletary; Heidi Wagon; Austin Smith; Lawson Wooley; Lon & Lucy Wright; Howard and 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.

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