

# Bethel United Methodist Church

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Ascension Sunday

May 17, 2026

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

## Lectionary Scriptures

**This Week:** Isa 45:1-7; Ps 21:1-7; 1 Peter 4:12-14,35b; 1 Cor 12:3b-13; John 17:1-11

**Next Week:** Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34,35b; 1 Cor 12:3b-13; John 7:37-39

## Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

**\*Opening Hymn:** “*Since Jesus Came into My Heart*” TFWS 2140,1,2,5

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

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

**\*Gloria Patria** UMH 71

## Offerings of Praise, Thanksgiving

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

**OT Scripture:** Psalm 68:1-10

**Hymn:** “*Sanctuary*” TFWS 2125,x2

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

**Message:** “What is Our Anointing?”

Scripture: Luke 24:44-53

**\*Closing Hymn:** “*He Is Lord*” UMH 177

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

*\*Please stand if able*

## Call to Worship

Leader: Live in the world. Be not of it. Love all in the world. Stay in it. God is here. We are here. All may share.

**Prayer Of Confession:** Lord of glory, we come before you this day, patient in our waiting, but hopeful as well, that the day will dawn when your kingdom is established and you are fully present among us. In this time of waiting, we pray that your presence among us in our worship will inspire us to draw all people to you, so that, at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*(based on Philipians 2:10-11)*

## Calendar of Events

**Today:** *Seventh Sunday of Easter; Ascension Sunday*

**Next Week:** *Pentecost; Charge Conference, 12:30*

**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, those in Military Service, Police, Fire, EMS first responders, Healthcare professionals and home caregivers, Teachers, Students; the Homeless, Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone; Kathie & Al Adams; Lexie Allen; Don & Tracey Bitner, Mark Carlson, Lake Goreau, Ryan Goreau; Kaylee; Savannah Lantz; Annabelle Pafford; Darren Plate; Don & Pat Singletary; Holly Snelgrove; family of Jannis Stapp; 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.

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

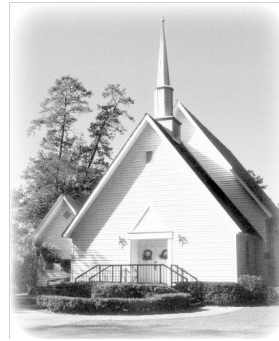
Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: [wrightstone@embarqmail.com](mailto:wrightstone@embarqmail.com)



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



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

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