

# Bethel United Methodist Church

Aldersgate Day  
Memorial Day Weekend  
**Pentecost Sunday**  
May 24, 2026

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

## Lectionary Scriptures

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

**Next Week:** Genesis 1:1-2,4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

## Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

**\*Opening Hymn:** “*We Are the Church*” UMH 558,v1,2,5

**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:** Numbers 11:24-30

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

**Hymn of Preparation :**“*Spirit of the Living God*” UMH 393,x2

**Message:** “Test the Spirit”

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

**\*Closing Hymn:** “*Sweet, Sweet Spirit*” UMH 334

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

*\*Please stand if able*

## Call to Worship

Leader: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? (Psalm 22:1)

**Prayer Of Confession: O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me. Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me. You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.** (Psalm 31:1-5)

## Calendar of Events

**Today:** *Pentecost Sunday, Aldersgate Day, Memorial Sunday*  
*Charge Conference, 12:30*

**Next Week:** *First Sunday After Pentecost, Trinity Sunday*

**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.com](mailto:bumctlh@gmail.com)

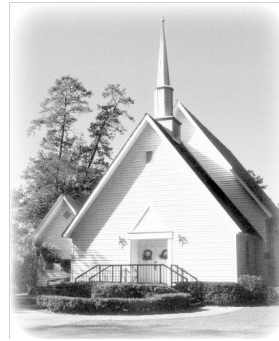
Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: [wrightstone@embarqmail.com](mailto:wrightstone@embarqmail.com)



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



## Aldersgate Day

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

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