

Bethel United Methodist Church

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Labor Day Weekend

September 5, 2021

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),14-17; Mk 7:24-37

Next Week: Prov 1:20-33; Psalm19; James3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "He Touched Me" UMH 367

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

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

***Gloria Patri**.....UMH 71

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

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

OT Scripture Reading: Psalm 125

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Message: "Uncontrollable Faith"

Scripture: Mark 7:31-37

Holy Communion

***Hymn:** "Change My Heart, O God" TFWS 2152

***Closing Chorus & Benediction** "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!

People: **The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

Prayer of Confession: **Loving 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: 15th Sunday after Pentecost, *Communion*

Next Sunday : 16th Sunday after Pentecost, *Grandparnt's Day*

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, Teachers, Students, Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone, Kathie & Al Adams, Lexie Allen, Sarah Brown, Gina Davis, Ellanore Goater, Patty Goff & friends of Brian Goff, Robyn Keeler, Clyde Malloy, Sylvia Marsh, William McCloud, Julie Morgan, Travis & Tina Oaks, Carol Painter, David Plate, Tom Plate & family, Tina & Greg Rucker, David Trimble, Cindy Westmark, Eddie White, Lon & Lucy Wright

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

Heifer Fund: "Youth Message" offering goes to support Heifer International

Contact: Church phone: 850 576-1454

Pastor phone: 591-9785;

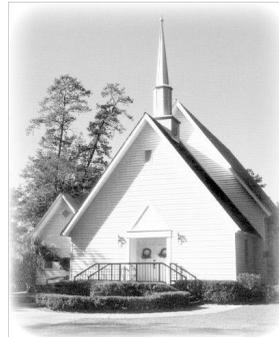
email: wrightstone@embarqmail.com



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.

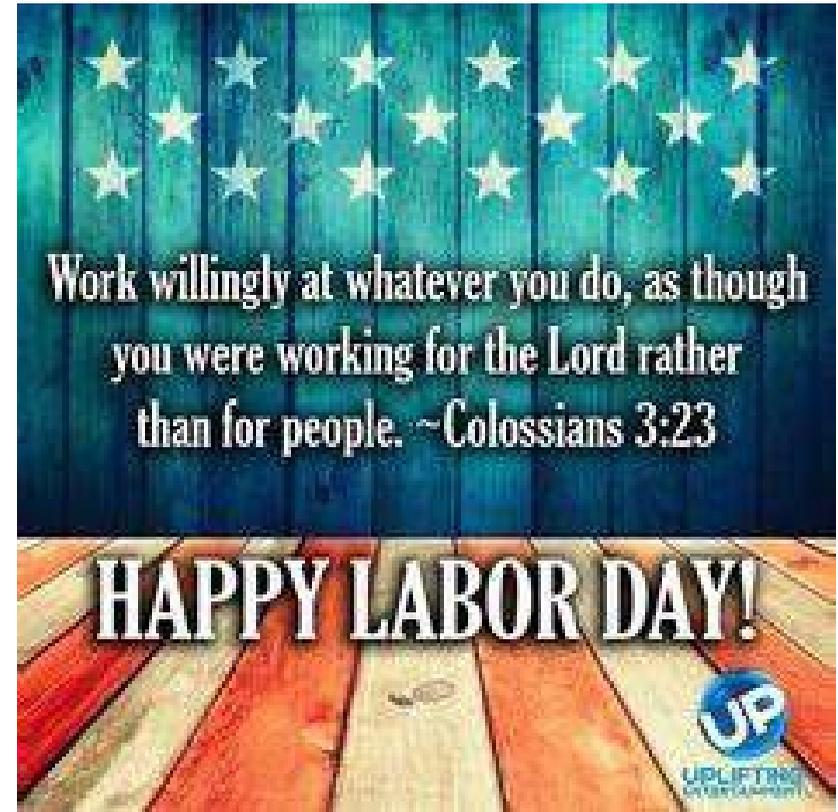
In 1909 the congregation started building the present sanctuary. The church building was originally roofed with wooden shingles. The windows contain the original panes with the imperfections of early glass. The interior of the church was not completed until 1947. The narthex was added in 1970 and the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



Bethel United Methodist Church



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

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