

# Bethel United Methodist Church

## Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 31, 2022

Pastor Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

### Lectionary Scriptures

**This Week:** Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9,43; Collosians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21  
**Next Week:** Isaiah 1:1,10-20; Psalm 50:1-8,22-23; Heb 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:32-40

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

### Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

\***Hymn:** "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" UMH 133

\***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 107:1-9

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

**Message:** "Bigger, Better, Basta!"

Scripture: Luke 12:13-21

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

\***Closing Chorus & Benediction** "Bind Us Together"

*\*Please stand if able*

### Call to Worship

Pastor: Wealth is a funny thing. Strange as it may seem, it is the best way to poverty.

**People: Are you saying we ought to feel sinful if we have money in the bank?**

Pastor: No, but be careful how much value you give to what you own. True worth is not determined by what you own, but by who owns you.

**People: Life is our most prized possession. And we want God to be in control of it.**

**Prayer of Confession:** Father, we come weighed down with the problems of a wealthy society, and yet we complain about what we do not have. Our bank accounts have become our Bibles. Interest and dividends are the blessings we seek. But we are poor. Forgive us for our warped sense of value, distorted by our greed. Forgive us for our anxiety over wealth, while at the same time we have little concern for our spiritual welfare. Make us rich with the gifts of your Spirit which inflation, or a depression, or even death cannot take from us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### Calendar of Events

**Today:** 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

**Next Sunday:** 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, **Communion**

**Sept 11:** Sunday 2:00 pm, Charge Conference here with the D.S.

**Sept 16:** Friday, 7:00 pm, special service here with John Reilly as invited speaker

**All Week:** Keep Safe and Pray

### Worship, Educational and Outreach Opportunities

**There will be no** *Interactive Online Service on Bethel Web Site until August 7*

### Prayer Concerns

*Bethel UMC, The UMC, Our Country, 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, Georgia Bubner, Mark Carlson, Family & Friends of Jimmie Crowder; Gina Davis, Ellanore Goater, Kendall Hall, Jimmy- a friend, Bud Keeler, Robyn Keeler, Carol Koski, Nan Lindsey, William McCloud, Fred & Cindy Moore, Travis & Tina Oaks, Annabelle Pafford, Carol Painter, Darren Plate, David Plate, Tom Plate & family, Tina & Greg Rucker, Pat Singletary; 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

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

Pastor phone: 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



Established 1834

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

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