# Bethel United Methodist Church

# 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

February 12, 2023

Pastor Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

## **Lectionary Scriptures**

**This Week:** Deut 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; I Corinth 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37 **Next Week:** Ex 24:12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

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

# Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

\*Hymn: "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)" W&S 3104

\*Responsive Call to Worship: on opposite page

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

\*Gloria Patria.....UMH 71

# Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

\*Doxology.....UMH 95

**OT Scripture Reading**:Psalm 119:1-8

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

**Special Music** "The Goodness of God" Travis Oaks

Message: "Reconciliation"

Scripture: Matthew 5:21-37

\*Hymn: "Softly and Tenderly" UMH 348

\*Closing Chorus & Benediction "Bind Us Together"

# Call to Worship

Pastor: Let us gather together all whose joy rests in the Lord!

People: For the Lord our God knows our hearts and our minds.

Pastor: God knows all that we are and in Christ loves and accepts us.

People: Then let us walk in Christ's name, sharing God's love wherever we

go.

Pastor: And let us sing out and give praise for God's merciful love!

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Prayer Of Confession: Lord, so often we have failed to see Your love and presence in our lives. So often we have lived as though Jesus did not die for us and the Cross was not real. So often we act as though You are too distant to really understand our problems in life. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to remember how much You gave that we might know Your Love. In Christ we pray. Amen.

#### **Calendar of Events**

**Today:** 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

"Love Luncheon" after church service, meal provided

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, all of those affected by the storms, 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; Ken Hirsekorn; Nan Lindsey; William McCloud; Travis and Tina Oaks; the Oaks family; Pat Singletary; Candy Trimble; Lawson Wooley; 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 email: bumctlh@gmail.com Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: wrightstone@embargmail.com

<sup>\*</sup>Please stand if able







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



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